

# Age plays no part when it comes to success in sports

By Mark Blume  
Student Writer



When discussing the Olympic games in Beijing, there are a number of stories one could cover in great detail. Like Michael Phelps winning almost every swimming event in which he competed, or how the American gymnastics team faltered and fell when competing for gold and glory.

Yet, there is a single story that in my mind shadows even the

spectacular performances of Phelps and his team. The story didn't occur far from where Phelps himself competed; actually, this story also took place in the water. This is the story of Dara Torres.

According to her biography, Torres started swimming competitively at the age of 12. She shocked coaches with her quick reflexes and soon began making a name for herself. Torres competed in her first Olympic games in 1984, and left swimming after the Sydney games in 2000. But what does all

this have to do with the Beijing Olympics? Well, it's because Torres is back and better than ever.

Torres apparently just couldn't stay out of the pool, because at the age of 41, making her the oldest Olympian in U.S. history, she decided to go for gold again. She won her qualifying race and earned her fifth trip to the Olympic games, a feat never before accomplished by a swimmer. She won three more silver medals, but the fact that she didn't get gold doesn't really matter when you take the time

to see that every other swimmer was at least half her age.

Dara Torres should be a guiding light to every middle-aged man or women out there who feels they are stuck in a rut. It may not be something as important as competing in the Olympics again, but everyone has something in their life they can do to help themselves, and just because you feel you're too "old" is no excuse. Just look at Torres, living proof that life doesn't end at 30.

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Here are listings of the Lake Land College athletes and their schedules for the month. For more extensive schedules and rosters, check out the athletics link on the Lake Land College home page.

The softball roster is:  
Jenna Bradley, Lauren Covington, Megan Glosser, Kendra Ingram, Stephanie Mattocks, Chelsey Sullivan, Hailey Tinsman, Amanda Tran, Danielle Brattaglia, Brandy Wright, Brianna Athey, Mallory Bremer, Maria Dust, Danielle Finke, Aubrey Frank, Deana Lynch, Victoria Purcell, Kristin Runde, Nicole Runde, Geri Whitman

During September the softball team will play scrimmage games.

Sept. 13 UMSL St. Louis, MO  
Away, TBA

Sept. 20 St. Louis Exposure Tournament  
St. Louis, MO, TBA

Sept. 27 Indiana State Tournament  
Terre Haute, IN, TBA

Sept. 28 Indiana State Tournament  
Terre Haute, IN, TBA

The volleyball team has the following games during September.

Sept. 3, Rend Lake,  
Away, 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 5 - 6, Illinois Central  
Invitational,  
Away, TBA

Sept. 10, John A. Logan,  
Home, 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 12, West Plains  
Invitational,  
Away, TBA

Sept. 19 - 20, Southeastern  
Community College  
Tournament,  
Away, TBA

Sept. 23, Jefferson College,  
Home, 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 24, Southwestern Illinois  
College,  
Away, 6:30 p.m.

The baseball roster is:  
Marcus Smalls, Tyler Wirth, David Ciaglia, David Massengill, Jesse Brandt, Brax Briscoe, Mitchell Masse, Brock Bailey, Matthew Dallas, Trevor Summers, Tyler Fox, Joey Gradney, Robert Andrew Woodason, Justin Britton, Kenny Koenig, Cory Ames, Garrett Burris, Marshall Creed, Luke Greene, Adam Harrington, Shane Hood, Jeff Jenkins, Jeremy Jordan, Trey Kistler, Curran McNeeley, Ben Mehi, Andrew Miller, David Peters, Ben Sherrick, Ethan Willman, Alex Wright, Eric Gentry, Wade Burch, Adam Hosick, Andy Huber, Josh Garling

The baseball team has the following games this month.

Sept. 6, Kankakee CC,  
Away, 12:00 p.m.

Sept. 7, Olney CC,  
Away, TBA

Sept. 10, Danville CC,  
Away, 4:00 p.m.

Sept. 13, Austin Peay Showcase-  
Three Rivers Community  
College,  
Away, 10:00 a.m.

Sept. 13, Austin Peay Showcase-  
Jefferson County,  
Away, 3:00 p.m.

Sept. 21, Kankakee CC,  
Home, 12:00 p.m.

Sept. 27, Greenville College,  
Away, 12:00 p.m.

Sept. 28, Meramac Showcase,  
Away, TBA

# LET'S GO LAKERS

# West Building addition

By Drew Baugher  
Photo Editor

Progress on the new addition to the West Building at Lake Land College is evident to anyone that has visited the college this summer. The construction started on the addition in November 2007 and is expected to be completed in the summer of 2009, according to Curt Rincker, Lake Land Department Chair of Agriculture.

The addition will consist of three classrooms, four offices, one conference room and two large multi-purpose labs. All of the programs in the West Building will benefit from the addition, including the Agriculture, Cosmetology, Robotics, Civil Engineering and John Deere programs. Rincker was enthusiastic about the

potential for the development of the technology program, including the Outdoor Power and Precision in Agriculture programs.

The multi-purpose labs will not only be a place for new ideas to develop and experiments to be held, but other activities can be conducted there as well. Rincker sees the potential to utilize the areas for FFA events such as district contests, advisor meetings, and workshops as well as agriculture banquets.

The first phase of construction, the original building, was completed in 2002 and a ribbon cutting ceremony was conducted about a year ago. A dedication for the new addition will most likely be held during the next year.



West building is under construction and should be completed by summer of 2009.

The new addition will open a lot of opportunities for the college and for the development of technology. Rincker stated,

"We're really excited about adding space for the current students and opening opportunities up for the future."

# Replacing Common Grounds

By Mark Blume  
Student Writer



Vending machines are being put in to occupy the space left vacant by Common Grounds building.

J. & J. Ventures has been chosen by the Student Government Association to replace the empty spot left by Common Grounds. It was a decision centered around students and their personal input. "Laker Point is not developed for staff, it was developed for students," says Ray Rieck, Vice President of Business Relations, "and I talked to the students about it."

The college sent out a request for proposals and posted it in the Mattoon Journal Gazette and Charleston Times Courier, hoping to find a local business that could fit the students' desires. The decision was then left up to the S.G.A.

They decided on J. & J. Ventures, a company based out of Effingham, which distributes and stocks vending machines located all around Central Illinois. Yet, these machines are not the same as the ones already available in the foyer of the student services

"Pepsi will be supplying specialty drinks, like Sobe and Gatorade," says Chris Ward, Director of Auxiliary Services, "and it will have a complete section of freshly made, cold products." These products are made in the company's kitchen in Effingham, and then are shipped that same day to the machines.

The supply inside the machines changes with the seasons. In the summer they will have fresh fruit available, while in the winter they will have Chili and other hot soups. There will also be two microwaves available for student use.

"Of any one vendor to come in, they have the most variety," says Ward. The prices range anywhere from 75 cents to two dollars, and the college hopes to have the vending machines up and running by Aug. 25.

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