

News Release
US Consulate General Guadalajara

Ambassador Wayne Leads U.S. Delegation at the XVI Pan American Games

U.S. Ambassador Anthony Wayne led the U.S. Delegation nominated by President Barack Obama to represent the United States for the Opening Ceremony of the XVI Pan American Games in Guadalajara. In addition to Ambassador Anthony Wayne, President Obama also nominated two U.S. athletes:

Ms. Julie Ertel, 2007 Pan American Games Gold Medalist in the Triathlon and 2000 Olympic Silver Medalist, Women's Water Polo;

Ms. Allyson Felix, 2008 Olympic Gold and Silver Medalist, Women's Track and Field and member of the President's Council on Physical Fitness, Sports and Nutrition.

Describing the Opening Ceremony at Omnilife Stadium as "spectacular," Ambassador Wayne expressed pleasure at having represented President Obama at the event. For their part, Julie Ertel and Allyson Felix remarked it was a great honor and very satisfying to represent their country in a way different than they had done previously as athletes.





On the first day of competition, the U.S. delegation and Consul General Daniel F. Keller attended the swimming events at the Scotiabank Aquatic Center where they cheered as U.S. swimmers Elaine Breedon, Claire Donahue, and Robert Margalis Jr. won their respective heats in women's 100-meter butterfly and the men's 400-meter medley.



Later, Ambassador Wayne visited the Pan American Village where he greeted the U.S. Synchronized Swimming team and spoke with five-time U.S. Olympic medalist Teresa Edwards. Edwards was recently named chef de mission of the U.S. National Team to the 2012 Summer Olympic Games in London.



The 2011 U.S. Pan American Team consists of 627 athletes, including 346 men and 281 women, and is the largest of all the national teams competing in Guadalajara. The U.S. Team includes 81 athletes who have won 58 medals in Olympic competitions.

Numbers of U.S. athletes per sport:

86 athletes in athletics, 46 in swimming, 24 in basketball, 32 in grass hockey, 30 in handball, 27 in volleyball, 26 in rowing, 26 in water polo; 24 in baseball, 24 in gymnastics, 23 in shooting; 18 in fencing, 17 in softball, 16 in sailing, 15 in cycling, 15 in combat, 14 in judo, 13 in horsemanship, 12 in rugby, 11 in weightlifting, 10 in canoeing and kayaking, 9 in synchronized swimming, 8 in badminton, 8 in boxing, 8 in diving; 8 in taekwondo; 7 in racquetball; 6 in archery, 6 in jai alai, 6 in karate, 6 in roller skating, 6 in

squash, 6 in table tennis, 6 in triathlon, 5 in tennis, 5 in water skiing, 4 in bowling, and 4 in modern pentathlon.

Please visit <http://www.teamusa.org> for news and photos of the U.S. Team in action.