

GoodSports

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The Games Move On To Danbury in '08

The Nutmeg State Games will have a new home in 2008; the City of Danbury!!! 2008 marks the "Games" Platinum Anniversary, 20 years of running 1st class events for Connecticut athletes. The "Games" will be held July 26th – August 3rd and take place at Danbury High School, Western Connecticut State University, Rogers Park, Kenosia Park and various locations in Danbury and throughout western Connecticut. Opening Ceremonies are slated to be held at the Danbury High School Stadium.

See page 2 for more on the Nutmeg State Games



2007 Honorary Captain of the Nutmeg State Games Maria Conlon with athletes at the Opening Ceremonies at Kennedy Stadium.

2007 NUTMEG STATE GAMES MEDAL COUNT

Region	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
South	585	315	228	1128
West	517	341	134	992
East	288	225	294	807
North	301	215	272	788

off the evening with introductions and the traditional Parade of Athletes. Sadly, Bill passed away just weeks later. Everyone at the Nutmeg State Games will always be grateful for Bill's support and enthusiasm for the Games. He will be greatly missed!

Sports celebrities were in attendance and led each region in the Parade of Athletes, which included Maria Conlon, the Honorary Captain of the Nutmeg State Games and Nick Giaquinto, baseball coach at Sacred Heart University and a former UConn and NFL football player and Super Bowl winner with the Washington Redskins.

Opening Ceremonies featured the Red Bull Air Force Team (skydivers), considered one of the premier skydiving teams in the country. The 115 person Connecticut Hurricanes Drum & Bugle Corp, ranked #7 in the country for all age drum and bugle corps, performed their spectacular 11 minute field show. Bridgeport's Charlie Carroll; Health

Net's, Chief Operating Officer, Bill Lamoreaux; Richard J. Repeta, President Board of Directors, CT Sports Management Group; and Maria Conlon were on hand to welcome the athletes and the Games to Fairfield County and speak to the audience.

Following the guest speakers and entertainment, Jessica Imbro, 2006 Athlete of the Year, lit the Nutmeg

State Games cauldron with Honorary Captain former UCONN Husky Maria Conlon! The 2007 Nutmeg State Games were once again underway!

PERFECT 10!

2007 Opening Ceremonies & Star 99.9 Fan Fest

The 19th annual Nutmeg State Games Opening Ceremonies took place Sunday, July 29th at Kennedy Stadium in Bridgeport, despite rain showers and threat of thunderstorms. Over 2,500 athletes and spectators attended the Star 99.9 Fan Fest and Opening Ceremonies. Connecticut's largest youth sporting event was organized around the central theme of "Got Game? Prove it!". The Games' theme reflected the value driven mission of the Games—Good Kids Making Good Choices—to parents, kids, sponsors and the audience.

Prior to Opening Ceremonies, the Star 99.9 Fan Fest was featured from 2 to 4 p.m. Fans had the opportunity to

meet and greet athletes, win prizes, play games, and experience the exciting festivities! Fun-filled booths were located outside Kennedy Stadium. Health Net of the Northeast featured their prize wheel and mini golf! Kids and adults experienced Star 99.9 music and giveaways, CT Sun Solar Power Dancers, Sound Tigers Interactive Slap Shot Zone and Mascot, Red Bull New York Street Team, Red Bull Sampling Team, 24' Rock Climbing Wall, State Police Seat Belt Convincer station, Connecticut Chiropractic Association booth, Commerce Bank interactive station, National Scouting Report, Discovery Museum interactive station, Nutmeg State Games merchandise station, and festive food stations!



Master of Ceremonies Bill Gonillo at the Opening Ceremonies

We were proud to have Bill Gonillo, Sports Director, News 12 Connecticut, emcee the Opening Ceremonies and kick

Letter from the Executive Director

It is with a great deal of pride and, yes, excitement that we offer the 20th edition of the Nutmeg State Games.

In 1989 when Dan Doyle, Congressman John Larson and I joined forces to bring to Connecticut this unique and thrilling event, we had no idea that it would be so warmly and widely accepted.

Designed to accommodate not only the very best athletes our state had to offer, but also to focus on the core values of athletic participation: good sportsmanship, respect for opponents and officials, playing within the rules, preparing physically and mentally to compete, etc., etc., it seems from the very beginning, the event "struck a nerve!"

Each year, since its inception, the Games have grown and each year every one of the 169 towns and cities in Connecticut have been represented by at least one athlete. In addition, more than a few of those towns and cities have hosted the Games: Willimantic, New Britain, Hartford, Quinnipiac College in Hamden, New London, Bridgeport and this year, Danbury. We are most thankful to those cities and the wonderful people in each who have made our event successful.

I would be remiss if I did not extend a special thanks to state officials and sponsors who have dedicated tremendous amounts of financial resources to our event. Without them, and there have been many, we would have been hard pressed to continue to offer this great event for the youth of Connecticut.

And finally, it is my distinct pleasure to announce here, for the first time, that to celebrate our 20th anniversary, entry fees for all teams and athletes for the 2008 Nutmeg State Games will be what they were in 1989 – a significant savings to all participants.

We are ready to offer our best event ever and hope you will join us this July-August in the beautiful City of Danbury for what promises to be a truly spectacular and memorable experience! See you soon!

Yours in sport,

William G. Mudano
Executive Director

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