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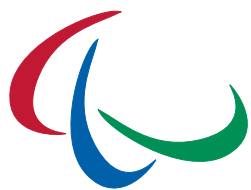
PARALYMPIAN

www.paralympic.org



Development

Growing the Paralympic Movement





9 world and 61 Americas records were set at the 2011 Parapan American Games

Brazil’s Terezinha Guilhermina won three gold medals at the 2011 Parapan American Games in Guadalajara

“We showcase some of the excellent development work that is going on around the world including an IPC Development Camp held in Zambia during October.”

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the final edition of The Paralympian in 2011, published to coincide with the 15th IPC General Assembly which will take place in Beijing, China in early December.

At the last General Assembly in 2009, members highlighted the need to increase the number of people participating in Paralympic Sport.

This resulted in Athlete Development being at the heart of the new IPC Strategic Plan 2011-2014, published earlier this year.

In this issue, we showcase some of the excellent development work that is going on around the world including an IPC Development Camp held in Zambia during October.

We learn more about an initiative between UK Sport and NPC Tanzania and hear what Willi Lemke, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary General on Sport for Development and Peace, has to say on the growth of the Paralympic Movement.

NPC Zimbabwe, which became an IPC member in 1989 under its previous name the Zimbabwe Sports Association for Persons with Disabilities, is our NPC in Profile, telling us all about the challenges they face and the aspirations they have for the next two summer Paralympic Games.

The last few months have also been a busy period for the Organizing Committees of the next Paralympic Games. In the Future Games section we find out how London 2012 sold one million tickets in just three weeks, how Sochi 2014 plans to recruit thousands of volunteers and take a look at the new Rio 2016 Paralympic Games emblem.

A number of athletes and teams recently secured their places at London 2012, and we review various major sporting events from the last few months including the Guadalajara 2011 Parapan American

Games, the All-Africa Games, as well as various regional and World Championships.

With the Winter Sports season now well underway we also speak to Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games gold medallist Adam Hall. The New Zealander was one of the stories of the last Games, and we caught up with him to see how his life has changed since his success.

In March, Norway will stage the 2012 IPC Ice Sledge Hockey World Championships, and ahead of that tournament we profile the sport to see how it is growing two years out from Sochi 2014.

We also look ahead to the other upcoming events in late 2011 and early 2012 including the 2011 Arab Games, the IWAS World Games and the IFDS Sailing World Championships.

In the Medical and Science pages we review September’s highly successful VISTA conference, and on the Partners and Patrons pages we highlight the work BP is doing to support NPCs while DB Schenker gives its top tips for ensuring a successful London 2012.

All the latest Paralympic news from across the world is also covered in the Paralympic Movement section.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued commitment to the Paralympic Movement during 2011. This year has seen further extraordinary progress and has laid the ideal foundations for what will be a sensational and memorable 2012.

Season’s Greetings

Philip Craven

Sir Philip Craven, MBE
IPC President





Enjoy this edition of “The Paralympian” – the official award winning magazine of the Paralympic Movement!

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Scratching the Surface

Lack of equipment, prejudicial attitudes and meagre finances are all some of the challenges facing developing NPCs, but through extraordinary work and dedication, the Paralympic Movement is extending its reach.

The Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games may have been a tremendous success, with a record number of athletes and countries taking part, but they also underlined a weakness in the Paralympic Movement.

Of the 3,951 athletes in China, more than half of them came from just 11 of the participating 146 countries.

It was clear more needed to be done to increase the numbers practicing Paralympic Sport around the world, a subject that was tackled head-on at the 2009 IPC General Assembly.

Two years on and development is a key IPC Strategic Goal and an integral part of its Strategic Plan for 2011-2014.

More people are now practicing Paralympic Sport than ever before, however, recent IPC Development Camps in El Salvador and Zambia highlighted that when it comes to developing countries the surface has only just been scratched.

The sky is the limit for Africa

In October 2011, the IPC held a week-long regional training camp in Zambia for athletes, coaches and administrators which further underlined the huge potential for Paralympic Sport to grow in Africa.



Athletes at the camp had the opportunity to receive expert training

Sponsored by the Norwegian Olympic and Paralympic Committee and Confederation of Sports (NIF) and Charity and Sport, the camp aimed to identify talent and provide a platform for participating NPCs to share knowledge. It was similar in content to a camp held earlier this year in El Salvador.

Organizers found no shortage of talent

“The athletes are eager to learn. With the right coaching and follow up, some of these athletes have the potential to make it to the top,” said NIF coach instructor Nils Helland.



To coincide with this edition’s Development Special, here are 12 athletes



Gizem Girismen (Turkey)
The 30-year-old won her country’s first Paralympic gold in Archery in the Individual Recurve W1/W2 category in Beijing 2008 and she will be hoping for a repeat performance in London.



Mohamed Farhat Chida (Tunisia)
Paralympic gold medallist Mohamed Farhat Chida will be fighting it out with Australia’s Evan O’Hanlon both on the track and field. The Long Jumper won gold in Beijing and may have the edge over O’Hanlon in the 400m T37.



Abderrahim Zhiou (Tunisia)
Expect the 26-year-old T12 long distance runner to return from London laden with medals. In Beijing he picked up 800m gold and 10,000m silver. At the 2011 IPC World Championships he won four golds.



Ilham Zakiyev (Azerbaijan)
The World Champion and Paralympic Judo gold medallist (pictured in blue) will be keen to defend his title in London where he will compete in the +100kg division.



Oleg Panyutin (Azerbaijan)
When it comes to F12 jumping, the 28-year-old is your man having scooped Long Jump and Triple Jump gold at the 2011 IPC World Championships. His 15.09m Triple Jump is yet to be beaten by any competing Paralympian.

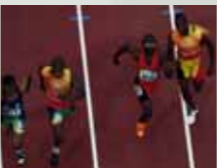


David Emong (Uganda)
The T46 athlete made the London 2012 qualifying time for the 5,000m at the 2011 All-Africa Games with a time of 14:25.49. He will face a tough run though against Kenya’s Abraham Tarbei and Jonah Chesum, who are equally impressive over the long distances.

from the IPC’s development focus areas:



Abraham Tarbei (Kenya)
The 25-year-old dominates the 5,000m T46 having won gold at the 2011 World Championships and Beijing 2008 Paralympics. He also does pretty well over 1,500m.



Jose Armando (Angola)
The Paralympic silver medallist will be fighting hard to keep his spot on the podium in the 100m, 200m and 400m T11 events, but will face stiff competition from the Brazilian duo of Daniel Silva and Lucas Prado.



Neslihan Kavas (Turkey)
The 24-year-old Table Tennis player has been going from strength to strength after bagging a bronze medal at the Beijing 2008 Paralympics in the class 9 event. Since then she’s won a string of gold medals at international events.



Martina Aloisius (Namibia)
The 22-year-old T13 sprinter will be going head-to-head with Ireland’s Jason Smyth in London. He’ll be working hard on his technique to reach the top of the podium there.



Raoua Tlili (Tunisia)
At the 2011 All-Africa Games, the 22-year-old won F40 Shot Put gold. She’s also a formidable Discus thrower, having won World Championship silver in 2011. Expect her to battle hard against Moroccan Laila El Garaa, who may edge the Discus.



Herman Cliff Muvunyi (Rwanda)
At the 2011 All-Africa Games, Muvunyi won 400m T46 gold in a time of 50.28 and 800m silver in 1:56, giving him an outside chance of medal-ing at the London 2012 Paralympics.

As well as identifying the next generation of Paralympians, the camp also aimed to train coaches and administrators who could then return to their respective countries and put the systems in place to create an athlete pathway from the grassroots through to the elite level.

The camp was a huge success, but also highlighted a number of challenges stunting the growth of Paralympic Sport in developing countries.

Of the 23 athletes that attended the Zambia camp, just one had a proper racing chair for track sessions. With no proper field frames, throwing practice sessions were only possible if someone held wheelchairs in place.

“Equipment and accessible transport are the biggest challenges facing NPCs,” explained Zambia’s 17-year-old Paralympic hopeful Annie Simfukwe.

“There are a lot of persons with disabilities out there who are eager to join the sporting world but lack facilities,” she said.

Growing support network

To try to increase the numbers participating in Paralympic Sport, NPCs are joining forces. Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe all recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding which aims to

strengthen the Paralympic Movement in Southern Africa.

These NPCs committed to sharing knowledge and skills on development, as well as embarking on joint awareness campaigns.

One key aspect of the Memorandum was to jointly exert pressure on their respective governments to provide more support for Paralympic Sport, whether that be through more recognition or financial help.

In Zambia it already appears to be paying dividend with Fackson Shamenda, Minister of Labour, Sports, Youth and Gender, throwing his weight behind the Zambian Paralympic Movement.

“The Republic of Zambia will do everything possible to ensure that persons with a disability enjoy the same rights as any other.



Fackson Shamenda wants all sports facilities in Zambia to be accessible

“It would feel great to see a Zambian hold a medal at a Paralympic Games. We have talent all over the show. All we need to do is develop it and the sky is the limit,” Shamenda said.

Women in sport

At the same time as trying to increase overall participation, there is also a goal to increase the number of women who can follow in the footsteps of role models such as April Holmes, Natalie du Toit and Esther Vergeer.

The IPC’s Women in Sport Committee advises the IPC on gender equality issues and its Chairperson Tine Rindum Teilmann was impressed by the high percentage of females that attended the Zambian camp, where 57 percent of administrators, 38 percent of coaches and 29 percent of athletes were women.

“Compared to other nations, the percentage of females taking part was high, especially when it comes to administrators and coaches, which is excellent,” she explained.

Two countries trying to take the lead in increasing the number of women in sport are NPC Lesotho and NPC Zimbabwe.

“We have realized girls and women with disabilities are not participating in sports, so we are doing initiatives to change



With no field chairs, coach Wisdom Moonga holds a regular wheelchair as an athlete makes a throw

this,” said Jobo Raswoko, President of NPC Lesotho. “The goal is to increase participation at home, regionally, nationally and ultimately at the Paralympic Games.”

“Sport is important for women’s health. You need to exercise. It’s important even for your education,” said Oripa Mubika, Vice-President of NPC Zimbabwe, who believes the opportunities are there, but not always taken advantage of.

“While we have women in sport at school and universities, once they get married, sometimes they drop out,” she added.

Underlying problems such as financial constraints and family priorities getting in the way still exist, but according to Zimbabwean wheelchair athlete Moleen Majooni, the negative attitudes of both sexes also need to change.

“I think some women are scared of sports. Some don’t want to do wheelchair sports because they’ll hurt their nails or hurt their arms,” she said.

“Education is key to teach that women can do exactly what men can do. Men must also be educated that women can do sport, especially the married ones.”

So far things appear to be paying off

London 2012 is set to be the biggest Paralympic Games ever with 4,200 athletes from 160 countries set to take part. Around 1,500 of these are expected to be women, a 117 percent increase on 20 years ago in Barcelona. As a result there will be 200 sport events just for women in London, an increase of 25 since Beijing 2008.

A lot of successful work has been undertaken in the last two years, but what is apparently clear is that more needs to be done.

The camp also enabled cultural exchange between delegates from Southern Africa



The IPC development strategy follows a geographic approach and clusters NPCs. This encourages regional workshops and competitions and supporting one another. The countries the IPC currently focuses on are:

The Organizational Development Initiative (ODI) is an opportunity for long-term strategic investment in organizations and their key people responsible for supporting athletes from the grassroots to the elite level. These are some of the countries involved in the ODI:

Azerbaijan	Lesotho	Tanzania	Uganda
Burundi	Morocco	Tunisia	Uruguay
Cape Verde	Namibia	Turkey	Zambia
Kenya	Palestine	Rwanda	



► Annie Simfukwe is a visually impaired athlete. Her dream is to make it to the top.

► Watch the story of Zambia’s Kennedy Kamanga, who inspired his fellow athletes and coaches by giving it his all and never giving up.

► Former athlete Wisdom Moonga from Zambia learns what it takes to coach elite athletes.

► Namibia’s Martina Aloisius tells us his ambitions for the London 2012 Paralympic Games.


Follow the stories of Southern Africa’s Paralympic hopefuls on Paralympic Sport TV: >> www.youtube.com/ParalympicSportTV

All for One and One for All


It is not easy developing a partnership between two organizations separated by 7,000km, but UK Sport and NPC Tanzania have managed it. The Paralympian interviewed Nick Pink, UK Sport’s International Development Adviser and Johnson Jasson, President of NPC Tanzania to find out how.



HOW DID YOUR PARTNERSHIP BEGIN?



NPC Tanzania: After the IPC introduced us to UK Sport, the NPC developed a project for 7-14-year-old primary and secondary school students. Our intention was to develop future Paralympians.



UK Sport: In 2006 the Tanzanian government cut investment in disability sport. The NPC recognized schoolchildren were being marginalized, so wanted to develop sports for people with a disability and raise awareness that disability wasn't something that could be ignored. It was led by the NPC and we supported with awareness-raising, funding and with existing partnerships within the country.

WHAT DID THE PROJECT INVOLVE AND HOW SUCCESSFUL HAS IT BEEN?



NPC Tanzania: Through UK Sport the Paralympic Movement has grown considerably. Children in specialist schools would never have participated in the extra-curricular activities, which were only for able-bodied students. We are now popular and well-known in almost every region of Tanzania. Next year, students will be involved in the national inter-school competitions.



UK Sport: It started with training teachers, working with young people with a disability, organizing competitions and providing sports equipment to give athletes a far better quality of coaching. At three schools, the NPC worked hard to ensure facilities had a flat playing area and quality teaching and learning. This has expanded to schools across the whole country.

WHAT WERE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES YOU FACED AND HOW WERE THEY OVERCOME?



NPC Tanzania: The variation in cost during the implementation and that some teachers, trained in Paralympic sport, are relocating to other schools which have no students with a disability. We are trying to bring them back into the Paralympic circle.



UK Sport: The NPC is one of our greatest partnerships due the commitment and passion of its staff. Communication is good, even though it can be challenging via email, and we try and have at least one face-to-face per year.

One challenge is developing the partnerships with other agencies, like the National Sports Council. I've only seen real linkage develop in the last 18 months where Sports Council and NPC representatives sit on each other's governing bodies.

Lack of funding is a real challenge for them and they are working hard to resolve that as at Tanzanian corporate and government level it's not a priority at the moment. It's a constant battle for them, though we are hoping as the work becomes established and gains a higher profile it may change.



With just one more year of the partnership remaining, NPC Tanzania is hoping that some of its athletes qualify for London 2012. It is also concentrating on accessing unreached regions, improving performance, identifying talent and developing sports leadership in secondary schools.



The major focus of the project was on developing Paralympic Sport at grassroots level



Nick Pink (right) meeting with Johnson Jasson (second right), athletes and coaches in Tanzania

‘Inclusion’ Should Not Just be a Theoretical Concept



By Wilfried Lemke, Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace



Wilfried Lemke spoke at the Opening Ceremony of the VISTA Conference

Sport can change what communities think and feel about persons with a disability and what persons with a disability think and feel about themselves.

I saw this happening first-hand in Beijing where, before the Games, a large part of the estimated 19 million people with a disability living in China were being excluded from society.

The Paralympic Games opened the doors for them and their families. Sport opens doors not only to the athletes but to a whole host of

other people around them. In that sense, the Beijing Games were a tremendous success for the Paralympic Movement.

Access to sport, physical activity and play is a fundamental human right for everyone.

The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) is a very important actor not only in the field of competitive sport, but also in the promotion and support of rights for persons with a disability. This is the crossroads where the United Nations and IPC stand firmly united.

We need to fully understand that inclusion is not just a theoretical concept. It is what changes the daily lives of millions of vulnerable persons around the world. That is why more needs to be done world-wide to turn this into a reality for everyone.

For this to happen, a key aspect is to get more media coverage for the athletes practicing para-sport. Only by showcasing their talents and educating the public about what the athletes can achieve will people realize that disability is not an obstacle and that it can be overcome, through perseverance, solidarity and respect.

Only then will people realize that there is not a person with a disability and a person without a disability. We are all one.

There are many ways of bringing people closer together, such as music or culture. Sport, too, has this unique capacity to transcend barriers. It is a wonderful equalizer and can certainly place everyone on a level playing field.

Exclusion, in our societies, is not inevitable. We have tools at our disposal and sport is one of them.

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NPC Zimbabwe came away from the IPC Regional Training Camp with new skills and knowledge to drive the Paralympic Movement forward

Zimbabwe Paralympic Committee

Harare

ORIPA MUBIKA - TACKLING THE CHALLENGES OF PARA-SPORT

Oripa Mubika works at Sir Humphrey Gibbs Training Centre, a special school in Bulawayo, the second biggest city in Zimbabwe. She was originally involved with the Special Olympics as a co-ordinator for Bulawayo province until she got involved with the NPC in 2009 as the Vice President in charge of administration of the then NPC Task Force.

Watch Paralympic Sport TV for a full interview with Oripa Mubika:

TV [>>youtube.com/ParalympicSportTV](https://www.youtube.com/ParalympicSportTV)

At the IPC Regional Training Camp in Zambia, Oripa Mubika, the Vice President of NPC Zimbabwe, spoke to The Paralympian about developing the Paralympic Movement in Zimbabwe.

FRAGMENTED BEGINNINGS

Before NPC Zimbabwe was established in August 2010, there was an association called Zimbabwe Association for Sports for People with Disabilities (ZASPD) which was registered in 1994.

The association's mandate was to ensure that all people with disabilities interested in sport were catered for. But its role was limited to identifying talent, and nurturing and developing athletes at national level.

Five years after the organization was formed, its existence seemed invisible and individual sports federations decided to work independently of the association.

Nevertheless, the government always helped with funds when it came to participating at Paralympic Games.

Zimbabwe has sent athletes to the Paralympic Games since the country became independent in 1980, when its athletes won eight silver and four bronze medals.

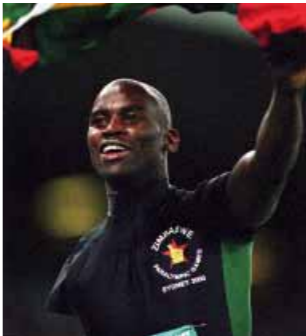
Elliot Mujaji won Zimbabwe's first gold medal in 2000 in the 100m sprint (T46 category). He went on to win his country's second Paralympic gold in the same event four years later in Athens.

Zimbabwe sent Mujaji and Moleen Majoni to the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Games, but no medal was won that year.

In 2004, sports federations decided again to come under one umbrella and develop a constitution - a lengthy process, which took several years.



Moleen Majooni (left) and Elliot Mujaji (middle) have both competed at the Paralympics. Now Paralympic gold medallist Mujaji is training to be a coach (right)



"Our strength is that we have got a passionate group: people who have got drive, people who want to succeed."

Once the constitution was ready and the NPC's first committee was elected in August 2010, it got straight to work with developing Paralympic Sport.

"Our strength is that we have got a passionate group: people who have got drive, people who want to succeed. So I think it's going to assist us because people are really eager to see this thing through," Mubika said

In September NPC Zimbabwe sent 12 athletes to the 2011 All-Africa Games, and brought home a solitary silver medal.

LIMITED RESOURCES

The biggest challenge the NPC faces is financial.

As a new organization, the NPC does not have funds to run competitions itself. Zimbabwe's national games for Para-Sport is funded by the government.

Despite government assistance, money is not always available to attend events abroad and earlier this year this led to the country missing the 2011 IPC Athletics World Championships in New Zealand.

In an effort to be finally independent, the NPC has started a fundraising drive.

"We are still trying to get partners who can assist us financially. We have promises, but those promises haven't come to fruition, but we are hoping that someday we will succeed.

"Right now we're struggling. We haven't really started building any finances because the little we had was used to organise a strategic planning workshop and a few board meetings.

We are still trying to set up structures and get membership in the provinces and districts."

Zimbabwe's Paralympians also often lack adequate equipment, which can be expensive, and user-friendly facilities, which mostly belong to schools, the municipality or private sports clubs.

"Equipment is quite expensive," said Mubika. "There's no way you can improvise a chair for tennis, basketball or racing. You need to buy those things and we don't have the money to import them," said Mubika.

GAINING EXPERTISE

At the IPC Regional Training Camp in Zambia, NPC staff learned about licensing athletes and finding talent whilst their coaches and athletes received specialist sports training.

"There are so many challenges because right now we don't have adequate trained officials or coaches, so this workshop has come at a very opportune time," Mubika said.

NPC Zimbabwe hopes to send a team to the London 2012 Paralympic Games and much of what they learnt at the camp will help them do that.

"It has given me hope for the future in that we've got athletes trained and administrators and coaches.

"The first thing we are going to do after the camp is license our athletes then try and get them to Tunisia so that if their times are OK, they can qualify for London 2012," Mubika said.

She hopes that in the future, as a result of

LEWIS GARABA — DEDICATED TO THE PARALYMPIC MOVEMENT



Lewis Garaba, the first-ever Secretary General for Zimbabwe's NPC, has faced an uphill battle after a car accident in 1993 left him hospitalized for six months. But he returned with more strength for life to help initiate projects to improve the lives of others in his nation in addition to serving as a leader for Wheelchair Tennis in Zimbabwe.

what she learnt at the IPC Regional Training Camp, the NPC can identify talent better.

"In 2016, I'm sure you're going to see Zimbabwe with a very vibrant team which is going to bring a lot of medals."



T46 runner Nyoni Clement wants to follow in Elliot Mujaji's footsteps

London 2012 Resources Launched



Topics include the sports and venues of the London 2012 Paralympic Games and the heritage of the Paralympic Games in the UK.

School children and teachers from around the globe have had the opportunity to learn more about the Paralympic Games this autumn with a new set of London 2012 education resources.

“We have always believed that the Olympic and Paralympic Games have the ability to capture the imagination of young people all over the world and to encourage them to choose sport,” said LOCOG Chairperson Lord Coe.

The resources, which are available in French, Spanish and basic and advanced English, provide London 2012 Games information, activity ideas and images to encourage young people to learn about, discuss and take part in projects related to the Paralympic Games.

web >> www.london2012.com/schoolsfromaroundtheworld

Captain’s Dinner Enriches IPC Development

The “IPC Captain’s Dinner” organized by Dutch organization Charity & Sport on 2 September raised 155,100 EUR.

The fundraising event took place on board a Royal Dutch Navy vessel, the HR MS Rotterdam and was attended by IPC President Sir Philip Craven, Princess Margriet of the Netherlands and Rita van Driel, IPC Governing Board Member.

All proceeds from the event will go toward the IPC’s Youth Camps, which aim to encourage and empower youngsters with a disability in African and Latin American countries to participate in Paralympic Sport.

“The money raised will help with the IPC’s Strategic Goal of encouraging more people around the world to get involved in Paralympic Sport,” said Sir Philip Craven.



Sir Philip Craven, IPC President was pleased to receive the donation for development projects

Coming Up Next Year ...

United Nations Youth Leadership Camp

The IPC will be involved in the UN’s Youth Leadership Camp in Doha, Qatar from 9-19 January 2012. Through the NPCs from developing countries from Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle-East, the IPC will nominate four out of 30 participants and the IPC is responsible for running one day of the camp about the inclusion of persons with a disability in sport.

Youth Empowerment through Sport for Youngsters with a Disability – A Sustainable Partner Initiative with Youth Sport Workshops in East Africa and Europe

East African Athletics Training Camp

From 12-18 February 2012, the IPC, in partnership with five NPCs in East Africa will hold an Athletics Training Camp in Kigali, Rwanda for youngsters with different disabilities, young coaches and youth co-ordinators. The three sports to be practiced will be identified by the NPCs in the East African regions.

Winter Youth Camp

To empower youngsters with a disability in Central Asian countries through winter sports programmes a Winter Youth Camp will be held in La Cerdanya, Spain from 17-24 March for five NPCs (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan) from Central Asia/Caucasus.

Dream it, Do it

From 24 September to 1 October, 71 teenage athletes with a physical impairment took part in the International Paralympic Youth Camp in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

The camp, which was themed ‘Dream it, do it’, was organized by the Dutch Olympic Committee and Dutch Sports Federation, in collaboration with several partners in the Netherlands.

The athletes, aged 14-18, participated in sports activities and trained to become ambassadors in their home countries. They were provided with the necessary skill sets to start up their own youth sport programmes and realize their sporting dreams.

web >> www.nocnsf.nl/home



“I want to win a gold medal in skiing at the Paralympic Games.”

Jeffrey Stuut, the Netherlands



“I wish this trip could last so much longer than a week. The people here are amazing and we all have a similar goal. We want to achieve our goals and inspire others to do the same. Here, we are people. All are accepted and no one is judged. The language barrier is nothing. This experience has been amazing.”

McKenna Dahl, USA



“My dream is to start a competition for climbers with a physical or visual disability in two years.”

Renske Nugter, the Netherlands

Ice Sledge Hockey

LOOKING AHEAD TO A BUSY 2012

Ice Sledge Hockey is no longer a soft sport. The fast-paced, aggressive nature of the game has quickly attracted more fans and a slew of new countries to spice up the competition heading into the 2012 World Championships and Sochi 2014 Paralympic Winter Games.

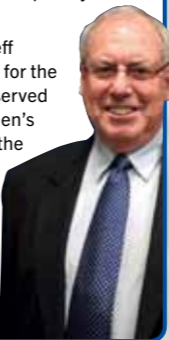


Alexi Salamone helped Team USA finish first at the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games, and the Americans could strike gold again at the 2012 World Championships in March in Hamar, Norway

USA APPOINTS NEW COACH

The defending Paralympic champions just got a little stronger.

This summer, USA named Jeff Sauer as its new head coach for the 2011-12 season. Sauer has served stints as coach of the USA Men's Hockey National Team and the U.S. Deaflympic Hockey Team. He led the University of Wisconsin to two national championships.



Now, it is Russia's turn, as Sochi 2014 approaches.

The first four professional Ice Sledge Hockey teams were established in Russia two years ago, and the aim is to develop and promote the national team ahead of its first World Championships in 2012 and first Paralympic Games in 2014.

"Currently, we are accumulating international competitive experience," said Russian team captain Vadim Seluikin.

"We have played at tournaments in Estonia, Finland and the Czech Republic. We have also played at the European Championships in Sweden in front of a full audience."

Seluikin believes that if everything goes to plan and if Russia continues to attract new athletes, then Sochi 2014 will be a launch pad for the future.



Canada's Paul Rosen defends the net against Italy at the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Games

World Champs and Sochi 2014

At next spring's 2012 World Championships, USA and Canada will start as favourites, while host nation Norway could play a spoiler role.

Hagen said Russia will be a "dark horse" and the Czech Republic could turn some heads, too.

He believes Japan may not do as well noting that several of its players retired or left the game.

Looking further ahead, eight teams will qualify for Sochi 2014, where they will play at the Maly Ice Palace in front of 7,000 cheering fans.

And with the rate the sport is growing right now, Ice Sledge Hockey is bound to create some of the most unforgettable memories at Sochi 2014.

Exponential growth

While the growth of Ice Sledge Hockey has been exponential, Hagen said it will take some time before the younger teams reach the podium.

"The difference from the top to the bottom is still fairly big," Hagen said.

But considering how new the sport still is, it may not take that long after all.

Shock Vancouver 2010 silver medallist Japan made its Paralympic debut at the Nagano 1998 Paralympics, and 2011 European Champions Italy used the Torino 2006 home Games as its starting point.



Ten of Japan's players from Vancouver 2010 are still with the team

Let the puck drop

Ice Sledge Hockey only made its Paralympic Games debut at the Lillehammer 1994 Games, but has quickly become one of the biggest spectator attractions at the Winter Paralympics.

Much of this can be credited to improvement in both the quality and quantity of the resources required for the sport.

"It's been almost like an explosion," said Eskil Hagen, Vice Chairperson of the sport's Technical Committee who scored Norway's winning goal with 3.6 seconds to go in its bronze-medal match against Canada at the Vancouver 2010 Paralympics.

"In 1993, the equipment was really basic but has improved a lot since then."

Rather than skates, Ice Sledge Hockey players – athletes with an impairment in the lower halves of their bodies – use double-blade sledges that allow the puck to pass beneath them. They then have two sticks that have spike-ends for pushing and blade-ends for shooting.

The development of the sledges in the last decade has transformed the sport into an elite competition, thus attracting more athletes and countries.

The sport originated in Sweden during the 1960's and then spread to Norway and

Great Britain before reaching Canada and Estonia. Those were the first five nations to field teams at the Lillehammer 1994 Paralympic Winter Games, and since then it has spread across Europe and to Asia and North America.

Now, USA and Canada are driving the growth of the sport, as they are the biggest markets for grassroots due to their number of resources, youth development programmes and injured war veterans.

Across the Atlantic, Norway has been nurturing the Netherlands, Sweden has been helping Finland set up a programme, and Japan is thriving in the Pacific after starting up a team in the mid-'90s.

When national teams participated in their first World Championships ...

1996	2004	2008	2009	And perhaps in the coming years the following teams will make their debuts ...
USA	Great Britain	Korea	The Netherlands	Russia
Norway	Germany	Italy		Austria
Canada		Czech Republic		Slovakia
Japan		Poland		Finland
Estonia				
Sweden				



Adam Hall – Charismatic Kiwi King of the Mountains



New Zealand's Adam Hall, 24, is gunning for another Paralympic medal

After winning New Zealand's first Paralympic Winter Games gold medal in eight years with a victory in the Slalom in Vancouver, Adam Hall is a national hero.

The Paralympian caught up with him to learn how his career has gone full-circle, and how he wants to do even better at Sochi 2014.

Overcoming difficulties

Adam Hall is a determined man, following a simple philosophy.

"I was born with a disability, but that's what life is about. It's about changing things that are difficult and making them into things you can do.

"If I was to go on a running race with you, I'd be the one with the disability. But come and have a ski with me and you'd be the one with the disability."

"If I was to go on a running race with you, I'd be the one with the disability. But come and have a ski with me and you'd be the one with the disability."

"That was when I found my independence. I was good at it and didn't have to worry about my two skis going all over the place.

"It was from there that I made the decision that I might one day go to the Paralympics."



Greatest Achievements

Gold
Slalom Standing, Vancouver 2010 Winter Paralympic Games

Silver
Slalom Standing, 2009 IPC Alpine Skiing World Championships

Born with spina bifida, and unable to feel his feet, Hall took up skiing aged six, a hobby that was fraught with difficulties.

After three years of falls and bruises, he switched to snowboarding and soon began to excel.



Hall is involved in projects to inspire youngsters with a disability to dream big

"The goal was not just to get on the podium, but to be top of it with a gold medal."

Dreaming big

After 12 years of competition, and snowboarding not part of the Winter Games programme, Hall realized that to fulfil his Paralympic dream he would have to switch back to skiing.

"One of my goals and dreams was to represent New Zealand at the highest level possible, so I changed back in 2004 to try qualify for Torino 2006."

Qualify he did with adapted skis that saw him use his knees, hips and upper-body, rather than his feet to control his movement.

He finished outside of the medals though in Torino, an experience that made him even more determined to return in Vancouver faster and stronger.

Soon after, his results and world ranking started to improve. By the time of the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games he had just one thing on his mind.

"The goal was not just to get on the podium, but to be top of it with a gold medal. I wasn't going there for silver and bronze."

Paralympic legend

After his first Slalom run, Hall looked very much on track. A sensational ski gave him a 2.13-second lead.

But then disaster struck.



Hall was flagbearer for his country and brought gold home at Vancouver 2010

With 20 gates to go in his second run, Hall fell. What happened next will go down as in Paralympic history.

"I didn't have too much time to think about it really, my body just kicked into autopilot," is how Hall describes somehow picking himself up, recovering and continuing his run to still claim victory with a 0.57-second margin.

Now a national hero, the inspirational Kiwi has turned his aspirations to Sochi 2014, where he not only wants to retain his title but improve his results in other disciplines.

"In Vancouver I finished eighth and seventh in Super G and Super Combined. In Sochi, I'll be looking to see if I can sneak in another medal."

With his determination, you would not rule it out.

We asked some of Adam Hall's biggest rivals what they thought of him ...



Vincent Gauthier-Manuel (France)

"Adam is set apart from the rest. I hope that he remains a slalom specialist and doesn't pick up any medals in Downhill or Super G because otherwise it could be bad for me."



Thomas Pfyl (Switzerland)

"Adam told me that he might try to go to the sitting category, but I don't know if that's right. I'd be lucky if he goes into the sitting category because he's a really good standing skier."



Michael Bruegger (Switzerland)

"In the Slalom Adam's to be reckoned with. In the slalom, he's clearly one of the favourites."



London 2012

Ticket Sales Like Never Before

After a month of intense promotion in September, London 2012 sold more than one million tickets during its first ticket window for the Paralympic Games – a record for any Organizing Committee.

On 8 September, the day prior to tickets going on sale, more than 100 British and international athletes attended International Paralympic Day in London’s Trafalgar Square, demonstrating 10 Paralympic sports and securing worldwide media coverage for the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

In addition to sprints along a purpose-built 50m track in front of the National Gallery involving the American duo of April Holmes and Jerome Singleton along with France’s Marie Amelie LeFur and South Africa’s Oscar Pistorius, British Prime Minister David Cameron challenged London Mayor Boris Johnson to a game of Wheelchair Tennis.

The duel between two of Britain’s most powerful politicians made front-page news in Great Britain and was covered by media from 29 countries.

Also in attendance at International Paralympic Day were a number of Chef de Missions, who took time out from their final London 2012 seminar to come watch.

The London 2012 Paralympic medals were unveiled in September at the British Museum. Designed by jewelry artist Lin Cheung, the medals will be presented in 502 Paralympic victory ceremonies during 11 days of competition next year.

The fronts of the medals are engraved with an image of the outstretched wing of the Greek goddess of Victory, representing flight, power and lightness. The reverse side depicts the heart of Victory.

This activity, combined with a nationwide advertising campaign proclaiming the Paralympics as “Sport Like Never Before,” led 116,000 people to apply for 1.14 million tickets.



The London 2012 medals were revealed in autumn

Of the 300 ticketed sessions at the Games, 126 were oversubscribed in at least one price category in 16 different sports. This led to ticket ballots having to be held for the first time ever for a Paralympic Games.

“The response from the public has been phenomenal,” IPC President Sir Philip Craven said.

“To have over a million tickets applied for 11 months out from the Games is unprecedented and underlines the growing excitement for what will be a tremendous sporting event.”



International Paralympic Day made the front page of two national British newspapers

Tickets for London 2012 can still be purchased through the IPC’s official ticket reseller at:

web >> www.paralympictickets.com

web >> www.london2012.com



Some of the world’s most high-profile Paralympians were on hand at International Paralympic Day in Trafalgar Square, including Great Britain’s Ellie Simmonds, (centre left), and South Africa’s Oscar Pistorius, (far right)



Sochi 2014

Volunteer Teams Already at Work Across Russia

Sochi 2014 held its Development of the Volunteer Movement roundtable on 14 September, in which educational institutions across Russia pledged their readiness to begin the mass recruitment of volunteers for the Sochi 2014 Games.

The Sochi 2014 volunteer teams began working on assorted projects in mid-2011, and they already consist of 500 people of various nationalities across Russia.

“The volunteer movement is one of the most important elements of the Sochi

Games legacy,” said Dmitry Chernyshenko, President of the Sochi 2014 Organizing Committee.

“Thanks to the activity of the 26 Sochi 2014 volunteer centres, tens of thousands of people all over the country – from Kaliningrad to Vladivostok – are engaged in volunteer work. We have breathed life into the development of volunteer movement in Russia.”

web >> www.sochi2014.com



Rio 2016

Paralympic Games Emblem Revealed in Rio de Janeiro

The official emblem for the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games was launched on 26 November at a Christmas tree lighting ceremony in the heart of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Prior to the lighting of the tree, a ballet inspired by the brand’s values captivated the public and a sculpture of the Rio 2016 emblem was revealed on stage after being displayed on a video screen.

“I’m really excited about this inspirational design, which I believe will captivate the hearts and minds of people from all around the world,” said Sir Philip Craven, who was in Rio de Janeiro for the emblem launch.

The emblem was designed by Rio agency Tatil Design de Ideias, and it emulates the upward curve of an athlete surpassing expectations and growing with infinite drive.

The design’s spiral movement and three-dimensional shape has the power to inspire and mobilize people.

A luminous rising curve emerges from the yellow energy of the sun and extends through to the bright, hot red part of the emblem.



The new Rio 2016 Paralympic Games emblem was unveiled in November

The Rio 2016 Paralympic Games brand challenges the way the public thinks, forcing them to look away from differences in society and instead inspire them to apply the spirit and accomplishment of Paralympic athletes to their own lives.

It is a brand that is ready to lead societal change to create a more inclusive world.

web >> www.rio2016.com



Allianz was a sponsor at the 2011 IPC Swimming European Championships in Berlin

Allianz Spreads Paralympic Movement Prior to London 2012

In conjunction with International Paralympic Day in London on 8 September, the International Paralympic Committee’s first international partner, Allianz, hosted a workshop to help further align communication activities and spread the spirit of the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

The company is aiming to further extend its engagements on a local level through partnerships with National Paralympic Committees.

To do so, it illustrated what Paralympic Sport is all about at International Paralympic Day, allowing workshop participants to be personally touched and inspired by athletes who have overcome challenges to succeed in sport.

Heading into London 2012, Allianz will work toward producing products for people with an impairment, integrating Paralympic customers and athletes in its campaigns and emphasizing Paralympic engagement.

Potential events include athlete meet and greets, media workshops and multimedia projects that provide insight into the life and training of top Paralympians.

Allianz wants to bring its claim “Believe in Yourself” to life in order to engage its own employees and the public in the Movement.

web >> <http://sponsoring.allianz.com/en/paralympics/paralympics>



From A to B

With London 2012 just around the corner, The Paralympian asked transportation expert DB Schenker for its top 12 tips on how to ship Paralympic equipment to the Games.



BP is a new addition to the Paralympic Family

BP to Use London 2012 to Create More Eco-friendly World

As an official partner of the London 2012 Paralympic Games, BP is aiming to use the event as a means to change and provide realistic ways to secure a low-carbon future for our world.

During the Games, BP will monitor the mileage on all London 2012 vehicles used by athletes, coaches, officials and National Paralympic Committees.

It will pay for the cost of carbon emissions from those vehicles by investing that money in projects around the world to raise awareness for climate change and to help improve the environment.

Through London 2012, BP will also work with a number of National Paralympic Committees to help brand the Paralympic Games, and it will sponsor three to six athletes in several countries – not necessarily the highest-profile athletes, but those who are potential winners or inspirational underdogs.

BP will acquire the image and appearance rights of those selected athletes and invite them as athlete ambassadors to events and workshops that involve media and government stakeholders in their respective countries.

The company will also host receptions before, during and after the Games for athletes, including “good luck” and “welcome home” festivities.

“We’re seen as a global company, but this is about trying to become a local company and trying to become a local fabric in different countries,” said Seve Kyriacou, International Programme Director at BP London 2012. “It’s about celebrating a team’s journey, but also introducing them to key stakeholders in their countries, including potential future sponsors.”

The partnership will then in turn boost the morale of BP employees worldwide and inspire them and their families with memorable experiences, too.

BP hopes to eventually secure talks of extending this partnership through to Rio 2016.

web >> www.bplondon2012.com

Planning Phase: April to June 2012

1) Shipping Dates



NPCs should plan their dates early because, for their delivery to arrive on time, it has to arrive at UK Airports five days, at UK Sea-ports 10 days and at the shipping company’s warehouse three days before the planned delivery date.

2) Transport Rates



Time permitting, NPCs can ship equipment as cargo, which is an **alternative to current excess luggage fees**.

3) Special Import Regulations



DB Schenker provides information on **special import rules**, which are in place for dangerous goods, medicines, radio frequency units, firearms & ammunition, alcohol, food, horses, dogs and plants.

4) Pick up Dates



Pick up dates, packing lists and special requirements should be confirmed with the shipping company at least **2 weeks before** collection.

5) Documentation



Goods to be consumed or given away within the UK (**Permanent Import**) need to be documented separately from goods to be returned to their country of origin after the event (**Temporary Admission**).

6) Packaging



DB Schenker can provide secure **packing material & services** and will palletize all items for transport to the UK.

Transport & Receipt: July / August 2012

7) Shipment Labels



Labels need to be attached to each item to be shipped. The label should show: NPC, Name of Athlete and final delivery address in London.

8) Day of Pick Up



The shipment can be picked up at **any address** provided by the shipper, e.g. a training facility, equipment supplier, official clothing site etc. A **contact person** needs to hand over the shipment on the day of pick up.

9) Receipt in London



The shipment can be delivered to **any address** defined by the shipper, e.g., Paralympic Village, venues or UK training sites. A **contact person** needs to receive the shipment on the day of delivery.

Return Transport: Post Paralympic Games

10) Return Documentation



All goods under **Temporary Admission** must be discharged for re-export by UK Customs. DB Schenker will assist with closing temporary imports and re-export documents, which should be submitted to UK Customs on the pick up day at the latest.

11) Return Transport



The equipment can be picked up at any **UK address** and **transported back to the country of origin** or if needed **straight to the next event**. Shipments with **urgent return deadlines** need to be booked well in advance of pick up.

12) Re-Import & Delivery



DB Schenker can arrange **re-import customs clearance** at the country of origin and deliver the equipment to **any address** provided by the shipper.

web >> www.dbschenker.com



From VISTA to ICSEMIS

As the Paralympic Movement rises to become a global sporting phenomenon, more scientific and academic research is taking the movement to the next level.



Around 200 sports scientists, classifiers, coaches, trainers and administrators attended VISTA



Yves Vanlandewyck highlighted the need to further develop the classification system



Sir Philip Craven (centre) and Wilfried Lemke (right) highlighted the social legacy of the Paralympics



Prof McNamee highlighted ethical issues in the Paralympic Movement

Leading experts in Paralympic Sport gathered in Bonn, Germany, from 31 August to 3 September 2011 for the fifth VISTA conference whose theme this year was “A multi-disciplinary approach to Paralympic success.”

Organized by the International Paralympic Committee, it was an opportunity for sports scientists and researchers, classifiers, coaches, athletes, trainers and sport administrators to come together under one roof and explore a range of topics from organizational development to nutrition, anti-doping and classification.

Networking opportunity

“One highlight was the discussion that ensued off the podium during the social time which gave everyone ample opportunity to discuss other kinds of potential re-

search,” said Walter Thompson, a member of the Sports Science Committee, which sifted through hundreds of abstracts to select the speakers.

He gave the example of USA’s wheelchair racer Anjali Forber-Pratt. The two-time 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games bronze medalist wanted to create more torque in her racing chair to go faster. After an impromptu chat, Thompson was able to suggest some ways to change her chair.

“It gave her an opportunity as a wheelchair racer to get some advice from internationally recognised wheelchair scientists that might well help her feel more comfortable in her chair,” Thompson said.

Forber-Pratt, who is expected to compete at London 2012, also had the opportunity to speak to

leaders in the Paralympic Movement about grassroots sport development and her journey toward next year’s Games.

“It’s exciting to be around all of these different people who have the same passion for the Paralympics as I do, and from a different perspective,” Forber-Pratt said at the conference.

Ethical dilemmas

Thompson, a Professor in the Department of Kinesiology and Health and Division of Nutrition at Georgia State University, was also impressed by the wide variety of subjects tackled at the VISTA conference.

He particularly enjoyed the keynote address by Mike McNamee, Professor of Applied Ethics at Swansea University Wales, on the ethical challenges and opportunities that the Paralympic Movement faces.

“Mike always challenges the audience. I really liked Mike’s talk,” said Thompson.

Speaking ahead of his keynote address to www.paralympic.org, McNamee raised the question of whether athletes with highly technological prosthesis represent some kind of paradigm shift in athletics.

“Paralympic athletics gives us a really interesting case study for the use of biotechnologies in enhancing human abilities,” said McNamee.

“It raises the question about what kinds of technologies can you have in Paralympic sport,” McNamee said, “Because I don’t think anyone wants a situation analogous to formula one racing where what runs the event is who’s got the best technology.”

Lively discussions

For Walter Thompson, the other highlight of VISTA was the lively discussion that ensued after the symposium on “Performance Enhancing Agents – When are You Crossing the Line”, which tackled issues of anti-doping and nutrition.

Anjali Forber-Pratt and Yves Vanlandewyck hope more athletes will attend VISTA in the future.



“We had some of the latest information about nutrition and how some athletes will consume a product because it’s supposed to enhance their performance yet it may contain a substance that is banned by WADA, so that was interesting to me,” Thompson said.

Another keynote speech was given by Yves Vanlandewyck, Chairperson of the IPC’s Sports Science Committee, who challenged the Paralympic Movement to address the issue of evidence-based classification.

“You need to understand the sport. You need to understand the impairment level and the interaction between both, and you need to understand the concept that we are working with, which is this triangle of impairment, performance and the impact of training,” Vanlandewyck said. “Athletes, classifiers and researchers working together is the only way forward.”

Road to ICSEMIS

The next major conference for Paralympic researchers will be the International Convention on Science, Education and Medicine in Sport (ICSEMIS) from 19-24 July 2012 in Glasgow, Scotland, which is positioned to take full advantage of the world’s attention on the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Many of the world’s foremost authorities in the fields of sports medicine and science will present cutting edge information of great interest to anyone involved in sports.

“I’m looking forward to this large meeting of international scientists who can integrate or have the ability to integrate Olympic and Paralympic sport into a common theme,” said Thompson.

“There’s no need to keep Olympic and Paralympic discussions separate.

“All the sessions that the IPC is involved in organising are going to be addressing both able-bodied and Paralympic athletes.”

Thompson will be speaking in a Symposium on the “Role of Olympic and Paralympic Movement in Education and Awareness.”

“In this presentation, we are going to present how sport, as a global phenomenon, is offering increased opportunities, emphasizing participation, inclusion and cultural traditions. We will demonstrate how through sport, we can develop public awareness for the importance of inclusion of people with disabilities in the society,” the symposium abstract read.

IPC Medical Committee member, Stuart Willick will present a keynote lecture on “Special Medical Issues in Paralympic Athletes”, which will focus on the challenges faced by healthcare providers for athletes with a disability.

Anne Hart, Chairperson of the IPC Classification Committee, will present a keynote address on classification.

“There is considerable variability across the approximately 25 Paralympic sports on many fundamental issues in classification, ranging from the units of classification to the principles, procedures and rules. Having a unified conceptual basis for classification systems and consistent implementation is critical in the future of Paralympic Sports,” Hart told The Paralympian.

For more information on ICSEMIS please visit:

web >> www.icsemis2012.com

To download presentations from the 2011 VISTA conference, go to:

web >> www.paralympic.org/events

Parapan American Games Light Up Guadalajara



The Mexican city of Guadalajara played host to more than 1,300 athletes from 24 countries during November for the 2011 Parapan American Games.

Athletes took part in 13 sports, the most ever at the Parapans, and the competition was extremely fierce, particularly in team sports where a number of countries fought it out for London 2012 qualification spots.

Brazil, which sent its strongest team to Guadalajara, topped the medals table, just as it had done at the last Parapans in Rio de Janeiro in 2007.

Brazil won 197 medals, including 81 golds, 61 silver and 55 bronze. Its star performer was swimmer Daniel Dias (pictured below), who claimed an astonishing 11 gold medals in 11 events.

Elsewhere, a number of new talents emerged who could shake up the status quo at London 2012 and be even bigger forces to be reckoned with by the time Rio 2016 comes along.

USA's 17-year-old T53 athlete Chelsea McClammer won five gold medals, and her compatriot, T44 sprinter Jarryd Wallace, showed that next year's 100m sprint will not just be a two-horse race between Jerome Singleton and Oscar Pistorius.

Host nation Mexico founded a new hero in the form of 16-year-old swimmer Luis Andrade Guillen, a winner of eight medals, including four golds.

At the Closing Ceremony, Americas Paralympic Committee President Octavio Londoño spoke of his desire for all 42 Pan American countries to participate in both the Toronto 2015 Parapan American Games and the Rio 2016 Paralympics. He also recognized the Mexican public, which made the event such a success with its passionate support.

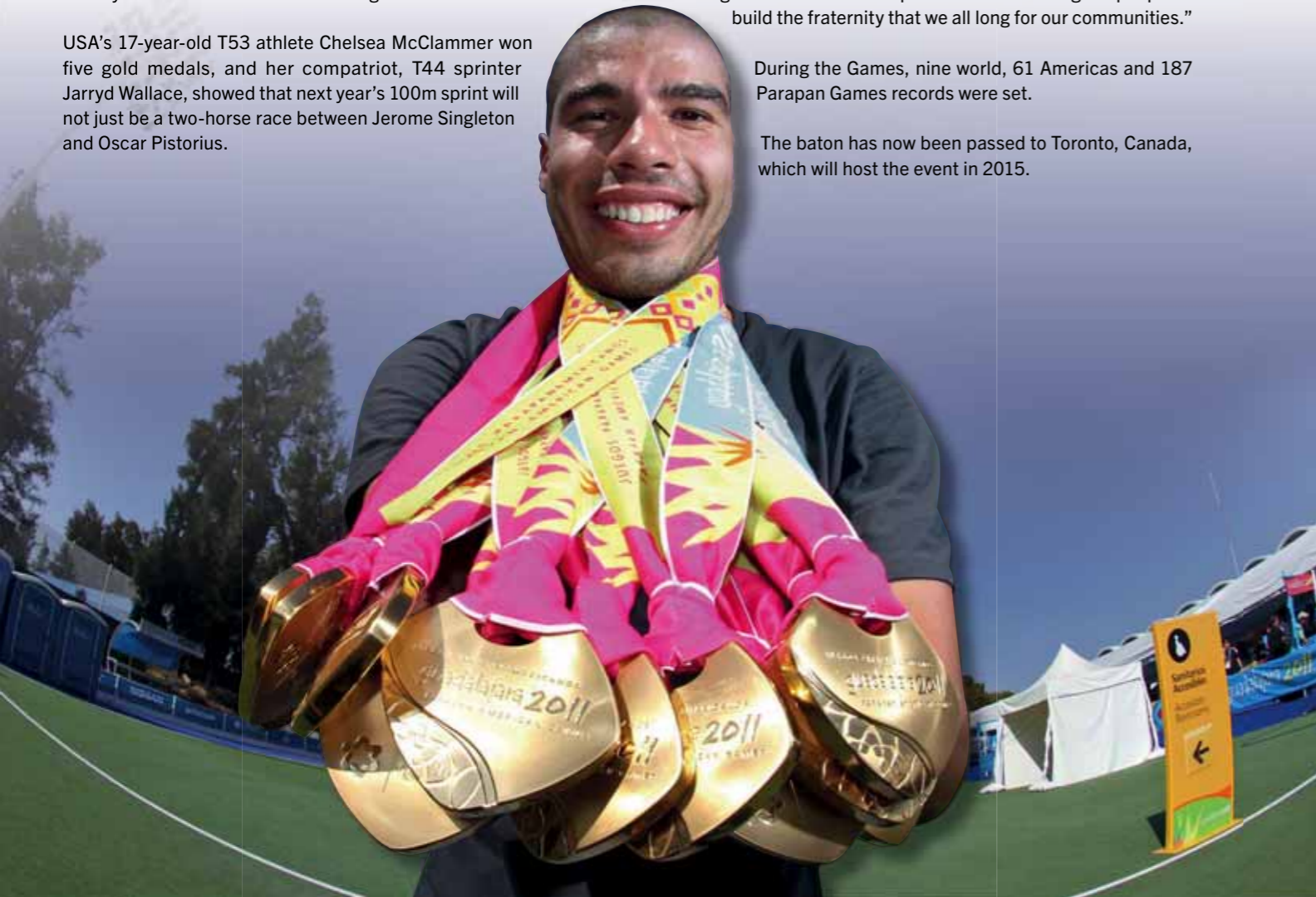
"I would like to acknowledge another great champion of the Paralympic spirit: the spectators, citizens, and children who cheered for the athletes," Londoño said. "This public deserves the Paralympic gold."

Mexican President Felipe Calderon Hinojosa officially declared the end to America's fiesta and praised the performances of the athletes in a stirring address.

"These Games have served as a reminder that there are no obstacles for the heart, and that beyond our differences, we are all equal, with dignity and rights," he said. "Each effort made, each medal won and each competition attempt have taught us a lesson in love for life, showing us that there is still space in the hearts of good people to build the fraternity that we all long for our communities."

During the Games, nine world, 61 Americas and 187 Parapan Games records were set.

The baton has now been passed to Toronto, Canada, which will host the event in 2015.



Getting the Vote

facebook

Paralympic fans around the globe flocked to Facebook in droves the last few months to vote for the top para-athlete each month, resulting in four different winners from four different nations.

web >> www.facebook.com/ParalympicSport.TV



British world and Paralympic champion archer Danielle Brown won gold in the Individual Compound Open at the Para-Archery World Championships in Turin, Italy, in addition to two silvers in the Team Compound Open. The results qualified her for London 2012, where she will be one of the stars of the host country.



Australia's Ellie Cole swam to win six golds at July's Pan Pacific Para Swimming Championships in Edmonton, Canada. The 20-year-old will go up against some of the top swimmers at London 2012, including South Africa's Natalie du Toit, Great Britain's Stephanie Millward and Spain's Sarai Gascon.



Irish para-cyclist Mark Rohan won gold in both the H1 handcycling Road Race and Time Trial at the UCI Para-Cycling Road World Championships in Roskilde, Denmark, in September. He received a whopping 74 percent of the vote and will compete in his first Paralympic Games in London next year.



Winning gold in the singles Class 10 competition at the Para-Table Tennis European Championships secured Natalia Partyka's spot at London 2012, where she will play for her third Paralympic singles gold. The 22-year-old, has consistently been ranked No. 1 in the para-sport world and has even cracked the top 50 on the able-bodied side.

USA Triumphs at Para-Cycling Road Worlds

USA took home gold in nine events at September's Para-Cycling Road World Championships in Roskilde, Denmark, finishing just ahead of Germany in the final medal standings.

Nearly 400 athletes from 45 nations took part in the event, which served as the final chance for them to earn qualification points for the London 2012 Paralympic Games.

For the Americans, Allison Jones won gold in both the women's C2 road race and time trial for the second year in a row.

Paralympic champion Oscar Sanchez defended his title in the men's H4 time trial, while Cassie Mitchell and Monica Bascio claimed gold in the H1 and H3 classes, respectively.

Germany's Michael Teuber successfully showed why he will be one to beat at London 2012, winning both the men's C2 road race and time trial.

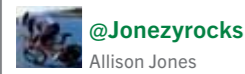
Heavily favoured Sarah Storey of Great Britain shook off stiff competition from Poland's Anna Harkowska in the women's C5 time trial. Ireland impressed as Mark Rohan won the men's C3 time trial and road race, a feat that earned him September's IPC Athlete of the Month title, and Colin Lynch claimed gold in the men's C2 time trial.



Cassie Mitchell (pictured), Monica Bascio and Oscar Sanchez put on quite the display for USA in the handcycling division of the Para-Cycling Road World Championships, each taking home gold in their respective classifications

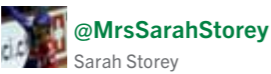
twitter @Paralympic

>> Thank you for all of your support! I have retained my World Championship TT title. Next big show for the TT will be at the 2012 Paralympics! <<



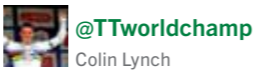
@Jonesylocks
Allison Jones

>> Wooooooop wooooooop! Can't tell you how good it felt to win that sprint for the Road Race World title!! #doubletreble :-)<<



@MrsSarahStorey
Sarah Storey

>> The problem with having a World Champs jersey is every time I wear it out on a ride people will think I'm just trying to copy @MarkCavendish <<



@TTworldchamp
Colin Lynch

British Trio Lights Up Para-Triathlon Worlds



Three female British para-triathletes defended their titles at the 2011 ITU Para-Triathlon World Championships in Beijing, China, on 9 September.

Jane Egan (TRI-1), Faye McClelland (TRI-4) and Charlotte Ellis (TRI-6) all won their respective classes, while teammate Steven Judge (TRI-3) won his first-ever title.

USA swept the women's TRI-3 class, with Melissa Stockwell grabbing gold for the second year in a row and Sarah Reinertsen and Scout Bassett finishing close behind her.

Canada took first place through Jennifer Hopkins (TRI-2), while France got two golden finishes from Yannick Bourseaux (TRI-4) and Benjamin Landier (TRI-5).

Para-Triathlon will make its Paralympic Games debut at Rio 2016.

Jane Egan of Great Britain defended her World Championship title in Beijing this year in Para-Triathlon

web >> www.triathlon.org

Great Britain's Aggar Steals Show on Lake Bled



Great Britain's Tom Aggar retained his Rowing title for the fourth time at the World Championships in Lake Bled, Slovenia

Thirty-two boats from 19 different countries qualified for the London 2012 Paralympic Games with their performances at September's World Rowing Championships on Lake Bled, Slovenia.

Great Britain's Paralympic champion Tom Aggar stole the show, retaining his world title for the fourth time in the men's arms and shoulders single scull event (ASM1x). Aggar has now cemented himself as the rower to beat at London 2012.

China's Lou Xiaoxian and Fei Tianming, meanwhile, won the finals of the Trunk and Arms Mixed Double Scull (TAMix2x), while athletes from Ukraine and France also impressed.

web >> www.worldrowing.com

World Sport Round-up

August

Australia topped the medals table at the **Pan Pacific Para Swimming Championships** in Edmonton, Canada, as Ellie Cole won six golds and Kayla Clarke and Blake Cochrane each grabbed five. USA finished second in the standings, followed by Brazil.



Australia's Kayla Clarke racked up five medals at the Pan Pacific Para Swimming Championships

More than 300 athletes from 33 nations took part in the **Boccia World Cup** in Belfast, Northern Ireland, where Korea and Portugal led the final standings.

Brazil, Canada, Hungary and Italy all stood atop the podium twice at the **Para-Canoe Sprint World Championships** in Szeged, Hungary.

September

Dutchwoman Esther Vergeer won her sixth consecutive **US Open Wheelchair Tennis** women's singles title, while Japan's Shingo Kuieda picked up his fifth title on the men's side. USA's David Wagner took the quad singles title.

Great Britain's men's and Germany's women's team took the crowns at the **Wheelchair Basketball European Championships** in Nazareth, Israel.

More than 125 para-athletes took part in the Athletics competition at the **All-Africa Games** in Maputo, Mozambique.



Great Britain's win at the Wheelchair Basketball Euros proved the men's team is one to watch at London 2012

October

South Africa claimed its London 2012 qualification spot after winning the **African Wheelchair Basketball Championships** in Rabat, Morocco.

China finished on top of the medal standings at the **Wheelchair Fencing World Championships** in Catania, Italy, where Ru Yi Ye, Yi Jun Chen, Fang Yao and Jing Jing Zhou all gave impressive performances.



China and Hong Kong came out one-two in the final medal tally at the Wheelchair Fencing Worlds

Sweden is the 2011 **Wheelchair Rugby European champion** after defeating Great Britain in the gold-medal match in Nottwil, Switzerland.

Bosnia and Herzegovina's men and Ukraine's women took home the titles at the **Sitting Volleyball European Championships** in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

Australia topped the medal standings at the **Global Games** for the intellectually disabled in Linguria, Italy, winning 55 medals, including 30 golds.

Poland's Natalia Partyka stole the show at the **Para-Table Tennis European Championships** in Split, Croatia, cruising to gold in the women's Class 10 singles competition without losing a single game along the way.

The Danish women and Finnish men won the **Goalball European Championships** in Assens, Denmark.

Germany's Natascha Hiltrop, Great Britain's Matt Skelhon, the United Arab Emirates' Abdulla Sultan Alaryani and Ukraine's Vasyi Kovalchuk all stole the headlines at the **IPC Shooting World Cup** in the USA.

November

Russia won four gold medals and Ukraine won three at the **Judo European Championships** in Crawley, Great Britain. Russia won team gold and individual gold via top performances from Vladimir Fedim (men's -100kg), Olga Zabrodskeya (women's -70kg) and Irina Kalyanova (women's +70kg).

At the **IPC Shooting World Cup** in Sydney, Australia, Korea won the 10m Air Rifle Standing SH2 Mixed Team event, while several Australians earned individual quota places for London 2012.



IWAS World Games

1 to 10 December
The IWAS World Games in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates will include competitions in Athletics, Badminton, Football, Powerlifting, Shooting, Sitting Volleyball, Swimming and Para-Table Tennis.

web > >> www.iwasf.com

IPC Biathlon and Cross-Country World Cup

Begins 7 December 2011
More than 140 athletes from 15 different countries will compete in four major World Cup events, beginning with a Biathlon and Cross-Country Skiing competition in Sjusjoen, Norway, from 6-18 December. Then from 24-30 January, USA will host the next World Cup event at the Telemark Ski Resort in Cable, Wisconsin, and it will immediately be followed by another event at Wirth Park in Minneapolis, Minnesota, from 31 January to 5 February. The athletes will then travel to Vuokatti, Finland, for the finals from 20 March to 1 April.

Russia, Ukraine and Germany will all head into the World Cup with targets on their backs after displaying the best performances at the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Games.



Ukraine's Olena Iurkivska is still a force to be reckoned with in Cross-Country events this Nordic Skiing season

web > >> www.ipc-nordicskiing.org

Arab Games

9 to 23 December
Para-athletes from Arab nations will take part in sprint, middle-distance, long-distance and relay events on the track, in addition to various field events at Kahalifa Stadium in Doha, Qatar.

web > >> www.arabgames2011.qa



IFDS Sailing World Championships

7 to 15 January 2012
More than 100 sailors from 20 countries will participate at the 2012 IFDS World Championships on nearly 75 boats. The event will be hosted by the historic city of Punta Gorda, Florida, which was 90 percent rebuilt after Hurricane Charley made a direct hit in 2004. One of its strategic recovery goals was to create a model city for mobility and accessibility.



The Sailing World Championships come just seventh months prior to the Paralympic Games.

web > >> www.ifdsworlds2012.com

IPC Alpine Skiing World Cup

Begins 25 January 2012
From 25-27 January, Arte Terme, Italy, will host the first of the four Alpine Skiing World Cup competitions for the 2012 season with the Slalom and Giant Slalom events. La Molina, Spain, will host the Super-Combined and Super-G races from 31 January to 2 February and Winter Park, Colorado in the USA will host another Slalom and Giant Slalom event from 6-9 March. The finals will take place in Panorama, Canada from 13-16 March in all events. With a slew of youngsters and more professional coaches recently entering the sport, and with Sochi 2014 just two years away, the 2012 World Cup competition is expected to be at a much higher level than in previous seasons.



France's Vincent Gauthier will be one to watch during the Alpine World Cup this season

web > >> www.ipc-alpineskiing.org



UCI Para-Cycling Track World Championships

10 to 12 February 2012
The Home Depot Velodrome in Los Angeles, USA, will host the Para-Cycling Track World Championships. It will be the final chance for para-cyclists to earn qualification points for the London 2012 Paralympic Games on the track.



In Los Angeles, para-cyclists will race on a 250m Siberian pine track

web > >> www.paracyclingla2012.com

World Wheelchair Curling Championships

18 to 25 February 2012
The Uiam Ice Rink in Chuncheon City, Korea, will attract 10 mixed gender teams for the World Wheelchair Curling Championships, where squads can earn qualification points for the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Games. Canada, China, Korea, Norway, Russia, Scotland, Sweden and the USA have already qualified for the Championships.



Korea will host the World Wheelchair Curling Championships after faring well at the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Games

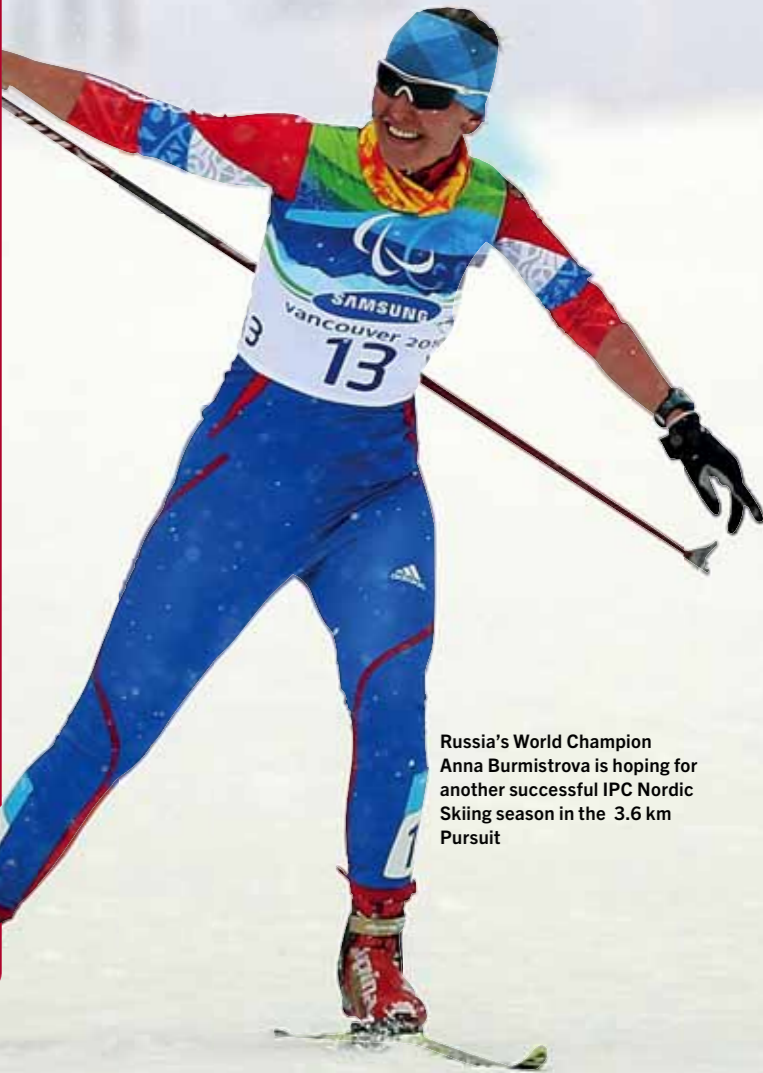
web > >> www.worldcurling.org



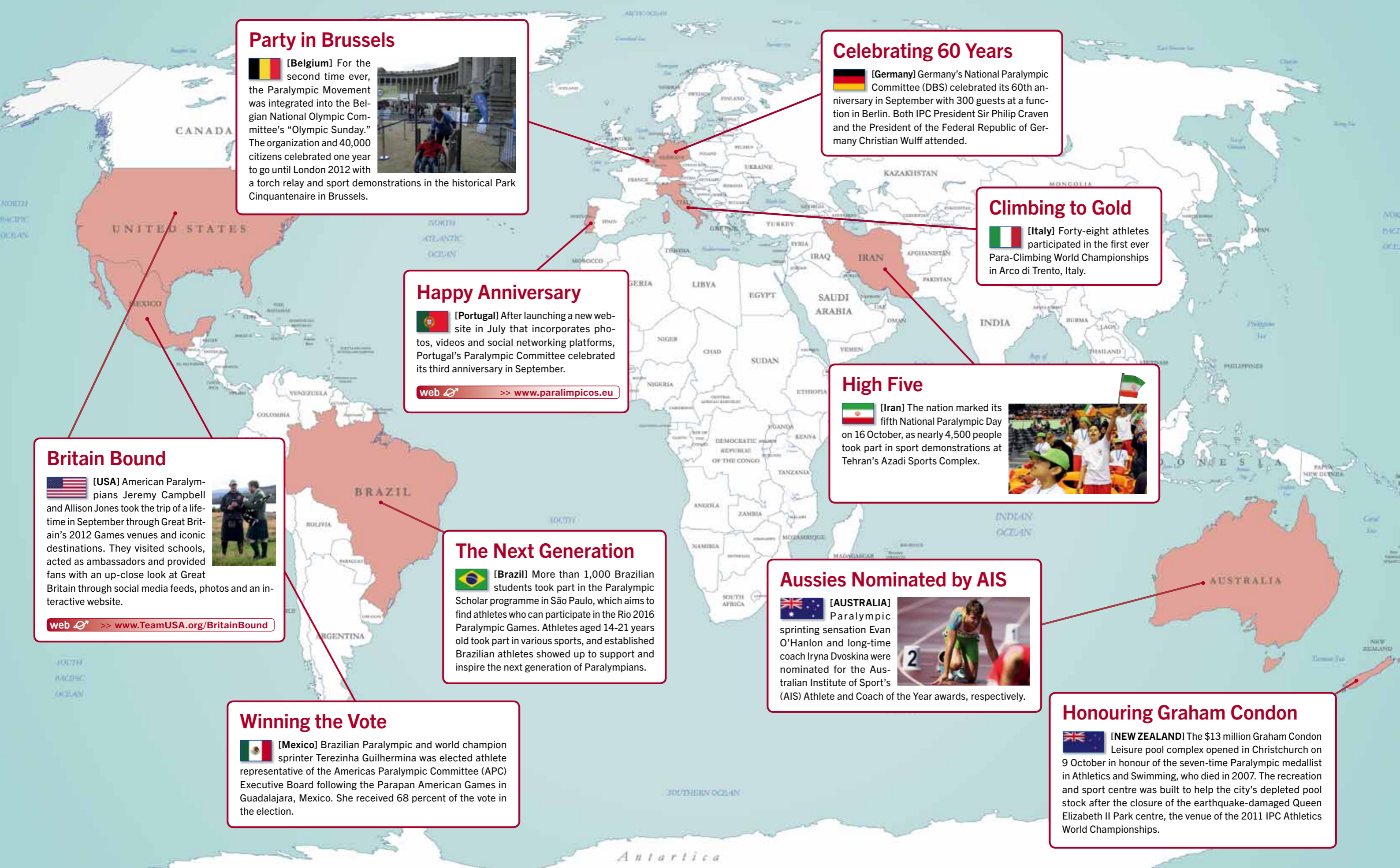
IPC Ice Sledge Hockey World Championships

21 March to 1 April 2012
Winter's most attractive para-sport will hold its 2012 World Championships at the Hamar Olympic Amphitheater in Hamar, Norway, where the world's top eight teams will go head-to-head. USA, the defending Paralympic gold medallists, will be the favourites, but will be heavily challenged by Canada and host-nation Norway.

web > >> www.ipc-icesledgehockey.org



Russia's World Champion Anna Burmistrova is hoping for another successful IPC Nordic Skiing season in the 3.6 km Pursuit




Party in Brussels


 [Belgium] For the second time ever, the Paralympic Movement was integrated into the Belgian National Olympic Committee's "Olympic Sunday." The organization and 40,000 citizens celebrated one year to go until London 2012 with a torch relay and sport demonstrations in the historical Park Cinquantenaire in Brussels.




Celebrating 60 Years

 [Germany] Germany's National Paralympic Committee (DBS) celebrated its 60th anniversary in September with 300 guests at a function in Berlin. Both IPC President Sir Philip Craven and the President of the Federal Republic of Germany Christian Wulff attended.

Climbing to Gold


 [Italy] Forty-eight athletes participated in the first ever Para-Climbing World Championships in Arco di Trento, Italy.

Happy Anniversary

 [Portugal] After launching a new web-site in July that incorporates photos, videos and social networking platforms, Portugal's Paralympic Committee celebrated its third anniversary in September.

web  >> www.paralimpicos.eu

High Five

 [Iran] The nation marked its fifth National Paralympic Day on 16 October, as nearly 4,500 people took part in sport demonstrations at Tehran's Azadi Sports Complex.




Britain Bound

 [USA] American Paralympians Jeremy Campbell and Allison Jones took the trip of a lifetime in September through Great Britain's 2012 Games venues and iconic destinations. They visited schools, acted as ambassadors and provided fans with an up-close look at Great Britain through social media feeds, photos and an interactive website.



web  >> www.TeamUSA.org/BritainBound

The Next Generation


 [Brazil] More than 1,000 Brazilian students took part in the Paralympic Scholar programme in São Paulo, which aims to find athletes who can participate in the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games. Athletes aged 14-21 years old took part in various sports, and established Brazilian athletes showed up to support and inspire the next generation of Paralympians.

Aussies Nominated by AIS


 [AUSTRALIA] Paralympic sprinting sensation Evan O'Hanlon and long-time coach Iryna Dvoskina were nominated for the Australian Institute of Sport's (AIS) Athlete and Coach of the Year awards, respectively.



Winning the Vote

 [Mexico] Brazilian Paralympic and world champion sprinter Terezinha Guilhermina was elected athlete representative of the Americas Paralympic Committee (APC) Executive Board following the Parapan American Games in Guadalajara, Mexico. She received 68 percent of the vote in the election.

Honouring Graham Condon

 [NEW ZEALAND] The \$13 million Graham Condon Leisure pool complex opened in Christchurch on 9 October in honour of the seven-time Paralympic medallist in Athletics and Swimming, who died in 2007. The recreation and sport centre was built to help the city's depleted pool stock after the closure of the earthquake-damaged Queen Elizabeth II Park centre, the venue of the 2011 IPC Athletics World Championships.

IPC Honorary Board

The Honorary Board of the International Paralympic Committee met on 13 September at the Het Loo Palace in Apeldoorn, the Netherlands, hosted by Princess Margriet of the Netherlands.

The board was updated on Vancouver 2010 and future games, the new IPC Strategic Plan and the vision of the International Paralympic Foundation to develop the Paralympic Movement in South America in the run-up to and following the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games.

“A number of fruitful outcomes came from the meeting and we will be working together to implement them in the weeks, month and years to come,” said Sir Philip Craven, IPC President.

The efforts of the Honorary Board will ensure that the development of Paralympic Sport is given priority by governments and society alike.

Watch a video of the IPC Honorary Board meeting on

TV >> YouTube.com/ParalympicSportTV



Princess Margriet of the Netherlands, Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden, IPC President Sir Philip Craven, HRH Princess Astrid of Belgium, Mr. Hassan Ali Bin Ali, Chairperson of the Shafallah Centre for Children with Special Needs and Dr. James Wolfensohn, Former President of the World Bank

New Faces – Trio of 15-year-olds Splashes onto Paralympic Scene

Take a look at three of the youngest big names in Paralympic Sport, all of whom could steal some headlines at the London 2012 Paralympic Games if they are selected by their countries to compete.



Kristy Pond:
Australia, Athletics, 15
The young Australian wheelchair racer has already qualified for the 100m and 200m (T34) events at London 2012 and is coached by nine-time Paralympic champion Louise Savage. Pond, who has cerebral palsy, was named the IPC Athlete of the Month for May after winning six golds at the Arafura Games in Darwin.



Cat Bouwkamp:
USA, Wheelchair Fencing, 15
The American was one of the first athletes to qualify for the London 2012 Paralympic Games after winning gold at the Wheelchair Pan American Championships in August. Bouwkamp, currently a sophomore in high school, is a three-time World Cup medallist and will attempt to win the first Wheelchair Fencing gold for Team USA in London.



Andrew Mullen:
Great Britain, Swimming, 15
Mullen made his international debut at the IPC European Swimming Championships in Berlin, Germany, in July, where he won a silver medal in the 50m Butterfly and a bronze medal in the 200m Individual Medley (S5). Mullen was born with a congenital limb disorder that left him with no forearms or hands and without a functional hip joint in his left leg.



Coming up in the next issue ...



THE PARALYMPIAN



Editor Craig Spence
Writers Natalia Dannenberg, Stuart Lieberman
Art Editor Carolin Baird
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CONTACT

International Paralympic Committee
Adenauerallee 212-214
D-53113 Bonn, Germany

Tel. +49 228 2097 200
Fax. +49 228 2097 209
E-mail. info@paralympic.org
Web. www.paralympic.org

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Sporting Excellence and Inspire and Excite the World.”