

Multisport Mecca Puts Carson on World Stage

The plan originally called for a new soccer stadium to house the Los Angeles Galaxy, but the Home Depot Center has mushroomed into much more than that. The sprawling complex features not only a 27,000-seat gem as its showpiece, but several world-class venues to host major national and international competitions in sports such as tennis, cycling, beach volleyball and track and field.

Owned and operated by AEG, the 85-acre site, situated on the campus of Cal State Dominguez Hills in the suburb of Carson, Calif., has evolved into the largest multisport complex of its kind in the United States.

In addition to the main stadium, the \$140 million "sports campus" includes a 13,000-seat tennis stadium, a 3,500-seat indoor cycling velodrome, and a track and field facility that will have 2,000 permanent seats expandable to 20,000 for major sporting events or concerts.

"The Home Depot Center represents the largest private investment into amateur athletics in America's history. These facilities will develop



A 27,000-seat soccer stadium is the new home of the Galaxy, 2002 MLS Cup Champions.

Olympic athletes, host world-class events and serve as a training hub for some of the best athletes in our nation," said Tim Leiweke, AEG president and a member of the Sports Council's board of directors.

The massive development also includes facilities for inline roller hockey, basketball, baseball and softball fields, volleyball courts, six practice soccer fields and 30 tennis courts.

Additional amenities include office space, a

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Area to Host Multiple World Championships

The new Home Depot Center with its first-rate facilities enables AEG, the Sports Council and their partners to pursue world championship-caliber events in a variety of Olympic-type sports, ensuring L.A.'s status as a world sports capital.

The Council has already supported successful bids to bring four major international events in three sports to the new facility in Carson, Calif.

- **2004/2005 Track Cycling World Championships.** Two major cycling events -- the 2004 Junior World Track Cycling Championships and the 2005 UCI World Track Championships -- are scheduled for the new indoor velodrome, now under construction.

- **2005 Beach Volleyball World Championships.** In a unique plan, truckloads of sand will be imported and the competition will take place inside the tennis stadium at the Home Depot Center.

- **2006 IAAF World Cup.** Held only every four years, the competition consists of most of the events on the Olympic track and field program but with finals only, meaning no heats, and all participants are there by qualification or invitation only.

The Council also has been instrumental in bringing a world championship to Anaheim, Calif., in August, and is currently working on several other world championship bids for Greater Los Angeles. Among these are:

- **2003 World Gymnastics Championships.** The Arrowhead Pond will host the world's top gymnasts as more than 735 athletes and 80 nations compete to qualify for the Athens Olympics. The Sports Council partnered with the Anaheim venue to bring this competition to Southern California for the first time.

- **2005 Badminton World Championships.** Anaheim, along with cities in Singapore and Denmark, are the three finalists for this competition. If successful, the site will be the Arrowhead Pond. A decision from the International Badminton Federation is expected this spring.

- **2007 World Weightlifting Championships.** The Sports Council will be submitting a bid to USA Weightlifting for this event. A decision by the International Weightlifting Federation is expected in November.

Rothenberg New Chair of Sports Council



Alan I. Rothenberg

away in August 2002 from leukemia.

"This is a bittersweet moment. I am honored to be selected to chair the Los Angeles Sports Council, but the fact that this arises only because of the untimely death of John Argue, one of the great men in our community, saddens me deeply. He was extraordinary. I will follow him. No one can replace him," Rothenberg said.

In addition to being a longtime prominent attorney in Southern California, Rothenberg has a considerable sports resume and is perhaps best recognized for his work in the sport of soccer. He served as chairman of the board of the breakthrough 1999 FIFA Women's World Cup;

chairman and CEO of the 1994 World Cup Organizing Committee, which staged the historic and incredibly successful '94 World Cup; and president of the United States Soccer Federation. He also is the founder of Major League Soccer, which began in April 1996.

In the past, he has acted as soccer commissioner for the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee, and also served as a member of the NBA's Board of Governors (1971-79, 1982-90) while representing the L.A. Lakers and L.A. Clippers, respectively.

Prominent in both civic and business realms, Alan was a law partner at Manatt, Phelps, Rothenberg & Phillips for more than 20 years, before joining the prestigious firm Latham & Watkins in 1990. He retired from the firm as a partner in 2001 and now serves as a professional mediator and arbitrator.

"Alan is one of the rare individuals who bridge the world of business and sports very effectively, and he has an international reputation that already is helping us attract more events to Southern California," said David Simon, Sports Council president. 

In The News...

Torrey Pines in La Jolla, Calif., was awarded golf's 2008 U.S. Open, beating out finalist Riviera CC. The municipal golf course is the site for the PGA Buick Invitational every February, but this will be the first time that it will host a U.S. Open...

Hall of Fame jockey Chris McCarron will be honored at the fifth anniversary Jim Murray Memorial Golf Classic on Oct. 27 at Wilshire Country Club in Los Angeles. Proceeds from the event go toward a national scholarship program for journalism students...

Sports Council board member David Wolper recently had his autobiography published. The book is titled "Producer: A Memoir." Among his many credits, Wolper was the producer of the spectacular Opening Ceremonies at the 1984 L.A. Olympics...

The field has been set for the 10th anniversary Wooden Classic at the Arrowhead Pond in December, with three of the four teams from the inaugural basketball doubleheader returning. Kansas will play Stanford followed by UCLA versus Kentucky...

The winner of the WTA Tennis Championships, scheduled for Nov. 5-10 at Staples Center, will now receive \$1 million, the most lucrative prize in women's sports history. The world's top eight singles players will compete in a round-robin format...

The three remaining 2010 Winter Olympic bid cities are Pyeongchang, South Korea; Salzburg, Austria; and Vancouver, Canada. The International Olympic Committee will announce a winner in July...

The Sports Council is supporting a bid for the 2005, 2006 and 2007 NCAA Division I Track & Field Championships at the Home Depot Center. A decision is expected by the NCAA in September...

The 2003 City of Los Angeles Triathlon will be run on Sunday, Sept. 7. The race attracts close to 3,000 competitors and, in just its fourth year, has already become the third largest triathlon in the world. The Sports Council initiated the idea for the triathlon in 1997...

The Long Beach Arena will be the site for the 2004 NCAA women's volleyball championships on Dec. 16 and 18. Long Beach State and the Long Beach CVB are hosts of the event...

IBF to Open Anaheim Office

In an effort to better promote its sport in the U.S., the International Badminton Federation (IBF) have announced plans to open a Pan American Continental office in Anaheim, Calif., marking the first time an international sports federation has had an office in Southern California.



Badminton is one of the fastest growing sports in Southern California.

The new bureau will be located at the Orange County Sports Hall of Fame & Museum at Edison Field.

The move is the result of the relationship between the IBF, USA Badminton, the Sports Council and

Anaheim officials.

"This is a giant step toward improving the popularity of our sport," said IBF Vice President Paisan Rangsitkitho.

It has already been announced that the 2003 U.S. Open Championships will be held at the Orange County Badminton Club in Orange, Calif., from Sept. 7-15, and a joint bid between the Sports Council and the Arrowhead Pond has been submitted to bring the world championships to the Anaheim venue in 2005.

The U.S. Olympic Committee says that there are approximately 1.7 million Americans who play badminton. Southern California is considered the nation's hotbed with more than 100,000 participants.

Badminton debuted as an Olympic sport at the 1992 Barcelona Games, and is considered the fastest racquet sport in the world. According to the Guinness Book of Records, a shuttlecock was once clocked at 162 mph. 🏸

Argue to Be Commemorated at Coliseum

In memory of the late John C. Argue, founding chairman of the Sports Council, a bronze plaque will be installed later in the year in the Memorial Court of Honor in the Peristyle at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

The Court commemorates persons or events, athletic or otherwise, that have had a definite impact upon the history and growth of the Coliseum. The request to honor Argue was authorized by the Coliseum Commission during an April 2 meeting.

"One of John's passions in life was the Olympics," said Council President David Simon, "and his tireless work in bringing the 1984 Games to Los Angeles has been well documented."

Argue served as chairman of the L.A. Olympic Organizing Committee and president of the

Southern California Committee for the Olympic Games (SCCOG). The Coliseum hosted the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of those Games, as well as track and field events.

Argue also spent many afternoons watching his beloved USC Trojans compete in track meets and football at the Coliseum.

The Memorial Court of Honor was started in 1949 with the installation of a bronze plaque honoring William May Garland, who was instrumental in bringing the 1932 Olympic Games to Los Angeles. In all, 45 people or events have been commemorated, including Jesse Owens, Pete Rozelle, President John F. Kennedy, John McKay, Kenneth Hahn, Pope John Paul II and the Dodgers 1959 World Series title. 🏆

X Marks The Spot For L.A.

The annual X Games, a hugely popular extreme sports competition, will be held in Los Angeles in 2003 and 2004.

The X Games will feature competitions in BMX



The X Games generate large dollars for its host city.

biking, skateboarding, motocross and inline skating, among other events. More than 300 athletes are expected to compete for medals and prize money.

The 2003 games will take place Aug. 14-18, with Staples Center as the primary venue, and the Coliseum also hosting some events.

"Los Angeles is the epicenter for action sports and we are eager to build on the already tremendous success of the X Games," said L.A. Mayor James Hahn. The X Games, suited mostly for a younger generation, began in 1995.

At last year's competition in Philadelphia, the event attracted more than 220,000 fans and tens of millions more on television. Organizers there credit the games with having an economic impact of \$42 million. 🏆

Board Spotlight



FRANK MARSHALL

Producer

The Kennedy/Marshall Company

Oscar-nominated producer Frank Marshall's latest project is certain to be a huge success when it hits the big screen this summer.

Marshall, a long-standing Sports Council board member, is wrapping up production on the eagerly anticipated movie "Seabiscuit." Based on the bestseller by Laura Hillenbrand titled "Seabiscuit: An American Legend," the film is set during the Great Depression of the 1930s, and re-creates the remarkable Cinderella story of a broken down racehorse and his devoted trainer, owner and jockey.

Born with an awkward, bowlegged gait and

given virtually no chance of ever racing competitively, Seabiscuit won 33 races in his career -- beating the likes of the great War Admiral -- and set 13 track records over 6 distances. "This is a horse that comes around once in a hundred years," said Marshall.

Along the way, the 'Biscuit captivated a nation in despair and became an American icon.

He was arguably the most popular sports star of his era. The pinnacle of the horse's career was winning the prestigious 1940 Santa Anita Handicap in his final race.

The film stars Tobey Maguire, who portrays jockey Red Pollard, and Jeff Bridges as the thoroughbred's visionary owner Charles Howard. Chris Cooper plays trainer Tom Smith.

Many of the racing scenes were shot at Santa Anita Park in Arcadia and Fairplex Park in Pomona. The film is scheduled to open July 25.

Marshall produced all three "Indiana Jones" adventures, and the more recent hits "The Bourne Identity" and "Signs." He is Vice President/Treasurer of the U.S. Olympic Committee. 🐾

World Championships Bring Top Gymnasts to Anaheim

Orange County will be thrust into the international sports spotlight when the 2003 World Gymnastics Championships are held at the Arrowhead Pond on Aug. 16-24.

The competition will have added importance because in addition to determining world championships in individual events for both men and women, the results will decide which twelve countries qualify for the 2004 Athens Olympics. The championships also will be celebrating its 100-year anniversary.

"With approximately 735 athletes from 80 countries vying for team and individual championships, this will be the largest gymnastics competition in history and the biggest event ever held in Orange County," said Peter Vidmar, an Olympic gold medalist and a member of the 2003 Liaison Committee.

The International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) and USA Gymnastics will host the championships in local partnership with the L.A. Sports Council and the Arrowhead Pond.

"This will be the first major gymnastics competition held here since the L.A. Olympic Games nearly 20 years ago, and it is also the first time ever that a world championship in the sport has come here," said David Simon, president of the Sports Council.

Among the elite international gymnasts expected to compete are Russians Svetlana Khorkina and Elena Zamolodchikova, both double Olympic gold medallists in 2000 in Sydney.

Featured on the men's side are 2000 Olympic

all-around champion Alexei Nemov of Russia, Jordan Jovtchev from Bulgaria and Ukraine's Alexander Beresh.

The dominant U.S. men's performers are Sean Townsend, Blaine Wilson and twin brothers Paul and Morgan Hamm, while two-time national champion Tasha Schwikert, world champions Ashley Postell and Courtney Kupets, and 2003 Visa American Cup champion Carly Patterson headline the women competitors.



Carly Patterson

The event will draw thousands of coaches, officials and spectators from around the globe. With total attendance expected to exceed 100,000, Arrowhead Pond General Manager Tim Ryan estimated a \$30 million economic impact on the area.

"The Pond has an excellent reputation for hosting world-caliber events, plus Orange County has one of the largest concentrations of gymnastics clubs in the nation. That combination

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The Sports Council's corporate members receive a variety of special event invitations and VIP ticket offers throughout the year. For information on how to become a member of the Sports Council, call the office at **(213) 482-6333**.

Ueberroth Heads Advisory Board

Peter Ueberroth, president of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee, has been named chairman of the advisory board for the 2003 World Gymnastics Championships.

Ueberroth will oversee a group of civic and business leaders from Southern California and Orange County to generate increased corporate support for the event.

His appointment reunites Ueberroth with 1984 Olympic champions Mary Lou Retton and Peter Vidmar, and legendary coach Bela Karolyi, who were named honorary co-chairs of the championships.

makes us the perfect community to host an event of this magnitude," commented Vidmar.

Only twice previously have the world championships been held in the U.S. -- in Fort Worth, Texas in 1979 and Indianapolis in 1991. 🐾

Multisport Mecca...

3,000 square-foot weight room, training and medical rooms, and full press and dining facilities. Future plans call for building dormitory-style housing and a hotel.

In addition to the Galaxy, the Home Depot Center also houses the Pete Sampras Tennis Academy, the U.S. Soccer Federation, and will serve as summer training camp for the NFL's San Diego Chargers.

The Home Depot signed a 10-year naming rights deal for \$70 million last year, and the athletic complex was later designated by the U.S. Olympic Committee as an "Official U.S. Olympic Training Site."

"We believe this will ultimately put us at the heart of the Olympic movement," Leiwke said. "It's the most ambitious training facility ever built in North America."

The U.S. Soccer Federation will base their 11 national teams plus their under-14 developmental program at the training center. Included within this group are the men's and women's

World Cup squads.

Sampras' academy will provide programs and instruction for tennis players of all abilities and serve as a year-round training center for touring pros as well as those preparing to join the professional tour.

Sampras grew up in Palos Verdes, Calif., but had to go to Florida to train for his pro career due to a shortage of coaches and adequate facilities around Southern California.

"I wanted to put a program in Los Angeles where kids can grow through the sport to the next level. I plan to spend a lot of time there helping the younger guys," said Sampras.

The Home Depot Center's commitment to athletics and training also extends to the surrounding communities. Tennis courts, soccer training fields and a three-mile jogging trail with 12 fitness stations around the perimeter of the development will be available to local residents.

"The Home Depot Center will be Southern California's legacy to sports," commented Alan Rothenberg, chairman of the Sports Council. ♣

Track Meet Opens Center

AEG has already booked several marquee events for its new multisport complex, beginning with the inaugural Home Depot Track & Field Invitational on June 1.

In addition to the L.A. Galaxy's 15-game home schedule, the soccer stadium hosts the 2003 MLS All-Star Game on Aug. 2, and the League championship game (MLS Cup) on Nov. 23.

The JP Morgan Chase Open women's tennis tournament will be held Aug. 3-9, followed by an FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour stop from Sept. 19-21.

Scheduled for 2004 is the men's NCAA Division I soccer championships.

Upcoming international competitions include the 2004 World Track Cycling Championships and the 2006 IAAF World Cup in Athletics.

Just the Facts...

Name:	Home Depot Center
City:	Carson, California.
Size:	85 acres
Owner/Operator:	AEG
Opening:	June 1, 2003
Projected cost:	\$140 million (100% privately funded by AEG)
Architect:	Rossetti
Affiliates:	L.A. Galaxy Pete Sampras Tennis Academy San Diego Chargers
Jobs created:	3,000 permanent/part-time 1,000 construction-related
Venue/# of seats:	Cycling: 3,500 Soccer: 27,000 (42 suites) Tennis: 13,000 (19 suites) Track & Field: 2,000-20,000
Parking spaces:	8,000

Staples Center Gets 2004 NBA All-Star Game

The weekend of Feb. 13-15, 2004, will once again place the city of Los Angeles on an international stage as the world's greatest basketball stars compete in the 53rd NBA All-Star Game at Staples Center.

Festivities surrounding the actual game include the exciting All-Star Saturday Night events such as the slam dunk competition and the 3-point shooting contest.

In addition to the events at Staples Center, NBA Jam Session, the popular weeklong fan interactive basketball celebration, will be at the L.A. Convention Center.

Council Launches Web Site

The Sports Council has launched its own Web site, www.lasports.org, offering visitors an all-in-one capsule view of the Southern California sports scene. The site contains a comprehensive survey of the Sports Council's achievements and membership, including detailed sections on L.A.'s leading professional and university teams, a sport-by-sport section, and comprehensive coverage of the region's sports facilities.

The site was designed by Apollo Interactive of Culver City, California.

Olympic Swim Trials Coming to Long Beach in '04

An innovative proposal featuring an outdoor swim stadium just steps from the Pacific Ocean helped Long Beach, Calif., secure the 2004 U.S. Olympic Trials in swimming.

The competition will be part of a four week



Swimmers will be vying for a spot on Team USA at the 2004 Olympic Trials.

"Aquatics Grand Prix," consisting of a series of four events featuring the top swimmers and water polo teams in the world.

Organizers plan to construct a unique beachside venue featuring Olympic-caliber pools adjacent to the Long Beach Arena, including hospitality suites, club boxes and seating for up to 10,000 spectators.

The Sports Council and the Long Beach Area Convention & Visitors Bureau partnered on the successful bid to bring the swim trials to Long Beach, July 7-14, 2004. The trials are the anchor event of the Grand Prix, and are expected to draw nearly 1,000 American competitors. Only the top two finishers in each event earn the right to represent Team USA at the Athens Olympics the following month.

The Grand Prix begins with the Janet Evans Invitational, June 10-13, 2004. The annual event moves from its longtime home at USC to Long Beach for the first time, and features approximately

800 top international and domestic swimmers. For the U.S. athletes, this meet will be the last chance to qualify for the Olympic trials.

The women's pre-Olympic water polo tournament follows from June 16-20, 2004. The event has traditionally attracted the world's top eight teams competing in an Olympic tune-up tournament.

Then comes the men's FINA World League Superfinal (water polo), June 23-27, 2004, featuring the top 6 international teams in the world in another preview of the Olympic action in Athens.

"We'll have almost five full weeks of elite competition featuring some of the world's best aquatic athletes right here in Long Beach," noted Rich Foster, president of USA Water Polo and a Sports Council board member.

Visit the official Web site, www.longbeach2004.com for ticket and housing information. ♣

Noteworthy Events

2003 SPORTS BANQUETS

The Sports Council and the L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce honor our professional sports teams by co-hosting civic luncheons each season for the Avengers, Clippers, Dodgers, Galaxy, Kings and Lakers. The public is invited to purchase tickets to any of these community events. For reservations, call (213) 482-6352 or go to www.lasports.org.



2003 WORLD GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Arrowhead Pond hosts the world's top gymnasts Aug. 16-24, 2003, with more than 735 athletes from 80 nations competing. In addition to determining world championships in individual events for both men and women, the results will decide which twelve countries qualify for the 2004 Athens Olympics. For tickets and information, visit www.worldchampgym2003.com or dial (714) 704-2419.



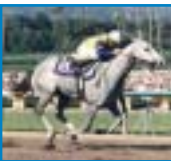
2003 FIVB WORLD TOUR

This international event features the top men's and women's beach volleyball players on the International Volleyball Federation's (FIVB) annual worldwide circuit. Their only U.S. stop will take place at the Home Depot Center from Sept. 19-21, 2003, and will serve as the qualifying event for the Athens Olympics. To purchase tickets, visit www.avp.com.



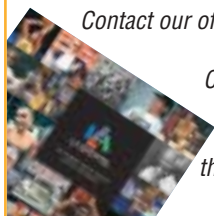
2003 BREEDERS' CUP

Santa Anita Park will host thoroughbred racing's richest day when the 2003 Breeders' Cup is held at the picturesque racetrack in Arcadia, Calif. Consisting of eight races with purses totaling \$13 million, the 20th edition of the Breeders' Cup will be run on Saturday, Oct. 25, 2003, and will be televised by NBC Sports. To receive a ticket application, phone (626) 254-1300 or see www.oaktreeracing.com.



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- Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce/ Nissan Open
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- The New Otani Hotel & Garden
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- PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP
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Contact our office to receive a copy of the Sports Council's 2003-04 Community Report. The 16-page full-color brochure highlights the history of the organization, its activities and its membership.

The Los Angeles Sports Council is a private, non-profit corporation created as a bidding agent for bringing major sporting events to the five-county Los Angeles area and to support Los Angeles' established sports organizations. For more information call (213) 482-6333.

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