



*Aquatic Times*

Featured Athlete/Coach Archives

Note: All Archive Files are in PDF Format.



### Previous Featured Articles for 2005

[Olympian, Ian Crocker](#)

### Previous Featured Articles for 2004

[Forrest White](#)  
[Olympic Diver Kimiko Soldati-Part 2](#)  
[Olympic Diver Kimiko Soldati-Part 1](#)  
[DVC Men's Water Polo](#)  
[Aquatic Times Hosts Bottomline Aquatic Clinic](#)  
[Pacific Masters 2004 SC Champs](#)  
[Natalie Coughlin in at NorCal in WC](#)  
[Olympic Diver, Kimiko Hirai Soldati](#)  
[Crow Canyon Coach Matt Struempf](#)  
[Aquanut Show II](#)  
[Aquanut Show I](#)  
[County Championships II](#)  
[County Championships I](#)  
[VSA's Championships](#)  
[Caitlyn Gunn](#)  
[Tri-Valley Master Water Polo Team](#)  
[Forest Parks' Marco Brunamonti](#)  
[Crow Canyon Coaches](#)  
[WHO's Charlotte Brown](#)

---

## AT Feature: 2004 Olympic Gold Medalist, Michael Phelps

---



*Olympic Gold Medalist, Michael Phelps*

*By Debbie Johnson*

Watching Michael Phelps swim "live" is a treat to any swimmer who has been following his successful career. "Swim with the Stars" made a lot of swimmers' dreams come true when Phelps made an appearance at the "Santa Clara Aquatic Center." Phelps shows dedication both in at out of the water, and later Aquatic Times was able to take follow up with a exclusive written interview and take a peek into Phelps' experience:

**AT:** Was there ever a time you wanted to quit swimming and, if so, what kept you going?

**MICHAEL:** Early in my career, I had to make a decision to concentrate on swimming and not do other sports. It was hard for me to see my friends playing other sports and hanging out when I had to be more disciplined. During that time it was hard to stay focused, but I managed, and am very glad that I did!

Antioch Delta Skimmer, Emily Gonzales  
 Bentley HS and WCAB Swimmer, Dash  
 Rothberg  
 Lamorinda Water Polo Coach, Boyd LaChance  
 USA Swimmer, Jocelyn Phillips  
 Local Artist Suzy Wear  
 Coach Mike Bottom-Cal  
 Josh Scott-Syracuse University  
 Hannah Hair-Vista Diablo  
 Billy Hayes-De La Salle  
 Coach Mike Heaney-Walnut Creek Aquabears  
 Chris Danesi-Terrapins  
 McCall Dorr-Orinda Aquatics'  
 Kelly Koch-Diablo Valley College  
 Olympian Jeff Rouse

**Previous Featured Articles for  
 2003**

Coach Leonard Chaplin-DVC  
 Coach Brian Holm-Dewing Park  
 Coaches From Around the League 4  
 Coaches From Around the League 3  
 Coaches From Around the League 2  
 Coaches From Around the League 1  
 Coaches-Walnut Creek Championships  
 AT Features REC Assistant Coaches  
 Gehringer Gators Coaching Staff  
 Kelly McCabe-Diablo Valley College  
 Katy Erhardt-Diablo Valley College  
 Blake Henderson  
 Sean Peneyra-Vista Diablo  
 Sam Craven-Vista Diablo  
 Jocelyn Chang  
 Ryan Wall  
 Dewing Park 8&un Girls  
 Jimmy Bailey-Diablo Valley College  
 Blake Henderson  
 Chelsea Allard  
 Suzanne Heim-Bowen  
 Dave Boatwright  
 Lauren Rogers



**AT:** There was an obvious difference between the emotions you expressed winning an "individual gold" versus the "team gold". Can you describe that difference?

**MICHAEL:** Winning the first gold was immeasurable! It was incredible! That was my goal - to get the gold - and after that, I felt a huge relief. The relay was so much fun to be a part of! I was equally proud, but had a blast swimming the relay. I was excited for my teammates and myself, so it was easy to get overwhelmed with emotions.



**AT:** What, to you, is the importance of a mother/son relationship and what advice do you have for sons to become closer to their mothers?

**MICHAEL:** I am lucky to have a great family. I could not have been successful without my mother's support. You have to trust each other and give enough space.

**AT:** You're a swimmer, but there is more to you than just that. If someone got to know you, what would they find out about who you are away from the pool?

**MICHAEL:** I am an average kid. I like music, video games, and hanging out. I think that if someone got to know me, they would figure out that I am who I am in the pool - a hardworking average

person.

**You can find our more about this swimming sensation by visiting his [official website](#).**

---

Is your team not being covered in AT??? Do you have a swimmer(s)/coach that you would like to be featured in AT? Then give us a call at 60 WATER.

[PDF Printer Friendly Version](#)

You will need [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#) to view & print this article. If you don't have it, you can download a free copy of it [here](#).

---

**[Check Out AT's 2003 REC Championships Results](#)**

**[Back to Front Page](#)**

---

*Copyright © 2003-2004 Aquatic Times*

[Back to Top](#)