Joe Frazier
1964 Heavyweight Boxing Olympic Champion
1944-2011
This is my last year as your President of the U.S. Olympians. I want this last year to be special. Throughout 2011 the U.S. Olympians have achieved many goals and have written history in the U.S. Olympic Movement.

This year we celebrate our 20th Chapter in Alabama under the leadership of Jennifer Chandler (diving, 1976). We also finalized an historic joint strategic plan with the U.S. Olympic Committee for the future and vision of the U.S. Olympians. The USOA has also taken the first steps to making the Paralympians an equal partner in our organization. We welcome Linda Mastandrea (Paralympic athletics, 1992, ’96), as our new Vice President. This year we also made a significant change in the focus of our relationship with the U.S. Olympic Committee. We went from the Communications department to the Development department. This is a significant change in the mission and charge of the U.S. Olympians.

I want to thank Janine Musholt, Jeff Hunt, and especially, Cindy Stinger and Christine Taylor for their continued direction and support of the best Olympic Alumni Association in the World. Also, I want to express my deep appreciation to Scott Blackmun and his team for their leadership and help in supporting Dick Fosbury’s presidency and leadership in the World Olympians Association. It’s this kind of positive support that has helped us move closer as a team. I want to congratulate Dick on four years of exemplary leadership as President of the World Olympians Association. He is a tremendous inspiration to me.

As we begin 2012, I can report that things are looking very good for all of us. We’ve lined up programs, events and parties.

Adecco, a career services company is now available to assist any Olympian with career training and development. If you are seeking career consultation or job placement assistance, please call 1-800-933-4473 to get the resources you need. In hard times, it’s great to know that your Olympic family is there to help you.

Likewise, there is another support program of which you as an Olympian should be aware. The Olympians for Olympians Relief Fund (OORF) was developed by Olympians for Olympians in need. The OORF has been a lifeboat to those Olympians that have special and emergency need with nowhere else to turn. The significance of the OORF is difficult to capture in words, but suffice it to say, the OORF has, through the support it has provided to those suffering from sickness and injury, contributed to the saving of many lives. Now, the OORF needs your support to continue to do its job. We have been challenged by the USOC to raise $25,000 to which they will match dollar for dollar. Please learn more at www.oorf.org. Let’s show the world that Olympians really support each other in times of need. In 2011 together we have raised over $22,000.00.

I want to emphasize to you that the U.S. Olympians are chapter driven. We need to strengthen the Chapters. Please go to www.teamusa.org and find your chapter president’s contact information and get involved. Even if you are not involved with a chapter, please send photos, articles, foundation projects and other events to the national office so we can promote and inform others of your activities.

The 2012 Olympic Games in London are coming soon and our teams are poised to capture, once again, the most medals of any country in the Games. Leading up to the Games we want to raise the awareness of the U.S. Olympians. To that end, we have several programs planned in which we hope you will participate.

This Spring, Olympians will fan out around the country, once again adopting a middle school to help eliminate obesity in the U.S. We will do that through the World Fit program. For those of you who are
unaware of the World Fit program, it was developed by Olympians to get young people, middle and elementary school students to fight obesity through exercise. The kids record their activity and earn points towards certificates and medals at their school. I have been involved with two schools in my community since the inception and every year I get excited when I see the kids' enthusiasm for the program. The job of the Olympian or Paralympian is simple but extremely important. Olympians and Paralympians visit the school during the program and give a short speech to the kids to motivate them to be a part of the program and talk about the value of being active. For additional information please visit, www.worldfit.org. You can make a lasting impact in the next generation with this program.

For those of you who have a love of nature like me, you might want to join us in the forest to help kids appreciate the importance and wonder of our natural resources. The U.S. Olympians, the World Olympians Association and Kids4Trees have joined together to help kids enjoy the forest in and around the communities of our nation. This year we will have tree planting celebrations in 20 cities. Olympians are encouraged to go to the site of the ceremony, tell of their Olympic experience and encourage the kids to appreciate the outdoors. To participate, please visit www.kids4trees.org. Or, please contact Cindy Stinger at cindy.stinger@usoc.org.

On June 23rd we will celebrate Olympic Day. I hope you will join the millions of people around the world and participate through your chapters to make the Olympic Day celebration the largest ever. Last year we had more than 350 community celebrations and we hope to increase that number. Similarly, on July 4th we will be helping to promote the founding of our nation.

Finally, as the last project of my presidential term, allow me to announce the “Walk to London” event. Each U.S. Olympian Chapter will host a walk in their community to celebrate the Olympic Games in London. The first event is planned for Southern California and the program will move across the country. The final event will be held in Washington, DC as we send off TeamUSA to London. After each walk, we envision a barbeque reunion in each chapter. Once we have crossed the country and celebrated in Washington, DC, those in London will have the final event in Olympic Park. If you are interested in getting involved in the Walk to London, please contact your chapter president as soon as possible.

So, it has been a long seven years and I have had a fantastic time representing you as your President. I had many wonderful memories and good times along my journey. My last year is shaping up to be quite a challenge. I hope you will join me to make this year a huge success. I will be looking for you somewhere along my walk to London! Have a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Credit: Cover image by Getty
Smokin’
Joe Frazier
Tribute

By: Elliott Denman
(athletics, 1956)

The gold medal Joe Frazier earned on October 23, 1964, decisioning Hans Huber of Germany 3-2 in the superheavyweight final of the Tokyo Olympic Games, meant the absolute world to him.

Frazier cherished that gold medal – the only one won by an American boxer in ’64, one he claimed despite fighting with a broken right hand – as much as any of the rewards he’d collect in the hugely successful professional boxing career that would follow.

It was a career that would include an historic victory over Muhammad Ali in 1971 in a bout still called “The Fight of the Century,” the forever-famous “Thrilla in Manila” won by Ali over Frazier in 1975, and an intense rivalry with Ali, in and out of “the squared circle,” one that often bordered on fierce dislike, that seemed to endure nearly to the very end.

Through it all and with infinite pride, Joe Frazier called himself an Olympic alumnus and would forever support the Olympic cause in every way he could. He’d attend Olympic reunions, he’d proudly rub shoulders with an array of Olympians from other sports and varied disciplines. With all his heart and all his soul, he’d cheered on those who followed him onto the Olympic stage and battled for the same global glory at the Games as he had. His gold medal photo dominates the website.

Frazier was voted into the USA Olympic Hall of Fame in 1989. He’d also be named to the International Boxing Hall of Fame and the World Boxing Hall of Fame following his 11-year, 32-4 pro career, with 27 knockouts.

“Like so many people around the world, I was saddened to hear of the passing of Joe Frazier,” said U.S. Olympic Committee CEO Scott Blackmun. “One of the greatest boxers of all time, Frazier was an Olympic champion and an American icon. On behalf of the U.S. Olympic Committee, I offer my most sincere condolences to Joe’s friends and family.”

The words of praise continued flowing for weeks following his death on November 7th in Philadelphia - he’d taken his battle with liver cancer to the ultimate round but this was one decision he couldn’t win.

Over 15,000 braved the cold and lined up at Philadelphia’s Wells Fargo Center to extend their final respects. Over 4,000 more were on hand for the funeral services at Enon Baptist Tabernacle Church on Cheltenham Avenue and among them was Muhammad Ali – perhaps finding peace with his fiercest foe at last.

Boxing notables Larry Holmes and Don King joined them and the Revered Jesse Jackson eulogized...
Frazier as “someone who came from segregation, degradation and disgrace to amazing grace.”

Joe Zanders, national coach for USA Boxing who will be head coach for the USA delegation at the 2012 London Olympic Games, only wishes he had a new version of Joe Frazier on his team to send out against the world.

“Joe Frazier was part of the greatest series [with Ali] in the history of boxing,” said Zanders, interviewed by Tom Glave for Red Line Editorial, Inc. “He boxed in an era [when he faced] much bigger guys, more athletic guys, but nobody had the heart of Joe Frazier.”

Marcus Browne, winner in the light heavyweight class at the last 2008 USA Olympic Trials, knew that “Joe Frazier meant a lot to the boxing community. Now that he’s gone, the young ones have to respect what he did and try to do what he did even better.”

Errol Spence, who has already clinched his spot as USA’s welterweight entry at the London Olympics said “[Frazier achieved] every man’s dream – gold medalist, undisputed world champion – he’s a legend.”

Added USA Boxing Executive Director Anthony Bartkowski: “A gold medalist at the 1964 Olympic Games, Joe Frazier was a proud champion at every level of boxing and everything that was great about our sport. Joe Frazier was a fighter until the very end, and will be sorely missed by his fans throughout the world.”

Famed Philadelphia Inquirer columnist Bill Lyon put it this way, “Joseph William Frazier, son of a sharecropper, came north from South Carolina to seek fame and fortune, and when he landed in Philadelphia, thought that it felt right. He became Smokin’ Joe Frazier, in a time and city where boxing was doted on, a fortuitous confluence of right circumstance and right man.”

After his Olympic victory and his verdict over Ali, Lyon wrote, “He was forever after ‘Champ,’ just as once you’re president, you’re forever ‘Mr. President.’”

“Did Frazier ever truly forgive Ali? Did he ever hate Ali in the first place?” columnist William C. Rhoden asked in a New York Times. “Only Frazier knew although everyone who spent time around him has a different view. At the very least, it seems that each man had a respect for the other.”

Tim Dahlberg of Associated Press wrote, “Frazier was small for a heavyweight, weighing just 205 pounds when he won the title by stopping Jimmy Ellis in the fifth round of their 1970 fight at Madison Square Garden. But he fought every minute of every round, going forward behind a vicious left hook, and there were few fighters who could withstand his constant pressure.”

Famed boxing promoter Bob Arum told Dahlberg, “Joe Frazier should be remembered as one of the greatest fighters of all time, and a real man. He’s a guy that stood up for himself. He didn’t compromise and always gave 100 percent in the ring.”

Look back to the summer of 1964.

Frazier had been the Middle Atlantic area champion in the Golden Gloves tournament between 1962 and 1964 and often seemed unbeatable in the amateur ranks.

And then he ran into Buster Mathis in the finals of the 1964 Olympic Trials held at New York City’s World’s Fair. A close verdict in the finals went to Mathis by judges’ decision, handing Frazier just his second loss in the amateur ranks and it seemed that his Olympic dream had ended.

Fate, however, intervened, in the form of a Frazier-Mathis exhibition bout before Mathis’s scheduled trip to the Tokyo Games.

Mathis broke a knuckle in the fight and reluctantly withdrew from the USA roster, giving Frazier the opportunity to go for the gold and destiny.

Once in Tokyo, Frazier firmly clutched fate in his two gloved fists, TKOing George Dywello of Uganda in his opening fight and winning again by TKO over Athol McQueen of Australia in the quarterfinals.

Dywello had gone down in 1:35 of the first round, McQueen in 0:40 of the third, and semifinal foe Vadim Yemelyanov of the Soviet Union lasted only until 1:59 of the second.

The Yemelyanov victory, though, came at a cost. Frazier had broken his right hand in the process of beating the Soviet star.

He was not about to tell anyone about the injury, however.

Enduring the intense pain, Frazier held on for a 3-2 judges’ decision over Germany’s Huber in the gold medal bout.

Three bronze medals – by flyweight Bob Carmody, featherweight Charlie Brown and lightweight Ron Harris – were the total production of the rest of the American boxing team.

USA’s George Foreman would succeed Frazier as Olympic superheavyweight champion with his triumph at Mexico City in 1968. And like Ali (who, as Cassius Clay, was the light heavyweight champion of the 1960 Rome Olympics) was destined to play a major role in Frazier’s future.

It was Foreman who KO’d Frazier to take away the world heavyweight crown in January 1973.

Yes, Joe Frazier had gone down swinging but it still took two gold medalists (Ali and Foreman) to beat him in the fights of his life.

Looking back at that golden age, USA Boxing’s Zanders said, “For a sportsman, it was paradise to have lived in an era with that kind of talent.”

And so said just about everyone else who had witnessed these milestone events in the annals of “the sweet science.”
Dear U.S. Olympians Association Members:

Please see the offer below from our friends at Hilton Worldwide!

Thank you!

The Hilton Serenity Bed – Now available below retail price for Olympians & Paralympians!

Enjoy the most refreshing, restful slumber imaginable with this bed. Custom designed to the Hilton Worldwide portfolio’s exact specifications, the bed is posturized for added coil support and features a unique internal design that prevents edge breakdown. An innovative, patented quilt design and inviting plush top mattress improves circulation and reduces nighttime restlessness.

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How to order:

- To take advantage of this limited time offer, please contact the United States Olympians Association and request an order form. Once the form is completed, simply return the attached form to the mailing address, email address or fax number provided on the form.

Please note:

- Bedsets are non-returnable
- All sales are final
- Offer limits one bed per athlete member order per 12-month period
- Allow four weeks delivery from time of order
- Delivery is only available for the continental United States
- Delivery includes two person delivery, unpacking, set-up and safe disposal of old bedding
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ATTENTION OLYMPIANS!!!

PLANNING TO ATTEND THE 2012 OLYMPIC SUMMER GAMES IN LONDON?

Join us at USA House!
The anticipation and excitement of the 2012 Olympic Games is upon us as we are less than 220 days away from the Opening Ceremony! While you finalize your Games preparations, Team USA athletes are in the midst of their final preparations for competing to be their best on the world’s biggest sports stage.

We are looking forward to hosting you in London, England at the XXX Olympic Games. The USA House Business & Hospitality Center will serve as the anchor of the USOC’s 2012 hospitality operation. The USA House is located at: Royal College of Art, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2EU.

• Located in the Borough of Westminster
• Within walking distance to the upscale shopping area of Knightsbridge, home of Harrods and Harvey Nichols, approximately a 10 minute walk
• Directly across from Hyde Park, home to Triathlon and Marathon Swimming and a live site for LOCOG
• 1.4 miles from the IOC hotels and Hyde Park Corner, 25 minute walk
• Closest Tube Stations: South Kensington or Gloucester Road, approximately 12-17 minute walk

Our daily hospitality will include first-class food and beverage services, live Olympic Summer Games coverage in London, a business center, conference rooms, private event space and much more.

We will be launching a registration site in the very near future ... STAY TUNED!
CALLING ALL OLYMPIANS!
2012 Olympic Day in the United States Needs YOU!

By: Sammy Walker (weightlifting, 1976) President, Southwest Chapter of Olympians

Olympic Day is observed annually on June 23 around the world to commemorate the birth of the modern Olympic Movement. In 2011, Olympic Day was celebrated in 350 cities across the United States. More than 350 events took place, representing every U.S. state as well as 10 overseas locations - making it the most successful Olympic Day effort ever for the United States. More than 315 Olympians, Paralympians and hopefuls joined community-based organizations to promote Olympism in their communities.

In 2012, the U.S. Olympians Association (USOA) is making it a priority to increase Olympian participation in Olympic Day in an effort to promote the Olympic Ideals of fair play, perseverance, respect and sportsmanship as well as fitness and well-being in communities across the United States. USOA President Willie Banks has appointed me as the USOA Liaison for Olympic Day in 2012 based on my passion for this program and participation for the last three years. I am always thrilled to participate in Olympic Day as it is so gratifying to see the faces of the youth participants who are inspired by the Olympians’ message. I am working with the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) to provide more turnkey resources to make your participation as easy as possible, and I encourage you to join your fellow Olympians in participating in Olympic Day celebrations in a community near you.

2012 Olympic Day will be celebrated from June 22 – July 1. With this year’s Olympic Day just over a month before the Opening Ceremonies of the 2012 Olympic Games in London, the opportunity for Olympian Alumni to step up and assist will be greater than ever. Many currently training and competing athletes will be focusing on their London preparations. Please help us support Team USA and promote Olympism across the country!

For more information on Olympic Day or to participate in or host an Olympic Day event, please contact the USOC’s Olympic Day team at:

Email: OlympicDay@usoc.org
Telephone: +1.719.866.4535
Website and Registration page: www.teamusa.org/olympicday

Please also feel free to contact me with questions at:
Sammy Walker
Email: sammywalker76olympian@yahoo.com
Telephone: +1.469.955.3158
Weightlifting, 1976
President, Southwest Chapter of Olympians
The World Olympians Association (WOA) held their 5th General Assembly at the Olympic Museum in Lausanne, Switzerland in which Joël Bouzou, Olympic medalist from France was elected President.

Joël Bouzou participated in four Olympic Games (Moscow 1980, Los Angeles 1984, Seoul 1988, Barcelona 1992) and won the bronze medal team in 1984. He won the world championships in Modern Pentathlon in 1987. He is the current Secretary General of the International Modern Pentathlon Union and previously served as an Executive Committee Member for the World Olympians Association from 2003 to 2008.

Joël is the president and founder of “Peace and Sport, l’Organisation pour la Paix par le Sport” which was established in 2007 and uses sport as a solution for dialogue, reconciliation and peace wherever necessary in post conflict and extreme poverty areas, as well as in places suffering from a lack of social cohesion. He is also the Advisor to H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco.

In his nomination speech, Joël Bouzou said: “Sport has given us so much. It has changed our lives. It can be a life-changer for so many more people in so many different ways. And we are the ones who can make that happen. The World Olympians Association is the most amazing reservoir of resources, experience and talent you could find! And yet it remains largely untapped. We need to change that. We need to work in unity in two directions: 1) activate the community of the Olympians to serve the society. 2) Serve the Olympians during and after their sport career.”

International Olympic Committee (IOC) President, Juan Antonio Samaranch created the World Olympians Association following the Centennial Olympic Congress, Congress of Unity, held in Paris in 1994. Formally, the WOA was established during a similar meeting held in the Olympic Museum on 21 November 1995 by 25 founder members.

A record 124 countries were represented at the assembly. It was a spectacular weekend bringing together delegates that included IOC members, world champions and Olympic medalists. Surrounded by the historic treasures of the Olympic Movement, the assembly touched on various Olympic topics, culminating with the election of officers.

Secretary General Anthony Ledgard, Olympic cyclist from Peru was re-elected to the post. 1988 Olympic silver medalist in the 400 meter hurdles, Amadou Dia Ba from Senegal was re-elected to the board moving up to First Vice President.

George Andreadis from Greece was also re-elected to the Executive Committee Member assuming the position of Second Vice President. George is additionally a committee member for the International Sailing Federation and received the Olympic Order last year from the IOC.

Patrick Singleton, Olympic competitor in luge and skeleton from Bermuda was elected Treasurer. Patrick having lived in the UK, USA, Japan, Australia, and Germany and has work experience in Michael Bloomberg’s organization which brings financial experience to the organization.

Liston Bochette (PUR) having previously served as Secretary General for the organization was elected board member along with Cor van Aanholt (AHO), Alper Kasapoglu (TUR) and previous WOA President Dick Fosbury (USA).

2011 WORLD OLYMPIANS ASSOCIATION

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
LAUSANNE

ELECTION RESULTS

PATRON:
Juan Antonio Samaranch - IOC Honorary President for Life

HONORARY PRESIDENT:
Jacques Rogge - IOC President

PRESIDENT:
Joël Bouzou - FRA

SECRETARY GENERAL:
Anthony Ledgard Grimm - PER

VICE PRESIDENT:
Amadou Dia Ba - SEN

VICE PRESIDENT:
George Andreadis - GRE

TREASURER:
Patrick Singleton - BER

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
Liston Bochette - PUR
Cor van Aanholt - AHO
Alper Kasapoglu - TUR
Dick Fosbury - USA

IOC LIAISON:
Christophe Dubi - IOC Sports Director

IOC ATHLETES LIAISON:
Peter Tallberg, FIN

WORLD OLYMPIANS ASSOCIATION
IN HONOR

Mike Krzyzewski (basketball coach, 1984, ‘92, ‘08)

Savor this. Enjoy this. Remember how this felt when it happened. Realize that when Michael William Krzyzewski became the winningest basketball coach in NCAA history with his 903rd win, we experienced something rare — authentic greatness.

This moment did not need to be forced, shined, spun or hyped. Duke’s 74-69 win over Michigan State at Madison Square Garden was the thing America loves to proclaim but rarely sees: an all-time moment, a glimpse of lasting greatness, an achievement that meets our desire to experience events, sporting and otherwise. We can rank this among the most important achievements of all time.

Mike Krzyzewski passed mentor Bob Knight to move into the top spot on college basketball’s all-time win list. To mark the moment, as if one needed reminding, Coach K, as he is known, walked slowly across the floor and found his mentor. Bobby Knight stood his green sweater-vest almost luminous next to his protégé’s charcoal suit, and the two embraced.

“Coach,” Krzyzewski later recalled saying, “I’m not sure people tell you this, but I love you, and I love what you’ve done for me, and thank you.”

“Boy,” Knight responded, “you’ve done pretty good for a kid who couldn’t shoot.”

“I think that means he loves me too,” Krzyzewski said. “I’m going to take it as that.”

It became official: Coach K is now perhaps the greatest coach in college basketball history.

Ryan Lochte (swimming, 2008)

Ryan Lochte turned in his greatest year ever in 2011. He has elevated himself to be mentioned alongside the great Michael Phelps in the world of swimming.

Lochte has earned respect by his performances in the pool. Lochte won two gold and two bronze medals at the 2008 Olympics and is on track for an even better performance at the upcoming 2012 London Olympic Games.

Sports Illustrated’s Kelli Anderson recently nominated swimmer Ryan Lochte for the Sportsman of the Year award. She states a great case for Lochte in 2011. This year he finally overcame his rival, Michael Phelps, at the 2011 FINA World Championships. Lochte raced Phelps head to head in both the 200 meter freestyle and 200 individual medley and won both races. The 200 I.M. was special because
Lochte became the first swimmer to break a world record since the banning of polyurethane swimsuits in 2009. At USA Swimming’s recent Golden Goggle Awards, Lochte swept the awards. Lochte won Male Athlete of the Year and Male Race of the Year. Lochte’s coach Gregg Troy won Coach of the Year. These awards show Lochte’s dominance in the sport in 2011. He has become the swimmer to beat in 2012.

Anna Tunnicliffe (yachting, 2008)
The International Sailing Federation (ISAF) named US Sailing Team AlphaGraphics’ Anna Tunnicliffe (Plantation, Fla.) the recipient of the 2011 ISAF Rolex World Sailor of the Year, the most prestigious recognition in the sport of sailing. At a gala ceremony during the International Sailing Federation’s Annual Conference in Puerto Rico, Tunnicliffe was presented with the distinct World Sailor trophy by HM King Constantine of Greece and a specially engraved Rolex timepiece by Colette Bennett, Rolex Watch USA.

Tunnicliffe, the 2008 Olympic Gold Medalist, is the skipper of the “Team Maclaren” match racing team with crew Molly Vandemoer and Debbie Capozzi.

“Thank you very much for this award, it is a true honor,” said Tunnicliffe moments after receiving the award. “Congratulations to all of the other nominees, you guys are fantastic and amazing sailors. I really have to thank everyone that’s been part of the reason I won this award, especially my team. This is truly a team effort. I couldn’t have done it without them. I would also like to thank my family and my husband for being very supportive and my sponsors. It is truly amazing. Thank you.”

Tunnicliffe has had an impressive year of sailing, with most of her accomplishments coming in Women’s Match Racing, which will make its Olympic debut at the 2012 Olympic Games.

Edwin Moses (athletics, 1976, ’80, ’84, ’88)
Athletic legend Edwin C. Moses receives the “Support” award on November 19, 2011 in Duesseldorf.

Not only that he held the world record in 400-meter hurdles over ten years, he has also won twice the Olympic Gold in his discipline. As chairman of the Laureus World Sports Academy, he is a worldwide advocate for fair and doping-free sport and has been active for socially disadvantaged groups for years.

“We are overjoyed to have such an impressive personality like Dr. Edwin C. Moses at our Gala and honor him for his outstanding social achievements. He has not only written sports history, he is also a man of vision and has the heart on the right spot.”

“I am a big fan of him since decades,” reveals UNESCO Special Ambassador Dr. h.c. Ute-Henriette Ohoven.

Dr. Edwin C. Moses, an Olympic champion, sports administrator, diplomat and businessman is one of the most respected and recognized athletes of our time. He has resolutely served and promoted the Olympic movement and fostered the development of “drug-free” sports and the rights of amateur athletes at all levels. His experience as a distinguished Olympic champion and world record holder has earned him the esteem of the international sports community.
Moses, who is also a physicist from Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, is known for utilizing applied sciences to perfect the technical aspects of his athletic performance in his event, the 400 meter hurdles. This knowledge also enabled him to create, implement and administer the world’s most stringent random and out-of-competition testing systems for performance enhancing drugs in sports.

**IN THE NEWS**

Joetta Clark Diggs (athletics, 1988, ’92, ’96, ’00)

Four-time Olympic track star Joetta Clark Diggs stressed the importance of an active lifestyle in Bloomfield, N.J. on December 1, 2011.

In the first of four appearances at Bloomfield Middle School for the Head 2 Toe Fitness Program, Clark Diggs said it is important to teach children early on about the importance of physical education.

“We’re not talking about being an Olympian,” she told Bloomfield Life. “We’re telling them to be the best they can be.”

Clark Diggs and other program representatives were on hand at certain gym classes during the month.

She led nearly 50 seventh-grade students in Toni Harvey and Roy Ripley’s combined gym class in a spirited warm-up and drills.

United Healthcare Community Plan sponsored the event. La-Kisa Hines, a health educator with the company, said promoting a healthy lifestyle is paramount.

“We thought it was really good to get involved,” said Hines. “Our mission is to help people live healthy lives and this program wants to help kids.”

In the 10 years since she left competitive running, Clark Diggs has seen the advantages of meeting with youth.

“So many programs are being cut out of the school,” she explained. “High quality programs like this are a plus.”

Joining Clark Diggs was former University of Texas and New Mexico State basketball player Crystal Boyd. Boyd is the physical education instructor for the Joetta Clark Diggs Sports Foundation and also a graduate intern coach for Rutgers-Newark women’s basketball.

“We are thrilled that they are here,” said BMS Assistant Principal Annette Baker.
IN MEMORIAM

Thomas Upton “Tom” Black (baseball demo, 1956)

Thomas Upton “Tubby” Black, Jr. of Greenwood, Miss. passed away, October 25, 2011 at Greenwood Leflore Hospital. He was 77. Mr. Black, affectionately known by family and friends as “Tubby”, was a lifelong resident of Leflore County. He was a 1951 graduate of Greenwood High School and a 1955 graduate of Mississippi College. After college, Mr. Black served two years in the United States Navy in Japan. He also played on the U.S. Olympic Baseball Team during the 1956 games in Melbourne, Australia, while in the U.S. Navy.

Since 1939, his family has farmed cotton and grain and raised cattle on Holly Grove Plantation near Sidon, MS. Since 1960, he and his brother have farmed Holly Grove Plantation, retiring from active farming in 2000. He was a member of First United Methodist Church of Greenwood. Mr. Black was an exceptional community servant. He served on the board of directors for the Greenwood Country Club and Pillow Academy. He was vice-president and a director of Farmer’s Supply Cooperative, an executive director and board member of Yazoo Valley Oil Mill, and was president of Leco Gin Company in Sidon, MS, for 28 years. He also participated in the activities of the Delta Council. He was a member of the Greenwood Investment Club.

Roger Christian (ice hockey, 1960)

Roger Christian, a member of the famed Warroad hockey family who starred for the gold medal-winning U.S. hockey team at the 1960 Winter Olympics, died November 9, 2011. He was 75.

Christian and his brother, Billy, were teammates on the 1960 team and partners in forming Christian Brothers, a hockey stick-manufacturing company in their hometown at the top of the state known as “Hockeytown USA.”

Roger played on five U.S. national teams and is in the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame.

In the 1960 gold medal game at Squaw Valley, Calif., he scored four goals in the USA’s 9-4 victory over Czechoslovakia.

In that Olympics, USA earned its first victory against the Soviet Union, 3-2, with Roger assisting on two goals by Billy.

As the 1980 “Miracle” USA team gained acclaim with its improbable gold medal run at the Lake Placid Games, the 1960 squad took on the mantle as the nation’s “Forgotten Miracle” team. The 1980 team included Dave Christian, Billy’s son and Roger’s nephew.

Like many Minnesota youngsters of his day, Roger Christian began his early years in hockey playing four to five hours or more on the river and on outdoor rinks.
He and Billy used magazines for shin pads and hockey sticks made by their father. The two would sometimes share skates, trading off every half-hour.

In high school, Roger Christian was the team’s leading scorer in 1952. The next year, he led the Warriors to the State Tournament, losing to powerhouse St. Paul Johnson in the final, 4-1.

Roger is survived by his wife, Jean, and sons Roger Jr., Ryan and Rick.

Dolores Dwyer Duffy (athletics, 1952)

Dolores passed away on October 29, 2011. She was 78.

Dolores’ early successes as a sprinter for the German American Athletic Club and Manhattan CYO led to the 1951 Pan American Games where she was part of a relay team that won the gold medal. In 1952, she participated in the Olympics in Helsinki. She made her personal best in the 200 meters in 1953 at 24.4 seconds, followed by a world’s record 60-yard dash at 7.2 seconds in 1954.

After sports, a career as an usher led from the New York State Theater at Lincoln Center to being to chief usher at the Belasco Theater on Broadway.

But Dolores got most satisfaction from her career as an actress, launched in her sixties, in commercials, independent films, and most importantly, television when she was in Strangers with Candy and Sex and the City. When auditioning for roles, once she had begun to use a cane, she would leave it outside to enter the audition room.

Joe Frazier (boxing, 1964)

Joe “Smokin’ Joe” passed away on November 7, 2011. He was 66.

Joe received Christ at Bright Hope Baptist Church. Whenever he had an opportunity he would attend church service at numerous neighborhood churches.

He enjoyed listening to gospel music. He also had a singing group: “Joe Frazier and the Knockouts.” Joe had a big heart and loved his family and community. He was involved in numerous fundraisers, including Cape Atlantic Juvenile Diabetes, Alzheimer’s Disease Foundation, Honorary Chairman of The Gallah Festival, Police Benefit Association Charity Show, Arms Across Harlem and Frazier’s Father’s Day Picnic for Homeless Children.

He was the youngest of 13 children. He is preceded in death by his parents, eight siblings, one daughter-in-law and one grandson. Joe leaves to cherish his memory, six sons, five daughters, one sister, two sisters-in-law, four sons-in-law, 22 grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins, other relatives and friends. He is also survived by his companion Denise Menz.

Walt Hazzard (basketball, 1964)

Hazzard, the former UCLA and NBA star who played on the Bruins’ first NCAA championship basketball team in 1964 and later coached the team for four seasons in the 1980s, died November 25, 2011. He was 69.

Hazzard’s family said he had been recuperating for a long time from complications following heart surgery. The school said Hazzard died at UCLA Ronald Reagan Medical Center.

He had a stroke in March 1996 and made a strong recovery, but became less publicly active. He made occasional appearances at UCLA games in recent years.

Hazzard was co-captain of the 1964 national title team that went 30-0 under Coach John Wooden. He averaged a career-high 18.6 points as a senior playmaking guard. He was chosen college basketball player of the year, having averaged 19.8 points in the NCAA tournament, where he was selected as the most valuable player.

As a junior, Hazzard led the Bruins with a 16.3 scoring average and they won 20 games for the first
time since 1957. In his sophomore season, he averaged 13.2 points and the Bruins reached the Final Four for the first time in school history, losing by two points to eventual national champion Cincinnati in the semifinals.

Hazzard transferred to UCLA after spending one season at Santa Monica College.

In 1996, UCLA retired his No. 42 jersey.

"Walt was one of the pillars of UCLA’s first championship team in men’s basketball," current coach Ben Howland said. "He was a great player and an outstanding coach at UCLA. He is a huge part of the Bruin legacy, and he left life-long memories for the Bruin faithful."

Hazzard helped the U.S. win a gold medal at the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo and played 10 years in the NBA, including a stint with the Los Angeles Lakers, who selected him as the No. 1 overall pick.

Hazzard averaged 12.6 points and 4.9 assists during his career with the Lakers, Seattle, Atlanta, Buffalo and Golden State. He ranked among the league’s top 10 in assists during six of his seasons. In 1968, he averaged 23.9 points and 6.2 assists, culminating in an appearance in the All-Star game.

During his four years as UCLA coach, the Bruins had a 77-47 record. In 1985, he led them to the school’s first NIT championship. In 1987, UCLA won the Pac-10 title and the league’s first postseason tournament with future NBA star Reggie Miller in the lineup. They finished with a 25-7 mark, losing in the second round of the NCAA tournament, with Hazzard selected league coach of the year.

“Thoughts and prayers go out to the Hazzard family on your loss," Miller tweeted. "Coach Hazzard was not only a STUD point guard at UCLA under Coach Wooden. But a great Coach as well. He helped shaped me into the ball player I was, thanks so much Coach.."

The Bruins slumped to a 16-14 record the following year, and Hazzard was replaced by Jim Harrick for the 1988-89 season.

"This is a sad day for the UCLA basketball family," Bruins athletic director Dan Guerrero said. "Walt was the catalyst for Coach John Wooden’s first championship team and played the game with a style that excited Bruin basketball fans everywhere. He contributed to his alma mater in numerous ways, including as a student-athlete, coach and honored alum, and he will be greatly missed by all of us knew him."

Before taking over at his alma mater, Hazzard coached two seasons each at Compton College near Los Angeles and Chapman College in Orange County.

In 1994, Hazzard re-joined the Lakers as a West Coast advance scout. After his stroke, he served as a special consultant to the team for another 15 years.

Lakers owner Jerry Buss said, "Walt was a man of extremely high character."

Lakers general manager Mitch Kupchak said, “Not only was Walt an outstanding player, but his knowledge of the game was extremely
valuable to our front office as well over the past 17 years. In the years since his stroke, he has been an inspiration to many of us with his perseverance and his passion for the game.”

Hazzard, a native of Wilmington, Del., starred at Philadelphia’s Overbrook High, where Wilt Chamberlain had played years earlier. During his three-year varsity basketball career, Hazzard led the school to an 89-3 record and two city titles. He also played baseball and ran track, and was student body president.

Hazzard is survived by wife Jaleesa, a Bruins song girl during the 1964 NCAA title season, and sons Yakub, Jalal, Khalil and Rasheed. During his NBA career, Hazzard converted to Islam and changed his name to Mahdi Abdul-Rahman. He felt the change was poorly received and cost him professional opportunities so he returned to using his given name professionally while remaining a devout Muslim.

Frederick John “Fred” Kingsbury, IV (rowing, 1948)

Fred passed away on October 7, 2011. He was 84. Fred, loving husband of Elizabeth (Betty) Kingsbury, died unexpectedly. He was born on May 20th, 1927 in Fredericksburg, VA, the son of the late Frederick John Kingsbury, Jr. and Julia McKinney Kingsbury. He is survived by his adoring children, daughter, Libby Kingsbury, son, John Kingsbury and his daughter-in-law, Kitty Kingsbury, of Guilford, as well as his two beloved granddaughters, Holly and Lydia Kingsbury of Denver, CO. He leaves a brother, Lawrence Kingsbury of Chatham, MA, a dear sister-in-law, Kashia Kingsbury of Guilford and their daughters, Jennifer Bogosian and Suzanne Kingsbury. He also leaves a cherished nephew and niece, Thomas Crocker and Kim McVay. He was predeceased by two sisters, Julie Crocker of Guilford, and Patricia Whiffen of Clinton. He grew up in Hamden, CT, and spent his summers in Sachem’s Head with his family until making it his home in 1952.

He graduated from Exeter Academy and went on to Yale University, ultimately graduating with a doctorate in electrical engineering. During his time at Yale, he rowed for the 1948 U.S. Olympic Team in London, England as part of a four-man crew and brought home a bronze medal. He accepted a position at the Naval Underwater Sound Laboratory (which later became the Naval Underwater Systems Center) in New London after graduation and remained there, happy in his work, until his retirement at age 65 as the department head of Sonar Technology. He served tirelessly on both the Planning and Zoning Commission of Guilford and the Planning and Zoning Committee of the Sachem’s Head Association. He was an expert sailor and loved being on the water.
with family and friends. John and Betty, married almost sixty years, loved being with their family, and vacationing in Maine and Florida. He was loved and respected for his sense of humor gentle manner, and integrity. His family gives special thanks to his and Betty’s devoted caregivers, Frances, Carmen, Alfhild, Pat, Chris, Nancy, Shirley and Terri. In lieu of flowers, contributions in memory may be made to the Guilford Land Conservation Trust, PO Box 200, Guilford, Conn.

Matthew “Pat” Francis McNamara (speedskating, 1952, ’56)

Matthew passed away on October 24, 2011. He was 85.

Matthew was called to heaven to join his loving wife, Kay; parents Michael and Mary; brother, Michael; sisters Ellen Warren, Mary O’Rourke, Margaret Pexa and longtime friend Bill Riley. He is survived by loving son, Patrick nieces, nephews and many friends. Matthew retired from Excel (NSP), served in the Marines in WWII & was a speedskater in the 1952 and 1956 Winter Olympics. Even into his recent years he still skated, played tennis and rode his racing bicycle.

Robert C “R. C.” Pitts (basketball, 1948)

R.C. Pitts, a long-time resident of Baton Rouge, La., passed away October 29, 2011. He was 92.

He was born June 23, 1919, in Pontotoc, Miss. He later moved to Oxford, Miss., where he attended University High School excelling in both basketball and football. He met and married Grace Smith when they were seniors in high school, and the couple enjoyed 69 years together. Upon graduation, he was recruited by the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville where he played both basketball and football. Honors included All Southwest Conference in 1942, the best free throw average in 1940 and 1941 and an induction into the University of Arkansas Hall of Fame.

After graduation, he moved to Bartlesville, Oklahoma, where he worked for Phillips Petroleum Co. and played basketball for the Phillips 66 Oilers. While playing with the powerful Oilers, he was a member of three National AAU championship teams.

He was a veteran of World War II where he served in the Army Air Corp as a First Lieutenant of the 68th bomb squadron, 44th bomb group. As a pilot of B-24 bombers, he and his crew flew 22 successful missions over Germany. He received the air medal with 2 oak leaf clusters and the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with 3 bronze stars.

After returning from the war, he continued to play basketball with the Oilers. In 1948 the Oilers won the AAU Championship, and he received individual honors as an AAU All American. Winning the championship entitled the Oilers to compete against the Kentucky Wildcats to determine who would play on the Olympic basketball team. Playing on a severely sprained ankle, he finished the game as the top scorer and rebounder. This solidified his spot on the 1948 Olympic Basketball Team. The Olympic team traveled to London, England, where in the last game, they beat France 65 to 21, giving him one of his greatest treasures, an Olympic gold medal.

After leaving Phillips, he moved to St. Louis, Mo., where he was vice president of Missouri Pacific Railroad Company. In 1967, he moved to Baton Rouge, La., to fulfill a lifetime dream of owning his own business, a trucking company, Groendyke Transport. He later also briefly owned and operated R & P Trucking.

He enjoyed a long and happy retirement with family and friends. He continued his passion for basketball where he loved playing with his “very special group of men” or in a local gym with his sons-in-law and grandchildren. He also enjoyed traveling and competing in the Sr. Olympics in Louisiana and surrounding states. He hung up his basketball shoes at the age of 86 to help with the care of the love of his life, his wife, Gracie.

Carl Robie (swimming, 1964, ’68)

Robie, the Philadelphia flyer, who won a silver medal at the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo and a gold medal in 1968 Olympics in Mexico City, passed away on November 30, 2011. He was 66 years old. During his career he broke the world record in the men’s 200m butterfly four times, twice the same day in August 1962 at the U.S. Nationals in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. Carl also won US National Championships in freestyle and individual medley events in a long career of national and international swimming. He won his first nationals in 1961 and his last in 1968. His world records were set from 1961 to 1963.

Carl started swimming at the Vesper Boat Club in Philadelphia, coached by Hall of Famer Mary Freeman Kelly Spitzer. For his junior year of high school, Carl attended Peeskill Military Academy and
joined one of the greatest prep school swim teams ever assembled.

“Carl was a fun loving guy,” said Chuck Wigo, who grew up in Philadelphia competing against Carl and was a Peekskill teammate. “But he operated at a different level than everyone else. He really was “Mr. Cool.” He had an ability to look at things, block out static and focus on doing what he needed to do.”

Earning enough academic credits, Carl skipped his senior year and went on to Michigan. As a freshman he finished second to Kevin Berry in the 200m butterfly at the 1964 Olympic Games. The silver medal he wore around his neck, to him, was a symbol of failure rather than success.

When Carl graduated from college as Michigan captain in 1967, he was expected to retire. But Robie kept on. During his freshman year in law school, he worked out by himself at a YMCA without a coach and came back to make the 1968 Olympic Team as “the old man of swimming” at 23. His gold medal was the most popular comeback victory of the 1968 Olympics. “Over the hill” in 1964, he won it all in 1968, co-captaining the US team.

No one except a cherished few thought that he would win. “After qualifying fifth, my family asked me how I felt, with a look of concern on their faces. When I told them I was going to win, they looked even more concerned in view of my qualifying performance,” Carl related to Buck Dawson. “When I did, it was the happiest moment of my life. You know, I’ve won everything -- the Pan American Games, meets all over the world, but this one I didn’t win until my last race. I am a lucky guy!”

For a proud Philadelphian and proud American, Carl’s induction into the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 1976 had a double meaning – as it was the bicentennial of the Declaration of Independence.

Carol Frick Smith (diving, 1952)

Carol passed away on September 5, 2011. She was 78.

A native of Queens, N.Y., Carol Helen Frick was the daughter of Helen and Emile Frick. At age 19, she represented the United States on the 1952 Olympic Diving Team in Helsinki, Finland. She received a BS from Brooklyn College and an MS from the University of Michigan and taught in the athletic department at the University of Maryland. After moving to New Milford in the 1960s, Mrs. Smith became the physical education teacher at the Sherman School, where she taught for more than 25 years. She also taught dance and swimming to a generation of children and young adults in the New Milford area.

In the late 1970s, she was in the first group elected to the Brooklyn College Athletics Hall of Fame.

During retirement, Mrs. Smith volunteered at New Milford Hospital, was president of the local AARP chapter and taught computer classes at the town’s Senior Center. After relocating to Georgia with her sister, Joan Frick, in 2005, Mrs. Smith enjoyed exercise, travel and the Red Hat Society.

Mrs. Smith is survived by her daughters and their families’ Suzanne J. Smith and Alan Uomoto of Los Angeles, CA and their son, Garrett Uomoto; and Julianne S. Reeves of Marietta, Ga. and her daughters, Katherine and Olivia.

Donations in lieu of flowers can be made in Mrs. Smith’s honor to either the Cancer Center or General Hospice Fund of the WellStar Foundation, 2000 South Park Place, Atlanta, Ga.30339 (www.wellstar.org).
Growing up as an age group swimmer in Philadelphia, I was in awe of Carl Robie from the first time I saw him. I was five years younger and swam for another team, but he was a hero – always nice and encouraging to his young admirers. I really didn’t get to know him until he left Philadelphia with my brother, Chick, to attend the Peekskill Military Academy in New York in 1962.

While looking through some unmarked files here at the Hall of Fame about three years ago, I came across a letter Carl had written to a local Ft. Lauderdale family, thanking them for hosting him during the Dedication meet at the Hall of Fame in 1965. It was so funny I had to call him. I’m sure that we hadn’t seen or spoken to each other in at least thirty-five years.

At the end of our conversation, I invited Carl to that year’s Hall of Fame induction, but he said he hated reunions and hated leaving home, where he had everything that made him happy. But he invited me to visit him. Last May I extended another invitation to him. Again he declined and repeated his invitation for me to join him in Sarasota for a swim in his pool and a round of golf. I made the trip last Monday – for his funeral.

When I heard that Carl had passed away, I immediately called my brother who was shocked to silence. When he regained his composure, he remembered his friend as the original “Mr. Cool” – at a time when few people were. That’s exactly the way I had thought of him.

I’m sure everyone has a great story about Carl, but I heard two stories in Sarasota that I had never heard before. The first was how Carl had almost drowned when he was young and this is what got him into swimming. Just five or six years after taking his first swim lessons he broke his first world record at the age of 15. He had a gift.

The second anecdote was from Mexico City in 1968. As a 23 year old and silver medalist from 1964, he was considered “over the hill” and given little chance to win his signature event – the 200 fly – by the experts. After finishing 5th in the prelims, the erstwhile reporter Howard Cosell somewhat rudely pushed Carl out the way mumbling, “I’ve got to get to Spitz!” After Carl won his gold medal in the final, Cosell approached him with his microphone and cameraman for an interview. “Carl, Carl Robie. Howard Cosell here. Come over here.” “I’m sorry, Mr. Cosell,” Carl responded respectfully, “but I’d rather be with my family.”

When Carl found out he had cancer (melanoma), he was told he had three months to live. That was about 18 months ago. When I spoke to him a few months ago, he never mentioned it and apparently not many people knew outside of Chris, his loving wife of 43 years, and his beautiful children, C.J. and Mandy – both swimmers (Mandy at LSU and C.J. at Texas). It was clear at the funeral how much he loved his family and how proud they were of him and the way he fought cancer like the champion he was in and out of the pool.

When I think back over fifty years ago to my days as an age group swimmer, one of the clearest memories I have is of the first time I saw Carl swim lap after lap of his beautiful, graceful, effortless butterfly at the John B. Kelly Pool in Philadelphia, Pa. At the end of that grueling work out he didn’t appear tired at all. He was smiling and joking around as he dried off and put on his white Vesper sweats. He was so Cool!

Bruce Wigo
Chief Executive Officer
International Swimming Hall of Fame
TEAM USA COMES OUT ON TOP AT PAN AMERICAN GAMES

The 2011 Pan American Games in Guadalajara, Mexico, was another successful campaign for Team USA. With 236 total medals won – including 92 golds, 79 silvers and 65 bronzes – the U.S. led second-place Brazil by 95 medals. It was the fifth consecutive time the U.S. claimed the gold and overall medal counts at the Games.

Team USA medaled in 35 of the 38 sports in which it competed. There were 176 athletes who took home a gold medal for the U.S., 38 of which earned more than one. More than half of the U.S. athletes (62.2%) left with hardware, with 71 of the 79 U.S. Olympians at the Games making it to the podium.

While nearly every sport earned medals, some teams shined above the rest. Fencing nearly swept the gold medals by winning 11 of 12. Gymnastics came away with 18 medals, nine of which were gold. Bowling took three of the possible four gold medals. Equestrian won 10 of the 12 possible medals, including five of six possible gold. Water skiing won six of nine possible gold medals, while swimming took home 18 gold and shooting earned 18 of the 27 possible total medals, including 10 of 15 gold.

Several U.S. athletes had notable individual performances throughout the event:
- Jordan Burroughs (Sicklerville, N.J.) took home the 74kg freestyle wrestling gold, which came one month after he won the world championship.
- Brady Ellison (Glendale, Ariz.) won both gold medals in archery.
- Regina Jaquess (Atlanta, Ga.) left Guadalajara with three gold and one silver in water skiing, including the overall.
- Elizabeth Pelton (Ruxton, Md.) was the most notable swimmer for the U.S., claiming four gold and one silver.
- Mariel Zagunis (Beaverton, Ore.) came away with two gold medals in the fencing competition.
- Julie Zeltin (Bethesda, Md.) earned three golds and one silver as the top U.S. rhythmic gymnastics medal-winner.

In Team Sports America also had a strong showing:
In water polo, both the men’s and women’s teams defeated Canada in the finals on the way to winning gold medals and earning spots for the U.S. to compete at the 2012 Olympic Games.

The women’s field hockey team went undefeated and won gold after knocking off perennial favorite Argentina to earn a position at the 2012 Olympic Games.

The U.S. softball team won gold after a convincing 9-0 record and outscoring its opponents 78-8 during the tournament.

### 2011 Pan American Games Final Medals Table- Top Five

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<th>Silver</th>
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TEAM USA CAPS SUCCESSFUL 2011 PARAPAN AMERICAN GAMES

Competition came to an end in Guadalajara with two final medals for Team USA. In judo, Ron Hawthorne (Colorado Springs, Colo.) took bronze in the men’s -60kg division and teammate Josh Farra (Philadelphia, Pa.) also collected bronze in the men’s -66kg division. Also competing on the final day was Josh Swoverland (Champaign, Ill.) who earned a fifth place finish in the marathon.

American athletes had a strong showing during the eight days of competition at the 2011 Parapan American Games, winning a total of 132 medals and finishing third overall in total medals won. The U.S. collected 51 gold, 47 silver and 34 bronze.

Several U.S. athletes had notable individual performances throughout the event:

- Chelsea McClammer (Spokane, Wash.) won five gold medals and one bronze in her six events. That’s the most medals won by any track and field athlete in Guadalajara.
- Kristen Messer (Austin, Texas) set a world record in the women’s 100m (T33) with a time of 21.90.
- Anna Johannes (Alexandria, Va.) won five gold medals and one silver to lead the U.S. swimmers.
- Allison Jones (Colorado Springs, Colo.) claimed two gold medals at the velodrome along with two American records in the 500m time trial and 3000m pursuit races (C2), then added a silver to the mix with a second place finish in the road race.
- Marine Corps veteran Oz Sanchez (San Diego, Calif.) kept his undefeated streak intact in the road time trial by claiming gold in Guadalajara and added a second gold in the road race.
- Myles Porter (Colorado Springs, Colo.) won his first major international gold medal, taking the top spot on the podium in the men’s -100kg division in judo. Porter went undefeated in the tournament and took down the defending Paralympic champion en route to gold.
- Lee Ford (Perry, Ga.) won gold in the women’s individual recurve (W2/ST) to help Team USA earn a competition slot for the 2012 Paralympic Games, bringing the U.S. total to seven slots.
- Powerlifter Mary Stack (Ann Arbor, Mich.) won bronze, set a new personal best and raised her world ranking to number three in the women’s +82.5kg weight class.
- Table tennis athlete Tahl Leibovitz (Ozone Park, N.Y.) won gold in men’s singles (C9) to earn a berth to the 2012 Paralympic Games in London, then added a team silver with partner Wayne Lo (Sunnyvale, Calif.).
- Mackenzie Soldan (Louisville, Ky.) left Guadalajara with two gold medals, claiming wins in both women’s singles and doubles with partner Emmy Kaiser (Ft. Mitchell, Ky.).

In Team Sports America also had a strong showing:

In wheelchair basketball, both the men’s and women’s teams went undefeated on the way to winning gold medals and earning spots for the U.S. to compete at the 2012 Paralympic Games.

The women’s goalball team also went without losing a game and won gold, confirming it’s one of the top teams to beat heading into London.

The U.S. cycling team won the medal count in both the road and track disciplines, claiming 24 total medals (nine gold, 11 silver, four bronze).

All four wheelchair tennis athletes won medals, giving Team USA a podium spot in all four competition events: men’s singles, women’s singles, men’s doubles and women’s doubles.

2011 Parapan American Games Final Medals Table

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<td>Canada</td>
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</table>
MEMBERS OF TEAM USA POSE FOR A PHOTO AFTER WALKING IN THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS PARADE IN COLORADO SPRINGS ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2011.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR VERY OWN CHRISTINE TAYLOR WHO WAS HONORED FOR 20 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE USOC ON NOVEMBER 29, 2011 AT A SPECIAL CEREMONY. CHRISTINE SAYS THE WORK SHE DOES FOR THE U.S. OLYMPIANS HAS BEEN THE MOST REWARDING DURING HER TENURE.
Dear U.S. Olympians:

Season's Greetings! At this time of year we find ourselves reflecting and giving thanks for family and friends and the many blessings we have – and there are many.

As Olympians who proudly serve on the Olympians for Olympians Relief Fund (OORF) volunteer Board of Directors, we also see firsthand the misfortune and hardship that some of our fellow Olympians experience across all teams and all sports. Each month we review requests for help and award financial assistance based on the OORF criteria. (See www.oorf.org for details)

Our ability to help Olympians in need is directly related to our ability to raise money for the fund. 100% of your support goes directly to Olympians in need. As a Board and as your representatives we take this work very seriously because we know it has made a difference and we are united in this appeal to you.

We trust each of you received the original mailer in June requesting a contribution to OORF. With your help, we have distributed 10 grants this year. That means 10 lives and families were touched by your kindness.

We appeal to your pride as an Olympian, your kinship to teammates in need and your loyalty to the Olympic spirit. The United States Olympic Committee has also agreed to match the dollars we raise in 2011. The OORF appreciates and recognizes this most generous offer by the USOC and we want to maximize the potential that this generous offer represents.

Many great, compelling causes touch us this time of year. However, the Olympians for Olympians Relief Fund is unique to anyone who loves the Olympics, who loves and respects every World Class athlete that strives to be the best.

**Once an Olympian, Always an Olympian. Never Former, Never Past®.**

*Please prove the depth of our bond to each other and send a contribution to:*

**Cindy Stinger, Treasurer, OORF**

1 Olympic Plaza

Colorado Springs, CO 80909

We are seeking a united effort from all of you to give. No contribution is too small.

In the Olympic Spirit!

Jeff Blatnick President (wrestling 1980, '84)
Carolyn Holmes Secretary (gymnastics, 1968)
Cindy Stinger Treasurer (team handball 1984, '88, '92)
John Carenza (soccer, 1972)  
Cathy Marino (canoe/kayak, 1988, '92)
Micki King (diving, 1968, '72)  
John Naber (swimming, 1976)  
Ed Williams (biathlon, 1968)

**DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE**

EIN: 84-1497252
Happy Holidays & Good luck to all the athletes preparing for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Summer Games!