

ONCE AN OLYMPIAN ALWAYS AN OLYMPIAN,
NEVER FORMER NEVER PAST

August/September 2009

A LETTER FROM WILLIE BANKS

U.S. Olympians President



I am extremely proud to represent my fellow U.S. Olympians because U.S. Olympians truly believe in and support the goals and vision of the Olympic Ideals. Barely a day goes by that I don't hear from an Olympian about the programs, speeches or events that they are participating in to improve, not just our country, but the whole world. U.S. Olympians understand how vital their participation is for the health and stature of the Olympic Movement. After all, who has more of a vested interest in the luster of the rings than Olympians?

As an example of our commitment to the "Rings," Olympians from all over the nation participated in Olympic Day on June 23rd. Partnering with cities, counties and State agencies, these Olympians promoted the ideals of the Olympic Movement throughout America in a grand outpouring and reaffirmation of the Spirit of the Olympic Games. For the first time, more than two hundred Olympians helped lead the public in a Celebration that inspired young and old alike on the day that the world celebrated the Olympic Spirit. No other country can organize that many events on a single day, in one hundred and seventy locations throughout the nation to celebrate like we did in June. What a proud moment it was for all of us!

In this issue of the Olympian you will find more information about the success of Olympic Day in America. You will find yourself truly amazed at the breadth of the activities and the amount of participation by the public and by your fellow Olympians. I hope that you will take time to read the message here and if you did not participate this year, vow to join the celebration next year.

Speaking of celebration, I would like to mention another Olympic event that will be happening soon; the Olympic Hall of Fame Awards show being held in Chicago this August. Last year I had the pleasure to attend the festivities along with the Board of the U.S. Olympians. It was a great event, much like the academy awards. The show, if you did not see it, was spectacular with all the trappings of a Hollywood spectacular. Chicago is the perfect place to host the event because; we all know Chicago really knows how to put on a grand party!

The Olympic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony night will be especially entertaining this year because of the fine group of inductees. Those inductees include Michael Johnson (athletics), Picabo Street (alpine skiing), Teresa Edwards (basketball), Willye White (athletics), Mary T. Meagher (swimming), Sarah Will (Paralympic alpine skiing), the 1992 U.S. Men's Olympic Basketball Team, longtime Men's Gymnastics coach Abie Grossfeld, skiing veteran Andrea Mead-Lawrence, and special contributor Peter Ueberroth. In addition, since Chicago is bidding to host the 2016 Olympic Games I am sure they will put out their best to impress. I am looking forward to the event and if you cannot attend in person, I hope you will watch it on television because it is sure to entertain and delight you and your family and friends. As you know, no other group can party like Olympians and there is no better place to celebrate the rich tradition of Olympism than Chicago!

So, whether it is promoting the ideals of Olympism or celebrating our Olympic heroes on their special night, I will always find great honor and pride in knowing that the US Olympians are fully engaged in maintaining the stature of the Olympic Movement. Enjoy the rest of the summer!

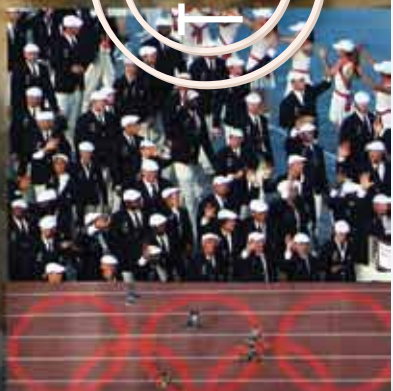
Willie Banks
President
U.S. Olympians



U.S. Olympians President Willie Banks walks with California Jr. Olympic Skills athletes.

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Olympian
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U.S. OLYMPIC COMMITTEE AND ALLSTATE ANNOUNCE THE U.S. OLYMPIC HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2009

The fans have weighed in, the votes have been counted and the results are final. Today, the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) and Allstate Insurance Company (NYSE: ALL) announced the



members of the Class of 2009 who will be inducted into the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame presented by Allstate. The U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame is the only national sports hall of

fame that uses fan voting as part of its selection process. This year's class is comprised of five Olympians, one Paralympian, one team, as well as three additional individuals: a coach, veteran and a special contributor.

The star-studded inductee list includes **Michael Johnson** (athletics), **Picabo Street** (alpine skiing), **Teresa Edwards** (basketball), **Willye White** (athletics), **Mary T. Meagher** (swimming), **Sarah Will** (Paralympic alpine skiing), the **1992 U.S. Men's Olympic Basketball Team**, long-time Men's Gymnastics coach **Abie Grossfeld**, skiing veteran **Andrea Mead-Lawrence**, and special contributor **Peter Ueberroth**. Amazingly, members of this talented group of athletes, teams and coaches have been a part of a combined 21 Olympic and Paralympic Games and brought home a total of 46 medals.

"Olympians are champions, role models and leaders that inspire us to pursue our passions," said Tom Wilson, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Allstate. "The Class of 2009 continues this tradition and embodies the commitment to excellence and drive to succeed. They make us proud to be Americans. Allstate is proud to honor them as members of the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame."

The U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame Class of 2009 will be formally introduced and honored August 12 at a banquet-style induction ceremony at

McCormick Place in Chicago. Through a partnership with Chicago 2016, the ceremony will also serve as a final fundraiser for the organizing committee's bid to bring the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games to the city. The International Olympic Committee will announce the host city on October 2. The induction ceremony, hosted by Dan Hicks and Summer Sanders, will air in a nationally-televised broadcast on NBC on September 5 at 2 p.m. ET.

In addition, a new international award - the Olive Branch Achievement Award - will be introduced and presented at the Induction Ceremony. The award was created to honor an individual who best represents the international ideals of the Olympic Movement by working to build a peaceful and better world through sport. The Olive Branch Achievement Award recipient will be announced in the coming weeks.

"The USOC is very excited to honor this year's U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame legends who have inspired many generations in this country with their courage and thrilling Olympic performances," said USOC Acting Chief Executive Officer Stephanie Streeter. "Each of these Olympians is a worthy addition to the Hall of Fame and an overall symbol of the U.S. Olympic Movement. We're also pleased to continue to partner with Allstate, a company that shares our commitment to America's Olympians."

Nominees for the Class of 2009 were selected by a seven-person nominating committee consisting of Olympians, members of the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame, an NGB executive director, and a USOC representative. Fan votes submitted at www.teamusa.org also played an important role in the selection process, with more than 112,000 votes cast during the voting period.

Tables and tickets for the induction ceremony may be purchased online at support.chicago2016.org/halloffame.

Olympians



ABOUT THE U.S. OLYMPIC HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2009 INDUCTION PRESENTED BY ALLSTATE:



Teresa Edwards, Basketball

Teresa Edwards is the most decorated Olympic basketball player in the world, male or female, with four gold medals and one bronze medal in five Olympic Games. She is the USA's only five-time Olympic basketball player and one of only three five-time Olympic basketball players (male or female) in the world. She is also one of only three U.S. Olympians to win gold in four different Olympic Games, joining former teammate Lisa Leslie and sprinter Carl Lewis. Only five other non-U.S. athletes have accomplished the feat.

Edwards played on the 1984, 1988, 1992, 1996 and 2000 U.S. Olympic Teams. Those teams combined to achieve a 31-1 record and the 1984, 1988, 1996 and 2000 U.S. teams each went undefeated to claim Olympic gold. All told, Edwards was a member of 20 USA Basketball teams, including two World Championship gold medal teams, and overall, teams with Edwards as a member compiled a 189-13 win-loss record.



Michael Johnson, Athletics

Michael Johnson will forever be known as the golden man of track & field. Wearing his trademark golden Nike

shoes, he oftentimes left the rest of the field in his dust with his upright running posture. Johnson won four Olympic medals - all gold - while competing in three Olympic Games. He made his Olympic debut at the Barcelona 1992 Olympic Games and was a part of the World Record-breaking 4x400-meter relay team. His signature moments came at the Atlanta Games, when he became the only man to accomplish the 200-400 double, winning both races with ease and breaking the World Record in the 200 meters. He defended his title in the 400 meters at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney.

Johnson, a Baylor University graduate, won eight World Championship titles. His World Records in the 400 and the 4x400 relay still stand, and his 200 record of 19.32 held up for 12 years until Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt broke it at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.



Mary T. Meagher, Swimming

Mary T. Meagher, nicknamed "Madame Butterfly," won three gold medals in swimming at the 1984 Olympic Games, highlighting a decade of dominance that included World Record swims throughout the 1980s. She qualified and was expected to medal at the Moscow 1980 Olympic Games but was unable to compete due to the U.S. boycott. She made her Olympic debut at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles and won triple gold, taking both the 100- and 200-meter

butterfly and swimming the butterfly leg on the 4x100 medley relay. At the Seoul 1988 Olympic Games, she finished her Olympic career with silver in the 4x100 medley relay and a bronze in the 200 fly. Meagher was one of eight U.S. Olympians selected to carry the Olympic Flag into the Opening Ceremony of the Atlanta 1996 Olympic Games. Her success was not limited to the Olympic stage. Meagher captured several medals at the World Championships in 1982 and 1986, including a pair of individual titles. She won 24 National Titles and she also owns two more golds apiece competing at the Pan American Games and the Pan Pacific Championships.



Picabo Street, Alpine Skiing

A three-time Olympian, Picabo Street first joined the U.S. Ski Team in 1989 and earned a silver medal at the 1994 Olympic Winter Games in the downhill. The Sun Valley, Idaho, native left her mark in Olympic history in 1998, taking gold in the Nagano super G by a mere hundredth of a second.

Street medaled in three World Championships, earning combined silver in 1993, and super G bronze and downhill gold in 1996. Winning six of nine World Cup competitions in 1995, Street became the first American to win a World Cup season title in a speed event. After a leg injury and two years of rehabilitation, Street returned to compete in



The Olympics location is always officially listed in the hosting city as opposed to the country.

THE OLYMPIANS

2002 Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City before retiring. With nine career victories, she was inducted into the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame in 2005.



Willye White, Athletics

The first woman to compete for the U.S. Team in five Olympic Games, **Willye White's** Olympic career spanned 16 years, from 1956 to 1972. Specializing in the long jump and 100 meters, she earned a silver medal in long jump at the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne at the age of 16, marking the first time an American woman medaled in the event. She won her second silver medal in 1964 as a member of the 4x100 meter relay team in Tokyo.

White was a member of more than 30 international and national track teams and won 12 Amateur Athletic Union long jump titles during her career. She set seven American records and won 13 national indoor and outdoor titles. She has been inducted into 11 sports hall of fames, including her 1981 induction into the USATF National Track & Field Hall of Fame.

White passed away in February 2007.



Sarah Will, Paralympic Alpine Skiing

Sarah Will had her first run of the mountain at the age of four. From that moment on she was hooked on the sport. In 1988, the Olympic skiing hopeful was in a serious skiing accident that paralyzed her from the waist down. Rather than give up the sport she loved, she took up mono skiing and was back on the slopes just one year later. Four years after her start in the mono-ski, she competed in her first Paralympic Games, winning gold in downhill and super G in 1992 in Albertville, France.

Will won a total of 12 Paralympic gold medals and one silver medal throughout her four Paralympic experiences, making her the most decorated female mono skier in U.S. Ski Team history. In 2002, Will took the Paralympic alpine skiing gold medal sweep, winning all four races, along with the U.S. Paralympic Spirit Award.



1992 U.S. Men's Olympic Basketball Team

Simply put, the **1992 U.S. Men's Olympic Basketball Team** dominated. In the first Olympic Games to allow NBA players, the Dream Team steamrolled the rest of the world on its way to gold. In eight games, they outscored opponents by an average margin of 44 points, including a 121-76 blowout of Lithuania in the semifinals. In the gold medal game, they faced a Croatian squad featuring a few fellow NBA names and culminated in a 117-85 victory.

The star-studded American roster was comprised of NBA player legends: Charles Barkley, Larry Bird, Clyde Drexler, Patrick Ewing, Magic Johnson, Michael Jordan, Christian Laettner, Karl Malone, Chris Mullin, Scottie Pippen, David Robinson and John Stockton, and a legendary coaching staff consisting of the late Chuck Daly, and assistants P.J. Carlesimo, Mike Krzyzewski and Lenny Wilkens. How famous was the group? In addition to fans, players representing opposing teams from all over the world asked for the Americans' autographs and pictures before each tipoff.





Abie Grossfeld, Coach

Abie Grossfeld served as head coach for the 1984 U.S. Olympic Men's Gymnastics Team that earned eight medals, including the U.S. men's only Olympic team gold medal. He was also the head coach of the men's gymnastics team at the 1972 and 1988 Olympic Games, as well as assistant coach for the men's team in 1964 and the women's team in 1968. He was the personal coach of Peter Kormann, who became the first U.S. man to win an Olympic medal in 44 years with a bronze medal on floor exercise in 1976. Grossfeld also served as head coach for the U.S. men's gymnastics team at five World Championships and two Pan American Games, including the 1987 Pan Am Games when the men won the team gold medal. The U.S. national coach for men's gymnastics from 1981-88, Grossfeld coached the first U.S. men's team that defeated the USSR in 1982. He also served as a collegiate gymnastics head coach for 42 years, spending one year at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and 41 years at Southern Connecticut State University.

As an athlete, Grossfeld represented the USA internationally from 1952-67. He competed in two Olympic Games (1956, 1960), two World Championships (1958, 1962) and three Pan American Games (1955, 1959, 1963: the U.S. won the team gold all three years). At the University of Illinois, he won four NCAA titles and seven Big Ten Championships, as well as the Big Ten Medal of Honor. Additional honors include: National Coach of the Year for USA Gymnastics (1984) and the NCAA (1973, 1975 and 1976); USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame (as an athlete, coach and contributor); and the first and only American to achieve the status of FIG Master Coach (2000).



Andrea Mead-Lawrence, Veteran (Skiing)

Andrea Mead-Lawrence skied at three Olympic Winter Games, including the 1952 Oslo Games where she won gold medals in slalom and giant slalom. Before America became the skiing force it is today, she helped build the U.S. ski program from the ground up to compete with the

traditional European powers. Mead-Lawrence became the youngest athlete to be chosen for the U.S. Women's Olympic Alpine Ski Team when, at age 14, she made the 1948 squad. In her Olympic debut, she finished eighth in the slalom at St. Moritz. Four years later, her double gold performance was lauded by Hall of Fame Olympic film producer Bud Greenspan, who called her his No. 1 Winter Olympian. She concluded her Olympic career in three races at the Cortina 1956 Olympic Winter Games, finishing fourth in the giant slalom. Mead-Lawrence, the only U.S. woman to win two skiing gold medals at one Olympic Winter Games succumbed to cancer on March 30, 2009 at age 76. She is survived by her five children and four grandchildren.



Peter Ueberroth, Special Contributor

Over the last three decades, **Peter Ueberroth** may have been the most influential figure to the Olympic Movement in the United States. From 1980-84, he was President of the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee, heading the first private non-profit organization responsible for staging and operating an Olympic Games. Under Ueberroth's leadership, the Los Angeles Games came away with a surplus of \$238 million that continues to support youth and sports programs throughout the United States. Ueberroth was the first Chair of the restructured USOC Board of Directors from 2004-08. He stabilized the leadership of the USOC during a turbulent time, and his leadership created momentum and credibility for the Olympic Movement in the United States. Olympic TV ratings shot up during his tenure, which ended with a record 110 U.S. Team medal tally at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games. Ueberroth continues to aid the USOC as President in an honorary capacity. He has received the Olympic Order-Gold from the International Olympic Committee, the IOC's highest honor. For more information on the 2009 inductees, including bios and photos, and a comprehensive list of existing U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame members, please visit www.teamusa.org



The first ever Opening Ceremonies were held at the London Olympic Games in 1908.





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2009 OLYMPIC DAY CELEBRATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES



More than 200 Olympians and Paralympians, as well as Olympic and Paralympic hopefuls participated in more than 170 cities across the country to mark the international celebration of Olympic Day on June 23.

The U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC), Chicago 2016 and the City of Chicago spearheaded efforts to encourage cities around the United States to

celebrate Olympic Day. Olympic Day is the worldwide commemoration of the first International Olympic Committee meeting held June 23, 1894, and the founding of the modern Olympic Games. In all, athletes and mayors from 43 states held Olympic Day celebrations, which included fun runs, lectures, sport competitions and demonstrations.

THE OLYMPIANS

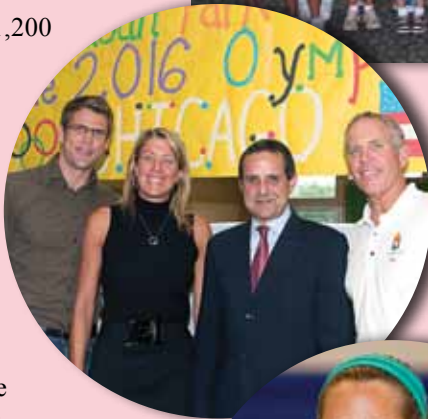


In Chicago, 30,000 kids participated in fun runs across the city, including 1,000 youth in Washington Park, the proposed site of the Olympic Stadium and aquatics facilities. Olympians **Jackie Joyner-Kersey** (athletics, 1984, 1988, 1992, 1996), **Michael Conley** (athletics, 1984, 1992, 1996) and **Connie Moore** (athletics, 2004), and Paralympians **April Holmes** (athletics, 2004, 2008), **Amanda McGro-ry** (athletics, 2008) and **Josh George** (athletics, 2004, 2008) led the efforts there.



Misty May-Treanor is surrounded by children who participated in the 5K Healthy Honolulu Run during Olympic Day.

Later in the day, 1,200 runners took part in two fun runs from north and south that finished at North Avenue Beach—just north of the city center and the proposed site of the triathlon and Paralympic road cycling course—where 3,000 athletes were participating in 21 sports.



Gary Hall, Jr., Tiffany Cohen, Mayor of Miami Manuel Diaz and Gary Hall, Sr. attend the City of Miami Olympic Day activities.



Olympian Dara Torres visited with some of the campers from the youth summer camps in Coral Springs, FL that participated in Olympic and Paralympic sport activities during Olympic Day.

“We are beyond pleased with the overwhelming support from cities across the nation for Olympic Day, and applaud their efforts to introduce youth to the values and ideals of the Olympic Movement,” said Patrick G. Ryan, chairman and CEO of Chicago 2016.

An estimated 20,000 people attended the Olympic Day celebration and sports extravaganza on North Avenue Beach, capped off by a special performance by two popular bands—the Freddy Jones Band and Elevation. More than 30 Olympic and Paralympic athletes attended Chicago’s celebration, including Chicago 2016 Board Member **Bob Berland** (judo, 1984, 1988), **Mike Day** (BMX,

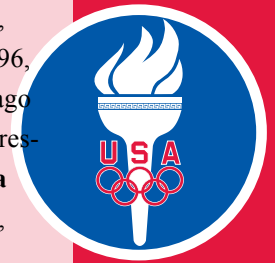
2008), **John Vande Velde** (cycling, 1968, 1972), **Paul Hamm** (gymnastics, 2000, 2004), **Carli Lloyd** (soccer, 2008), **Paul Moran** (sitting volleyball 1992, 1996, 2000, 2004; tennis 2008), **Matt Scott** (wheelchair basketball, 2004, 2008), and **Jason Wening** (swimming, 1992, 1996, 2000) as well as Chicago 2016’s **Bill Scherr** (wrestling, 1988) and **Linda Mastandrea** (athletics, 1992, 1996).

Rowdy Gaines (swimming, 1984) served as evening emcee as members of the 82nd Airborne All-American Freefall Team landed on the beach accompanied by USOC Olympic flags, the Chicago 2016 star emblem, and a 750-foot American flag.

“The event at North Avenue Beach integrated sport and celebration on our beautiful lakefront and parklands—and provided a small taste of what the city would be like if Chicago is awarded the honor of hosting the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games,” said Ryan.

At the recent U.S. Conference of Mayors, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley encouraged mayors from across the country to host Olympic Day celebrations promoting physical activity, sport participation and the Olympic values.

Nationally, **Misty May-Treanor** (beach volleyball, 2000, 2004, 2008) celebrated with Honolulu Mayor Mufi Hannemann—Mayor Daley’s co-chair on the Olympic Task Force in the U.S. Conference of Mayors. In Dallas, Olympic gymnastics champions **Nastia Liukin** (2008),



In 1912 the last gold medal made entirely out of gold was awarded.



Olympians

Kerri Strug (1992, 1996) and **Carly Patterson** (2004) attended an event with Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert. In Washington, D.C., U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan spoke about the Olympic values at a ceremony with Olympian **Nathaniel Mills** (speedskating, 1992, 1994, 1998) at his speedskating summer camp with help from

Dominique Dawes (gymnastics, 1992, 1996, 2000). Olympian **Dara Torres** (swimming, 1984, 1988, 1992, 2000, 2008) attended Olympic Day in Coral Springs, Fla., and Paralympian **Myles Porter** (judo, 2008) attended the event in Colorado Springs, Colo. Also, in Colorado Springs were **Edwin Moses** (athletics, 1976, 1984), **Teresa**

Edwards (basketball, 1984, 1988, 1992, 1996, 2000), and **George DiCarlo** (swimming, 1984). Miami hosted **Gary Hall, Sr.** (swimming, 1968, 1972, 1976) and **Gary Hall, Jr.** (swimming, 1996, 2000, 2004), and **John Naber** (swimming, 1976) led efforts in Pasadena, Calif.

“I was thrilled to attend Olympic Day in Oklahoma City,” Chicago 2016 Athlete Recruitment Ambassador **Bart Conner** (gymnastics, 1976, 1980, 1984) said about the event he attended with

Paralympian **Hope Lewellen** (wheelchair tennis, 1996, 2000; sitting volleyball 2004, 2008). “We had a terrific turnout of more than 250 children between ages 6-14, who participated in several Olympic and Paralympic sports including gymnastics, archery, canoe/kayak and sit volleyball. We also had some fun fitness challenges for the

children including a 50-yard dash, a sit up contest and a sit and reach flexibility challenge.”

The USOC celebrates Olympic Day annually by coordinating events at the U.S. Olympic



George DiCarlo, Teresa Edwards and Edwin Moses helped celebrate Olympic Day and relive the memories of the Games of the XXIII Olympiad in Los Angeles, CA.

In Pasadena, John Naber presented the Real Athletes Persevere talk and helped Mayor Bill Bogaard with the Mayoral Olympic Day Proclamation.



Training Centers and official training sites, as well as activities with the U.S. National Governing Bodies of sport and affiliated multisport organizations.

“Olympic Day celebrations around the United States truly demonstrated the support of the entire country for bringing the Olympic and Paralympic Games to Chicago in 2016,” USOC Acting Chief Executive Officer Stephanie Streeter said. “The USOC, along with many of our great Olympians



and Paralympians, was proud to be part of this effort. As we enter this final stretch before the Host City announcement, it is evident that there is a national passion for the Olympic Movement and for hosting the Games in the U.S.”

With the campaign now into the last 100 days until the Host City decision on Oct. 2 in Copenhagen, Denmark, Chicago 2016 reminds all Olympians, Paralympians, World Championships Team Members and hopefuls to sign up to demonstrate their support at www.chicago2016.org/athletes in order to be recognized and counted by the International Olympic Committee when bid-decision day arrives.

In this final push, a new public-service announcement debuts, which depicts the Chicago 2016 “America’s Bid” baton being passed around the country—symbolizing the widespread support nationally to bring the Games to Chicago and the values of the Olympic Move-

ment. Chicago 2016 distributed batons—a symbol of friendship that represents the slogan “Let Friendship Shine” and Chicago’s bid for the Games—to the city leaders and to some Olympic and Paralympic athletes who participated in Olympic Day.

“We brought 25 gymnasts from our Bart Conner Gymnastics Academy in Norman, Okla., to perform some tumbling demonstrations [who] also assisted our coaches, Christian Ivanov and Jarrett Browning, as they taught children some basic gymnastics moves on the beam, floor exercise and the parallel bars. I am very proud that our Mayor, Mick Cornett, sees the value of Olympic and Paralympic sports as we look to the future growth of Oklahoma City. I was also proud to deliver a short speech about the Olympic ideals of fairplay, sportsmanship, respecting your competitors, and honoring the game.”



Spyros Samaras composed the famous Olympic Hymn which is played when the Olympic Flag is raised. The IOC declared the official hymn of the Olympics in 1957.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION ALL OLYMPIANS & PARALYMPIANS! LET'S MAKE THE 2016 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES A HOME GAME

To register your support for Chicago 2016 please go to:

www.chicago2016.org/athletes

Please help Chicago 2016 by showing your support for the bid.

It only takes a couple of minutes and there are no obligations, financial or otherwise.

As a small token of our appreciation we will send you a Chicago 2016 polo shirt and lapel pin.

We also encourage Olympians and Paralympians who competed for non-USA countries to register too.

Thank you for your consideration!

THE OLYMPIANS



INTERNATIONAL MEDALISTS ASSOCIATION, "MAKING A DIFFERENCE"

By ELLIOTT DENMAN

"It all started with the Garden State Games, you know," Ron Freeman tells you.

"It" is his three-decade-plus-long dedication to the cause of promoting Olympic-style multi-sport competitions and the built-in opportunities they foster in the name of fitness, friendship, education and understanding. For Freeman, it's been a long-long trip but one that has paid off in visionary results at every step along the way. Back in his days at Thomas Jefferson High School in Elizabeth, New Jersey, Freeman was recognized as one of the most gifted scholastic trackmen in the nation. Anyone who saw him in action for TJHS back in the early 1960s knew that he had what it took to get to the very top of his sport.

But, unlike so many other bright young stars who fell by the wayside - for an infinite array of reasons - Freeman really did get to the pinnacle. He earned a scholarship to Arizona State University and his stardom for the Sun Devils paved the way to his double medal-winning performances for Team USA at the 1968 Mexico City Olympic Games. After taking the bronze medal in the individual 400 meters - clocking a sensational 44.4 seconds back of teammates Lee Evans and Larry James - Freeman joined forces with Evans, James and Vince Matthews on the USA 4x400 team that proved itself the fastest in its sport's history. Heading into Mexico City, the Olympic 400-meter record stood at 44.9 seconds (Otis Davis's performance at Rome in 1960.) Well, it was demolished by all three medalists at Mexico City, as Evans (with a world-record 43.86) fought off James (43.97) with Freeman (44.41) hard on their heels. And the Matthews-Freeman-

James-Evans team was even more dominant in the 4x400 relay.

No other 4x400 quartet had ever broken the three-minute "barrier" in the Olympics, but that 1968 team simply crashed right through it to a sensational world-record run that took just 2 minutes, 56.16 seconds. As Olympic historian David Wallechinsky put it, "the final was really two separate races, the United States fighting for a world record, and the other teams battling for second through eighth places." "It was Freeman's remarkable second leg that really did the trick for the Americans," Wallechinsky continued. "His unofficial time of 43.2 was the fastest ever recorded in a 4x400 relay." USA anchor Evans finished 30 meters ahead of runner-up Kenya's anchorman, Charles Asati.

These, of course, were the Games marked by the victory-stand protests that initially drew rebukes from U.S. Olympic Committee and International Olympic Committee officials but years later were recognized as heroic gestures on the path to calling the world's attention to America's ongoing civil-rights struggle. The Olympic experience would be key to Freeman in the years ahead. Not long after New York State organized its Empire States Games - as the first in the nation's now far flung State Games movement - Freeman stepped forward with a small group of others to become one of the founding fathers of his home state of New Jersey's Garden State Games.

Its initial staging - on the campus of Ocean County College in Toms River, N.J. in 1983 - was a huge success and attracted a large entry of eager athletes competing in a long list of Olym-

pic and Olympic-related sports, along with great media attention and a large spectator following. Then-governor Tom Kean - who years later headed The 9-11 Commission - helicoptered in to feature the opening ceremonies - and to cheer for his son, young Tom, running the scholastic division 100 meters. But Ron Freeman's vision now stretches half the planet away - all the way to West and Central Africa. He now serves as president of the International Medalist Association (IMA), and the IMA is a key partner in the Olympic-sports development programs of such nations as Guinea, Mali, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Cote d'Ivoire and Madagascar.

In a recent report from Conakry, Guinea, Freeman wrote,



Athletes march in the Opening Ceremony held at the National Stadium in Conakry, Guinea. A joint event of the U.S. Department of State and the United State Embassy.

Ron Freeman and his team provided all the participants with lunch, certificates, footballs (soccer) and each school was also given two footballs for their programs. There were also lectures on HIV, Education, Sportsmanship and overcoming the odds.

"I am here preparing to stage a regional youth event called the Mano River Union Peace Games/Symposium. This has been an idea I have been working on more than 15 years," Slated for participation were Liberia, Sierra Leone, Cote d'Ivoire along with host Guinea. It will be a happy form of respite after years of turmoil. "Three out of the four countries have just come out of 15 years of conflict and Guinea has hosted more than 700,000 refugees," reported Freeman. Struggles in the region, of course, continue, but the Mano River Union (MRU) is making strides toward bringing a greater degree of hope and stability in the lives of its nation's citizens. A major event held earlier was the Guinea Youth Peace Games, bringing together eight boys and girls teams for a soccer tournament and health education focusing on HIV/AIDS.

Working with a grant from the U.S. State Department's Education and Cultural Affairs Bureau, Freeman helped organized the event kicked off by U.S. Charge d'Affaires Kent Brokenshire. Soccer has been a major stimulus

elsewhere in Africa, as well. Liberia has hosted the "Play Soccer, Make Peace" tournament at which eight youth, community-based teams had it out on the playing fields of the Lynch Street and Stephen Tolbert Estate fields in Gardnersville. As ever, the Olympic vision has been key to Freeman's work in getting such things done.

And it's shared by a team of his Olympic colleagues.

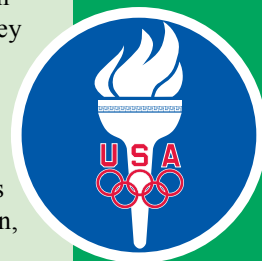
The IMA's Gold Medal Speakers Bureau now includes such Olympic immortals as Willie Banks, Bob Beamon, John Carlos, Lee Evans, Roger Kingdom, Vince Matthews, Billy Mills, Mel Pender, Mike Powell, Bob Schul, Tommie Smith, Bill Toomey, Andrew Valmon, Mal Whitfield and Kevin Young. And that's just from track and field. Others come from tennis, swimming, team handball, table tennis, wrestling, and more. All are ready, able and more than willing to lend their own Olympian expertise to the causes Baron Pierre DeCoubertin recognized as far back as the late 19th century, in breathing life into his visionary work of creating the Modern Games in the model of the Ancient Games.



IMA, whose headquarters is located in Baltimore, Maryland, doesn't neglect the home front, either.

A pilot program is now at place in Baltimore's own Collington Square Elementary School. Baltimore's own circle of dedication to the Olympic cause stretches all the way back to 1896. One of the first great Modern Olympians was Baltimore's own (by way of Princeton University) Robert Garrett, who won the shot put and disc us, and placed third in the high jump, at the Modern Games revival at Athens in 1896. And the roster of Baltimore-area Olympians has stretched 112 years, all the way to such Sydney 2000 and Athens 2004 trackmen as Bernard Williams and James Carter, and of course, swimming's own incredible Michael Phelps.

Ron Freeman's long-stated bottom line remains: May the message of the Games never cease.



Russia had a few athletes take place in the 1908 and 1912 Olympics, however it was not until the 1952 games that they fully took part.



MILESTONES

Vonetta Flowers (bobsled, 2002, '06) announced the birth of her son, Jaxon born on Friday, June 19, 2009.

Jason Pyrah (athletics, 1996, '00)

The Pyrah family announced that they had a baby boy on April 22, 2009. His name is Blake Wesley Pyrah. He weighed 7lbs. 4oz. and was 20in. long.

Brandon Slay (wrestling, 2000)

On June 6, 2009, Christina Collins and I were married in Fredericksburg, TX (www.BrandonandChristina.com), and now Christina Slay and I are on our Honeymoon in Kauai (www.waipoulibeachresort.com) and will return to Colorado Springs, emails, calls, and the real world on June 16.

IN HONOR

Henry Cejudo (wrestling, 2008) has been named the winner of the 2008 John Smith Award as the Freestyle Wrestler of the Year by USA Wrestling. It is the first time that Cejudo has won this prestigious award.

The award is named in honor of two-time Olympic champion and four-time World champion John Smith.

Cejudo captured the gold medal at 55 kg/121 lbs. in men's freestyle at the Olympic Games in Beijing, China at the age of 21, becoming the youngest U.S. Olympic wrestling champion in history. He was the only U.S. men's freestyle wrestler to win a medal at the 2008 Olympics.

Cejudo defeated Tomohiro Matsunaga of Japan in the gold-medal match, 2-2, 2-0. Among his four wins was an opening round victory over 2006 World champion Radislav Velikov of Bulgaria. Cejudo lost the first period of his first three Olympic matches, but came back strong to win them all in the full three periods.

Cejudo won a gold medal at 2008 U.S. Olympic Team Trials in Las Vegas, Nev. in June, defeating 2004 Olympic silver medalist Stephen Abas in the championship series, two matches to one.

He also won a gold medal at the Pan American Championships in Colorado Springs in February,

qualifying the USA to compete in the Olympics at his weight class. He defeated 2007 World bronze medalist Andy Gonzalez of Cuba in the finals.

Cejudo placed second at the 2008 U.S. Nationals, his third straight year in the national finals.

After the Olympics, Cejudo received major international attention for his victory, appearing on major media shows such as the Tonight Show, the Today Show, the Oprah Winfrey Show, ESPN Sports Center, Ninja Warrior and many others.

Cejudo was a U.S. Olympic Training Center resident athlete during the 2008 season. He came directly to the USOTC as a high school junior, and trained there for four years leading up to his Olympic title. He captured two state titles for Maryvale High School in Phoenix, Ariz. as a freshman and sophomore and two state titles for Coronado High School in Colorado Springs, Colo. as a junior and senior.

PAST JOHN SMITH AWARD WINNERS AS FREESTYLE WRESTLER OF THE YEAR

- 2008 – Henry Cejudo, Colorado Springs, Colo., Sunkist Kids
 2007 – Daniel Cormier, Stillwater, Okla., Gator WC
 2006 – Bill Zadick, Colorado Springs, Colo., Gator WC
 2005 - Tolly Thompson, Cedar Falls, Iowa, Sunkist Kids
 2004 - Cael Sanderson, Ames, Iowa, Sunkist Kids
 2003 - Cael Sanderson, Ames, Iowa, Sunkist Kids
 2002 - Joe Williams, Iowa City, Iowa, Sunkist Kids
 2001 - Joe Williams, Iowa City, Iowa, Sunkist Kids
 2000 - Brandon Slay, Amarillo, Texas, Dave Schultz WC
 1999 - Stephen Neal, Bakerfield, Calif., Dave Schultz WC
 1998 - Sammie Henson, Norman, Okla., Sunkist Kids
 1997 - Les Gutches, Corvallis, Ore., Sunkist Kids
 1996 - Kendall Cross, Raleigh, N.C., Sunkist Kids
 1995 - Kevin Jackson, Phoenix, Ariz., Sunkist Kids
 1994 - Melvin Douglas, Mesa, Ariz., Sunkist Kids
 1993 - Terry and Tom Brands, Iowa City, Iowa, Team Foxcatcher
 1992 - John Smith, Stillwater, Okla., Sunkist Kids Rate It

Kate Kauffman-Beach (field hockey, 1996) University of Maryland 2009 Athletic hall of Fame

A decorated player at Maryland from 1992-94 and 96 ... earned All-America first team hon-

THE OLYMPIANS

ors in 1994 and 1996 ... a two-time All-ACC nominee and three-time All-ACC Tournament Team selection ... named to the ACC 50th Anniversary Field Hockey Team ... helped the Terps claim the 1993 national championship and 1992 ACC Tournament title ... selected a GTE/CoSIDA Academic All-American ... a longtime member of the U.S. National Field Hockey Team who served as captain in 2004 ... chosen as 2000 U.S. Field Hockey Athlete of the Year ... a member of the U.S. Olympic and World Cup teams.

Karch Kiraly (volleyball, 1984, '88, '96)

San Clemente resident and volleyball legend Karch Kiraly was inducted into the CoSIDA Academic All-America Hall of Fame on June 22 in San Antonio.

"I'm deeply honored to be inducted into the CoSIDA Academic All-America Hall of Fame," said Kiraly in an article on the UCLA athletic Web site. "Caring as much about the 'student' in student-athlete, engaging your mind as well as your body, and doing something well if you do it at all, are ideas I care deeply about - and this award is the ultimate reflection of that."

On an annual basis, the Academic All-America Hall of Fame inducts a deserving candidate whose college career preceded the Academic All-America program in their particular sport. The eligible candidate's academic and athletic achievements must meet minimum criteria for selection to the Hall of Fame.

A three-time Olympic gold medalist, Kiraly is this year's honorary inductee. He earned his B.S. degree in biochemistry from UCLA in 1983 and graduated with a 3.34 cumulative grade-point average. A four-time All-American, he led UCLA to three national championships in four years.

Honored as the Most Outstanding Player at the NCAA Tournament in 1981 and '82, he earned NCAA All-Tournament honors three times. In his four years at UCLA, he led the Bruins to a record of 126-5 and two undefeated seasons.

The winner of an NCAA postgraduate scholarship in

1982, he also won the NCAA Top Five Award in 1983. "Karch always studied, practiced and played with great intensity. His rigorous course of study and excellent grades kept his options open for a career in medicine," said UCLA head coach Al Scates. "Instead, he chose to become the best volleyball player in the world."

A member of the U.S. national volleyball team from 1981 to 1989, he was honored as the team's Most Valuable Player four times. From 1985 to 1988, he served as the captain of the U.S. national team and led the squad to a record of 211-35 during those years.

Widely considered America's greatest volleyball player, he led the U.S. Olympic team to gold medals at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles and the 1988 Olympics in Seoul, South Korea. He was named the Most Valuable Player at the Olympics in 1984 and 1988. At the same time, he kept the United States at the top of the world rankings for several years with victories in the World Cup, World Championships and the USA Cup.

A three-time beach volleyball world champion, he captured his third gold medal at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta. With beach volleyball making its Olympic debut, he led the United States to the Olympic championship, becoming the only three-time gold medalist in Olympic volleyball history.

In 2008, he was inducted into the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame. One of the top beach volleyball players in the world from 1979-2007, he won the World Championship of Beach Volleyball in 1979, 1981 and 1988. By the time he retired in 2007, Kiraly held the tour record with 148 Open victories. In his career, he won more than \$3 million, a tour record.

In December 2000, he was voted the Male Volleyball Player of the Century by the Federation of International Volleyball (FIVB). Inducted into the UCLA Athletics Hall of Fame in 1993, he was also enshrined into the Volleyball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass. in 2001. In 2006, he became a member of the AVCA Hall of Fame.

A tireless ambassador for the sport of volleyball, Kiraly



Olympic medals are designed by the organizing committee of each Olympic Games. The silver medal must be made of 92.5% silver while the gold medal must be covered in 6 grams of gold



VONETTA FLOWERS, JASON PYRAH, BLAKE WESLEY PYRAH AND BRANDON & CHRISTINA SLAY

conducts dozens of clinics each year and volunteers his time to the Boys & Girls Club in San Clemente. In addition, he oversees the Karch Kiraly Scholarship Fund, which awards 12 scholarships annually to graduating high school volleyball players.

Contact the writer: magarcia@ocregister.com or 714-796-3658

IN THE NEWS

Eddie Hart (athletics, 1972)

The students at International Studies Academy in San Francisco, CA were so receptive to Eddie Hart's Olympic presentation on April 27. They loved it. He's such an inspiring speaker. We had other activities at our rally and it was Eddie's piece that gained both middle and high school's full attention. Watching Eddie run the "race" on film was a treat.

Thank you also to Mr Hart for staying until the last student and staff took a picture with him wearing his gold medal.

Thank you to USOC for reaching out to the youth of SF. The impact of Eddie Hart's presentation was immeasurable, comments from students ranged from, "I met an Olympian." "Wow, he's fast." "I'm going to be like Eddie Hart." "his story was heartening," to name a few.

Dave Michahnik (fencing, 1960, '64, '68)

Winning seasons, All-Americans and All-Ivy selections have become the norm over more than three decades for Penn men's and women's fencing programs. After 35 seasons building and overseeing that success as head coach, Hall of Famer David Micahnik has announced his retirement. He made the announcement at the fencing team banquet Sunday night, held at The Inn at Penn.

Most recently, Micahnik was inducted into the United States Fencing Association Hall of Fame as a member of its 2008 class. Micahnik also was honored as an inductee into the inaugural class of the Philadelphia Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in 1997, and into the second class of the University of Pennsylvania Athletic Hall of Fame in 1996.

"I have every confidence that Penn Fencing will continue to be among the nation's elite programs," said Micahnik. "The teams are strong again going into the next season. With the continued strong support of the Athletic Department's administration, the new head coach will be able to maintain and build upon what has gone before, just as we have done from year to year. From one who bleeds Red and Blue, I say GO PENN!"

"Dave is truly a Penn treasure, and his contribution to Penn Athletics and the fencing programs is unmatched," said Penn's Director of Athletics, Steve Bilsky. "He has always been the consummate professional and a loyal member of the Penn coaching fraternity. I am pleased that he will be assisting us in our unprecedented development campaign, and we are sure the legions of fencing alumni and Dave's friends join me in wishing Dave and his wife Phyllis a wonderful, well-deserved retirement."

Success has marked the Micahnik era, as he has led Penn to winning records in each of his 34 years at the helm of both the men's and women's programs. His teams have consistently been among the nation's elite, and the long-time head coach was rewarded by being named the 1997 U.S. Fencing Coaches Association (USFCA) Collegiate Coach of the Year.

Micahnik certainly ends his career on a high note, as the fencing teams enjoyed unprecedented success in the 2008-09 season. The



HENRY CEJUDO, KATE KAUFFMAN-BEACH AND KARCH KIRALY

men started the collection of trophies by capping an undefeated regular season with a win at the Ivy League Championships for the 16th time overall and the first time since 2003. That was followed by a bevy of wins at the IFA Championships including the program's first-ever six-weapon title. The men's team also won the three-weapon and sabre titles while sharing the epee with Harvard, while the women shared the sabre championship with Columbia. Individually, freshman Alex Simmons won gold in the foil, Andrew Bielen took silver in the sabre, while Vidur Kapur and Danielle Kamis were bronze medalists. At the NAAs, nine athletes earned Penn a seventh-place finish, and four of them—Jonathan Berkowsky, Ben Wieder, Dominika Franciszko and Stephanie Wheeler—earned All-America honors.

Under Micahnik's tutelage, the men were 331-103 while the women had a 363-104 mark. Combined, the teams had an impressive record of 694-208.

Individual achievements have also been a hallmark of the Penn program. Thirty-two Quakers have competed internationally as members of United States national teams. The Quakers had their most recent Olympic success with former Penn fencers Cliff Bayer W'03, WG '03 and Tamir Bloom C'94 competing in the 1996 and 2000 Olympic Games. Micahnik has also produced 44 All-Americans (29 men and 15 women) and 90 All-Ivy selections (61 men and 29 women).

A 1959 Penn graduate, Micahnik was a first-team All-Ivy selection in epee as a senior under the instruction of the late Maestro Csiszar. He was the 1960 U.S. National Champion, and competed in the 1960, 1964 and 1968 Olympic Games. In addition to coaching in the collegiate ranks, Micahnik also has extensive international coaching experience. He has coached U.S. teams in four Under-20 World Championships, five World University Games, two World Championships, the 1985 and 1993 World Maccabiah Games, and the 1986 and 1988 Junior Pan-American Games.

Micahnik won a bronze and two silver medals in the Veteran 60 Men's Epee at the Veterans' National Championships. Micahnik currently serves on the Board of Directors for U.S. Fencing and in the Congress of U.S. Fencing.

Micahnik and his wife, Phyllis, reside in Cherry Hill, N.J. They have four sons: Bob Eskin, a commercial collection specialist in Vero Beach, Fla.; Hank Eskin, an alumnus of the University of Pennsylvania as an undergraduate from the College and an MBA graduate from The Wharton School; the late Aaron Micahnik, an alumnus of Richard Stockton College of N.J.; and Steven Micahnik, an alumnus of Yeshiva University and the Penn Graduate School

of Education.

Despite his retirement, Micahnik has stated that his 2009 Junior Fencing Camp at Penn will go on as planned.

Holly McPeak (volleyball, 1996, '00, '04)

Pro beach volleyball star Holly McPeak is hanging up her bikini for good.

McPeak is retiring from the AVP tour immediately, it was announced Wednesday. Her decision comes a month after her husband, Leonard Armato, resigned as AVP commissioner.

McPeak, a three-time Olympian, finished ninth in her final tournament last weekend in San Diego, partnering with Jenny Kropp.

McPeak played beach volleyball in the 1996, 2000 and 2004 Olympics. She and partner Elaine Youngs won a bronze medal in Athens, the first Olympic medal for U.S. women in the sport.

Her record of 72 career wins was later broken by Misty May-Treanor. McPeak became the first female pro beach volleyball player to surpass \$1 million in earnings in 2002.

IN MEMORIAM

Norman Brinker (equestrian, 1952)

Norman Brinker, a restaurant mogul who popularized the salad bar and built a worldwide casual dining empire that includes Chili's Grill & Bar, died Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at age 78.

Brinker died at a hospital in Colorado, said Robin Rymer at Swan-Law Funeral Home in Colorado Springs. He suffered complications related to pneumonia while on vacation, Brinker International Inc. spokeswoman Stacey Sullivan said.

Before retiring as chairman of Dallas-based Brinker International in 2000, he had built the chain of more than 1,000 casual-dining restaurants. The company now has 1,700 restaurants in 27 countries, according to its Web site.

While Brinker wasn't necessarily a household name, he had a high profile in Dallas and Americans have enjoyed his eatery concepts that fit somewhere between fast food and fine dining.

"My goal is to wipe out dining room lights across the



The Olympic flame first appeared in the Olympics in 1928. The idea of using a flame came from the ancient Olympic Games in Greece where they would light the flame at the beginning of the games and keep it burning until the end of the games.

country,” he told The Associated Press in a story published in 1996.

A former Olympic equestrian who competed in the 1952 games, Brinker was born in Colorado and grew up poor on a farm in Roswell, N.M. He moved to Dallas in the 1960s and started a coffee shop before developing the concept for Steak & Ale restaurants — a chain he established in the mid-1960s where he’s credited with popularizing the salad bar and casual dining. He sold Steak & Ale to Pillsbury Co in the early 1970s and went to work for Pillsbury’s restaurant division. During his time at Pillsbury’s restaurant division, he created the Bennigan’s chain and became known for creating a “fern bar” chain concept of upscale eateries intended to attract single people.

In 1983, Brinker purchased Chili’s, which had started as a single restaurant in Dallas and now has about 900 company-owned restaurants and more than 550 franchises. He took Chili’s public and in the 1990s renamed the chain Brinker International.

Among the chains Brinker International has bought and sold are Corner Bakery Cafe, EatZi’s Market and Bakery. It now operates On the Border Mexican Grill & Cantina, Maggiano’s Little Italy and Chili’s. Brinker also holds a minority investment in Romano’s Macaroni Grill.

Rene Capo (judo, 1988, ‘92)

Passed away in Chicago on July 6, 2009 after a year-long battle with lung cancer at the age of 48.

“At a ridiculously young age we lost a great man today. He embodied the true spirit and notions of what it is to be a man. Rene lived and died with honor and integrity. In life, he had a fierce passion for competition few of us will ever have,” said USA Judo President Lance Nading “I know all who knew Rene count themselves

fortunate and he was a great friend to so many.”

Capo, who competed at the 1988 and 1996 Olympic Games, made a comeback to the sport at the age of 46 when the seven-time Senior Nationals medalist returned to judo in 2007.

Although he was viewed as a top candidate for the 2008 U.S. Olympic Team, Capo fell just short of qualifying for the Trials after defeating many of the top 100kg players throughout the season.

Just over two months after he placed fifth at the USA Judo Senior National Championships in April, 2008, Capo was diagnosed with lung cancer.

“I was lucky to have witnessed his first National Championships in San Francisco in 1970 and had the good fortune of seeing his last in Virginia Beach in 2008. Rene’s fighting spirit influenced many of today’s young champions and will do so for many years to come,” Nading said. “I spoke to Rene just prior to the Senior Nationals in San Diego and I extended to him an invitation to attend the event. He declined but said to say ‘hi’ to everyone and that he was feeling better and would definitely take me up on my invitation to come Orlando for the Junior Olympics in July.”

Nading continued: “Rene made conversation easy for me and all the friends who contacted him in his last days. He was more interested in his friends and what they were up to than dwelling his own situation. In death, like everything, he competed with it and was brave beyond what my words can describe. Rene Capo has been and will continue to be an inspiration to all that have known him. Thank you Rene, we miss you”

A native of Miami, Capo excelled in both judo and football. The natural athlete not only won national titles in judo that spanned three decades (1970s, 80s and 90s), but he also played football



EDDIE HART, HOLLY MCPEAK AND RENE CAPO

for the University of Minnesota from which he graduated in 1985.

“Rene Capo competed in judo, in football and in the end he competed for his life,” said Bob Berland, Capo’s teammate at the 1988 Olympic Games. “In the Olympics it’s not about winning or losing; it’s about the struggle. Today one of ours lost his battle to cancer but he fought till the bitter end and will forever be a champion who lost the battle, but whose spirit has won the war! We will miss you Rene Capo - a great competitor, but more importantly a great father and a great friend to us all!

Capo leaves behind two young children, Alex, 11, and Anthony, 8.

“Rene was many things to many people, but for me he was a great friend, great father, great teammate and one hell of a judo competitor,” said Jason Morris, who competed on the 1988 and 1996 Olympic Teams with Capo. Rate It

Ron Cardwell (rowing, 1956) 12/29/08

Chuck Daley (basketball coach, 1992)

Chuck Daley, who coached the original Dream Team to the Olympic gold medal in 1992 after winning back-to-back NBA championships with the Detroit Pistons, died at age 78 on Saturday, May 9, 2009 the Pistons said.

He was renowned for his ability to create harmony out of diverse personalities at all levels of the game, whether they were Ivy Leaguers at Pennsylvania, Dream Teamers Michael Jordan and Charles Barkley, or Pistons as dissimilar as Dennis Rodman and Joe Dumars.

“It’s a players’ league. They allow you to coach them or they don’t,” Daly once said. “Once they stop allowing you to coach, you’re on your way out.”

The Pistons announced in March that the Hall of Fame coach had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and was undergoing treatment.

Daley was voted one of the 10 greatest coaches of the NBA’s first half-century in 1996, two years after being inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame. He was the first coach to win both an NBA title and Olympic gold.

“I think Chuck understood people as well as basketball,” former Pistons guard Joe Dumars told The Associated Press in 1995. “It’s a people business.”

Daley did famously at the Barcelona Games with NBA

superstars such as Magic Johnson, Jordan, Larry Bird and Barkley, using a different lineup in every game.

“I played against Chuck’s teams throughout the NBA for a lot of years. He always had his team prepared, he’s a fine coach,” Bird said shortly after Daly’s diagnosis became public.

“Chuck did a good job of keeping us together,” Bird said. “It wasn’t about who scored the most points, it was about one thing: winning the gold medal.”

Daley humbled the NBA superstars by coaching a group of college players to victory in a controlled scrimmage weeks before the Olympics.

“I was the happiest man in the gym,” Daly said afterward.

Daley also made the right moves for the Pistons, who were notorious for their physical play with Bill Laimbeer and Rick Mahorn leading the fight, Dennis Rodman making headlines and Hall of Fame guards Isiah Thomas and Dumars lifting the team to titles in 1989 and 1990.

Former Piston John Salley gave Daly the nickname Daddy Rich for his impeccably tailored suits.

Daley had a career regular-season record of 638-437 in 13 NBA seasons. In 12 playoff appearances, his teams went 75-51. He left Detroit as the Pistons’ all-time leader in regular-season and playoff victories.

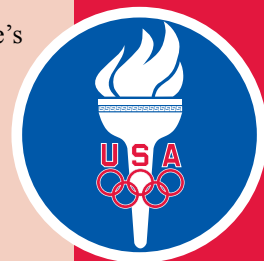
Despite his success, Daly wasn’t part of a Coach of the Year presentation until he handed the trophy to then-Detroit coach Rick Carlisle in 2002.

“This is as close as I’ve ever been to that thing,” Daly said, looking at the Red Auerbach Trophy.

Born July 20, 1930 in St. Mary’s, Pa., Charles Jerome Daley played college ball at St. Bonaventure and Bloomsburg. After two years in the military, he coached for eight seasons at Punxsutawney (Pa.) High School and then spent six years as an assistant at Duke.

Succeeding Bob Cousy as coach at Boston College, Daley coached the Eagles to a 26-24 record over two seasons and then spent seven seasons at Pennsylvania, leading the Quakers to the Ivy League championship in 1972-75.

Daley joined the NBA coaching ranks in 1978 as an assistant under Billy Cunningham in Philadelphia. His first head coaching job was with Cleveland, but he was fired after the Cavaliers went 9-32 over the first half of the



The Berlin Games in 1936 were the first games to be televised.



1981-82 season.

In 1983, Daly took over a Detroit team that had never had two straight winning seasons and led the Pistons to nine consecutive winning seasons. He persuaded the likes of Rodman, Thomas, Dumars, Mahorn and Laimbeer and to play as a unit and they responded with back-to-back championships in 1989 and 1990.

Far from being intimidated by the Pistons' Bad Boys image, Daly saw the upside of it.

"I've also had players who did not care," he said a decade later. "I'd rather have a challenging team."

After leaving Detroit, Daly took over the New Jersey Nets for two seasons and led them to the playoffs both times.

He left broadcasting to return to the bench 1997 with the Orlando Magic and won 74 games over two seasons, then retired at the age of 68 because he said he was weary of the travel.

Daly joined the Vancouver Grizzlies as a senior adviser in 2000.

In retirement, he split time between residences in Jupiter, Fla., and suburban Detroit.

The Pistons retired No. 2 to honor their former coach's two NBA titles in January 1997.

"Without you, there wouldn't be us," Mahorn said to Daly during the ceremony.

Daly is survived by his wife, Terry, as well as daughter Cydney and grandchildren Sebrina and Connor.

Ralph "Flip" Darr (Olympic coach)

Ralph "Flip" Darr passed away from a massive heart attack last evening at his home on July 6, 2009. Coach Darr had a stellar career as one of USA Swimming's most decorated coaches.

As a national level coach for over 25 years working with the Californian teams of Phillips 66, Huntington Beach Aquatics and Irvine Novas and with Hall of Fame coach Don Gambriel, Flip played a significant part in developing Gary Hall, Sr., Shirley Babashoff, Steve Furniss, Valerie Lee, Mike O'Brien, Dan Jorgenson and

John Mykkannen. Their efforts led to swimmers earning 16 world records, eight Olympic medals, nine World Championship medals, three Pan American Games medals and 31 U.S. Swimming national titles.

He placed swimmers on the Olympic Teams of 1968, 1972, 1976 and 1984. He served as U.S. coach of the 1975 World Championships Women's Team, the 1991 World Championships Open Water Team, the 1974 USA vs. DDR Duel Meet and meets with Japan and Argentina. Coach Darr was known as one of the first coaches to bring the use of hand paddles into mainstream swimming.

Chris McCarthy (athletics, 1964)

I am not sure to whom I am writing. Bear with me. The news is not good, as follows:

I am so sorry. Chris died today (April 22, 2009) at 5:30-5:35 p.m. in hospice. He seemed

to feel no pain, no anxiety. That is what hospice is all about. It was a good, a vigorous fight. Unfortunately, the tumor was the victor. I hate it. You all know Chris' impish humor. When he was able, he joked with me that he had a short list of donors-two, you guess who they are-for his cancerous brain tumor. He did choose to be an organ and tissue donor. I am told that the organs and tissues of a 77 yr. Old + cancer patient are not coin of the realm. Nonetheless, his neuro-oncologist did ask for permission to do an autopsy, permission for which I know Chris would have agreed to, and for which I agreed to.

Chris' remains will be cremated. Neither he nor I had any wish for a funeral in the usual sense. We both agreed to an after-the-fact memorial. Please give me a few days. Just now I am considering a brief memorial service at the I & M canal where he has so many friends. You tell me, please, but is there not a park in Morris, along the Nettle Creek where the canal joins it? I would consider meeting at his birthday in June, just to exchange stories about Chris as a kind of remembrance of who and what he was. It is illegal, I know, but he did want his ashes to be spread along the canal bike path. If I punched a hole in a sack of his ashes, who would protest? For those who cannot make Morris, perhaps the same kind of memorial, just stories of the wonderful person he was, can be planned for later in the year. I

will stay in touch.

I truly appreciate all of your good wishes and your genuine love of Chris. In just a few days I will be able to respond to you. For now, I am in mourning and not able to respond. I know you'll understand.

With my great regards---=Betty

Wayman Tisdale (basketball, 1984)

Wayman Tisdale, the second overall NBA draft pick by the Indiana Pacers in 1985 who played his first four years with the team, has died after a two-year battle with cancer, an Oklahoma television station reports on its Web site.

KTUL-TV reported that Tisdale died May 15, 2009 at St. John Medical Center in Tulsa. Tisdale's wife Regina confirmed his death, KTUL said. He was 44.

Tisdale, a 6-9 forward, averaged 15.2 points and 6.4 rebounds a game in his four years with the Pacers, and helped them into the playoffs in the 1986-87 season. He went on to play eight more years in the NBA with the Sacramento Kings and Phoenix Suns, finishing with career per-game averages of 15.3 points and 6.1 rebounds.

He was a three-time first-team All-American at Oklahoma and helped the United States to a gold medal in the 1984 Olympics, playing alongside Michael Jordan, Patrick Ewing and Indiana University's Steve Alford on a team coached by IU's Bob Knight.

After basketball Tisdale enjoyed a successful career in jazz music, but it was cut short by his cancer. He had a leg amputated last year as part of his treatment.

Richard Quick (swimming coach, 1984, '88, '92, '96, '00, '04)

Auburn coach Richard Quick, a legendary college swimming coach whose long career included NCAA championships and the Olympics, died from brain cancer on June 10, 2009. He was 66.

Quick was diagnosed with inoperable cancer in December. He won 13 NCAA team titles, the most ever by a head coach. He was a member of the International Swimming Hall of Fame.

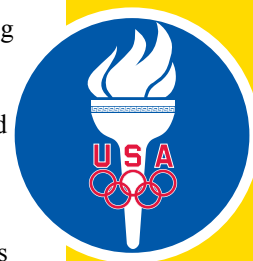
Quick was Auburn's coach from 1978-82, then returned to coach the Tigers in 2007. The Auburn men won Quick's final NCAA championship this year.

Quick won seven NCAA titles at Stanford, five at Texas and one at Auburn. He was the United States' Olympic head coach in 1988, 1996 and 2000.

"While he lost a valiant battle against a cruel disease, Richard was an inspiration to countless people who were touched by his steadfast faith and amazing courage in the face of tremendous adversity," said Auburn Athletics Director Jay Jacobs in a news release from the school.

"Richard will be remembered as one of the greatest coaches in the history of swimming, but more importantly, he will be remembered as a devoted and loving husband, father, grandfather and teacher," Jacobs said.

Brett Hawke, Auburn's co-head coach who took over the day-to-day activities of the team this season, said, "Richard's passing leaves a tremendous void, not only in the swimming community and the Auburn family, but to those individuals who he touched the most. It would be in Richard's greatest honor to not dwell on his loss, but to celebrate his life and the characteristics he embodied, which were his perseverance, compassion and his humanity. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Richard's family during this extremely difficult time."



The five rings on the Olympic Flag symbolizes the five significant continents. The colors on of the rings were chosen since at least one of the colors could be found on every flag of all the countries.



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Olympic Ideals: Vision, Focus, Commitment, Persistence, Discipline

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John Carenza and Jim Campbell ride in the A.B. Wagon pulled by the World Famous Clydesdales in the Webster Groves 4th of July parade held in Webster Groves, MO.



Jeff McLaughlin visited 5 YMCA Summer Camps around the city of Pittsburgh, PA and spoke to approximately 500-600 kids about Olympic Day and his experiences at the Olympics. They watched the Chicago 2016 DVD and he read the Mayoral Proclamation. The kids had some great questions about his Olympic experiences as well as the Olympics in general. It was a very successful day.

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