

## 2011 USA WRESTLING MEDIA GUIDE

2011 World Champion  
Jordan Burroughs  
Freestyle - 74 kg

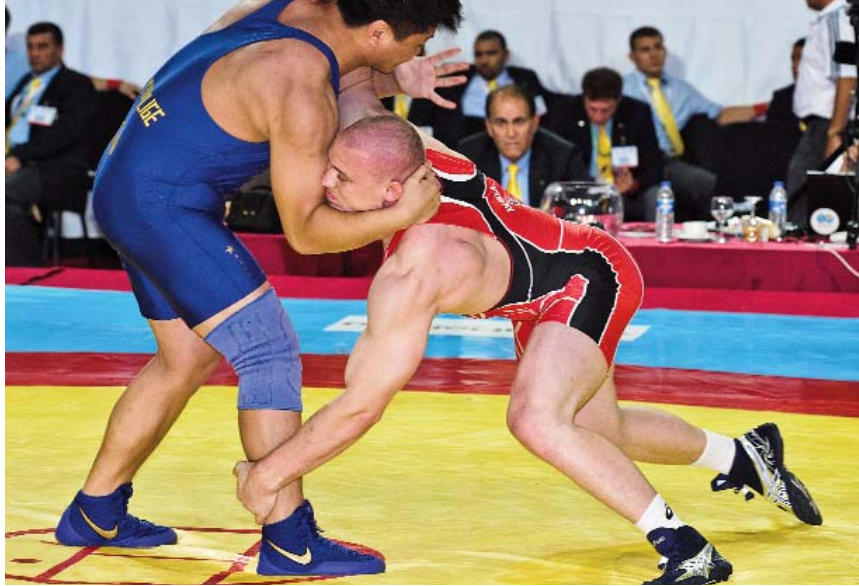


Pan American Games  
October 20-24, 2011  
Guadalajara, Mexico





## U.S. TEAM PREVIEW



World bronze medalist Jake Varner hits a leg attack during World Championships.

# U.S. team seeking medal haul

The U.S. will send 15 wrestlers to compete at the Pan American Games in Guadalajara, with six men's freestyle athletes, six Greco-Roman athletes and three women's freestyle athletes.

The U.S. men's freestyle team features four past World medalists, including 2011 World champion Jordan Burroughs at 74 kg.

Other past medalists in men's freestyle are 2009 World silver medalist Jake Herbert at 84 kg, 2011 World bronze medalist Jake Varner at 96 kg and 2009 World bronze medalist Tervel Dlagnev at 120 kg.

Rounding out the freestyle team are 2011 World Team members Nick Simmons at 55 kg and Teyon Ware at 66 kg.

The women's freestyle team features two past World medalists, 2008 World champion Clarissa Chun at 48 kg and 2010 World silver medalist Elena Pirozhkova at 63 kg. Chun placed fifth at the 2008

### PAN AMERICAN GAMES WRESTLING SCHEDULE

at CODE II Gymnasium

Thursday, October 20

Greco-Roman 55 kg, 66 kg, 84 kg, 120 kg

Friday, October 21

Greco-Roman 60 kg, 74 kg, 96 kg

Saturday, October 22

Women's freestyle: 48 kg, 55 kg, 63 kg, 72 kg

Sunday, October 23

Men's freestyle: 55 kg, 66 kg, 84 kg, 120 kg

Monday, October 24

Men's freestyle: 60 kg, 74 kg, 96 kg

Olympic Games. Also competing is three-time Junior World medalist Helen Maroulis at 55 kg.

Leading the U.S. Greco-Roman team are two members of the 2011 U.S. World Team, Joe Betterman at 60 kg and Cheney Haight at 84 kg.

Also competing are three runners-up at the 2011 World Team Trials, Glenn Garrison at 66 kg, Ben Provisor at 74 kg and Tim Taylor at 120 kg. Also entered in Greco-Roman is Team USA member Pete

Gounaridis at 96 kg

The U.S. did not qualify to compete at three weight classes, one in each style.

The last Pan American Championships were held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in July of 2007. U.S. champions were Greco-Roman athletes Justin Lester at 66 kg. Brad Vering at 94 kg and Justin Ruiz at 96 kg, women's freestyle athletes Sara McMann at 63 kg and Kristie Marano at 72 kg and men's freestyle athlete Henry Cejudo at 55 kg.



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES TEAM

### U.S. FREESTYLE PAN AMERICAN GAMES ROSTER

**55 kg/121 lbs.** – Nick Simmons, Corvallis, Ore. (Sunkist Kids)  
**66 kg/145.5 lbs.** – Teyon Ware, State College, Pa. (Nittany Lion WC)  
**74 kg/163 lbs.** – Jordan Burroughs, Sunkist Kids (Sunkist Kids)  
**84 kg/185 lbs.** – Jake Herbert, Ann Arbor, Mich. (New York AC)  
**96 kg/211.5 lbs.** – Jake Varner, State College, Pa. (Nittany Lion WC)  
**120 kg/264.5 lbs.** – Tervel Dlagnev, Columbus, Ohio (Sunkist Kids)  
**Coaches** – Zeke Jones (Colorado Springs, Colo.); Bruce Burnett (Annapolis, Md.), Lou Rosselli (Columbus, Ohio)  
**Team Leader** – Mike Novogratz, New York, N.Y.

## Nick Simmons

55 kg/121 lbs.

**Residence:** Corvallis, Ore.  
**Club:** Sunkist Kids  
**College:** Michigan State  
**High School:** Williamston (Mich.)  
**Born:** October 25, 1982  
**Height:** 5-10



**2011:** Fifth in 2011 World Championships... Fifth in Ziolkowski International... U.S. World Team Trials champion... Sixth in U.S. Open... Fourth in Dave Schultz Memorial International...  
**2010:** Third in New York AC International... Third in World Team Trials... Fifth in U.S. Open...  
**2009:** Second in U.S. World Team Trials... U.S. Nationals champion... Third in Alexander Medved  
**2008:** Third in U.S. Olympic Team Trials... Fourth in U.S. Nationals...  
**2007:** Fourth in U.S. World Team Trials... Second in U.S. Nationals...  
**2005:** Third in U.S. World Team Trials... Fifth in World University Games...  
**2004:** Sixth in U.S. Olympic Team Trials... Pan American Championships champion...  
**2003:** Fourth in Sunkist Kids International Open...  
**College:** Four-time All-American at Michigan State... Third in 2007 NCAA Tournament... Fourth in 2005 and 2006 NCAA Tournament... Seventh in 2003 NCAA Tournament...  
**High School:** Attended Williamston High School... Four-time state champion (1998-2001)...  
**Personal:** Son of Scott and Debi Simmons... Has two brothers, Andy and Brad... Scott and Andy also wrestled at Michigan State...

## Teyon Ware

66 kg/145.5 lbs.

**Residence:** State College, Pa.  
**Club:** Nittany Lion WC  
**College:** Oklahoma  
**High School:** Edmond North  
**Born:** Aug. 13, 1983  
**Height:** 5-6



**2011:** DNP in World Championships... U.S. World Team Trials champion... Second in Pan American Championships... U.S. Open champion...  
**2010:** Second in Hargobind International... Fifth in U.S. Open... Third in Cerro Pelado International...  
**2009:** Second in Hargobind International... Second in Sunkist Kids International Open...  
**2007:** Third in New York AC Holiday International... University Nationals champion...  
**2006:** Sixth in Sunkist Kids/ASU International Open... Seventh in U.S. Nationals...  
**College:** Attended Oklahoma, where he was a four-time NCAA All-American and two-time NCAA champion... Won NCAA titles in 2003 and 2005. Placed second at the 2006 NCAA Championships... Sixth at 2004 NCAAs.  
**High School:** Four-time state champion at Edmond North from 1999-2002... 132-0 career record... Coached by Rick Bollenbach... Lettered in football for three years... Named Student of the Year three times.  
**Age-group:** Two-time Junior Nationals champion in 2000 and 2001... Second in 2002 Junior Nationals...  
**Personal:** Son of Charles and Vickey Robinson... Mass communications major...



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES TEAM

### Jordan Burroughs

74 kg/163 lbs.

**Residence:** Lincoln, Neb.  
**Club:** Sunkist Kids  
**College:** Nebraska  
**High School:** Winslow Township (N.J.)  
**Born:** July 8, 1988  
**Height:** 5-9



**2011:** World Champion... Ukrainian Memorial champion... U.S. World Team Trials champion... U.S. Open champion...

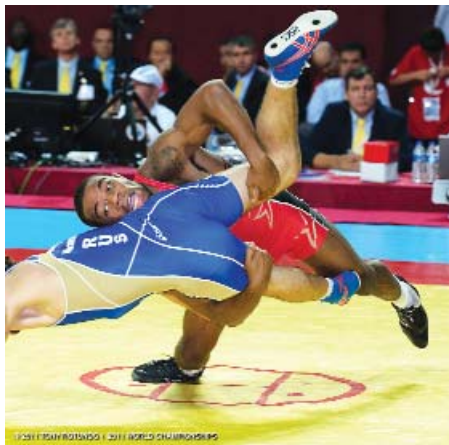
**2008:** 10th at Junior World Championships...

**2007:** University Nationals runner-up ...

**College:** 2009 and 2011 NCAA champion for Nebraska... 2011 Dan Hodge Trophy winner as nation's best college wrestler... Third in 2008 NCAA Championships... Outstanding Wrestler at 2008 Big 12 Championships... 2007 NCAA Qualifier... Coached by Mark Manning...

**High School:** 2006 New Jersey state champion at 135 pounds to cap a 35-2 senior season and a 115-20 career at Winslow Township High School... Ranked seventh in the nation among 135-pound high school wrestlers by InterMat... Three-time district champion and two-time regional champion for coach Rick Koss...

**Personal:** Has two sisters, Princess and Jenerra, and one brother, Leroy... Son of Janice Burroughs and Leroy Burroughs...



World champion Jordan Burroughs

### Jake Herbert

84 kg/185 lbs.

**Residence:** Ann Arbor, Mich.  
**Club:** New York AC  
**College:** Northwestern  
**High School:** North Allegheny (Pa.)  
**Born:** March 6, 1985  
**Height:** 5-11



**2011:** Second in U.S. World Team Trials... U.S. Open champion... Fifth in Ivan Yarygin Memorial...

**2010:** Second in Henri Deglane Challenge... New York AC International champion... DNP in World Championships... Second in Heydar Aliyev Golden Grand Prix... U.S. World Team Trials champion... U.S. Open champion... Second in Cerro Pelado International...

**2009:** Second in New York AC International Open... World silver medalist... U.S. World Team Trials champion... U.S. Nationals champion...

**2008:** Bronze medalist at World University Championships... Fifth in Alexander Medved International... Dave Schultz Memorial International champion...

**2007:** Hargobind International (Canada) champion... Second in Sunkist Kids International Open...

**2006:** Bronze medalist at World University Championships... University Nationals champion...

**College:** Four-time All-American at Northwestern University, where he was coached by Tim Cysewski... 2007 and 2009 NCAA Champion... 2009 Hodge Trophy winner... 2009 Big Ten Male Athlete of the Year... Took an Olympic Redshirt in 2008... Second in 2006 NCAA Championships... Third in 2005 NCAA Championships... Three-time Big Ten champion in 2006, 2007 and 2009... Earned a degree in Communications...

**High School:** 2003 Pennsylvania state champion for North Allegheny High School... Placed all four years at state meet ... Three-time conference champion ... Two-time Powerade champion ... Two-time Allegheny County Champion, winning Most Falls award ... Competed in Dapper Dan Wrestling Classic and Dream Team Classic ... Compiled 141-18 overall record ... Honor Roll student senior year, also won Concept of Physics Student of the Year award...

**Personal:** Son of Jim and Kelly Herbert...



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES TEAM

### Jake Varner 96 kg/211.5 lbs.

**Residence:** State College, Pa.  
**Club:** Nittany Lion WC  
**College:** Iowa State  
**High School:** Bakersfield (Calif.)  
**Born:** March 24, 1986  
**Height:** 6-1

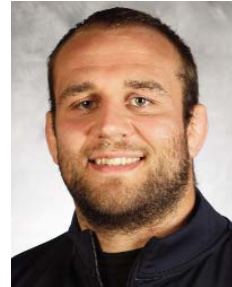


**2011:** World bronze medalist... Ion Corneanu Memorial champion... U.S. World Team Trials champion... U.S. Open champion... Fifth in Ivan Yarygin Memorial...  
**2010:** Second in New York AC International... Second in World Team Trials... Second in U.S. Open...  
**2009:** U.S. World Team Trials champion... U.S. Nationals champion...  
**2008:** Third in U.S. Olympic Team Trials... Seventh in U.S. Nationals...  
**USA Age-group:** 2005 FILA Junior World Team member... Third in 2004 Junior Nationals in freestyle...  
**College:** 2009 and 2010 NCAA champion for Iowa State... Second in 2007 and 2008 NCAA Championships... 2008 and 2010 Big 12 champion...  
**High School:** Two-time California high-school state champion... Outstanding wrestler at 2005 California state tournament... Career record of 159-10 with 132 falls...  
**Personal:** Son of Steve and Renee Varner...



### Tervel Dlagnev 120 kg/264.5 lbs.

**Residence:** Columbus, Ohio  
**Club:** Sunkist Kids  
**College:** Nebraska-Kearney  
**High School:** Arlington (Texas)  
**Born:** Nov. 19, 1985  
**Height:** 6-2



**2011:** Fifth in World Championships... Third in Ziolkowski International... Fifth in Ukrainian Wrestlers Memorial International... U.S. World Team Trials champion... U.S. Open champion... Third in Alexander Medved International... Buryatia Republic President's Cup champion... Third in Ivan Yarygin Memorial...  
**2010:** New York AC International champion... Second in Habibi & Movahed Cup... Second in Heydar Aliyev Golden Grand Prix... Second in U.S. World Team Trials... Pan American Championships gold medalist... Second in U.S. Open... Alexander Medved International champion...  
**2009:** New York AC International Open champion... World bronze medalist... Heydar Aliyev Golden Grand Prix champion... U.S. World Team Trials champion... Second in U.S. Nationals... Third in Takhti Cup... Ukrainian Memorial International champion... Second in Dan Kolov International...  
**2008:** New York AC International champion... World University champion... Third in U.S. Nationals...  
**2007:** Sunkist Kids International Open champion... Fourth in U.S. Nationals...  
**2006:** Second in Northern Plains Regional...  
**College:** 2007 and 2008 NCAA Division II champion at Nebraska-Kearney, where he was coached by Marc Bauer... Led UNK to Division II national team title in 2008, the first in school history... 2006 Midlands champion... Placed second in 2006 NCAA Division II tournament and placed sixth in 2005...  
**High School:** Third in Texas state tournament in 2003... Fourth in state tournament in 2002 in just his second year of wrestling...  
**Personal:** Son of Ivaylo and Igrena Dlagnev... Has one sister, Kassie... He and his wife, Kirsten, were married on May 8, 2010... Moved to the United States from Bulgaria when he was four years old...



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES TEAM

### Zeke Jones National Coach

Jones was named the National Freestyle Coach for USA Wrestling in September 2008.

The 2011 U.S. World Team placed third in the team standings, with champion Jordan Burroughs and two medalists under his leadership.

Jones previously spent three seasons as the head coach at the University of Pennsylvania. Jones coached Penn's Matt Valenti to back-to-back NCAA titles in 2006 and 2007.

Jones was an Olympic Freestyle Coach for the 2004 U.S. Olympic Team, which competed in Athens, Greece. The U.S. won three medals in Athens, with a gold by Cael Sanderson and silvers by Stephen Abas and Jamill Kelly.

Jones served as head coach for the American team at the 2001 World Championships. The U.S. placed fifth in the team standings and featured a pair of silver medalists. Jones was the head coach for a pair of U.S. teams that won championships at the World Cup. He was named National Freestyle Coach of the Year by USA Wrestling.

Jones was head coach of the 2003 Pan American Games team, which won the team title and captured four individual gold medals. He also was on the U.S. coaching staff for the 1996 and 2000 Olympic Games.

Jones had an outstanding career at the international level. He won a gold medal at the 1991 World Championships. Jones also claimed a silver medal at the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona, Spain. He added a bronze medal at the 1995 World Championships. He placed fourth in the 1990 and 1993 World Championships. He was a member of the U.S. squads that won World team titles in 1993 and 1995.

Jones, a four-time World Cup champion, is a Distinguished Member of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. Jones was voted "World's Most Technical Wrestler" by FILA.

Jones wrestled on the 1988 NCAA Championship team at Arizona State, where he was a NCAA finalist and was a three-time All-American for the Sun Devils.

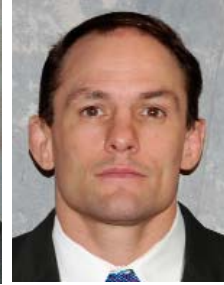
Jones and his wife, Renee, have four children, Jessica, David, Rebecca and Jacob.



### Pan American Games Coaches



**Bruce Burnett**



**Lou Rosselli**

#### **Bruce Burnett, Annapolis, Md.**

- Head coach at U.S. Naval Academy, 2000-present
- USA Wrestling National Freestyle Coach, 1992-2000
- U.S. won 1993 and 1995 World Team titles under his leadership
- Coached at 1996 and 2000 Olympic Games, winning nine medals
- USA Wrestling National Developmental Coach, 1990-1992
- 2010 University World Championships Team coach
- 2005 World University Games Team coach
- Two-time USA Wrestling Freestyle Coach of the Year and 1996 USOC Coach of the Year
- Assistant Coach at Oklahoma State Univ. from 1987-1990, where he helped lead the Cowboys to two NCAA team titles
- Head Coach at Meridian High School in Idaho, from 1974-87. Career record of 154-13-2 (.923 winning percentage) with four state team championships.

#### **Lou Rosselli, Columbus, Ohio**

- 2006 and 2007 U.S. World Team Coach
- Coach of 2012 U.S. World University Championships Team
- Assistant coach of 2005 World University Games Team
- Coach of 2009 Pan American Championships team
- 2007 USA Wrestling Freestyle Coach of the Year
- Coach at the Ohio Regional Training Center in Columbus, Ohio
- Club coach with the New York Athletic Club
- Associate Head Coach at The Ohio State University, on staff five years
- 2009 NWCA Assistant Coach of the Year
- 11 seasons as an assistant coach at Edinboro Univ.
- Member of 1996 U.S. Olympic Team in freestyle at 52 kg
- U.S. National freestyle champion three times (1995, 1996, 1999)



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES TEAM

### Clarissa Chun 48 kg/105.5 lbs.

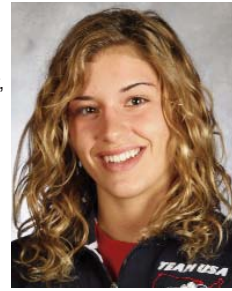
**Residence:** Colorado Springs, Colo.  
**Club:** Sunkist Kids  
**College:** UCCS, Missouri Valley  
**High School:** Honolulu, Hawaii (Roosevelt)  
**Born:** Aug. 27, 1981  
**Height:** 4-11



**2011:** Seventh in World Championships... Poland Open champion... U.S. World Team Trials champion... U.S. Open champion...  
**2010:** Second in U.S. World Team Trials...  
**2009:** Ninth in World Championships... U.S. World Team Trials champion... U.S. Nationals champion...  
**2008:** World champion... U.S. World Team Trials champion... Fifth in Olympic Games... U.S. Olympic Team Trials champion... Fourth in U.S. Nationals...  
**2007:** Fourth in U.S. World Team Trials... Third in U.S. Nationals... Second in New York AC International... Sunkist Kids International champion...  
**2006:** U.S. Nationals champion... Second in New York AC International...  
**2005:** Third in U.S. World Team Trials... Sunkist Kids International champion...  
**2004:** Second in U.S. Olympic Team Trials... Second in U.S. Nationals... Fourth in World Cup...  
**2003:** Second in U.S. World Team Trials... Second in U.S. Nationals...  
**2002:** Second in U.S. World Team Trials... Fourth in U.S. Nationals... Third in Pan Am Championships...  
**2001:** Second in U.S. World Team Trials... Third in U.S. Nationals... Sunkist Kids International champion... Second in Pan Am Championships...  
**2000:** DNP in World Championships... Second in Pan Am Championships... Second in U.S. Nationals... Eighth in Junior World Championships...  
**College:** Graduated from the Univ. of Colorado-Colorado Springs... Competed for Missouri Valley College...  
**Personal:** Daughter of Bryan and Gail Chun... Has one brother, Shawn... Former U.S. Olympic Training Center resident-athlete... Hobbies include surfing... Also participated in judo...

### Helen Maroulis 55 kg/121 lbs.

**Residence:** Rockville, Md.  
**Club:** New York AC  
**College:** Simon Fraser, Missouri Baptist  
**High School:** Marquette (Mich.); Colonel Zadock Magruder (Md.)  
**Born:** Sept. 19, 1991  
**Height:** 5-3



**2011:** Fifth in World Championships... Second in Junior World Championships... U.S. World Team Trials champion... U.S. Open champion... Third in Grand Prix of Tourcoing... Third in Dave Schultz Memorial International...  
**2010:** Third in Open Cup of Russia... New York AC International champion... Hargobind International champion... Third in Junior World Championships... Canada Cup champion... Second in U.S. World Team Trials... FILA Junior Nationals champion... Second in U.S. Open... Third in Klippan Open... Second in Dave Schultz Memorial International...  
**2009:** Third in U.S. World Team Trials... FILA Junior Nationals champion... Third in Pan American Championships... U.S. Nationals champion... Third in Dave Schultz Memorial International...  
**2008:** Eighth in World Championships... U.S. World Team Trials champion... Third in Junior World Championships... Second in U.S. Nationals... FILA Junior World Team Trials champion... Junior Nationals champion...  
**2007:** Junior Nationals champion... FILA Cadet Nationals champion...  
**College:** Attends Simon Fraser Univ. in Canada, where she was coached by Mike Jones... Previously attended Missouri Baptist Univ., where she is coached by Brian Jackson... 2010 and 2011 WCWA women's college national champion...  
**High School:** Spent her senior year of high school in Marquette, Mich., after joining the U.S. Olympic Education Center at Northern Michigan University... Placed sixth in the Maryland state tournament...  
**Personal:** Daughter of John and Paula Maroulis...



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES TEAM

### Elena Pirozhkova

63 kg/138.75 lbs.

**Residence:** Colorado Springs, Colo.

**Club:** Gator WC

**High School:** Greenfield (Mass.)

**Born:** Oct. 13, 1986

**Height:** 5-5



**2011:** Fifth in World Championships... U.S. World Team Trials champion... U.S.

Open champion... Third in Grand Prix of Tourcoing... Third in Dave Schultz Memorial International...

**2010:** Second in New York AC International... World University champion... Second in World Championships... Third in Heydar Aliyev Golden Grand Prix... Canada Cup champion... U.S. World Team Trials champion... Pan American Championships gold medalist... U.S. Open champion...

**2009:** New York AC International Open champion... Seventh in World Championships... Poland Open champion... U.S. World Team Trials champion... Pan American Championships gold medalist... U.S. Nationals champion... Ukrainian Memorial International champion... Dave Schultz Memorial International champion... Second in Guelph Open...

**2008:** New York AC International champion... Hargobind International champion... Eighth in World Championships... U.S. World Team Trials champion... World University champion... Fourth in U.S.

Nationals... Pan American Championships gold medalist...

**2007:** Third in New York AC Holiday International...

Hargobind International (Canada) champion... Second in Sunkist Kids International Open... Second in U.S. World Team Trials... Second in U.S. Nationals... Second in Pan American Championships...

**2006:** Second in Henri Deglane Challenge... Third in Clansmen International... Sunkist Kids/ASU International Open champion... Second in Dave Schultz Memorial Open...

**High School:** Attended Greenfield High School in Massachusetts... 2005 ASICS High School All-American Second Team member... 2005 USGWA National champion... Third in 2003 and 2004 USGWA Nationals...

**Personal:** Daughter of Sergey and Tatyana Pirozhkova... U.S. Olympic Training Center resident-athlete... Native of Russia, she moved to the USA as a small child... Has eight siblings: Natalia, Viktor, Alex, Olga, Marina, Nina, Rita and Maxim...



### U.S. WOMEN'S PAN AMERICAN GAMES ROSTER

**48 kg/105.5 lbs.** – Clarissa Chun, Colorado Springs, Colo. (Sunkist Kids)

**55 kg/121 lbs.** – Helen Maroulis, Rockville, Md. (New York AC)

**63 kg/138.75 lbs.** – Elena Pirozhkova, Colorado Springs, Colo. (Gator WC)

**Coaches** – Terry Steiner (Colorado Springs, Colo.); Billy Wood (Pocatello, Idaho)

**Team Leader** – Kim Martori-Wickey (Phoenix, Ariz.)



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES TEAM

### Terry Steiner National Coach

Steiner was named USA Wrestling's full-time National Women's Coach in April 2002, the first in USA Wrestling's history.

He is responsible for the training of America's elite women freestyle wrestlers, as well as coaching women wrestlers who are involved in the U.S. Olympic Training Center resident athlete program..



For the first time, women's wrestlers competed in the Olympic Games in 2004. Sara McMann won a silver medal and Patricia Miranda won a bronze medal in the 2004 Athens Olympics.

Since becoming USA Wrestling's National Women's Coach, U.S. teams on international tours have turned in outstanding performances.

At the 2003 World Championships in New York, all seven U.S. women won medals. Kristie Marano won a gold medal for the U.S. as it tied Japan for the team title.

Steiner also led the U.S. to the title at the 2003 World Cup, where the Americans defeated host Japan to capture the title.

Steiner also guided two other U.S. athletes to World titles - Iris Smith in 2005 and Clarissa Chun in 2008.

The 2011 U.S. World Team placed in a tie for third in the standings with two medalists.

Steiner worked six years as an assistant wrestling coach at Wisconsin. He helped develop a number of top wrestlers, including two-time NCAA champion Donny Pritzlaff. He also spent two years as an assistant coach at Oregon State.

Steiner placed second in the 1998 U.S. Nationals. He finished fourth in the 1996 Olympic Trials and fifth in the 2000 Olympic Trials. He won a gold medal at the 1996 Pan American Championships.

Steiner was a 1993 NCAA champion for the University of Iowa, where he wrestled for Dan Gable. He was named Outstanding Wrestler of the 1993 NAAs.

He finished his college career as a three-time All-American for the Hawkeyes. He received his bachelor's degree in social work from the University of Iowa in 1993.

Steiner, originally from Bismarck, N.D., won two state high school titles for Century High School. Steiner and his wife, Jodi, have one daughter, Raven.

### Pan American Games Coach



**Billy Wood**

#### **Billy Wood, Pocatello, Idaho**

- 2009 Junior Pan American Championships coach
- 2006 Senior World Cup coach
- 2005 Cadet World Team coach to Austria
- Has coached Senior international tours to Sweden and Ukraine
- NCEP Gold Certified Coach in 2005, the highest level of coaching achievement
- Has been involved with the Women's program with USA Wrestling going back to its inception
- Assists women's program with publicity and information projects
- Currently women's director for USA Wrestling in Idaho
- Previous served as women's director for USA Wrestling in Hawaii for many years
- Former Vice-Chairperson for USA Wrestling Hawaii
- Mat referee with an M-1 national ranking
- Coached with Castle High School (1999-2005)
- Wrestled in high school at Pocatello High School, and a year in college at Ricks College

#### **Media Guide photos by:**

**Tony Rotundo,  
Larry Slater,  
John Sachs,  
and Tom Kimmell.**



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES TEAM

### U.S. GRECO-ROMAN PAN AMERICAN GAMES ROSTER

**60 kg/132 lbs.** – Joe Betterman, Colorado Springs, Colo. (Sunkist Kids)  
**66 kg/145 lbs.** – Glenn Garrison, Colorado Springs, Colo. (U.S. Army)  
**74 kg/163 lbs.** – Ben Provisor, Colorado Springs, Colo. (Sunkist Kids)  
**84 kg/185 lbs.** – Cheney Haight, Boise, Idaho (New York AC)  
**96 kg/211.5 lbs.** – Pete Gounaridis, Leominster, Mass. (Sunkist Kids)  
**120 kg/264.5 lbs.** – Timothy Taylor, Colorado Springs, Colo. (U.S. Army)  
**Coaches** – Steve Fraser (Colorado Springs, Colo.); Shon Lewis (Colorado Springs, Colo.), John Matthews (Phoenix, Ariz.)  
**Team Leader** – Dave Barry (Hoboken, N.J.)

### Joe Betterman

60 kg/132 lbs.

**Residence:** Colorado Springs, Colo.  
**Club:** Sunkist Kids  
**College:** Northern Michigan  
**High School:** Lakeview (Ill.)  
**Born:** July 12, 1984  
**Height:** 5-3



**2011:** DNP at World Championships... U.S. World Team Trials champion... U.S. Open champion... Dave Schultz Memorial champion...  
**2010:** Third in U.S. World Team Trials...  
**2009:** Third in U.S. World Team Trials... U.S. Nationals champion... Dave Schultz champion...  
**2008:** U.S. Olympic Team Trials champion... Second in U.S. Nationals...  
**2007:** DNP in World Championships... Second in U.S. World Team Trials... Second in U.S. Nationals...  
**2006:** Third in U.S. Nationals  
**2005:** Third in U.S. World Team Trials... Fifth in U.S. Nationals...  
**2004:** Sixth in U.S. Nationals...  
**2003:** Second in New York AC International... Third in Sunkist Kids International...  
**College:** Attended Northern Michigan Univ., as a member of the U.S. Olympic Education Center program  
**High School:** Attended Lakeview High School... Sixth in 2002 state tournament...  
**Personal:** Son of Julie Betterman and Jeff Gillman (deceased)... Married to women's wrestler Deanna Rix... Has one sister, Lacy... Hobbies include playing sports...

### Glenn Garrison

66 kg/145.5 lbs.

**Residence:** Colorado Springs, Colo.  
**Club:** U.S. Army  
**College:** Montana State-Northern, Clackamas CC, Portland State  
**High School:** Beaverton, Ore.  
**Born:** March 25, 1974  
**Height:** 5-8



**2011:** Second in U.S. World Team Trials... Second in U.S. Open... Fourth in Dave Schultz Memorial International...  
**2010:** Third in New York AC International... Second in Sunkist Kids International Open... Second at U.S. World Team Trials... U.S. Open champion... Second in Dave Schultz Memorial International...  
**2009:** Third in Sunkist Kids International Open... Second in U.S. World Team Trials... Fourth in U.S. Nationals... Grand Prix of Slovenia champ...  
**2008:** Second in U.S. Olympic Team Trials... Third in U.S. Nationals...  
**2007:** Second in Pan American Championships... U.S. Nationals champion...  
**2006:** Third in U.S. World Team Trials... Third in U.S. Nationals... Armed Forces champion  
**2005:** Third in CISM World Military Championships... Second in U.S. World Team Trials... Third in U.S. Nationals... Armed Forces champion...  
**2004:** Third in World Cup... New York AC Christmas International champion... Second in Sunkist Kids International Open... Fourth in U.S. Olympic Team Trials... Fourth in U.S. Nationals... Armed Forces champion...



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES TEAM

### Ben Provisor 74 kg/163 lbs.

**Residence:** Colorado Springs, Colo.  
**Club:** Sunkist Kids  
**High School:** Stevens Point (Wis.)  
**Born:** June 26, 1990  
**Height:** 5-9



**2011:** Second in U.S. World Team Trials... U.S. Open champion... Third in Granma Cup... Third in Dave Schultz Memorial International...  
**2010:** DNP in Junior World Championships... Fourth in New York AC International... Fourth in Sunkist Kids International... Sirakov-Iliev Junior International champion (Bulgaria)... Seventh in U.S. Open...  
**2009:** Third in New York AC International Open... Seventh in U.S. Nationals... Pan American Junior champion in both styles...  
**2008:** DNP in Junior World Championships... Junior World Team Trials champion...  
**High School:** Attended Stevens Point High School, where he was a four-time state qualifier with a 158-14 record...  
**USA Age group:** 2008, 2009 and 2010 FILA Junior World Team Trials champion... Second in 2010 FILA Junior Nationals... 2008 and 2009 FILA Junior Nationals champion... Third in 2007 FILA Junior Nationals... 2006 Junior Nationals champion...  
**Personal:** Son of Dennis and Tammy Provisor. Ben has two sisters, Melissa & Kayla. Ben likes to fish, disc golf, golf and spend time with his family and friends.



### Cheney Haight 84 kg/185 lbs.

**Residence:** Boise, Idaho  
**Club:** New York AC  
**College:** Northern Michigan  
**High School:** Orem, Utah (Timpanogos)  
**Born:** Dec. 27, 1984  
**Height:** 5-10



**2011:** DNP in World Championships... U.S. World Team Trials champion... Second in U.S. Open... Fifth in Granma Cup... Fifth in Dave Schultz Memorial International...  
**2010:** New York AC International champion... Sunkist Kids International Open champion... Third in Pan American Championships... U.S. Open champion... Second in Granma Cup... Second in Dave Schultz Memorial International...  
**2009:** Sunkist Kids International Open champion... Fourth in U.S. World Team Trials... Third in U.S. Nationals... Third in Gedza International... Second in Dave Schultz Memorial International...  
**2008:** Second in New York AC International... Second in U.S. Olympic Team Trials... Fourth in U.S. Nationals... Seventh in World University Championships...  
**2007:** Third in New York AC Holiday International... Sunkist Kids International Open champion... Third in U.S. Nationals...  
**2006:** New York AC Holiday International Open champion... Sunkist Kids International Open champion... Fifth in U.S. Nationals... Second in Dave Schultz Memorial International...  
**2005:** Second in New York AC Holiday Championships... Third in Sunkist Kids International Open... University World Team Trials champion... Second in University Nationals... Ninth in Petrov International (Bulgaria)...  
**2004:** Fifth in New York AC Christmas International... Seventh in University Nationals... Second in FILA Junior World Team Trials... North Regional champion...  
**College:** Attended Northern Michigan Univ., where he was a member of the U.S. Olympic Education program...  
**High School:** Attended Timpanogos High School... Three-time state champion (2001-03)...  
**Personal:** Son of Andrew and Linda Beckman... Has two brothers, Bo Beckman and Cody Haight, and two sisters, Brienne Beckman and Tawni Beckman... Hobbies include snowboarding...



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES TEAM

### Pete Gounaridis

96 kg/211.5 lbs.

**Residence:** Leominster, Mass.

**Club:** Sunkist Kids

**College:** Northern Michigan

**High School:**

Leominster (Mass.)

**Born:** Jan. 26, 1987

**Height:** 6-3



**2011:** Third in U.S. World Team Trials...

**2010:** Fifth in Haparanda Cup... Second in New York AC International... Second in Sunkist Kids International Open... Seventh in U.S. Open... Fifth in Gedza International...

**2009:** Third in New York AC International Open... Fifth in Sunkist Kids International Open... Second in U.S. World Team Trials... Sixth in U.S. Nationals... Fifth in Grand Prix of Slovenia... Fifth in Dave Schultz Memorial International...

**2008:** Third in New York AC International... Seventh in U.S. Nationals...

**2007:** Third in Sunkist Kids International Open... Second in University Nationals... Second in FILA Junior Nationals...

**2006:** Third in FILA Junior Nationals...

**College:** Attends Northern Michigan as part of the USOEC...

**High School:** Attended Leominster Senior High...Fifth in 2005 Massachusetts State Championship...

**Personal:** Son of Anastasios Gounaridis and Elaine and Mike Thompson...Has one sister, Christina Gounaridis, and one step-brother, Brad Thompson...Hobbies include working on cars...

### Timothy Taylor

120 kg/264.5 lbs.

**Residence:** Colorado Springs, Colo.

**Club:** U.S. Army

**High School:** Clearfield, Pa.

**Born:** July 9, 1982

**Height:** 6-2



**2011:** Second in U.S. World Team Trials... Second in U.S. Open...

**2010:** Third in Haparanda Cup... Second in U.S. World Team Trials... Third in U.S. Open... Fifth in Dave Schultz Memorial International...

**2009:** Fourth in Sunkist Kids International Open... Sixth in U.S. Nationals... Fifth in Grand Prix of Slovenia...

**2008:** Second in U.S. Olympic Team Trials... Third in U.S. Nationals...

**2007:** Fifth in Haparanda Cup... Second in Vantaa Cup... Second in New York AC Holiday International... Third in U.S. World Team Trials... Second in U.S. Nationals... Armed Forces Champion...

**2006:** Northern Plains Senior Regional Champion... Armed Forces Champion...

**2002:** Fourth in Armed Forces Championship...

**High School:** Attended Clearfield High School where he was coached by Mike Gill and Scott Collins...Fifth in 2000 and 1999 State Championship

**Personal:** Son of Tim and Carmella Taylor...Has two brothers, Rob and Cory...Hobbies include fishing...

## Covering USA Wrestling at the Pan American Games

The press officer for wrestling is Gary Abbott,  
Director of Communications for USA Wrestling.

Nextel number in Guadalajara: 104\*1192\*5

U.S. cell phone: 719-659-9637

E-mail: [gabbott@usawrestling.org](mailto:gabbott@usawrestling.org)

Gary will be onsite at the CODE II Gymnasium to assist in all ways.

Find updates on the USOC Pressbox.

Additional coverage will be found at USA Wrestling's website  
TheMat.com ([www.themat.com](http://www.themat.com))



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES TEAM

### Steve Fraser National Coach

Fraser joined USA Wrestling as the National Greco-Roman Coach in October 1995.

Fraser led the U.S. to its only team title in World Championships history when the Americans captured the title in 2007 in Baku, Azerbaijan. Brad Vering (silver), Harry Lester (bronze) and Dremiel Byers (bronze) each won medals as the U.S. edged Russia by one point for the team title.



Fraser also was in the corner when Rulon Gardner shocked the World by knocking off three-time Olympic champion Alexander Karelin in the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia. Karelin was unbeaten in international competition before suffering a loss to Gardner in the Olympic finals. Gardner also won an Olympic bronze medal in 2004 in Athens, Greece.

Fraser coached Gardner to a World title in 2001, and also helped guide Dremiel Byers (2002) and Joe Warren (2006) to World titles.

Fraser won a gold medal for the U.S. at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. He became the first U.S. wrestler to win an Olympic title in Greco-Roman wrestling. He beat three-time World champion Frank Andersson of Sweden en route to winning his Olympic title.

He also was a member of the 1979 and 1982 U.S. World Teams. He won a gold medal at the 1983 Pan American Games.

Fraser was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1994.

He was named USA Wrestling Athlete of the Year in 1984, and was a finalist for the James E. Sullivan Award that year.

He was a two-time All-American for the University of Michigan. He earned a bachelor's degree in physical education in 1980.

He was a Michigan state high school champion for Hazel Park High School.

Fraser was an assistant coach at the University of Michigan from 1980-87, and at Eastern Michigan from 1987-93. He also coached the Michigan Wrestling Club for 10 years.

He has three children, Kellen, Kerrin and Hannah.

### Pan American Games Coaches



Shon Lewis



John Matthews

#### Shon Lewis, Colorado Springs, Colo.

- Coach of 2004 U.S. Olympic Team in Athens, Greece
- Head coach of 2003 U.S. Greco-Roman World Team
- Assistant coach of 2002 U.S. Greco-Roman World Team
- Member of 2008 Olympic coaching staff, 2006 and 2007 U.S. World Team staffs
- Personal coach of 2002 World champion Dremiel Byers
- Coach of 2006 Pan American Championships team
- Three-time USA Wrestling Greco-Roman Coach of the Year
- Coach of U.S. Army team, which has won the U.S. Open title the last four years and the Armed Forces title nine of the last 10 years.
- Five-time CISM World Military Team coach
- Three-time U.S. World Team member as a Greco-Roman athlete

#### John Matthews, Phoenix, Ariz.

- 2003 USA Wrestling Developmental Coach of the Year
- Has served many years as Arizona's State Greco-Roman Developmental Coach
- 2007 Junior World Team Coach
- 2005 Junior World Team Coach
- Coach of Senior tour team to Poland and Bulgaria
- Member of 1976 and 1980 U.S. Olympic Teams as a Greco-Roman athlete
- Placed fourth in 1978 World Championships
- Five-time U.S. World Team member
- 1979 Pan American Games champion
- Coaches at Desert Vista High School in Arizona
- Coaches with the Thunder Wrestling Club
- Assistant coach at Central Michigan Univ., 1974-79
- NCAA All-American and Mid-American conference champion for Central Michigan
- USA Wrestling national champion on the Veterans level



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES ENTRIES

From official Pan Am website, as of October 14  
(listed by style, weight class and nation, with birth-  
date by day/month/year)

### Greco-Roman

#### 55 kg/121 lbs.

Brazil - Rafael Pascoa, 28/04/1990  
Colombia - Juan Carlos Lopez, 25/07/1989  
Cuba - Gustavo Eddy Balart, 10/02/1987  
Dominican Republic - Francisco Antonio Encarnacion,  
14/04/1989  
México - Ildefonso Arangure, 14/01/1984  
Nicaragua - Alberto Mendieta, 22/09/1993  
Perú - Cristhian Paravecino, 09/11/1988  
Venezuela - Jorge Cardoza, 26/08/1978

#### 60 kg/132 lbs.

Brazil - Diego Romanelli, 23/03/1991  
Colombia - Yesid Alfredo Meneses, 25/04/1983  
Cuba - Hanser Lenier Meoque, 24/10/1987  
Dominican Republic - Jansel Rafael Ramirez,  
25/09/1983  
México - Manuel Alejandro Lopez, 28/06/1986  
Puerto Rico - German Diaz, 5/10/1992  
United States - Joe Betterman, 12/07/1984  
Venezuela - Luis Liendo, 25/11/1980

#### 66 kg/145.5 lbs.

Argentina - Francisco Albano Barrio, 22/07/1988  
Canadá - Shawn Kenneth Daye, 24/08/1990  
Colombia - Ivan De Jesus Duque, 21/05/1987  
Cuba - Pedro Isaac Mulens, 22/12/1985  
Dominican Republic - Anyelo Alberto Mota Brea,  
14/09/1972  
Ecuador - Vicente Orlando Huacon, 05/04/1989  
Honduras - Jefrin Mejia, 04/07/1992  
México - Ulises Ivan Barragan, 24/08/1985  
Venezuela - Manuel Torres, 20/01/1987  
United States - Glenn Garrison, 25/03/1974

#### 74 kg/163 lbs.

Colombia - Jose Uber Escobar, 01/10/1975  
Cuba - Jorgisbell Alvarez, 08/02/1985  
Dominican Republic - Hansel Joel Mercedes Martinez,  
12/01/1984  
México - Juan Angel Escobar, 18/08/1987  
Perú - Sixto Cesar Barrera, 17/09/1983  
Puerto Rico - Otoniel Perez, 03/02/1982  
United States - Ben Provisor, 26/06/1990

#### 84 kg/185 lbs.

Brazil - Marcelo Gomes, 27/12/1980  
Canadá - Eric William Fuenekes, 03/03/1989  
Colombia - Cristian Ferney Mosquera, 06/07/1980  
Cuba - Pablo Enrique Shorey, 04/12/1983  
Dominican Republic - Jose Antonio Arias Paredes,  
27/12/1984  
México - Jose Antonio Mendoza, 07/04/1984  
United States - Cheney Haight, 27/12/1984  
Venezuela - Yorgen Cova, 19/02/1988

#### 96 kg/211.5 lbs.

Argentina - Yuri Alexei Maier, 05/04/1989  
Canadá - Korey Jarvis, 04/10/1986  
Colombia - Raul Andres Angulo, 03/09/1977  
Cuba - Yuniur Estrada, 3/09/1986  
Honduras - Randy Lambert, 08/03/1990  
México - Joel Mauricio Lopez, 13/07/1991  
United States - Pete Gounaridis, 26/01/1987  
Venezuela - Erwin Caraballo, 21/07/1981

#### 120 kg/264.5 lbs.

Colombia - Victor Alfonso Asprilla, 17/03/1987  
Cuba - Mijain Lopez, 20/08/1982  
Dom. Rep. - Ramon Antonio Garcia, 10/11/1987  
Ecuador - Romel Mesias Maza, 28/04/1988  
México - Orlando Ramirez, 27/12/1988  
Puerto Rico - Edgardo Lopez, 07/06/1991  
United States - Timothy Taylor, 09/07/1982  
Venezuela - Rafael Barreno, 25/08/1979

### Women's freestyle

#### 48 kg/105.5 lbs.

Argentina - Patricia Alejandra Bermudez, 05/02/1987  
Canadá - Carol Huynh, 16/11/1980  
Colombia - Carolina Castillo, 04/11/1990  
Ecuador - Luisa Elizabeth Valverde, 04/07/1991  
El Salvador - Ingrid Xiomara Medrano, 06/07/1979  
México - Guadalupe Perez, 17/04/1983  
Perú - Flor Quispe, 01/07/1975  
Puerto Rico - Nesmarie Rodriguez, 03/07/1992  
United States - Clarissa Chun, 27/08/1981

#### 55 kg/121 lbs.

Brazil - Joice Da Silva, 20/07/1983  
Canadá - Tonya Verbeek, 14/08/1977  
Ecuador - Lissette Alexandra Antes, 02/05/1991  
México - Alma Jane Vanecia, 18/10/1990  
Perú - Jenny Vanessa Mallqui, 28/05/1982  
Puerto Rico - Enid Rivera, 07/11/1980  
United States - Helen Maroulis, 19/09/1991  
Venezuela - Marcia Andrades, 17/05/1984

#### 63 kg/138.75 lbs.

Argentina - Luz Clara Vazquez, 08/08/1988  
Canadá - Justine Bouchard, 12/01/1986  
Colombia - Sandra Viviana Roa, 31/03/1986  
Cuba - Katerina Vidiaux, 09/06/1987  
Dominican Republic - Vanessa Patricia Torres Batista,  
11/03/1983  
Perú - Yanet Ursula Sovero, 02/05/1983  
United States - Elena Pirozhkova, 13/10/1986  
Venezuela - Gloria Zavala, 23/01/1978

#### 72 kg/158.5 lbs.

Brazil - Aline Ferreira, 18/10/1986  
Canadá - Ohenewa Akuffo, 15/02/1979  
Cuba - Lisset Hechevarria, 28/04/1984  
Dominican Republic - Elsa Angelina Sanchez,  
09/03/1986  
México - Diana Crisanto, 26/06/1990  
Panamá - Ashley Zarate, 26/08/1991  
Puerto Rico - Natalia Rodriguez, 23/08/1993  
Venezuela - Jaramit Weffer, 03/11/1985



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES ENTRIES

### Men's Freestyle

#### 55 kg/121 lbs.

Canadá - Steven Takahashi, 08/04/1992  
Chile - Andre Renato Quispe, 01/10/1990  
Cuba - Frank Chamizo, 10/07/1992  
Dominican Republic - Juan Rubelin Ramirez Beltre, 15/08/1990  
Ecuador - Juan Carlos Valverde, 22/04/1988  
Guatemala - Luis Orantes, 27/10/1988  
México - Alan Cristobal Olvera, 09/07/1989  
United States - Nick Simmons, 25/10/1982  
Venezuela - Fernando Paredes, 17/05/1984

#### 60 kg/132 lbs.

Argentina - Fernando Iglesias, 23/12/1986  
Canadá - Ryley Walker, 30/09/1985  
Colombia - Nelson Enrique Garcia, 05/04/1981  
Cuba - Yowlys Bonne, 02/11/1983  
Dominican Republic - Gabriel Arturo Garcia Sanchez, 02/11/1990  
El Salvador - Luis Isaias Portillo, 25/05/1988  
México - Guillermo Torres, 19/08/1986  
Puerto Rico - Franklin Gomez, 05/08/1986  
Venezuela - Wilfredo Henriquez, 23/02/1985

#### 66 kg/145.5 lbs.

Argentina - Fernando Carranza, 25/01/1992  
Canadá - Haislan Garcia Veranes, 04/03/1983  
Colombia - Edison Hurtado, 25/07/1972  
Cuba - Livan Lopez, 24/01/1982  
Ecuador - Yoan Blanco, 27/06/1979  
México - Ghandi Marquez, 09/02/1988  
Puerto Rico - Pedro Soto, 23/09/1986  
United States - Teyon Ware, 13/08/1983  
Venezuela - Elvis Fuentes, 29/05/1989

#### 74 kg/163 lbs.

Canadá - Matt Gentry, 30/07/1982  
Colombia - Rosalio Medrano, 25/12/1989  
Cuba - Yunierki Blanco, 11/02/1987  
Ecuador - Jose Gabriel Mercado, 14/11/1988  
México - Eduardo Valencia, 15/08/1989  
Panamá - Elton Brown, 16/01/1983  
Perú - Pool Edinson Ambrocio, 04/12/1990  
United States - Jordan Burroughs, 08/07/1988  
Venezuela - Ricardo Roberty, 12/12/1989

#### 84 kg/185 lbs.

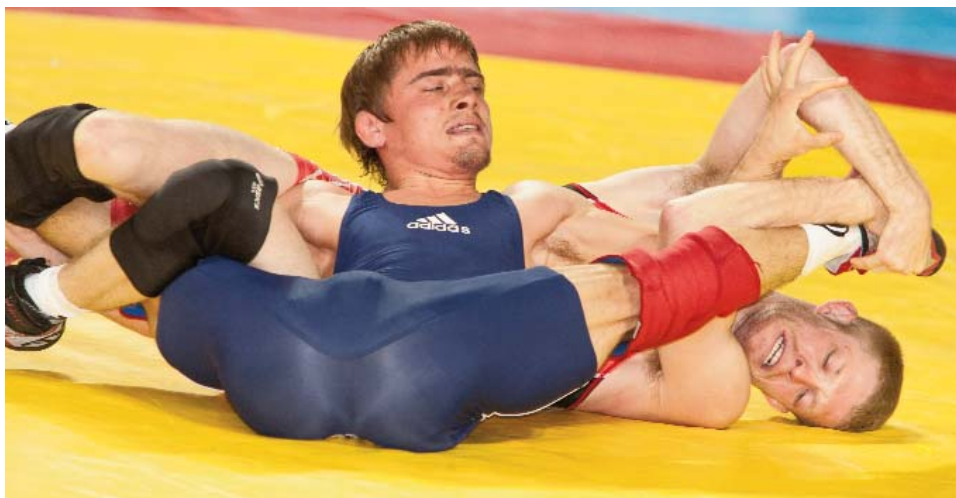
Brazil - Adrian Antoine Jaoude, 11/10/1981  
Canadá - Jeffrey Adamson, 01/04/1985  
Cuba - Humberto Daniel Arencibia, 20/11/1989  
México - Alejandro Gallardo, 24/04/1986  
Panamá - Roberto Carlos Espinosa, 27/12/1982  
Puerto Rico - Jaime Espinal, 14/10/1984  
United States - Jake Herbert, 06/03/1985  
Venezuela - Jose Diaz, 22/02/1989

#### 96 kg/211.5 lbs.

Canadá - Khetag Pliev, 20/02/1984  
Colombia - Juan Esteban Martinez, 12/06/1991  
Cuba - Michel Antonio Batista, 20/04/1984  
México - Israel Enrique Silva, 06/01/1983  
Puerto Rico - Marcos Santos, 07/01/1989  
United States - Jake Varner, 24/03/1986  
Venezuela - Luis Vivenes, 06/12/1980

#### 120 kg/264.5 lbs.

Brazil - Antoine Jaoude, 05/01/1977  
Cuba - Disney Rodriguez, 27/09/1985  
Dominican Republic - Carlos Jose Feliz Garcia, 23/07/1980  
Ecuador - Carlos Julio Delgado, 10/12/1984  
México - Jesse Prudente Ruiz, 31/07/1985  
Puerto Rico - Edgardo Lopez, 07/06/1991



Nick Simmons scores a pin with a splade at 55 kg during 2011 World Championships.



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES HISTORY

### U.S. Pan American Games men's freestyle gold medals (by year)

- 1951** - Hugh Peery (114.5), Richard LeMyre (125.5), Newt Copple (136.5), Mel Northrup (160.5)  
**1955** - Jack Blubaugh (125.5), Tommy Evans (147.5), Alfred Paulekas (191.5), William Kerslake (Hwt)  
**1959** - Dick Wilson (114.5), Dave Auble (125.5), Lou Giani (136.5), James Burke (147.5), Doug Blubaugh (160.5), James Ferguson (174), Frank Rosenmayr (191.5), Dale Lewis (Hwt)  
**1963** - Andrew Fitch (114.5), William Riddle (125.5), Ron Finley (138.5), Greg Ruth (154), Dennis Fitzgerald (171.5), Jack Barden (191.5), Joe James (Hwt.)  
**1967** - Rich Sofman (114.5), Rick Sanders (125.5), Mike Young (138.5), Gerald Bell (154), Pat Kelly (171.5), Wayne Baughman (191.5), Harry Houska (213.5), Larry Kristoff (Hwt.)  
**1971** - Sergio Gonzales (105.5), Don Behm (125.5), David Pruzansky (136.5), Dan Gable (149.5), Russ Hellickson (198), Dominic Carollo (220), Jeff Smith (Hwt.)  
**1975** - Lloyd Keaser (149.5), Greg Hicks (180.5), Ben Peterson (198), Russ Hellickson (220), Mike McCreedy (Hwt.)  
**1979** - Billy Rosado (105.5), Gene Mills (114.5), Joe Corso (125.5), Andre Metzger (136.5), Andy Rein (149.5), Lee Kemp (163), Dan Lewis (180.5), Roy Baker (198), Russ Hellickson (220), Jimmy Jackson (286)  
**1983** - Barry Davis (125.5), Randy Lewis (136.5), Lee Kemp (163), Greg Gibson (220)  
**1987** - John Smith (136.5), Andre Metzger (149.5), Dave Schultz (163), Mark Schultz (180.5), Bill Scherr (220), Bruce Baumgartner (286)  
**1991** - Brad Penrith (125.5), John Smith (136.5), Townsend Saunders (149.5), Kenny Monday (163), Kevin Jackson (180.5), Mark Coleman (220), Bruce Baumgartner (286)  
**1995** - Zeke Jones (114.5), Terry Brands (125.5), Tom Brands (136.5), Townsend Saunders (149.5), Kevin Jackson (180.5), Melvin Douglas (198), Bruce Baumgartner (286)  
**1999** - Cary Kolat (138.75), Lincoln McIlravy (152), Joe Williams (167.5), Les Gutches (187.25), Dominic Black (213.75), Stephen Neal (286)  
**2003** - Stephen Abas (121), Joe Williams (163), Daniel Cormier (211.5), Kerry McCoy (264.5)  
**2007** - Henry Cejudo (121)

### U.S. Pan American Games Greco-Roman gold medals (by year, in pounds)

- 1975** - Bruce Thompson (114.5), Dan Mello (125.5), Pat Marcy (149.5), Dan Chandler (180.5), Willie Williams (198), Brad Rheingans (220), Bill Van Worth (Hwt)  
**1979** - Bruce Thompson (114.5), John Matthews (163), Dan Chandler (180.5), Brad Rheingans (220), USA -1st  
**1983** - Steve Fraser (198)  
**1987** - David Butler (163), Chris Catalfo (180.5), Duane Koslowski (286)  
**1991** - Mark Fuller (105.5), Andy Seras (149.5), Randy Couture (198), Matt Ghaffari (286)  
**1995** - Mujaahid Maynard (105.5), Dennis Hall (125.5), Matt Ghaffari (286)  
**1999** - Dennis Hall (127.75), Matt Lindland (167.5)  
**2003** - none  
**2007** - Justin Lester (145.5), Brad Vering (185), Justin Ruiz (211.5)

### U.S. Pan American Games women's freestyle gold medals (by year, in pounds)

- 2003** - Patricia Miranda (105.5), Tina George (121), Sara McMann (138.75), Toccara Montgomery (158.5)  
**2007** - Sara McMann (138.75), Kristie Marano (158.5)

### U.S. Multiple Pan American Games Champions

- 3** - Russ Hellickson (FS 1971, 1975, 1979), Bruce Baumgartner (FS 1987, 1991, 1995)  
**2** - Bruce Thompson (GR 1975, 1979), Dan Chandler (GR 1975, 1979), Brad Rheingans (GR 1975, 1979), Lee Kemp (FS 1979, 1983), Andre Metzger (FS 1979, 1987), John Smith (FS 1987, 1991), Townsend Saunders (FS 1991, 1995), Kevin Jackson (FS 1991, 1995), Matt Ghaffari (GR, 1991, 1995), Dennis Hall (GR 1995, 1999), Joe Williams (FS 1999, 2003), Sara McMann (W 2003, 2007)



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES HISTORY

### Wrestling Medalists at 2007 Pan American Games, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

#### Greco-Roman

##### 55 kg/121 lbs.

Gold - Yagniel Hernandez (Cuba)  
Silver - Jorge Cardozo (Venezuela)  
Bronze - Jansel Ramirez (Dominican Republic)  
Bronze - Angel Lema (Ecuador)

##### 60 kg/132 lbs.

Gold - Roberto Monzon (Cuba)  
Silver - Lindsey Durlacher (USA)  
Bronze - Luis Liendo (Venezuela)  
Bronze - Mario Molina (Peru)

##### 66 kg/145.5 lbs.

Gold - Harry Lester (USA)  
Silver - Anyelo Mota (Dominican Republic)  
Bronze - Alain Milián (Cuba)  
Bronze - Carlos Ramos (Venezuela)

##### 74 kg/163 lbs.

Gold - Odelis Herrera (Cuba)  
Silver - Sixto Barrera (Peru)  
Bronze - Felipe Macedo (Brazil)  
Bronze - T.C. Dantzler (USA)

##### 84 kg/185 lbs.

Gold - Brad Vering (USA)  
Silver - Eddy Bartolozzy (Venezuela)  
Bronze - Jose Arias (Dominican Republic)  
Bronze - Yunior Estrada (Cuba)

##### 96 kg/211.5 lbs.

Gold - Justin Ruiz (USA)  
Silver - Luiz Fernandes (Brazil)  
Bronze - Oscar Aguilar (Mexico)  
Bronze - Erwin Caraballo (Venezuela)

##### 120 kg/264.5 lbs.

Gold - Mijail Lopez (Cuba)  
Silver - Dremiel Byers (USA)  
Bronze - Rafael Barreno (Venezuela)  
Bronze - Ari Taub (Canada)

#### Men's Freestyle

##### 55 kg/121 lbs.

Gold - Henry Cejudo (USA)  
Silver - Andy Moreno (Cuba)  
Bronze - Cesar Roberty (Venezuela)  
Bronze - Fredy Serrano (Colombia)

##### 60 kg/132 lbs.

Gold - Yandro Quintana (Cuba)  
Silver - Mike Zadick (USA)  
Bronze - Tomas Solorzano (Venezuela)  
Bronze - Aldo Parimango (Peru)

##### 66 kg/145.5 lbs.

Gold - Geandry Garzon (Cuba)  
Silver - Edison Hurtado (Colombia)  
Bronze - Doug Schwab (USA)  
Bronze - Pedro Soto (Puerto Rico)

##### 74 kg/163 lbs.

Gold - Ivan Fundora (Cuba)  
Silver - Joe Heskett (USA)  
Bronze - Wilson Medina (Colombia)  
Bronze - Matt Gentry (Canada)

##### 84 kg/185 lbs.

Gold - Roozbah Banihashemi (Canada)  
Silver - Andy Hrovat (USA)  
Bronze - Roerlandy Zuniga (Cuba)  
Bronze - Rodrigo Piedrahita (Colombia)

##### 96 kg/211.5 lbs.

Gold - Michel Batista (Cuba)  
Silver - Luis Vivenes (Venezuela)  
Bronze - Daniel Cormier (USA)  
Bronze - Mike Neufeld (Canada)

##### 120 kg/264.5 lbs.

Gold - Alexis Rodriguez (Cuba)  
Silver - Tommy Rowlands (USA)  
Bronze - Carlos Felix (Dominican Republic)  
Bronze - Arjan Bhullar (Canada)

#### Women's Freestyle

##### 48 kg/105.5 lbs.

Gold - Carol Huynh (Canada)  
Silver - Ingrid Medrano (El Salvador)  
Bronze - Stephanie Murata (USA)  
Bronze - Mayelis Caripa (Venezuela)

##### 55 kg/121 lbs.

Gold - Jackeline Renteria (Colombia)  
Silver - Marcie Van Dusen (USA)  
Bronze - Tonya Verbeek (Canada)  
Bronze - Marcia Andrade (Venezuela)

##### 63 kg/138.75 lbs.

Gold - Sara McMann (USA)  
Silver - Yoselin Rojas (Venezuela)  
Bronze - Megan Dolan (Canada)  
Bronze - Mabel Fonseca (Puerto Rico)

##### 72 kg/158.5 lbs.

Gold - Kristie Marano (USA)  
Silver - Ohenewa Akuffo (Canada)  
Bronze - Rosangela Conceicao (Brazil)  
Bronze - Lisset Echevarria (Cuba)

#### Medal Count

United States, 17 (6-7-4)  
Cuba, 14 (9-1-4)  
Venezuela, 12 (0-5-7)  
Canada, 9 (2-1-6)  
Colombia, 5 (1-1-3)  
Dominican Republic, 4 (0-1-3)  
Peru, 3 (0-1-2)  
Brazil, 3 (0-1-2)  
Puerto Rico, 2 (0-0-2)  
El Salvador, 1 (0-1-0)  
Ecuador, 1 (0-0-1)  
Mexico, 1 (0-0-1)



## 2011 PAN AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

at Rio Negro, Colombia, May 6-8 - Qualifying event for 2011 Pan American Games  
Top 8 in each Olympic weight class qualify their nation.

### Greco-Roman

#### 55 kg/121 lbs.

Gold – Yagniel Hernandez (Cuba)  
Silver – Jorge Cardozo (Venezuela)  
Bronze – Cristian Paravecino (Peru)  
Bronze – Francisco Encarnacion (Dominican Republic)  
Fifth – Francisco Godina (Mexico)  
Fifth – Juan Lopez (Colombia)

#### 60 kg/132 lbs.

Gold – Maikel Anache (Cuba)  
Silver – Luis Liendo (Venezuela)  
Bronze – Yesid Meneses (Colombia)  
Bronze – Jansel Ramirez (Dominican Republic)  
Fifth – German Diaz (Puerto Rico)  
Fifth – Victor Mendez (Mexico)

#### 66 kg/145.5 lbs.

Gold – Alexander Casal (Cuba)  
Silver – C.P. Schlatter (USA)  
Bronze – Vicente Huacon (Ecuador)  
Bronze – Ivan Duque (Colombia)  
Fifth – Shawn Daye (Canada)  
Fifth – Anyelo Mota (Dominican Republic)

#### 74 kg/163 lbs.

Gold – Raul Consuegra (Cuba)  
Silver – Kendrick Sanders (USA)  
Bronze – Sixto Barrera (Peru)  
Bronze – Juan Escobar (Mexico)  
Fifth – Otoniel Perez (Puerto Rico)  
Fifth – Jansel Mercedes (Dominican Republic)

#### 84 kg/185 lbs.

Gold – Pablo Shorey (Cuba)  
Silver – Jose Arias (Dominican Republic)  
Bronze – Yorge Cova (Venezuela)  
Bronze – Jordan Holm (USA)  
Fifth – Jeremy Latour (Canada)  
Fifth – Ariel Mosquera (Colombia)

#### 96 kg/211.5 lbs.

Gold – Justin Ruiz (USA)  
Silver – Yasmany Lugo (Cuba)  
Bronze – Korey Jarvis (Canada)  
Bronze – Erwin Caraballo (Venezuela)  
Fifth – Yuri Maier (Argentina)  
Fifth – Raul Angulo (Colombia)

#### 120 kg/264.5 lbs.

Gold – Yasmani Acosta (Cuba)  
Silver – Robbie Smith (USA)  
Bronze – Ramon Garcia (Dominican Republic)  
Bronze – Rafael Barreno (Venezuela)  
Fifth – Orlando Ramirez (Mexico)  
Fifth – Victor Asprilla (Colombia)

### Women's Freestyle

#### 48 kg/105.5 lbs.

Gold – Lindsay Prickett (Canada)  
Silver – Patricia Bermudez (Argentina)  
Bronze – Luisa Valverde (Ecuador)  
Bronze – Carolina Castillo (Colombia)  
5th – Ingrid Medrano (El Salvador)  
5th – Nesmary Rodriguez (Puerto Rico)

#### 51 kg/112.25 lbs.

Gold – Jessica MacDonald (Canada)  
Silver – Jessica Medina (USA)  
Bronze – Wendy Martinez (Mexico)  
4th – Yuliana Alzate (Colombia)

#### 55 kg/121 lbs.

Gold – Kelsey Campbell (USA)  
Silver – Jenny Mallqui (Peru)  
Bronze – Alma Valencia (Mexico)  
Bronze – Joice Silva (Brazil)  
5th – Enid Rivera (Puerto Rico)  
5th – Liset Antes (Ecuador)

#### 59 kg/130 lbs.

Gold – Amanda Gerhart (Canada)  
Silver – Amanda Hendey (USA)  
Bronze – Sayury Canon (Colombia)  
Bronze – Mayra Antes (Ecuador)  
5th – Lais Nunes (Brazil)  
6th – Rocío Garcia (Mexico)

#### 63 kg/138.75 lbs.

Gold – Kristie Davis (USA)  
Silver – Justine Bouchard (Canada)  
Bronze – Sandra Roa (Colombia)  
Bronze – Katerine Vidiaux (Cuba)  
5th – Gloria Zabala (Venezuela)  
5th – Vanessa Torres (Dominican Republic)

#### 67 kg/147.5 lbs.

Gold – Megan Buydens (Canada)  
Silver – Erin Clodgo (USA)  
Bronze – Andrea Olaya (Colombia)

#### 72 kg/158.5 lbs.

Gold – Leah Callahan (Canada)  
Silver – Aline Ferreira (Brazil)  
Bronze – Lisset Echavarria (Cuba)  
Bronze – Jaramit Weffer (Venezuela)  
5th – Dayanara Rivera (Puerto Rico)  
5th – Elsa Sanchez (Dominican Republic)



## 2011 PAN AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

at Rio Negro, Colombia, May 6-8 - Qualifying event for 2011 Pan American Games  
Top 8 in each Olympic weight class qualify their nation.

### Men's freestyle

#### 55 kg/121 lbs.

Gold - Luis Ibanez (Cuba)  
Silver- Sam Hazewinkel (USA)  
Bronze - Luis Orantes (Guatemala)  
Bronze – Fernando Parades (Venezuela)  
5th – Juan Ramirez (Dominican Republic)  
5th – Promise Mwenga (Canada)

#### 60 kg/132 lbs.

Gold – Franklin Gomez (Puerto Rico)  
Silver – Ryley Walker (Canada)  
Bronze – Gabriel Garcia (Dominican Republic)  
Bronze – Alejandro Valdez (Cuba)  
5th – Fernando Iglesias (Argentina)  
5th – Wilfrido Henriquez (Venezuela)

#### 66 kg/145.5 lbs.

Gold – Livan Lopez (Cuba)  
Silver – Teyon Ware (USA)  
Bronze – Elvin Fuentes (Venezuela)  
Bronze – Haislan Veranes (Canada)  
5th – Fernando Carranza (Argentina)  
5th – Edison Hurtado (Colombia)

#### 74 kg/163 lbs.

Gold – Nick Marable (USA)  
Silver – Yunierki Blanco (Cuba)  
Bronze – Edizon Ambrosio (Peru)  
Bronze – Ricardo Robertty (Venezuela)  
5th – Jose Mercado (Ecuador)  
5th – Matt Gentry (Canada)

#### 84 kg/185 lbs.

Gold – Jose Diaz (Venezuela)  
Silver – Keith Gavin (USA)  
Bronze – Jeff Adamson (Canada)  
Bronze – Humberto Arencibia (Colombia)  
5th – Alejandro Gallardo (Mexico)  
5th – Jaime Espinal (Puerto Rico)

#### 96 kg/211.5 lbs.

Gold – Eduardo Mesa (Cuba)  
Silver – Khetag Pliev (Canada)  
Bronze – Israel Silva (Mexico)  
Bronze – Luis Vivenes (Venezuela)  
5th – Steban Martinez (Colombia)  
5th - Dan Erekson (USA)

#### 120 kg/264.5 lbs.

Gold – Steve Mocco (USA)  
Silver – Elier Romero (Cuba)  
Bronze – Antoine Braga (Brazil)  
Bronze – Korey Jarvis (Canada)  
5th – Edgar Lopez (Puerto Rico)  
5th – Carlos Felix (Dominican Republic)



National Freestyle Coach Zeke Jones, who was a Pan American Games champion in freestyle as an athlete in 1995.



Two-time World Team member Joe Betterman will compete in his first Pan American Games.



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES PREVIEW

### Greco-Roman

On the Pan American level in Greco-Roman, Cuba is the heavy favorite, often pushed by the United States. Cuba takes great pride in winning the team title at the Pan American level, and had six of the seven champions at this year's Pan Am Championships. The Cuban team is usually very experienced, but this time around features a few different faces. Team USA has only one member of its 2011 World Team competing in Guadalajara, but will be expected to do well in this field.

The other Pan American nations have improved dramatically in Greco-Roman, with good coaches in many nations bringing along some talented individuals.

Nations such as Venezuela, Colombia, the Dominican Republic and Peru have shown progress, and make the field more competitive than in previous Pan Am Games action.

**55 kg/121 lbs.** - This weight class has a lack of experience, with a number of young athletes who are making their name internationally. The favorite should be Gustavo Belart of Cuba, a two-time Pan American Championships champion. The top veteran in the field is 33-year-old Jorge Cordoza of Venezuela, a 2001 Pan American Championships champion who has won nine Pan American Senior medals in his career. Francisco Encarnacion of the Dominican Republic and Cristhian Paravecino of Peru won Pan American Championships bronze medals this year. The rest of the field will be trying to prove itself. The USA is not entered here, as it did not place in the top eight at the qualifier, the 2011 Pan American Championships.

**60 kg/132 lbs.** - Coming in with great momentum is veteran Luis Liendo of Venezuela, who had his best international effort with a strong fifth place at the 2011 World Championships. Liendo has won two past Pan Am Games medals along with three other Pan Am Championships medals. He has never won a Pan Am gold. American Joe Betterman lost to Liendo at the 2011 World Championships and seeks revenge. Betterman has a 2008 Pan American bronze on his record, but he is a stronger athlete now. The Cuban entry is a 2009 Pan Am Championships champion Hanser Meoque. Expect Meoque to be ready for battle. Jansel Ramirez of the Dominican Republic is the most seasoned, a two-time Pan American Championships champion with eight Pan Am medals in his trophy case. Others with past Pan Am Senior medals are Yesid Meneses of Colombia and Manuel Lopez of Mexico.

**66 kg/145.5 lbs.** - The top performer in the field is Pedro Mulens of Cuba, who was third in the 2011 World Championships and won the 2010 Pan Am Championships. A couple of veterans are expected to challenge him for top honors. Anyelo Mota of the Dominican Republic, who enters the event at 39 years old, won Pan Am Games silver medals in 2003 and 2007, and boasts eight career Pan Am Senior medals. Glenn Garrison of the USA, at 37, has a long list of achievements, including a 2007 Pan Am Championships silver. Others who have won Pan Am Championships medals include Francisco Barrio of Argentina, Ivan Duque of Colombia, Vicente Huacon of Ecuador and Ulises Barragan of Mexico.

**74 kg/163 lbs.** - This weight class looks to have competitive depth. Veteran Sixto Barrera of Peru was a 2007 Pan American Championships champion, and won a silver at the 2007 Pan American Games.

Jorgisbell Alvarez of Cuba won the 2009 Pan American Championships. Jose Escobar of Colombia was second at the 2003 Pan Am Games. Young U.S. star Ben Provisor was a Junior Pan Am champion and made three U.S. Junior World Teams. Provisor was U.S. Open champion this year. Also watch 2011 Pan Am Championships bronze medalist Juan Escobar of Mexico.

**84 kg/185 lbs.** - Pablo Shorey of Cuba is the class of this division, a 2010 World silver medalist, 2009 World bronze medalist and two-time Pan American Championships gold medalist. He could be pushed by Jose Arias of the Dominican Republic, who was second in the 2010 and 2011 Pan American Championships.

Arias was also seventh in the 2009 World Championships. Cristian Mosquera has been second in the Pan American Championships three times and third two other times. Cheney Haight of the United States made the 2011 U.S. World Team, and has extensive experience moving up the U.S. ladder. Yorgen Cova of Venezuela was third in the 2011 Pan American Championships.

**96 kg/211.5 lbs.** - Yunior Estrada of Cuba enters with the most achievements, including a 2008 Pan American Championships gold medal and a 2007 Pan American Games bronze medal. Estrada has top 10 placements at the 2010 World Championships and 2008 Olympics. The most experienced in the field is 2007 Pan American Games bronze medalist Erwin Caraballo, who boasts four Pan American Championships bronze medals. Korey Jarvis of Canada won a bronze medal at the 2011 Pan American Championships in both styles. Much of the field is mostly unproven, including U.S. entry Pete Gounaridis, who has been No. 2 in the USA at this weight. This could be the kind of field where some athletes have a breakthrough performance.

**120 kg/264.5 lbs.** - The most dominant wrestling athlete at the Pan Am Games in Cuba's Mijian Lopez, a 2008 Olympic champion and four-time World champion. Lopez has won two Pan American Games gold medals, and seven Pan American Championships titles. He has been second in the World twice, including this year. He is a heavy, heavy favorite. The most experienced challenger is three-time Pan American Games bronze medalist Rafael Barreno of Venezuela. Barreno was a 2010 Pan American Championships titlist, and has been winning medals at this level since 1997. Timothy Taylor of the USA looks to show his abilities as the No. 2 American behind World champion Dremiel Byers for many years. He is experienced and talented. Placing third at the last two Pan American Championships at this weight is Ramon Garcia of the Dominican Republic. Watch for 20-year-old Edgardo Lopez of Puerto Rico as a fresh newcomer.

### Women's freestyle

The top two powers in Pan American women's wrestling is Canada and the United States. Women's freestyle was added at the 2004 Pan Am Games, with the four Olympic weight class. The USA swept all four gold medals. At the 2008 Pan Am Games, the USA won two golds, Canada won one gold and Colombia won the other gold.

Going into 2011, Canada would have the edge on the field, with all four of their entries having won past World or Olympic medals, including Olympic champion Carol



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES PREVIEW

Huynh at 48 kg. The USA has three entries, with two World medalists on its roster. The rest of the field has shown improvement in women's wrestling in recent years, with a number of young talents coming from a variety of nations.

**48 kg/105.5 lbs.** - This weight boasts two World-level champions, 2008 Olympic champion Carol Huynh of Canada and 2008 World champion Clarissa Chun of the USA. Huynh was a 2007 Pan Am Games champion, and has won four World Championships medals, a silver and three bronze medals. Chun was fifth at the 2008 Olympics, and has won the Pan American Championships three times. There is considerable depth in this division. Carolina Castillo of Colombia was fifth at the 2011 World Championships and a 2010 Pan American Championships champion. Ingrid Medrano of El Salvador was a 2007 Pan Am Games silver medalist and Flor Quispe of Peru was a 2003 Pan Am Games bronze medalist. Others who have won medals at past Pan American Championships include Patricia Bermudez of Argentina, Luisa Valverde of Ecuador and Guadalupe Perez of Mexico.

**55 kg/121 lbs.** - Two-time Olympic medalist Tonya Verbeek of Canada is the headliner at this division. Verbeek was second in the 2004 Olympics and third in the 2008 Olympics. She just came off her second place at the 2011 World Championships, where she had a controversial loss to Japan's superstar Saori Yoshida. Verbeek has also been third in the World two times. She won a silver at the 2003 Pan Am Games and a bronze at the 2007 Pan Am Games, hoping to get her gold this time around. Her top competition could come from Helen Maroulis of the USA, who was fifth at the 2011 World Championships, a three-time Junior World medalist and third in the 2009 Pan Am Championships. Others in the weight who have won Senior Pan Am medals include Joice Da Silva of Brazil, Alma Valencia of Mexico and Jenny Mallqui of Peru.

**63 kg/138.75 lbs.** - This weight class has proven international competitors, including two past World medalists, Elena Pirozhkova of the United States and Justine Bouchard of Canada. Pirozhkova was second in the 2010 World Championships. She has won two World University titles, and three Pan American Championships titles. Bouchard was third in the 2009 World Championships and is also a past University World champion. Two other entries have been fifth at the World Championships, Sandra Roa of Colombia and Katerina Videaux of Cuba. Roa was a 2006 Junior World champion and 2004 Pan American Championships champion. Videaux is a two-time Pan American Championships runner-up. Adding depth here is past Pan Am Championships medalists Vanessa Torres of the Dominican Republic, Yanet Sovero of Peru and Gloria Zavala of Venezuela.

**72 kg/158.5 lbs.** - The athlete with the most experience and achievements in this field is 2010 World bronze medalist Ohenawa Akuffo of Canada. She won silver medals at both the 2003 and 2007 Pan Am Games, and was a 2005 World University champion. The other veteran in the field is Jaramit Weffer of Venezuela, a three-time Pan American Championships champion who was seventh in the 2008 World Championships. Lisset Echevaria of Cuba won a 2007 Pan Am Games bronze medal, and two Pan Am Championships medals. The rest of the field is relative-

ly young. Aline Ferreira of Brazil was second in the 2011 Pan Am Championships. Also with a Senior Pan Am Championships medal is Elsa Sanchez of the Dominican Republic. The USA is entered, as it failed to qualify at the 2011 Pan Am Championships.

### Men's Freestyle

Teams seeking top honors in freestyle are the United States and Cuba. Team USA brings six athletes, including World champion Jordan Burroughs at 74 kg and World medalists Jake Herbert at 84 kg, Jake Varner at 96 kg and Tervel Dlagnev at 120 kg. Cuba has three World medalists on its roster, Frank Chamizo at 55 kg, Livan Lopez at 66 kg and Michel Batista at 96 kg.

Puerto Rico is led by 2011 World silver medalist Franklin Gomez at 60 kg, an NCAA champ at Michigan State. Canada has an NCAA champ as well, Matt Gentry of Stanford at 74 kg. Canada also has Khetag Pliev at 96 kg, who went to high school in Ohio and was a Junior champion in the USA. Mexico has two wrestlers who competed in American colleges. There should be some balance among the other nations behind the USA and Cuba, with the possibilities of medals being spread around among many of them.

**55 kg/121 lbs.** - There is one past World medalist in this field, the amazing young Frank Chamizo of Cuba, who won a 2010 World bronze medal at the age of 18. He is now 19, and did not medal at this year's Senior Worlds. The highest World placer from the Pan Am nations this year was Nick Simmons of the USA, who placed fifth. Simmons has paid his dues within the USA, winning his only Pan Am Championships title way back in 2004. At 27, Simmons is one of just two athletes in the preliminary field over the age of 23, making this a tremendously young group. Those who have won Senior Pan Am medals include Luis Orantes of Guatemala and Fernando Paredes of Venezuela.

**60 kg/132 lbs.** - The favorite coming in is 2011 World silver medalist Franklin Gomez of Puerto Rico, who also captured the 2011 Pan American Championships title. Gomez was an NCAA champion at Michigan State and competed for a short time in the U.S. program before declaring for Puerto Rico two seasons ago. His top challenger could be Cuba's Yowlys Bonne, a 2005 Pan American Championships titlist who has not been Cuba's top athlete in recent seasons. This weight class features other athletes who have won Pan American Championships medals including Fernando Iglesias of Argentina, Nelson Garcia of Colombia, Gabriel Garcia of the Dominican Republic, Luis Portillo of El Salvador and Guillermo Torres of Mexico. The USA is not entered in this weight class, as it did not qualify through the 2011 Pan Am Championships event.

**66 kg/145.5 lbs.** - Cuba's Livan Lopez won a bronze medal at the 2011 World Championships with an impressive performance. He was a 2011 Pan American Championships gold medalist, and was second back in 2006. He will be challenged by 2011 U.S. World Team member Teyon Ware, who placed second to Lopez at the Pan Am Championships this spring. The veteran in the class is 39-year-old Edison Hurtado of Columbia, a two-time Pan American Games silver medalist who is in his fourth Pan Am Games. Another top star is Canada's Haislan Garcia who was fifth in the 2010 World Championships and has won medals at the Pan Am Championships the last four years. Puerto Rico's Pedro



## PAN AMERICAN GAMES PREVIEW

Soto won a 2007 Pan Am Games bronze. Elvis Fuentes of Venezuela was third in the 2011 Pan Am Championships.

**74 kg/163 lbs.** - This weight class is headlined by 2011 World champion Jordan Burroughs of the USA, who burst onto the international scene this year after winning two NCAA titles for Nebraska. He is still learning the freestyle game, with room for improvement. Ricardo Roberty of Venezuela placed fifth at the 2011 World Championships, losing a close battle with Burroughs. Both Burroughs and Roberty beat two-time World champ Denis Tsargush of Russia in Istanbul. Cuba brings Yunierki Blanco, the 2011 Pan Am Championships runner-up, to the Pan Am Games. Blanco lost to Nick Marable of the USA in the finals there. He was a 2011 World Cup champion. 2007 Pan Am Games bronze medalist Matt Gentry will also compete. A dual citizen, Gentry was a NCAA champion for Stanford, then chose to wrestle for Canada, and made the 2008 Olympics. The rest of the weight features young hopefuls.

**84 kg/185 lbs.** - 2009 World silver medalist Jake Herbert of the USA enters as the favorite here. He has won two University World medals, and made two U.S. Senior World Teams. Herbert was second in the 2011 U.S. Trials to Olympic champion Cael Sanderson. The 2011 Pan Am Championships champion is Jose Diaz of Venezuela, who was third at the Pan Am Championships the year before. Puerto Rico's Jaime Espinal has won three career Pan Am Championships medals. He trains with the Nittany Lion WC at Penn State. Others with past Pan Am Championships medals include Adrian Jaoude of Brazil, Jeffrey Adamson of Canada and Humberto Arencibia of Cuba.

**96 kg/211.5 lbs.** - This weight class features two World bronze medalists, Jake Varner of the USA and Michel Batista of Cuba. Varner won his World bronze medal in 2011 with an impressive effort. He was a 2009 U.S. World Team member and has rapidly improved. Batista is a veteran, with a 2006 World bronze medal and a fifth place finish at the 2008 Olympics. He was a 2007 Pan Am Games champion, and has won four Pan American Championships gold medals. Luis Vivenez of Venezuela was a 2007 Pan Am Games silver medalist, and has won five Pan Am Championships medals. Others in the weight with past Senior Pan Am Championships medals are Khetag Pliev of Canada and Israel Silva of Mexico. Pliev, a Ukraine native, went to high school in Ohio and won a U.S. Junior National title. Silva grew up in the USA, went to college at North Idaho and UT-Chattanooga and trains now at the Northwest Training Center at Oregon State.

**120 kg/264.5 lbs.** - 2009 World bronze medalist Tervel Dlagnev seeks his first Pan Am Games title. He was fifth at the 2011 World Championships, and won a gold at his only Pan Am Championships in 2010. Cuba's Disney Rodriguez, who was fifth at the 2008 Olympics and fifth at the 2009 World Championships, is another top international competitor. The veteran in the field is 34-year-old Antoine Jaoude of Brazil, a 2003 Pan Am Games silver medalist at 96 kg. Jesse Ruiz of Mexico went to college in the U.S., winning an NAIA title for Menlo College. A young athlete to watch is Puerto Rico's Edgardo Lopez, who competes in both freestyle and Greco-Roman.

### PAST PAN AM GAMES MEDALISTS

#### Greco-Roman

55 kg/121 lbs.  
Jorge Cordoza (VEN – 2007 silver)

60 kg/132 lbs.  
Luis Liendo (VEN – 2007 bronze, 2003 silver)  
Jansel Ramirez (DOM – 2007 bronze)

66 kg/145.5 lbs.  
Anyelo Mota (DOM, 2007 silver, 2003 silver)

74 kg/163 lbs.  
Sixto Barrera (PER, 2007 silver)  
Jose Escobar (COL, 2003 silver)

84 kg/185 lbs.  
Jose Arias (DOM, 2007 bronze)

96 kg/211.5  
Yunior Estrada (CUB, 2007 bronze)  
Erwin Carballo (VEN, 2007 bronze)

120 kg/264.5 lbs.  
Mijian Lopez (CUB – 2007 gold, 2003 gold)  
Rafael Barreno (VEN – 2007 bronze, 2003 bronze, 1999 bronze)

#### Women's freestyle

48 kg/105.5 lbs.  
Carol Huyhn (CAN, 2007 gold)  
Ingrid Medrano (ESA – 2007 silver)  
Flor Quispe (PER – 2003 bronze)

55 kg/121 lbs.  
Tonya Verbeek (CAN, 2007 bronze, 2003 silver)

63 kg/138.75 lbs.  
None

72 kg/158.5 lbs.  
Ohenewa Akuffo (CAN, 2007 silver, 2003 silver)  
Lisset Echevarria (CUB, 2007 bronze)

#### Men's Freestyle

55 kg/121 lbs.  
None

60 kg/132 lbs.  
None

66 kg/145.5 lbs.  
Edison Hurtado (COL – 2007 – silver, 2003 – silver)  
Pedro Soto (PUR – 2007 bronze)

74 kg/163 lbs.  
Matt Gentry (CAN – 2007 bronze)

84 kg/185 lbs.  
None

96 kg/211.5 lbs.  
Michel Batista (CUB – 2007 gold)  
Luis Vivenez (VEN – 2007 – silver)

120 kg/264.5 lbs.  
Carlos Feliz (DOM, 2007 bronze)  
Antoine Jaoude (BRA, 2003 silver)

Based upon preliminary entries from Pan Am Games website



## STORY IDEAS FOR PAN AM GAMES

### **New World champion Jordan Burroughs having amazing year**

U.S. men's freestyle star Jordan Burroughs burst onto the world scene this year after completing a successful college career for Nebraska. In 2011, the New Jersey native became the first Cornhusker wrestler to win two NCAA titles, and was named Dan Hodge Trophy winner as the nation's top college wrestler. Burroughs quickly climbed to No. 1 in the USA in the international style. He won both the U.S. Open, then the U.S. World Team Trials to qualify for his first Senior World Team. After winning an international event in Ukraine this summer, Burroughs continued his hot streak with an amazing performance at the 2011 World Championships, winning the gold medal at 74 kg with five big wins. He is the first U.S. men's freestyle World champion since 2006, and the first to win an NCAA and World title the same year since 1999. The Pan American Games is his next event to add to his legacy.

### **2008 World champion Clarissa Chun seeking return trip to Olympic Games**

The 2008 season was a breakout year for Hawaii native Clarissa Chun, who has been competing on the international level since her college days at Missouri Valley. Chun surprised many by defeating 2004 Olympic bronze medalist Patricia Miranda to make the 2008 Olympic Team, and she placed fifth at the Beijing Games. Later in 2008, Chun won a gold medal at the World Championships, her most impressive performance to date. She has been consistent ever since, making the 2009 and 2011 U.S. World Teams and doing well at major international events. Chun hopes to use the Pan Am Games as a springboard to a strong 2012 year. She will attempt to become the first U.S. women's wrestler to make two Olympic Teams, as the sport first appeared in the Olympic program at the 2004 Athens Olympics.

### **Pan Am freestyle team is strong with three World medalists in the upper weights**

The USA Pan American men's freestyle team is very strong in the upper weights, with a past World medalist in the last three weight classes. Competing at 84 kg is 2009 World silver medalist Jake Herbert. The 96 kg team member is Jake Varner, a 2011 World bronze medalist. Wrestling at 120 kg is 2009 World bronze medalist Tervel Dlagnev. Each has his own story. A Pittsburgh native, Herbert won two NCAA titles for Northwestern, but now trains at Michigan with his personal coach Sean Bormet, a new coach on the Wolverine staff. Varner, a California native, won two NCAA titles for Iowa State, and after graduation followed his former college coach Cael Sanderson to Penn State to train there. Dlagnev, who hails from Texas, won two NCAA Div. II titles at Nebraska-Kearney, but now trains at the regional training center at Ohio State. The Pan American Games is a big event for these athletes who are hoping to gain momentum going into the Olympic year.

### **World medalist Elena Pirozhkova seeking to turn silver into Olympic gold**

Elena Pirozhkova was born in Russia, but moved to the United States as a small child and was raised in Western Massachusetts. She followed her brothers into the sport of wrestling, and became one of the top young women wrestlers in the country. After high school, she became a U.S. Olympic Training Center resident athlete, where one of her coaches, Russian immigrant Izzy Izboinikov, helped her to improve on an international level. Pirozhkova has qualified for four straight U.S. World Teams. At the 2010 World Championships held in her native Moscow, Russia, she had her best Senior performance, winning a silver medal at 63 kg, losing only to two-time Olympic champion Saori Icho of Japan in the finals. She is now coming off of a fifth-place finish at the 2011 World Championships. With the Olympic Trials just six months away, Elena is looking to earn a spot on the Olympic Team in April, and turn her World silver medal into an Olympic gold medal in London.

### **After watching Beijing from sidelines, Joe Betterman focused on reaching London Games**

Joe Betterman is motivated to make the 2012 Olympic Team, after facing a major disappointment in 2008. He was a replacement entry for World champion Joe Warren at the 2007 World Championships after Warren's second missed doping test. Betterman did not earn a placement there, but was a member of the 2007 U.S. Greco-Roman World Championship team at 60 kg. As the top man in 2008, Betterman competed at Olympic qualifying events but was unable to place high enough for the U.S. to earn a spot in the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Although he won the 2008 Olympic Trials at his weight, he went to Beijing as a spectator and training partner. Betterman, a Chicago native, wants to take Olympic qualifying for the 2012 London Olympics into his own hands. As the 2011 World Team member, he was unable to qualify the weight at the World Championships in Istanbul, Turkey. The next qualifying event is the Pan American Olympic Qualifier in Florida in March. Some of the athletes he may face there will be entered at the Pan American Games. A good effort in Guadalajara should give Betterman momentum heading into the Olympic year, including the quest to qualify his weight class.

### **Coaches who have won Pan Am Games seeking to bring home some more gold**

None of the U.S. athletes in Guadalajara have competed in a past Pan American Games. However, there are coaches at the event who have won this event when they were athletes, and are looking to help bring home some more American Pan Am Games champions. On the Greco-Roman side, both National Greco-Roman Coach Steve Fraser and Pan Am coach John Matthews have won this event. In freestyle, National Coach Zeke Jones is a past Pan Am Games champion. These coaches are looking to bring home some more gold from the sidelines, coaching athletes to victory.