

## Rogge: Olympics Transform China's Image

On the eve of the Beijing Olympics, IOC President Jacques Rogge said the Games will change global perceptions of China for the better and provide a major boost for the Olympic Movement.

"They will see a country with a history, tradition and culture of 5,000 years. I think this will change the perception of China to the world," Rogge said at a press conference Thursday following the conclusion of the IOC Session.

"I believe the spotlight on China will help the world to understand China better and maybe for China to understand the world better. I think this will extend beyond the closing ceremony of the Games on Aug. 24."

With less than 24 hours until the Games open, Rogge said he is excited about the prospects for the Beijing Games.

"We have prepared for seven years with BOCOG. I feel like the athlete who knows he or she has done everything possible before the competition," he told a packed news conference at the Main Press Center in Beijing.

Rogge also said the Beijing Olympics would elevate the stature of the Olympic Movement.

"China will be opening up Olympism for one-fifth of mankind, 1.3 billion people. That is the unique picture that only China can offer."

Rogge denied that the persistent smog hovering over Beijing will ruin the opening ceremony and cast a shadow over the Games, saying the haze was linked to heat and humidity and not necessarily pollution factors.

"We prefer clear skies, but the most important thing is the health of the athletes," said Rogge, claiming the IOC's

## KODAK PHOTO OF THE DAY



Getty Images ©

medical commission supports BOCOG's view that there is no risk to athletes for the majority of sports events apart from some endurance events such as the marathon.

"The Chinese authorities have done everything feasible and humanly possible to address the situation. What they have done is extraordinary," he said, noting the anti-pollution measures undertaken, including the removal of over one million cars from the city's roads in recent months.

Despite IOC pressure on the governments of North and South Korea, Rogge confirmed that the teams will parade one behind the other at the opening ceremony Friday, the order of teams dictated by the mandarin alphabet.

Rogge said he had sent letters to the presidents of North and South Korea to encourage them to come to a deal "but unfortunately to no avail."

"We tried to have this in Beijing, but unfortunately it was not possible. The

IOC has taken many initiatives to bring together the two NOCs. There was great willingness on the side of sport to have a joint march like we had in Sydney and Athens.

"But the political powers both on the south and the north did not agree," he said. "I regret this very much because this is a setback for peace and harmony."

Meanwhile, Rogge also warned athletes planning to protest against China's alleged human rights abuses to confine their protests to the right areas.

"The athletes have the full right to express their views outside the accredited zones while respecting the laws of the country," he said.

"We do not want demonstrations or propaganda, for instance, on the podiums, in the Olympic Village or in venues."

- Mark Bisson

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## 全世界同处一方 分享同一梦想

全世界各民族参加一个和平竞赛，庆祝我们拥有一个美好并充满青春活力的世界。这次，巴西有史以来最大的奥运代表团热切希望能亲身感受奥林匹克的价值，并且荣幸地期待上百万的巴西体育爱好者的支持。

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# Moroccan Olympic Champion Elected to IOC Board

Morocco IOC member Nawal El Moutawakel pledged her “full commitment” to the work of the Olympic Family after her election to the IOC Executive Board Thursday.

The Olympic 400m hurdles gold medalist at Los Angeles 1984 becomes the highest-ranking woman in the Olympic Movement and first female from a Muslim nation to sit on the IOC’s rule-making body.

“I feel honored. I will give my full commitment to the work that is done in this wonderful [Olympic] Family to promote even more our Olympic ideals,” said El Moutawakel.

The 46 year old stood unopposed for a seat on the 15-member board after Puerto Rico’s Richard Carrion and Great Britain’s Craig Reddie said they would not contest the seat.

She was elected by a vote of 85-12 at the conclusion of the IOC Session in Beijing.

El Moutawakel fills the unofficial spot for a female member on the board vacated by IOC Vice President Gunilla Lindberg, who leaves after eight years on the EB.

Carrion was re-elected to serve another term on the board. Craig Reddie had hoped to give London 2012 organizers a boost by winning a place on the board.

Carrion picked up 56 of the 99 votes cast for the seat.

Lindberg’s vice-president seat is

taken by Ziaqing Yu of China, who moves up from a regular seat on the board. After helping to steer China’s Olympic preparations for the past seven years, he said he would be spending “more time and energy to promote the Olympic Movement in my country and the world in future.”

Denis Oswald, IOC member from Switzerland and president of the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations, and Mexico’s Mario Vazquez Rana, president of the Association of National Olympic Committees, are re-elected for another four years.

Rene Fasel, president of the Association of International Olympic Winter Federations, is a new face on the board.

**‘I will give my full commitment to the work that is done in this wonderful [Olympic] Family to promote even more our Olympic ideals.’**

**- Nawal El Moutawakel**

He replaces Italy’s Ottavio Cinquanta, who after eight years on the EB made way for Fasel. Fasel was nominated as the winter sports representative by members of the seven sports federations of AIOWF at their general assembly in Athens in June.

Frank Fredericks, new chair of the Athletes Commission, fills the seat left by Sergey Bubka.



*Nawal El Moutawakel (ATR)*

But Bubka returns to the fold as one of two new IOC members elected by virtue of the positions they hold at an NOC or international sports federation. Bubka is president of the Ukrainian NOC.

Turkey’s Ugur Erdener’s term as IOC member is linked to his presidency of the International Archery Federation. Erdener is also a member of the Turkish NOC’s board of directors.

## **2011 IOC Session**

Durban knocked off Hong Kong to be host of the 2011 IOC Session. The South African city was elected by a vote of 67-32 at the Session.

“This is the first time the IOC Session is on the African continent,” said IOC president Jacques Rogge.

The 2011 Session will select the host of the 2018 Winter Games.

**- Mark Bisson**



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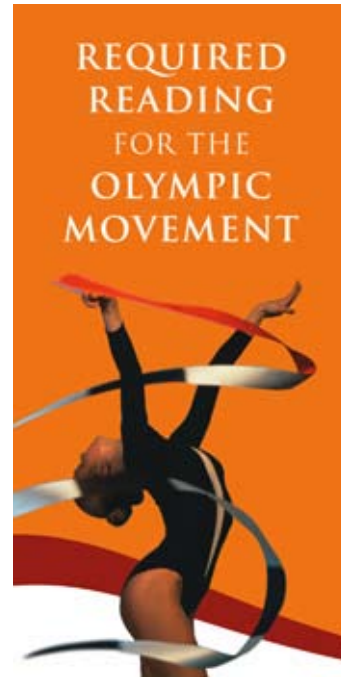
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











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# 2008 Medal Projections

		Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total			Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
U.S.		49	25	27	101	Spain		6	6	8	20
China		38	25	25	88	Cuba		5	8	4	17
Russia		32	31	27	90	Japan		5	7	19	31
Great Britain		18	10	20	48	Netherlands		5	7	12	24
Germany		17	15	27	59	Poland		5	6	10	21
Australia		16	11	13	40	Hungary		5	4	11	20
France		11	18	13	42	Kenya		5	3	5	13
Italy		10	14	20	44	Brazil		5	3	4	12
Korea		8	7	10	25	Canada		4	6	3	13
Belarus		7	3	6	16	New Zealand		4	6	1	11

*\*Based on results in recent World Championships. Projections are by Luciano Barra, former director of sport for the Italian Olympic Committee (CONI), and deputy CEO of TOROC 2006. Barra has been projecting medal counts for 10 years by analyzing past performances.*

## Today's Highlights

- Olympic torch relay; begins 7 a.m. at Peking Man Museum, Beijing 101 School.
- Games of the XXIV Olympiad Opening Ceremony. National Stadium, 8 p.m.
- Opening Ceremony Party at Olympic Rendezvous at Samsung, Olympic Green, 8 p.m.

## Quote of the Day

*"We are smarter than we used to be and we believe that as each month goes by, we're learning more. We're targeting, our investigations are becoming effective and we're seeing results that are not based on testing. When we do get a detection process, we are certainly not going to broadcast it."*

- WADA president **John Fahey**

## Beijing International Media Center

**Time:** 2:30 p.m.

**Venue:** Hall 2

**Subject:** Integration of World Economy and China's Manufacturing Industry

## Main Press Centre

**Time:** 10-10:45 a.m.

**Venue:** Room 1

**Subject:** Beijing is Ready - Press Conference

*\*Shuttles for Olympic torch relay media opportunities depart from MPC at three times: 4 a.m. for the start at the Peking Man Museum; 9 a.m. for the Beijing Economic and Technology Area; 9:50 a.m. for the final stop at Beijing 101 School. Arrive at MPC 30 minutes early for security.*

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# Venue Report: Tianjin Olympic Centre Stadium

Tianjin was one of three cities to host the first day of Olympic football on Aug. 6 with a pair of women's games at the 60,000-seat Tianjin Olympic Centre Stadium.

It was a muggy night at the one-year-old stadium, but that didn't deter the 23,201 faithful who were on hand for Canada's 2-1 win over Argentina or the 37,902 who witnessed host China's 2-1 defeat of Sweden. Located 120 km from Beijing, China's third-largest urban area welcomed the large contingent of Olympic fans.

At half time, spectators thronged to the food and drink stands. Budweiser, Tsingtao and Yanjing beer were 5 and 8 RMB each (approximately \$1 U.S. dollar). Other selections included Coca-Cola products (5 RMB), hot dogs and sandwiches (8 RMB), cake (30 RMB, \$4), President snack noodles (2 RMB) and Yili ice cream (4 and 6 RMB).

Several upper deck sections remained empty, except for lone security guards. Some parts of the Beijing station were guarded by police with dogs and machine guns. There was also evidence of the work left to be done. In parts of both train stations, construction work was still in progress.



At Tianjin Stadium, Canada's women beat Argentina. (ATR/B.Mackin)

It was also obvious that China is trying to focus visitors' attention on the bright and shiny projects they have completed. Around various parts of the stadium, Look of the Games banners stretched to the edges. In other parts of the city, older residential areas were hidden behind other large Games banners and signs.

- **Bob Mackin**



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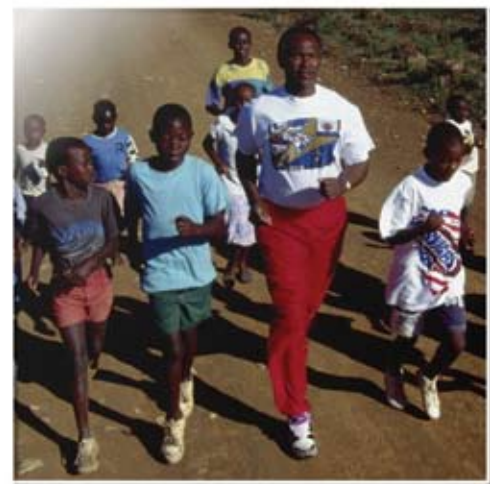
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# On the Scene in Beijing: Tropical Storm Hits Venues

Tropical storm Kammuri made landfall on Hong Kong, damaging signs at the Olympic equestrian venues, but organizers said it will not impact the Games.

Equestrian Company, the company in charge of running the Beas River and Sha Tin sites said there were six reports of damage, but the affected areas will be quickly repaired.

Kammuri's winds registered more than 100kmh and caused delays to 24 horses being shipped in to Hong Kong.

"The horses have taken advantage of the wet weather," says a company spokesman.

## IOC Punishes Australian Network

The IOC bans Australia's Nine Network from the Olympics for one week after a news crew breached strict rules by filming at the Water Cube swimming venue in Beijing.

"I can confirm that the IOC has taken action against what was, in our view, a serious breach of the news access rules," said IOC communications director Giselle Davies.

The rules are that non-rights holders are not permitted to access or film within any Olympic venue.

"The Nine Network ENR crew will not be issued Olympic Green Common Domain filming passes and will not be permitted to enter the Olympic Green Common Domain with equipment.

This sanction is effective immediately and will

end at 2400hrs on Aug. 13," Davies said.

"They gave assurances that such breaches would not occur again," Davies added, although she noted that a "similar venue breach incident" was committed by Nine Network at the Athens 2004 Olympics.

The IOC sanction comes after rival Seven Network, the official rights holder, filed a complaint with the IOC that Nine had acted illegally by filming in the venue.

The Nine Network apologized to the IOC and Channel 7 and agreed not to air the footage.

## Lost and Found

Members of the U.S. Olympic team made a symbolic show of support for the plight of the Sudanese by choosing Lopez Lomong, one of the "Lost Boys of Sudan," as their flagbearer for Friday's Olympics opening ceremony.

The vote came a day after the Chinese government denied a visa to Joey Cheek, the U.S. speedskating gold medalist who co-founded Team Darfur.

Lomong is a member of Team Darfur, which is trying to raise awareness about the violence and human suffering in the war-torn Darfur region in Sudan.

China's trade policies with Sudan have been criticized by human rights groups.

In selecting the flagbearer, a U.S. team captain



from each sport was allowed to nominate an athlete. The captains then discussed the nominees and voted.

Lomong, 23, will compete in the 1,500 meters in Beijing, his first major international event, after finishing third in the event at the U.S. Olympic Trials.

He was born in Sudan and fled the country at age six, after militiamen abducted him with the intent of turning him into a boy soldier. Separated from his family, Lomong lived in a refugee camp in Kenya for 10 years. In 2000, he walked five miles to watch the Sydney Olympics on a black-and-white television.

(continued on page 10)

## Photo Highlights



At the IOC Session gala on August 4: Francois Carrard (left), former director general of the IOC, with Claude Nobs, founder of the Montreux Jazz Festival. Carrard is chairman of the board for the festival. (ATR)



Chicago Mayor Richard Daley. (ATR)



Former IOC executive Francoise Zweifel with Olympic filmmaker Bud Greenspan. He and his crew are working on two films at the Beijing Olympics. (ATR)

# On the Scene: *Flag 'Means Everything'*

(continued from page 9)

After writing an essay about what he would like to accomplish if he lived in the U.S., he moved to Tully, N.Y., to live with a foster family. He only became a U.S. citizen in July 2007.

"The American flag means everything in my life - everything that describes me, coming from another country and going through all of the stages that I have to become a U.S. citizen," Lomong said in a statement.

"This is another amazing step for me in celebrating being an American. Seeing my fellow Americans coming behind me [in the opening ceremony] and supporting me will be a great honor - the highest honor. It's just a happy day. I don't even have the words to describe how happy I am."

Lomong joins a long line of U.S. flagbearers dating back to 1908 who include Rafer Johnson (1960); Olga Fikotova Connolly (1972), who emigrated to the U.S. after winning the 1956 discus throw for Czechoslovakia; and Evelyn Ashford (1988). Basketball player Dawn Staley carried the flag for the U.S. team in Athens.

- ATR Staff

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# SPORT EVENT DENMARK

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### SOME EXAMPLES OF MAJOR SPORTS EVENTS HOSTED IN DENMARK:

- World Artistic Gymnastics Championship 2006 (FIG)
- World Orienteering Championship 2006 (IOF)
- World Match Racing Championship for women 2006 (ISAF)
- World Standard Championship 2006 (IDSF)
- World Floorball Championship for women 2007 (IFF)
- World Sailing Farr 40 Championship 2007 (ISAF)

### SOME EXAMPLES OF UPCOMING MAJOR EVENTS TO BE HOSTED IN DENMARK:

- World Taekwondo Championships 2009 (WTF)
- UEFA Congress 2009 (UEFA)
- World Wrestling Championship 2009 (FILA)
- 121st Session & XIII Olympic Congress 2009 (IOC)
- World Track Cycling Championship 2010 (UCI)
- World Road Cycling Championship 2011 (UCI)



# Steve Parry, 64, Olympics Press Expert, Journalist

Only doctor's orders could keep Steve Parry from attending the Beijing Olympics. Parry, who had been suffering from respiratory illness, died Thursday on the eve of what would have been his 11th Summer Games - 12th if you count the 1948 Olympics when he was a young boy.

"Steve was bitten by the Olympics at a very early age," Paul Radford, Reuters sports editor, told Around the Rings.

Radford said Parry used to tell stories about an Olympic competitor staying in his house in Wembley. He joined Reuters in 1966 and was sports editor from 1982-2000. He also served on the IOC Press Commission during that time and received the Olympic Order, a rare honor for a journalist.

"Everybody knew he was the expert on how the press works

at the Olympics," Radford said.

After retiring from Reuters, Parry was a consultant for the IOC and later for London 2012. Jayne Pearce, press chief for London 2012, said Parry was an invaluable contributor at the press commission level. "He knew exactly what the press wanted and he made sure he let the organizers know," she tells ATR. "He wasn't afraid to express an opinion, even an unpopular opinion. He was an innovator and somebody who got things done.

"He really cared about the London Games and wanted to be involved to the end and he would have been."

IOC president Jacques Rogge expressed his regret at Perry's passing and offered condolences to the journalist's family at the start of his Thursday press conference.

- ATR Staff

## Beijing Photo Gallery



Fireworks illuminate the Bird's Nest during an opening ceremony dress rehearsal. / Getty Images



Beijing hairdresser Huang Xin makes Olympic memorabilia, such as torches and Fuwa, out of hair. / Getty Images



Beijing officials have stepped up security to prevent a terrorist attack. / Getty Images



Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva greets Chinese President Hu Jintao. Brazil is bidding for the 2016 Summer Olympics. / Getty Images

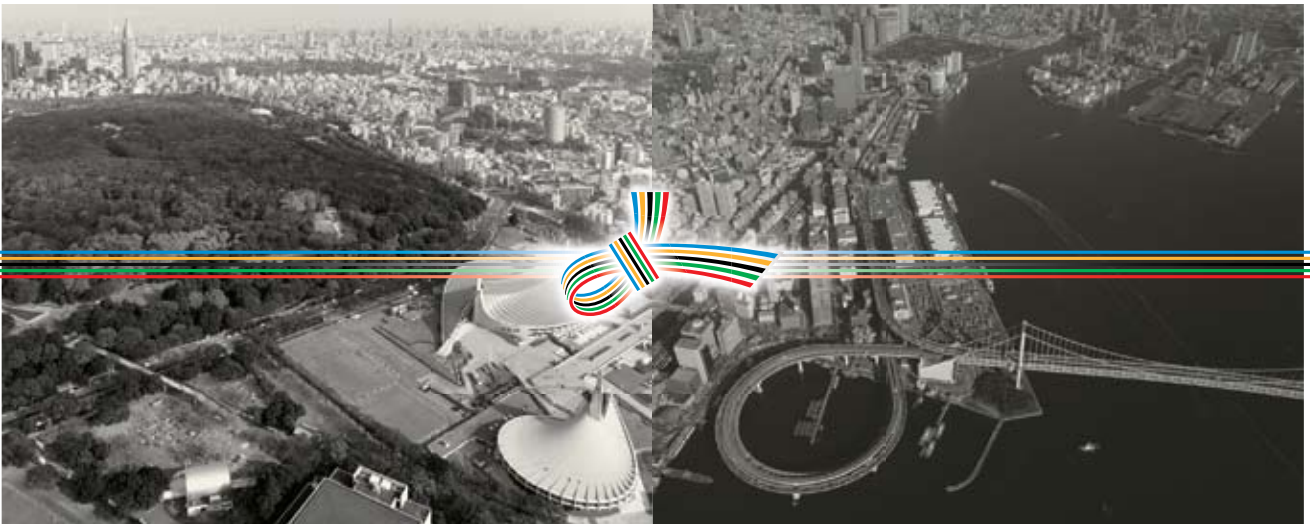


Preparations are in full swing in Beijing. / Getty Images



An enthusiastic fan had logos tattooed to his torso. / Getty Images

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