



**TOKYO**  
**2020 ONE**



The Tokyo Olympics have already made history - long before the games had even started. These summer games are the first ever set to be postponed - as well as take place during a global pandemic. In 2014, when Tokyo was awarded host, the theme for the 2020 was set to be "Discover Tomorrow." The theme has since been changed to "United by Emotion", to better represent the tumultuous year the world has experienced.

With each set of games, an olympic mascot is created. The mascot for the Tokyo 2020 summer games is named Miraitowa. His name

means "future" and "eternity" and possesses teleportation powers. Miraitowa's Paralympic counterpart is named Someity. She can fly and send telepathic messages. Her likeness and name are modeled after Japan's famous cherry blossoms.

As the world's elite athletes converge on Tokyo, the country's top sports fans will be gathering in living rooms and sports bars from coast to coast. For most of us, there's nothing quite as exhilarating as watching a medalist hopeful pause before sparking into action.

From July 23 to August 8, we'll be able to follow Team USA's progress toward the podium as

our athletes compete against the top achievers across the globe. Tokyo's opening ceremony is scheduled for 8 p.m. on July 23, Tokyo time, which is 13 hours ahead of the U.S. East Coast. Live coverage will be available for the early rising fans who wish to watch. Closing ceremonies are slated for August 8, 2021.

Maybe this year we'll win more than last time, maybe we won't. One thing is for sure - we should count ourselves lucky that we're able to send our athletes and coaches to the games, albeit a year late. Let's bring home the gold and make it worth the wait. Team USA, strong and proud.



## HOLD THE PHONE...

In February of 2017, Japan called its citizens to action, asking for donations of old and unwanted cell phones. Gold, silver and bronze were harvested from the donated devices to create 5,000 medals for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The same method was used to make the medals for the 2010 Vancouver Winter Games.

Japanese culture is apparent throughout each aspect of the medal design. Ribbons exhibit a modernized version of *ichimatsu moyo*, which are checkered patterns

(as seen on our cover); and *kasane no irome*, a kimono layering technique used to produce specific colored patterns. Colors chosen for Tokyo 2020 are represented in each ribbon. Keeping with the environmentally friendly theme, the colors were added to the ribbons with chemically-recycled, co2-friendly polyester fibers.

Cases for the medals were reportedly created by Japanese makers through "traditional and modern techniques" alike.

Thinking of  
Buying or Selling  
Real Estate?  
Call or text us  
*anytime!*



**BLAKE HAAG**  
REALTOR®

513.835.1936

blakehaag@kw.com



**LASHANDA MESSER**  
REALTOR®

513.582.0194

lashandermesser@kw.com

**kw** REALTY  
SERVICES  
KELLERWILLIAMS.

Buy & Sell with  
*Blake and Lashanda*

Serving all of Southeastern Indiana



Follow Us on Facebook



SPORT	DISCIPLINE	DATES
Aquatics	Swimming	July 24 - Aug 1
	Diving	July 25 - 28; July 30 - Aug 7
	Artistic Swimming	Aug 2 - 4; Aug 6 - 7
	Water Polo	July 24 - Aug 8
	Marathon Swimming	Aug 4 - Aug 5
Archery		July 23 - 31
Athletics	Track & Field / Marathon	July 30 - Aug 8
	Race Walk	July 30; Aug 6 - 7
Badminton		July 24 - Aug 2
Baseball / Softball	Baseball	July 28 - Aug 5; Aug 7
	Softball	July 21 - 22; July 24 - 27
Basketball	3x3 Basketball	July 24 - July 28
	Basketball	July 25 - Aug 8
Boxing		July 24 - Aug 1; Aug 3 - 8
Canoe	Slalom	July 25 - 30
	Spring	Aug 2 - Aug 7
Cycling	BMX Freestyle	July 31 - Aug 1
	BMX Racing	July 29 - 30
	Mountain Bike	July 26 - 29
	Road	July 24 - 25; July 28
	Track	Aug 2 - 8
Equestrian	Dressage	July 24 - 25; July 27 - 28
	Eventing	July 30 - Aug 2
	Jumping	Aug 3 - 4; Aug 6 - 7
Fencing		July 24 - Aug 1
Football		July 21-22; July 24-25; July 27-28; July 30-31; Aug 2-3; Aug 5-7

SPORT	DISCIPLINE	DATES
Golf		July 29 - Aug 1; Aug 1-3
Gymnastics	Artistic	July 24-29; Aug 1-3
	Rhythmic	Aug 6-8
	Trampoline	July 30-31
Handball		July 24 - Aug 8
Hockey		July 24 - Aug 6
Judo		July 24 - 31
Karate	Kata, Kumite	Aug 5 - 7
Modern Pentathlon		Aug 5 - 7
Rowing		July 23 - 30
Rugby		July 26 - 31
Sailing		July 25 - Aug 4
Shooting	Rifle and Pistol	July 24 - 25; 27; 29 - Aug 1
	Shotgun	July 25 - 26; 28-29; 31
Skateboarding	Park	Aug 4 - 5
	Street	July 25 - 26
Sport Climbing		Aug 3 - 6
Surfing		July 25 - Aug 1
Table Tennis		July 24 - 30; Aug 1 - 6
Taekwondo		July 24 - 27
Tennis		July 24 - Aug 1
Triathlon		July 26 - 27; 31
Volleyball	Beach Volleyball	July 24 - Aug 7
	Volleyball	July 24 - Aug 8
Weightlifting		July 24 - 28; 31; Aug 1 - 4
Wrestling		Aug 1 - 7

***Congratulations  
Contenders!***

***We wish America's top athletes  
good luck as they embark upon  
the exciting challenges of this  
year's Summer Games.  
Go, USA!***



**REGISTER  
PUBLICATIONS™**  
YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR HOMETOWN NEWS

**126 W. High Street - Lawrenceburg, IN 47025**  
**812-537-0063**  
[www.RegisterPublications.com](http://www.RegisterPublications.com)

## TRACK & FIELD

Track & Field is the oldest Olympic sport dating back to the original ancient Greek Olympics. It also embodies the Olympic Motto "Citius, Altius, Fortius" which means "Faster, Higher, Stronger". This makes Track & Field the quintessential Olympic sport and one of the most looked forward to events of the Summer Games. This year, Team USA will be bringing one of its strongest teams ever and there are many athletes to keep an eye on at the Games. Let's start with the men's sprint team where there is a great chance for them to sweep the medals in the 100m Dash and maybe even the 200m Dash. Watch out for athletes such as Trayvon Bromell, Noah Lyles, Fred Kerley and 17 year old sensation Erriyon Knighton. On the women's side, 200m sprinter Gabby Thomas just recently ran the 2nd fastest time ever and will look to bring home

gold in that event along with Jenna Prandini. Perhaps the most competitive races to watch will be the women's and men's 400m Hurdles. There will be a fantastic match up between Americans Sydney McLaughlin (likely to be one of the faces of this year's Games) and Dalilah Muhammad. The last 3 times these two have gone head to head, the world record has been broken with McLaughlin coming out on top in the last match up. For the men, the Norwegian Karsten Warholm just broke with world record, but he will be challenged by American Rai Benjamin. In the 110m High Hurdles, look out for Grant Holloway who nearly broke the world record in that event a few weeks ago. Another person who should star at the Games is Athing Mu in the 800m Run. Athing is just 19 and on her way to becoming a superstar in the sport.

Don't forget about the field events! There will be a great match up in the men's shot put between Americans Ryan Crouser (the new world record holder in the event) and Joe Kovacs (the defending world champion).

Joe trains at Ohio State where he is coached by his wife Ashley. Other field eventers to keep an eye on would be Brittney Reese and Tara Davis in the long jump, Deena Price in the hammer throw, Val Allman in the discus, and the pole vault battle between Mondo Duplantis (representing Sweden) and American Sam Kendricks.



**SCOTT MENZE**

If you are looking for some locals to root for, take a look at Clayton Murphy who is from Greeneville, Ohio and ran for Akron University. Clayton won the bronze medal in the 800m Run at the 2016 Olympics and is a favorite for the gold this year. Also, Pole Vaulter Katie Nageotte competed for Olmstead Falls High School outside of Cleveland and Ashland University. Katie is also one of the favorites for gold. When Katie was a high school student back in 2009, I got a chance to watch her compete against one of our athletes at the State Meet.

*-Scott Menze is the Head Track & Field Coach at Harrison High School.*

## GOLF

Golf is again slated for this year's 2020-21 Tokyo Olympics. It first appeared in 1900, then 1904, and just like that golf was out of the Olympics like a lipped putt. Four years ago, at the 2016 Rio Olympics, golf made a triumphant return and with the popularity of the game. I think it should remain an Olympic sport.

The returning Gold medalist for the men is Justin Rose of Great Britain. It will be hard to repeat as his game is still missing in action. The women's champion, South Korea's, Inbee Park will be hard to beat as she has won on the LPGA tour this year. The format is four rounds, 72-hole, individual play. There are 60

golfers for both men and women and there is no cut.

### *On the Men...*

I think the Americans will do well this year; they make up a third of the field with 20 golfers teeing it up. I think Great Britain will be there and the South Africans will do well too. Guys like Rory McElroy and Bryce Dechambeau game is up and down and can self-destruct. That's golf!

*My prediction: GOLD: Brooks Koepka-USA; SILVER: John Rahm-Spain; BRONZE: Dustin Johnson-USA*

### *On the Women...*

The South Korean's will be hard to beat. They could sweep the medals this Olympics. Inbee Park, Ko Jin Yung and Kim sei-young, the top three players in the world, will be tough to beat. But the American's have some game too, with the 4th and 5th players in the world in Nelly Korda and Danielle Kang; and



**DENNY MERCURIO**

the 8th player in the world, Lexi Thompson. They way I see it, the American's have been great collegiate players, but have never really found their footing in the LPGA of late to top the South Korean's. I think the Tokyo Olympics is a great time to do it.

*My prediction: GOLD: Lexi Thompson-USA; SILVER: Kim Sei-Young-S. Korea; BRONZE: Lexi Thompson-USA-Bronze*

"I like that golf is part of the Olympics. Why not. It's a popular sport and many of the events have professionals like the NBA, Baseball, Softball, and Track & Field."

*-Denny Mercurio is the General Manager of Sugar Ridge Golf Club in Lawrenceburg, Indiana.*

## Can Your Mower Do This?

Since 1998

**In less than  
60 seconds!**

**No Tools  
Required!**

Stop in today to see the benefits of our patented stand-up deck for easy under-deck maintenance.

Authorized Country Clipper Dealer

**CUTTERS MOWER REPAIR  
4505 DOWNEY RIDGE RD  
RISING SUN, IN 47040  
812-667-5885**

CountryClipper.com

COUNTRY  
**CLIPPER**  
ZERO TURN MOWER

# WEIGHTLIFTING

On July 23 the Tokyo Olympics will officially begin and with it eight of the United States best weightlifters will begin their hunt for the podium. Never before has the excitement around our chances in the sport of weightlifting been higher. The explosion of the sport over the last 5-7 years has been nothing short of astounding with nearly 30,000 active athletes across the country and 1,200 USAW recognized clubs.

The sport of weightlifting consists of the snatch, a fluid movement from floor to overhead in one motion and the clean & jerk, a two part movement where the bar is lifted to the chest then overhead. In an official weightlifting meet the athlete receives three chances in the snatch and three in the clean and jerk with the combination of the two being their "total". Three judges decide whether the lift is a "good lift" or a "no lift". There are many other intricacies to the sport regarding age, weight and tactics, some of which will be discussed below, but the general outline listed above is how all meets are run.

As stated above we'll be represented on the platform by eight of the best lifters our country has to offer. CJ Cummings Jr. is a men's 73kg lifter (161lbs). While one of the younger lifters on the team he has an established record ranging from four time junior world champion, two time youth world champion and 23 time American record holder. An unbelievably strong lifter, CJ recently made a 2.66x bodyweight clean and jerk lifting 195kg (429lbs). To

## Snatch



Lift from floor to above the head in one movement

compare this feat would be the equivalent of taking a gorilla and lifting it overhead. One of our best chances at a medal CJ has completed all while just turning 21 years old in June.

Jourdan Delacruz is a women's 49kg lifter (108lbs) and will be competing, like CJ in her first ever Olympics. A two time Pan American champion and 2020 Rome IWF World Cup Champion, Jourdan who is only 23 is as mentally tough as she is strong. In her IWF World Cup performance she lifted over double body weight to make a 108kg (237lbs) clean and jerk.

Wes Kitts is a men's 109kg (240lbs) lifter is more seasoned than CJ and Jourdan by age, he's 31, but will be appearing in his first Olympics as well. One of the strongest lifters in his field, Wes took his first world stage appearance in 2017, placing 10th but has since collected two Pan American Championship golds and a Pan American Games gold. His best platform total is 399kg with a 176kg snatch (387lbs) and a 223kg clean and jerk (490lbs).

Harrison Maurus is a men's 81kg (179lbs) lifter who will also be competing in his first Olympics. Harrison who is still 21 broke a standing US medal drought in 2017 when he took home a bronze medal in Anaheim, CA during the World Championships. Additionally taking home a bronze in the Pan American Games in 2019, Harrison has less international experience than some of his fellow teammates but will be impressive and exciting to watch on the platform.

Katherine Nye, a women's 76kg (167lbs) lifter has only been on the international stage since 2018 but has medaled in every competition she's attended. In-

## Clean-and-jerk



1 Lift from floor onto shoulders

2 Raise bar above head

cluding three gold medals at the World Championships, Pan American Championships and Junior World Championships. Her best total is 248kg.



JARRETT BASTON

Mattie Rogers will be representing the 87kg (192lbs) weight class in her first Olympics as well. While she's an Olympic rookie, her international resume is astounding with 11 international medals, two of which are gold and six national gold medals. One of the most seasoned lifters on the team, Mattie is also one of the most well known. Starting back in 2014 she has had a rise to stardom amongst the weightlifting community, inspiring female lifters all across the country.

Sarah Robles is the sole two time Olympian on the team and will be competing in the +87kg (+192lbs) category. She won Bronze in the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. Her resume also includes gold medals at the 2017 Anaheim, CA World Championships and the 2019 Pan American Games. She will be a powerhouse on the platform this year as she was in 2016.

Caine Wilkes rounds out Team USA in the men's +109kg (+240lbs) category. Caine who makes lifting 200+ kilos look like an everyday occurrence has three Pan American titles and has multiple silver and gold international medals to his name.

What our team lacks in Olympic experience we make up for in drive, perseverance and will power. The sport is as popular as it's ever been in our country and with good reason. The level of strength and agility required to make these lifts can be appreciated by all.

- Jarrett Baston is co-owner of Triumph Strength and Conditioning in Florence, KY. Club director of Triumph Barbell Club, president of Kentucky Weightlifting LWC and a USAW Level 2 Coach.



# GOOD LUCK, TEAM USA!

We'll be watching, and rooting for our home team all the way to the gold! We thank our nation's elite athletes for representing our country and making us proud.

Brad Lusk

812-926-0808  
PO BOX 3672, Lawrenceburg, IN 47025  
www.affordabletaxconsultants.com

## EQUESTRIAN

As if COVID-19 wasn't enough disruption, Equestrian athletes faced a deadly equine virus during Olympic qualifying season. European competitions came to a screeching halt in March after an outbreak of the neurological form of the EHV-1 virus in Valencia, Spain that spread to several other European countries. Competitions through early April were canceled including the World Equestrian Games. When shows resumed, strict protocols were enforced including twice daily temperature checks, social distancing for horses, handwashing, equipment sanitation and restricted movement of horses and handlers. A smattering of US cases required similar protocols and vaccination reminders. These measures have proven effective and allowed competitions to resume.

2021 promises to be an Olympics to remember in the Equestrian sport of Dressage. Dressage is often likened to

ballet for horses and began as training for military officers. Competition is similar to figure skating with tests of compulsory movements followed by a musical freestyle. Team USA will bring seasoned medal winners Steffen Peters, Adrienne Lyle, Sabine Schut-Kery. Unlike other sports, dressage riders improve with age and experience, with many top riders in their 50's like Peters. Peters will be competing in his 5th Olympic Games and has brought home individual and team bronze in past Olympics. Adrienne Lyle was on the 2018 silver medal team at WEG and is currently ranked 15th in international competition. Sabine Schut-Kery was on the gold medal team at 2015 Pan American Games and winning FEI Nations Cup team in 2018.

But American riders will be up against very stiff competition. Isabel Werth of Germany holds top world ranking, and boasts a record 10 Olympic Equestrian medals, 9 World Championships and 17 European Championships. The Dutch team includes Edward Gal on Total US (Sired by Totilas). In 2009 Totilas and Gal broke the world record twice with a 90%, then 92.3%. In 2010 they won the World Cup Finals and secured 3 gold medals at WEG in Lexington.

This stallion sold for estimated 10 million Euros. Gal's long history of producing winning horses and the notoriety of this son of Totilas make them a combination to watch. In 2012 Charlotte Dujardin of the UK disrupted the German and Dutch domination of the sport when she repeatedly broke world records on her legendary mount Valegro and clinched the Gold at the London Games. She still holds the world record score of 94.3%. Carl Hester, who coached Dujardin to her successes will also be competing for Great Britain.

For those of you enjoying the adrenaline of jumping, the US teams are looking more promising for medals there, as all team members are ranked in the top 20 in international standings. The jumping team includes Kent Farrington (5th), McClain Ward (10th) and Jessica Springsteen (14th), daughter of Bruce Springsteen. The 3-day-eventing team includes Boyd Martin (6th), Phillip Dutton (13th) Tamra Smith (14th). These experienced competitors are likely to yield good results for team USA!

- Jennifer Grant, USDF Certified Instructor, Bronze & Silver Medalist, "L" Program Graduate with Distinction



**JENNIFER GRANT**

## SKATEBOARDING

We're excited to see skateboarding finally get this type of recognition. I'm not personally into the competition side of skating however, with the sport growing larger every year and diverting into numerous lanes, one can now pick and choose what type of skating they want to participate in.

There are two types of skateboarding in the Olympics, parks and street. Parks combine halfpipes and quarter pipes

with various other "vert" skateboarding features as well as "street" obstacles such as stairs, ledges, and rails. Street skateboarding is a skateboarding discipline which focuses on flat ground tricks, grinds, slides and aials within urban environments and public spaces. It should be fun to watch with new tricks in both disciplines happening all the time.

Skateboarding has always been a progressive activity and continues to break down barriers and defy the rules of many conventional sports. That being said we're excited to see how the event will be received in it's debut Olympics.

Being that skating was born and raised in the U.S. I think we will favor well in the games, but I wouldn't count out the

other countries as we're seeing more and more top pro's from around the globe. X-Games, SLS, and Dew tour have been around for years and have shown us what scores will be like in this type of contest setting, so I think anyone entering the games will know what they have to do to medal. I also think it's anyone's sport. Having skateboarding on this type of platform will finally show the world what these kids are really capable of doing on a skateboard. I think we're going to surprise a lot of people.



**JOE HUGHES**

- Submitted by Joe Hughes, Co-Founder of Blacklist Boardshop in Lawrenceburg, IN. Visit them online at [www.blacklist-boardshop.com](http://www.blacklist-boardshop.com)



The mission of the Ohio County Community Foundation is to build, manage and distribute a lasting source of charitable funds for Ohio County. Grants are made in the fields of community development, education, human services, cultural affairs and health. One gift can address many Ohio County charitable organizations and activities. Visit the Ohio County Community Foundation at 330 Industrial Access Drive in Rising Sun today and help create a brighter tomorrow for Ohio County.

812-438-9401

# Olympic Trials aside, Mason Parris looks ahead

## U-M heavyweight won 3-straight to take 3rd in Texas

By Jim Buchberger

Sports Editor

sports@registerpublications.com

LAWRENCEBURG - Don't ever make the mistake of thinking that Lawrenceburg Junior World champion and NCAA Tournament runner-up wrestler Mason Parris might be downcast after a couple of tough losses.

Parris, a 21-year old University of Michigan junior, won't be headed to Tokyo for this summer's belated 2020 Summer Olympic Games - like his top rival, University of Minnesota NCAA 125-kilogram (heavyweight) champion Gable Steveson.

But the 2018 LHS graduate, a 3-time Indiana high school state champion didn't do badly in his first taste of Olympic Freestyle Team Trials experience April 2-3 at Dickies Arena in Fort Worth, Texas.

After earning NCAA All-American honors by means of his 4-1 performance in the NCAA Championships March 18-20 in St. Louis - where he took a rare 8-4 loss to Minnesota No. 2 seed Steveson in the title round - Parris fell victim to a shaky 4-4 overtime tiebreaker decision, on last-score criteria, to Daniel Kerkvliet, of California's Titan Mercury Wrestling Club and Penn State's Nittany Lion Wrestling Club, in the Trials' quarterfinal round.

"That was one week after the NCAA," Parris said, at home briefly in early July before heading to a Florida vacation week, then returning to Ann Arbor later this month.

"I hadn't had much time to get used to the Freestyle rules (NCAA wrestling, like most U.S. amateur and high school organizations, utilizes the Folkstyle scoring system). And my body was pretty banged up."

Mark that date, because iron man grappler Mason Parris was able to admit that, entering the Olympic Trials:

"That was about the worst I've ever felt before my matches. I was really sore. And I didn't wrestle well at all in that first match."



Tony Rotundo/U-M Wrestling

**Mason Parris responds to the crowd after his 10-0 technical fall win over Tanner Hall in the Olympic Trials consolation round April 3.**

That explained how Parris fell in Fort Worth to Penn State's Kerkvliet, whom he'd beaten in Big Ten Championships preliminary rounds March 6-7 at the Nittany Lions' Bryce Jordan Center.

That galling loss also brought Mason Parris to one of those dawning moments of epiphany.

"I told myself, 'OK I wrestled bad,'" Parris said. "I analyzed it and asked myself 'How bad do I want this?'"

Pretty badly, apparently. Because Lawrenceburg's all-time great surged back to win 3-straight wrestleback matches on the final day of the Trials, Saturday, April 3, finishing third among the 10 original heavyweight contenders.

Parris's comeback started strong, with a 10-0 tech fall shutout of Tanner Hall in the 125 kg consolations. He scored 5 points in 2 periods, with 4 takedowns and 2 stepouts, ending it with a single-leg at 5:06 to advance.

Surviving a wild one in the consolation round semis, 7-4 over Dom Bradley, Parris traded 4-point throws in the first period, got a stepout in the second period and another with just 2 seconds left, which was challenged

and upheld.

Wrestling for third place against Tony Nelson, Parris emerged the 6-3 winner - but not before having 6 points taken off the board in the first period. He fired back with 3 takedowns, including a late single to ice it.

"I really had a big day that second day," Mason said. "I wanted to prove what I could do. I beat some of the really good, older senior guys. Some of them I had watched since I was a kid. That was really cool, just to get the chance to wrestle them, much more to beat them. It gave me a lot of confidence."

Parris will carry those positive vibes forward this summer, as an automatic qualifier to the USA Men's Freestyle Senior National team.

Representing U-M's Cliff Keen Wrestling Club at Fort Worth, he joined all his fellow Olympic Trials qualifiers on Senior squad, set to compete in the 2021 Senior World Team Trials, set for September at a location to be announced.

Top finishers in that event will represent the USA in the 2021 Senior World Championships, scheduled for Oct. 2-10 in Oslo, Norway.

Before heading back to Lawrenceburg for a short visit around the first of July, in fact, Parris trained at Penn State from June 22-27 with other Senior National Teamers - an alternate site due to renovations at the official USA Olympic Training Facility, in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Tokyo-bound Trials winner Steveson wasn't at that training camp, but Parris acknowledged that the two Big Ten heavyweights remain civil - despite their growing rivalry.

"It's definitely a rivalry, but I've been to camps with him and trained with him," Mason said. "I've talked to him and he was pretty cool. He was nice to me. But we both realize that we were there to get better. We both want the USA to win, too."

On that note, Mason Parris confirmed that he'll be watching the fanless Tokyo Olympic Games on television later this month, rooting for the USA, just like the rest of us.

He'll also be rooting for a pair of Michigan teammates, both graduate students, who will be competing for countries in which their family lineage makes them eligible.

Wolverines 113-pound grad Stevan Micic, from Cedar Lake, Ind., and Hanover Central High School, will wrestle for Serbia in the Olympic Games. Myles Amine, a 184-197 pound grad from Brighton, Mich., will represent the tiny nation of San Marino.

If you're getting the impression that the summer has been a whirlwind of activity for Mason Parris, you're on the right track. He's also been taking Calculus 4, an online advanced match course, all the while, to keep pace with his Civil Engineering major.

Asked if he has any final words for his legion of hometown fans in Lawrenceburg, Parris didn't hesitate.

"Lawrenceburg has been a really great support system," he said. "So many people tell me that they've watched my college matches on the Big Ten Network. They've just been awesome. It's a great thing to come from a small town. I love this town!"

### 2021 USA Wrestling OLYMPIC TEAM TRIAL

April 2-3  
At Fort Worth, Texas

#### 2021 Olympic Trials Champions

57: Thomas Gilman (Titan Mercury Wrestling Club/Nittany Lion Wrestling Club)

65: Jordan Oliver (Sunkist Kids Wrestling Club)

74: Kyle Dake (TMWC/Spartan Combat)

86: David Taylor (TMWC/ NLWC)

97: Kyle Snyder (TMWC/ NLWC)

125: Gable Steveson (Gopher Wrestling Club)

#### Best-of-Three Finals Results

125: Round 1 - Gable Steveson (Gopher Wrestling Club) won by tech fall over Nick Gwiazdowski (TMWC/Wolfpack WC) TF 10-0

125: Round 2 - Gable Steveson (Gopher Wrestling Club) won by decision over Nick Gwiazdowski (TMWC/ Wolfpack WC) Dec 10-4

#### Semifinal Results

125: Nick Gwiazdowski (TMWC/ Wolfpack WC) won by decision over Dominique Bradley (Sunkist Kids Wrestling Club) Dec 6-0

125: Gable Steveson (Gopher Wrestling Club) won by tech fall over Daniel Kerkvliet (TMWC/ NLWC) TF 11-0

#### Quarterfinals

125: Nick Gwiazdowski (TMWC/ Wolfpack WC) won by tech fall over Garrett Ryan (Sunkist Kids Wrestling Club) TF 11-0

125: Dominique Bradley (Sunkist Kids Wrestling Club) won by decision over Anthony Nelson (Gopher Wrestling Club) Dec 4-3

125: Daniel Kerkvliet (TMWC/ NLWC) won by decision over Mason Parris (Cliff Keen Athletics) Dec 4-4

125: Gable Steveson (Gopher Wrestling Club) won by tech fall over Tanner Hall (Sunkist Kids Wrestling Club) TF 11-0

# Ukrainian Olympian Dives into Hoosier Living

Three-time Ukrainian Olympic swimmer Sergiy Fesenko visits 60 countries during career, chooses Southeastern Indiana to raise family.

**Matt Popovich**

Staff Reporter

mpopovich@registerpublications.com

Setting lap times likely never witnessed by sunbathers at the Hidden Valley Lake Sports Complex pool, three-time Ukrainian Olympic swimmer Sergiy Fesenko has taken to living in Southeast Indiana like a fish takes to water.

Fesenko, 39, lives in Hidden Valley and who has lived in Aurora in the past, came to the United States at age 24 to attend Indiana University on a swimming scholarship. After falling in love with Bloomington due to the area's topographical and climatic resemblance of his home country, Ukraine, and the kindhearted and welcoming Hoosiers he befriended during college, Fesenko chose to plant roots and raise his children here.

He has had numerous opportunities to relocate after graduation from IU, but he has chosen to remain in Indiana because "it has become home."

With a laundry list of notable accomplishments under his swim cap in addition to competing in three Summer Olympics (400-meter and 1,500-meter events), Fesenko owns three World Cup medals, a European World Title, was a World Championship finalist and was a five-time NCAA All-American while attending IU to receive a master's degree in economics.

As well as major championship wins, Fesenko also earned the brag-



*Matt Popovich*

**Sergiy Fesenko is a former Olympic swimmer from the Ukrainian**

ging right of beating Michael Phelps during a 400-meter event. The distance swimmer has also competed in open-water 25k endurance marathons, which last a grueling 5-hours.

He is not the only successful swimming Fesenko, however. In 1980, his father, Sergey Fesenko, was the first person to ever win a gold medal in swimming for the former USSR. Both possessing dual citizenship, when not in the Ukraine the elder Fesenko helps coach South Dearborn High School pool-based non-profit Sea Dragons Swim Club with occasional assistance from his son.

When asked about being a competitive swimmer and the son of an Olympic Gold medalist swimmer, Sergiy Fesenko says it pushed him to excel to the upper echelons of the sport. He said watching swimmers compete during the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia, gave him a great deal of motivation to commit to becoming an Olympian.

"It did help out; however it was also like a ghost of my dad behind me when I was swimming. His success

was always kind of following me and everybody recognized me because I have the same name as him as his son, so they thought that maybe I also had to be an Olympic champion. Or maybe I felt that I had to be just like him, an Olympic champion," said Fesenko. "I felt like I was under too much pressure of being better than my dad or being just like my dad. I felt like if I was just from a family that has no affiliation with swimming, maybe it would have been easier in some ways, maybe psychologically it wouldn't have been so much pressure on me. But maybe that pressure was pressure that I made for myself. But back then (while actively competing), all I wanted to do was to become an Olympic champion. And it made me upset when I couldn't do something. When I didn't win a medal, I got really upset."

Fesenko will be glued to his television watching this year's Summer Olympics and is thrilled athletes will be back in action after a year-long delay due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. Although the games are

occurring, Fesenko says this year's events may lack the special energy provided by cheering fans in the stands.

"Sometimes, though, the people that are watching you (in stands) they do help you out or put you in a very pumped-up mode and you can show better times because you have that adrenaline making you jump higher than you normally can," he said. "Even though they will not be able to experience the full range of emotions, it's still going to be great."

Continuing to swim often, he spends his time away from the pool working as a real estate developer/investor. Fesenko owns and maintains several income properties and plans to purchase and renovate a small hotel, or similar property, in the future. He would also enjoy to one day use his professional expertise to commentate alongside reporters during televised swimming events.

Fesenko advocates in support of ending Ukraine's prolonged war with neighboring Russia and hopes to shed light on the alleged atroci-

ties being committed against political prisoners in Russia, to include torture. This year, he organized a bicycle ride through the HVL community in support of those enduring political persecution abroad.

Although disappointed he missed the opportunity to compete in what would have been his fourth Olympics by one-tenth of a second in 2012, he enjoys spending more time with his family, both here and in the Ukraine. During his competition years Fesenko would train twice per day, swimming thousands of meters during each practice session. His training also consisted of rigorous exercise outside of the pool, as well.

He explained the familial relationships of world-class athletes are often strained due to training and travel. It is necessary for athletes to travel to their competition location, often in distant countries, several weeks prior to the day of the event in order to prepare and acclimate to their surroundings, for example differences in altitude or climate. During his career, Fesenko has traveled to over 60 countries for competitions.

The father of three says his eldest son, 10, competes in swimming for an Ohio-based team. His two youngest sons, 2-year-old twin boys, will likely take to water like their brother, father and grandfather.

To learn more about the Sea Dragons Swim Club, log onto [www.seadragons.swimtopia.com](http://www.seadragons.swimtopia.com).

## Good Luck Team USA!

"A Name You Can Trust"

# Corcoran & Harnist

Heating & Air Conditioning Inc.

Serving the Tri-State area  
for over 40 Years

[www.corcoranharnist.com](http://www.corcoranharnist.com)

513-921-2227



# L'burg's Aimee Bruder 6-time Paralympian

## Well-traveled swimmer spanned era from Barcelona to London

By Jim Buchberger

Sports Editor  
sports@registerpublications.com

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. - A 6-time Paralympics swimmer, the winner of 5 medals during her long and prosperous competitive career, Lawrenceburg native Aimee Bruder represented the United States over a 20-year span, from 1992 at Barcelona, Spain, to the 2012 Games in London.

Turning 47 this August, the East Central High School (1993) and Eastern Kentucky University (1998) graduate has worked in the membership department for the internationally-renowned Lakeshore Foundation - a 5,000-member advocacy, training and research organization for the disabled, connected with the University of Alabama-Birmingham - for nearly its entire 20 years in existence.

"I think there are two big lessons I learned from it all," she said recently, in between assisting clients from her Foundation desk. "The first is perseverance. There's a lot of adversity in life. The important thing is the way you handle it.

"Second, I think it's important to look to get outside your circle. As you get older and travel, the world becomes much bigger. You're forced to take more responsibility. It's important to learn about other cultures, and to be respectful of them, and society as a whole. You learn that teamwork is such a big factor, in almost everything."

Don't let the wheelchair, which allows her mobility everywhere but in the pool, fool you. Following her long Paralympic swimming career, the small-but-mighty 4'9" Bruder played wheelchair rugby, or

quad rugby, for Lakeshore's Demolition team, becoming one of only 25 female players nationwide to take part that full-tilt collision sport.

Born with spastic diplegia cerebral palsy, a condition that causes depth perception problems and muscle tightness throughout her body, primarily in her legs, Bruder and has lived in her own off-campus apartment in Homewood, Ala., for 19 of the last 20 years.

For the record, Aimee Bruder swam for the USA Paralympic team in six Games, held every 4 years, usually 2 weeks after the Summer Olympics, at all the same venues.

The list started in Barcelona in 1992, while she was still an ECHS student, and proceeded to Atlanta in 1996; on to Sydney, Australia, in 2000; to Athens, Greece, in 2004; Beijing, China, in 2008; wrapping up in London in 2012.

Bruder reaped her largest total of medals, three bronzes, in Atlanta in '96 - still her favorite Paralympics, due to the fact that her family and college swim coach were able to watch her compete.

She came away with a silver medal from Sydney in 2000, adding another bronze at Athens in 2008.

Aimee also represented the USA in three World Championships, at New Zealand in 1998; at Mar del Plata, Argentina, in 2002; and Durban, South Africa, in 2006.

"I swam all the events - Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke, IM (Individual Medley) and the relays," Bruder noted. "I'm not sure I had one favorite, or highlight. Each Paralympics had its moments."

She continued: "But they all had one thing in common. The friendships and

relationships from those times still are here to this day. Especially the ones from the earlier Games.

"I had to do a lot of fundraising to pay my way. And I had to work hard to make the teams. I knew how lucky I was just to be there. I kind of had to learn to be my own PR person. It makes you find your own voice. It gives you confidence. It helps you find your niche in life. It's a holistic learning experience."

That one-world philosophy helps carry Aimee Bruder through to this day. Recently, she was thrilled to reconnect with one of her early Paralympics team trainers, Brian Bratta, formerly at Michigan State University, now of Buffalo, N.Y., for some long-distance Bible study.

"It felt like we hadn't been apart for the 9 years since the last time we saw each other," she said.

One more thing, too. "I really, truly, believe none of this ever would have been possible without my own foundation, of family and friends," Bruder added. "I never took them for granted, and I never will."

Bruder's worst experience as a USA Paralympian, she still relates, was when team plane broke down prior to the return flight from Athens in 2004.

"They told us we'd be delayed 24-36 hours, while they waited for a part to be shipped in from Germany, then made repairs. We went back to rooms at the Olympic Village with only our carry-ons. That's what reminded me how lucky we are to live in the USA, with the accessibility we have. It's hard when you can't get where you need to go. Luckily, we were able to repeat the process the next day, and we got home OK."



*Birmingham (Ala.) News*

**Lawrenceburg native Aimee Bruder, a 6-time USA Paralympics swimmer and 5-time medalist, climbs into the pool from her wheelchair at the Lakeshore Foundation in Birmingham, Ala., where she's worked for the past 20 years.**

Lately, the entire world faced one of its toughest tests yet, with the COVID-19 pandemic. The Lakeshore Foundation was no different.

"We had a couple of exposures and we were quarantined," Bruder said. "We were closed for 3 months, then we reopened with restrictions. Things are finally starting to get back to normal. We were given the opportunity to get vaccinated. But it's been disappointing to learn that only about 20 percent of the people in Alabama have gotten the vaccine."

Asked for words of advice for the next generation of Olympic athletes, headed

for a fanless Games in Tokyo this month, and Paralympians - as well as athletes and folks in general - Aimee doesn't hesitate.

"Never give up on your dreams. Don't be afraid to work hard. Keep the people who are important in your life in your circle. It takes a village for everybody to get through this life. Wild and crazy things happen to everybody out there. No day is ever the same. Life will throw you curveballs. But try to stop and appreciate the moments."



## We Salute Our Nation's Athletes

Their hard work and dedication makes them the role models for our children and inspiration to all of us. We wish each of our talented athletes much success in the Summer Games. Good luck, USA!



FCNbank.com • 800-575-3262



# Local Athletes to Compete at Special Olympics 2022 USA Games in Orlando

The Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 are not the only event sport lovers are waiting for. Special Olympics athletes across the country are gearing up for the USA Games to be held next summer. The 2022 Special Olympics USA Games are scheduled for June 5-12 in Orlando, Florida.

Team Indiana will consist of fifty-one athletes, twenty Unified Partners, nineteen coaches and ten support staff, including three local athletes from Special Olympics Indiana - Ripley Ohio Dearborn Counties - Isaac Kramer, of Oldenburg, Alex Kieffer and Unified Partner, Abby Kieffer, of Versailles.



**Special  
Olympics**  
Indiana

Team Indiana will compete in basketball, bocce, bowling, golf, softball, swimming, track and field, and volleyball. Kramer will be competing in the sport of track and field, while the Kieffers will compete in bowling.

The three qualified for Team Indiana by first being nominated by their local Special Olympics coordinator, Greg Townsend, and then by competing and winning a gold medal in their respective sport during the 2021 Special Olympics Indiana Summer Games in Terre Haute, Indiana.

Founded in 1968 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, Special Olympics has grown from a backyard event into a global movement comprised of year-round sports training and athletic competitions with the ultimate goal of building a more inclusive and accepting world. The 2022 Special Olympics USA Games epitomizes the goals set forth by Shriver and is set to be the largest, most dynamic, and innovative national games to date. The games will include competition for nineteen different sports - basketball, bocce, bowling, cheerleading, equestrian, flag football, golf, gymnastics, open water swim, powerlifting, soccer, softball, stand up paddleboard, surfing, swimming, tennis, track & field, triathlon, and volleyball - at nine different locations including ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex, Disney's Typhoon Lagoon Water Park, Orange County National

Golf Center and the Rosen Aquatic Center. The USA Games are held every four years. The last were held in Seattle, Washington in July of 2018.

This is not the first-time local Special Olympics athletes competed on the national level. Christa Mullins, Dillsboro, Becky Cashman, Dillsboro, and Jacob Eldridge, Manchester, were the first athletes from the local delegation to ever compete on a national level, competing at the 2014 USA Games held in New Jersey. Mullins and Cashman both competed in swimming, while Eldridge competed in track and field. Three years ago, Charles Wilson, Aurora, David Paul, Milan, Alex Kieffer and Unified Partner, Abby Kieffer, competed at the 2018 USA Games in Seattle. Wilson competed in swimming, Paul in the sport of powerlifting and the Kieffers in bowling. And on the international stage, Chris Perdue, Osgood, competed in snowboarding at the 2017 World Winter Games in Austria; a first for the local program.

The 2022 USA Games will unite more than 5,500 athletes and coaches from all fifty states and the Caribbean, 20,000 volunteers and 125,000 spectators during one of the country's most cherished sporting events. We all have reasons to shine. For Special Olympics athletes, one of those reasons is the love of sport. Special Olympics ath-

See **SPECIAL OLYMPICS**  
On Page 11



# GOOD LUCK, TEAM USA!

We'll be watching, and rooting for our home team all the way to the gold! We thank our nation's elite athletes for representing our country and making us proud.

**B&A Tire and Auto**

502 Eads Parkway • Lawrenceburg  
812-537-5933

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS**  
From Page 10

letes display remarkable abilities not only on the field, but in all areas of life. By celebrating their dedication and perseverance, we become champions for a more

inclusive world. A world where we all #ShineAsOne.

The local delegation will be holding their annual Fire Truck Pull in partnership with the Lawrenceburg Fire Department on Saturday, August 14th. Presented by the City

of Lawrenceburg, the event raises the vital funds needed to provide year-round training and sports competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities at no cost to the participants.



**About Special Olympics Indiana**

Special Olympics Indiana is a nonprofit organization that is a part of the global Special Olympics movement, using sport, health, education, and leadership programs every day around the world to end discrimination against and empower people with intellectual disabilities.

Founded in 1969, Special Olympics Indiana has grown to more than 18,000 athletes and unified partners in virtually every county throughout the state. With the support of over 10,000 coaches and volunteers, Special Olympics Indiana provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in more than 20 Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities at no cost to the participants.

**About Special Olympics Ripley Ohio Dearborn Counties**

Special Olympics Indiana - Ripley Ohio Dearborn provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in Alpine Skiing, Basketball, Bowling, Bocce, Corn Toss, Equestrian, Flag Football, Powerlifting, Softball, Snowshoeing, Snowboarding, Soccer, Swimming and Track and Field. Reaching approximately 213 children and adults with intellectual disabilities, the delegation is managed by a group of volunteers who give their time to a program they believe in. The delegation receives no funds from federal or state appropriated funds and relies entirely on corporate, civic, and individual donations on the local level. For more information about Special Olympics Indiana - Ripley Ohio Dearborn Counties, call (812) 584-6861 or visit [www.soindiana-rod.org](http://www.soindiana-rod.org).



**Pediatric Associates**  
OF FAIRFIELD

**WE WELCOME YOUR  
FAMILY TO OUR PRACTICE!**



10 Physicians,  
2 PNPs, 2 LISWs



Having a baby is a thrilling and rewarding experience for any parents. Expectant parents can schedule a FREE prenatal appointment with a nurse to get information about our practice and Providers.

**We Offer:**

- ✓ Care from Newborn to 21 years
- ✓ Well Child Care
- ✓ Same Day Sick Visits
- ✓ Saturday Morning Hours (Fairfield)
- ✓ Behavioral/Mental Health including Counseling
- ✓ Weight & Nutrition Counseling
- ✓ Adolescent Care

**Plus OUR nurses on call after hours**



**ACCEPTING  
NEW PATIENTS**  
Call for a FREE  
Prenatal Visit!

**Fairfield**

5502 Dixie Hwy  
(Near Jungle Jim's)

**Hamilton**

188 N. Brookwood Ave.

**Harrison**

1100 Harrison Ave.  
2nd Floor - Cincinnati

**Mason**

5841 Snider Rd.  
Suite B

**513-874-9460**

**[www.pediatricassociates.us](http://www.pediatricassociates.us)**