

PARALYMPIC ATHLETES TO COMPETE IN 51st ANNUAL MT. SAC RELAYS

Competitors to Include Eight 2008 Paralympic Games Track & Field Medalists

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WALNUT, Calif. – Twenty-nine Paralympic athletes, including eight track & field medalists from the 2008 Paralympic Games, will compete at the upcoming 2009 [Mt. SAC Relays](#) in Walnut, Calif., April 17-18. The Paralympic events will be broken into divisions for amputee, visually-impaired and wheelchair track athletes in the 100 and 800m distances.

Among the Paralympic athletes competing are Iraq war veterans **Kortney Clemons** (Little Rock, Miss.) and Sergeant **Jerrod Fields** (Chicago, Ill.), both amputees as the result of injuries they sustained while serving in Iraq with the U.S. Army. Clemons and Fields will both compete in the 100m along with the 2008 Paralympic Games silver medalist **Jerome Singleton** (Irmo, S.C.).

In the wheelchair division, five-time 2008 Paralympic medalist **Jessica Galli** (Savoy, Ill.), four-time 2008 Paralympic medalist **Tatyana McFadden** (Clarksville, Md.) and two-time 2008 Paralympic medalist **Anjali Forber-Pratt** (Natick, Mass.) will compete in the women's 800m.

In the men's visually-impaired division, **Josiah Jamison** (Vance, S.C.), 2008 Paralympic Games gold medalist, and **Elexis Gillette** (Raleigh, N.C.) will compete in the 100m, along with their respective guide runners, **Jerome Avery** (Lemoore, Calif.) and **Wes Williams** (Visalia, Calif.).

"Mt. SAC is a top-rate competition, so we're thrilled that we're going to have a Paralympic presence there," said Cathy Sellers, Assoc. Dir. of High Performance, U.S. Paralympics Track & Field. "Having Paralympic athletes compete alongside Olympic-caliber athletes pushes the intensity of competition, and as a result, we hope to see some groundbreaking performances come out of Mt. SAC."

The visually-impaired athletes will compete in the 100m on Friday, April 17th, followed by the wheelchair racers in the 800m. On Saturday, April 18th, the amputee division will compete in the 100m.

Paralympic competitors include the following athletes:

Men's visually Impaired 100m

Josiah Jamison* (Vance, S.C.) and guide runner, Jerome Avery (Lemoore, Calif.)
Elexis Gillette* (Raleigh, N.C.) and guide runner, Wes Williams (Visalia, Calif.)
Royal Mitchell (Hardeeville, S.C.)
Joseph Gray (Antioch, Tenn.)
Markeith Price (Baltimore, Md.)

Men's T42/44 100m

Jim Bob Bizzell* (Odessa, Texas)
Jerrod Fields (Chicago, Ill.)
Lee Randles (Toledo, Ohio)
David Prince (Atlanta, Ga.)
Roderick Green (Edmond, Okla.)
Jerome Singleton* (Irmo, S.C.)
Casey Tibbs* (San Antonio, Texas)
Kortney Clemons (Little Rock, Miss.)

Men's 53/54 800m

Matthew Porterfield (Knoxville, Tenn.)
David Grassi (Ballwin, Mo.)
Zachary Abbott (Portland, Ore.)
Jordan Bird (Wichita, Ks.)
Kaleb Kallappa (Vancouver, Wash.)
Josh Swoverland (Avon, Ind.)

Women's 53/54 800m

Jessica Galli* (Savoy, Ill.)
Tatyana McFadden* (Clarksville, Md.)
Anjali Forber-Pratt* (Natick, Mass.)
Amberlynn Weber (Greenacres, Wash.)
Chelsea McClammer (Benton City, Wash.)
Susannah Scaroni (Tekoa, Wash.)
Jennifer Goeckel (Seattle, Wash.)
Kelsie Kellen (Fredericksburg, Va.)

****Denotes 2008 Paralympic Games medalist***

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About U.S. Paralympics

U.S. Paralympics, a division of the U.S. Olympic Committee, is dedicated to becoming the world leader in the Paralympic movement and to promoting excellence in the lives of people with a physical disability. Visit the U.S. Paralympics Web site at www.usparalympics.org to learn more.