



THE OLYMPIAN

JOHNSON HIS LIFE. HIS IMPACT.



RAFER JOHNSON EXHIBIT OPENS: HIS LIFE. HIS IMPACT.

Summer Issue 2019

A Letter From Richard Fosbury

U.S. Olympians and Paralympians Association President



Dear U.S. Olympians and Paralympians,

Summer 2019 is in full swing! Spring weather in Idaho was crazy and unpredictable this year, but summer is always beautiful here. Summer is also Track Camp season: I just completed the 28th year of my Track and Field Camp in Maine, which opened on International Olympic Day.

It's always fun to share the ideals of the Olympic Values with middle and high school kids. They need to understand there's more to sports than the competition, it is about the values they as athletes will learn from participating, about friendship and sportsmanship. My track camps have a tradition of inviting Olympian friends to coach and be part of the experience with the kids. We, as Olympians, tell stories of our personal experiences - good and bad - and the joy of effort. I'm pleased to see so many athletes participating and giving back at camps across North American for summer sports and winter athletes traveling to the Southern Hemisphere following the snow.

Last month I re-connected with Allison Kiesel Bradley, U.S. Nordic Team athlete and coach. She has been involved in forming a U.S. Nordic Olympic women alumni group and I've encouraged her since U.S. Ski and Snowboard does not have an alumni group yet. She and I used to have coffee in Ketchum - the mining town close to Sun Valley - back in the 90's to discuss coaching young athletes and dealing with their different personalities. Allison was the first U.S. Nordic skier to win a World Cup race and she loves to coach and mentor young athletes. We had a healthy discussion about the reluctance and resistance of elite level team coaches to institute innovative techniques, even today. I see coaches unwilling to risk trying something new to help U.S. athletes reach the podium. This is something I had to deal with in the 60's, my coaches told me I'd never succeed! Some things never change.

USOPA officers have considered and approved a new agenda for our meeting at the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Assembly and USOPA Annual Meeting this September. It will be held at the Antlers Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colo. and has a working theme of "Inspire

Collaborate and Educate.” We will spend our day in workshops and panel discussions to help support our chapters.

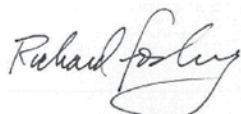
We have new leadership on the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC) and I’m very excited about the changes that are being made this year and next. I’m also proud that our alumni association, led the way under the leadership of past presidents Willie Banks and Gary Hall, Sr., when we invited Paralympians to join our group and change our name to the United States Olympians & Paralympians Association back in 2013. It is exciting that the name change to United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee has been approved by the current USOPC board. I believe this will clearly benefit sport and our culture of inclusivity in the USA and around the world.

We will present the results of our strategic planning following the athletes survey completed in June. USOPA has been offered a standing position on the Athlete and NBG Engagement Committee and we have nominated Olympian Jan Palchikoff (Rowing, 1976, 1980) to sit on that board. USOPA VP Carol Brown and AAC Chair Han Xiao and I have been advising the new non-commercial collegiate partnership with the NCAA to be launched this month. Very positive changes are being implemented to help support student athletes on national teams.

USOPA will be holding our USOPA REUNION 2019 this coming November in Colorado Springs! This reunion is for all teams and all years. We will get to participate in the Olympic & Paralympic Hall of Fame which is always fun, to see old friends and meet new ones!

I hope to see you in November after you enjoy your summer!

In Olympic Spirit,



Richard Fosbury

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Cover image:

Olympians Rafer Johnson, Anita L. DeFrantz, Ann Meyers Drysdale and Donna de Varona celebrated the opening of the LA84 Foundation’s exhibit honoring Johnson, titled: Rafer Johnson: His Life. His Impact. *Photo Credit: LA84 Foundation*

DR. GREGORY BELL & OLYMPIANS AT PENN RELAYS



Herman Frazier, Gregory Bell and Charles Jenkins, Sr. reconnect at Franklin Field, Pennsylvania, Pa.

By: ELLIOTT DENMAN
(Track & Field, 1956)

PHILADELPHIA - When Dr. Gregory Curtis “Greg” Bell made his return to Philadelphia’s Franklin Field for the final weekend of April 2019 – as the honored guest of the 125th University of Pennsylvania Relay Carnival – he was treated as royalty.

Rightfully so. Properly so.

He hadn’t been back to the Penn Relays from his Indiana home for over a dozen years, and that made it even more of a joyous homecoming celebration.

“I had a fantastic time, the Penn Relays is as great an event as it always has been, I have such amazing memories of my days there,” said the 1956 Olympic long jump champion, USA National Track and Field

Hall of Fame member, and celebrated inductee into the Penn Relays Wall of Fame.

Fellow Olympic notables Herb Douglas, Charles Jenkins and Josh Culbreath were members of the welcoming committee, along with Penn Relays director Dave Johnson. They turned it into “old home week.”

He'll be 89 on Nov. 3, still actively practicing dentistry in Logansport, Indiana – but his glory days as the king of the world's horizontal leapers seem like they were written into his sport's record books just a few yesterday's ago.

His memories are crystal clear – and they date back to the era when his event was named the broad jump, not the long jump.

He extended the Penn Relays record to 25 feet, 6 ¼ inches in 1956, became the Relays' first 26-footer with his win at 26-1 ½ in 1957, and capped it all with a 25-8 ¼ win as a senior in 1958. No man had won the Penn title three straight years before Bell did it in 1958. No one has done it since.

Fact is, if the freshman ineligibility rule hadn't been in effect in 1955, he might easily have won it four straight years. He'd started at Indiana with a far more worldly view than most other freshmen – as a U.S. Army veteran who'd seen extensive duty in Europe.

Putting his blazing speed he'd always shown down the runway to best work, he also captured the Penn Relays 100-yard dash title in 1957 in 9.7 seconds.

Armed with Penn Relays, Big 10 and NCAA long jump titles, he headed off to the 1956 USA Olympic Trials in Los Angeles intent on earning a trip to Melbourne, Australia and the first Olympic Games to be held in

the Southern Hemisphere.

He was to share first place in the trials with another Midwest collegian, John Bennett of Marquette, both with best leaps of 25-8 ½. (For some reason, meet officials didn't apply international rules, with ties to be broken by second-best leaps in a series; under these, Bennett would have prevailed.)

“I had a fantastic time, the Penn Relays is as great an event as it always has been, I have such amazing memories of my days there,” said the 1956 Olympic long jump champion, USA National Track and Field Hall of Fame member, and celebrated inductee into the Penn Relays Wall of Fame.

Third place in those trials – staged in late June - went to Rafer Johnson, best known now as the 1960 Olympic decathlon champion.

With the Melbourne Olympics still five months away, there were many Northern Hemisphere-centric cynics

who discounted the medal chances of America's 1956 athletes, who were given the assignment of staying in top form long past their usual peaking period, for a meet on the other side of the world.

They'd be expected to continue their nation's exemplary Olympic record on a calendar telling them it would soon be winter in their vicinity of the planet.

How totally, astoundingly wrong those “expert” analysts would prove to be!

Their calendars and their geography may have been turned upside down, but when America's track and field men – with University of Minnesota's Jim Kelly serving as head coach – got Down Under, it was the rest of the world that would, by and large, be relegated to distant also-ran status.

Team USA '56 men would prove to be the most dominant squad any nation has sent to the Modern Games – with the exception of the delegation at the St. Louis Games of 1904, which evolved into a virtually All-USA event.

Those '56ers would run off with 15 of the 24 available gold medals in men's track and field. Just nine gold would be left for all the rest of the universe.

(Note: America's women were not yet the dominating force they are in the sport today. High jumper Mildred McDaniel

would prove to be her Uncle Sam's only gold medal-winning niece.)

American male collegians, current undergraduates or recent alumni, would lead the way as the Games unfolded at the historic Melbourne Cricket Club grounds.

On the track, Abilene Christian's Bobby Morrow would dash off with the 100 and 200 crowns. Villanova's Jenkins would take the 400, Fordham's Tom Courtney

the high jumpers and Illinois grad Rev. Bob Richards the pole vaulters. The throws saw USC's Parry O'Brien take the shot put, Kansas' Al Oerter the discus throw and Boston College's Harold Connolly the hammer.

The decathlon was slated to be a Rafer Johnson-Milton Campbell All-America battle, but UCLA's Johnson was hampered by injury and Indiana's Campbell destined to win by a massive margin.

26-5 ½ at Berlin in 1936 – was not even approached. “These were the worst conditions I ever competed under,” Bell would tell Track and Field News. “The wind nearly knocked me over,” said Bennett.

The Marquette leaper still went 25-2 ¼ on his first jump to take a short-lived lead. Bell would deliver his winning jump of 25-8 ¼ in round two and had a 25-5 ¾ in round three. But he suffered some leg cramps in the fourth round, then passed on his final two attempts. Bennett would hold on for the silver and the bronze went to Finland's Jorma Valkama at 24-6 ½.

The USA would claim 1-2-3 Melbourne medal sweeps in the 200 (with Morrow, Andy Stanfield and Baker); the 110 high hurdles (Calhoun, Jack Davis, Joel Shankle); the 400 hurdles (Glenn Davis, Eddie Southern, Josh Culbreath) and discus (Oerter, Fortune Gordien, Des Koch) but would have no chance to do that in the long jump, when Johnson scratched out of the event to focus on the decathlon.

Bell would return to Indiana, complete his studies, and add to his golden dossier of major wins with a triumph at – yes, Philadelphia's Franklin Field – in July 1959, at the first of the classic USA-Soviet Union dual meets to be held in the U.S.

He would lead the USA's 1959 yearly rankings with a best of 26-7 but his final season on the track circuit would fall oh-so-narrowly short of his hopes.

When Cornell grad Bo Roberson edged him out for third place at the 1960 USA Olympic Trials – by all of an inch and a quarter – his dream of an Olympic defense was over.



Gregory Bell shares his gold medal with USATF CEO, Max Siegel

the 800, North Carolina Central's Lee Calhoun the 110 high hurdles, and Ohio State's Glenn Davis the 400 hurdles.

Team USA swept both relay titles, too, with the Ira Murchison-Leamon King-Thane Baker-Morrow quartet besting the Soviet Union in the 4x100, and the Lou Jones-Jesse Mashburn-Jenkins-Courtney foursome routing host Australia in the 4x400.

In the field, things went just as winningly. Southern California's Charley Dumas led

And that brings us back to the long jump final.

Long jumping conditions were far from ideal that afternoon of November 24, 1956. The Olympians found themselves competing on a runway far shorter than they expected. In this era before artificial surfacing, it was loose and problematical. Tricky, swirling winds caused additional headaches. The men's long jump would prove to be the only 1956 men's field event in which the existing Olympic record – which happened to be Jesse Owens'

As Ralph Boston (who'd go on to win the gold at the Rome 1960 Olympic Games) and Oklahoma's Anthony Watson were placing 1-2 in the final trials at Stanford, Roberson was squeezing past Bell for third, 25-5 ¼ to 25-4. For Greg Bell, dental school and "the real world" awaited.

The Penn Relays, of course, has always prided itself on its Olympic ties.

First staged in 1895 – a year before the first Modern Olympic Games were held in Athens – the Relays have hosted a vast list of Olympic gold medalists over the years.

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The golden 125-year roster began with Princeton/Johns Hopkins throws great Robert Garrett in 1896 and continued all the way to the 30 Relays "alumni" who rose to the top of the Olympic podium at Rio De Janeiro in 2016.

In addition to Bell, 1956 Melbourne teammates Jenkins and Culbreath; 1968 long jump record-breaker Bob Beamon; world 100-meter record-breakers Carl Lewis, Leroy Burrell and Justin Gatlin, all golden Olympians; high hurdler Renaldo



Many Olympic greats were honored at the Penn Relays. Can you name four of the best long jumpers in the 20th Century in this photo?

Nehemiah, whose own Olympic dream was erased by the 1980 USA boycott of the Moscow Games; Herman Frazier, the 1976 Olympic 4x400 gold medalist and 400 bronze medalist; and USA Olympic women all-timers Sanya Richards-Ross and Lauryn Williams, were prominent on the Penn premises and at the gala Wall of Fame Celebratory Reception. Nehemiah and Richards-Ross were designated as honorary Carnival referees.

Frazier was the referee of the entire Carnival. Culbreath and Jenkins have served the Relays in an array of capacities. And "senior" USA Olympian Herb Douglas – the 1948 long jump bronze medalist going strong as ever at age 97 – was the Relays' forever goodwill ambassador, once more lauding all the good things the Penn Relays has always represented.

Proud Indiana University grad Dr. Bell got to see the current crop of Hoosiers run off with the women 's "Championship of America" 4x800 title, and Indiana's men run second in the C. of A. men's sprint medley, distance medley, 4x800 and 4 x mile relay finals.

But he couldn't help noticing – perhaps with a wry smile - that the Penn Relays champion long jumper – Yann Randrianasolo of South Carolina at 25-1 ¼ - would have fallen far short of any of his three winning Penn Relays leaps six decades and more earlier. A week after he'd returned home to Longansport, Indiana, Dr. Bell marveled at the continuing success of the Penn Relays. "It's still the greatest to me," he said. "It's been a while since I've been here, but I still felt right at home.

"That was no surprise. "Not at all. "It's 125 years of the most amazing kind of tradition."

Dr. Bell is also a noted author, poet and professional speaker. His new book, "The Longest Leap," is available by e-mail order, at Gold56@comcast.net.

Veteran writer Elliott Denman, former president of the Track and Field Writers of America, was also a 1956 USA Olympian, placing 11th in the 50K racewalk.



Successful World Olympians Forum Empowers Olympians Worldwide

More than 150 participants from 107 National Olympians Associations (NOAs) came together in Lausanne for the World Olympians Forum in Lausanne, Switzerland last week.

Under the theme Olympians for Life, the Forum reinforced the special status of Olympians as the ambassadors at the heart of the Olympic Movement, while driving forward World Olympians Association's mandate to strengthen and grow our global network of NOAs to support the needs of Olympians and empower them to spread the Olympic ideals.

WATCH the highlights video from World Olympians Forum

"The World Olympians Forum has been an outstanding success, bringing together Olympians from around the world to share ideas on how we can best support and empower our global community and secure the legacy of Olympians as the enduring ambassadors of the Olympic Movement," said WOA President, Jöel Bouzou OLY.

Through a series of high level workshops and plenary sessions, the Forum focussed on boosting the capabilities of NOAs so that they can better connect and engage with Olympians at a national level, and deliver programmes and initiatives that meet their needs and align with WOA's mission.

Olympians can get in touch with their NOA via the NOA Directory [HERE](#). NOAs offer a range of services and events for Olympians, help run community-based projects and promote activities around Olympic Day on 23 June.

Stronger Together

WOA's close partnership with the International Olympic Committee was further underlined this week during a joint working day with participants of the International Athletes' Forum, which took place ahead of the World Olympians Forum. This included a renewed ambition for WOA and the IOC Athletes' Commission to work collaboratively on initiatives that support the welfare, development and engagement of Olympians at a global level, as well as greater cooperation between NOAs and National Olympic Committees locally.

"I would like to thank President Thomas Bach and the International Olympic Committee for its support and all participants for the enthusiasm and commitment they have shown over the past three days," added WOA President Bouzou. "I look forward to continuing to work together in strong partnership as we seek to create even more programmes to serve Olympians in the future."

WOA 2019 Grants Programme

World Olympians Association was also pleased to announce the launch of its 2019 Grants Programme at the World Olympians Forum.

The WOA Grants Programme empowers Olympians to deliver projects that serve Olympians and helps them to spread the spirit of Olympism in their countries, in line with WOA's core mission.

Applications for 2019 funding are now open for the following categories:

- Service to Olympians
- Service to Society
- NOA Development

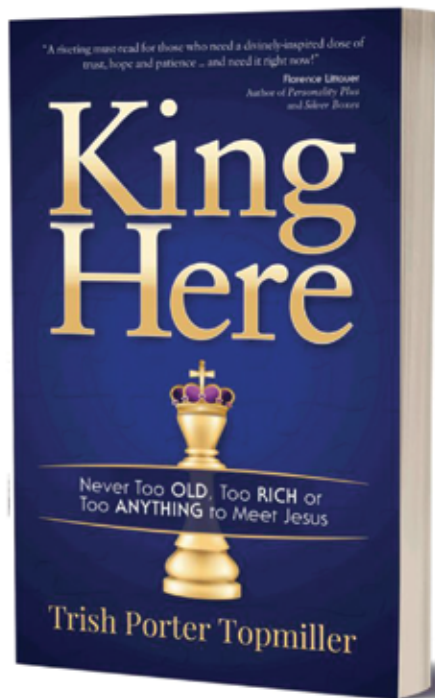
Grants of up to \$5,000 USD each are available to support Olympian-led projects that benefit Olympians or local communities. [CLICK HERE](#) to find out more about this.

Since 2016, WOA has given more than 120 grants to support NOAs worldwide. Projects have ranged from drowning prevention programmes in India and Lithuania, an Olympian-run community chicken farm in Zimbabwe, bringing sport to orphaned children in Malaysia and those affected by conflict in Colombia.

BOOK REVIEWS

Trish Porter Topmiller - 1988 U.S. Olympian

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INCLUSION - DRIVING EXCELLENCE IN COLLEGE SPORTS



It's time to raise awareness of the Paralympic Movement in the U.S. collegiate system.

During the 2019-2020 academic year, U.S. Paralympics, a division of the United States Olympic & Paralympic

Committee, will launch a non-commercial campaign to celebrate the important role that colleges and universities play in preparing athletes to compete on the world's largest stage and championing inclusion and Paralympic awareness.

For more information on how you can be involved email: ParalympiansMadeHere@usoc.org.

More details on the Olympians Made Here campaign appeared in the last issue of *The Olympian*.

TEAM USA COLLEGIATE PARALYMPIC PARTICIPATION STATS

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT (varsity) STATS:



38% of the current U.S. Paralympics Swimming National Team have competed in swimming as a disabled athlete on their varsity team



of the current U.S. Paralympics Track & Field National Team have competed in T&F as a disabled athlete



completed in Varsity programs as a disabled athlete [15% of athletes] in **RIO**



All divisions (I-III) are represented by national team athletes competing on their varsity athletic teams

NEARLY **60%**

of athletes competing in varsity-sports were female

OVERALL STATS (includes varsity, education and recreation programs):



82% of the current U.S. Para-rowing National Team have competed collegiately



of the U.S. Men's and Women's National Wheelchair Basketball Teams have competed collegiately in wheelchair basketball

OVER 30% of the current U.S. Paralympic National Team have competed collegiately



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Competitive sport opportunities for student athletes with disabilities are on the rise across the collegiate landscape. In addition to integrated opportunities within athletic departments, some programming is housed across campus departments, including club sports, recreational sports, student services,

disability services or other university departments.

The “Paralympians Made Here” campaign is a first-of-its-kind cobranding pilot that allows colleges and universities to use USOPC intellectual property to celebrate their Paralympic footprints. The campaign aims to increase awareness around Paralympic athletes who are currently competing or have competed in our country’s intercollegiate athletics system through both integrated and adapted opportunities. The campaign will run throughout the 2019-2020 academic year in the lead-up to the Paralympic Games in Tokyo.

In hand with the campaign, the USOPC’s Collegiate Partnerships department and U.S. Paralympics division are advocating for legislative change within the NCAA in order to see a more inclusive approach to Paralympic student-athletes. The USOPC is seeking reforms that would provide parity for Paralympic student-athletes to leverage Olympic-related academic and competition/training exceptions. Currently, the NCAA compliance manuals

have various rules and exceptions related to Olympic events and athletes, but the language does not reference Paralympic events and athletes.

“The timing is ripe to increase references to Paralympics within NCAA policies since the collegiate Paralympic footprint is organically growing,” said Julie Dusliere, chief of U.S. Paralympics. “There are schools adding new wheelchair basketball programs, conferences creating opportunities for Paralympic swimmers and track and field athletes and scholarships are being signed by Paralympic athletes to compete for competitive collegiate programs alongside their able-bodied peers. It is a great time to see the Paralympic Movement growing in the collegiate space.”

Increased collaboration and legislative parity with the NCAA will help generate greater awareness regarding Paralympic sport opportunities in the collegiate landscape and help current and future Paralympic student-athletes reach their academic and athletic dreams.





ACE PROGRAM HELPS PARALYMPIC SNOWBOARDER CRAFT HIS WOODWORKING BUSINESS

By: Devin Lowe

For many Olympic and Paralympic athletes, their first love is their sport. But Paralympic snowboarder Mike Shea found another passion off the slopes that he picked up before he ever launched out of a starting gate: the craft of woodworking.



By Shea's account, it started around 10 years ago when he built a doghouse in just one afternoon.

"It started as a hobby and, kind of overnight, turned into somewhat of a profession," he says.

Soon, he began to build his business by selling handcrafted items like cutting boards and boxes to his friends and family. Then, in 2010, he received a phone call from the National Sports Center for the Disabled in Winter Park, Colorado, who wanted him to try

snowboarding for the Paralympic team.

So he sold the majority of his woodworking equipment and set off for Colorado to chase a new dream. His snowboarding career would bring him to two Paralympic Winter Games and a silver medal in snowboard-

cross in 2014, as well as one gold and two bronze medals across three Paralympic snowboarding world championships.

After competing in PyeongChang, Shea wasn't sure what his future would hold—only that he wanted woodworking to

be part of it. That's where the USOPC's Athlete Career and Education Program came through with a post-Games summit that helped him think through next steps.

"Just the education they've given us with their seminars, mapping out your future, where you want to be, that alone has helped me so much," Shea says. "And that's not even including this [entrepreneurship event] they had six months ago."

The event, held at the Los Angeles home of U.S. Olympic and Paralympic

Foundation donor Alex Popa in the summer of 2018, paired up athletes with entrepreneurs and investors in their fields. At the reception, he struck up a conversation with Jiake Liu, co-founder of Outer, a direct-to-consumer furniture company, and continued to keep in touch about business opportunities.

"I was able to talk to him and pick his brain about how he gets the most out of his business, and that alone has just helped me so much," he says.

Shea relaunched his woodworking business under a new name – Altered Grain Design – and set up shop with all-new tools. With a baby on the way, he made the decision to take the 2018-19 snowboarding season off and focus on his other craft.

The craftsmanship came easy, and the ACE Program was there to help him navigate the business side of his company through entrepreneurship events and seminars.

"Some of the ACE events I did in the last year gave me a really good perspective on what I need to do in order to run a business properly," Shea says. "I've always considered myself a woodworker and never really a businessman, and I'm realizing this year, especially with some of my mentors that I've been talking to, that in order to make good money and to be sustainable at that, you have to be a good businessman."

“You need to know where your finances are, you need to know how much things cost, how much things cost to make. I’ve learned all of that this year, and it’s given me a new perspective on how to run my business.”

Shea isn’t ready to say for sure whether he’s done competing, and he plans on picking up training again this fall. But when the time is right to transition away from elite competition, he has a thriving business in a position to succeed, in part thanks to the ACE Program and the connections he’s made through ACE-facilitated networking events.

“I struggled for so long with how I was going to leave the sport [when the time came], what I was going to do after being a professional athlete, and for years I didn’t really know how I was going to do that,” Shea says. “I knew I wanted to do woodworking, but I struggled to map out my future in that way, and the ACE Program really helps Olympic and Paralympic athletes gain knowledge through their program that they can have something after being an athlete.

“I think that that’s something that a lot of people really need in the Paralympic

and Olympic community. So I would 100% encourage any [athlete] to take advantage of the ACE Program.”

The ACE Program offers a variety of career and education resources for currently competing athletes and those who are transitioning out of elite sport. For more information on resources available to Team USA athletes through the ACE Program, including the next ACE Business Startup Workshop on Oct. 20-24 in San Diego, please visit teamusa.org/ace.



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How to contact the Center:

To report a concern:

(720) 531-0340
safesport.org/report-a-concern
24/7 Helpline:
1 (866) 200-0796

Education, Prevention and Outreach

The Center offers a variety of online training courses safesport.org/training
SafeSport trainings completed since opening March 2017 – over 570,000

New Resources

- In-person training is also available
- Free parent and youth resources available at safesport.org/resources

Response and Resolution Update

- Received over 2,389 reports
- Issued 402 decisions resulting in violation of the SafeSport Code resulting in ineligibility to participate in sport

Centralized Disciplinary Database for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movements now includes all records from the U.S. Center for SafeSport from March of 2017 onward, as well as known historical disciplinary records received from and certified by the National Governing Bodies (NGBs) concerning individuals who have been sanctioned and rendered ineligible for sexual misconduct offenses. For more information, click here.

<https://safesport.org/resources.org>

LA84 FOUNDATION - RAFER EXHIBIT

The LA84 Foundation is honoring the great Rafer Johnson with an exhibit titled: Rafer Johnson: His Life. His Impact. Johnson, a decathlete, won silver at the 1956 Olympic Games and gold in 1960. Johnson lit the Olympic Cauldron at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum to kick off the 1984 Games in LA and was also involved in the 1996 Olympic torch relay in Atlanta. You can make an appointment to view the exhibition in person, or view the digital version at www.LA84.org



1. Not only did two-time Olympic medalist Rafer Johnson make his mark on the sports world, but he is also an advocate for equal rights. Here, Johnson is pictured with his close friend, Robert F. Kennedy, in 1968.



3. Athletic greatness in one picture. Olympians Anita L. DeFrantz (left), Ann Meyers Drysdale (center) and Donna de Varona pose with Rafer Johnson at the LA84 opening reception for the new exhibit honoring the 1960 gold medalist.



2. Rafer Johnson's close friend Robert F. Kennedy was murdered in 1968, but the bond has continued. Kennedy's son, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. was at the LA84 Foundation reception to commemorate the opening of the new exhibit dedicated to Johnson.



4. As seen in the LA84 Foundation exhibition: Rafer Johnson and CK Yang were teammates at UCLA and went on to have an epic showdown at the 1960 Olympic Games. Johnson and Yang were separated by just 43 points going into the final event of the decathlon, the 1500-meter race. Yang beat Johnson by 1.2 seconds, but it wasn't enough as Johnson claimed the gold. The two shared an embrace at the finish line after the breathtaking race.



5. Rafer Johnson was a part of the original LA84 Foundation board of directors. Johnson, pictured with the cauldron at the LA84 campus, is being honored with an exhibit for his dedication to youth sports, Special Olympics and athletic achievements.



7. Olympic gold medalist Donna de Varona was a teammate of Rafer Johnson's at the 1960 Games. De Varona took the podium at the LA84 Foundation's opening reception for Johnson's exhibit, sharing stories about how he impacted her life and career.



6. Southern California Olympians and Paralympians gathered at the LA84 Foundation for the official opening reception of the Rafer Johnson exhibit. Back Row: Kathy Kusner (Equestrian, 1964, 1968, 1972), Special Olympics athlete Dustin Plunkett, Janet Evans (Swimming 1988, 1992, 1996), Marlene Harmon Wilcox (Track & Field, 1980), Rafer's daughter Jennifer Johnson Jordan (Beach Volleyball, 2000) John Naber (Swimming, 1976), Pamela Ann Spencer (Track & Field, 1976, 1980, 1984), Mark Crear (Track & Field, 1996, 2000), John Moffet (Swimming 1980, 1984), Adam Duvendeck (Cycling, 2004, 2008)

Second Row: Martha Watson (Track & Field, 1964, 1968, 1972, 1976), Sharrieffa Barksdale (Track & Field, 1984), Tai Babilonia (Figure Skating, 1976, 1980), Jan Palchikoff (Rowing, 1976, 1980), Rosalyn Clark (Track & Field, 1976), Roberta Belle (Track & Field, 1980, 1984), Randy Givens (Track & Field, 1984), Madeline Manning Mims (Track & Field, 1968, 1972, 1976, 1980)

Front Row: Candace Cable, (Paralympic Track & Field, 1980, 1988, 1992, 1996/Alpine Skiing, 1992/Nordic Skiing, 1994, 1998, 2002, 2006), Rafer Johnson (Track & Field, 1956,1960)



8. Rafer Johnson was the final torch bearer who ignited the Olympic Cauldron at the L.A. Memorial Coliseum, commemorating the opening of the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

UPDATES FROM THE LA84 FOUNDATION



9. Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti was part of the opening reception of Rafer Johnson's exhibit at the LA84 Foundation. Garcetti, who was 13 in 1984, vividly remembered Johnson's contribution not only to the 23rd Olympiad, but also to athletics in Southern California.



10. Rafer Johnson is the founder of Special Olympics Southern California and has been instrumental in the growth and movement for equal access to sports for everyone, regardless of ability. Johnson took part in the opening ceremony of the 2015 Special Olympics World Games, held in Los Angeles. Photo taken by Cory Hanson.

The Rafer Johnson Impact Fund. Help Kids. Ensure Rafer's Legacy.

Rafer is a national treasure and his contributions to society are immeasurable. Let's not lose this moment to appropriately recognize, honor and pay tribute to a great man whose life and work has been the catalyst for impactful social change. Our goal is to create an endowment that will support youth organizations visiting the exhibition housed at the LA84 Foundation Library and the annual Rafer Johnson Impact Award; as well as provide special needs and adaptive programs to youth in inner city communities; a cause that is near and dear to Rafer and his family.

If you or someone you know would like to donate to the Rafer Johnson Impact Fund, visit LA84.org/donate or contact Oscar@LA84.org.

OLYMPIAN JULIA CLUKEY JOINS USOPC TO LEAD ATHLETE ENGAGEMENT

Julia Clukey has come full circle. A luge athlete from 1997 to 2016, the Olympian transitioned to a career in HR and people-engagement, but always stayed involved in sports – leading summer camps for girls, working with USA Luge and serving on the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee’s Athlete’s Advisory Council. Now, she’s giving back to her athletic roots as the USOPC’s new director of athlete outreach and engagement.

Just a few weeks into her role, Clukey has already gotten involved across the company, ensuring the team behind Team USA is connecting the dots with, and for, athletes.

“The athletes-first mission speaks for itself,” she explained. “People have the best interest of athletes at heart, but they also have different perspectives on what they are trying to do; it’s my role to bring all those pieces together and make sure the athletes understand how we can help.”

It’s important, she emphasized, to make sure athletes know what services are available to them, how the services are available to them, and what they need to do to access each of them. The USOPC may offer services, or be improving processes, but if those are not communicated well to athletes, the impact is lost.

“That’s where being an athlete, and being involved in the sport for long, comes together nicely with my experience in employee engagement. It’s about solving the puzzle: how do we scale things out to the people we support, the athletes?”

Clukey did not always envision a career in people management. Initially, she earned her undergraduate degree in electrical engineering. Yet plans quickly changed and, when she began looking for a job to help support her athletic career, she reached out to the

USOPC for help.

“I got my start in HR through the USOPC’s partnership with Adecco, which helped me get hired by GE to support an initiative around hiring vets. Initially, I just needed a job and they were willing to hire me in a role I thought I could succeed in – but I quickly fell in love with the people side of business,” Clukey recalled. She credits the USOPC’s partnership, which has now expanded into the Athlete Career and Education (ACE) Program, with helping her launch her career off the ice.

She grew her HR career from there, working in technical recruiting, then working her way up to managing the “people strategy” for the ecommerce furniture company Wayfair – working with teams to understand talent needs, then hire, train and grow employees for engagement and success.

Even as her HR work gained speed, she stayed involved with luge and the Olympic Movement. Having grown up in a politically-active family, Clukey recognized the importance of getting involved in the governing of sport.

“I really liked the governance side of our world once I started to learn about it. It’s a fun challenge – different people have different voices, so it’s about trying to bring all concurring and dissenting voices together to find a solution,” she explained. She was elected as the AAC alternate for luge, then joined the USA Luge board. “I really started understanding that your voice matters. There’s a way to drive new changes through that structure, as opposed to just trying to go out on your own as an athlete.”



For the last year, she was an at-large representative on the AAC, but stepped down when she was hired by the USOPC this April. Her excitement for the role is obvious – to her, this is another pathway to support and continue to advocate for athletes, while drawing on her experience in people-strategy and constituent engagement.

“It was the first time I saw an opportunity that was in line with my background but would allow me to work in the environment I really loved, which was serving athletes,” Clukey emphasized. “I don’t think most people have that opportunity to combine those two sides – what you’re good at and what you love.”

Her highest priority in her role is to figure out how to better channel the athlete voice, and how the USOPC and NGBs can better communicate across topics and issues that affect competing and retired athletes alike. A huge part of that is listening.

“I want athletes to know they can come to me anytime – I am available for current athletes, retired athletes, Paralympic or Olympic or national team athletes – even if it’s just to share their story. Their voices matter.”

To contact Clukey, email Julia.clukey@usoc.org. She looks forward to hearing from you.



USOPA REUNION 2019

Celebrating our Olympic and Paralympic Spirit
“The greatest Olympic and Paralympic party since the last one

REUNION HIGHLIGHTS: The 2019 U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame Class will be inducted on Friday, November 1st in conjunction with the USOPA reunion welcome reception. We are looking forward to having hundreds of Olympians and Paralympians in attendance to honor their teammates!

We will be getting a sneak "peak" at the new U.S. Olympic Museum and Hall of Fame!

Check out the new activities that have been added to the schedule!

REGISTRATION FEE: The registration fee is \$300 per adult registration, children (ages 6-12) \$75, children 5 and under are complimentary.

WHEN: November 1-3, 2019

WHERE: The Broadmoor – Colorado Springs, Colorado

WHY: To renew friendships and celebrate the unique experiences of the Olympic and Paralympic Games. To support Team USA on their Road to Tokyo 2020 and to have fun!

The registration deadline is Friday, September 13, 2019.

The registration fee will cover the following:

- Friday, November 1 – Reunion Registration/Commemorative gifts (Broadmoor Main)
- Friday, November 1 – Welcome Reception/VIP Tour/Team USA Shop/U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony (U.S. Olympic Complex)
- Saturday, November 2 – Breakfast at your leisure (Broadmoor Restaurants)
- Saturday, November 2 – Get Moving Activities
- Saturday, November 2 – Oral History Recordings (Broadmoor Main)
- Saturday, November 2 – Team USA Film Preview - (Broadmoor Theater)
- Saturday, November 2 – Lunch/Sneak "Peak" (U.S. Olympic Museum & Hall of Fame)
 - Now would be a great time for you to consider donating some of your Games memorabilia to the USOC Archives – these items could potentially be loaned to the U.S. Olympic Museum for display. Pack them in your luggage to save on postage!
- Saturday, November 2 – Gala Reception, Dinner Celebration/Reunion Group Photo (International Center)
- Sunday, November 3 – Brunch/Tokyo 2020 Update – "Connecting to Tomorrow" (Broadmoor Hall)
- Transportation to/from the Colorado Springs Airport

Schedule is subject to change.

THE BROADMOOR HOTEL INFORMATION:

The USOPA Reunion 2019 negotiated nightly room rate is \$169 + tax equals an approximate nightly rate of \$190.97. There is a separate daily Resort Service Charge – please see details below. This special rate is effective from November 1 – 6 (based on availability). Check in is after 4:00 pm, Check out is before 12:00 pm. **The deadline to reserve your room is Friday, September 13, 2019.**

RESORT SERVICE CHARGE:

In an effort to add value and simplify incidental fees encompassing a number of guestroom services, offerings and activity access, a resort charge of **\$32.00** per room plus tax will be added to your account daily. The Service Resort Charge includes:

- Wired and wireless high-speed internet access up to 4MB
- Local and toll-free calls up to one hour
- Online access to over 2,000 newspapers and magazines
- Unlimited access to the Fitness Center
- Two daily group fitness classes: Early Bird Aquatics and Broadmoor Bootcamp
- Resort and activity shuttle service to Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Starsmore Visitor and Nature Center, The Broadmoor World Arena and The Broadmoor Seven Falls
- Admission to movies and select matinees in The Little Theatre
- In-room hot beverage program: teas, coffee, hot chocolate
- Two bottles of water and ice delivered daily at turndown
- Art and History Tour: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 10:30 am
- Golf Clinic: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 3:00pm (Seasonal)
- All incoming faxes
- Tennis Round Robins: Fridays at 5:00 pm in the Tennis Bubble
- One-hour use of paddle boats (Seasonal)

As we confirm the daily events for what will be a weekend you do not want to miss, we will be sending out communications on a regular basis via email and in *The Olympian*. Please make sure you keep us abreast of your current contact information, so you don't miss any of this very important information.

REUNION FEE CANCELLATION POLICY:

The deadline to cancel your reunion registration is **September 13, 2019**. If you cancel by this date, you will be entitled to a full refund. There will not be any refunds given after this date.

THE BROADMOOR HOTEL CANCELLATION POLICY:

In order to prevent a cancellation or change fee of one night's room rate, cancellation or changes in arrival and/or departure date must be confirmed no later than seven (7) days prior to your arrival date.

Please send all questions to: Reunion2019@usoc.org.

To register for this exciting event please log onto: <http://www.cvent.com/d/nbq51v>

INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC ACADEMY, 15TH SESSION FOR DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL OLYMPIC ACADEMIES

I had the wonderful opportunity in May to represent the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee at the International Olympic Academy (IOA) in Olympia, Greece. During the National Olympic Academy's 15th Annual Directors Session, participants from around the world shared their countries' programs involving Olympic education. As the representative for the USOPC, I presented our programs that promote Olympism and Olympic Values, such as Olympic Day, the FLAME program and Team USA for Tomorrow, as well as our Athlete Career and Education Programs.

Not only do participants gain knowledge and insight while attending sessions, one also forms life-long associations while at the IOA. The NOA Directors session meets every year and I was fortunate to also attend in 2017. I enjoyed reconnecting with colleagues I met two years ago as well as making new acquaintances. In addition, working together on projects enables you learn more about the different countries and understand the Olympic Movement's worldwide impact. An example of this occurred during the Opening Session. As participants in

the multiple sessions occurring at the IOA were introduced, I realized that I sat between attendees from Chinese Taipei representing Taiwan and attendees from the People's Republic of China. For me, this was a powerful statement on how sport, and more specifically, the Olympic Movement, can bring nations together in a forum to discuss ideas and learn from each other without political overtones.

This year's theme focused on Peace Education within the Olympic Movement. Guest lecturers presented papers



International Olympic Academy. Olympia, Greece. Photographs by Teri Hedgpeth.



Teri Hedgpeth and Alexandra Nikiforova.



Entrance to Ancient Stadium at Olympia.
Photograph by Teri Hedgpeth

on peace education and philosophy within the movement. In addition, lively discussions and presentations on the theme occurred during breakout sessions. In my group, Sunjin Kim from the Republic of Korea stated that since the 2018 PyeongChang Olympic Winter Games, the government of South Korea has taken peace education to heart—mandating at least one hour of peace education each year in their education system. In addition, Alexandra Nikiforova from Russia and I collaborated on our group’s presentation. Afterwards, we enjoyed a heartfelt discussion on the similarities and differences of our countries.

While attending the session, participants also toured Ancient Olympia. This provided the opportunity to explore the site of the Ancient Olympic Games. The history of the Games permeates the air and is present everywhere, from the ruins of the training facilities to the simple, yet beautiful packed-dirt ancient stadium. Walking under the old stone arch at the entrance to the stadium as you pass pedestals that held statues of the long-forgotten Greek champions is akin to a pilgrimage. One gets chills just knowing that centuries ago (from



Ancient Stadium at Olympia.
Photograph by Teri Hedgpeth

776BCE to 393 AD) athletes took this same path to their competitions. The impact is palpable and becomes an experience one does not forget. It is easy to understand and embrace the core values of the Olympic movement and leave the site reinvigorated with

renewed enthusiasm for our mission. I encourage anyone who has a love of the Olympic Movement to make the pilgrimage to Ancient Olympia. The simplicity of the site, along with the deep history, cannot fail to move you.

ALUMNI IN HONOR



Olympian Kendall Coyne-Schofield

Olympian Kendall Coyne-Schofield (Ice Hockey, 2014, 2018) became the first woman to compete in the NHL All-Star Skills Competition when she took part in the “Fastest Skater” event. Coyne-Schofield clocked in a time of 14.346 seconds, skating one lap around the rink from start to finish. The following week, she was asked to provide live, in-game analysis during NBC’s Wednesday Night Hockey’s nationally televised game.



The USWNT’s 2019 FIFA Women’s World Cup Team

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS



Evan Lysacek

(Figure Skating, 2010) announced his engagement to long-time girlfriend Duangpatra “Dang” Bodiratnangkura, a real estate developer. Lysacek and Bodiratnangkura plan to wed in December of 2019 at her family’s estate

in Bangkok, Thailand. “I cannot express enough how lucky I feel to have found my perfect match in this incredible girl,” Lysacek said. “She’s extraordinary in every way and she makes me a better man.”



Joe Walsh

The Massachusetts Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (MABVI)

The Massachusetts Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (MABVI) has announced that Joe Walsh (Paralympic Cross Country Skiing, 1988, 1992), MS, MEd of Adaptive Sports New England will receive the 2019 Kara MacDonald Aspire Award. The award was created to celebrate the life and work of the late Kara MacDonald, and her dedication to athletes with disabilities. Joe Walsh is a two-time Paralympian in cross-country skiing, President of Adaptive Sports New England, and the former Managing Director of Paralympics for the United States Olympic Committee. He served as Vice President of the International Blind Sports Federation from 2013-2017 and is currently a director of Adaptive Sports USA.

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS (continued)



Reynaldo "Rey" Brown

Reynaldo "Rey" Brown (Track & Field, 1968) was inducted into the National High School Track and Field Hall of Fame Class of 2019 on March 10, 2019 in New York City. Rey placed fifth in the 1968 Mexico City Games as a high-schooler and was the first high-schooler to jump over seven feet. His national high school record of 7'3" stood for nine years.



Dara Torres

Dara Torres (Swimming, 1984, 1988, 1992, 2000, 2008) was selected by the International Swimming Hall of Fame to be the Master of Ceremonies for



Brittany Bowe

Brittany Bowe (Speedskating, 2014, 2018) was awarded the Eric Heiden Award. The Eric Heiden Award is presented to a skater who achieves a high level of success during a single season and is not awarded on an annual basis. Bowe's accomplishments for the 2019 season include 14 World Cup medals, overall World Cup Gold in the 1,000m and two world records in the 1,000m and 1,500m.

Swin Cash

Swin Cash (Basketball, 2004, 2012) was hired as the Vice President of Basketball Operations and Team Development for the New Orleans Pelicans of the NBA. After playing 15 seasons in the WNBA, Cash served as the Director of Franchise Development for the New York Liberty (WNBA), as well as running a foundation focused on children's health and fitness.



ALUMNI IN MEMORIAM



Frank Peter Brilando

(Cycling, 1948, 1952)

Frank Brilando died on May 5, 2019 at the age of 93.

Frank Brilando competed at the 1948 and 1952 Olympics Games as a cyclist, racing on the road in 1948 and the track in 1952. He raced in both the match sprint and the road race at the 1951 Pan American Games but was outside the medals in both events. He also rode in the 1951 USA/Japan Goodwill Cycling Competition. Brilando won the 1949 Tour of Somerville, the top one-day race in the United States in that era.

He became coach of the 1959 U.S. Pan Am Games cycling team and served on the U.S. Olympic Committee for several years. He worked for Schwinn for 42 years, becoming Senior Vice-President of Engineering. Brilando is best known for his design contributions, most notably the Schwinn Sting-Ray bike.



Kelly Catlin

(Cycling, 2016)

Kelly Catlin died on March 8, 2019 at the age of 23

Kelly graduated from Mounds View High

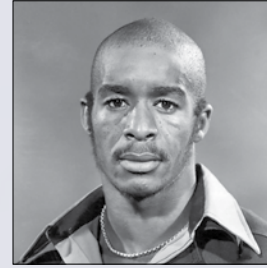
School in 2014. She graduated from the University of Minnesota with degrees in Biomedical Engineering and Chinese. She was at the time of her death attending Stanford University in pursuit of a graduate degree in Computational and Mathematical Engineering.

Catlin took her first international track gold at the 2015 Pan American Games, the year she took up track cycling after previously competing successfully in mountain bike racing. She won a silver medal in the Team Pursuit at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games. She won gold with the U.S. Team Pursuit squad at the world championships in 2016, 2017 and 2018, and she also took the bronze medal in the Individual Pursuit at the world championships in 2018.

Kelly is one of a set of triplets; her sister Christine describes her as “a really special person—kind, funny, empathetic, and talented at literally everything she did. She felt like she couldn’t say no to everything that was asked of her.”

Her brother Colin said he helped push his sister into cycling, and that “she didn’t really want to, but she started winning things and she likes winning things. I always saw myself as the planner and she was the doer. I could always see the three of us taking over the world. We were a massive ball of energy and we supported each other in everything.” He also helped spur her interest in data science.

Kelly is survived by her parents Carolyn and Mark; sister Christine and brother Colin.



Charles Wayne Foster

(Track & Field, 1976)

Charles Wayne Foster was born on July 2, 1953 in Greensboro, North Carolina to the late Luvenia Dawkins Foster and Revered Jim Charles Foster, and transitioned on March 31, 2019 at the age of 65.

He moved to Gaffney, South Carolina at an early age to live with his loving cousins, the late William Foster and Mary Foster. Charles loved life and lived it to the fullest. He played the piano for his home band, but just enough to keep them on beat. Charles was very competitive. It was there that he started his athletic career, playing football and competing in the 110-meter high hurdles. Charles always gave credit to the late Whitley Smith, his high school coach, for pushing him to realize his full potential. Coach Smith would drive him from state to state to compete because no one in South Carolina could beat him. Charles loved to tell stories about what he wanted to be in the future, and he was always thinking ahead and preparing for the next thing.

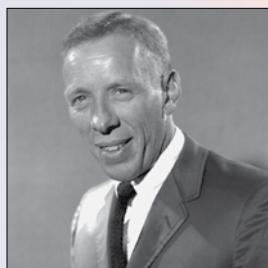
Charles graduated from Gaffney High School. The late Dr. Leroy Walker, a member of the Track and Field Hall of Fame, recruited him to run track at North Carolina Central University in the fall of 1971. He earned a bachelor of science degree in Recreational Administration in 1975 and took graduate courses at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Walker—the first Black president of the U.S. Olympic Committee, and past Chancellor at NCCU—told Charles, “If you follow me, you will go places”.

ALUMNI IN MEMORIAM (continued)

Charles traveled to more than 85 countries and won 26 championships during his athletic career.

Dr. Walker coached Charles at the Montreal 1976 Olympic Games

He leaves to cherish many happy and loving memories, his wife of 29 years, Sophronia Qualls, and their daughter, Sydney Qualls Foster, both of Atlanta, Ga.; two sisters, Minister Esther Foster of Harrison Township, Mich.; and the late Thomaseian Foster; two brothers, Gerald Foster (Brady) of Harrison Township, Mich.; Ivan Foster (Stephanie) of Charlotte, N.C.; loving cousins Mary Foster of Gaffney, S.C., Schylver Foster of Greenville, S.C. and Brenda Simmons and Glen Foster, both of Spartanburg, S.C.; sisters-in-law Daneal Qualls-Holston (Dr. Kirk Holston) of Carmel, Ind., and Forsythia Powell (Frank) of Durham, N.C.; brother-in-law Waldo Qualls of Enfield, N.C.; nieces Kirsten Holston of Carmel, Ind., Nicole Ward of Michigan, Aneesah Foster and Tiffany Foster, both of Charlotte, N.C., and Franchesca Powell Gantt of Greensboro, N.C.; nephews Dr. Frederick Powell of Moultrie, Ga., L'Thomas Foster of Kannapolis, N.C. and Ivan Foster Jr. of Charlotte, N.C.; best friends; Steve Riddick of Hampton, Va. and Ronnie Garrett of Mableton, Ga; godchildren Kendra Mackey Warren of Durham, N.C., Stephen Brown of Mableton, Ga., Tisha Waller of Atlanta, Ga.; and Jaci Field of Raleigh, N.C.; and a host of other relatives and dear friends.



John Thomas Griffin, Sr.
(Track & Field Assistant Coach, 1964, 1976, 1984)

John Griffin died on May 29, 2017 at the age of 90.

Better known as Jack Griffin or Coach Griffin, he lived in Frederick, Md., during his lifetime. Jack and his twin brother, Joseph T. Griffin, Jr. were born in Baltimore, Md. on July 13, 1927.

Jack graduated from Parkway Elementary School in 1940 and Frederick High School (FHS) in 1944. At FHS he played basketball, baseball and Seneca football. He went on to attend The Maryland Institute of Art in 1948 having received the Senatorial Scholarship. He then went on to attend New York University on an athletic scholarship, graduating in 1953. While at NYU he earned letters in track, basketball and swimming: He had a lot of fond memories of playing in Madison Square Garden.

Griffin began his thirty-year career teaching Physical Education in Frederick County at Elm Street Junior High School, (1953) moved on to West Frederick Junior High School until 1959 and retired in 1984, from teaching at Frederick High School.

With over 20 years of international coaching in track & field, Griffin was one of the first high school coaches ever selected to coach an Olympic team and the only area coach on an Olympic level and USA Tour team staff. He proudly served as an Olympic track and field assistant coach in 1964, 1976 and 1984. He is also one of the few men to ever coach three Olympic teams.

By 1976, Frederick's Jack Griffin was one of the most respected women's track and field coaches in the country. The founder of the Frederick Track and Field Club, he had been the assistant coach with the U.S. women's track and field team at the Tokyo 1964 Olympic Games. Because of his reputation, he was able to bring national and event international events to Frederick in the late 1960's and early 1970's. He had

coached two world record holders – sprinter and 1964 Olympian Debbie Thompson-Brown and hurdler Tammy Davis-Thompson. So, it wasn't too surprising that he was nominated to coach the women's track and field team for the Montreal 1976 Olympic Games. Griffin didn't think he would be selected but was one of three coaches picked. He could have been the head coach but said he would rather be an assistant. "I didn't think I had a chance of being named coach again." he said. "I thought one time would end it." He coached the hurdles, throws and jumps.

When the Montreal 1976 Olympic Games ended, Griffin thought for sure his Olympic days were over. In 1984, he was selected again as a coach for the Los Angeles 1984 Olympic Games. "When I got the letter from the Olympic Committee, I thought there was no way I would be picked to coach a third time" he said. Unlike past Games, there was plenty of money available for the U.S. team. "They flew me out to California three times in a month to watch some meets." He coached several events. He assisted the great Jackie Joyner-Kersey in the heptathlon. He stated that by this time, personal coaches could talk with the athletes. "You had to be able to get along with the athletes' coaches," he said. "But you also had to shield the athletes because the coaches would worry so much. I remember helping with the 4x100 relays and trying to talk Florence Griffith-Joyner into cutting her long nails so she could run in the relay. She wouldn't cut them." No surprise there!

Griffin considered himself fortunate to have had the opportunity to spend a lifetime doing what he had dreamed of as a boy. More importantly were the lasting friendships of athletes and coaches alike. Such relationships were rewarding and meaningful during his long career. "Ribbons fade, medals tarnish, but friendships are forever."

ALUMNI IN MEMORIAM (continued)



Michael Hulett

(Para Volleyball Coach, 1996, 2000, 2004, 2008)

Michael Hulett died on May 9, 2019 at the age of 64.

Mike is the founder of Adversity Volleyball Club. A 2012 recipient of USA Volleyball's highest honor, the Harold T. Frierhood "Frier" Award for lifetime achievement, his philosophy at Adversity was to train volleyball players by focusing on game situations.

A quadruple amputee, Mike was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes at age 13 and was confined to a wheelchair. But he served as an inspiration to many throughout his coaching career.

Mike was head coach of Team USA men's sitting volleyball in the 1996 and 2000 Paralympic Games and head coach of Team USA women's sitting volleyball in the 2004 and 2008 Paralympic Games.

Mike graduated from Northwestern University and was a CAP V-rated coach who also served on the board of directors of the Great Lakes Region.

Mike was the devoted son of the late Verne and Norma (nee Erickson) Hulett; loving brother of Terry Hulett and Shelly Christensen; dear uncle of Ashley (Sean) Conaghan and Kelsey Christensen; also survived by aunts, uncles, and many cousins. As the founder of Adversity Volleyball Club and head coach for four U.S. Paralympic teams, he is also survived by a vast field of volleyball

players, coaches, parents, colleagues, and friends. He will be remembered as a friend, mentor and inspiration.



Harold "Thompson" Mann

(Swimming, 1964)

Thompson Mann died on April 4, 2019 at the age of 76.

Thompson moved with his family to Richmond, Va. at the age of four and started swimming and subsequently swam for the Country Club of Virginia. He attended high school at Great Bridge and went on to the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He was a two-time All-American on the swim team and held three Atlantic Coast Conference records.

After graduating from UNC Thompson attended and graduated from Medical College of Virginia in Richmond. He did his residency at the University of California in San Francisco. He followed in his father's footsteps as a doctor (internal medicine).

He is survived by his twin sons, James Mann of San Diego, Calif. and Edward Mann of Richmond, Va. and a daughter, Alexandria Levic of New York, N.Y. He also leaves a brother, Marvin Mann.

Dr. Mann will be remembered as a loving friend, an accomplished artist, skilled physician, loving parent, and a gold medal recipient at the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games, where he set two world records.



Colleen Mulvihill

(Gymnastics, 1968)

Colleen Mulvihill died on March 2, 2019 at the age of 66.

Colleen was coached by her father, Dick Mulvihill, one of the best-known gymnastic coaches in the U.S. in the 1960s. She attended Centennial High School in Illinois, graduating in 1970, she also competed for the McKinley YMCA. She competed at the Mexico City 1968 Olympic Games. After the Games she attended the University of Illinois.

Colleen later worked as a dancer and choreographer from 1975-2002. She then started Riverwalk Movement Arts, a training and coaching method that helps train the body's core, using her background in gymnastics, dancing, and choreography. She studied Chi Gung and Yoga and became a certified Pilates and Gyrotonic instructor.



Ralph Raymond

(Softball Coach, 1996, 2000)

Ralph Raymond died on April 23, 2019 at the age of 94.

ALUMNI IN MEMORIAM (continued)

Ralph felt fortunate and grateful being able to travel the globe while coaching the sport he loved; softball. Coaching Team USA Softball to Gold in the 1996 and 2000 Olympic Games, was one of his greatest life moments but he would proudly tell anyone that his family provided more happiness than any other of his lifetime achievements.

Ralph was the son of Antonio and Lydia (Rondeau) Raymond. He was pre-deceased by his two stepbrothers Samuel and Francis Franco. Ralph grew up on the east side of Worcester in the Shrewsbury St. neighborhood. He loved being Italian, with all that it entails, from the huge extended family gatherings, homemade food, game playing, and singing, to his firm belief in God and strong Catholic faith. Praying with his players was a pre-game ritual. He brought many a team, his “family” away from home to Sunday mass while on the road but filing into St. Bernard’s with Mary and their 7 kids was always a special time for him. He was a simple man who never forgot who he was and where he came from.

Ralph saw sports as an opportunity and chance to excel in the game of life. “If deserving, accolades will come your way... quiet thunder,” he’d say. He coached, to win with a combination of old school rules and an allegiance to “team.” He was dedicated to the development of lifelong lasting relationships that came from loyalty to your team. He stayed involved in coaching until he was 94 years old, never deviating from his standards.

Ralph was a 1943 graduate of Commerce High School where he excelled in sports, he was the team captain for baseball, football and basketball and known to run track when he could fit it in. Ralph joined the U.S. Army serving his country proudly during World War II as part of the campaigns of the Rhineland and Central Europe. He was discharged

as Sergeant in 1946. He entered the University of Miami where he earned a BA in education while he captained the baseball team and was later inducted into the Hurricanes Hall of Fame. Upon graduating, Ralph returned home and in 1949, married the love of his life, Mary I. Morello. “She made me a picnic lunch at East Park and the rest is history” he’d say. The couple shared in their mutual dedication to family with a devotion to one another no matter what.

Ralph went on to earn his master’s degree in education from Worcester State College. He initially worked at Wyman Gordon, in 1966 he became a physical education teacher at Doherty H.S. in Worcester. He coached baseball, football, and later softball while at Doherty. A very special love and place remained a constant in his heart for many of his H.S student athletes. The football and baseball teams earned several championship titles over the 18 years he was there, before retiring in 1984.

Ralph then began a period in his life that started as a dream. During his summers off from teaching he had been coaching the Raybestos Brakettes, an ASA travel team of elite softball players from across the United States. He racked up many records and was one of the winningest coaches in sports history. He knew if softball were to become an Olympic event someday, he would be prepared and ready to take the helm as head coach. His goal came to fruition when he was named the first ever Team USA head softball coach for the 1996 and 2000 Olympic Games, each time winning gold. He was elated to bring these honors home to Worcester. The Olympic team went on to win in the Pan Am Games, in addition to seven world tournament gold medals and twenty-six national tournament titles. He has been honored for his many wins around the World. He was inducted into nine Hall of Fames including the University

of Miami, U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame, ASA Softball, International Softball, Massachusetts Football Coaches, City of Worcester Athletic, and the Sons of Italy Lodge 168, Athletic Halls of Fame.

Ralph is survived by his loving wife Mary: his seven children, Michael A. Raymond and wife Mary of West Boylston, Ralph A. (Bud) Raymond, Jr. and partner Rhonda Needleman of Martha’s Vineyard, John J. Raymond and wife Antoinette of Falmouth, Robert Raymond and wife Dana of Venice, California, Mary Ann Baronoski and husband Richard of North Brookfield, Kathy Ermilio and husband Francis (Bud) of Shrewsbury, Patricia Cannon and husband Michael of Worcester; thirteen grandchildren, Christina, Lisa, Tim, Michael and Gina Raymond; Jenna, Matt and Julie Baronoski; Lydia, Alina, Patrice and Frank Ermilio; James Cannon; two great granddaughters Emma and Sarah Follows.

Ralph took immense pleasure in passing along family traditions to each grandchild, he reveled in all their life achievements and loved watching their sporting events. Ralph also leaves behind several nieces, nephews, extended family and many friends from around the world.

He was a member of Our Lady of Providence Parish and St Bernard Church, the Eastside Post 201 American Legion, Massachusetts Teachers Association and National Education Association.

ALUMNI IN MEMORIAM (continued)



Sandra Shellworth
(Ski and Snowboard, 1968)

Sandra Shellworth died on January 10, 2019 at the age of 75.

Sandy was born in Annapolis, MD, to Eugene and Martha (Buckley) Shellworth, where her father was an instructor at the U.S. Naval Academy. Soon after the war, the family moved to Boise, ID. As a high schooler she was nationally ranked in tennis and ski racing, and she swam competitively. She attended University of Colorado, Boulder (CU) because Bob Beattie, coach of the U.S. Ski Team, was coaching the CU Ski Team.

Sandy won the U.S. National Slalom Championship (Mt. Alyeska) in 1963, at the age of 18. In 1967 she won the Roch Cup downhill (Aspen), and she was U.S. National Giant Slalom Champion (Missoula). Training later that day, she broke her leg badly. Desperately rehabilitating, she was selected to race the downhill in the Grenoble 1968 Olympic Games. Sandy was the first woman Olympian from CU. After participating in the Roch Cup race in Aspen, she ended her five years on the U.S. Ski Team in the spring of 1968.

Married to Ernie Hildner in June 1968, Sandy worked at Lange Ski Boot Company in Broomfield, CO, until 1974. She became director of the prototype shop, innovating for future years' production, and where ski team members from various countries came to have their Lange boots custom fitted and modified. Sandy was a boot and ski tester for the company, as well.

While at Lange, Sandy served on the U.S. Olympic Committee's Athletes Advisory Committee, representing the sport of skiing, and on the ski equipment manufacturers' advisory group, set up to govern their sponsorship pool for the U.S. Ski Team.

Sandy and Ernie bought a house on five acres near Boulder Reservoir. There she kept a horse, raised chickens for eggs and meat, and grew vegetables in a large garden; she learned carpentry skills as she and her husband added a room to the house and made modifications. Many weekends, she crewed for Ernie on their Star sailboat, racing on Colorado and Wyoming lakes. The first woman to hold the position, Sandy was coach of the Winter Park Ski Team 1974 – 1977, coaching on the hill and demonstrating techniques to the end of the race calendar in 1975, then giving birth to her daughter, Cynthia, only a week after.

In 1980, Ernie, Sandy, their two children (a son, Andrew, was born in 1978), and her horse moved to Huntsville, AL, for Ernie's job at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center. Sandy "rode to hounds" with the local fox hunt, was a soccer mom, and helped start Huntsville's first magnet school.

In Huntsville, Sandy developed a severe and untreatable allergy to the mold omnipresent in the damp leaf litter and grass. Consequently, the family returned to Boulder in early 1985, where Sandy's health was much better.

Purchasing a house on an acre of land east of Boulder offered an opportunity (a necessity, in Sandy's view) to do extensive remodeling. Sandy continued to don her carpenter's overalls over the years for many more do-it-yourself modifications and additions that added considerably to its livability.

Back in Colorado, Sandy again could

indulge her passions for skiing and teaching it; for 21 years until 2009, she volunteered, guiding Over the Hill Gang members at Copper Mountain ski area.

Sandy was a warm and lively person, a good mother to her children and a good wife to her husband, active in the kids' schools and after-school activities, and hosting her husband's colleagues at dinners and parties.

Sandy was artistic, painting in several media, and she became an assistant to her dear friend and sculptress, Susan Raymond. Two local examples of their work are the life-size bronze statues of four skiers flying over a mogul at Lionshead, Vail, and the group of horses on the west side of S. Santa Fe Blvd. at Prince, in Littleton.

Also with Susan Raymond, for several years in the Fall, Sandy was a cowhand, riding all day to gather half-wild cattle ranging through scrub and trees in steep terrain on a ranch across the valley from Steamboat Springs ski area.

Sandy visited all the continents except Antarctica. Usually with her husband, she: climbed Kilimanjaro and 14ers in Colorado, including the East Face of Longs Peak; experienced four total solar eclipses from Hawaii to Turkey; went scuba diving and snorkeled in Thailand, French Polynesia, Bonaire, and Australia; swam with 40 ft. whale sharks in Mexico; hiked the Chilkoot Trail (the 1897 Klondike Gold Rush route); accumulated around 80 nights backpacking off-trail in the Grand Canyon, usually with kids; floated western rivers, and the Grand Canyon three times; helped make and slept in snow caves on overnight ski tours; was "first mate" on bareboat sailing charters; solo backpacked along the Continental Divide; showed her horses in jumping competitions; and, more recently, skied roughly fifteen days a season, generally at a very high rate of speed. Sandy

ALUMNI IN MEMORIAM (continued)

characterized herself as a “combat gardener”, never hesitating to wield a full-size pick-axe to soften the deep ground for a new plant or to remove an old one; she assiduously cared for and treasured her large garden, her trees, her indoor and outdoor plants.

Sandy is mourned by her family and many circles of friends from her broad variety of activities. She is survived by her husband, Ernie, her daughter, Cynthia, and her son, Andrew, as well as her brother Rob Shellworth (Jackie) of Boise, ID, and by five siblings-in-law, nine nieces and nephews and their spouses spread around the country. She was predeceased by her younger brother Toby.



Stanley D. Tinkham
(Swimming Coach, 1956)

Stanley D. Tinkham died on April 9, 2019 at the age of 87.

Stan was born in Yankton, SD, he moved to Washington, DC when he was seven. He attended the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill on a swimming scholarship and earned All-American honors.

At age 24, he coached the U.S. Olympic Women’s Swim Team competing in the Melbourne 1956 Olympic Games. He continued his coaching career

at Northern Virginia Aquatic Club in Arlington. In 1989, Stan was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame. The positive influence he had in the lives of his family and many young swimmers will be his lasting legacy and greatest honor.

Stan is survived by his loving wife of 47 years, Caroline. He is also survived by children Geoff Tinkham (Diana), Lori Donelson (David Sykes), Jaci Ruppert (Joe), Paul Dangerfield (Lesley), Michael Dangerfield and Chris Tinkham (Debbi), 11 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.



John Wesley Jones, II
(Track and Field, 1976)

John Wesley Jones, II died on March 15, 2019 at the age of 60.

John is one of the most celebrated athletes in The University of Texas history as both a football and a track star. Prior to becoming a Texas Longhorn, he was a star athlete of the Lampasas High School Badgers. Kirk Bohls of the Austin American Statesman reminds us of a particular outstanding moment where “Lam” put Lampasas sports into the history books, “Jones once electrified Royal-Memorial Stadium with his historic run as the anchor leg of his high school track’s mile relay team. After he took the baton in last place, he made

up a distance of more than 75 yards to easily clip the tape as the winner, setting off a wild celebration among grade-school youngsters who poured onto the track from the stands.”

He lettered in football from 1976-1979 and in track for the Horns in 1977-1978. He was the football team’s Most Valuable Player in 1978 and earned All-American honors in both 1978 and 1979. He would later go on to play for the Jets and the Cowboys. During his freshman year at UT, he competed at the Montreal 1976 Olympic Games where he won gold. He was All-American in track as well as in football.

John is survived by his fiancé of 18 years, Teresa Willis; his loving children, Jason Moreno (LaLinthea), Sonyett Bailey (Clinton); grandchildren, Alexia Bailey, Jada Bailey, Xavier Bailey, Damitrius Moreno, De’Von Moreno, and Acacia Moreno; great-granddaughter, Amaya Rose Moreno; sister Aimee Antoine-Bush (Ken); and many other family members and friends.

The children of Mr. Jones would like to extend a special thank you to Raymond Clayborn, Lawrence Sampleton, Steve Massey, Alfred Jackson, Donnie Little, and Randy McEachern for their unwavering support in helping coordinate a fitting tribute to our father.

OLYMPIAN & PARALYMPIAN

PHOTO Highlights



1. The Hawaii Olympian & Paralympian Chapter luncheon took place on April 7, 2019

Included in the picture are: Jin de Silva, Olympic Collector,

Kathy Hamlin, Chris Woo, Brent Berk, Keala O'Sullivan, Dan Drown, Bobbie

Perry, Bill Leach, Ann Hoshida, speaker Rusty Komori, and guest Olympic hopeful trampolene athletes all attended and had a great time.

2. The Indianapolis Storytellers Project hosted a Sports and Fandom event on June 4, 2019 featuring five area residents to include our very own Boxing Olympic champion, Ray P. "Sugar Ray" Seales.

Seales who is blind in his left eye but can

see partially out of his right, says he can see out of his left eye when he enters the gym. "That's God in my left eye, he's helping me see," he said.

Seales was the only American boxer to win a gold medal at the Munich 1972 Olympic

Games. He took the audience back in time to the moment he had to erase the image of members of Black September, rifles in hand, holding 11 Israeli athletes at gunpoint - and go fight to win.

3. The LA84 Foundation launched a temporary exhibit in honor of Rafer Johnson on Sunday, April 28th. It features much of his personal memorabilia and honors his lifelong work.

Rafer is a revered and legendary Olympic decathlon champion who lit the Olympic cauldron in 1984. He is a founding board member of the LA84 Foundation, co-founder of the Special Olympics of Southern California, distinguished UCLA alumni, humanitarian and civil rights torchbearer.

As Rafer moves to Emeritus status as a Founding LA84 Foundation Board Member this is their opportunity to appropriately

recognize, honor and pay tribute to a great man whose life and work has been the catalyst for sustaining and impactful social change.

Many came out to honor a legend and friend. Honoring him were:

Front Row: Candace Cable, (Paralympic Track & Field, 1980, 1988, 1992, 1996/Alpine Skiing, 1992/Nordic Skiing, 1994, 1998, 2002, 2006), Rafer Johnson (Track & Field, 1956,1960)

Second Row: Martha Watson (Track & Field, 1964,1968,1972,1976),Sharrieffa Barksdale (Track & Field, 1984), Tai Babilonia (Figure Skating, 1976, 1980), Jan Palchikoff

(Rowing, 1976, 1980), Rosalyn Clark (Track & Field 1976), Roberta Bell (Track & Field, 1984), Randy Givens (Track & Field, 1984), Madeline Manning Mims (Track & Field, 1968,1972,1976,1980)

Back Row: President and CEO Renata Simril, Kathy Kusner (Equestrian, 1964,1968,1972), Janet Evans (Swimming 1988, 1992, 1996), Marlene Harmon Wilcox (Track & Field, 1980), Jennifer Johnson-Jordan (Beach Volleyball, 200) John Naber (Swimming, 1976), Pamela Ann Spencer (Track & Field, 1976, 1980, 1984), Mark Crear (Track & Field, 1996, 2000), John Moffet (Swimming 1980,1984), Adam Duvendeck (Cycling, 2004, 2008)



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