



International Committee of Sports for the Deaf e-News

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Letter from the President

Dear readers-

At this time of writing this brief message, I am refreshing my colloquial Spanish and meeting with deaf people in various cities in Spain for 2 weeks. Spain is such a beautiful country with lots of natural amenities to be appreciated. Watching the 2006 Football World Cup on TV or at cafes here is much more enjoyable. The Spaniards are passionate about football, much more than I can ever see or experience in the United States.

In the next few days I will be in Athens, Greece for a site visit of the city and its facilities for the 2013 Summer Deaflympics. I am very much looking forward to seeing positive and new changes in Greece's communication and transportation infrastructure since my last visit a few years ago. It was before the 2004 Olympic Games were held.

After Athens, I will travel to Lausanne, Switzerland for a meeting with President Rogge and some other IOC key officials to discuss future directions of Deaflympics and the organization.

In the next issue of E-News, there will be plenty of exciting news for me to share.

Donalda K. Ammons
President

Inside ICSD

Report from Vice President

After having a busy month I have finally sat down to prepare this report for you.

On 28th - 29th April 2006 as an ICSD representative I attended the 1st Confederation of African Deaf Sports (CADS) General Assembly in Nairobi, Kenya. The African delegates were very enthusiastic about this General Assembly. They for the first time got a first hand picture of the Congress structure, introduction to Deaflympics, how to join ICSD for new African members, future expansion of ICSD and CADS, proposals for changes in the CADS Constitution, election of the new board members and African Unity. There were also observers of other African countries that are not current members of ICSD, so they can learn how to become members.

On 1st - 3rd June 2006 ICSD gave full support to the Mediterranean Sea Deaf Sports Seminar, which was held at Wingate Sports Institute in Netanya, Israel. The participants from 5 countries around the Mediterranean Sea came. We did send invitations to ALL Mediterranean Sea countries including non-members of the ICSD. Some of them expressed interest but found difficulties to participate due to visa issues, etc. The ICSD Executive Director Tiffany Granfors, EC member Dogan Ozdemir and I conducted the seminar. The topics addressed at the Seminar were: (1) The management and communication of the ICSD and (2) Possibilities of Mediterranean Sea Deaf Games (based on Baltic Sea Deaf Sports). They agreed to set up the Mediterranean Sea Deaf Games with more work in progress at the next seminar in Turkey next year. The members elected to work on it are Dogan Ozdimer (TUR), Marijo Lusic (CRO) and Ido Rosink (ISR). The participants went home fully satisfied

(according to evaluation questionnaires completed by them).

I will report to you again in a few months' time.

David Lanesman



1st CADS General Assembly, Nairobi – KEN



2006 - 2010 CADS Board Members



Dogan Ozdemir shares his ideas

Report from Sports Director

Dear sport-fans and supporters,

We have good news for you all:

Concerning the sports calendar – I think we are making a great progress. National Deaf Sports Federations from all over the world have been working hard in hosting and organizing many different World Championships. We, International Committee of Sports for the Deaf, are very pleased. This is very good for our sportsmen and sportswomen and this prepares them for the Deaflympics. Our Calendar of Events show:

In **2006** we have 3 world championships to participate:

- World Deaf Cycling Championships, San Francisco, USA
18 – 24 June 2006
- World Deaf Golf Championships, Edmonton, Canada
16 - 21 July 2006
- World Deaf Orienteering Championships, Veszprem, Hungary
12 – 20 August 2006

In **2007** we have 6 world championships and the 16th Winter Deaflympics to participate:

- 16th Winter Deaflympic Games, Salt Lake City, USA
1 – 10 February
- World Deaf Basketball Championships, Guangzhou, China
22 – 30 June
- Dresse and Maere – Tennis Cup, Munich, Germany
21 – 28 July
- World Deaf Swimming Championships, Taipei, Chinese Taipei
11 – 17 August
- World Deaf Badminton Championships, Muelheim/Ruhr, Germany
28 September – 7 October
- World Deaf Bowling Championships, Singapore
6 – 13 October
- World Deaf Futsal Championships, Sofia, Bulgaria
18 – 26 November

In **2008** there are even 8 world championships to participate: 6 world championships as you can see here,

- World Deaf Martial Arts
- Table Tennis
- Football
- Wrestling
- Athletics
- Golf

There are only 2 world championships missing in the list: 1. Beach Volleyball and 2. Volleyball. If you are interested, you can contact the headquarters at info@ciss.org then we can discuss the possibilities along with the Technical Directors.

For more information about agenda, schedules and timetables, please view the Calendar of Events at www.deaflympics.com

We are also happy to announce our new Technical Director for Karate, Mr. Francoise Khalef from France. I wish to thank Mr. Francoise Khalef and Federation Sportive des Suords de France (FSSF) for their support!

I am still working on finding Technical Directors for judo and taekwondo. It is not an easy task. We welcome nominations. Please contact me at willmerdinger@ciss.org or at the headquarters at info@ciss.org

We have found a Technical Director for football, but we have to wait for the official announcement from the Deaf Sports Federation. We will officially announce shortly.

With sporty greetings,

Josef Willmerdinger
ICSD Sports Director

Executive Director - Tiffany Granfors Tours China

Deaflympics Executive Director Tiffany Granfors was invited to attend the East-Asia Deaf Congress in Tianjin and Jinzhou, China from 29 April to 4 May 2006. It was a very rewarding experience for her to meet about 300 deaf Asians and to talk about the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf, the 2009 Summer Deaflympics in Taipei and how the Asians will have an opportunity to welcome tourists into their countries after the Games. The countries that participated in the Congress were; China, Taiwan, Korea, Macau, Hong Kong, and Japan.

After the congress, Tiffany had the opportunity to travel with Mr. Kung-Tung CHOU, Honorary President of APDSC, to several cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Xian, and Nanchang. In those cities Tiffany had the opportunity to meet Deaf people and visit their Deaf Clubs. The Asians were very welcoming and warm people and wanted everyone to know that they want more people from all parts of the world to come and visit their cities and to learn more about them and to help them improve their social services which are still inadequate.

At the end of the three and half week trip Tiffany took a boat trip to beautiful Macau to visit Macau Deaf Sports Federation but was sorry to have to stay such a short time due to the typhoon warning which forced her to leave early for Hong Kong. She was able to meet with people at the Deaf Sports Center and talk about ICSD and Deaflympics. It was wonderful to meet the people of Macau! Thanks to the President of Macau Deaf Sports Federation for organizing such a meeting and a tour of Macau!

After visiting Macau, Tiffany took an hour boat ride to Hong Kong then the weather turned for worst and the category 3 typhoon hit the area and had bad rain storm. After it cleared up, she had the opportunity to visit the lively city of Hong Kong, thanks to Hong Kong Sports Association of the Deaf

(HKSAD) for being a wonderful host. Tiffany met with Hong Kong Sports Association for the Deaf to discuss matters related with Deaf Sports and we look forward to a better collaboration with Hong Kong.

ICSD and Tiffany deeply appreciate Mr. Kuo-Tung CHOU's time and arrangements in making this trip successful!



East Asia Deaf Congress



Macau Sports Association of the Deaf



Hong Kong Sports Association of the Deaf president exchanges gift with Tiffany Granfors

Dr. Ammons' trip to China

For the first time, Dr. Donalda Ammons traveled to China for a 10 day tour in 3 cities: Beijing, Xian and Shanghai. She wanted to become more acquainted with the Chinese culture and customs and attitudes towards Deaf people and sports. While in China, she had the opportunity to meet some Deaf Chinese people.

From her contacts with the Disabled Persons' Federation and Xinhua News Agency, Dr. Ammons learned that with Beijing being the capital of the world's most populous country with over 15 million inhabitants, there are fewer than 1,000 sign language professionals in Beijing. Most are teachers in local schools for the deaf, without any formal training in interpreting.

With the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, the Disabled Persons' Federation is worried about excluding deaf Chinese and deaf foreigners from full participation as spectators because there are not enough sign language translators.

Beijing has eight schools for the deaf, ranging from the primary to the university level and they are funded by the municipal or district governments. However, when it comes to educating a city of 15 million inhabitants in sign language, the resources are sorely limited and inadequate.

Despite all the difficulties and challenges, the Beijing Disabled Persons' Federation remains committed to promoting sign language and offering more specialized training for volunteers in time for the 2008 Olympics.

Several major department stores and entertainment sites in Beijing including the Friendship Store at the Lufthansa Shopping Center, Pacific Department Store and the Beijing Aquarium now offer sign language service. This is definitely the way to go in making deaf people's lives more at ease.

Dr. Ammons also had the opportunity to meet and talk with Deaf people in Xian and Shanghai. Their plight relating to services and opportunities for the Deaf resembles to what Dr. Ammons saw and heard in Beijing. Nevertheless, deaf people remain hopeful for positive changes in the near future. They want to host more deaf international events in order to bring in changes to the government's attitude and understanding about the deaf people's abilities.



Deaf Chinese having all day forum to discuss human rights issues



Presenting his experience on inadequate interpreting services

Kumamoto Conference

Dr. Donalda Ammons was one of the invited speakers at the 4th World Conference on Women and Sport held in Kumamoto, Japan. The International Working Group on Women and Sport is an independent co-ordinating body consisting of representative governments and key non-governmental organizations as well as regional representatives. Its over-arching objective is to promote and facilitate the development of opportunities for girls and women in sport and physical activity throughout the world.

Dr. Ammons delivered a power-point presentation to over 300 participants in two separate sessions on 12 May. Click [here](http://www.deaflympics.com/News/enews/pdf/KumamotoFinalPresentation.pdf) (<http://www.deaflympics.com/News/enews/pdf/KumamotoFinalPresentation.pdf>) for the lecture notes and power point presentation.

Kumamoto Conference Commits to Women and Sport

May 14, 2006, Kumamoto, Japan- Official Press Release from IWG

The 4th World Conference on Women and Sport held in Kumamoto, Japan under the auspices of the International Working Group on Women and Sport concluded on a high note with key individuals and organizations making a firm commitment to work together and take action over the next four years to further advance the global status of women's participation in sport.

With highest participation ever in the World Conference on Women and Sport, the conference registered 700 delegates from almost 100 countries and regions including a delegation of 25 dedicated women from the African country of Botswana.

Much of the success of the conference was due to the active participation of Mayor Seishi Kohyama and the citizens of Kumamoto. The citizens of Kumamoto participated in the conference, held welcoming events in the streets and raised funds to bring 13 delegates from developing countries around the world to the conference.

Under the banner of the Kumamoto Commitment to Collaboration, a selection of representatives from international organizations, national organizations, the United Nations, youth groups and national delegations publicly committed to a range of activities to be undertaken over the next four years. The energetic Botswanan delegation in the final plenary committed to developing and implementing a strategy, to developing strategic partnerships and to promoting

women and sport through annual events upon their return home.

The twelve workshops offered during the conference enabled participants to discuss in details such topics as - addressing HIV/Aids, ethical issues for women and sport, changing the culture of leadership in sport and sport as a tool for peace and development. Each workshop produced recommendations, which will be available on the IWG website.

The Fifth World Conference will take place in Sydney, Australia in 2010. The Australian Organizing Committee demonstrated that they were already in full flight with an animated presentation reminiscent of the 2000 Summer Olympics and Paralympics, highlighting the city of Sydney.

For further information, see the IWG website www.iwg-gti.org

Visit with Japanese Deaf Sports Federation in Tokyo

Dr. Donald Ammons was invited by the Japanese Deaf Sport Federation (JDSF) for a 4 day official visit, to promote Deaflympics in Japan from 20 to 24 May. JDSF President Hiroto Taguchi and Secretary General Dr. Yukata Osugi were on hand to give Dr. Ammons a very warm welcome to Tokyo.

On May 20, Dr. Ammons had the pleasure of meeting with Her Royal Highness Princess Akishinomiya at her residence within the Imperial Palace grounds for little more than an hour. Her Royal Highness Princess Akishinomiya is very popular among the Japanese citizens and is popularly called Princess Kiko. She is very interested in sign language and has been learning it for some years now. She became an active supporter of Deaflympics since the Melbourne Games, when she first learned about it.

With Princess Kiko's support, it was possible to hold a press conference to promote wider recognition of Deaflympics and to introduce 11 athletes who have been chosen to represent Japan at the 2007 Winter Deaflympics at the JAL City Hotel. It was largely attended by deaf and hearing people and TV media and newspaper journalists.

Much to Dr. Ammons' surprise, just before the press conference began, Princess Kiko approached Dr. Ammons and signed to her in American Sign Language. She wanted to tell Dr. Ammons how much she truly enjoyed meeting and talking with her the day before at her residence. Princess Kiko received a quick lesson in ASL from Dr. Osugi only ten minutes prior to her entrance in the banquet hall for the press conference.

Dr. Ammons was asked to give a 45 minute talk, titled "A Glimpse of Deaflympics". Click [here](http://www.deaflympics.com/news/enews/pdf/GlimpseOfDeaflympics-Japan.pdf) (<http://www.deaflympics.com/news/enews/pdf/GlimpseOfDeaflympics-Japan.pdf>) for power point presentation.

During the conference, Dr. Ammons also met and discussed future directions of Deaflympics and deaf sports with Mr. Ando, President of Japanese Deaf Federation, Mr. Nakatani, Director General of the ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, Mr. Nakamori, Secretary General of Japanese Paralympic Committee.

Next day on 21 May, Dr. Ammons met with Mr. Nishimura, Deputy Director of International Section and Mr. Itabashi, Chair of Legal Affairs Commission, both from Japanese Olympic Committee. They discussed various ways how the JOC could be of more help to deaf sports in Japan. It was mutually agreed that JOC and JDSF would work together to provide direct services and benefits for deaf athletes and prepare a bid for the 2015 Winter Deaflympics.

Dr. Ammons had a luncheon meeting with three men from Japanese Paralympic Committee (Mr. Hokugo, President, Mr.

Nakamori, Secretary General, and Mr. Nakajima, Executive Director of Japan Sports Association for the Disabled at Restaurant Avaco. Among the discussion items were equity in fund disbursement for deaf sports and the 2015 Winter Deaflympics.

Dr. Ammons left Japan feeling more confident about Japan's serious consideration for the 2015 Winter Deaflympics bid and hosting international sporting events for the deaf in the near future.



Dr. Ammons presents about Deaflympics



Princess Kiko signed to Dr. Ammons in American Sign Language

Message from Technical Director - Bobby Skedsmo

Mr. Bobby Skedsmo has been to many Summer Deaflympics, World Deaf Cycling Championships and European cycling championships since 1965. He considered the 12th World Deaf Cycling Championships the best ever witnessed. It provided a great diversity of terrains and technical challenges that many riders had never experienced during the championship week.

Every rider went home with a mind-boggling experience.

The highlight of all events was the 40-kilometer Points Race at the Hellyer Park Velodrome at night. The race was so intense, fast and clean. The riders were in a tight pack racing for points for 120 laps to the finish. Paul Wood of USA, who was the match sprint champion and had won three sprints, had to quit because time allowance for recovery did not give him break due to the race being very intense and fast from the beginning to the end. The average speed was 28.14 mph. Past speed average for the Deaflympics and championships was well below 24 mph. The atmosphere and technical opportunity at the velodrome may be the cause of attributing to the best outcome of the riders. They loved every bit of it at the velodrome!

In conclusion, during Bobby's tenure as the technical director, he had a goal of having the mountain bike, velodrome and to include women in the race. There were not enough participating nations for women to qualify for the medals but at least one woman from Italy had made history for the ICSD. She raced to the best of her ability against the men. Mr. Skedsmo's endeavors and dreams came true.

Bobby W. Skedsmo
ICSD Technical Director - Cycling

Message from Technical Director - Reed Gershwind

I wish to thank Greece for hosting the recent successful EDSO Swimming Championships. Congratulations to the many swimmers, who swam well, won medals, and broke records. I look forward to a faster competition next year at the World Deaf Swimming Championships and meet new young swimmers.

Chinese Taipei Sports Association of the Deaf (CTSAD) has been awarded to host the 2nd World Deaf Swimming Championships, 11-17 August 2007. CTSAD will send out formal invitations soon with more details. I will be traveling to Taipei next month for a site inspection and visit.

For those who play Water Polo in Europe - train well for the EDSO Water Polo Championships. Hungary will host this event, 18-23 September 2006. ICSD is still looking for countries to bid for the World Deaf Water Polo Championships 2007/8 and 2011.

For most of you, please keep cool in the water this summer. See you next year in Salt Lake City, USA and/or Taipei, Taiwan.

Aquatically yours,

Reed Gershwind
ICSD Technical Director Swimming & Water Polo

Inside Deaflympics

16th Winter Deaflympics Report

The 2007 Winter Deaflympics Organizing Committee is eagerly looking forward to welcoming the world to Salt Lake City, USA in less than eight months. Chairman Dwight Benedict reports that the committee still has a lot of work ahead, but the 16th Winter Deaflympics definitely will be a memorable event to everyone, athlete or non-athlete, and deaf or hearing.

Now that the headquarters hotel, Little America Hotel, is about 85% booked, special arrangements have been made for spectators to also stay at another hotel; the Red Lion Inn. The Red Lion Inn is less a block from Little America Hotel. The Red Lion Inn room rates and reservations information shall be available on the Winter Deaflympics website by the end of June 2006. The web-site address is www.2007Deaflympics.com.

The competition venues and schedules have been finalized. The snowboard Boardercross competition had to be cancelled because of some recent Boardercross accidents, which led to lawsuits. Park City Mountain Resort became concerned about injuries and liability should there be Boardercross accidents during the Winter Deaflympics, and decided not to have any more Boardercross events at their resort. The Organizing Committee has replaced the Boardercross with a snowboard Slopestyle competition event.

Ticket sales through the Internet were delayed again, due to staffing changes at Salt Lake Convention and Visitors Bureau (SLCVB). This change does not affect hotel reservations. Advance ticket sales should be available through the Winter Deaflympics website by 10 July 2006. The Organizing Committee apologizes for this delay. If you would like to receive regular updates on the Winter Deaflympics, send your e-mail address to News@2007Deaflympics.com.

Due to a reduced budget, the Arts Festival has been removed from the program. The competition events will not be affected by this budget reduction. Spectators will be responsible for their own transportation to the snowboard, alpine ski, and cross country ski venues, but the Organizing Committee will provide spectators with information on how to travel to these competition venues. This does not have any impact on transportation for athletes and national team representatives.

The SLC 2007 Organizing Committee look forward to seeing you all at the Winter Deaflympics in Salt Lake City USA.

Report from Technical Director - Alpine Skiing

The 2007 16th Winter Deaflympics in Salt Lake City and the resort of Park City Ski Mountain Resort left me with a lasting impression during the March 2006 site visit. I have been wondering whether our American friends would be capable of staging winter games with high standards of infrastructure, organization and sport but after visiting I think they can.

There is plenty of snow in most of the Park City Region and average snowfall is 355" (902cm) with a vertical drop of 3,100ft (945m). It has beautiful huge and wide mountains and plenty of access for us to go through. A large number of spectators will be able to watch both Alpine and snowboard in the same resort.

The Alpine Technical Team members are: Karen Korfanta - Chief Race FIS, Jeff Lewis-Director of Competitions (USA), Scott Sigoda – Alpine Skiing Sports Liaison Officer (USA) and myself. We worked together to make the Alpine events run smoothly. Karen Korfanta of FIS and staff members have deep experience

working with 2002 Winter Olympics in Park City Mountain Resort. She has been very supportive for the 16th Winter Deaflympics.

I am already looking forward to welcoming you in person at Salt Lake City/Park City Mountain Resort. I am sure that we will have a successful edition of Winter Deaflympics.

Colin Macdonald
Alpine Skiing Technical Director
Great Britain

Report from Technical Director – Snowboard

I would like to introduce myself as the new Technical Director of Snowboard for the International Committee of Sport for the Deaf. I am very pleased to be challenged with this task to be working with the Winter Deaflympics. Above all I am very pleased to be working with the snowboard delegates of participating countries! I hope we will have good cooperation for a long time and I invite you for a Technical Meeting on 31 January 2007 at 16.30 o'clock (tentatively) held in the Idaho room at the Little America Hotel. I was at Salt Lake City during the site visit 1 to 4 March 2006. It was impressive! They are optimal and excellent for the all Snowboard-Contests.

I suggest that you check the homepage <http://www.deaflympics.com/sports/index.asp?SC=Snowboard> for more information. It shows the trainings and running of programs.

Marco Galmarin
Snowboard Technical Director
Switzerland

Deaf Sports Events

7th World Deaf Golf Championships

MEDIA RELEASE (22 JUNE 2006)

30 SEPTEMBER TO 3 OCTOBER 2008 JOONDALUP GOLF RESORT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Australian Deaf Golf Association (ADGA) is proud to announce that ADGA is hosting the 7th World Deaf Golf Championship at Joondalup Golf Resort, in Perth, Western Australia.

It is expected that 120 golfers from countries such as Canada, Denmark, England, Finland, Ireland, Japan, Norway, Scotland, South Africa, Sweden, and USA will participate in these championships. Men, Women and Seniors, who have met the international criteria of 55 decibels hearing loss in the better ear, will be eligible to participate.

Recently, the premier golf magazine, Australian Golf Digest, has named Joondalup Golf Resort (www.joondalupresort.com.au) as the top ranked Resort Golf Course in Australia for 2005 / 2006.

The Australian Deaf Golf Association is a National Deaf Golf Association with 5 member state bodies (New South Wales, Queensland, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia), under the auspices of Deaf Sports Australia (DSA) catering for Deaf and hard of hearing golfers (meeting eligibility criteria). ADGA will be sending a 8 strong team (6 male and 2 female) to compete at the 6 th World Deaf Golf Championships in Edmonton, Canada. For more information about eligibility requirements, please see www.deafsports.org.au.

Please contact Gavin Balharrie, ADGA Secretary at gbalharrie@2008wdgc.com for

information about the event, or to discuss any potential sponsorship.

Information on 2007 Dresse and Maere Cup

<http://www.deaflympics.com/news/enews/pdf/2007DresseMaereCup.pdf>

Information on 2007 World Deaf Badminton Championships

<http://www.deaflympics.com/news/enews/pdf/2007WorldDeafBadmintonChampionships.pdf>

Deaf Sports In Brief

Athletes in the News

GREAT BRITAIN:

Joanne Davison broke her old world record in women's hammer throw. She set two world records that same day, 48.14 and 48.36 meters. Click [here](#)

(<http://www.deafukathletics.org.uk/johammer.html>) to read more.

UNITED STATES:

Patrick Southern set a new world record in men's pole vault with the height at 5.06 meters. Click [here](#)

(http://www.huskies.com/ViewArticle.dbml?SPSID=92&SPID=32&DB_OEM_ID=100&ATCLID=268411) to read more.

2006 World Deaf Cycling Championships Recap

The Greatest Week in Deaf Cycling History

As Terence Parkin of South Africa raised his arms in triumph after crossing the line during the 120km Road Race, it was a perfect ending to the greatest week in the deaf cycling history with a first time winner. Over the week long event, a total of 4 road race and 2 mountain bike events were held in various locations, Pescadero, Livermore, San Jose and Fremont. A total of 12 nations participated in the 12th World Deaf Cycling Championships presented by San Francisco Club for the Deaf.

Firsts:

- A total of 11 medals were awarded to cyclists for the first time signaling a youth movement. Few examples were Terence

Parkin of South Africa at 26 years old, Luis Carlos Sanchez of Colombia at 22 years old, Johan Reyneke of South Africa at 22 years old and Kiril Pestov of Russia at 23 years old.

- 12 nations participated in the World Deaf Cycling Championships which is the largest number ever.
- 50 cyclists participated in the World Deaf Cycling Championships which easily beat the total of 31 cyclists at Melbourne Deaflympics in 2005.
- Mountain Bike Events were added to the program for the first time and proved to be very successful.
- Hellyer Park Velodrome was used for the 1000m Sprint and 40km Points Race instead of a regular and traditional criterium type with streets.
- 300 and 450 fans were on hand to witness the best racing ever at Hellyer Park Velodrome on Monday and Thursday evenings respectively.

Recap:

Monday, June 19, 2006 – 1000m Sprints presented by Nextweb.net

The evening started off with 200m sprints and we all saw some blistering times by Luis Carlos Sanchez (Colombia), Terence Parkin (South Africa), Nick Schreiber (United States), Scott Staubach (United States) and Paul Wood (United States). As the evening went on, there were some thrilling racing going on between 2 cyclists on the track at the same time. In the end, Paul Wood emerged victorious for the 10th time and possibly his final, Nick Schreiber came behind. Luis Carlos Sanchez worked hard to prevent an all American podium and barely beat Scott Staubach of United States to claim the Bronze Medal, a first for Colombia.

To read more:

<http://www.usdeafsports.org/2006cycling/1000msprint.html>

Gold: Paul Wood, USA

Silver: Nick Schreiber, USA

Bronze: Luis Carlos Sanchez, COL



United States sprinter Paul Wood



Sanchez (COL) edged Matovcik, Jr. (SVK) in 1/8 sprint finals



Reyneke (RSA) was overtaken by Denman (AUS) in the 1/8 sprint finals



1000m sprints medalists

Tuesday, June 18, 2006 – Short Course Mountain Bike Race presented by Hands On Video Relay Service

Luigi Cucco (Italy) captured gold for Short Track Mountain Bike event. Terence Parkin (South Africa) and Wayne Langbein (United States) walked away with Silver and Bronze, respectively. The first mountain bike event of 2006 World Deaf Cycling Championship proved to be challenging and successful for some of the elite racers under the scorching sun at California School for the Deaf, Fremont. During 45-minute time elapsed short track race with the crowd watching on, many riders had dynamic start, but most faltered away after the first few laps while a few maintained a steady pace throughout the race. Matovcik Jr (Slovakia) showed some dominance in the beginning, pushing the pace in the front but it was not for long before he lost the lead to Cucco for good. Cucco, who benefited from a brilliant tactical move in the early midway to close the gap on the rest of the riders, took advantage of Matovcik's sign of difficulty to maintain the lead after a few laps and sealed the lead for the rest of the race.

To read more:

<http://www.usdeafsports.org/2006cycling/SCMtn.html>

Gold: Luigi Cucco, ITA

Silver: Terence Parkin, RSA

Bronze: Wayne Langbein, USA



Cucco (ITA) wins short track



Short track medalists

Wednesday, June 19, 2006 – 34 km Individual Time Trial presented by Sprint Relay

High up on San Antonio Valley Road at 2,900 feet, between the Livermore Hills and Mt. Hamilton, under the scorching California sun, 20 Deaf cyclists went one by one onto a brutal 20-mile time trial ride as part of World Deaf Cycling Championships' week-long event. It was successful for 25-year-old American cyclist Nick Schreiber! He was one of the riders to "watch" before the start of the event. He won by at least a minute ahead of the second place finisher, at 50 minutes and 16 seconds. It was also a first for American Deaf cycling, as there has never been an United States gold medal finisher before.

Czech Republic's Pavel Pastrnek and Josef Merunka made a very surprising appearance in 2nd and 3rd place, respectively. Pastrnek came in at 51 minutes and 35 seconds, and Merunka was only 6 seconds behind him. Their teammate, Jan Capek, was one of the favored riders to place in the top three but he came up short. The Czech Republic head coach

remarked, "I'm happy, but I'm more relieved that my boys were able to medal! The government will not sponsor our athletes for the 2009 Summer Deaflympics unless they medal in this event. Now we have 3 of our cyclists who will be able to go to Taipei.

To read more:

<http://www.usdeafsports.org/2006cycling/itt.htm>
|

Gold: Nick Schreiber, USA
Silver: Pavel Pastrnek, CZE
Bronze: Josef Merunka, CZE

Thursday, June 20, 2006- 40km Points Race presented by Cannondale

With the temperatures climbing into the high nineties, hundreds of fans still turned out for what promised to be an exciting evening at Hellyer Park Velodrome for the 40km Points Race. Every 6 laps, the riders need to do a sprint, where they will have to compete in order to receive points in subsequent order of 5 points to first, 3 points to second, 2 points to third, and 1 point to fourth. Culmination of the most points throughout the race wins the match. To open the event, two preliminary heats were done. The preliminary heats lasted 30 laps long. Two group heats paced the top 20 riders out of 33 riders, and the 20 riders went into the actual race, this time going for 120 laps - or 40 kilometers. Fans continued to be amazed at the riders' sheer endurance and energy for riding so many laps.

The star of the evening, Nick Schreiber, looked genuinely happy when he was interviewed. "I can't really begin to think how I feel about this medal. I'm happy, I guess. This race was so tough, and definitely the hardest race so far this week." When Jarrod Denman of Australia was close to lapping the main pack, Nick Schreiber without any help, decided to pull the pack back to the leaders like a freight train. It was so devastating that the leaders decided to slow down when they saw Nick Schreiber

within ¼ of a lap of them to begin their recovery process before the next sprint.

Australia's Denman made a surprise break from the pack and rode solo for approximately 12 laps, and continued to stay in the lead for 10 more laps afterwards. All of a sudden, he was in first place. Denman remarked later, "I just kept my legs moving. I forced myself not to look back, because I knew I would become weak if I knew where everyone else was. I worked so hard to stay focused."

Throughout the race, Russia's Pestov kept pumping away, and made a solid, steady showing that put him with a bronze medal. "I was so surprised when I found out I had placed third," Pestov said. "I completely did not expect to medal in this event. I have made Russia proud, and now I will be able to go to Taipei in 2009". Russia is yet another country whose government will grant sponsorship money for cyclists who have medaled in this week's events.

To read more:

http://www.usdeafsports.org/2006cycling/points_race.html

Gold: Nick Schreiber, USA
Silver: Jarrod Denman, AUS
Bronze: Kiril Pestov, RUS



Packed fans came to watch 40km points race



Carruthers (NZL) surged ahead to earn additional points



Schreiber (USA) celebrates his victory lap

Friday, June 23, 2006 – Cross Country Mountain Bike Race presented by Clifbar

Johan Reyneke of South Africa could not believe his luck when he cycled past the fallen rider of Czech Republic, Pavel Pastrnek. A folded wheel rim had befallen Pavel Pastrnek and Johan Reyneke was able to hold off Julius Matovick Jr of Slovakia to the victory. South Africa was a first time entry into the World Deaf Cycling Championships and they had very realistic expectations however Johan Reyneke was able to time his surge to the front correctly and win the gold medal for South Africa which sent the whole team cheering wildly when he crossed the finish line.

To read more:

<http://www.usdeafsports.org/2006cycling/LCMtn.html>

Gold: Johan Reyneke, RSA
Silver: Julius Matovick, JR SVK
Bronze: Michael Isara, ITA

Saturday, June 24, 2006 – 120km Road Race at Pescadero presented by Ip-Relay.com

Under a thick fog at approximately 8:50 in the morning, 35 World Deaf Cycling Championships riders started a grueling 75-mile road race that would eventually test who was the best road race riders. In the end, only about 15 cyclists finished, and the top three finishers were not who everyone expected to finish. At the feeding station, the reporters learned that on the first loop, three riders from France, Italy and Czech Republic were leading, with the first part of the pack not far behind from them. Coaches from different countries were interviewed, and many of them said they had no idea who would win the race, and would have to wait to see. A Czech Republic coach said, "This race is tough. Whoever wins will be commended."

Then Parkin came into sight, and almost everyone overlooked him as one of the hearing riders, as Schreiber and Cloux was heavily favored to win. Suddenly, right before the finish line, Parkin raised his arms in victory and everyone went, "What? He won!" Before everyone could absorb the shock, Colombia's lone representative, Luis Carlos Sanchez, burst onto the scene and skated through to get a second place finish. Czech Republic's Frantisek Kocourek was not far behind from Sanchez, and placed third. Cloux was behind Kocourek, and he looked extremely disappointed at not being able to place in the top three. He later commented, "I was very frustrated during the race. It was a great course, and I had no problems with the hills, but I was always the leader. Everyone stayed behind me to draft. I tried to wave other riders in front of me, but no one would do that! Eventually I got too tired!" Schreiber eventually showed up in 6th place, and when he passed the finish line, he grinned, gave everyone a thumbs-up and continued down the road. Kosa also finished well, much to the surprise of others.

Back at the high school parking lot, a score of interviews were done. Of course, one of the first was done with Terence Parkin. He admitted that he had cried tears of joy for winning the race, because he had waited all week to do this race. "I wanted so badly to win this race, and especially to get a medal in America!"

To read more:

<http://www.usdeafsports.org/2006cycling/pescaderoroadrace.html>

Gold: Terence Parkin, RSA
Silver: Luis Carlos Sanchez, COL
Bronze: Frantisek Kocourek , CZE



Peloton leads 120km road race



Parkin (RSA) surged final climb to win 120km road race

General Classification: (Yellow Jersey) by San Francisco Club for the Deaf

Terence Parkin of South Africa and Nick Schreiber of United States were tied after one week with 105 points and the tiebreaker was the number of victories. Nick Schreiber came

ahead with two first place compared to Terence Parkin's one victory. This also was a first time the World Deaf Cycling Championships had the General Classification. Daniel Carruthers of New Zealand came in 3rd, getting a first medal ever for New Zealand.

Gold: Nick Schreiber, USA
Silver: Terence Parkin, RSA
Bronze: Daniel Carruthers, NZE

For more information, go to
<http://www.usdeafsports.org/2006cycling>

Robin Horwitz
World Deaf Cycling Championships Director

Renate Telser

Renate Telser, a female athlete from Italy, is a perfect example of an increased number of elite Deaf women participating in sports. Deaflympics President Donald Ammons recently traveled to Japan to give presentation on "Deaflympics: Dealing with Change and Diversity" and in her presentation she discussed about the growing trend in Deaf women and sports.

Ms. Tiffany Granfors attended the World Deaf Cycling Championships in California and watched Renate competed against the men in Mountain Biking events. She was the only woman competing in the Championships. Her strength, mental toughness, and desire to compete in this sport had impressed everyone in the competition. Renate is a role model for other women in cycling and she hoped that more women would be interested in cycling and participate in future competitions.

Ms. Granfors on behalf of ICSD had awarded her with a special award to promote Women in Sports for her participation in Mountain Biking at the World Deaf Cycling Championships.



Credit: Pam Meadows

Renate Telser, Female Mountain Biker



Credit: Pam Meadows

Renate Telser raced along with men's mountain bikers

Kevin Hall Chases His Dream

From the newsroom of the FOX Sports, Thursday, May 25, 2006

Associated Press

Kevin Hall might have a good laugh if he were aware of all that goes on around him on the golf course.

He was on the first tee at the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am when the starter reminded the gallery that no cameras were allowed and "please make sure your cell phones are turned off." In New Orleans, as Hall stood over a 6-foot birdie putt on the first green, a volunteer instinctively raised a sign that said, "Quiet, Please." Then, realizing who was about to putt, he shrugged and slowly lowered it.

Kevin Hall reacts to a missed birdie putt.
(Andrew Cohoon / Associated Press)

Hall's world has been quiet as long as he can remember.

Meningitis that nearly took his life at age 2 robbed him of hearing. But he refused to surrender a normal life filled with big dreams. He was not sure where they would take him until a family friend put a golf club in his hands, setting in motion Hall's hopes of becoming a PGA Tour player like no other.

"People will always see me as deaf and black," Hall said through a sign language interpreter. "I don't think people will see me as just another golfer. It just won't happen. That's my story. I guess it will always be my story. But the positive thing about it is that I can use my story to inspire other people, to help them see that they can do what they want, and to help them pursue their dreams.

"If I can help one person, that would make me happy."

Hall's dream remains a work in progress, although patience and perseverance are two traits he knows well.

Determined to succeed, he became one of the top junior golfers in Cincinnati. He was good enough to become the first black to receive a golf scholarship at Ohio State, great enough to win the Big 10 championship two years ago by 11 shots.

Hall was medalist at the first stage of PGA Tour qualifying last year, but didn't make it further. He now plays on mini-tours, and he tries Monday to qualify on the Nationwide Tour. He also asks PGA Tour events for sponsor's exemptions, receiving five the last two years, although he has yet to make the cut.

But he is no charity case.

"When I write my letters to tournaments, I tell them that I'm deaf and I tell them that I'm black," Hall said. "And then I tell them I don't want them to look at me as different. I want them to look at me as a person who got through life, fighting, working hard. And I want them to look at me as a person who wants a chance - a chance to play with the best players in the world."

He gets another chance this coming week at the Memorial, the most special exemption of them all.

Jack Nicklaus, another Ohio native and former Big 10 champion at Ohio State, is the tournament host. Hall played Muirfield Village about a dozen times while in college. This will be the first time he has played the PGA Tour in his home state.

"I was shocked," he said of getting the exemption. "All I know is I have to bring my A-plus-plus game."

Nicklaus now lives in south Florida and travels the world with his golf course design business. He was not aware of Hall's story until the producers of the ARETE Awards for courage in sports asked him to introduce a feature on Hall.

Nicklaus, like everyone else who first meets the 23-year-old Hall, was impressed and inspired.

"I was amazed to learn what he had overcome in his life and golf career, the way he faces challenges with commitment and determination," Nicklaus said. "He's a fighter. He fought death as an infant, and he has had to fight the challenges that come with being deaf. For those who seem to think he can't make it in this sport, he seems to use that to fuel his motivation."

No doubt, there are obstacles.

Donald Barnes, the family friend who took Hall to the golf course at age 8, wondered if being deaf would make it difficult for Hall to keep his balance, key to a sound golf swing.

"He got perfect with it," Barnes said. "I've never seen a person pick up anything as fast as he did."

Most players can tell how they're hitting the ball by the way it sounds coming off the club. Hall doesn't have that luxury. He depends entirely on feel.

"Hearing is huge," Paul Azinger said. "There is no mistaking the sound of a bad shot. I bet that if you stuck earplugs in any player's ear, it would neutralize his game. I think this guy is amazing."

Hall doesn't have casual conversations with his caddie as they stroll down the fairway. They must be face-to-face for Hall to read lips. And if that doesn't work, Hall keeps a pad of paper in his bag to write notes. His caddie at Pebble Beach, Dennis Mitchell, tapped him on the shoulder on the fourth tee, then used hand motions to remind Hall to keep his hand cupped on impact.

These are moments when spectators realize Hall is deaf.

"I don't act like a deaf person," Hall said. "I talk, I laugh, I can read lips. But when they see my signing, then I see their eyes going, 'Oh, what's he doing? What's that?' And then their faces look like idiots, and my dad has to explain I'm deaf. Their reaction is priceless."

Matt Hansen played two rounds with Hall in New Orleans and called it one of the best moments of his rookie season.

"I had to make sure there was eye contact, and I was better at that today," he said after the second round. "It's amazing he can compete on this level. I would have thought being deaf

would be a big hindrance. But this is a special player."

Percy Hall wasn't sure how to proceed when doctors told him his son was deaf. He learned sign language and devised games to teach Kevin how to communicate. And he was determined to treat Kevin as a normal kid, telling him that being deaf would not keep him from doing whatever he pursued.

"My wife and I promised to do whatever it took to give him a chance to be successful," Percy Hall said.

Kevin joined a bowling league and carried a 205 average. He played baseball. But he found his passion in golf, and he found inspiration from a junior clinic in 1998 when Tiger Woods came to Cincinnati.

Woods made his way down the long line of juniors, stopping to give a word or two of advice and encouragement. When he reached Hall, the teenager was hitting the ball over the range and into the backyards of houses. Woods spoke to Hall's mother, Jackie, who signed the instructions - for more length, extend his arms to get a wider arc in his swing.

The next tee shot went 30 yards farther, and Hall's smile lit up the practice range.

Woods also smiled and left Hall words to consider: "See you on tour someday."

Hall believes he will get there eventually. The sponsor's exemptions - Milwaukee and the Texas Open last year, Pebble Beach, New Orleans and the Memorial so far this year - have shown him how far he has come and what he needs to improve, mostly his short game.

Even while missing the cut, he has never felt he doesn't belong. He doesn't believe he is dreaming too big.

"I see life differently than other people," Hall said. "I almost died when I was very young. I was sick. When I got through that, I lost my hearing. And I said, 'I'm not going to give up.' I got a second chance at life. God gave me a second chance. So I don't see myself being out of my league. I don't have time to say, 'Oh, my God, I don't belong here.' What I do have time for is to enjoy life one day at a time."

"If I think that I'll be good, then I probably will," he said. "I just have to keep on working hard and never give up."

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Mediterranean Sea Deaf Sports Seminar

Ms. Tiffany Granfors, Executive Director, had the opportunity for the first time to visit the beautiful country of Israel and to attend the Mediterranean Sea Deaf Sports Seminar on 1-3 June 2006. The aim of the seminar was to establish the Med Sea Deaf Games, which is similar to the Nordic Baltic Deaf Sports Association where they hold competitions among the Nordic Baltic Sea countries.

Five Med Sea countries attended the first seminar and we were very appreciative of their attendance. Those countries were: Croatia, Cyprus, Israel, Portugal, and Turkey. The Seminar provided lots of good ideas and plans to begin a sports program for the Mediterranean Deaf Games and Seminar. Turkey has proposed to host the next seminar with hopes of more countries participating in 2007. The selected representatives to share more information on this and continue with work in progress actions are: Dogan Ozdemir of Turkey, Mario Lusic of Croatia and Ido Rosink of Israel. Many thanks to everyone for their excellent participation and ideas to be

able to get Med Sea Deaf Games become a reality.

ICSD wishes to thank ICSD Vice President David Lanesman and Israel Deaf Sports Organization for hosting the Med Sea Deaf Sports Seminar and providing everyone with a wonderful tour to Jerusalem, which was a special treat for everyone! Special thanks to Jacob Ehrenfeld, former IDSO President, for being a wonderful tour guide.

Tiffany had the opportunity to stay two extra days in Israel and was invited to visit Hafia Deaf Sports Club and meet the officers. Heartfelt thanks to Hafia Deaf Sports Club for a warm welcome and nice dinner! Ms. Granfors then had the opportunity to watch a futsal game between Hafia and Ashdod. Those two teams played a great game which Haifa won. Tiffany had the opportunity to meet Avi Bokler, who is a well-known deaf sportsman in Israel and has won 6 medals in 2 Deaf World Championships in Martial Arts and won 3 times in hearing competitions. Mr. Bokler was pleased to see Karate being added as one of the sports in Deaflympics in 2009!



Mediterranean Sea Seminar participants



Hafia Deaf Sports Club board members



Tiffany Granfors and Avi Bokler

Regional
Committee

Josu Gomez Villar

Deaf Sports Federation New Boards Announcement

Hellenic Athletic Federation of the Deaf (GREECE)

President	Ioannis Stoufis
Vice President "A"	Andreas Rigas
Vice President "B"	Paschalis Kiriazidis
General Secretary	Antonios Zaspalis
Assistant Secretary	Ted Staroyiannis
Treasurer "A"	Athanasios Makras
Treasurer "B"	Fotios Noulas
Member	Iosif Stavrakakis
Member	Labros Psihogios
Member	Iakovos Haroulakis
Member	Argirios Fotiou

Federación Española de Deportes para Sordos (SPAIN)

President	Emilio Basconcillos Fernandez
Vice President	Angel Perez Jimenez
Managing Director	Ramon Parra
Treasurer	Jose Javier Campillo
Vice Treasurer	Jaime Holguin
Member	Santiago Poveda
Member	Alberto Calbo
Juridical Advisor	Francisco Llamas

IOC In Brief

Three cities to compete to host the 2014 Olympic Winter Games

Sochi (Russia), Salzburg (Austria) and PyeongChang (Republic of Korea)* were today accepted by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Executive Board in Lausanne as Candidate Cities to host the XXII Olympic Winter Games in 2014. The cities were accepted unanimously from a total of seven Applicant Cities, which also included Jaca (Spain), Almaty (Kazakhstan), Sofia (Bulgaria), and Borjomi (Georgia).

The selection was based on a study of, and subsequent report on, the Candidate Cities' applications submitted earlier this year on 1 February. The study and report were made by a working group comprising Olympic Games experts who made a technical assessment of each Applicant City's potential to stage successful Olympic Winter Games in 2014. The technical assessment was based on 25 questions which included the areas of Government Support and Public Opinion, General Infrastructure, Sports Venues, Olympic Village, Environmental Conditions and Impact, Accommodation, Transport, Security, Experience from Past Sports Events, Overall Project and Legacy. The full report made by the working group is available on the IOC website, www.olympic.org.

The three Candidate Cities now have until 10 January 2007 to submit their Candidature File to the IOC. The Candidature Files will be analysed in detail by an IOC Evaluation Commission, which will also visit the Candidate Cities, before issuing a report one month prior to the election. The final decision on the host city for the XXII Olympic Winter Games will be made by the full IOC membership during the 119th IOC Session in Guatemala City in July 2007.

Please note: the Candidature Procedure and Questionnaire, which outlines the procedures, rules and deadlines to be respected until the election of the host city, as well as the in-depth questionnaire which Candidate Cities must respond to in their Candidature File, will also be available on the IOC website, www.olympic.org in the coming days.

* Cities are listed in the order of drawing of lots.
