A Letter From Gary Hall, Sr.
U.S. Olympians Association President

It has been a year to celebrate for Team USA. The performance of our Olympians and Paralympians in London made us all very proud.... two of our best Olympic and Paralympic Games ever. Michael Phelps ended his amazing swimming career and left his unforgettable mark by becoming the all-time highest Olympic medal winner in history.

As I speak to Olympians and Paralympians around the country, it seems that there has never been a better time to be part of the Olympic Movement. I cannot recall when there was ever a stronger or more pervasive feeling among our members to want to belong. In fact, much credit should go to the leadership of the USOC. Chairman Larry Probst and CEO Scott Blackmun have worked tirelessly to help unite all of the members of the USOC into one Team USA.

I feel very fortunate and honored to be taking the office of President of the USOA at perhaps the greatest time in Olympic history. I have my predecessor, Willie Banks, to thank for inspiring me to follow his positive leadership and help strengthen our organization. He has meant so much to the USOA.

In addition, the USOA has a talented and ambitious Board of Directors. I am thrilled to have Joey Cheek join our Board as Vice President, along with the return of veterans, Dick Fosbury and Carol Lewis. There is much work to be done and all of us on the Board are prepared to get started working. Our goal is to be accessible to you at all times. One of the first items on our agenda is to unite, once and for all, our Olympians and Paralympians into one organization. I also hope to restructure our combined organization to get many more Olympians and Paralympians involved and help us connect better with our members. You will be hearing more about this reorganizational plan soon.

Tom Lough, Modern Pentathlete, nearly single-handedly reunited the 1968 Olympic Team, he has become my hero. I would like to see the same unification for every Olympic Team. Tom has done and continues to do great work to keep the ‘68 team connected.

As we end this memorable year of 2012, I want to wish each of you and your families a happy and healthy holiday season. All of us on the USOA Board look forward to serving you and building a stronger more united organization of Olympians and Paralympians together.

Sochi, here we come!

Gary Hall, Sr.
Inside

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>A Letter From Gary Hall, Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Milt Campell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>13th Annual Scott Hamilton and Friends Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Olympic License Plates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>DeVry University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Alumni In Memoriam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Olympian &amp; Paralympian Photo Highlights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>U.S. Olympian &amp; Paralympian Chapters</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the U.S. Olympians Association

Cindy Stinger & Christine Taylor

Cover image: Milton Gray Campbell
MILT CAMPBELL
Simply one of the Best

By: Elliott Denman (athletics, 1956)

It’s been over sixty years, and former Long Branch High School student Alan Sherman can still remember the scene as if it were yesterday.

“It was the Long Branch-Plainfield game, and Milton Campbell was unstoppable,” said Sherman of the Plainfield High School star fullback. “He must have scored three or four touchdowns and every time he did, he carried two or three of our guys on his back with him.”

There had always been something bionic about Milton Campbell. Standing 6 feet, 3 inches and weighing 220 pounds, the Plainfield, N.J., native was also an All-American swimmer and world class track athlete. By his junior year, the two-time National Interscholastic track & field champion had already won national titles in both the 60-yard high hurdles and high jump at the AAU National Indoor Championships. It wasn’t long before he decided to test his consummate skill set in the decathlon, where he was an instant sensation.

The rising senior made his decathlon debut in 1952, placing second to defending Olympic champion Bob Mathias at the U.S. Olympic Team Trials. A few weeks later, he added a silver medal behind Mathias at the Helsinki Olympic Games.

Campbell’s international prominence was enough to lure the 1953 AAU National Decathlon Championship to his hometown, where he captured his first national title with a score of 7,235 points. The entire Plainfield community watched in awe as its hometown hero was born.

I learned how he paved the way for so many people, not just in track but in life,” said Joetta Clark Diggs, a four-time Olympian in the 800 meters. “Mr. Campbell came back to Plainfield after all his success. He gave back to the community and was a great role model for the kids and to everyone he came in contact with.”

Campbell’s impressive exploits on the field of play earned him a football scholarship to Indiana University where he starred for the Hoosiers on both the gridiron and the track before his career was interrupted by service with the U.S. Navy. But perhaps his most impressive athletic accomplishment came in 1956 when he competed for the title of “greatest athlete on earth.”

Campbell was nearing his 23rd birthday, when he embarked on his fourth and final decathlon at the Melbourne 1956 Olympic Games. To the world, he was considered the underdog after finishing second to world-record holder Rafer Johnson at the U.S. Olympic Team Trials. But to Campbell, the gold medal was his to win.
Campbell became the first African-American to become an Olympic decathlon champion, setting an Olympic record of 7,937 points for the 10 events, highlighted by seven personal records. His overall total marks the second-highest score ever recorded in the event. Johnson won the silver medal that year with 7,577 points before returning in 1960 to win gold, without Campbell as competition.

With the win, Campbell became the second of only six decathletes in history to earn two Olympic medals. His one gold and one silver medal are topped by two-time Olympic champions Mathias (1948, 1952) and Daley Thompson of Great Britain (1980, 1984), and matched by Johnson (1956, 1960), Roman Seberle of the Czech Republic (2000, 2004) and fellow American Bryan Clay (2004, 2008).

“We owe so much to this man,” said Harry Marra, a world class decathlon coach and mentor to reigning Olympic champion Ashton Eaton. “He was the best and led the way. All decathlon champions are very special people and Milt was exactly that, a very special man.”

Campbell spent the 1957 season playing in the National Football League with the Cleveland Browns. He served one season as backup to future Hall of Fame running back Jim Brown before playing the next seven seasons in the Canadian Football League.

He went on to a notable career as a powerful motivational speaker and was later elected to the United States Olympic Hall of Fame in 1992 and the National Track & Field Hall of Fame in 1999. In 2000, the New Jersey Sports Writers Association named Campbell its New Jersey Athlete of the Century in honor of his remarkable career. Eight years later, he became the honorary recipient of the Doctor of Public Service degree from Monmouth University. His achievements also earned him spots in the New Jersey Hall of Fame and the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 2012.

Despite every accomplishment, Campbell never acquired the acclaim and recognition he truly deserved. While his contemporaries went on to achieve fame and fortune, Campbell remained comparatively unknown.

“Positive thinking wasn’t so much a winning strategy to him as it was a religion, and to this day it sets him a breed apart from anyone you’ll ever meet, athlete or non-athlete,” said Newark Star-Ledger columnist Dave D’Alessandro. “He could will himself to do anything, and this is one reason we celebrate his life.”

A Plainfield public library exhibit carried these words: “His success was no accident. He dedicated himself to constant work and practice and was determined to excel, overcoming racial barriers.”

“Positive thinking wasn’t so much a winning strategy to him as it was a religion, and to this day it sets him a breed apart from anyone you’ll ever meet, athlete or non-athlete,” said Newark Star-Ledger columnist Dave D’Alessandro. “He could will himself to do anything, and this is one reason we celebrate his life.”

“He returned home to Plainfield only to discover that his achievements meant very little to his fellow countrymen,” wrote former Sports Illustrated columnist Merrell Noden. “Campbell didn’t earn a penny from his gold medal.”

Although there are many possible explanations for his lack of stardom, Campbell strongly asserted that a racial divide discouraged his rise to fame. But he was determined to succeed, overcoming racial barriers time and again to excel both in sport and in life.

After a long battle with prostate cancer, Campbell passed away on Nov. 2, 2012, in Gainesville, Ga. He was five weeks shy of his 79th birthday. While he did not always receive the recognition he deserved, there is no question that he was one of the greatest athletes who ever lived and his indelible legacy will resonate for years to come.

Members of the 1956 U.S. Men’s Track & Field Team before they headed off to Melbourne, Australia.
Scott Hamilton has made his share of visits to Cleveland for doctor visits and surgery. A testicular cancer survivor who later also was diagnosed with a benign brain tumor, Hamilton is on a first-name basis with many of the doctors at The Cleveland Clinic.

But during his last trip to Cleveland, he got exactly the right dose of medicine he needed.

And it wasn’t at the hospital.

It was just down the road in downtown Cleveland at the Quicken Loans Arena, where Hamilton was able to gather all 13 U.S. Olympic figure skating gold medalists for his 13th annual Scott Hamilton and Friends Show in early November. It was the first time all 13 American Olympic skating champions were together for an event in their honor, and their gathering was exactly what the doctors ordered.

“I’ve got some pretty cool friends,” Hamilton said.

Indeed.

His group of friends included every U.S. Olympic champion in the sport to which he has dedicated his life: Dick Button, Hayes Jenkins, David Jenkins, Brian Boitano, Evan Lysacek, Tenley Albright, Carol Heiss Jenkins, Peggy Fleming, Dorothy Hamill, Kristi Yamaguchi, Tara Lipinski and Sarah Hughes. The 13th gold medalist in the crowd, of course, was Hamilton himself. He won the gold medal in 1984 when the Olympic Winter Games were held in Sarajevo.

A native of Bowling Green, Ohio, Hamilton got his figure skating start in the Buckeye state. And although he now calls suburban Nashville, Tenn., home, Cleveland has become an adopted hometown of sorts. It is where he has been treated ever since he was diagnosed with cancer in 1997. So it was natural for Hamilton to hold a skating show that benefits cancer research in Cleveland. According to Steve Lindecke, who is an executive producer of the show, the event has now raised more than $15 million toward cancer research.

“(The show) was a culmination of a lot of frustration and stress,” Hamilton told his guests at the post-event dinner held at the Renaissance Cleveland Hotel. “But I am so proud to be standing here at the end of our 13th year, knowing we did it.”

“I think about this event every day,” he added. “And all I can say is thank you, thank you, thank you.”

Hamilton actually started contacting his fellow gold medalists a year in advance to see if it would be possible to get all 13 champions together. He knew it would not be an easy task. He had wanted Brian Boitano to participate in the show for years but scheduling conflicts always prevented Boitano from making it to the show. Hamilton also knew it would be tough to get the most recent U.S. skating champion, Evan Lysacek, to town because the 2010 Olympic gold medalist had decided to make a competitive comeback for the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games.

Not to mention all of the other hectic schedules for the rest of the distinguished crowd. Tenley Albright, the 1956 women’s champion, is still working in medical research in Boston. Kristi Yamaguchi, the 1992 women’s gold medalist and mother of two, is constantly busy with hosting skating shows for TV and recently developed her own clothing line, and 1960 gold medalist Carol Heiss Jenkins is still active in coaching skaters.

But, as Yamaguchi said, “If anyone could do it, it would be Scott.”

As if it wasn’t a difficult task to start out with, along came Hurricane Sandy. Dick Button, Tara Lipinski and Sarah Hughes all make their homes in New York City, so suffice it to say, travel was a bit dicey. Carol Heiss Jenkins and her husband, Hayes Jenkins, live in Cleveland but the storm’s wrath was felt there, too. So much so that they lost power and ended up with a flooded basement. The rink where Heiss Jenkins coaches, the Winterhurst Ice Rink, also lost power and was shut down for several days.

Kristi Yamaguchi had been scheduled to host a made-for-TV skating show in Atlantic City before heading to Cleveland, but the storm prevented that from happening.

In the end, however, all 13 made it and Hamilton got to breathe a sigh of relief.

The show, which also included live musical performances by country superstar Wynonna Judd, was considered to be one of the best in years. Not only did it honor all of the champions (the only two gold medalists to skate were Hamill and Boitano), but also it featured performances by 2010 Olympic Jeremy
Abbott, reigning U.S. champion Ashley Wagner and two-time national champion Alissa Czisny. All three skaters are training with hopes of competing in the Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games.

Judd, whose smoky and strong voice was solid when she sang ballads and when she rocked out to Led Zeppelin, had just the right balance of humor, emotion and chutzpah to make the show a success. Hamilton, who has become a country fan (how could he not in Nashville?), was elated to have Judd perform. And Judd had no problems poking fun at Hamilton, saying, “He’s got such a great attitude, it’s irritating.”

Many of the skaters who gathered in Cleveland shared personal stories about how cancer touched their lives. Hamill and Fleming are both breast cancer survivors. Heiss Jenkins was 16 when she lost her mother to cancer, and although her mom saw her claim a silver medal in the Winter Olympic Games in 1956, she was not able to be there when Heiss Jenkins claimed the gold four years later in Squaw Valley, Calif. Sarah Hughes made a point of noting her mother, Amy, is in her 15th year of remission from breast cancer.

And, of course, they are all connected to Hamilton, who has done so much for the sport as an athlete, TV commentator and show producer. He already is busy planning the next show, set for Nov. 2, 2013.

As Heiss Jenkins said, “We have been to this show every year. We wouldn’t have missed it this year.”
BUY YOUR OLYMPIC LICENSE PLATE TODAY!

We are excited to announce that the United States Olympic Committee has made a renewed commitment to Olympic license plate programs across the country. Displaying an Olympic plate is a great way to show your support of the U.S. Olympic Team while also serving as a conversation starter, providing the opportunity to discuss your own personal Olympic experiences. Olympic license plates also provide additional visibility for the Olympic Movement and a significant source of sustainable revenue to support U.S. Olympic athletes and programs.

A total of eleven states currently offer Olympic license plates:

California          Connecticut          Florida           Maryland          Massachusetts          Michigan
New Jersey       New York              North Carolina       Oklahoma         Texas

We will also soon be announcing details about a new program starting in the State of Missouri.

The USOC worked closely with the department of motor vehicles in most states to redesign the Olympic plates, creating an attractive style with a consistent format and theme. Here is a sample of Florida's new plate:

![Florida Olympic License Plate Sample](image)

More information about the cost, specific use of the proceeds, and the ordering procedure in each state can be found on our web-site at the following address:


We are working to expand the program to other states around the country. If your state doesn't currently offer Olympic license plates, then you can sign up at this site and we will notify you when the plates become available. In most cases, creating a new Olympic license plate program requires legislation, so please contact us if you have any personal connections to elected officials who can help us bring the program to your state. We also need to modify the license plate legislation in the State of Texas, so we are looking for any Olympians who have connections to members of the Texas legislature or the Governor’s office.

We are honored to invite Olympians to be among the first motorists to obtain the re-designed Olympic plates. Any questions about the license plate program can be directed to Mr. Jeff Kleinschmidt, Manager of State Outreach Programs via email at Jeffery.kleinschmidt@usoc.org or by telephone at 719-373-7203.

We are very excited to update you on the newly energized Olympic license plate program and provide you the opportunity to promote the Olympic Movement by displaying Olympic license plates. Please feel free to share this information with your family and friends also. Having thousands of moving billboards promoting the Olympic Movement throughout the country will enhance the Olympic brand and generate even more support for our athletes. Thanks for your consideration, and Go Team USA!
We can help you achieve your next big dream

WILL BRADY | U.S. Olympic Hopeful | DeVry University Student
ANNA JOHANNES | 2012 Paralympic Bronze Medalist | DeVry University Student

When you’ve achieved the dream of going to the Olympic or Paralympic Games, pursuing a degree is a great way to prepare for what’s next in your life.

DeVry University is proud to be an official education provider of Team USA. DeVry University and our Keller Graduate School of Management may be the right place to get you on track to reaching your future goals and dreams. You may also qualify for financial assistance including a one-year scholarship or 30 percent tuition savings. That makes it possible for you to pursue a degree and get ready for a new career or advance your current career further.

Find out more at usoc.keller.devry.edu
ALUMNI IN MEMORIAM

Kyle Ray Bennett (cycling, 2008)

Kyle Bennett passed away on October 14, 2012. He was 33.

Bennett was a three-time BMX world champion and won an automatic spot on the first U.S. Olympic Team for BMX in 2008.

In the statement, USA Cycling CEO Steve Johnson said Kyle was a pioneer in Olympic BMX cycling and an inspiration to those who knew him.

Kyle is survived by his fiancée and a young daughter.

Jeffrey Blatnick (wrestling, 1980, ’84)

Jeff Blatnick passed away on October 24, 2012. He was 55.

Jeff was a motivational speaker and sports commentator. Blatnick was inducted as a Distinguished Member of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1999. He is also the beloved husband of his wife Lori and beloved father of his children, Ian and Niki.

He was a class of ’75 graduate of Niskayuna High School and received his bachelors’ degree in physical education from Springfield College in Springfield, Mass. in 1979. Jeff was recognized by all of America and beyond by his touching “One Happy Dude” quote when he won the gold medal in Greco Roman wrestling at the 1984 Olympic Games. He never let his celebrity status overshadow his humility and his love of helping others with his experiences in life.

Jeff had a strong will to live life the best he could. He worked as an analyst for NBC Sports and other venues over the years that followed. He was proud of his motivational speeches made to literally thousands of aspiring athletes that someday conquer the mats themselves. Jeff was an assistant varsity wrestling coach for BH-BL High School and a Journeyman Wrestling Club coach. Along with his wife and children, Jeff is also survived by his mother Angela (Geotes) Blatnick, his brother Andrew and several nieces and nephews. He is also predeceased by his brother David.

The following statement is attributed to USOC CEO Scott Blackmun on the untimely death of Jeff Blatnick:

“The U.S. Olympic family has a heavy heart today following the passing of Jeff Blatnick. An Olympic gold medalist and the flag bearer for Team USA at the 1984 Closing Ceremony in LA, Jeff was a legend in the sport of wrestling and a true champion who remained active in Olympic sport for the last 30+ years. Whether it was youth coaching or participating in the USOC ambassador program prior to London, Jeff was always willing to share his story and lend his considerable talents to growing the sport of wrestling and inspiring young men and women to always do their best. Our sincere condolences go out to Jeff’s family and friends. He will be missed.”

Milt Campbell (athletics, 1952, ’56)

Milton Campbell passed away on November 2, 2012. He was 78.

Milton was a high school senior when he won the silver medal in the decathlon at the 1952 Olympic Games in Helsinki, finishing second to Bob Mathias. The Americans swept the decathlon that year.

Four years later, Milt became the first African-American to win the gold medal in the decathlon at the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne, Australia. He went on to play professional football for the Cleveland Browns, the Canadian Football League and he was also a successful motivational speaker.

Milt was inducted into the National Track & Field Hall of Fame in 1999, (see page 5) and was honored this year by the International Swimming Hall of Fame. In 2000, the New Jersey Sportswriters Association named Campbell its New Alumni in Memoriam.
Jersey Athlete of the Century. In June of 2012, he was inducted into the New Jersey Hall of Fame.

He graduated from Indiana University, and received his Honorary Doctorate from Monmouth University in West Long Branch, N.J. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Thomas Campbell, Jr. and a son, Milton Campbell, Jr.

Milt is survived by his life partner, Linda Rusch; daughter, Julee Campbell; son, Justin Campbell; son, Milton Campbell III; sister and brother-in-law, Sandra and Jim Smith; granddaughter, Taria Campbell and great-grandson, Nathaniel Johnsen. He was also a surrogate father to Heather Rusch, Michael Rusch and Dorianne Taylor.

Milt will be missed so very much by his family and friends. He was a man of great integrity. He had a keen mind filled with positive thoughts, tenderness, consideration and love for others. He loved life, his beautiful home in Georgia and often a good cigar looking at the mountains.

Jack Wells Davis
(athletics, 1952, '56)

Jack Davis passed away on July 21, 2012. He was 81.

At the 1952 and 1956 Games, Jack had identical times as the gold medalist in the 100-meter hurdles but was judged to be slightly behind and won silver at both Games. The world class sprinter was inducted into the National Track & Field Hall of Fame in 2004.

Davis graduated from USC in 1953 with a degree in education and served in the Navy from 1954-1957. After the Olympic Games he competed while touring with U.S. athletes on a goodwill ambassador trip sponsored by the State Department.

When his track career ended, he became a real estate developer in San Diego, Calif. and Park City, Utah. He also helped found the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista.

Jack is survived by his wife of 19 years, Carol; daughters Jackie & Tracy; son, Trent; six grandchildren; and two step grandchildren.

Debra Holloway
(taekwondo, 1988)

Debra Holloway passed away December 1, 2011. She was 56.

Holloway was a six-time national champion, winning the title in four different weight classes from 1976-1987. She also won the 5th Pan Am Taekwondo Championships held in Guayaquil, Ecuador, in 1986, took bronze at the 6th Pan Am Taekwondo Championships in Lima, Peru, in 1988, won a silver medal at the 1985 World Tournament in Seoul, and participated in the 1987 World Championships in Barcelona, Spain.

Howard L. Johnston
(modern pentathlon, 1968)

Howard Johnston passed away on November 16, 2012. He was 86.

He touched the lives of many with his positive spirit and love of life. H.J. was a graduate of Drake University, where he excelled at track and field. He was a track and field coach at Highlands High School, where he was Vice Principal. He was the Olympic running coach for the United States Modern Pentathlon Team in Mexico City. He taught courses at St. Mary’s University; was an avid outdoors man and loved riding his horse, traveling, and sharing good times with loved ones and friends. Howard, often referred to as ‘Coach’, was always involved in causes that he was passionate about in order to make positive improvements and constructive changes in other people’s lives. He found true happiness in being a loving husband, father, brother and good friend. Howard will continue to be present in our hearts and minds, and our daily thoughts. He will be remembered
lovingly for his kindness, striving desire to do what was right, and his positive attitude. We have been truly blessed to have enjoyed Howard in our lives.

Howard was preceded in death by his parents; son, Jerry Bradley Johnston; and sisters, Lois Johnston and Doris Miller. Howard is survived by his loving wife, Betty A. Johnston; daughter, Debbie Zlotucha and his son-in-law Rick Zlotucha; step-sons, Richard Maldonado, Eric Maldonado and his wife, Alicia; and his beloved, loyal dog Zuki Bella.

George Frank Mattos, Jr.
(athletics, 1952, ’56)

George Mattos, Jr. passed away October 18, 2012. He was 82.

George attended Pacific Grove High School where he fell in love with music and became an outstanding pole-vaulter. In 1947, as a senior, he took first in the pole vault event at the California State Track & Field Meet. As a result, he earned an athletic scholarship to San Jose State University and became an All American pole-vaulter. For 10 years he was ranked as one of the top ten pole-vaulters in the world.

He graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in Music, later receiving his Master’s in Music from Chico State University. George then served his country from 1952 to 1956 when he joined the United States Air Force. During this time, he continued to develop his skills in both music and pole vaulting, eventually earning a place on, not one, but two, United States Olympic Teams. He represented his country in Helsinki, Finland in 1952, and again in 1956, in Melbourne, Australia.

George is survived by his wife, Lorraine, his brother, Rick (Kay), his first wife, Ginger, and 5 children: Diana Gilley (Tom) Medford, Ore., Rob Mattis (Charlene) Menlo Park, Calif., Dave Mattis (Linda Marie) Haiku, Maui, Hawaii, Karen Kozak, Phoenix, Ariz., and Linda Carol Mattis, Seattle, Wash. He is also survived by 4 grandchildren; Erik, Kari, Jake, and Nick, and by two great-grandchildren; Lucas and Pierce.

George was a gifted athlete, great
musician and teacher, and a warm and caring, loving person. He will be truly missed by all who knew him.

Donations may be made to the COS Foundation for the George Mattos Music Scholarship, College of the Siskiyous, 800 College Ave., Weed, Calif., 96094

**Ruth M. Rademacher**  
(skiing, 1948)

Ruth Marie Rademacher passed away on March 10, 2012. She was 84.

Ruth excelled in alpine skiing, winning the Eastern United States Championship. In 1947, Ruth-Marie went to the tryouts for the U.S. Olympic Team held at Sun Valley, Idaho, where she was runner-up in downhill and made the team in all disciplines. In 1948, Ruth-Marie represented her country at the Winter Olympic Games held in St. Moritz, Switzerland posting the second best performance of the American woman.

She was a graduate of Green Mountain College, class of 1950, and a member of the New England Ski Museum and Green Mountain College Halls of Fame. While living and skiing in Colorado, she worked at the Denver Library, where she met her husband, Leo E. Rademacher, of Longmont, Colo., when he asked her for a Zane Grey novel. They married while Leo was working on his Ph.D. at the University of Colorado in Boulder. Her husband of 38 years predeceased her on March 23, 1991. She raised three sons, Mark of North Haven, Conn., Jerry of Springfield, Mass., and Kris of Monson, Mass. She had six grandchildren, Sara and Matthew of North Haven, Conn., Monica and Brett of Springfield, Mass., and Dale and Dustin of Monson, Mass., and three great-grandchildren, Cassandra, Riley and Lara. During the fifty-four years she lived in Springfield, she and her family were active bicyclers in the Cyclonauts cycling clubs. When she was over fifty years old and a grandmother, she cycled Trail Ridge Road through Rocky Mountain National Park, which crested at 12,000 feet.

**John “Jack” Raffloer**

John “Jack” Raffloer passed away on November 11, 2012. He was 86.

Jack was the founder and director of the Broadmoor Learn to Skate program for 26 years and was formerly the Director of the Learn to Skate program at Mark “Pa” Sertich Ice Center. He is a National, World, and Olympic Coach. To his credit are many figure skating champions, but he himself was an accomplished figure skater. He entertained thousands with the well-known Sonja Henie, Barbara Ann Scott, and his skating partner, Jerry Mapes in Centre Theater and Hollywood Ice Revue. Jack is survived by his nephew, Miles Silberman.

**Edwin Richards**  
(fencing, 1964)

Edwin Richards passed away on November 18, 2012. He was 83.

Ed was a foil fencer at the 1964 Olympic Games, where he won back-to-back National titles in 1962 and 1963. Richards represented Team USA at the 1959, ’63 and ’67 Pan American Games where he won two gold and a silver medal in team competition.

After retiring from competition, Ed served as a fencing coach at several universities, including Boston University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Air Force Academy. A Maitres d’Armes, he was a member of four Junior World Championship Team coaching staffs and most recently served as a coach at the Fencing Academy of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Ed also was an accomplished referee who was rated in all three weapons and was honored with the Fencing Officials Commission Distinguished Service Award in 2004.

In his memory, the Fencing Academy of Nevada will be holding the Maestro Richards Memorial New Year’s Open on January 1 with plans to make the tournament an annual event.
Robert J. Swenning  
*(figure skating, 1948)*

Robert Swenning passed away on November 8, 2012. He was 88.

Robert started skating in Playland Rye, N.Y., at age 13. He immediately showed great promise. The Skating Club of New York offered him a full scholarship that included free ice and lessons from renowned coach Pierre Brunet and his wife, Joli, for him and his pairs partner Yvonne Sherman.

In 1946, Robert and Yvonne won the U.S. junior pairs title. In 1947, the couple captured the U.S. senior pairs title and the junior singles crowns. In 1948, they finished fourth at the Olympic Winter Games.

After turning professional, Robert spent one season working at the rink in Playland Rye, where he introduced his brother Richard to competitive skating.

Robert returned to California and became the skating director at Berkeley Iceland, the home rink for the St. Moritz Ice Skating Club. While there, he worked alongside coaching legend Maribel Vinson Owen. Robert and Maribel skated a pairs routine at one of the club shows.

While in Berkeley, he and wife, Alice, had a son, Douglas, and two daughters, Christine and Victoria.

Outside the rink, Robert was heavily involved with showing horses. Robert went on to get his trainer’s license and became involved in racing and breeding.

William “Bill” Tom  
*(gymnastics, 1956)*

William “Bill” Tom passed away on October 31, 2012. He was 89.

Bill was a man of many talents. He served four years in the U.S. Air Force from 1940 to 1944. He was trained as a flight navigator for the B-24 bomber airplane. After his military service he earned a BA degree in Physical Education at Occidental College in Los Angeles, Calif. He later earned his Master’s degree at California State University Los Angeles. He was a Physical Education teacher and coach for 42 years. In 1956 he qualified and was a member of the 1956 United States Olympic Gymnastics Team which competed in Melbourne, Australia. He was later inducted into the U.S. Gymnastics Hall of Fame. Bill was also inducted into the U.S. Badminton Hall of Fame, competing for decades in the sport that he played and loved until he was 89 years young. Bill leaves behind his ex-wife Nancie, one son, two daughters, six grandchildren, his older sister, Mari and older brother, George.

Left to right
First row: Gary Hall (swimming), Lois Drinkwater Thompson (track & field), Marcia Jones Smoke (canoe/kayak), Francine Fox (canoe/kayak), Danielle Mathis (representing Ron Freeman, track & field), Kendis Drake Moore (swimming), Van Nelson (track & field), Barton Jahncke (sailing).

Second row: Barbara Friedrich Parcinski (track and field), Barbara Ferrell Edmonson (track & field), Daniel Cantillon (fencing), Larry Young (track & field).

Third row: Kimla Brecht (swimming), Kaye Hall Greff (swimming), Tom Lough (modern pentathlon), Susie Atwood (swimming), John Howard (cycling).

Fourth row: Micki King (diving), Jim Moore (modern pentathlon), Toni Hewitt Cervantes (swimming), Cathy Jamison Imwalle (swimming).

Fifth row: Butch May (volleyball), Jim Van Boven (cycling), Walter Wessberg (cycling).

Sixth row: Edward Porter (rowing), Madeline Manning Mims (track & field), Armando Muniz (boxing), Steven Maaranen (cycling).

Seventh row: Ron Laird (track & field), Johnnie Baldwin (boxing), Alfred Jones (boxing), Glynn Saulters (basketball).

Back row: Ken Merten (swimming), Sharon Callahan McKniff (track & field), John Kinsella (swimming), Reynaldo Brown (track & field), Werner Holzer (wrestling), Conrad Nightingale (track & field), Leon Coleman (track & field), Robert Beck (fencing and modern pentathlon).

2. United by a surname, a city of triumph and a place in history, the oldest and youngest African-American Olympic medalists, Gabby and Herb Douglas, sat down for dinner arranged by Sports Illustrated at the New York Athletic Club. She is 16 years old; he is 90 years young.
Alabama Olympians & Paralympians
President: Jennifer Chandler Stevenson (diving, 1976)
(205) 313-7436

Arizona Olympians & Paralympians
President: Mike Troy (swimming, 1960)
(480) 227-1247

Colorado Olympians & Paralympians
President: Jeff Olson (skiing, 1988, '92)
(303) 912-2350

Florida Olympians
President: Jim Millns (figure skating, 1976)
(727) 741-2662

Georgia Olympians & Paralympians
President: Bob Pickens (wrestling, 1964)
(773) 425-3254

Hawaii Olympians
President: Michael Rothwell (sailing, 1976, '80, '88)
(808) 737-8789

Idaho Olympians & Paralympians
President: Dick Fosbury (athletics, 1968)
(208) 720-2352

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

Michigan Olympians & Paralympians
President: Jud Brown Clarke (athletics, 1984)
(517) 881-6710

Midwest Olympians & Paralympians
President: Diane Simpson Bundy (rhythmic gymnastics, 1988)
(847) 452-7843

Missouri/Illinois Olympians & Paralympians
President: John Carenza (soccer, 1972)
(314) 846-4124

National Capital Area Olympians
President: Arlene Limas (taekwondo, 1988)
(540) 720-1988

New England Area Olympians
President: Tina Noyes (figure skating, 1968)
(781) 572-5469

New Mexico Olympians & Paralympians
President: Trent Dimas (gymnastics, 1992)
(505) 850-2956

Northern California Olympians
President: Greg Massialas (fencing, 1980, '84, '88)
(415) 441-0521

Oregon Olympians
President: Lisa Kosglow (skiing, 1998, '02)
(541) 400-9061

Southern California Olympians
President: Cathy Marino (canoe/kayak, 1988, '92)
(714) 847-5596

Southwest Olympians
President: Sammy Walker (weightlifting, 1976)
(469) 955-3158

Tri-States Olympians
President: Diane Dixon (athletics, 1984, '88)
(718) 787-6626

Utah Olympians
President: Debra Stark (gymnastics, 1972)
(801) 369-9918

Washington State Olympians
President: John Stillings (rowing, 1984)
(206) 440-0708

Western PA-OH-WVA Olympians
President: Jeff McLaughlin (rowing, 1988, '92)
(412) 253-0857

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