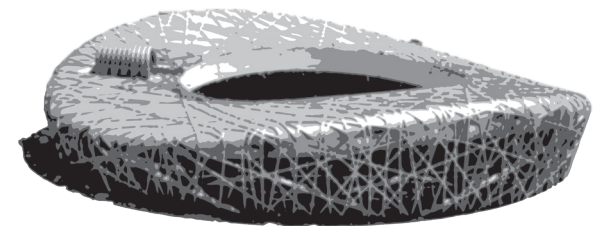


# The World's games

The Oregonian PRIMERS ON SOME OF THE SPORTS OF THE 2008 BEIJING SUMMER OLYMPICS | SERIES OF 17



# Opening ceremony

The Oregonian FRIDAY, AUG. 8, 2008 | FIRST OF 17

## SATURDAY'S TELEVISION HIGHLIGHTS

### +> 2 a.m.:

Women's soccer: Nigeria vs. Germany, Brazil vs. North Korea (live), MSNBC

### +> 7 a.m.:

Beach volleyball; boxing; soccer; volleyball (taped), Telemundo

### +> 10 a.m.:

Women's volleyball: USA vs. Japan; men's cycling road race (live), NBC

+> 2 p.m.: Boxing: middleweight and light heavyweight (live), CNBC

### +> 8 p.m.:

Swimming: men's and women's 400 IM gold-medal finals, NBC

+> 9 p.m.: Tennis: first-round singles and doubles (live), CNBC

### +> 11 p.m.:

Men's soccer: USA vs. Netherlands; men's basketball: Argentina vs. Lithuania; tennis; beach volleyball (live), USA Network

## THE ARENA

The Beijing National Stadium, also known as "The Bird's Nest" is home to the opening ceremony, track and field events and soccer finals. Ground for the 91,000-seat arena was broken in December 2003. The Swiss architecture firm Herzog & de Meuron designed it.

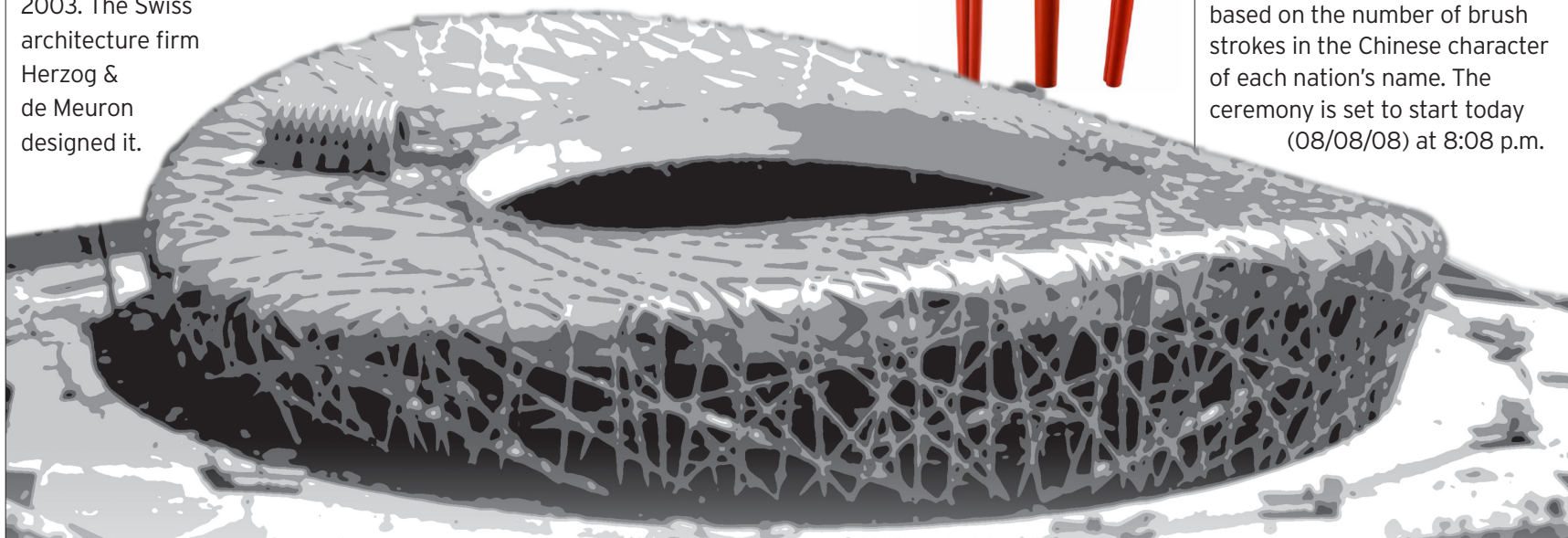
## THE TORCH

Selected from 308 original initial entries, the design of the 2008 Olympic torch reflects the flavor of the 2008 Summer Games' home nation. Its shape is influenced by ancient scrolls and the inscribed designs represent clouds of luck. It's also designed to be technically sound. It can withstand wind gusts up to 40 mph and rainy conditions, and the flame is bright enough to be photographed clearly in daylight. The torch relay was 129 days long and covered 85,000 miles.



## THE CEREMONY

In keeping with tradition, the parade of athletes will be led by Greek Olympians and will conclude with the competitors of the host country, China. The rest of the field will be introduced not in alphabetical order, but based on the number of brush strokes in the Chinese character of each nation's name. The ceremony is set to start today (08/08/08) at 8:08 p.m.



## ON TELEVISION TODAY

**8 p.m.:** Opening ceremony (taped), NBC

**11 p.m.:** Boxing: middleweight and light heavyweight (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Women's soccer: USA vs. Japan; women's basketball: USA vs. Czech Republic; equestrian: dressage; beach volleyball; fencing: women's sabre gold-medal final; badminton; weightlifting: women's 48kg (live), USA Network

## ALL-TIME MEDAL COUNT

<b>USA</b>	897	693.5	606.5	<b>2,197</b>
<b>USSR</b>	440	357	325	<b>1,122</b>
<b>ENGLAND</b>	189.5	245.5	242.5	<b>677.5</b>
<b>GERMANY</b>	179.5	212	226	<b>617.5</b>

## U.S. FLAG-BEARER

Team captains selected Sudanese refugee **Lopez Lomong**, who gained citizenship a year ago, to carry the Stars and Stripes in the opening ceremony. He qualified for the 1,500-meter race.



# Summer Olympics

The Oregonian TELEVISION SCHEDULE | PAGE ONE

## DAY 2

Friday, Aug. 8

**8 p.m.:** Opening ceremony (taped), NBC

**11 p.m.:** Boxing: middleweight and light heavyweight (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Women's soccer: USA vs. Japan; women's basketball: USA vs. Czech Republic; equestrian: dressage; beach volleyball; fencing; women's sabre gold-medal final; badminton; weightlifting: women's 48kg (live), USA Network

## DAY 3

Saturday, Aug. 9

**2 a.m.:** Women's soccer: Nigeria vs. Germany, Brazil vs. North Korea; badminton: men's and women's singles; women's team handball: France vs. Angola, Russia vs. South Korea; women's volleyball: Italy vs. Russia, Poland vs. Cuba (live), MSNBC

**7 a.m.:** Beach volleyball; boxing; soccer; volleyball (taped), Telemundo

**10 a.m.:** Women's volleyball: USA vs. Japan; beach volleyball; men's cycling road race; fencing: women's sabre gold-medal final (live), NBC

**2 p.m.:** Boxing: middleweight and light heavyweight (live), CNBC

**8 p.m.:** Swimming: men's and women's 400 IM gold-medal finals; beach volleyball; men's gymnastics (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Tennis: first-round singles and doubles (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Boxing: light welterweight and welterweight (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Men's soccer: USA vs. Netherlands; men's basketball: Argentina vs. Lithuania; tennis; beach volleyball; equestrian: dressage; archery: women's team final; weightlifting: men's 56kg final (live), USA Network

## DAY 4

Sunday, Aug. 10

**12:30 a.m.:** Men's volleyball: USA vs. Venezuela (live), NBC

**2 a.m.:** Primetime replay from Aug. 9, NBC

**2 a.m.:** Men's soccer: Italy vs. South Korea; women's field hockey: USA vs. Argentina; badminton; men's volleyball: Serbia vs. Russia, Bulgaria vs. China; men's water polo: Hungary vs. Montenegro, Croatia vs. Italy; men's team handball: Croatia vs. Spain; shooting: men's trap gold-medal final (live), MSNBC

**4 a.m.:** Men's soccer: Argentina vs. Australia; swimming; beach volleyball; gymnastics; basketball (live), Telemundo

**10 a.m.:** Men's basketball: USA vs. China; swimming; beach volleyball; women's cycling road race (live), NBC

**1 p.m.:** Boxing: light welterweight and welterweight (taped), CNBC

**6 p.m.:** Boxing (taped), Telemundo

**7 p.m.:** Swimming: men's 4x100m freestyle final, men's 100m breaststroke final; women's gymnastics; women's synchronized 3m diving (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Tennis: first-round singles and doubles (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Boxing: featherweight and lightweight (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Women's basketball: USA vs. China; women's water polo; rowing; beach volleyball; archery: men's team final; women's volleyball: Brazil vs. Russia (live), USA Network

## DAY 5

Monday, Aug. 11

**12:30 a.m.:** Women's volleyball: USA vs. Cuba (live), NBC

**2 a.m.:** Primetime replay from Aug. 10, NBC

**2 a.m.:** Women's basketball: Australia vs. Brazil; beach volleyball; women's team handball: South Korea vs. Germany; women's volleyball: China vs. Poland; women's water polo: Italy vs. Russia; weightlifting: men's 62kg final; badminton; tennis (live), MSNBC

**2 a.m.:** Swimming; women's volleyball; women's gymnastics (taped), Telemundo

**8 a.m.:** Diving: women's synchronized 3m; beach volleyball (taped), Telemundo

**10 a.m.:** Beach volleyball; swimming; whitewater canoeing; rowing (live), NBC

**2 p.m.:** Boxing: featherweight and lightweight (taped), CNBC

**6 p.m.:** Gymnastics recap; equestrian: cross-country phase of eventing (taped), Oxygen

**8 p.m.:** Gymnastics: men's team finals; swimming: men's 200m freestyle, women's 100m backstroke; beach volleyball; men's synchronized 10m diving (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Softball: USA vs. Venezuela (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Boxing: flyweight and bantamweight (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Men's basketball: USA vs. Angola; women's field hockey: USA vs. Japan; rowing; men's team handball: Spain vs. Poland; tennis; badminton; beach volleyball (live), USA Network

## DAY 6

Tuesday, Aug. 12

**1 a.m.:** Men's volleyball: USA vs. Italy; swimming semifinals (live), NBC

**2 a.m.:** Women's soccer: USA vs. New Zealand, Nigeria vs. Brazil; men's basketball: China vs. Spain; men's water polo: Serbia vs.

Croatia; men's volleyball: Serbia vs. Brazil; Greco-Roman wrestling; weightlifting; tennis; badminton (live), MSNBC

**2 a.m.:** Gymnastics: men's team competition; swimming; beach volleyball (taped), Telemundo

**7:30 a.m.:** Women's soccer: Nigeria vs. Brazil (taped), Telemundo

**2:30 a.m.:** Primetime replay from Aug. 11

**10 a.m.:** Beach volleyball; men's water polo: USA vs. Italy; swimming; whitewater canoe and kayak: men's C-1 and K-1 finals (live), NBC

**2 p.m.:** Boxing: flyweight and bantamweight (taped), CNBC

**6 p.m.:** Gymnastics recap; equestrian: jumping phase of eventing competition (taped), Oxygen

**8 p.m.:** Gymnastics: women's team competition; swimming: men's 200m butterfly final, women's 200m IM final; beach volleyball; women's synchronized 10m diving (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Softball: USA vs. Australia (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Boxing: light flyweight and heavyweight (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Men's soccer: USA vs. Nigeria, China vs. Brazil; women's basketball: USA vs. Mali; whitewater canoeing; rowing semifinals; table tennis (live), USA Network

## DAY 7

Wednesday, Aug. 13

**12:30 a.m.:** Women's volleyball: USA vs. Venezuela; swimming (taped), NBC

**2 a.m.:** Primetime replay from Aug. 12

**2 a.m.:** Women's volleyball: Cuba vs. China; baseball: USA vs. South Korea, Cuba vs. Japan; tennis; men's cycling road time trial; Greco-Roman wrestling; tennis (live), MSNBC

**2 a.m.:** Men's soccer: Honduras vs. South Korea; swimming: various finals; women's volleyball; beach volleyball (live), Telemundo

**7:30 a.m.:** Men's soccer: Brazil vs. China; gymnastics: women's team final; diving: various finals (live), Telemundo

**10 a.m.:** Beach volleyball; women's water polo: USA vs. Italy; swimming (live), NBC

**2 p.m.:** Boxing: light flyweight and super heavyweight (live), CNBC

**6 p.m.:** Gymnastics recap; tennis; equestrian: team dressage (taped), Oxygen

**8 p.m.:** Gymnastics: men's all-around final; swimming: men's 100m freestyle final; beach volleyball; women's cycling road time trial; men's synchronized 3m diving (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Softball: USA vs. Canada (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Boxing: welterweight and light heavyweight (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Men's basketball: USA vs. TBD; baseball: USA vs. Netherlands; women's field hockey: USA vs. Germany; fencing: women's team sabre final; archery: women's individual final; beach volleyball; tennis (live), USA Network

## DAY 8

Thursday, Aug. 14

**1:30 a.m.:** Men's water polo: USA vs. Serbia; swimming (taped), NBC

# Summer Olympics

The Oregonian TELEVISION SCHEDULE | PAGE TWO

**2 a.m.:** Men's volleyball: China vs. Japan; men's basketball: Argentina vs. TBD, Russia vs. Lithuania; Greco-Roman wrestling; men's team handball: France vs. Croatia; men's water polo: Hungary vs. Spain; badminton; table tennis (live), MSNBC

**2 a.m.:** Gymnastics: men's all-around final; swimming: various finals; men's basketball (taped), Telemundo

**2:30 a.m.:** Primetime replay from Aug. 13

**8 a.m.:** Beach volleyball; diving: various finals (taped), Telemundo

**10 a.m.:** Beach volleyball; swimming; whitewater canoe and kayak finals; rowing (taped), NBC

**2 p.m.:** Boxing: light welterweight and welterweight (taped), CNBC

**6 p.m.:** Gymnastics recap; tennis semifinals; equestrian: team dressage (taped), Oxygen

**8 p.m.:** Gymnastics: women's all-around final; swimming: men's 200m IM final, men's 200m backstroke final; beach volleyball; men's volleyball: USA vs. Bulgaria (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Softball: USA vs. Japan (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Boxing: featherweight and lightweight (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Women's basketball: USA vs. Spain; women's soccer quarterfinal; baseball: USA vs. Cuba; tennis: semifinals; cycling: track racing; archery: men's individual final (live), USA Network

## DAY 9

### Friday, Aug. 15

**1:30 a.m.:** Swimming: various semifinals; a whitewater canoe/kayak final (taped), NBC

**2 a.m.:** Women's volleyball: USA vs. China; women's soccer quarterfinal; beach volleyball; women's water polo: Netherlands vs. Australia, Hungary vs. Greece; men's weightlifting; badminton: women's doubles final (live), MSNBC

**2 a.m.:** Gymnastics: women's all-around final; swimming: various finals; women's volleyball (taped), Telemundo

**2:30 a.m.:** Primetime replay from Aug. 14

**8 a.m.:** Women's soccer; beach volleyball; boxing (live), Telemundo

**10 a.m.:** Beach volleyball elimination match; swimming; track & field qualifying; women's water polo: USA vs. Russia (live), NBC

**2 p.m.:** Boxing: bantamweight and featherweight (taped), CNBC

**6 p.m.:** Gymnastics recap; tennis semifinals; equestrian: jumping (taped), Oxygen

**8 p.m.:** Swimming: men's 100m butterfly final, men's 50m freestyle final; beach volleyball elimination match; track & field:

various finals; men's volleyball: USA vs. China (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Softball: USA vs. Chinese Taipei (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Boxing: flyweight and middleweight elimination bouts (taped), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Tennis: women's singles gold-medal match, men's doubles gold-medal match, women's singles bronze-medal match; men's singles bronze-medal match; track & field: 20km walk; cycling: various track finals; women's field hockey: USA vs. New Zealand (live), USA Network

## DAY 10

### Saturday, Aug. 16

**12:30 a.m.:** Track & field: women's 10,000m final; women's 3m diving (taped), NBC

**2 a.m.:** Primetime replay from Aug. 15, NBC

**2 a.m.:** Men's soccer quarterfinal; women's wrestling: 48kg and 55kg finals; baseball: USA vs. Canada; beach volleyball; equestrian (live), MSNBC

**2 a.m.:** Men's soccer quarterfinal; swimming: various finals; track & field: various finals (live), Telemundo

**10 a.m.:** Men's basketball: USA vs. Spain; men's water polo: USA vs. Croatia; track & field; women's 3m diving; beach volleyball; rowing: various finals; cycling: various track finals; badminton: women's singles gold-medal match; trampoline (live), NBC

**2 p.m.:** Boxing: flyweight and middleweight (taped), CNBC

**6 p.m.:** Men's volleyball (taped), Telemundo

**7:30 p.m.:** Track & field: women's marathon, men's 100m final; swimming: various finals (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Beach volleyball: women's quarterfinals; weightlifting: women's super heavyweight (taped), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Tennis: men's singles and women's gold-medal matches; women's beach volleyball quarterfinals; cycling: various track finals; women's team handball: Russia vs. Germany (live), USA Network

## DAY 11

### Sunday, Aug. 17

**12:30 a.m.:** Beach volleyball: women's quarterfinals; track & field: women's 800m semifinals (taped), NBC

**2 a.m.:** Primetime replay from Aug. 16, NBC

**2 a.m.:** Softball: USA vs. Netherlands; Women's basketball: Australia vs. Russia; women's volleyball: Italy vs. Brazil; women's wrestling: 63kg, 72kg finals; men's fencing; badminton (live), MSNBC

**4 a.m.:** Swimming: various finals; track & field: various finals;

women's volleyball; diving; trampoline (taped), Telemundo

**10 a.m.:** Women's basketball: USA vs. New Zealand; beach volleyball quarterfinals; women's volleyball: USA vs. Poland; cycling: various track finals; rowing; table tennis (live), NBC

**Noon:** Boxing: light welterweight and welterweight quarterfinals (taped), CNBC

**6 p.m.:** Beach volleyball: women's quarterfinals (taped), Telemundo

**7:30 p.m.:** Track & field: women's 100m and steeplechase finals; gymnastics: men's individual floor and pommel horse finals, women's individual floor and vault finals; women's 3m diving; rowing: women's eights (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Softball: USA vs. China (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Men's basketball: USA vs. TBD; men's water polo: USA vs. Germany; women's field hockey: USA vs. Great Britain; flatwater canoe/kayak; table tennis: men's team gold and bronze-medal matches (live), USA Network

## DAY 12

### Monday, Aug. 18

**12:30 a.m.:** Track & field: men's 10,000m final, women's triple jump final; men's beach volleyball quarterfinals; women's triathlon (taped), NBC

**2 a.m.:** Primetime replay from Aug. 17

**2 a.m.:** Women's soccer semifinal; men's basketball: Argentina vs. Russia; baseball: USA vs. China; men's cycling track finals; men's team handball: Germany vs. Denmark; weightlifting; beach volleyball (live), MSNBC

**2 a.m.:** Gymnastics: individual event finals; women's springboard diving final; track & field: various finals (taped), Telemundo

**8 a.m.:** Women's soccer semifinal; men's beach volleyball quarterfinals; boxing (live), Telemundo

**10 a.m.:** Men's volleyball: USA vs. Japan; men's beach volleyball quarterfinals; track & field; men's 3m diving (live), NBC

**2 p.m.:** Boxing: bantamweight, featherweight and super heavyweight quarterfinals (taped), CNBC

**6 p.m.:** Gymnastics recap; equestrian: team jumping final (taped), Oxygen

**8 p.m.:** Beach volleyball: semifinals; gymnastics: men's individual rings and vault finals, women's individual vault and uneven bars finals; women's trampoline final; track & field: men's long jump final, women's 800m final (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Men's freestyle wrestling: 55kg, 60 kg; table tennis: men's and women's singles (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Women's basketball: quarterfinals; flatwater canoe/kayak; men's beach volleyball semifinals; table tennis: singles; cycling: various track finals; women's team handball (live), USA Network

## DAY 13

### Tuesday, Aug. 19

**12:30 p.m.:** Women's beach volleyball semifinals; men's triathlon; men's 3m diving semifinal (taped), NBC

**2 a.m.:** Primetime replay from Aug. 18, NBC

**2 a.m.:** Men's soccer semifinal; men's weightlifting: super heavy-

# Summer Olympics

The Oregonian TELEVISION SCHEDULE | PAGE THREE

weight final; baseball: USA vs. Chinese Taipei; men's freestyle wrestling: 55kg, 60kg finals; women's volleyball quarterfinals (live), MSNBC

**2 a.m.:** Men's soccer semifinal; gymnastics: various individual finals; track & field; men's diving (live), Telemundo

8:30 a.m.: Men's soccer semifinal (live), Telemundo

**10 a.m.:** Women's volleyball: quarterfinal; track & field qualifying; women's water polo semifinal (live), NBC

**2 p.m.:** Boxing: light flyweight, lightweight and heavyweight quarterfinals (taped), CNBC

**6 p.m.:** Gymnastics recap; synchronized swimming duet; equestrian: individual dressage (taped), Oxygen

**8 p.m.:** Men's beach volleyball semifinals; gymnastics: men's individual parallel bars and high bar finals, women's balance beam final; track & field: men's 1500m final, women's 100m hurdle final; men's 3m diving final (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Softball semifinal (taped), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Men's basketball quarterfinals; flatwater canoe/kayak semifinals; women's open-water swimming gold-medal race; men's water polo semifinals (live), USA Network

## DAY 13

### Wednesday, Aug. 20

**12:30 a.m.:** Men's cycling BMX quarterfinals; men's trampoline finals (live), NBC

**2 a.m.:** Primetime replay from Aug. 19, NBC

**2 a.m.:** Softball bronze-medal game; baseball: USA vs. Japan; men's freestyle wrestling: 66kg, 74kg finals; men's volleyball quarterfinals; men's team handball quarterfinals; table tennis (live), MSNBC

**2 a.m.:** Men's 3m springboard diving; track & field; men's basketball quarterfinals (taped), Telemundo

**8 a.m.:** Men's beach volleyball semifinals; gymnastics: individual finals (taped), Telemundo

**10 a.m.:** Men's volleyball quarterfinals; women's 10m diving (live), NBC

**2 p.m.:** Boxing: flyweight and middleweight quarterfinals (taped), CNBC

**6 p.m.:** Gymnastics recap; synchronized swimming duet (taped), Oxygen

**8 p.m.:** Women's beach volleyball gold-medal match; cycling: BMX finals; women's 10m diving semifinals; track & field: men's 200m finals (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Women's 20km walk final (taped), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Women's soccer gold-medal match; softball gold-medal game; flatwater canoe/kayak semifinals; freestyle wrestling: 84kg, 96kg, 120kg; table tennis (live), USA Network

## DAY 14

### Thursday, Aug. 21

**12:30 a.m.:** Women's volleyball semifinals; women's beach volleyball bronze-medal match; track & field: women's hammer throw final (live), NBC

**2 a.m.:** Primetime replay from Aug. 21, NBC

**2 a.m.:** Women's basketball semifinal; women's soccer bronze-medal match; women's water polo bronze-medal game; women's team handball; women's volleyball semifinals (live), MSNBC

**2 a.m.:** Women's platform diving semifinals; track & field: various finals (taped), Telemundo

**8 a.m.:** Women's soccer gold-medal match; women's beach volleyball gold-medal match (taped), Telemundo

**10 a.m.:** Men's open-water marathon swimming; women's water polo gold-medal match; equestrian: individual jumping final; rhythmic gymnastics (taped), NBC

**2 p.m.:** Men's freestyle wrestling gold-medal matches: 84kg, 96kg, 120kg (taped), CNBC

**8 p.m.:** Men's beach volleyball gold-medal match; track & field: men's 400m final, men's 110m hurdles final, women's 200m final; women's 10m diving final (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Baseball semifinal (taped), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Boxing: flyweight, featherweight, light welterweight, middleweight, heavyweight semifinals (taped), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Men's basketball semifinals; men's water polo semifinals; flatwater canoe finals; track & field: 50km walk; table tennis (live), USA Network

## DAY 15

### Friday, Aug. 22

**12:30 a.m.:** Men's volleyball semifinals; men's beach volleyball bronze-medal match (live), NBC

**2 a.m.:** Primetime replay from Aug. 21, NBC

**2 a.m.:** Men's soccer bronze-medal match; baseball semifinals; men's volleyball semifinals; women's field hockey bronze-medal game; women's modern pentathlon final; women's mountain biking (live), MSNBC

**2 a.m.:** Women's platform diving; men's beach volleyball finals; track & field (taped), Telemundo

**7 a.m.:** Men's soccer bronze-medal match; men's basketball semi-

final (live), Telemundo

**10 a.m.:** Men's basketball semifinal; flatwater canoe/kayak finals; women's table tennis finals (live), NBC

**2 p.m.:** Boxing: light flyweight, bantamweight, lightweight, welterweight, light heavyweight, super heavyweight semifinals (taped), CNBC

**6 p.m.:** Women's field hockey gold-medal game (taped), Oxygen

**8 p.m.:** Men's 10m diving semifinal; track & field: men's 4x100 final, men's pole vault final, decathlon final; rhythmic gymnastics (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Men's soccer gold-medal match (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Baseball gold-medal game; women's team handball gold-medal game; men's field hockey gold-medal game; women's volleyball bronze medal game; men's table tennis semifinals (live), USA Network

**11 p.m.:** Men's soccer gold-medal game (taped), Telemundo

## DAY 16

### Saturday, Aug. 23

**12:30 a.m.:** Women's volleyball bronze-medal match; synchronized swimming; table tennis: men's singles semifinals (live), NBC

**2 a.m.:** Primetime replay from Aug. 22, NBC

**5 a.m.:** Table tennis: men's singles gold and bronze-medal matches (taped), MSNBC

**6 a.m.:** Baseball gold-medal game; boxing: various finals; track & field: various finals; men's 10m platform diving (live), Telemundo

**9 a.m.:** Women's basketball gold-medal game; women's volleyball gold-medal match; rhythmic gymnastics; synchronized swimming; boxing; flatwater canoe/kayak (live), NBC

**6 p.m.:** Men's volleyball semifinal (taped), Telemundo

**6:30 p.m.:** Track & field: men's marathon, men's 800m final; men's long jump final, 4x400 finals; men's 10m diving final (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Men's basketball bronze-medal game, CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Men's basketball gold-medal game; men's team handball gold-medal game; men's volleyball bronze-medal match; men's water polo bronze-medal match (taped), USA Network

## DAY 17

### Sunday, Aug. 24

**Midnight:** Women's volleyball gold-medal match (taped), Telemundo

**12:30 a.m.:** Men's basketball gold-medal game; table tennis: men's gold-medal match; mountain biking (live), NBC

**4 a.m.:** Track & field: men's marathon, other finals; men's basketball gold-medal game; men's platform diving finals; boxing finals (taped), Telemundo

**Noon:** Men's water polo gold-medal game; rhythmic gymnastics; boxing finals (taped), NBC

**7 p.m.:** Men's volleyball gold-medal match; Closing Ceremony (taped), NBC

**11:30 p.m.:** Men's volleyball gold-medal match; Closing Ceremony (taped), NBC

# Fencing

The Oregonian SATURDAY, AUG. 9, 2008 | SECOND OF 17

## TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

**+> 2 a.m.:** Women's soccer: Nigeria vs. Germany, Brazil vs. North Korea (live), MSNBC

**+> 7 a.m.:** Beach volleyball; soccer; volleyball (taped), Telemundo

**+> 10 a.m.:** Women's volleyball: USA vs. Japan; beach volleyball;

**fencing:** women's sabre gold-medal final (live), NBC

**+> 8 p.m.:** Swimming: men's and women's 400 IM gold-medal finals; beach volleyball; men's gymnastics (live), NBC

**+> 9 p.m.:** Tennis: first-round singles and doubles (live), CNBC

**+> 11 p.m.:** Men's soccer: USA vs. Netherlands; men's basketball: Argentina vs. Lithuania; tennis; beach volleyball, USA Network

## THE WEAPONS

**Foil:** 3 feet 6 inches end to end, 1.1 pound maximum, has thin blade, thin grip and small guard

**Épée:** 3 feet 7 inches end to end, 1.7 pound average, has thicker blade and grip and a larger guard

**Sabre:** 3 feet 5.3 inches end to end, about one pound, has thicker blade and grip and a closed guard

## OLYMPIC DEBUT: 1896

One of the nine original sports in the modern Olympics, fencing's Egyptian origin dates to the 1200s B.C. and was popularized by the French in the 16th century. Women's fencing was added in 1924.

## ALL-TIME EVENT MEDALS

<b>FRANCE</b>	39	38	34	<b>111</b>
<b>ITALY</b>	43	37	26	<b>106</b>
<b>HUNGARY</b>	34	23	27	<b>84</b>
<b>RUSSIA</b>	19	17	18	<b>54</b>



## THE OBJECT

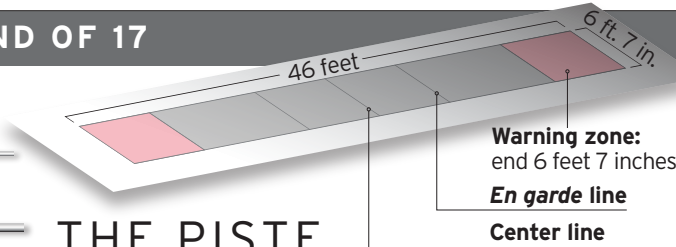
Fencing is a sword-fighting sport in which contestants score points by thrusting and hitting the blunt tips of their weapon with enough pressure against their opponent's target area to register electronically with the scoring system. Individual matches are three three-minute periods with a one-minute break between. The first fencer to 15 touches or the one with the most after the end of the third period wins and moves to the next round of the single-elimination tournament.

## THE GEAR

Competitors wear white uniforms, harkening back to the days before electronic scoring when blades were covered in ink to leave marks when a touch was scored. Underneath, fencers wear rigid pads over the torso for protection, along with gloves, a stiff wire mesh mask and a sturdy bib covering their neck.

## THE PISTE

Fencing matches take place on a thin, long raised platform called the piste or the strip. Its surface is usually metal or rubber with a base made out of a conductive material so touches can be registered on the electronic scoring system. Fencers start each bout at the *en garde* line and are penalized for stepping out of the strip.



## SCORING

**Foil:** Only touches with the tip of the blade to the torso target area score. An electronic button at the tip of the blade registers points to the scoring system.

**Épée:** Touches with the tip of the blade to any part of the body scores.

**Sabre:** Touches with the tip, front edge or the last third of the back edge to the target area scores. The sabre target area is from the bend of the hips to the head.

## THE EVENTS

Men's individual foil, épée and sabre; men's team épée and sabre; women's individual foil, épée and sabre; women's team sabre and foil

## ONE TO WATCH

Italy's **Valentina Vezzali**, aiming for third women's foil gold in a row

## U.S. HOPEFUL

Beaverton's **Mariel Zagunis** won gold in 2004 in women's individual sabre

## Fencer's mask

# Archery

## OLYMPIC DEBUT: 1900

The sport got off to a slow start at the games and after 1920 was taken off the program. It returned in 1972 at the Munich Olympics where the women's individual event was added to the bill.

## ALL-TIME EVENT MEDALS

<b>USA</b>	14	8	6	<b>28</b>
<b>S. KOREA</b>	14	7	4	<b>25</b>
<b>FRANCE</b>	6	10	6	<b>22</b>
<b>BELGIUM</b>	10	3	6	<b>19</b>



The Oregonian SUNDAY, AUG. 10, 2008 | THIRD OF 17

## TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

### +> 10 a.m.:

Men's basketball: USA vs. China; swimming; beach volleyball; women's cycling road race (live), NBC

+> 1 p.m.: Boxing: light welterweight and welterweight (taped), CNBC

+> 7 p.m.: Swimming: men's 4x100m freestyle final, men's 100m breaststroke final; women's gymnastics (live), NBC

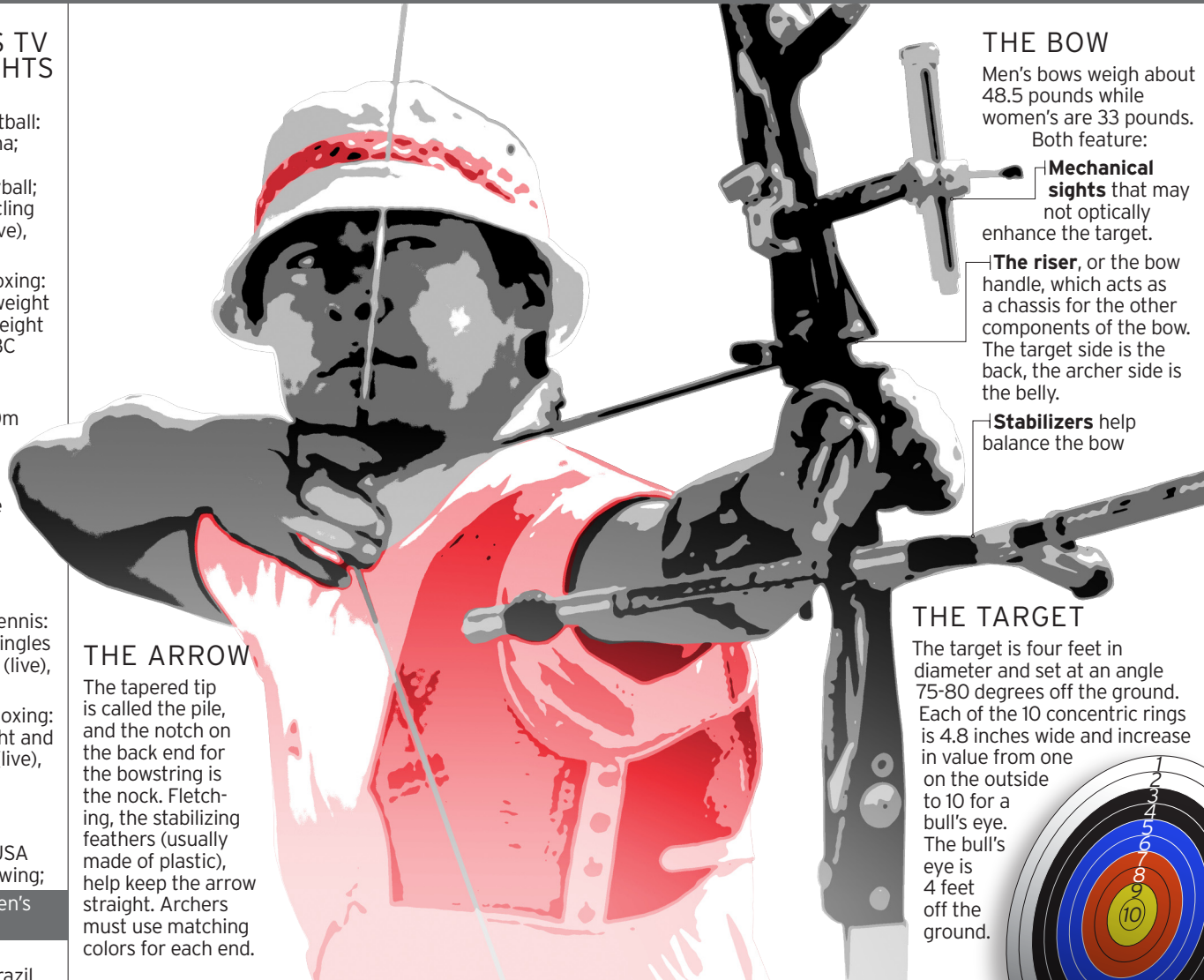
+> 9 p.m.: Tennis: first-round singles and doubles (live), CNBC

+> 11 p.m.: Boxing: featherweight and lightweight (live), CNBC

+> 11 p.m.: Women's basketball: USA vs. China; rowing;

**archery:** men's team final;

women's volleyball: Brazil vs. Russia (live), USA Network



## THE ARROW

The tapered tip is called the pile, and the notch on the back end for the bowstring is the nock. Fletching, the stabilizing feathers (usually made of plastic), help keep the arrow straight. Archers must use matching colors for each end.

## THE BOW

Men's bows weigh about 48.5 pounds while women's are 33 pounds. Both feature:

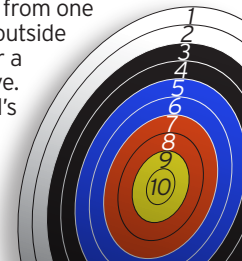
— **Mechanical sights** that may not optically enhance the target.

— **The riser**, or the bow handle, which acts as a chassis for the other components of the bow. The target side is the back, the archer side is the belly.

— **Stabilizers** help balance the bow

## THE TARGET

The target is four feet in diameter and set at an angle 75-80 degrees off the ground. Each of the 10 concentric rings is 4.8 inches wide and increase in value from one on the outside to 10 for a bull's eye. The bull's eye is 4 feet off the ground.



## THE OBJECT

Archery is a shooting sport in which contestants use a bow and arrows to try to hit a target set 229 feet, 8 inches away. Men and women each compete in individual and team events. The individual competition involves a seeding round followed by a 64-person tournament. Three-archer teams compete in a 16-team tournament.

## GLOSSARY

**Robin Hood:** When a contestant hits an arrow already in the target with a shot. The legendary prince of thieves was said to have performed the feat in an archery competition.

**Chest guard:** The half vest worn to keep clothes from catching the bowstring.

**Recurve bow:** The type of bow used in Olympic competition. The ends of the shaft, where it meets the bowstring, bend away from the archer.

**End:** A grouping of arrows shot by an archer. In the preliminary round, archers shoot 12 ends of six arrows and are allowed four minutes per end. In the tournament round, athletes shoot four ends of three arrows each and have 30 seconds between arrows.

**Quiver:** The sheath in which arrows are stored. It hangs from the archer's back leg for easy access and quick reloads.

## ONE TO WATCH

South Korea's **Park Sung-Hyun** holds four outdoor women's world records

## U.S. HOPEFUL

First-time Olympian **Brady Ellison**, who placed first at the trials in May

# Kayak

OLYMPIC DEBUT: 1936

Though flatwater canoe and kayak events started at the Berlin Games, whitewater events didn't start until 1972 in Munich.

ALL-TIME EVENT MEDALS

<b>HUNGARY</b>	17	26	24	<b>67</b>
<b>GERMANY</b>	26	17	15	<b>58</b>
<b>USSR</b>	30	14	9	<b>53</b>
<b>ROMANIA</b>	10	10	14	<b>34</b>



The Oregonian MONDAY, AUG. 11, 2008 | FOURTH OF 17

## TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

### +> 8 a.m.:

Diving: women's synchronized 3m; beach volleyball (taped), Telemundo

### +> 10 a.m.:

Beach volleyball; swimming;

### whitewater canoe/kayak;

rowing (live), NBC

### +> 2 p.m.:

Boxing: featherweight and lightweight (taped), CNBC

### +> 6 p.m.:

Gymnastics recap; equestrian: cross-country phase of eventing (taped), Oxygen

### +> 8 p.m.:

Gymnastics: men's team finals; swimming: men's 200m freestyle, women's 100m backstroke; beach volleyball; men's synchronized 10m diving (live), NBC

### +> 9 p.m.:

Softball: USA vs. Venezuela (live), CNBC

### +> 11 p.m.:

Boxing: flyweight and bantamweight (live), CNBC

### +> 11 p.m.:

Men's basketball: USA vs. Angola; women's field hockey: USA vs. Japan; rowing; men's team handball: Spain vs. Poland; tennis; badminton; beach volleyball (live), USA Network

## THE GEAR

Whitewater kayaking is a hazardous sport, so athletes take precautions by wearing a helmet and flotation vest. The helmet has holes to let water drain out and the vest and clothing are made to stay light and flexible even when wet. Kayakers use a double-bladed paddle so they can row on both sides of the boat with ease.



## THE OBJECT

Whitewater kayaking is a rowing sport in which athletes steer narrow, one-person, closed-top boats through a 250 to 400-meter (820-1,312 feet) course of 18-25 slalom gates set up in river rapids. Athletes are penalized for missing gates in a race against the clock.

## THE KAYAK

The boats used in competition are narrow, light and agile. Their tops are enclosed except for a small hole the competitor fits in, and they sit low in the water. While athletes can use almost any type of kayak, it must be at least 11 feet, 5 inches long.

## SCORING

Whitewater kayaking is a race against the clock. The competitor who completes the course in the fastest time wins. But there are time penalties judges can hand competitors for a variety of mistakes.

**Two-second penalty:** If an athlete hits a gate pole.

**50-second penalty:** If an athlete misses a gate or intentionally pushes a gate to gain clearance, or if a kayaker's head is submerged while passing through a gate.

If a competitor misses a gate, they can try to paddle back through it. But participants start in three-minute intervals and second attempts at gates may not interfere with others kayakers.



## THE GATES

There are 18-25 gates in an Olympic whitewater slalom course. Gate poles are hung from a wire stretched above the river. Competitors are penalized for touching the gates and generally pass through with their paddles vertical to avoid inadvertent contact. Red stripes on gates indicate the athlete has to paddle through upstream, green means they must pass through with the current.

## GLOSSARY

**Blade:** The wide part of the paddle.

**Deck:** The hard top of the front of the kayak.

**Draw:** When a kayaker pulls his paddle toward the side of the boat to make it move sideways.

**Keel:** The spine of the underside of a kayak.

**Spray skirt:** The fabric cover that cinches up the hole of the kayak around the athlete's waist.

## ONE TO WATCH

Czech Republic's **Stepanka Hilgertova**, has two female whitewater kayak golds

## U.S. HOPEFUL

**Scott Parson** finished 6th in Athens in men's whitewater

# Judo

## OLYMPIC DEBUT 1964

From the Japanese *ju-do*, meaning "gentle way," the sport developed in Japan in the late 1800s. Women's judo was added to the games in 1992.

## ALL-TIME JUDO MEDALS

<b>JAPAN</b>	31	14	13	<b>58</b>
<b>FRANCE</b>	10	6	17	<b>33</b>
<b>S. KOREA</b>	8	12	13	<b>33</b>
<b>RUSSIA</b>	7	5	15	<b>27</b>



The Oregonian TUESDAY, AUG. 12, 2008 | FIFTH OF 17

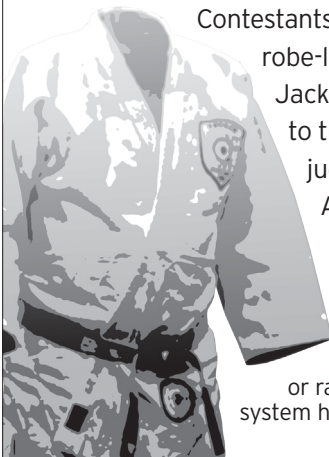
### TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

- +> 7:30 a.m.:** Women's soccer: Nigeria vs. Brazil (taped), Telemundo
- +> 2:30 a.m.:** Primetime replay from Aug. 11
- +> 10 a.m.:** Beach volleyball; men's water polo: USA vs. Italy; swimming; whitewater canoe and kayak: men's C-1 and K-1 finals (live), NBC
- +> 2 p.m.:** Boxing: flyweight and bantamweight (taped), CNBC
- +> 6 p.m.:** Gymnastics recap; equestrian: jumping phase of eventing competition (taped), Oxygen
- +> 8 p.m.:** Gymnastics: women's team competition; swimming: men's 200m butterfly final, women's 200m IM final; beach volleyball (live), NBC
- +> 9 p.m.:** Softball: USA vs. Australia (live), CNBC
- +> 11 p.m.:** Boxing: light flyweight and heavyweight (live), CNBC
- +> 11 p.m.:** Men's soccer: USA vs. Nigeria, China vs. Brazil; women's basketball: USA vs. Mali; whitewater canoeing; rowing semifinals; table tennis (live), USA Network

### TECHNIQUE

Unlike taekwondo, the Olympics' other martial art, judo doesn't involve kicking or punching. It centers on trying to throw an opponent on her back with speed and force. So although leg sweeps and choke holds are allowed, striking isn't. Judo founder Jigoro Kano wanted efficiency instead of flash and to use opponents' strength against them.

### THE GEAR



Contestants' uniforms, or *judogi*, are loose-fitting, robe-like jackets usually made of heavy cotton. Jackets hang to the wrist and pants hang loose to the ankles to allow free movement. One judoka wears blue *judogi* and the other white. A belt tied to the waist keeps the uniform snug and also indicates rank or age.

### THE BELT

Depending on the governing body, the color of the contestant's belt, or *obi*, indicates age or rank. In western judo, the *kyu-dan* ranking system has six levels, with brown as the most advanced.



## THE OBJECT

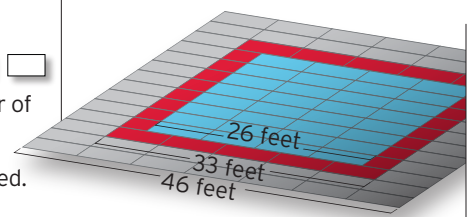
Judo is a wrestling-based sport in which *judoka*, or contestants, use grappling techniques to try to throw opponents largely on their back with force and speed to score *waza ari*, *yuko* or *koka*. In each match of the single-elimination tournament, male participants have five minutes (women have four) to score an *ippon* to win the match. The men's and women's competitions each have seven weight classes.

### GLOSSARY

- Waza ari:** When a contestant throws an opponent but is lacking one of three key elements: force, speed or landing an opponent largely on his back.
- Yuko:** When a contestant throws an opponent but is lacking two of the three key elements.
- Koka:** When a contestant throws an opponent to one shoulder, the thighs or buttocks with speed and force.
- Ippon:** Match point, when a contestant throws an opponent with the three key elements or when she scores two *waza ari*.

## THE TATAMI

The playing surface is made up of 3-foot by 6-foot compressed foam mats called *tatami*. The center ring is the competition area. While a 3-foot red warning zone is still in play, judokas have to step out of it or attack within three seconds.



### ONE TO WATCH

Japan's **Ryoko Tani**, two-time female gold medalist at 48 kg

### U.S. HOPEFUL

**Taraje Williams-Murray** has won four of past five national golds at 60 kg

# Weightlifting

## ALL-TIME EVENT MEDALS

<b>RUSSIA</b>	47	29	9	<b>85</b>
<b>USA</b>	16	16	11	<b>43</b>
<b>GERMANY</b>	8	13	16	<b>37</b>
<b>BULGERIA</b>	12	16	8	<b>36</b>



The Oregonian

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 13, 2008 | SIXTH OF 17

## TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

### +> 7:30 a.m.:

Men's soccer: Brazil vs. China; gymnastics: women's team final; diving: various finals (live), Telemundo

### +> 10 a.m.:

Beach volleyball; women's water polo: USA vs. Italy; swimming (live), NBC

### +> 2 p.m.:

Boxing: light flyweight and super heavyweight (live), CNBC

### +> 6 p.m.:

Gymnastics recap; tennis; equestrian: team dressage (taped), Oxygen

### +> 8 p.m.:

Gymnastics: men's all-around final; swimming: men's 100m freestyle final; beach volleyball; women's cycling road time trial; men's synchronized 3m diving (live), NBC

### +> 9 p.m.:

Softball: USA vs. Canada (live), CNBC

### +> 11 p.m.:

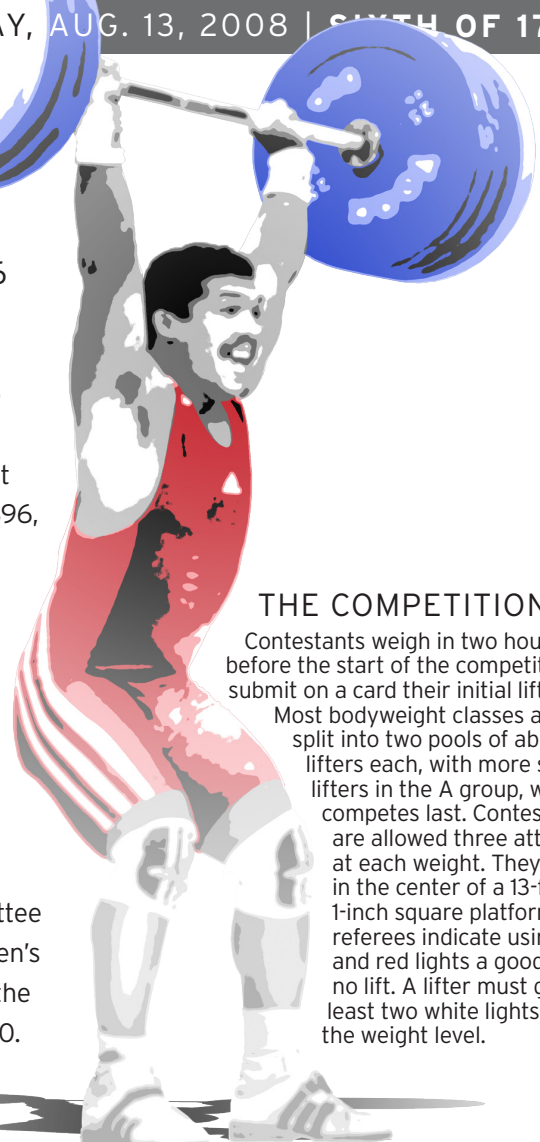
Boxing: welterweight and light heavyweight (live), CNBC

### +> 11 p.m.:

Men's basketball: USA vs. TBD; baseball: USA vs. Netherlands; fencing: women's team sabre final; archery: women's individual final; beach volleyball; tennis (live), USA Network

## OLYMPIC DEBUT: 1896

Originally the two lifting categories were much different from the current disciplines. In 1896, Great Britain's Launceston Elliot won the one-hand lift and Denmark's Viggo Jensen won the two-hand lift. The Olympic committee added the women's competition to the program in 2000.



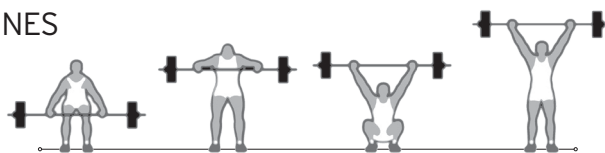
## THE COMPETITION

Contestants weigh in two hours before the start of the competition and submit on a card their initial lift weight.

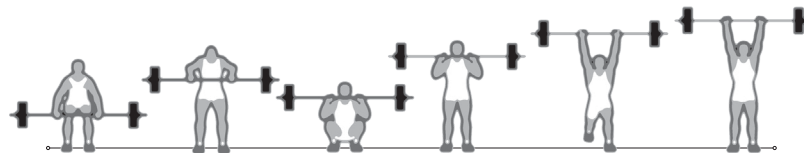
Most bodyweight classes are split into two pools of about 10 lifters each, with more skilled lifters in the A group, which competes last. Contestants are allowed three attempts at each weight. They lift in the center of a 13-foot, 1-inch square platform. Three referees indicate using white and red lights a good lift or no lift. A lifter must get at least two white lights to pass the weight level.

## THE DISCIPLINES

Lifters get three tries at each weight and must attempt both the snatch and the clean and jerk. Snatch is first.



**Snatch:** The first of two lifts in the competition. A competitor brings the bar overhead in one single motion.



**Clean and jerk:** Allows the competitor to lift more weight. The competitor brings the bar to a temporary position at the shoulders, then jerks it overhead.

## THE OBJECT

Weightlifting is a strength sport in which athletes attempt to lift and hold weighted bars over their heads using two techniques: the snatch and the clean and jerk. Men compete in eight bodyweight classes and women in seven.

## THE GEAR

Athletes lift a bar loaded on both ends with weights secured by a metal collar. Men use a 44.1-pound bar that's about 7 feet, 2 inches long. Women's bars are 33 pounds and about 6 feet, 6 inches.

## RUBBER PLASTIC PLATES

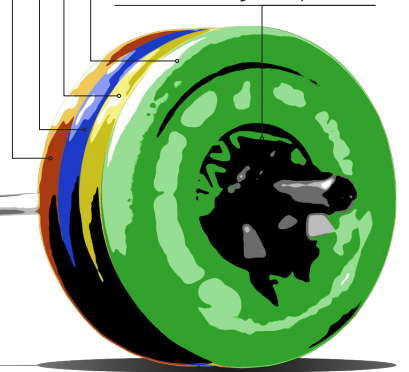
**Red:** 25 kg (55.1 pounds)

**Blue:** 20 kg (44.1 pounds)

**Yellow:** 15 kg (33 pounds)

**Green:** 10 kg (22 pounds)

**Collar:** 2.5 kg (5.5 pounds)



Smaller metal plates are used for incremental weight changes: white is 5 kilograms (11 pounds), black 2.5 kilograms (5.5 pounds) and chrome plates come in 1.25 kilograms (2.8 pounds), .5 kilograms (1.1 pounds) and .25 kilograms (.6 pounds). The two smallest plates are used only for record-setting attempts.

## ONE TO WATCH

Belarus' **Andrei Rybakov**, snatch world record holder in 85 kg class

## U.S. HOPEFUL

**Cheryl Haworth** finished third in 2000 in women's 75+kg bodyweight class

# Wrestling

## ALL-TIME EVENT MEDALS

USSR	68	36	28	<b>132</b>
USA	49	43	30	<b>122</b>
FINLAND	26	28	29	<b>83</b>
SWEDEN	28	27	27	<b>82</b>



The Oregonian THURSDAY, AUG. 14, 2008 | SEVENTH OF 17

## TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

**+> 2 a.m.:** Men's volleyball: China vs. Japan; men's basketball: Argentina vs. TBD, Russia vs. Lithuania;

### Greco-Roman wrestling

(live), MSNBC

**+> 8 a.m.:** Beach volleyball; diving: various finals (taped), Telemundo

**+> 10 a.m.:** Beach volleyball; swimming; whitewater canoe and kayak finals; rowing (taped), NBC

**+> 2 p.m.:** Boxing: light welterweight and welterweight (taped), CNBC

**+> 6 p.m.:** Gymnastics recap; tennis semifinals; equestrian: team dressage (taped), Oxygen

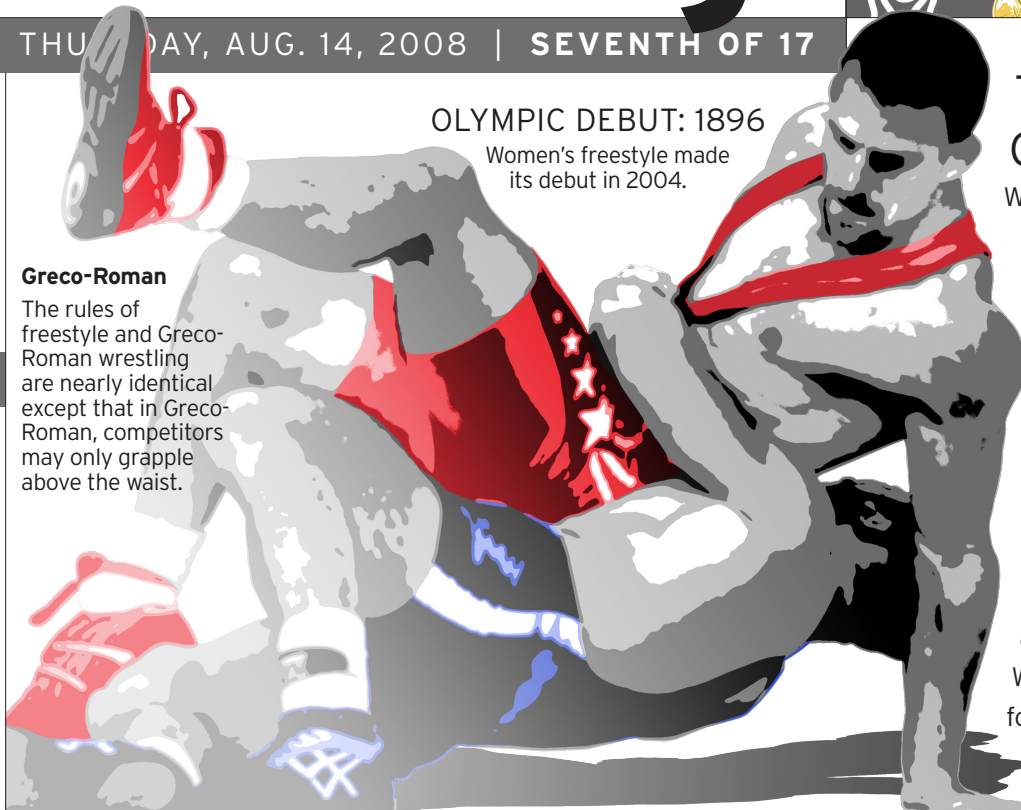
**+> 8 p.m.:** Gymnastics: women's all-around final; swimming; men's volleyball: USA vs. Bulgaria (live), NBC

**+> 9 p.m.:** Softball: USA vs. Japan (live), CNBC

**+> 11 p.m.:** Women's basketball: USA vs. Spain; women's soccer quarterfinal; baseball: USA vs. Cuba; tennis: semifinals; cycling: track racing; archery: men's individual final (live), USA Network

## OLYMPIC DEBUT: 1896

Women's freestyle made its debut in 2004.



### Greco-Roman

The rules of freestyle and Greco-Roman wrestling are nearly identical except that in Greco-Roman, competitors may only grapple above the waist.

## THE OBJECT

Wrestling is an ancient combat sport in which participants try to pin opponents by touching their shoulder blades to the mat for a second. There are seven men's weight classes in freestyle and Greco-Roman. Women compete in four freestyle classes.

## THE COMPETITION

Matches consist of three rounds, each two minutes long, with 30-second breaks. Wrestlers must win two of the three rounds to take the match.

Athletes are awarded technical points for actions such as holds, takedowns and penalties. Each weight class has a 16-person tournament in two brackets. Wrestlers who lose in the round of 16 and quarterfinals wrestle each other

for a chance to take on the loser of the bracket's semifinals for the bronze medal. While the winners of the two semifinals compete for gold and silver, there are two bronze matches with both winners receiving a medal.

## THE GEAR

Athletes wear form-fitting red or blue singlets depending on the color assigned to them. Headgear is not allowed, but light knee-pads may be worn. Coarse stubble is forbidden.

**Shoes** must be snug and without buckles or metal pieces.

**Shoelaces** must be taped.

Referees may check wrestlers **perspiration** before a match and request they dry off.

Competitors must also carry a **handkerchief** – usually kept in the jock strap – to towel blood or sweat from their bodies, though today that task is generally performed by a doctor or trainer.



## THE MAT

The playing surface is made of 2-inch-thick, high-density foam that absorbs shock and is covered with antislip, antistatic PVC.

### Passivity zone

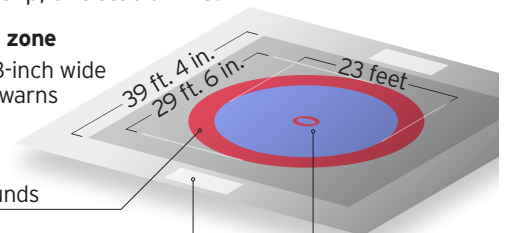
A 3-foot, 3-inch wide red circle warns wrestlers before they step out of bounds

### Judge's table

The judge records points awarded by himself and the referee on the mat. The mat chairmen on the opposite desk acts as a tiebreaker. The referee counts competitors scores on each hand, one marked with a red wrist band, the other with blue.

### Wrestling circle

Competitors start facing each other behind the 3-foot, 3-inch circle in the middle of the mat



## ONE TO WATCH

Japan's **Saori Yoshida**, 2004 female gold medalist at 55 kg

## U.S. HOPEFUL

**Daniel Cormier** finished fourth in the men's 96 kg weight class in Athens

# Badminton

## ALL-TIME EVENT MEDALS

<b>CHINA</b>	8	4	10	<b>22</b>
<b>INDONESIA</b>	5	5	5	<b>15</b>
<b>S. KOREA</b>	5	6	3	<b>14</b>
<b>DENMARK</b>	1	1	2	<b>4</b>



The Oregonian

FRIDAY, AUG. 15, 2008

EIGHTH OF 17

## TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

**+> 2 a.m.:**  
Badminton:  
women's  
doubles  
final (live),  
MSNBC

**+> 8 a.m.:**  
Women's soccer;  
beach volleyball;  
boxing (live),  
Telemundo

**+> 10 a.m.:**  
Swimming; track  
& field qualifying,  
NBC

**+> 6 p.m.:**  
Gymnastics  
recap; tennis  
semifinals,  
Oxygen

**+> 8 p.m.:**  
Swimming: men's  
100m butterfly  
final, men's 50m  
freestyle final;  
beach volleyball  
elimination  
match; track &  
field: various  
finals; men's  
volleyball: USA  
vs. China (live),  
NBC

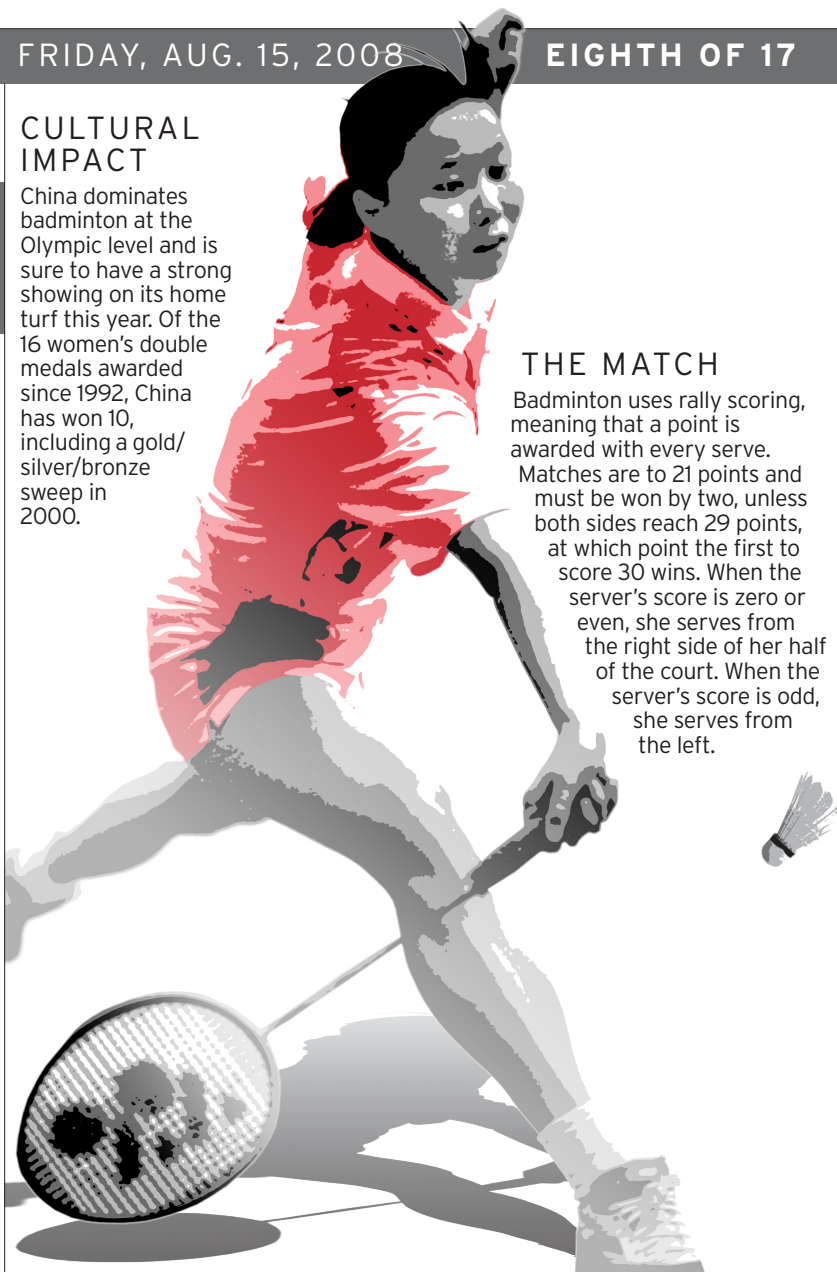
**+> 9 p.m.:**  
Softball: USA vs.  
Chinese Taipei  
(live), CNBC

**+> 11 p.m.:**  
Boxing: flyweight  
and middleweight  
elimination bouts  
(taped), CNBC

**+> 11 p.m.:**  
Tennis: women's  
singles gold-  
medal match,  
men's doubles  
gold-medal  
match, women's  
singles bronze-  
medal match;  
men's singles  
bronze-medal  
match; cycling:  
various track  
finals; women's  
field hockey: USA  
vs. New Zealand  
(live), USA  
Network

## CULTURAL IMPACT

China dominates badminton at the Olympic level and is sure to have a strong showing on its home turf this year. Of the 16 women's double medals awarded since 1992, China has won 10, including a gold/silver/bronze sweep in 2000.



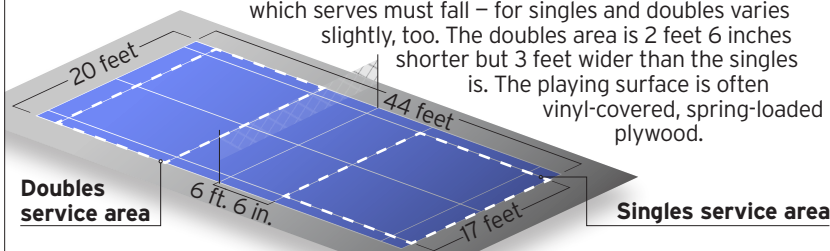
## THE MATCH

Badminton uses rally scoring, meaning that a point is awarded with every serve.

Matches are to 21 points and must be won by two, unless both sides reach 29 points, at which point the first to score 30 wins. When the server's score is zero or even, she serves from the right side of her half of the court. When the server's score is odd, she serves from the left.

## THE COURT

Badminton is played indoors on a court with a 5-foot-high net. Singles and doubles are played on the same surface with similar dimensions, only the singles court is three feet narrower. The service area – or portion of the court within which serves must fall – for singles and doubles varies slightly, too. The doubles area is 2 feet 6 inches shorter but 3 feet wider than the singles is. The playing surface is often vinyl-covered, spring-loaded plywood.



## THE OBJECT

Badminton is a racket sport for singles and doubles in which players hit a shuttlecock, a weighted skirt of feathers about the size of a snow cone, over a net. There are five events: women's singles and doubles, men's singles and doubles, and mixed doubles. All events are a single-elimination tournament, with no more than 64 singles or 16 pairs entered in an event.

## THE GEAR

**The racket:** The frames and handles are made light and stiff to allow maximum racket velocity. The synthetic strings are pulled tight to transfer as much power from the athlete to the shuttlecock as possible. They usually weigh less than four ounces.



**The shuttlecock:** Also known as the birdie or shuttle, it's a cork half-sphere with 16 goose feathers protruding from the flat end of the sphere. It weighs a quarter of an ounce and is so fragile they frequently break during play.

## OLYMPIC DEBUT: 1992

Badminton is the second most popular participation sport in the world. Only soccer is played by more people.

## ONE TO WATCH

China's **Lin Dan**, the top-ranked male singles athlete in the world

## U.S. HOPEFUL

**Howard Bach** helped win 2005 men's doubles World Badminton Championship

# Water polo

## ALL-TIME EVENT MEDALS

<b>HUNGARY</b>	8	3	3	<b>14</b>
<b>USA</b>	1	4	5	<b>10</b>
<b>SERBIA</b>	3	5	1	<b>9</b>
<b>USSR</b>	2	2	4	<b>8</b>



The Oregonian SAT., AUG. 16, 2008 | 9TH OF 17

## TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

**+> 10 a.m.:** Men's basketball: USA vs. Spain;

**men's water polo: USA vs. Croatia;**

track & field; women's 3m diving; beach volleyball; rowing: various finals; cycling: various track finals; badminton: women's singles gold-medal match; trampoline (live), NBC

**+> 2 p.m.:** Boxing: flyweight and middleweight (taped), CNBC

**+> 6 p.m.:** Men's volleyball (taped), Telemundo

**+> 7:30 p.m.:** Track & field: women's marathon, men's 100m final; swimming: various finals (live), NBC

**+> 9 p.m.:** Beach volleyball: women's quarterfinals; weightlifting: women's super heavyweight (taped), CNBC

**+> 11 p.m.:** Tennis: men's singles and women's gold-medal matches; women's beach volleyball quarterfinals; cycling: various track finals; women's team handball: Russia vs. Germany (live), USA Network

## THE GEAR

Water polo involves plenty of competitive contact. Athletes wear swim caps of matching colors with numbers on them for identification.

The caps are equipped with protective cups that guard competitor's ears from contact and water but still allow them to hear teammates, referees and coaches.



## THE OBJECT

Water polo is a water sport in which teams of seven swim and try to pass a ball down a pool and score goals. The sport has a shot clock similar to basketball. Teams have 30 seconds on change of possession to shoot the ball. Athletes can use any part of their body to make a shot on goal but may not punch the ball while shooting. Women play in an eight-team tournament, men compete in a 12-team one.

## GLOSSARY

**Ball under:** When a player holds the ball underwater when being engaged by an opponent. The penalty results in a change of possession.

**Eggbeater:** The type of leg kick athletes use to elevate above the water.

**Re-entry area:** The position near the goals where players enter and exit the pool when substituting.

## THE BALL

An Olympic water polo ball is slightly larger than a volleyball and weighs a little less than a pound.

Women compete with a slightly smaller ball that's about eight inches in diameter. It's usually yellow so it contrasts with the water and swimming caps.



## THE POOL

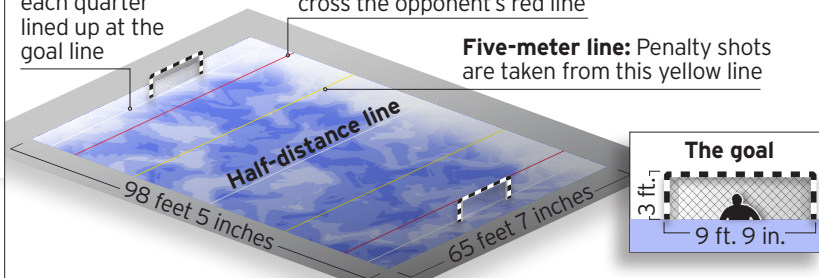
The water in the pool is deep enough that athletes must tread water at all times (at least 5 feet 11 inches, though 6 feet 6 inches is preferred). It's temperature regulated to between 77 and 82 degrees. The goal sits 5 feet 5 inches in from the edge of the pool. Women play in a slightly smaller pool that measures 82 feet by 55 feet 9 inches, but includes the same line markings. Two referees keep an eye on the action from the pool's longer edges.

### Goal line:

Athletes start each quarter lined up at the goal line

**Two-meter line:** Only offensive players with the ball are allowed to cross the opponent's red line

**Five-meter line:** Penalty shots are taken from this yellow line



## ONE TO WATCH

Serbia's **Aleksandar Sapic** helped team to World League title in June

## U.S. HOPEFUL

**Merrill Moses** helped the U.S. team qualify for Beijing as the goalkeeper

# Diving

## OLYMPIC DEBUT: 1904

During the inaugural competition in St. Louis, the Germans argued (to no avail) that the way a diver hits the water should not affect his score. American George Sheldon won the first diving gold in the platform.

## ALL-TIME EVENT MEDALS

<b>USA</b>	47	40	41	<b>128</b>
<b>CHINA</b>	20	13	5	<b>38</b>
<b>GERMANY</b>	5	8	9	<b>22</b>
<b>SWEDEN</b>	6	8	7	<b>21</b>



The Oregonian

SUNDAY, AUG. 17, 2008 | 10<sup>TH</sup> OF 17

## TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

**+> 4 a.m.:** Swimming: various finals; track & field: various finals; women's volleyball;

### diving;

trampoline (taped), Telemundo

### +> 10 a.m.:

Women's basketball: USA vs. New Zealand; beach volleyball quarterfinals; women's volleyball: USA vs. Poland; cycling: various track finals; rowing (live), NBC

### +> 6 p.m.:

Beach volleyball: women's quarterfinals (taped), Telemundo

### +> 7:30 p.m.:

Track & field; gymnastics: men's individual floor and pommel horse finals, women's individual floor and vault finals;

### women's 3m diving;

rowing: women's eights (live), NBC

### +> 9 p.m.:

Softball: USA vs. China (live), CNBC

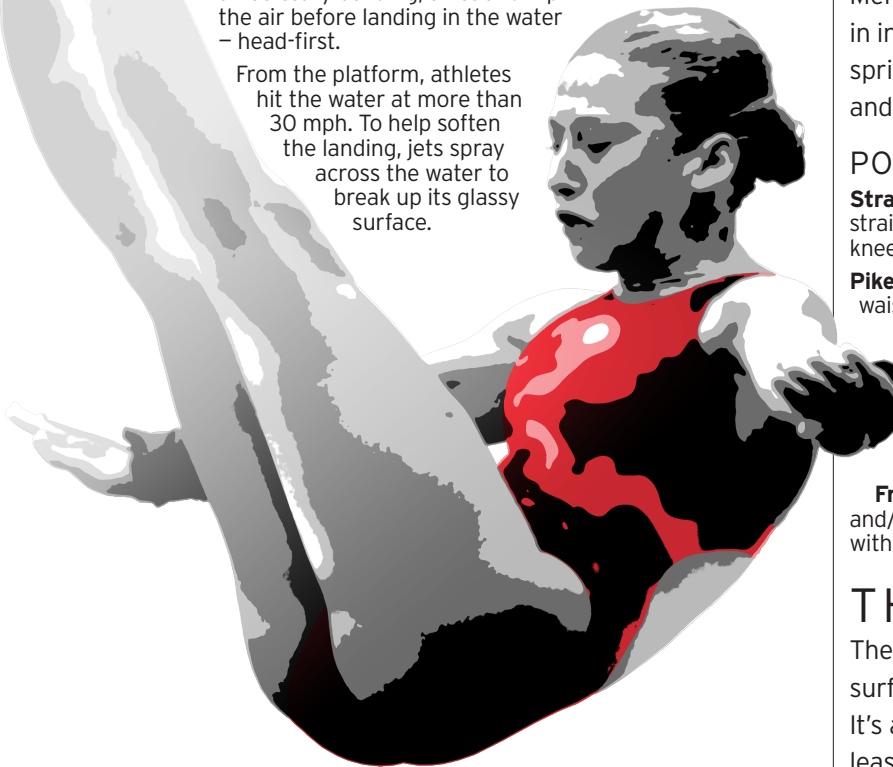
### +> 11 p.m.:

Men's basketball: USA vs. TBD; men's water polo: USA vs. Germany; women's field hockey: USA vs. Great Britain; table tennis: men's team gold and bronze-medal matches (live), USA Network

## THE IMPACT

Jumping from the 10-meter platform can be taxing on the body. At almost 33 feet above the water's surface, it's as if athletes leap from the top of a three-story building, twist and flip in the air before landing in the water – head-first.

From the platform, athletes hit the water at more than 30 mph. To help soften the landing, jets spray across the water to break up its glassy surface.



## THE DIVES

There are six categories that, combined with the four positions (straight, pike, tuck and free), are used in the construction of a dive.

**Forward:** Body facing pool and dive made facing pool.

**Backward:** Back to the pool and dive made rotating away from board.

**Reverse:** Body facing pool and dive made rotating toward the board.

**Inward:** Back to the pool and dive made rotating toward the board.

**Twisting:** Any dive with a twist.

**Armstand:** Any dive starting from a motionless handstand. Performed only on platform.

## THE COMPETITION

In the men's individual competitions, athletes dive six times in each of the three rounds. Men's synchronized teams dive five times. All women's competitions are five dives per round.

Eighteen athletes survive the individual preliminary to compete, diving in reverse order of their scores, in the semifinals. Twelve divers advance to the finals where, again, they dive in reverse order. Judges score on a 0-10 scale.

Synchronized teams compete only in a final round of competition.

In each round, athletes must perform a dive from each category (listed at left), and men's individual springboard must in addition perform two from one category.

Competitors must submit full diving programs 24 hours in advance.

## THE OBJECT

Diving is a water sport in which competitors are scored by judges on technique and performance. Men and women each compete in individual and synchronized springboard (9 feet, 10 inches) and platform (32 feet, 10 inches).

## POSITIONS

**Straight:** When a diver's body is straight at entry with no bend in the knees or hips and feet together.

**Pike:** When a diver doubles over at the waist while keeping her legs straight and toes pointed (as shown at left).

**Tuck:** When a diver bends her knees and pulls her thighs tight into her chest as if preparing for a cannonball.

**Free position:** When a pike, tuck and/or straight position is combined with a twist.

## THE BOARDS

The higher of the two diving surfaces is the 10-meter platform. It's a flat, rigid slab that's at least 6 feet, 6 inches wide. The 3-meter springboard is at least 15 feet, 7 inches long even though only the last

5 feet hang

over the

water. There's

an adjustable

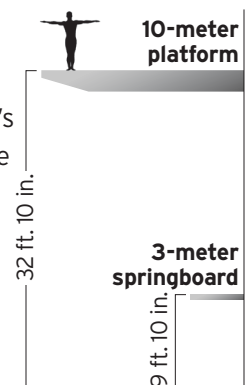
fulcrum

divers can

move to

change its

flexibility.



## ONE TO WATCH

China's **Guo Jingjing**, 2004 gold winner in women's springboard

## U.S. HOPEFUL

**David Boudia** took third at the 2008 World Cup in the individual platform

# Rowing

## ALL-TIME EVENT MEDALS

<b>USA</b>	30	30	21	<b>81</b>
<b>E. GERMANY</b>	33	9	8	<b>50</b>
<b>ENGLAND</b>	22	18	8	<b>48</b>
<b>USSR</b>	12	20	11	<b>43</b>



The Oregonian MONDAY, AUG. 18, 2008 | 11TH OF 17

## TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

### +> 8 a.m.:

Women's soccer semifinal; men's beach volleyball quarterfinals; boxing (live), Telemundo

### +> 10 a.m.:

Men's volleyball: USA vs. Japan; men's beach volleyball quarterfinals; track & field; men's 3m diving (live), NBC

### +> 2 p.m.:

Boxing: bantamweight, featherweight and super heavyweight quarterfinals (taped), CNBC

### +> 6 p.m.:

Gymnastics recap; equestrian: team jumping final (taped), Oxygen

### +> 8 p.m.:

Beach volleyball: semifinals; gymnastics: men's individual rings and vault finals, women's individual vault and uneven bars finals; track & field: men's long jump final, women's 800m final (live), NBC

### +> 9 p.m.:

Men's freestyle wrestling: 55kg, 60 kg; table tennis: men's and women's singles (live), CNBC

### +> 11 p.m.:

Women's basketball: quarterfinals; men's beach volleyball semifinals; cycling: various track finals; women's team handball (live), USA Network



## THE BOATS

**Single sculls:** 27 ft., 31 lbs  
**Double sculls:** 34 ft., 49 lbs

**Quad sculls:** 44 ft., 114 lbs  
**Pair sweep:** 34 ft., 59.5 lbs  
**Quad sweep:** 44 ft., 110 lbs  
**Eight sweep:** 52 ft., 211 lbs

## THE COURSE

At about a mile and a quarter long, the Olympic rowing course is all about endurance. The six-lane, flatwater course is marked by buoys that indicate each lane, which is between 41 and 44 feet wide. The course is 11 feet, 6 inches deep and lined with rocks on the shore to absorb the wakes from the boats.

### Start pontoons

These are used to help hold the boats in place before the race so each of the vessel's noses line up.

### Starting line

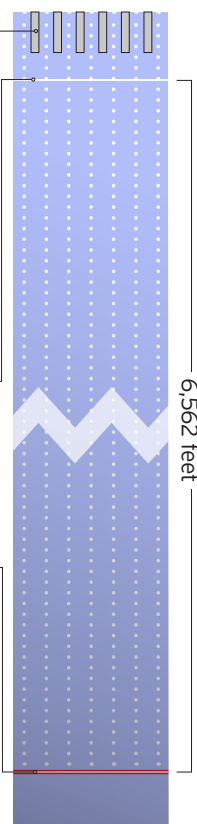
### Buoys

They mark the lane assignments, and every 250 meters there's a colored buoy to let athletes know where they are on the course. The first and last 100 meters (328 feet) are marked red.

### Finish line

## THE COMPETITION

The format of each event depends on the number of participants, but generally there is a preliminary round with repechages, or second-chance races, to determine which boats make the final. The competitions are double elimination, so a boat has to lose twice to be sent home.



## THE OBJECT

Rowing is a water sport in which athletes row a long, narrow boat down a straight, 2,000-meter (6,562 feet) flatwater course.

In the Olympics, there are a variety of rowing races based on gender, number of rowers, type of rowing and whether the boat carries a coxswain. In sweep rowing, athletes each use one oar. In scull events, rowers use two. Some events use a coxswain (a boat leader who doesn't row) and others are straight, or are run without one. Coxswains are only allowed in the men's and women's eight-person sweep event.

### Scull events

Men's single  
Women's single  
Men's double  
Men's lightweight double  
Women's double  
Women's lightweight double  
Men's quadruple  
Women's quadruple

### Sweep events

Men's eight (with coxswain)  
Women's eight (with coxswain)  
Men's pair  
Men's pair  
Men's lightweight four  
Men's four

## OLYMPIC DEBUT: 1900

Original rules on coxswain weight were lax (today men must weigh at least 120 pounds and women 110). The first men's pair winners picked a 73-pound boy from the streets of Paris to sit in their boat.

## ONE TO WATCH

Bulgaria's **Rumyana Neykova**, two-time medalist in women's single scull

## U.S. HOPEFUL

**Men's eight team** won gold in the sweep event at the 2004 games

# Cycling

The Oregonian TUESDAY, AUG. 19, 2008 | 12<sup>TH</sup> OF 17

## ALL-TIME EVENT MEDALS

FRANCE	38	21	22	<b>81</b>
ITALY	33	16	7	<b>56</b>
ENGLAND	10	20	19	<b>49</b>
USA	13	14	18	<b>45</b>



## TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

**2 a.m.:** Women's soccer semifinal; men's basketball: Argentina vs. Russia; baseball: USA vs. China;

### men's cycling track finals;

men's team handball: Germany vs. Denmark; weightlifting; beach volleyball (live), MSNBC

**10 a.m.:** Men's volleyball: USA vs. Japan; men's beach volleyball quarterfinals; track & field; men's 3m diving (live), NBC

**6 p.m.:** Gymnastics recap; equestrian: team jumping final (taped), Oxygen

**8 p.m.:** Beach volleyball: semifinals; gymnastics: men's individual rings and vault finals, women's individual vault and uneven bars finals; track & field: men's long jump final, women's 800m final (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Men's freestyle wrestling: 55kg, 60 kg (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Women's basketball: quarterfinals; men's beach volleyball semifinals; table tennis: singles;

### cycling: various track finals;

women's team handball (live), USA Network



## THE GEAR

Racers wear form-fitting singlets made of smooth, wind-resistant materials such as nylon. Helmets are required in all events, and pursuit riders wear unique, aerodynamic helmets that sweep back over the rider's neck.

## THE BIKE

Track racers ride highly specialized – though simplified – bicycles. They have only **one fixed gear**, meaning they can't coast and that it takes a lot of energy to accelerate. Often times **rear or both wheels** are disks instead of traditional spoked rims and hubs, and are installed with smooth, high-pressure tires to reduce friction. There are no brakes installed; cyclists stop by pedaling back.

## THE VELODROME

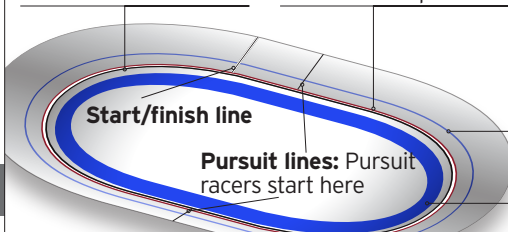
Track cycling events take place on a 250-meter indoor track with high banks to allow for riders to approach 40 mph and still take the tight turns the short distance creates (the Olympic running track, for example, is 400 meters around). The banks in the curves can be up to 45 degrees and 12 on the straightaways.

**Pole line:** The black inside line of the track. It's 250 meters around.

**Sprinter's line:** A red line three feet from the inside edge of the track. Riders cannot pass to the inside of it.

**Stayer's Line:** At least eight feet from the pole line, riders in the keirin race cannot pass to the inside of it.

**Blue band:** A warm-up lane not used in competition.



## THE OBJECT

Track cycling is a racing sport in which athletes ride specialized bikes on a highly banked track called a velodrome. There are a variety of types of races on the track, and the Olympics also feature road, mountain and BMX cycling events.

## THE COMPETITIONS

**Sprint:** A 1,000-meter, two-person race (three- and four-person in repechage and consolation races) in which only the last 200 meters are timed. In the first 800, riders jockey for position.

**Team sprint:** A 750-meter event in which teams of three riders race at full speed. Each rider leads one 250-meter lap and pulls off the track after leading to leave the remaining teammates to lead or finish the race.

**Individual pursuit:** A race in which two competitors start on opposite straightaways and attempt to catch and pass each other to win. If no rider is overtaken, the fastest to finish 4000 meters (2.5 miles) wins. A four-rider team event follows similar rules.

**Points race:** A 40-kilometer (24.9 miles) event in which the fastest rider of every 10th lap of the 160 is awarded points: five points for first, three for second, two for third and one for fourth (double for the final sprint). A rider who goes a lap up on the field gains 20 points. The rider with the most points after the lead rider has finished 40 kilometers wins.

**Madison:** A two-rider team variation of the points race. Its 200 laps make it 50 kilometers (31.1 miles) with scoring sprint laps occurring every 20th.

**Keirin:** A 2,000-meter (1.2 mile) race in which the first 1,400 meters' pace is set by a motorcycle that starts at about 20 mph and reaches about 30 mph before exiting the track and allowing a sprint for the finish.

## OLYMPIC DEBUT: 1896

Mountain biking was added in 1996 and BMX is new this year.

## ONE TO WATCH

England's **Shanaze Reade** won 2007 world titles in track and BMX

## U.S. HOPEFUL

**Jennie Reed** won 2008 women's keirin world championship

# Equestrian

## ALL-TIME EVENT MEDALS

<b>GERMANY</b>	23	14	14	<b>51</b>
<b>USA</b>	10	19	17	<b>46</b>
<b>SWEDEN</b>	17	9	14	<b>40</b>
<b>RUSSIA</b>	12	12	10	<b>34</b>



The Oregonian WEDNESDAY, AUG. 20, 2008 | 13<sup>TH</sup> OF 17

## TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

**2 a.m.:** Men's soccer semifinal; gymnastics: various individual finals; track & field; men's diving (live), Telemundo

**8:30 a.m.:** Men's soccer semifinal (live), Telemundo

**10 a.m.:** Women's volleyball: quarterfinal; track & field qualifying; women's water polo semifinal (live), NBC

**2 p.m.:** Boxing: light flyweight, lightweight and heavyweight quarterfinals (taped), CNBC

**6 p.m.:** Gymnastics recap; synchronized swimming duet;

### equestrian: individual dressage

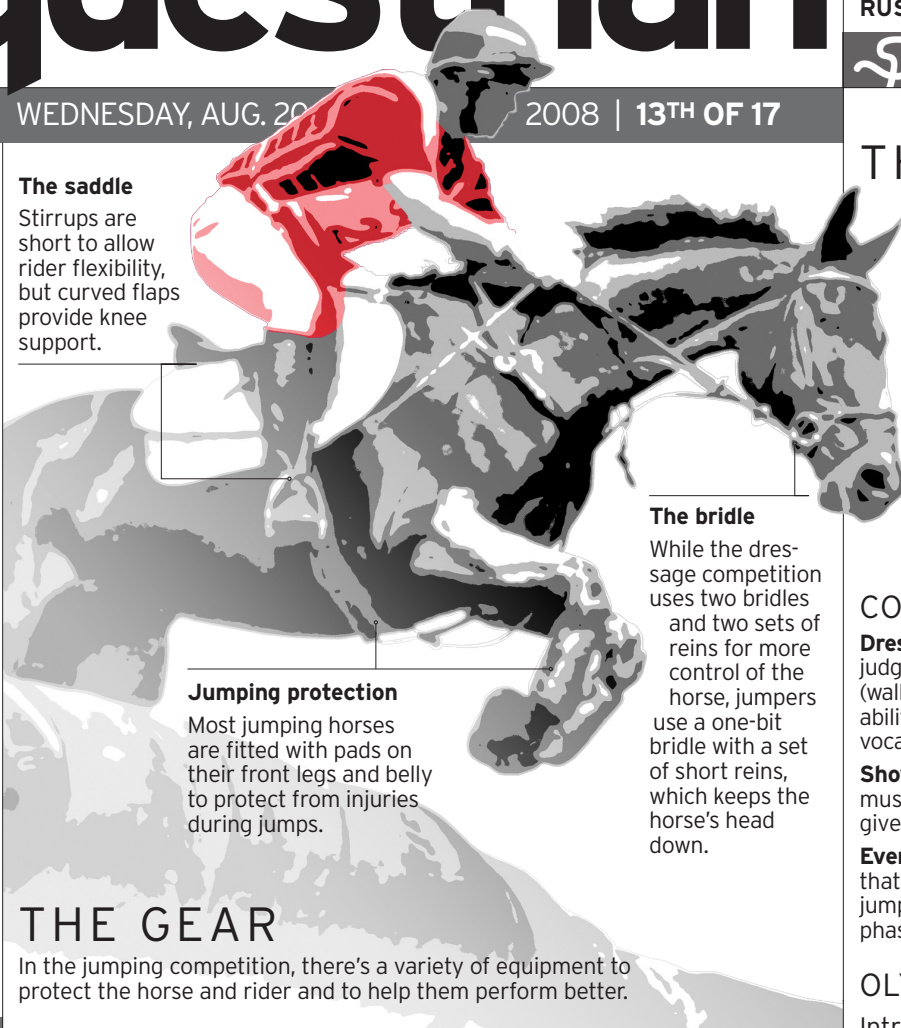
(taped), Oxygen

**8 p.m.:** Men's beach volleyball semifinals; gymnastics: men's individual parallel bars and high bar finals, women's balance beam final; track & field: men's 1500m final, women's 100m hurdle final; men's 3m diving final (live), NBC

**11 p.m.:** Men's basketball quarterfinals; flatwater canoe/kayak semifinals; women's open-water swimming gold-medal race; men's water polo semifinals (live), USA Network

### The saddle

Stirrups are short to allow rider flexibility, but curved flaps provide knee support.



### Jumping protection

Most jumping horses are fitted with pads on their front legs and belly to protect from injuries during jumps.

### The bridle

While the dressage competition uses two bridles and two sets of reins for more control of the horse, jumpers use a one-bit bridle with a set of short reins, which keeps the horse's head down.

## THE GEAR

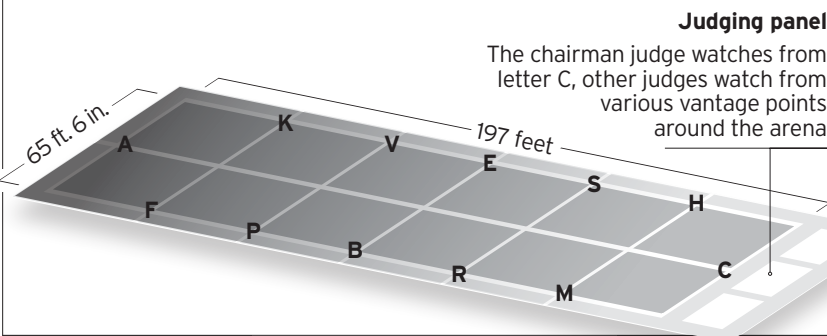
In the jumping competition, there's a variety of equipment to protect the horse and rider and to help them perform better.

## THE ARENA

The individual jumping course is between 1,640 and 2,296 feet long and has 12 obstacles for the rider and horse to navigate; fences, water pits and solid-looking walls. Riders average about 15 mph through the course.

The dressage event takes place in a long arena divided into a grid of 10 squares. Letter indicators mark the boundaries of each segment where riders and horses are suppose to perform certain movements.

The origins of the letter markings are unknown.



## THE OBJECT

Equestrian is a horse-riding sport in which competitors are judged on showmanship and the horses' athletic ability. There are three competitions – dressage, jumping and eventing – and each has an individual and team event which are held simultaneously.

## COMPETITION FORMATS

**Dressage:** Horses and riders are judged on the animal's natural gaits (walk, trot and canter) and the rider's ability to control the animal without vocal commands

**Show jumping:** Horses and riders must clear obstacles on a course in a given amount of time

**Eventing:** A combined competition that includes a dressage phase, a jumping phase and a cross-country phase to test endurance

## OLYMPIC DEBUT: 1900

Introduced in Paris at the turn of last century, equestrian is one of the three Olympic sports in which men and women compete together and is the only one to use an animal.

## HEADGEAR

In the jumping events, riders are required to wear a helmet with a latched chin strap. But in the detail-oriented dressage competitions, competitors wear formal coats with tails and a top hat.



**Dressage top hat**



**Jumping helmet**

## ONE TO WATCH

Netherland's **Anky van Grunsven**, six-time medalist in dressage

## U.S. HOPEFUL

**McLain Ward** and **Sapphire**, helped win team show jumping gold in Athens.

# High jump

## ALL-TIME TRACK MEDALS

<b>USA</b>	307	225	181	<b>713</b>
<b>USSR</b>	71	66	77	<b>214</b>
<b>G. BRITAIN</b>	48	75	62	<b>185</b>
<b>E. GERMANY</b>	38	42	36	<b>116</b>



The Oregonian THURSDAY, AUG. 21, 2008 | 14<sup>TH</sup> OF 17

## TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

**8 a.m.:** Women's soccer gold-medal match; women's beach volleyball gold-medal match (taped), Telemundo

**10 a.m.:** Men's open-water marathon swimming; women's water polo gold-medal match; equestrian: individual jumping final; rhythmic gymnastics (taped), NBC

**2 p.m.:** Men's freestyle wrestling gold-medal matches: 84kg, 96kg, 120kg (taped), CNBC

**8 p.m.:** Men's beach volleyball gold-medal match; track & field: men's 400m final, men's 110m hurdles final, women's 200m final (live), NBC

**9 p.m.:** Baseball semifinal (taped), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Boxing: flyweight, featherweight, light welterweight, middleweight, heavyweight semifinals (taped), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Men's basketball semifinals; men's water polo semifinals; flatwater canoe finals; track & field: 50km walk; table tennis (live), USA Network

## OLYMPIC DEBUT: 1896

The high jump has been a part of the track and field competition at the modern Olympics since the original Athens games.



## THE GEAR

High jumpers wear form-fitting clothes to prevent the uniform from contacting the crossbar. Jumpers often wear mismatched shoes: a cleated sole on the take-off foot and a smooth-soled running shoe on the other.

Many athletes practice on trampolines to help their dexterity when falling. With elite male athletes approaching heights of 8 feet, a graceful falling technique is important.

## THE TECHNIQUE

In the long history of the high jump as an Olympic event, the technique for clearing the bar has been steadily modified and improved. One obsolete method is the "western roll," in which athletes attempted jumps face-down and nearly parallel with the crossbar. Until the late 1960s, the "scissor jump" was also popular. Jumpers would clear the bar one leg at a time, as if a high hurdle. The "Fosbury flop," popularized by American gold-medalist Dick Fosbury, has been used to set every high jump world record since 1978 and is now the standard.



### Approach

Jumper accelerates along a curved path toward the crossbar.

### Takeoff

Pushes off the takeoff leg, raising the body upward with the head leading the torso over the crossbar.

### Clearance

Back is arched and the head is dropped, enabling hips to rise over the bar.

## THE OBJECT

The high jump is a field event in which athletes try to jump over and clear a horizontal bar from a running start.

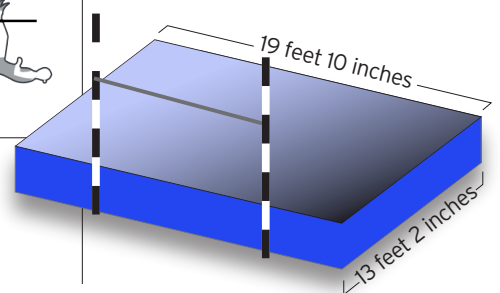
## COMPETITION FORMAT

Contestants are split into two preliminary pools in which they take turns attempting to clear the bar at any height each individual chooses. If an athlete registers a clean jump, the bar is raised for her next attempt. An athlete stays in the preliminary competition until three consecutive failed attempts or they achieve an automatic qualifying height (a relative rarity). The top 12 from the preliminaries advance to the final, where they take turns attempting to clear (or choosing to pass) steadily increasing heights. An athlete is eliminated after failing three jumps in a row. The winner is the jumper to clear the highest crossbar.

Along with the individual competition, the high jump is a discipline for women competing in the heptathlon and men in the decathlon.

## THE PIT

The jumping landing area, which used to be a sand trap when athletes would leap face-first over the crossbar, is now made of two pads that, stacked, are 2 feet 6 inches thick. The cross bar is 13 feet 2 inches wide and can be adjusted to various heights.



## ONE TO WATCH

Russia's **Yelena Slesarenko** won women's high jump gold in Athens

## U.S. HOPEFUL

**Chaunte Howard** was top finisher in women's high jump at Olympic trials

# Beach volleyball

## ALL-TIME EVENT MEDALS

<b>BRAZIL</b>	2	4	1	<b>7</b>
<b>USA</b>	3	1	1	<b>5</b>
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	1	0	1	<b>2</b>
<b>SPAIN</b>	0	1	0	<b>1</b>



The Oregonian

FRIDAY, AUG. 22, 2008 | 15<sup>TH</sup> OF 17

## TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

**12:30 a.m.:** Men's volleyball semifinals;

**men's beach volleyball bronze-medal match**

(live), NBC

**2 a.m.:** Women's platform diving;

**men's beach volleyball finals;**

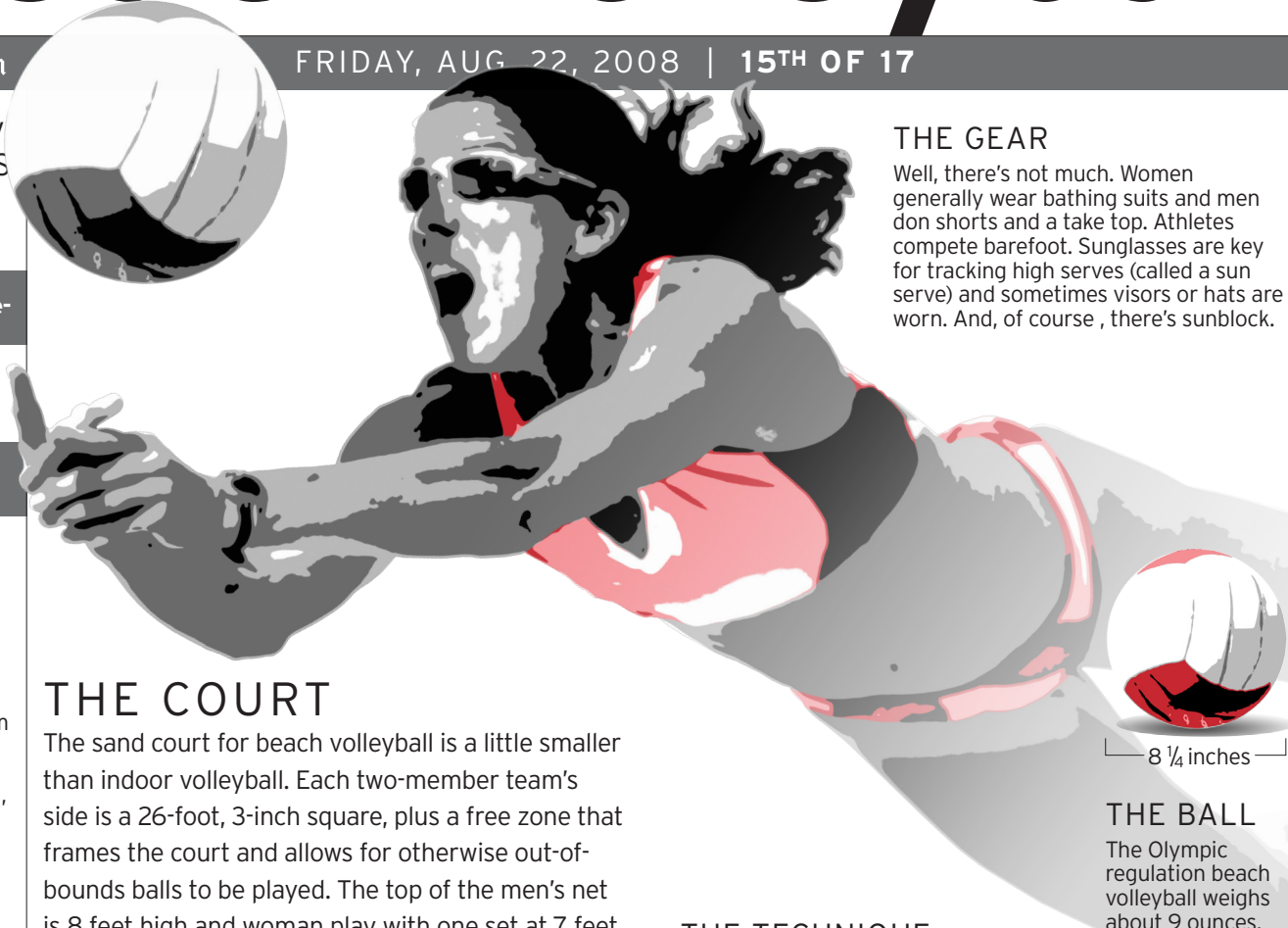
track & field (taped), Telemundo

**6 p.m.:** Women's field hockey gold-medal game (taped), Oxygen

**8 p.m.:** Men's 10m diving semifinal; track & field: men's 4x100 final, men's pole vault final, decathlon final; rhythmic gymnastics (live), NBC

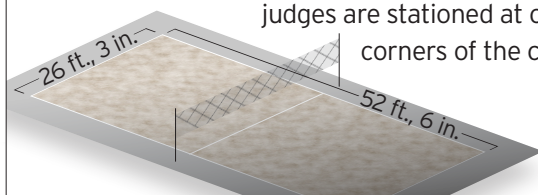
**9 p.m.:** Men's soccer gold-medal match (live), CNBC

**11 p.m.:** Baseball gold-medal game; women's team handball gold-medal game; men's field hockey gold-medal game (live), USA Network



## THE COURT

The sand court for beach volleyball is a little smaller than indoor volleyball. Each two-member team's side is a 26-foot, 3-inch square, plus a free zone that frames the court and allows for otherwise out-of-bounds balls to be played. The top of the men's net is 8 feet high and woman play with one set at 7 feet, 4 inches. Referees watch from the net posts and line judges are stationed at opposite corners of the court.



## ONES TO WATCH

Brazil's **Ricardo Santos** and **Emanuel Rego**, men's gold medalists in Athens

## U.S. HOPEFULS

**Misty May-Treanor** and **Kerri Walsh**, women's gold winners at 2004 games

## THE GEAR

Well, there's not much. Women generally wear bathing suits and men don shorts and a take top. Athletes compete barefoot. Sunglasses are key for tracking high serves (called a sun serve) and sometimes visors or hats are worn. And, of course , there's sunblock.

## THE OBJECT

Beach volleyball is a two-person variation of its more traditional older cousin. It's played in sand on a court that's about three-quarters the size of one used for indoor volleyball. Men and women each compete in a 24-team tournament. Each match is best-of-three rally-scoring sets. The first two sets are to 21, the third, if necessary, is to 15.

## GLOSSARY

**Rally scoring:** Following a trend in volleyball that speeds up matches, beach volleyball started rally scoring in Athens. Points are scored on every serve instead of only on successful attacks from the serving team.

**Credit card defense:** When both defensive players charge the net.

**Husband-and-wife:** When a playable ball falls between two defenders because they didn't communicate.

**Jump serve:** When a server lobbs the ball high into the air and strikes the ball as if attacking. The high angle and topspin make it difficult to defend.

## THE BALL

The Olympic regulation beach volleyball weighs about 9 ounces, is about an inch smaller in diameter than a basketball and has a softer shell. Its panels are usually white and another bright color like pink or yellow.

## THE TECHNIQUE

Generally, teams consist of a blocker and a setter. The blocker is bigger and more physical and plays near the net. She blocks opponents' attacks and tries to spike the ball when on offense. The setter generally tries to pass the ball to a position from which the blocker can spike it.

## OLYMPIC DEBUT: 1996

Brazil, the U.S. and Australia have dominated since the Atlanta Olympics introduced beach volleyball. The sport has its origins as a Santa Monica, Calif., pastime.

# Handball

## ALL-TIME EVENT MEDALS

<b>USSR</b>	5	1	2	<b>8</b>
<b>S. KOREA</b>	2	4	0	<b>6</b>
<b>SERBIA</b>	3	1	1	<b>5</b>
<b>ROMANIA</b>	0	1	3	<b>4</b>



The Oregonian SATURDAY, AUG. 23, 2008 16TH

## TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

### 12:30 a.m.:

Women's volleyball bronze-medal match; synchronized swimming (live), NBC

### 5 a.m.:

Table tennis: men's singles gold and bronze-medal matches (taped), MSNBC

### 6 a.m.:

Baseball gold-medal game; boxing: various finals; track & field: various finals; men's 10m platform diving (live), Telemundo

### 9 a.m.:

Women's basketball gold-medal game; women's volleyball gold-medal match; synchronized swimming; boxing; flatwater canoe/kayak (live), NBC

### 6 p.m.:

Men's volleyball semifinal (taped), Telemundo

### 6:30 p.m.:

Track & field: men's marathon, men's 800m final; men's long jump final, 4x400 finals; men's 10m diving final (live), NBC

### 11 p.m.:

Men's basketball gold-medal game;

**men's handball gold-medal game;**

men's volleyball bronze-medal match; men's water polo bronze-medal match (taped), USA Network

## OLYMPIC DEBUT 1936

The Nazis were allowed to introduce one sport for the Berlin games, and under pressure from Adolf Hitler, they chose handball. During World War II, it was taken off the bill and wouldn't reappear until the games returned to West Germany for the 1972 Munich Olympics.



## THE COURT

### Six-meter line

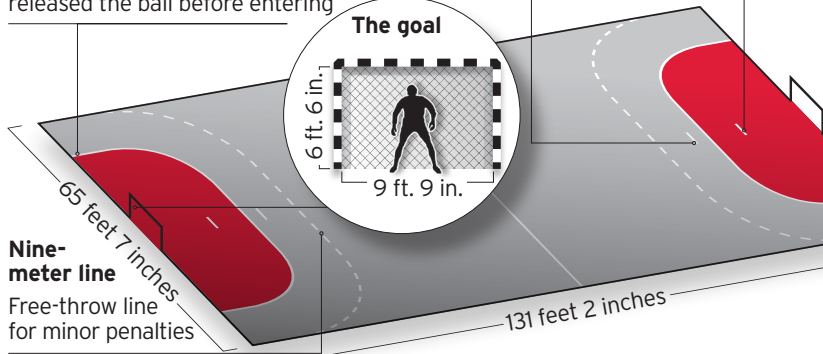
The goalkeeper's zone, no other players are allowed in this area except shooting offensive players who have released the ball before entering

### Seven-meter line

Penalty shots on goal are made from here

### Four-meter line

The keeper must stay behind this line during penalty throws



## THE OBJECT

Handball is an indoor goal-scoring game that combines elements of basketball and soccer. Participants pass and dribble a ball with their hands down the court to take shots on goal. The six offensive players on each team use techniques from basketball, such as zone defenses and offensive picks, in their game plans.

## THE BASICS

**Time of play:** Two 30-minute halves, 10-minute halftime.

**The team:** Six players and a goalkeeper on the court for each team, six substitutes on the bench and three inactive roster members.

**Possession:** A player with possession of the ball cannot stand still for more than three seconds without passing or shooting, nor can she take more than three steps without dribbling.

**Defense:** While stripping or violently slapping the ball out of an opponent's hand is illegal, players can block passes or shots on goal.

## THE BALL

Designed small and soft for easy throwing and catching, a handball is paneled like a soccer ball with a leather shell. A regulation men's ball is 7¼ to 7½ inches in diameter and weighs about a pound, and a women's ball is 6¾ to 7 inches and a little less than a pound.



**Basketball**  
9¾ inches



**Handball**  
7½ inches



**Softball**  
3¾ inches

## ONE TO WATCH

Germany's **Pascal Hens**, the mohawk-sporting Michael Jordan of handball

## 2004 GOLD

**Croatia** knocked off Germany in a classic 26-24 final match in Athens

# Michael Phelps

## PHELPS' OLYMPIC MEDALS

<b>SYDNEY '00</b>	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>ATHENS '04</b>	6	0	2	<b>8</b>
<b>BEIJING '08</b>	8	0	0	<b>8</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	14	0	2	<b>16</b>



The Oregonian SUNDAY, AUG. 24, 2008 | LAST OF 17

### TODAY'S TV HIGHLIGHTS

**12:30 a.m.:** Men's basketball gold-medal game; table tennis: men's medal match;

mountain biking (live), NBC

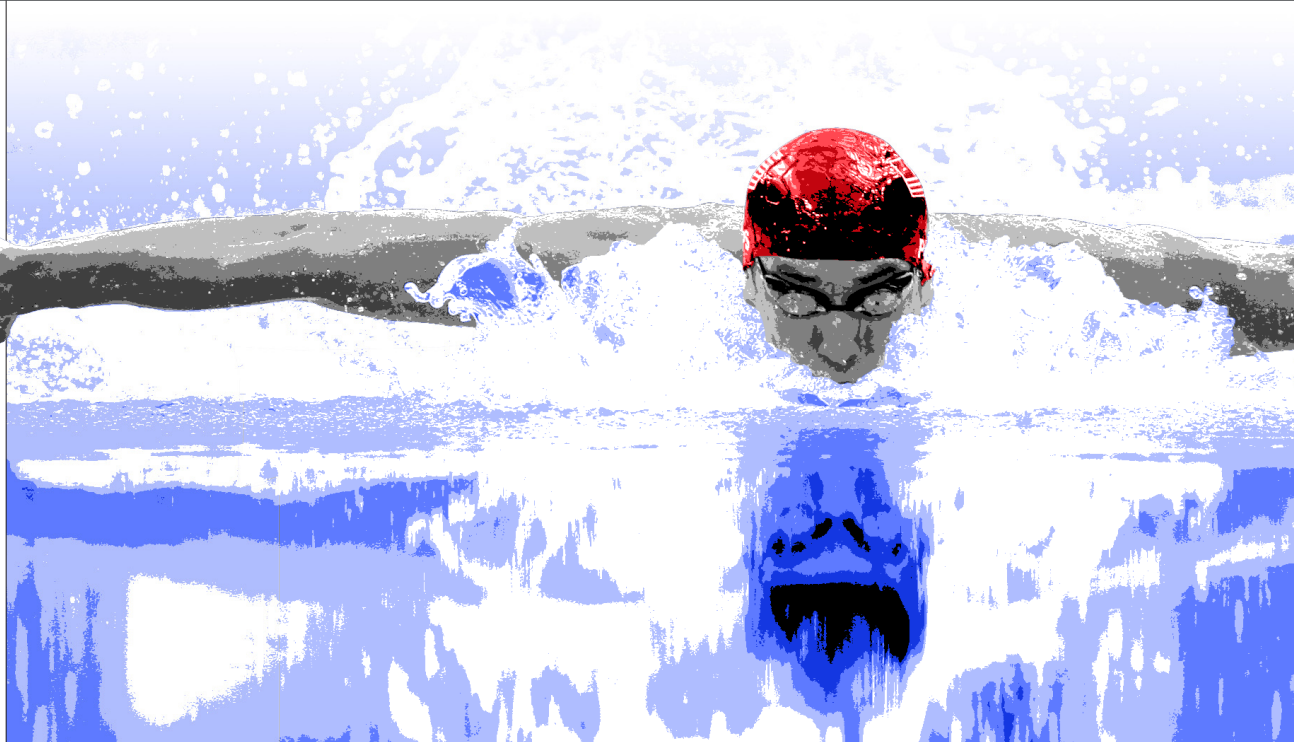
**4 a.m.:** Track & field: men's marathon, other finals; men's basketball gold-medal game; men's platform diving finals; boxing finals (taped), Telemundo

**Noon:** Men's water polo gold-medal game; rhythmic gymnastics; boxing finals (taped), NBC

**7 p.m.:** Men's volleyball gold-medal match;

**Closing ceremony**

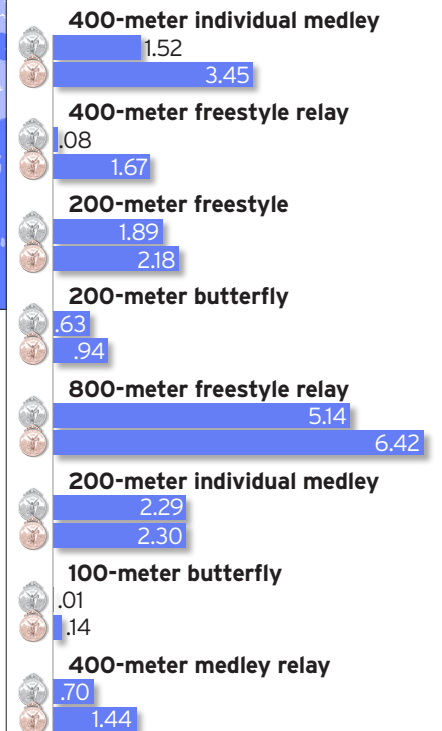
(taped), NBC



### HOW HE DID IT

Phelps' record-setting meet at the Olympics saw incredible comebacks, crushing blowouts and photo finishes. Here's a look at how he broke Mark Spitz's 36-year-old record of seven golds at a single Olympics by taking eight home from Beijing.

The margin of victory, in seconds, for Phelps and his U.S. teammates over the silver and bronze winners.



### THE 100M BUTTERFLY

With a time of 50.58 in the 100-meter butterfly, Phelps averaged a speed of 77.8 inches per second. At that rate, his .01-second victory over Milorad Cavic of Serbia would have been by .78 inches, though the actual margin of victory was likely even closer. The two competitors raced about the length of a football field and in the end were separated by the tips of their fingers.

.78 in.

### EIGHT-FOR-EIGHT

In Chinese culture, eight is a lucky number. It seems to be for Michael Phelps, too. He broke Mark's Spitz's gold medal record with eight. In the process, he set seven world records and now owns more Olympic golds (14) than anyone.

### PHELPS '08 vs. SPITZ '72

Phelps/team	Event	Spitz/team
Did not race	100M freestyle	51.22
1:42.96	200M freestyle	1:52.78
50:58	100M butterfly	54.27
1:52.03	200M butterfly	2:00.70
3:08.24	400M freestyle relay	3:26.42
6:58.56	800M freestyle relay	7:35.78
3:29.34	400M medley relay	3:48.16
1:54.23	200M IM	Did not race
4:03.84	400M IM	Did not race

### WHAT'S NEXT?

Phelps says he's going to write a book called "Built to Succeed" about his Olympic glory and how swimming has helped him cope in his personal life. It's reportedly due out in December.