



THE Olympian

NEVER FORMER NEVER PAST

JULY/AUGUST 2006

VOL. 1 NO. 7

LETTER FROM WILLIE BANKS U.S. Olympians President

The annual USOC Olympic Assembly was held in June this year, where the Alumni Officers met to discuss ways of making our association stronger and more active. One of the more prominent themes at the meeting was the reevaluation of the USOC organization and the integration of, you, the Alumni of the United States Olympic teams, with the marketing program, which reminded me of an Aesop's Fable.

Once upon a time a Miser hid his gold at the foot of a tree in his garden; but every week he would dig it up and gloat over his treasure. A robber, who had noticed this, waited for the Miser to leave, and dug up the gold and ran away with it. When the Miser next came to the tree, he found nothing but the empty hole. He tore his hair, and raised such an outcry that all the neighbors gathered around him. He told them of the theft and how he used to come and visit his gold. "Did you ever take any of it out?" asked one of them.

"Nay," said he, "I only came to look at it."

"Then come again and look at the hole," said a neighbor; "it will do you just as much good."

Moral of the story: Wealth unused might as well not exist.

This fable relates to the Olympic family in three ways. First, the USOC enjoys a wealth of "gold" in its Olympic Alumni. In fact, it seems that every four years Olympians are trotted out on the world stage and gloated over, only to be put away for another 4 years. Now, I'm told by the current leadership, Olympians will start to be integrated into the fabric of the USOC's overall Olympic strategy. The USOC plans to invest significant resources to get more Alumni involved in USOC sponsored marketing, promotion and community-based programs. The USOC has begun to fund the "Olympians Relief Fund" (OORF) on a yearly basis. The OORF is used to help Olympians in need with financial assistance. Soon the USOC will enact a Speaker's Referral Program to help Olympians contact organizations that are looking for dynamic Olympic speakers. Also, the USOC has decided to work with the Olympic Alumni to develop an Olympic Reunion sometime in the near future.

Aesop's Fable also relates to the Olympic Assembly with all the Olympic paraphernalia that we all have lying around our homes. How many national team uniforms do we need collecting dust before we decide to give one away to a local sports museum or to the high school that you attended? How often do you pull out your medals and trophies per year to gloat? Well, one of our members, Jack Elder, has been selected to promote the concept of Olympic Memorabilia. We all have seen how valuable sports memorabilia can be. Unfortunately, Olympic memorabilia has taken a back seat to other sports items. The Alumni Officers were treated

to the first in a series of opportunities for the Alumni Association to develop a market for Olympic memorabilia. Jack created a handful of beautiful paper casts of the US Olympians flame and had each officer sign each one. They are beautiful pieces which he hopes can be used at charity auctions and sports memorabilia conferences. The USOC is enthusiastically supporting these efforts and has signed an agreement with XP Apparel to be the official licensee of Olympic memorabilia. Soon XP Apparel will issue a line of "Olympian Only" apparel that you can order online. Be sure to look for this opportunity in emails and future newsletters.

Finally, many Assembly attendees took part in a survey on the subject of Olympism. Perhaps it was the tenor of the questions, or perhaps it was the nature of the subject matter that caused me to think of all the wealth we have as Olympians which we have hidden away from the public, like misers. Michael Josephson, the President of the Josephson Institute of Ethics, is a consultant on ethics and character development. He is the driving force behind "The Character Counts! Coalition" and he hosts a daily radio commentary with a series of provocative messages about character and its value to mankind. The USOC asked Mr. Josephson to lead a discussion on Olympism and how it is perceived by the Olympic family. Prior to the discussion session, we took a survey entitled, "Olympism and Preserving Olympic Ideals". Among the survey questions was a statement taken from the Olympic Charter:

"The U.S. Olympic Movement should promote a way of life based on four key beliefs: 1) a balanced development of the body, will and mind, 2) the joy found in effort, 3) the educational value of being a good role model and 4) respect for universal ethics including tolerance, generosity, unity, friendship, non-discrimination and respect for others."

The question led to a realization that, in recent years, the Olympic movement is not adequately fulfilling these Olympic ideals. This could very well be the most important part of being an Olympian. If we hold these ideals as an integral part of Olympism, then we need to put these tenets in action everyday. We can not just march these ideals out every four years and celebrate them amongst the Olympic Family; we have a duty to share these ideals with the world. To that end, the USOC, in conjunction with the US Olympians, has developed some programs that are being rolled out over the next few months. These programs will be promoting Olympism in schools and in communities around the nation.

I hope you will look for these programs and take it upon yourself to get connected and involved. Let's take that "gold" out from "under the tree" and pass it around where it can do the most good! I don't believe any of us wants to be considered a "Miser" when it comes to our Olympic ideals.

BOBBY MORROW WAS THE FASTEST THING ON TWO FEET

Memories of Melbourne



U.S. OLYMPIANS SWEEP THE 200 METER FINAL IN MELBOURNE. RECEIVING MEDALS ARE: BOBBY JOE MORROW (GOLD), ALLAN STANFIELD (SILVER) AND W. THANE BAKER (BRONZE)

With the Olympics only six months away, **Bobby Joe Morrow** (athletics, 1956) ran the 100-meter dash in world-record time on May 16, 1956.

As a boy on the family cotton farm in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, Bobby ran just for the fun of it. His favorite pastime was chasing jack rabbits, which he later claimed with a straight face to have actually caught.

Determined to make the most of his amazing gift, Bobby developed a unique training program. He never ran more than two hours a day and always tried to get a minimum of 11 hours of sleep every night.

After high school at San Benito, Texas, Bobby chose Abilene Christian over a multitude of other colleges for religious rather than athletic reasons. The track star soon put the small West Texas campus on the map.

As a freshman, Bobby was rated second and fourth in the world at his short-distance specialties - the 100 and 200-meter dashes. The next year, he equaled the best time ever in the hundred and improved his international ranking to first place in both events.

Bobby was the odds-on favorite to run away with the gold at the 1956 Summer Games, which had been delayed until November due to the southern hemisphere site. Though



some sportswriters worried that the Lone Star flash might have peaked too early for the XVI Olympics, he arrived in Melbourne, Australia in top form.

He breezed through the qualifying heats for the hundred, but so did little **Ira Murchison** (athletics, 1956) of Chicago as each tied the Olympic record in their respective races. Then Kansas' **Thane Baker** (athletics, 1952, '56) expected to give his teammates a run for their money, the U.S. looked forward to a clean sweep.

A so-called "rolling start," a questionable technique Bobby considered poor sportsmanship, gave Australian **Hec Hogan** the early lead in the 100-meter showdown. But the Texan steadily gained ground with his fluid nine-foot stride and passed Hogan at the halfway point.

Bobby glided toward the gold as

Baker and Murchison battled the Aussie for the silver. Baker managed to take second place with a perfectly timed lunge at the tape, and Hogan, who died of leukemia during the 1960 Olympics, beat Murchison by a nose for the bronze.

Through the 200-meter preliminaries, Bobby nursed a groin muscle pulled in his gold-medal performance. A fierce competitor incapable of settling for second best, he would have risked aggravating the injury if contested. Fortunately no one pressed him in the early heats, allowing the muscle to heal completely.

Although Bobby's body was in great shape, his mind had a hard time handling the incredible pressure. All the talk about his repeating **Jesse Owens'** (athletics, 1936) double gold in the dashes had him tied up in knots. The night before the 200-meter finals, he could not sleep a wink. But the tension and self-doubt melted away at the sound of the starter's pistol. Defending champion Andrew Stanfield (athletics, 1952, '56) of the U.S. led the

pack around the curve only to watch helplessly as Bobby flew by on his way to a second gold medal and a new Olympic record.

Four days later, the speed demon savored yet another golden moment. He ran the anchor leg for the victorious 400-meter relay team.

Bobby came home to a hero's welcome. The Texas Senate saluted his achievements with a special resolution, and the House of Representatives declared a statewide Bobby Morrow Day. Abilene and Beaumont held daylong celebrations, and the gym at San Benito High School was renamed in his honor.

The national recognition was unprecedented. Sports Illustrated selected Bobby, "Sportsman of the Year" for 1956; Sport Magazine hailed him as "Athlete of the Year," as did a poll of sportswriters and broadcasters; and he was presented with the coveted Sullivan Award by the Amateur Athletic Union.

When Bobby Morrow retired from competition in the late 1950s, he had collected 14 national sprint championships in addition to the incomparable keepsakes from the Melbourne Olympics. Of the 88 races he ran as a member of the Abilene Christian track team, he lost only eight.

No wonder the kid from the cotton patch was judged the "Greatest Sprinter of All Time" by Track and Field News in 1958 and inducted into three different halls of Fame: Helms Track and Field, National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics and, of course, the Texas Sports Hall of Fame.

Those embarrassed jack rabbits down in South Texas had no cause to hang their long ears in shame. After all, that was no ordinary mortal that used to run them down. It was Bobby Morrow, the fastest thing on two feet.

---Bartee Haile for The Clifton Record



BOBBY JOE MORROW (55) TOOK THE 100-METER AND 200-METER DASHES AT THE 1956 GAMES AND ANCHORED THE 400-METER RELAY TEAM, WHICH ALSO WON A GOLD MEDAL. HE WAS SELECTED THE NATION'S TOP AMATEUR ATHLETE IN 1957.

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS

At a special White House ceremony with the President, Disabled Sports USA's Executive Director, **Kirk Bauer**, was sworn into the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, a twenty-member body composed of experts and leaders in the fitness and sports field. Bauer, a disabled Vietnam Veteran, will join 19 other members of the council sworn in on May 24, including Eli Manning, Quarterback for the New York Giants; professional tennis star **Andy Roddick** (tennis, 2004); **Mary Lou Retton Kelley** (gymnastics, 1984); fitness expert Denise Austin; champion triathlete Susan Dell, director of the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation of Dell Computers; and John Burke, President of Trek Bikes and Chair of the Council. Bauer is the only veteran on the council.

For Bauer, this appointment is the culmination of nearly 36 years in the disability sports field with Disabled Sports USA, including 24 years as its executive director and 12 years at the local chapter level as a volunteer. "It is an honor to be associated with so many accomplished people in the sports and fitness field," said Bauer. "I hope to use my position to promote fitness for youth with disabilities and for veterans, especially those with disabilities from injuries incurred in war. These two groups are some of the most unfit in the nation, especially older veterans, and are at risk for many health problems. I want to be a voice for two programs initiated by the Department of Health and Human Services: 'I Can Do It, You Can Do It' you with disabilities sports mentoring pro-

gram; and 'Healthier U.S. Veterans' in partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs."

Bauer became involved in the disability sports field after losing his leg in 1969 to a hand grenade during an ambush while serving in the US Army Infantry in Vietnam. He became a champion snow ski racer, winning medals in numerous national competitions and was named to the U.S. Disabled Ski Team in 1980.

During his tenure as executive director of DS/USA, Bauer took an all-volunteer organization that taught mostly winter skiing to a national organization with 85 chapters operating in 35 states, offering year-round sports rehabilitation and elite programs in over 20 different sports. Thousands are served each year representing all types of disabilities. He established the first nationwide fitness program "Fitness Is For Everyone;" the first nationwide national ski instructor training program that is now part of the curriculum for



ANDY RODDICK

Professional Ski Instructors of America; and a nationwide program to instruct parents whose children have disabilities to ensure their children's rights to physical education in their school.

The most recent program that he has initiated with DS/USA is the Wounded Warrior Disabled Sports Project, a program in partnership with the Wounded Warrior Project, which provides year-round sports rehabilitation programs for military service members who have received severe, life-changing injuries as a result of their service in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Established in 1956, the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports is a federal advisory committee of up to twenty members who recommend programs and initiatives on physical activity, fitness and sports to the President through the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS). President George W. Bush established the Healthier US initiative in 2002 to stress prevention through healthy lifestyle choices, including daily physical activity, sound nutrition, preventive screenings, and safe behaviors.

Through its programs and partnerships with the public, private and non-profit sectors, the Council serves as a catalyst to promote health, physical activity, fitness, and enjoyment for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities through participation in physical activity and sports. The twenty Council members are appointed and serve at the pleasure of the President.

A member of the U.S. Olympic Committee, Disabled Sports USA is a national, non-profit, tax-exempt organization which was established in 1967 to serve disabled Vietnam veterans.

DS/USA now offers nationwide sports rehabilitation programs to anyone with a permanent disability, serving thousands annually through a nationwide network of 85 community chapters operating in 35 states. Activities include winter and summer sports with emphasis on skiing and water sports. Participants include those with visual impairments, amputations and other orthopedic conditions; spinal and head injury, and other neuromuscular impairments. More information is available at www.dsusa.org.

MARY LOU RETTON KELLEY



Olympians Reaching Out

Many Olympians are actively involved in helping in the community, the nation, and the world. In this section of our Newsletter, we will be highlighting some of the ways our colleagues are continuing the Olympic path of excellence.

Olympic downhill champion **Bill Johnson** (skiing, 1984) was among the delighted participants as three days of brilliant sunshine embraced BodeFest 2005, the third edition of downhill and super G World champion **Bode Miller's** (skiing, 1998, '02, '06) annual fundraiser for a local adaptive ski program. Organizers said all-day skiing on Saturday, April 29 at Bretton Woods Mountain Resort and golf on Sunday the 30th on the championship course behind the storied Mount Washington Hotel raised about \$9,000 for the Bretton

Woods Adaptive Program, which aims to provide sports and other activities to people with disabilities, and Miller's nonprofit, The Turtle Ridge Foundation.

Carl Lewis (athletics, 1980, '84, '88, '92, '96) turns 45 this year. With a life and career that has reached tremendous heights: nine gold medals (tied for the most won in Olympic history), winning 4 consecutive Olympics in a row for the long-jump, and numerous humanitarian efforts, Carl has established himself as a true American icon. To commemorate

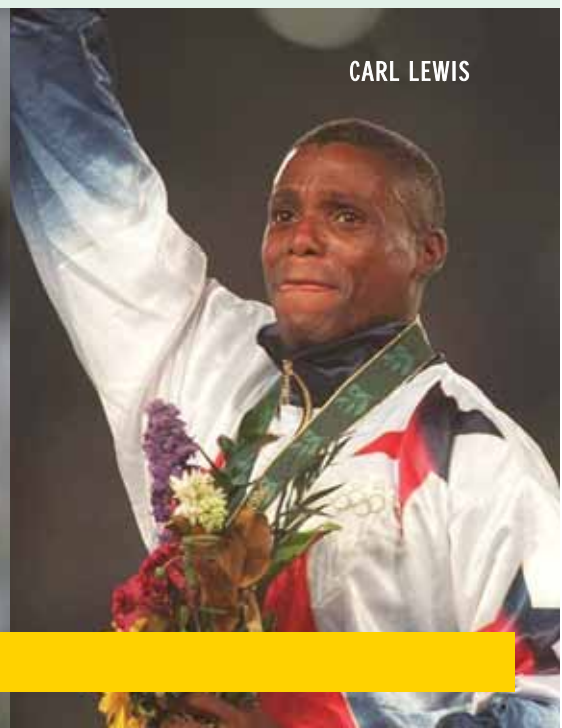
the transition from Olympic golden boy to today's modern man, Carl Lewis is introducing a lifestyle campaign through his Carl Lewis Foundation called "Future is Fitness," created to bring total physical wellness from childhood through adulthood. The first component of "Future is Fitness" is geared toward the youth and conditioning them to the importance of physical activity, athletics, and proper eating. "It's our responsibility to save our children. The staggering numbers of childhood diabetes and obesity are a major concern...Our children must incor-



BODE MILLER



SARA MCMANN



CARL LEWIS



U.S. OLYMPIAN CHAPTERS

*Did you know that the U.S. Olympians have regional chapters throughout the country? Look for updates on chapter happenings in future issues of *The Olympian*! If you would like to find out what is happening in your area, contact:*

Colorado Olympians

President: Gene Kotlarek (*skiing, 1960, '64*) **(303)-807-3911**

Florida Olympians

President: Jim Millns (*figure skating, 1976*) **(813) 926-5955**

Georgia Olympians

President: TBD

Hawaii Olympians

President: Richard "Sonny" Tanabe (*swimming, 1956*) **(808) 735-1088**

Indiana Olympians

President: Ollan Cassell (*athletics, 1964*) **(317) 466-0444**

Midwest Olympians

President: Willye White (*athletics, 1956, '60, '64, '68, '72*) **(773) 651-8267**

National Capital Area Olympians

President: Arlene Limas (*taekwondo, 1988*) **(540) 720-1988**

New England Area Olympians

President: TBD

Northern California Olympians

President: Anne Warner Cribbs (*swimming, 1960*) **(650) 856-3200**

Oregon Olympians

President: Clem Eischen (*athletics, 1948*) **(503) 492-2232**

Southern California Olympians

President: Cathy Marino Bradford (*canoe/kayak, 1988, '92*) **(714) 847-5596**

Southwest Olympians

President: Sammy Walker (*weightlifting, 1976*) **(469) 964-8824**

Tri-States Olympians

President: Otis Davis (*athletics, 1960*) **(201) 392-8448**

Utah Olympians

President: Henry Marsh (*athletics, 1976, '80, '84, '88*) **(801) 560-8698**

Washington State Olympians

President: John Stillings (*rowing, 1984*) **(206) 440-0708**

No chapter in your area? Interested in starting a chapter? Contact the U.S. Olympians Association office for details at (800) 717-7555.

porate a healthy lifestyle - even as early as five and six, so they can make it to their forties. Not only will my youth campaign focus on the physical aspects of good health, but the mental aspects as well, by building discipline and self-confidence which will carry them through life." The next phase of "Future is Fitness" is designed for the active young adult who is building a career and family, by designing an eating and exercise regime around their busy schedule. And finally, "40-plus Fitness" is developed for the generation at forty and beyond. "Most of my life went by in a flash of training and traveling," Carl exuberantly states. "Now I am living my 20's in my 40's!"

Sara McMann (wrestling, 2004) met with children at a summer food program site on June 7 to talk about the importance of healthy eating and exercise. The silver medalist had lunch with a group of children in Des Moines, Iowa to kick off the annual Summer Food Service program. Run by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Iowa Department of Education, the program was created to ensure children living in low-income areas continue to receive nutritious meals during school vacations. Organizers also provide the children with supervised activities and a safe place to spend their days.

ALUMNI NEWS

IN HONOR

The U.S. Olympic Committee named figure skater **Kimmie Meissner** (figure skating, 2006) and Paralympian **Steve Cook**

(Nordic skiing, 1996, '98, '02, '06) as its March Athletes of the Month. The USOC Team of the Month was awarded to the U.S. Sled Hockey Team.



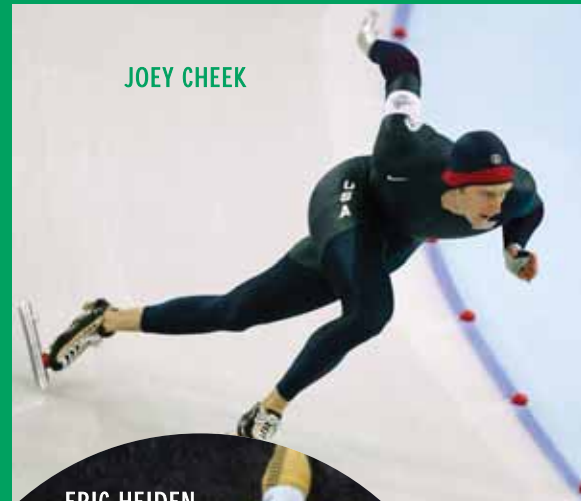
KIMMIE MEISSNER

Meissner won the world title in her first year at the World Figure Skating Championships. She was the only lady to land a triple-triple combination in the free skate; she eventually landed two of them. Her technical elements score of 69.47 in the free skate was one of the highest in history and nearly 10 points higher than the second place score. Her total score for the free skate was the third best in history and more than four points higher than that of this year's Olympic Gold medalist. She beat 43 other skaters from 33 countries.

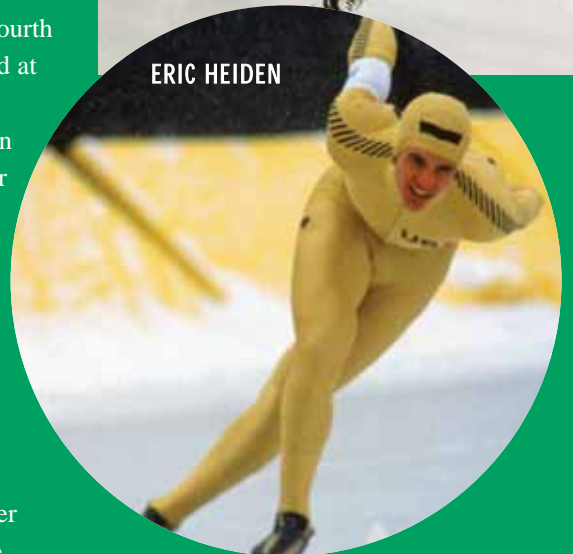
A four-time Paralympian, the 37-year-old Cook took home one-fourth of the 12 medals the U.S. earned at the 2006 Paralympic Winter Games. He won a gold medal in the men's 5km freestyle, another gold medal in the men's 10km classic and a bronze medal in the men's 20km classic.

The U.S. Paralympic Sled Hockey Team earned a place in the bronze-medal match against Team Germany at the 2006 Paralympic Winter Games. After battling a 3-3 tie for most of the game, Team USA's **Taylor Chace** knocked a rebound into the open side of the net midway through the third period giving the U.S. a 4-3 win and the bronze medal.

U.S. Speedskating proudly announced Olympic medalist and humanitarian **Joey Cheek** (speedskating, 2002, '06) as the first recipient of the Eric Heiden Athlete of the Year award on April 22 at the U.S. Speedskating Hall of Fame Banquet in Salt Lake City. **Eric Heiden** (speedskating, 1976, '80), the five-time Olympic gold medalist, agreed to lend his name for U.S.



JOEY CHEEK



ERIC HEIDEN

Speedskating's most prestigious athlete of the year Award. "Joey is truly a champion, in all senses of the word. Not only did he have amazing performances on the ice this season but also his humanitarian efforts off



STEVE COOK

ALUMNI NEWS

the ice cannot be matched," U.S. Speedskating Executive Director Katie Marquard said. "We are extremely fortunate to have such an outstanding representative for our sport. It is fitting for Joey to be the first recipient of the Eric



RICH CORSO

Heiden Athlete of the Year Award; both individuals were at the top of the world with their skating performances and exemplify the highest level of values off the ice."

Olympic Coach **Rich Corso** (water polo, 1996), current UC Berkeley Water Polo Coach, as been appointed by Federation Internationale de Natation (FINA) to be a member of a special FINA Commission to evaluate the new FINA water polo rules. Corso has been assigned to view the European Water Polo Championships in Belgrade, Germany in September 2007.

He will then file a report with FINA on his observations and opinions on the new rules. "It is an honor and privilege to represent the Americans on such an important commission," responded Corso. "I look forward to working with my esteemed colleagues on this project."

Olympics film maker Bud Greenspan collected three more awards,

recognition for his work portraying the world's best athletes. In April, he was one of the inaugural recipients of a "Billie," a media awards program launched by the Women's Sports Foundation, who cited Greenspan for his portrayal of women athletes. "Bud Greenspan has dedicated his unique journalistic talents to capturing the essence of our modern-day Olympic heroes for broadcast on television. For three decades, he has depicted the strength, beauty and inspiration of female Olympians," said the foundation in its award.

On May 1, Greenspan was honored with a Lifetime

Achievement Sports Emmy, noting his "focus on the people who compete for Olympic Glory." And on May 12, he was in Fort Lauderdale, Florida for induction into the International Swimming Hall of Fame, along with athletes who have been caught in the Greenspan lens.

Greenspan, who turns 80 this year, launched his reputation as an Olympic storyteller with a 1966 Jesse Owens documentary, and continued by commemorating on film every Olympics since Los Angeles. Torino is the tenth of his official Games films. Production on the latest opus is now underway, with athletes from Torino already selected for profiling. Filming has started around the globe by the Greenspan team, with writing and editing to follow later this year.

Barbara Ferries Henderson (skiing, 1964) fell in love with Colorado in 1960 when she left her native Michigan to spend her junior year of high school in Aspen pursuing ski racing. That move put her on a path that will take her to the Colorado Ski Hall of Fame this fall.

"I came out and saw the Rocky Mountains and I just never left," said Ferries Henderson, who lives in Nederland.

She won a bronze medal in downhill at the 1962 world championships and competed in the 1964 Olympics. Her brother, Chuck Ferries, raced in the 1960 and 1964 Olympics.

For her donations of time and spirit, **Megan Jendrick** (swimming, 2000) was presented with the Henry P. Iba Citizen Athlete



MEGAN JENDRICK

ALUMNI NEWS



ERIN MIRABELLA

Award on June 5 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The award is named for the late Oklahoma State University and United States Olympic basketball coach. It's more than just an honor, as a \$10,000 donation in her name will be made to the Greatest Needs Fund at The Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Seattle. "We're trying to show positive role models for youths," said Ron Butler of the Iba Award committee. There are so many bad stories, this award was started to put positive role models in front of them. Megan's qualities fit our criteria perfectly."

Jendrick's two Olympic gold medals in Sydney in 2000, and her 26 world and American records, certainly qualify her to join Peyton Manning, Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Nancy Lopez and Ozzie Smith on the list of Iba award winners. Her initial reaction is typical. "Am I really deserving of this? It's such a big honor. If you look at the people who have won this, they're such superstar athletes. Do I really deserve to be on the same level with them?" she questioned. The award itself answers the question.

Erin Mirabella (cycling, 2000, '04) was named the recipient of the United States Olympic Committee's Jack Kelly Fair Play Award for 2005. Established in 1985, and named for the late USOC President John (Jack) Kelly Jr., the award is presented to an athlete, coach or official for an outstanding act of fair play or sportsmanship displayed during the past year.

Mirabella finished fourth in the points race at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, but was awarded the bronze medal after it was believed that third-place finisher Columbian Maria-Luisa Calle Williams tested positive for a banned substance. However, the decision by the

ALUMNI NEWS

International Olympic Committee was later overturned by the Court of Arbitration for Sport and Mirabella was asked to return the medal. She did so without hesitation, stating, "I want to do what is right and what is fair. If the IOC thinks I should give the bronze medal back to my competitor that is what I will do. If due to a mistake made in Athens an innocent person was found guilty, then that wrong needs to be righted."

"USA Cycling is proud of Erin and the USOC's recognition of her...As a talented competitor and role model on and off the bike, Erin has always exemplified a high level of sportsmanship and respect for her competition and the sport of cycling. Her actions following the 2004 Olympic Games were an inspiration for many," said Steve Johnson, USA Cycling Chief Executive Officer.

"This is a real honor to be selected by the U.S. Olympic Committee and by a committee of my peers," responded Mirabella. "As much as I and every other athlete would like to win a medal at the Olympic Games, The Olympics are a lot more than that. Fair play and being a good sportsman is what matters." An aspiring author, Mirabella has been working on a series of children's books about Olympic sports and sports-

manship fundamentals. She recently signed a contract to write her first book - ironically, on the same day she returned the medal to the IOC.

NBC and Mark Burnett Productions announced that Olympian and Harvard graduate **Angela Ruggiero** (ice hockey, 1998, '02, '06) will join 17 other candidates selected to 'interview' for the title of "The Apprentice" during season six of the hit show. This past February, Mark Burnett, creator and executive producer, opened "Apprentice" casting to the view-

ers to choose one of twelve U.S. Olympic athletes competing in the 2006 Olympic Winter Games. During NBC's 17-day broadcast from Torino, viewers were given the chance to vote interactively online for one of the twelve U.S. Olympians to become a candidate.

"The results are in and I'm thrilled with the viewer's decision," said Trump.

"We'll see if Angela can ice the competition as we take the boardroom to the West Coast."



ANGELA RUGGIERO



2006 U.S. OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC TEAM
MAY 17



OLYMPIC TEAMS VISIT WHITE HOUSE
7, 2006

ALUMNI NEWS

"It's an honor to have been selected by America - I'll definitely be bringing my Olympic spirit and competitive edge to the game," said Ruggiero. "I'm proud to represent all Olympians and especially proud to represent the hockey community."

"I'm delighted to have an Olympian in our cast, especially one who went to Harvard," said Burnett. "It's a unique hiring opportunity for Donald Trump is she's lucky enough to win. But in order to win, she'll need to be the best of the best as she battles against many motivated and talented job applicants."

In 1998, Ruggiero became the youngest member of the U.S. Olympic Team that won the first Olympic gold medal ever awarded in women's ice hockey at the Olympic Winter Games in Nagano, Japan. She subsequently was a member of the U.S. Olympic Team that won a silver medal in Salt Lake City in the 2002 Olympic Winter Games, and was chosen to be one of eight athletes to carry the tattered World Trade Center flag into the Opening Ceremony of those Games. Most recently, she and her

teammates took home a bronze medal in Torino in 2006.

Ruggiero is a recognized team leader and is widely regarded as the top female defenseman in the world. At the 2005 International Ice Hockey Federation Women's World Championship in Sweden, Ruggiero scored the shootout game-winner to lead Team USA to its first-ever World Championship gold medal.

Ruggiero graduated cum laude from Harvard University with a B.A. in government in 2004. She is active in Right to Play, a non-governmental organization that aims to enrich the lives of children through sport. She traveled to Uganda for three weeks in 2004 for Right to Play, observing and helping to educate children at play around the country. For one week each summer, she teaches at her All-American Girls Hockey School at the St. Clair Shores Civic Arena in St. Clair, Michigan. She started the school in 2002 to encourage girls to participate in ice hockey. Ruggiero also helped launch the website and raise funds for



ALEXI SALAMONE

ALUMNI NEWS

Teams of Angels and momsteam.com, charities that focus on creating a safer youth sports experience. In November 2005, she released her autobiography, "Breaking the Ice."

Alexi Salamone (sledge hockey, 2006) was the subject of a feature story on ESPN's "SportsCenter" on May 7. The 18-year-old forward who was born in Russia and had his legs amputated as a result of the Chernobyl disaster, competed in his first Paralympic Winter Games in Torino. In addition to coming home with a bronze medal, he came back with the distinction of being the team's leading scorer (six points) and set-up man (four assists) in the Paralympic tournament.

The National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) inducted two U.S. Olympic Committee Strength Coaches into its prestigious Coach Practitioner Distinction Program, recognizing their hard work and dedication to the profession of strength training and athletic conditioning. The NSCA Coach Practitioner Program honors seasoned practitioners and educators responsible for the physical enhancement of individual athletes and athletic teams. The organization, the largest health and fitness association in the world, boasts a membership of more than 33,000. To date, only 39 members

of NSCA have been recognized with this honor.

Honored by NSCA were Peter Melanson, the Head of Strength and Conditioning for the USOC's three primary Olympic Training Centers and Mike Favre, the Coordinator of Strength and Conditioning for the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs.

Melanson, from Colorado Springs, Colorado, oversees the Strength and Conditioning programs at the Lake Placid, New York, the Chula Vista, California, and the Colorado Springs Olympic Training Centers. Before joining the USOC staff in August 2005, Melanson was the Educational Programs Coordinator with the NSCA. He was the Assistant Strength and Conditioning coach at the United States Air Force Academy, assisting with the football programs while being the primary strength coach for 14 additional teams of the Academy's 31 intercollegiate sports. He's also been the National Director of Strength and Conditioning for HealthSouth, a graduate assistant with the University of Tennessee and assistant strength and conditioning coach for the New York Jets. He earned a B.S. in Health and Fitness from Springfield College in Springfield, Massachusetts,

and an M.S. in Human Performance and Sports Studies from the University of Tennessee.

Favre, who joined the USOC staff in April 2004, oversees all aspects of strength and conditioning for the Greco-Roman wrestling team, the judo and track cycling teams at the Colorado Springs Olympic Training Center. He also assists with the instruction of USA Weightlifting coaching education courses. He has worked with the Scottish Rugby Union and the Scottish Institute of Sport in Glasgow, Scotland, where he oversaw all aspects of strength training for the Scottish national judo and badminton squads and the West of Scotland track and field and swimming squads. He's been the Head Strength and Conditioning Coach at La Salle University and was the assistant coach at Temple University in Philadelphia. He was a strength coach with the Arizona Diamondbacks and the minor league affiliate High Desert Mavericks. He was an intern and graduate assistant for Arizona State University, when ASU participated in the 1997 Rose Bowl. He graduated cum laude from Arizona State University with a B.S., and earned a masters degree from Temple University in 2001.

ALUMNI NEWS



JEREMY BLOOM

MILESTONES

The skis are in the closet, the book is closed on the successes accumulated during all those trips down the slopes. Two-time World Cup moguls champion **Jeremy Bloom** (skiing, 2002, '06) was drafted April 30 by the Philadelphia Eagles. Bloom called it "a perfect fit for me. I took the different road to be an NFL rookie. I took the scenic and amazing road." Bloom, 24, was a standout punt and kickoff returner as well as a wide receiver for two seasons at the University of Colorado; he had five touchdowns on plays of 75 yards or greater and was a Freshman All-America pick. But in the fall of 2004, he was forced to abandon football because the NCAA ruled that since he accepted endorsements to keep his equally successful career as a skier on track, he was not eligible for the football team. Returning to the gridiron now, he brings with him two World Cup championships and two trips to the Olympic games - and skills from skiing through the moguls that will help him return kicks in the pros: explosiveness, field vision, ability to change direction. For now, he's glad to be in a "competitive situation, which I love, and a team environment, which I sorely missed."

Nadia Comaneci and Bart Conner

(gymnastics, 1984) are the parents of a baby boy, and the early scouting report is in.



NADIA COMANECEI & BART CONNER

"He already has definition in his deltoids and his biceps," said Conner, who won two gold medals at the 1984 Olympics.

Dylan Paul was born Saturday,

ALUMNI NEWS

June 3, the first child for the gold-medal winning gymnasts.

"We've been through a lot of high moments in our life in sports through what we accomplished, but this is just something that is totally unique," Comaneci, the first Olympian to score a perfect 10, told The Associated Press.

She was due to deliver in July, the 30th anniversary of her seven perfect 10s at the Montreal Games. "He's a few weeks early, so he's a little small - 4 pounds, 10

ounces - but he's just fantastic. He's awesome in fact. He's really cute," Conner said. He added that his emotions were a mixture of excitement, fear, elation and terror. The delivery room staff created a poster proclaiming the boy a "perfect 10."

Comaneci said that she had already received a call from the prime minister of Romania and many others who wanted to share in their joy.

"Everything looks good...He's strong and healthy and Mom is doing great," said Conner.

---Jeff Latzke, AP Sports Writer

Olympic bronze medalist **Timothy Goebel** (figure skating, 2002) has announced his retirement from competitive figure skating after more than a decade of international competition. Nicknamed the "Quad King," Goebel made history throughout his career by being the first U.S. man to land a quadruple jump in competition, the first skater ever to land a quadruple Salchow and the first to land a quadruple Salchow-triple combination. He was the first man in the



MARCY HINZMANN & AARON PARCHEM

world to land six quadruple jumps in a single competition and the first to land three quadruple jumps in one program. He revolutionized the technical standard in the sport of figure skating while landing 76 quadruple jumps in competition during his career. Goebel has been a member of the U.S. National Team since 1994. In addition to winning the bronze medal at the 2002 Olympic Winter Games, he is a six-time U.S. Championships medalist, the 2000 U.S. champion, a two-time World Championships silver medalist and two-time Skate America champion. He has been active in charity work, most recently with tsunami relief, Habitat for Humanity and Figure Skating in Harlem. He has also raised funds by auctioning personalized items on eBay, with 100% of the proceeds going to his causes.

Marcy Hinzmann (figure skating, 2006) and **Aaron Parchem** (figure skating,



TIMOTHY GOEBEL

ALUMNI NEWS

2006) announced their retirement from competitive figure skating. The 2006 U.S. silver medalists skated together for three years, placing 13th at the Olympic Winter Games and 11th at the 2006 World Figure Skating Championships. Hinzmann started out as a singles skater and was coached by Carol Heiss Jenkins. She made the switch to pairs skating in 2001, skating with Ronnie Biancosino and Steve Hartsell each for one season. She and Parchem paired up before the 2003-2004 season and placed third at their first event, the 2003 Finlandia Cup. She skated throughout the entire 2004-2005 season with a torn ACL and

had surgery to repair the injury shortly after the 2005 State Farm U.S. Figure Skating Championships, where she and Parchem finished third.

Parchem took up pairs skating in 1997 and skated briefly with Michelle Keen and then Shawna Winters. He teamed up with Stephanie Kalesavich in the spring of 1999, and together they won the junior title at the 2000 U.S. Championships and the bronze medal at the 2000 Nebelhorn Trophy. They narrowly missed qualifying for the 2002 Olympics, placing third at the 2002 U.S. Championships, making them first alternates to the Olympic Team. That fate was not to be relived in 2006, as Hinzmann and Parchem's second-place finish at the 2006 U.S. Championships earned them a spot on the 2006 U.S. Olympic Team.

"We were just so happy to be able to experience all the things we got to this season - nationals, Four Continents, the Olympics and Worlds," Parchem said. "The Olympics and Worlds were what we've always hoped we would get to, and we got there. Just being able to take part in all of that was amazing. It was life changing for both of us."

Hinzmann and Parchem plan to continue coaching with the Detroit Skating Club and skating together in shows and exhibitions. Both are currently undecided on their future plans but are exploring their options.

Deena Kastor (athletics, 2000, '04) dominated the April 23 London Marathon, winning in 2 hours, 19 minutes, 36 seconds and breaking her U.S. record by 1:40, the fourth-fastest time ever. Kastor now is the first American woman, and eighth woman overall, to break the 2:20 barrier. This second major win in a row (after U.S. women went twelve years without a major victory) was "impressive and efficient."

"She was on fire," said Mary Wittenberg, director of the New York City Marathon after observing the London race. "Total



DEENA KASTOR

ALUMNI NEWS

focus, total commitment to the win and the sub-2:20 despite the tough field behind her. To be honest, it was like they weren't even there."

At 33, Kastor keeps getting better, a trend which her coach, Terrence Mahon, thinks can continue. "She's just getting stronger and stronger," he said. I know this isn't the top. The 2008 Olympics are still the big picture. I don't think she'll come into that on the downside. Hopefully, she'll be right at the top."

On May 12, **Jim Martinez** (wrestling, 1984) married Pam Seal.

Brett McClure (gymnastics, 2004) has announced his retirement from competitive gymnastics. A member of the U.S. National Team for twelve years and Team Chevron since its inception, McClure was a key player in the U.S. Men's Team's success at the 2004 Olympic Games, where the squad captured the silver medal for the U.S. men's best Olympic finish since the 1984 Olympic Games.

"This was a very difficult decision for me," said McClure, who is originally from Mill Creek, Washington. "First, I want to thank everyone at USA Gymnastics. My success would not have been possible without their support...I also want to thank Vitaly Marinitch for his guidance; he is definitely one of the best coaches in the world. I am thankful that he was a major part of all my success

for the past five years. Chevron made it possible for me, and all of us, to train, travel and compete without having to get a part-time job. Chevron allowed me to focus 100 percent on gymnastics...The last couple of years have been tough, coming back from injuries, and I always want to go out and do better than before...While one chapter of my life is finishing, another chapter is just beginning and getting better I recently got married to 1996 Olympic gold medalist **Jaycie Phelps** (gymnastics, 1996) and I want to spend more time with my family. I also have a great job opportunity...My wife and family are behind me 100 percent. All of the pieces of the puzzle have fallen in place for me and made a great career."

Steve Penny, president of USA Gymnastics, said, "On behalf of USA Gymnastics, I want to wish him the best on his new opportunities and to thank him

for his dedication and long-time commitment to gymnastics. His ability on all six apparatus and his willingness to do whatever is asked are just some of the things that have made him such a valuable asset. We hate to see him leave the competitive arena because he is still one of the best gymnasts in the world. On a personal note, I have enjoyed getting to know and working with Brett. He is a wonderful person who has always wanted to give something back to his sport. This is a part of his nature, and I am confident Brett will continue to contribute to gymnastics in the coming years."

Returning to his home state, **Ryan O'Meara** (figure skating, 2006) is the new director of ice dancing at the Alltel Ice Den in Scottsdale, Arizona. Both O'Meara and his partner **Jamie Silverstein** (figure skating, 2006) are leaving open the option of returning to competitive skating. O'Meara began his



BRETT MCCLURE

ALUMNI NEWS

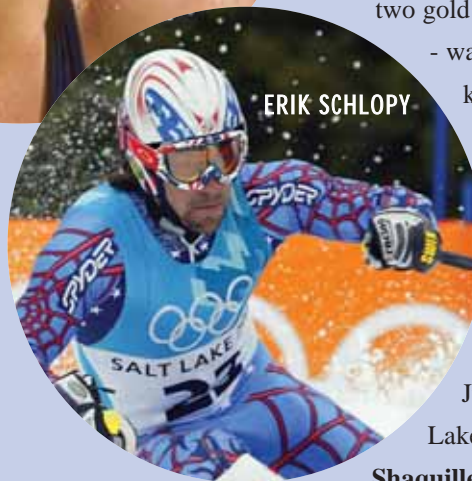
skating career in Arizona before moving to Detroit to train with coaches Igor Shpilband and Marina Zoueva. "I'm excited to try something new in my life...and I want to give back to the skaters in Arizona," O'Meara said.

Because she felt that the Utah National Guard helped her win an Olympic silver medal in February, **Shauna Rohbock** (bobsled, 2002, '06) re-enlisted, accepting a one-year assignment as a recruiting officer. An alternate pusher on the U.S. Olympic bobsled team at the Salt Lake Olympics, Rohbock switched to driving and improved with incredible speed, but her unit was deployed to Iraq in 2004. She had her bags packed and was ready to go when her torn rotator cuff was desig-



SUMMER SANDERS

the satisfaction she feels representing the United States as an athlete and a soldier.



ERIK SCHLOPY

Dara Torres (swimming, 1984, '88, '92, '00) gave birth to Tessa Grace Torres-Hoffman on Tuesday, April 18, just three days after Dara's own birthday. Tessa, who weighed in at 8.1 pounds and stretches a lanky 21 1/2" in length, appears to have her mom's build. "We don't know who she looks like (Dara or husband, Dr. David Hoffman), but she definitely has my big feet and hands, and long toes and fingers," reported the proud mom. Mom, dad and baby are doing well.

Three days later, as 12:42 AM on Friday, April 21, **Summer Sanders** (swimming, 1992) and **Erik Schlopy** (skiing, 1994, '02, '06) welcomed Skye Bella Schlopy after 40 hours of labor for mom. Skye,

like Tessa, is a solid young lady, weighing 7 lbs. 7 ounces and measuring 20 inches long. "What a special day April 21st turned out to be," Summer said. "Not only was it my dad's birthday, but our little girl entered the world." Summer, the most decorated American woman at the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona with two gold medals, a silver and a bronze - was the star of the Nickelodeon kids' games show, "Figure It Out," and is co-host of the NBA's "Inside Stuff" on NBC. Mom, dad and baby Skye are happy, healthy and loving life.

Just like old times, two former Lakers teammates are celebrating.

Shaquille O'Neal (basketball, 1996)

and his wife Shaunie became parents for the sixth time when Mearah Sanaa O'Neal was born at 4:57 AM in a South Florida hospital. It's the third girl for the O'Neals, with Mearah joining sisters Taahira and Amirah and brothers Myles, Shareef and Shaqir, who turned three last month. Mother and baby are both doing well. Six minutes later, **Kobe Bryant** (Olympic hopeful, 2008) and his wife Vanessa Bryant welcomed Gianna Maria-Onore Bryant. Already parents to three-year-old Natalia, Kobe spoke for them all when he said, "The arrival of our new daughter Gianna early this morning is such an incredible blessing for me and my family. We are all full of beautiful emotions after such an incredible day."



SHAUNA ROHBOCK & VALERIE FLEMING

nated a "non-deployable injury." But it didn't hurt her while she was fine tuning her driving skills. On February 21, she and her teammate, Valerie Fleming (bobsled, 2006), raced to a silver medal in Torino. After her medal-winning performance and again on re-enlisting, Rohbock said that words cannot express

BASKETBALL

ALUMNI NEWS

IN MEMORIAN

Corey Engen (skiing, 1948), a ski-jumper and cross-country skier who was captain of the U.S. Olympic Nordic team in 1948, died on May 9 at the age of 90. Engen followed his two older brothers from Norway to Utah in 1933, arriving with their widowed mother. The three brothers helped popularize skiing in Idaho and Utah. Corey Engen taught skiing in the early years of Sun Valley Resort in Ketchum, Idaho, and in 1961 helped develop and manage Brundage Mountain Ski Area in McCall, Idaho. He also taught skiing at Snowbasin ski area near Ogden, Utah, where he coached the Weber State ski team. He collected 22 gold medals in national competitions and was inducted into the U.S. National Ski Association Hall of Fame in 1973. He married Norma Bleak in 1938; she died in 2002. They are survived by a daughter, Carol Beus, and a son, David.

George F. Haines (swimming coach, 1960, '64, '68, '72, '76, '80, '84), who coached three U.S. Olympic swim teams, died in his sleep on May 1 at a nursing home in Carmichael, California, where he had stayed since suffering a severe stroke a few years ago. Founder of the Santa Clara Swim Club in 1950, Haines produced 53 Olympic swimmers there from 1960 to 1988. They won 44 Olympic gold medals, 14 silver and 10 bronze. It was considered one of the nation's first large "super clubs," with Haines taking as many as 40 swimmers to national meets. The nine-lane pool at the Santa Clara complex is named after him. Haines served on the support staff of four other Olympic teams and is a member of the International Swimming Hall of Fame.

He also coached football during a 24-year tenure at Santa Clara High, and later coached swimming at UCLA and Stanford. The Santa Clara Swim Club honored Haines at a 55th Anniversary celebration in June.

Terrence J. McCann (wrestling, 1960), gold medal freestyle wrestler and a leader in the sport of wrestling, died June 7.

McCann helped found a new national governing body for the sport, the

United States Wrestling Federation (now call USA Wrestling) and is credited with the United States' increasing involvement in the international wrestling scene. He spent four years as presi-

dent of USA Wrestling and six years on the board of FILA (the FILA Bureau), the international governing body of wrestling. In addition, he served for many years in various capacities on the United States Olympic Committee.

"Terry was a tremendous wrestler as well as a leader within wrestling and the Olympic family," said Jim Scherr, CEO of the U.S. Olympic Committee in Colorado Springs. "His tenure as president (of USA Wrestling) marked a time of significant progress for the sport. He was a well-respected leader within the Olympic family and rose to the top of the USOC. He was noted for his honesty and passion for the National Governing Bodies and the athletes. He hired me to serve as executive director of USA Wrestling in 1990. I am proud to call him a mentor and a friend. I would not have had the opportunity to serve in my present capacity were it not for Terry."

It is ironic that the job that funded his dreams of winning a gold medal in wrestling is said to have caused his asbestos-related cancer. McCann, of Dana Point, California, won the 1960 gold medal after working at an oil refinery in Tulsa, Oklahoma in the late 1950s while training for the Olympics. In April 2005, McCann was diagnosed with mesothelioma, a rare cancer linked to asbestos exposure. Shortly after the diagnosis, he joined a class action lawsuit against asbestos manufacturers and became a spokesman against a proposal before Congress to impose limits on litigation against those companies. He appeared recently in a national television commercial denouncing the proposal.

McCann's legacy in the sport of wrestling almost didn't happen. The day of the 1960 Olympic trials, he nearly missed competing because of illness and a debilitating knee injury. Against all odds, he won the test and went on to score a dramatic Olympic victory in Rome. After his heady accomplishment, McCann said he learned a lesson about success: "That it is a journey, and that having arrived at a high point guarantees nothing about the rest of the trip."

A fellow Olympic wrestler and coach, **Werner Holzer** (wrestling, 1968) calls McCann "the greatest of them all."

"During my 50 years in the sport of wrestling, as an athlete, coach and administrator, I have seen all the great wrestlers," Holzer says. "Some of them had great technique, others were

TERRENCE J. MCCANN



ALUMNI NEWS

incredibly tenacious and had great endurance; some had tremendous strength, still others had catlike speed, agility and balance. Terry had it all; he was the most complete wrestler, the one who excelled the most in every aspect of the sport."

"Although his stature was small, his attitude, confidence, courage and leadership while representing the sport both nationally and internationally was that of a giant," recalls Lee Roy Smith, a 1983 World Silver Medalist who coached for Arizona State University and the U.S. National Freestyle team and is now executive director of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in Stillwater, Oklahoma. "He always felt it was important for anyone involved in the sport to conduct himself in an ethical and sportsmanlike way, yet no one wanted to win more than he did."

McCann took great delight in helping young wrestlers. He was a volunteer coach of Greco-Roman wrestling at the Minnesota Wrestling Club and later of freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling at the Mayor Daley Youth Foundation in Chicago, Illinois, where McCann was born and grew up. Under his direction the Youth Foundation won six consecutive freestyle national championships and five Greco-Roman national championships. He also coached contenders in World, Pan-American and Olympic Games, with six of the wrestlers earning top medals.

"We often spoke about training and coaching philosophies and what types of strategies and techniques each of our U.S. wrestlers needed to defeat a particular opponent," says Smith. "The record book shows that during his tenure as president of USA Wrestling and as a member of FILA Bureau, the U.S. Freestyle Team experienced one of its most successful eras in world competition.

Russ Hellickson (wrestling, 1976, '80), Olympic silver medalist, NBC Olympic wrestling commentator and wrestling coach at Ohio State University since 1986, credits McCann for his success. "My continued involvement in wrestling is a direct result of the encouragements and teachings of Terry McCann," he wrote in a letter supporting McCann's nomination to the Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1977. "He served as the wrestling coach of the Mayor Daley Youth Foundation during my early years of international competition. Without his urging and confidence, I am certain that I would not have continued to compete in wrestling."

After his Olympic victory, McCann worked for various associations. In 1975 he was named executive director of Toastmasters International, a not-for-profit organization headquartered in Southern California that helps people develop their communication and leadership skills. After retiring in 2001, he served for two years as executive director of the Surf Industry Manufacturers Association (SIMA), the official working trade association of more than 300 surf industry suppliers. An avid surfer, McCann was active in Surfrider Foundation, an environmental group, serving as the Foundation's president from 1993 to 1997.

Terrence McCann is survived by his wife of 52 years, Lucille, seven children, 18 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren; a brother and two sisters.

---Charlie Snyder, U.S. Olympic Committee

The first boxer to regain the heavyweight title died at his home in New Paltz, New York. **Floyd Patterson** (boxing, 1952) had



prostate cancer and had battled Alzheimer's disease for eight years. Patterson, who's career was marked by historic highs and humiliating lows, was a tenacious boxer who often fought bigger opponents. He was down a total of 19 times in his career, getting up 17 of them. "They said I was the fighter who got knocked down the most, but I also got up the most," he once said. He won the Olympic middleweight championship

in 1952. Four years later, weighing only 189 pounds, the undersized heavyweight became, at age 21, the youngest man to win the title with a fifth-round knockout of Archie Moore. In 1959 he lost the title to Johansson, but returned the next year with a vengeance, knocking out Johansson with a tremendous left hook to retake the title. Overall, Patterson finished 55-8-1 with 40 knockouts. He was knocked out five times and knocked down a total of at least 15 times. He was inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 1991.

ALUMNI NEWS

Patterson, one of 11 children, was in enough trouble as a youngster to be sent to the Wiltwyck School for Boys. After being released, he took up boxing, won a New York Golden Gloves championship and then the gold medal in the 165-pound class at the Helsinki Olympic Games. "If it wasn't for boxing, I would probably be behind bars or dead," he said in a 1998 interview. Patterson retired in 1972, but remained close to the sport. He served twice as chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission; the second term began in 1995 when he was picked by Governor George Pataki to help rebuild boxing in New York. On April 1, 1998, Patterson resigned the post after a published report said a three-hour videotape of a deposition he gave in a lawsuit revealed he couldn't recall important events in his boxing career.

Patterson and his second wife, Janet, lived on a farm near New Paltz, New York. After leaving the athletic commission, Patterson counseled troubled children for the New York State Office of Children and Family Services. He also adopted Tracy Harris two years after the 11-year-old boy began hanging around the gym at Patterson's home. In 1992, Tracy Harris Patterson, with his father's help, won the WBC super bantamweight championship.

George Washington, a coach of boxing legends, passed away on June 11 in Brooklyn, New York. The eighteenth child in his family, George was born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama and after high school, became a heavy weight boxer. His nickname was "Lefty."

He joined the Marine Corps and served with the Men of Montford Point, the first black Marine unit. Despite the racism he encountered, he proudly served in both World War II and Korea. While in the Marines, he was a member of the U.S. Marine Corps Boxing Team. George went on to become the Champion of the South Pacific in 1946. His record is 114 fights, 14 defeats and 80 knockouts.

In 1945 he became sparring partner for Joe Lewis in preparation for fights in 1946 and 1947 in which Lewis fought against Jersey Joe Walcott.

After leaving the Marines, George moved to New York and became a member of the Bedford Stuyvesant Boxing Association. He hung up his gloves and became a boxing trainer, working with the 1984 Olympic Boxing Team, including **Mark Breland** (boxing, 1984) who was one of the pallbearers at George's funeral, **Evander Holyfield** (boxing, 1984), and **Riddick Bowe** (boxing, 1988), as well as **Michael Bent**, a Pan American bronze medalist.

George leaves behind a son, Kenneth, five grandchildren, and two brothers. His wife of forty-two years, Elnora, preceded him in death. He was eulogized as "a sweet-natured man who often left people with a smile...a "merry heart" who was good medicine...and a man who enjoyed the simple things of life."

OLYMPIC ALUMNI NEWS

I have some news to share with or announce to my fellow Olympian Alumni:

Please fax or email your latest achievement, promotion, significant life event, marriage, birth, etc; to the U.S. Olympians Association c/o Cynthia E. Stinger, Manager
fax: 719-866-4728 or email:
cindy.stinger@usoc.org

Johnson & Johnson

One of our USOC sponsors, Johnson & Johnson (J&J,) is looking for female athletes or alums who are currently dealing with fibroids or who have had a hysterectomy. J&J will potentially use an athlete(s) as a spokesperson and/or in marketing collateral.

If you meet the above criteria, please send Trish Tulloch in the USOC Partnership Marketing Dept. an email with the following information so that you may be considered:

your name
your sport
years you competed for team USA

Trish can be reached at trish.tulloch@usoc.org.

Thanks



From L-R
Sammy Lee USA 1948, 1952, Greg Louganis USA
1976, 1984, 1988, Ulrika Knape Sweden 1972, 1976,
Laura Wilkinson USA 2000, 2004, Giorgio Cagnotto
Italy 1964, 1968, 1972, 1976, 1980, Vicki Draves USA
1948, Micki King USA 1968, 1972, Klaus Dibiasi Italy
1964, 1968, 1972, 1976.



UNITED STATES OLYMPIC COMMITTEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

USOC CHAIRMAN
Peter Ueberroth

Bob Ctvrtlik
Erroll Davis
Anita DeFrantz
Jim Easton
Jair Lynch
Mary McCagg
Jim McCarthy
Mike Plant
Dr. Harold Shapiro
Stephanie Streeter

USOC CHIEF EXECUTIVE
OFFICER
Jim Scherr

U.S. OLYMPIANS OFFICERS 2005-2008

PRESIDENT
Willie Banks (athletics, 1980, '84, '88)

VICE PRESIDENTS
Anne Warner Cribbs (swimming, 1960)

Connie Paraskevin-Young (speedskating,
1980, '84/cycling, 1988, '92, '96)

Carol Lewis (athletics, 1980, '84, '88)

Dick Fosbury (athletics, 1968)

Micki King (diving, 1968, '72)

Gary W. Hall Sr. (swimming, 1968, '72,
'76)

HONORARY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Dorothy Franey Langkop (speedskating,
1932)

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
John Naber (swimming, 1976)

PAST PRESIDENT
Bill Toomey (athletics, 1968)

EDITORIAL STAFF

SENIOR EDITOR
Cynthia E. Stinger (team handball,
1984, '88, '92)

ASSOCIATE EDITORS
Leah Chandler Mills
Christine Taylor

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR
Denise O'Shea - O'Shea Design



Photos by: Getty Images &
The USOC Library

36USC220506