

New York City Welcomes 2004 Olympians and Paralympians

A. Philip Randolph High School

Tuesday, October 19, 2004

Aquil Abdullah, Rowing (2004)

- 2004 Rowing Olympian; first African-American to qualify for a US Rowing Team
- Made his Olympic debut in Athens
- Currently resides in Princeton, New Jersey
- Earned a physics degree from George Washington University in 1996
- Became the first African-American male to qualify for the U.S. Olympic rowing team in 2004

Christan Ahrens, Rowing (2000, 2004 Gold)

- Two-time Olympian and Gold medalist in Athens
- Part of boat that won the first U.S. gold in the men's eight in 40 years
- Currently resides in Manhattan
- Majored in history at Princeton University and graduated magna cum laude in 1998
- Six-time senior national team member

Rock Allen, Boxing (2004)

- 2004 Light Welterweight Boxing Olympian
- Represented the U.S. as Light welterweight in Athens
- US National champion in 2000
- Born and raised in Philadelphia, PA
- Twin brother is also an accomplished boxer
- 5' 7", 141 pounds

Lisa Banta, Athletics/Goalball (2000 Silver, 2004 Silver) Paralympian

- Two-time Paralympian, Silver medalist in Sydney and Athens in Athletics and Goalball
- Born in New Jersey and currently resides in Colorado Springs, Colorado
- Became involved in sports as a way to overcome her disability
- Top scorer of 2002 International Blind Sports Association World Championships

[SOCCER PLAYERS INTRODUCED TOGETHER]

Shannon Boxx, Soccer (2004 Gold)

- Won a Gold medal at her Olympic debut in Athens with the Women's Soccer Team
- Currently resides in Redondo Beach, California
- Graduated from Notre Dame with psychology and African American studies degrees
- Became the first U.S. woman selected for the U.S. World Cup team despite having never played an international match (first was September 1, 2003, vs. Costa Rica - she scored a goal)

Christie Pearce Rampone, Soccer (2000 Silver, 2004 Gold)

- Two-time Olympian, winning Silver in her debut in Sydney and Gold in Athens
- Currently resides in Point Pleasant, New Jersey
- Graduated from Monmouth with a degree in Special Education
- A two-sport star at Monmouth University (N.J.), Soccer and Basketball

[BASKETBALL PLAYERS INTRODUCED TOGETHER]

Sue Bird, Basketball (2004 Gold)

- Won the gold medal in her Olympic debut in Athens
- WNBA Rookie of the Year and All-Star and member of 2004 WNBA Champion Seattle Storm
- Went to Christ the King High School in Queens
- National champion and All-American at the University of Connecticut

Swin Cash, Basketball (2004 Gold)

- Won a Gold medal at her Olympic debut in Athens with Women's Basketball Team; WNBA All-Star

- Currently resides in Detroit, Michigan
- Ranks seventh all-time in scoring at basketball powerhouse University of Connecticut with 1,583 career points and became involved in sports as a way to overcome her disability
- Plays for the Detroit Shock of the WNBA and was a WNBA All-Star in 2003 and won the WNBA Championship in 2003

Curt Clausen, Athletics (2000, 2004)

- Two-time Olympian in Race walking
- Currently resides in Chula Vista, California
- Has masters degree in public administration from Duke University
- Ran cross country and track in high school, running in the 4:30s for the mile

Ali Cox, Rowing (2004 Silver)

- Won a Silver medal at her Olympic debut in Athens in Rowing in the women's eight.
- This was the first medal for a U.S women's eight in two decades
- Currently resides in Princeton, New Jersey
- Earned undergraduate degree from the University of San Diego in 2001
- Enjoys running, rowing, skiing, volunteering and traveling

Shawn Crawford, Athletics (2004 Gold, Silver)

- Made Olympic debut with Gold and Silver medal performances in Athens—a gold in the 200 meters and silver in the U.S. sweep of the 100 meters. One of the fastest men in the world.
- Currently resides in Andersen, South Carolina
- Earned 11 All-America honors at Clemson
- American record-holder, Indoor 200m
- Raced a zebra and a giraffe in the show “Man vs. Beast” and

Glenn Eller, Shooting (2000, 2004)

- Two-time Olympian in shooting (double trap)
- Silver medalist in 2002 World Championships
- Born and resides in Houston, TX

Ellen Estes, Water Polo (2000 Silver, 2004 Bronze)

- Two-time Olympian in Water Polo, Silver medalist in Sydney and Bronze medalist in Athens
- Currently resides in Navato, California
- Graduated from Stanford University
- Two-time All-American

Meg Gaillard, Sailing (2004)

- Made her Olympic debut in Sailing at the 2004 Games in Athens
- Born in Long Island and currently resides in Jamestown, Rhode Island
- Attended Connecticut College
- 1998 and 2003 U.S. Sailing Female Athlete of the Year

Scott Goldblatt, Swimming (2000 Silver, 2004 Gold)

- Two-time medalist at the Olympics in Swimming, winning Silver in Sydney and Gold in Athens
- Born in New Jersey and currently resides in Kansas City, Kansas
- Graduated from the University of Texas in 2001
- Won his first national title in the 400 freestyle at Spring Nationals in 2002

Gary Hall, Jr., Swimming (1996 2 Gold 2 Silver, 2000 2 Gold, Bronze, Silver, 2004 Gold, Bronze)

- Three-time Olympian, successfully winning 10 Olympic medals, including five Gold
- Second most decorated Olympian of all-time, tied with Carl Lewis.
- Currently resides in Phoenix, AZ
- American record-holder in 50m free

[SOFTBALL PLAYERS INTRODUCED TOGETHER]

Lori Harrigan, Softball (1996 Gold, 2000 Gold, 2004 Gold)

- Three-time Olympian and three-time Gold medalist
- Currently resides in Las Vegas, Nevada
- Two-time All-American at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Became the first individual pitcher to throw an Olympic no-hitter (vs. Canada)

Jessica Mendoza, Softball (2004 Gold)

- Won a Gold medal at her Olympic debut in Athens
- Currently resides in Camarillo, California
- Earned Stanford University undergraduate and master's degrees
- 4-time first-team All-American (1999-2002); first Stanford player named to the first team

Stacey Nuvevan, Softball (2000 Gold, 2004 Gold)

- Two-time Gold medalist and catcher on the Women's Softball Team
- Currently resides in La Verne, CA
- Attended UCLA where she was a four-year All-American and National Champion

Leah O'Brien Amico, Softball (1996 Gold, 2000 Gold, 2004 Gold)

- Three-time Olympic Gold medalist in Atlanta, Sydney, and Athens
- Currently resides in Chino, California
- Three-time first-team All-American and All-College World Series (1994, 1995, 1997)
- Since the 2000 Olympics, O'Brien-Amico spends her time speaking to children at schools, churches and youth groups nationwide

Natasha Watley, Softball (2004 Gold)

- Made her Olympic debut in Athens with a Gold medal performance in Women's softball
- Currently resides in Irvine, California
- Has led UCLA to three straight College World Series
- Three-time All-American shortstop at UCLA

Cheryl Haworth, Weightlifting (2000 Bronze, 2004)

- Two-time Olympian in weightlifting, winning Bronze in Sydney
- Currently resides in Savannah, Georgia
- Is the youngest lifter to ever hold Senior American Records
- Attended high school at Savannah Arts Academy
- Star of her own NYC2012 tv commercial

[JACOBI MAKES SPECIAL ENTRANCE]

Joe Jacobi, Canoe/Kayak (1992 Gold, 2004)

- Two-time Olympian, winning Gold in Barcelona
- Currently resides in Ducktown, Tennessee
- Named "Paddler of the Century" by Paddler Magazine in 2000
- Won gold at the National Championships last month in a kayak adorned with the NYC2012 logo.

Kamara James, Fencing (2004)

- Made her Olympic debut in Fencing in Athens
- Born in Kingston, Jamaica and currently resides in Jamaica, New York
- At age ten attended the Peter Westbrook Foundation, fencing club in New York City that introduces the sport to inner-city kids and emphasizes academics
- Attending Princeton University

Jennifer Johnson, Table Tennis (1984 Gold, 1988 2 Gold, 1996 Silver, 2000, 2004) Paralympian

- Five-time Paralympian, winning three Gold medals and a silver
- Currently resides in Port Chester, New York
- Johnson played for the Jamaican National Team before she moved to the U.S. in 1980
- Johnson works fulltime as an accountant assistant and trains for 4-5 hours three or four days a week

Isabelle Kinsolving, Sailing (2004)

- Made her Olympic debut in Sailing in Athens
- Born, raised, and currently resides in Manhattan
- 2002 Yale University graduate in political science and economics
- U.S. Sailing Team member 2001-2004

Garrett Klugh, Rowing (2004)

- Made his Olympic debut in Rowing in Athens
- Currently resides in Princeton, New Jersey
- Majored in kinesiology at San Diego State
- Six-time national team member

Anna Kozlova, Synchronized Swimming (1992, Russia, 1996, 2004 2 Bronze)

- Competed for Russia in Barcelona, then for the U.S. in Atlanta, and won two Bronze medals in Athens
- Currently resides in Brooklyn, New York
- First three-time Olympian in this history of synchronized swimming
- Studied physiology and coaching at the Academy of Physical Education in Russia
- Began fencing at age 13 through the Peter Westbrook Foundation, a fencing club in New York City that introduces the sport to inner-city kids and emphasizes academics

[FENCERS MAKE SPECIAL ENTRANCE]

Ivan Lee, Fencing (2004)

- Made his Olympic debut in Fencing in Athens
- Currently resides in Brooklyn, New York
Is ranked first in the U.S. and 25th in the world
Trains with Peter Westbrook at the Peter Westbrook Foundation

Soren Thompson, Fencing (2004)

- Made his Olympic debut in Athens in Fencing
- Currently resides in San Diego, California
- Soren is an art history student at Princeton University specializing in architecture
- Began practicing the sport at the age of seven

Tahl Leibovitz, Table Tennis (1996 Gold, Bronze, 2004 Bronze) Paralympian

- Two-time Paralympian, winning a Gold and Bronze in Atlanta and a Bronze in Athens
- Born and raised in Israel
- Currently resides in Elmhurst, New York
- Top qualifier for the 2004 U.S. Table Tennis Team

Kerry McCoy, Wrestling (2000, 2004)

- Two-time Olympian in freestyle wrestling from the NY area
- Born on Long Island and currently resides in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
- Graduated from Penn State with a degree in Marketing
- McCoy is also an assistant coach at Lehigh University

Henry Nuzum, Rowing (2004)

- Made his Olympic debut in Rowing in Athens
- Currently resides in Princeton, New Jersey
- Captain of Harvard's heavyweight crew in 1999
- Four-time senior national team member

Jimmy Pedro, Judo (1992, 1996 Bronze, 2000, 2004 Bronze)

- Four-time Olympian in Judo, winning Bronze in Atlanta and Athens
- Currently resides in Lawrence, Massachusetts
- Graduated from Brown University in 1994 with a Business Economics
- Six-time U.S. National champion

Jason Read, Rowing (2004 Gold)

- Won Gold in his Olympic debut in Athens
- Currently resides in Ringoes, New Jersey
- Graduated from Temple University
- Volunteered as chief of an emergency unit at Ground Zero on 9/11 and the months following
- Received community service awards from 1993-1996 from the Hun School for his work as a volunteer fire fighter and Emergency Medical Technical

Kim Rhode, Shooting (1996 Gold, 2000 Bronze, 2004 Gold)

- Three-time Olympian in shooting, won Gold in her Olympic debut in Atlanta and in Athens
- Currently resides in El Monte, California
- Studying to be a veterinarian at Cal Poly Pomona
- Youngest female gold medalist in Olympic shooting history

Moushami Robinson, Athletics (2004 Gold)

- Member of the Gold medal winning women's 4x400 meter relay team
- 2003 Graduate of the University of Texas and 2003 Outdoor Champion
- Currently resides in Austin, Texas

Tim Seaman, Athletics (2000, 2004)

- Two-time Olympian in the race walking
- Born in Long Island and currently resides in Chula Vista, California
- Earned his degree in political science
- Seven-time U.S. Indoor champion

Celita Schutz, Judo (1996, 2000, 2004)

- Three-time Olympian in Judo
- Currently resides in New York City
- Graduated Yale University with a B.A. in Art
- Was named Ultimate Titan (Female) at the 2004 Titan Games

Kevin Szott, Wrestling/ Athletics/ Goalball/ Judo (1984 2 G, S, 1996 S, 2000 G, 2004 B) Paralympian

- Four-time Paralympian, winning six medals, including three Gold medals—won a bronze in Athens in Judo
- Currently resides in Hoboken, New Jersey and works in Manhattan for The Hartford.
- Second athlete to ever medal in four different sports at the Paralympics
- First visually impaired athlete to be nationally ranked by U.S. Judo

Terrence Trammell, Athletics (2000 Silver, 2004 Silver)

- Won Silver in Sydney AND Athens in the 110 meter hurdles
- Currently resides in Columbia, South Carolina
- Earned a degree from the University of South Carolina in Business and Retail Management in 2002
- Six-time NCAA champion

Phil Trinter, Sailing (2004)

- Made his Olympic debut in Sailing in the Athens 2004 Games
- Currently resides in Lorain, Ohio
- Played football at Indiana University
- Participated in two America's Cup campaigns

Neil Walker, Swimming (2000 Gold, Silver, 2004 Gold, Bronze)

- Two-time Olympian in Swimming, four-time medalist, including two Gold medals
- Currently resides in Austin, Texas
- Became only the third swimmer to earn seven medals at an major international competition at the 2000 Short Course World Championships
- Regularly goes to the Cayman Islands to train and do supportive work with local swimmers, two of which were 2004 Olympians.

Kerri Walsh, Beach Volleyball (2000, 2004 Gold)

- Two-time Olympian, winning a Gold medal in Athens with her partner Misty May
- Currently resides in Manhattan Beach, California
- Earned a bachelor's degree in American Studies from Stanford University in 1999
- Only second player in NCAA history to receive First-Team All-American honors all four seasons at Stanford University

Elaine Youngs, Beach Volleyball (1996, 2004 B)

- Two time Olympian, winning a Bronze medal in Athens in Beach Volleyball with her partner Holly McPeak
- Currently resides in Durango, Colorado
- Attended college at UCLA and helped them earn the 1991 NCAA National championship.
- In 2002 she won five AVP Tour titles and was voted Tour MVP, AVP Best Offensive Player, and AVP Best Blocker in 2002.

[HAMM TWINS MAKE SPECIAL ENTRANCE]

Morgan Hamm

Gymnastics (2000, 2004 Silver)

- Two-time Olympian in Men's Gymnastics and Silver medalist in Athens
- Currently resides in Columbus, Ohio
- Two-time U.S. champion in floor exercise
- Helped anchor the 2003 World Championships team that won the silver medal

Paul Hamm

Gymnastics (2000, 2004 Gold, 2 Silver)

- Two-time Olympian, winning a Gold and two Silver medals in Athens and Morgan's twin brother
- Currently resides in Columbus, Ohio
- First U.S. male in history to win an Olympic All-Around Gold (2004) and World All-Around championship (2003)
- Named the 2003 International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) International Gymnast of the Year

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