

1996 Olympic Torch Relay Recruits Community Hero Torchbearers

LAS VEGAS, NV — Look closely at the torchbearers who carry the Olympic flame in the 1996 Olympic Torch Relay, and you'll see the faces of Community Heroes — people whose service to others and meaningful contributions to their community shed light into the lives of many Americans.

The Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG) is seeking 5,500 Community Hero torchbearers who will help share the spirit of the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games by bringing the glow of the Olympic flame to millions of people in America's cities and rural areas, along its major streets and back roads, across deserts and over mountains.

"Community Heroes are the foundation of America's greatness," said Billy Payne, president and CEO of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games. "These men and women, with their diverse backgrounds, are the catalysts of the programs and institutions that contribute so much to the future of our communities. Who better deserves the honor of carrying the Olympic flame than these local heroes who everyday, in every action, bring to life the meaning of the Olympic Spirit."

On April 27, 1996, the first of 10,000 torchbearers will receive the Olympic flame and begin an 84-day, 15,000-mile journey across America. More than half of these torchbearers — Community Heroes — will be selected on the merits of their service to others through a selection process that is being facilitated by the local United Way. After traveling through 42 states, the 1996 Olympic Torch relay, presented by Coca-Cola, concludes in Atlanta at the Opening Ceremony of the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games on

July 19, 1996.

How do you become a Community Hero, someone who will write a page of Olympic history?

It's easy to become a Community Hero. The torchbearer selection process is open to all people in the community who wish to participate. Community Heroes may be nominated by themselves or others through an official entry form that includes writing an essay of up to 100 words to describe the significance of the nominee's contribution to the community. Entry forms are available at distribution points through United Way of Southern Nevada. Individuals who wish to request an entry form to be sent by U.S. mail may call Coca-Cola at 1-800-4-96-COKE.

What are the criteria for being a Community Hero?

The Community Hero program rewards people who embrace America's core community values. Their lives will mirror the spirit of the Olympic Games: respect for human dignity, the joy found in effort, the value of good example and service to others — simple qualities of a hero. And those designated as Community heroes will be active practitioners of volunteerism and community service. There is a broad definition of service to others used in the selection process.

People who consistently help their neighbors, are role models of achievement or who are involved in programs that improve the quality of life for people in the community may qualify.

All Community Heroes will possess one or more of the core values and ideals, on which torchbearer nominees will be evaluated:

Outstanding volunteer work;

leadership, role model or mentor; acts of generosity or kindness; extraordinary feats or accomplishments, locally or nationally.

Who will judge Community Heroes?

Two groups of judges comprising respected leaders from communities in 150 judging regions will determine which nominees will gain the honor of being Community Heroes. For example, respected community leaders, who will be selected by the same Community Hero criteria, in Southern California will choose the Community Hero torchbearers in Los Angeles and the surrounding area, rather than by a national lottery or selection process.

A torchbearer does not have to be an athlete to carry the Olympic flame. The Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games is seeking people who make meaningful contributions to others to carry the torch up to one kilometer.

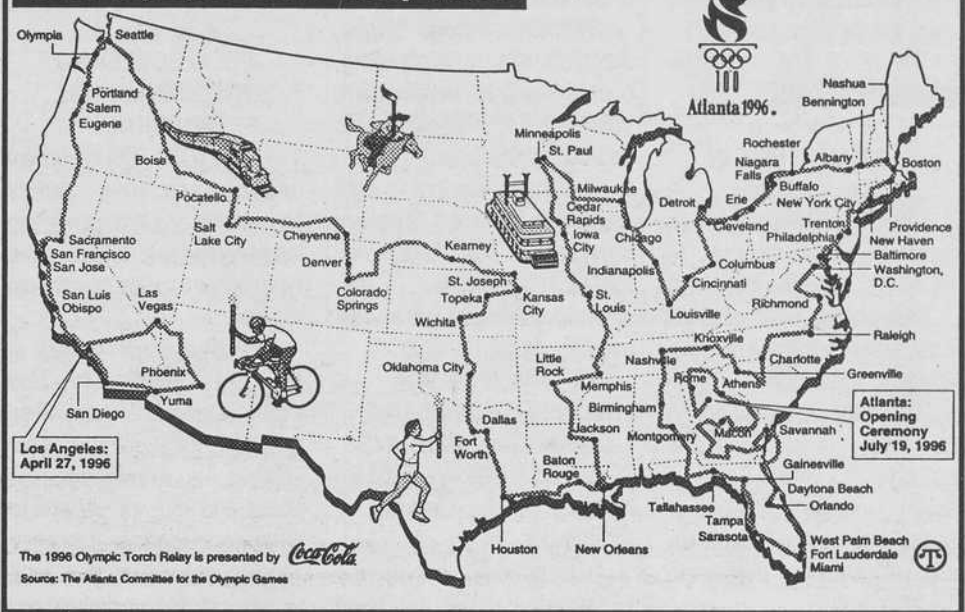
ACOG will supply all torchbearers who participate in the 1996 Olympic Torch Relay with a uniform and make available for purchase at cost the torch carried by each torchbearer.

Torchbearers will carry the flame, in or nearby their community, on a date and segment designated by ACOG. Torchbearers representing every state will be selected to participate in the 1996 Olympic Torch Relay.

The other torchbearer selection method for people to participate in the 1996 Olympic Torch Relay includes a national and international program by Coca-Cola.

Approximately 2,500 torchbearers will be selected through a program called "Share the Spirit" to be launched by Coca-Cola in February 1996.

1996 Olympic Torch Relay Route



There is no purchase required. United Way of Southern Nevada is the community's farthest reaching non-governmental health and human

services provider. More than \$7.7 million was raised last year to reach out and touch the lives of thousands of Southern Nevadans in need.

United Way is also the primary provider of community support and volunteer services for the 1996 Olympic Torch Relay through Southern Nevada.

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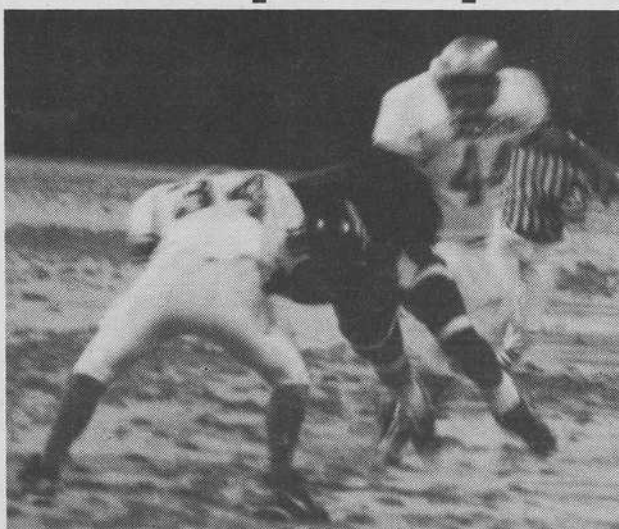
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Prep Football Championship

Continued From Page 16 interception by Mike Redding to give Cheyenne a 40-28 lead. Schmidt hooked-up with wide receiver Dumas for a 44-yard reception to help set up that touchdown. Dumas finished with 5 receptions for 100 yards and one touchdown.

"We have good wide receivers, said Cheyenne assistant Ricky Watts, a former NFL wide receiver and assistant at UNLV. "We told everybody that we can catch the ball and run with it. These kids want to win it all and they are determined not to stumble along the way."

All-Conference linebacker Billy Cooks suffered a mild concussion in Friday's action



Senior running back Eddie Hartwell (4 carries for 48 yards) tied the game at 28-28 by running in the two point conversion.

Photo by Savoy/LVS-Voice

but is expected to be ready for Wooster. However, runningback

Mike Newson is out with a broken collarbone.