



Media and Public Relations Division

For Immediate Release
February 5, 2007

University of Central Oklahoma Joins With USOC to Promote Sportsmanship at John Marshall

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – The United States Olympic Committee (USOC) announced January 17 that the Olympic value of “Sportsmanship” will be the theme promoted by the organization in 2007 as a part of its multi-year National Olympic Education Program. To help launch the year-two promotion, the University of Central Oklahoma worked with the USOC to coordinate the appearance of Kelly Garrison Funderburk at the New John Marshall. “Real Athletes Are Good Sports” will be the message promoted by Kelly Garrison Funderburk at John Marshall, along with emphasis on the importance of being active to feel one’s best.

Throughout the year, Olympians and Paralympians will speak to middle and high school students about their personal histories and experiences as representatives of our nation. They will also show a DVD of Olympic highlights and stories about athletes whose actions espouse the positive aspects of sportsmanship.

WHO: Kelly Garrison Funderburk, 1988 Olympic Gymnast
WHAT: “Sportsmanship” Presentation from Kelly Garrison Funderburk
WHEN: February 6, 2007 from 8:30 -9:30 a.m. & 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
WHERE: New John Marshall High School
CONTACT: Shelly Ramsey, (405) 974-3151

To support the focus on sportsmanship, the USOC has developed posters that target three distinct levels of sport participation:

- Elite Athletes – Olympians, Paralympians and hopefuls
- Emerging Elite Athletes – college and junior national programs
- Grass-roots Athletes – high school and youth sports

In addition, television public service announcements have been developed featuring athletes who exemplify sportsmanship in their actions and beliefs. Athletes supporting the initiative through the public service announcements include:

- **Hunter Kemper** – triathlon
- **Kristie Marano, Iris Smith** – women’s wrestling

The Community Partner Program was launched in September 2005 and currently has 10 cities across the nation participating.

Media interested in attending the presentation must obtain approval from the participating school. For more information, please contact the USOC’s Media & Public Relations Division at (719) 866-4529

