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Editors Note: A full list of medal winners are listed at the end of this release.

Illinois athletes win 27 medals at U.S. Transplant Games **Biennial event celebrates 50 years of transplantation**

CHICAGO, IL. (AUG. 16, 2004)—Team Illinois took home 27 medals, including 11 gold, eight silver and eight bronze medals from the U.S. Transplant Games, which ended Aug. 1.

Among the top medal winners were kidney transplant recipient Craig Kincaid of Lindenhurst, who won four gold medals in swimming events, and liver transplant recipient Jorie Von Ohlen of DeKalb, who won four medals in swimming and bicycling.

More than 60 Illinoisans traveled to Minneapolis in July to participate in the U.S. Transplant Games, a biennial Olympic-style athletic competition for transplant recipients. Raising awareness for lifesaving donation and transplantation, the Games are coordinated by the National Kidney Foundation and supported by organizations throughout the country. In Illinois, organizations include the National Kidney Foundation of Illinois and Gift of Hope Organ & Tissue Donor Network, the federally designated organ procurement organization serving Illinois and northwest Indiana.

More than 86,000 people—including more than 4,500 in Illinois—are waiting for lifesaving organ transplants. Even though Illinois' rates of donation and transplantation are among the nation's highest, the state—as well as the rest of the country—continues to experience an organ shortage. Nationally, 17 people die every day waiting for lifesaving organ transplants and more than 100 others—one every 13 minutes—are added to the national transplant waiting list.

For information about Team Illinois, visit <http://davidgoldmanwebdesign.com/teamillinois2004>.

For more information about the US Transplant Games, visit www.kidney.org/recips/athletics/tgames.

For more information about organ and tissue donation, visit www.giftofhope.org.

(MORE)

The following Team Illinois athletes who placed at the U.S. Transplant Games are:

<u>SPORT/MEDAL</u>	<u>NAME/HOMETOWN</u>
Badminton (Men's 60 & above division) <i>Bronze</i>	Jeff Schiff, Roselle
(Men's 40-49 division) <i>Silver</i>	David Meyer, Pekin
Basketball (Men's Open) <i>Silver</i>	Spare Parts: Mack Baxter, Schaumburg; Michael Henderson, Chicago; Craig Kincaid, Lindenhurst; David Meyer, Pekin; Brian Stiner, Aurora; and Brad Szczecinski, Chicago.
Bowling (Women's 17 & under) <i>Gold</i>	Melissa Knigge, Lindenhurst
(Women's 40-49) <i>Gold</i>	Pat Weidner, Lodge
(Women's team) <i>Gold</i>	Cathy Ostry, Elk Grove and Pat Weidner, Lodge
Cycling (1K, Women's 18-29) <i>Gold</i>	Jorie Von Ohlen, DeKalb
(20K, Women's 18-29) <i>Bronze</i>	Jorie Von Ohlen, DeKalb
(1K, Mens 40-49) <i>Silver</i>	Jeffrey Miller, Chicago
Golf (Men's 30-39) <i>Gold</i>	Brad Szczecinski, Chicago
(Men's 40-49) <i>Silver</i>	Steven Levitin, Chicago
(Men's 50-59) <i>Bronze</i>	Darrell Nall, Bloomington
(Men's Team) <i>Bronze</i>	Brian Hain, Berwyn, and Darrell Nall, Bloomington

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Swimming

(100 M IM, Men's 30-39)

Gold Craig Kincaid, Lindenhurst

(50 M Breaststroke, Men's 30-39)

Gold Craig Kincaid, Lindenhurst

(50 M Freestyle, Men's 30-39)

Gold Craig Kincaid, Lindenhurst

(50 M Butterfly, Men's 30-39)

Gold Craig Kincaid, Lindenhurst

(400 M Freestyle, Women's 30-39)

Silver Stephanie Wetzel, Champaign

(50 M Freestyle, Women's 30-39)

Silver Stephanie Wetzel, Champaign

(400 M Freestyle, Women's 18-29)

Silver Kara Perkins, East Peoria

(100 M IM, Women's 40-49)

Bronze Janice Gill, Orland Park

(400 M Freestyle, Women's 18-29)

Bronze Jorie Von Ohlen, DeKalb

Table Tennis

(Men's 60 & over)

Gold Jeff Schiff, Roselle

Track & Field

(Men's Long Jump Master's)

Gold Darrell Nall, Bloomington

(Girl's Long Jump)

Bronze Erin Fitzgerald, Morton

(Girl's Softball Throw)

Bronze Alana Carr, Lansing

(Women's Shot Put)

Bronze Jorie Von Ohlen, DeKalb

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