



## The Dance of Success Continues



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### Kings of Speed

Arguably the most anticipated event of any Olympic Games is the 100m sprint / dash. 10 seconds is all it takes to either shoot to superstardom or fade into oblivion. The Olympic Village Pulse met with the man who has 'almost' made the 100m tracks his backyard: Ato Boldon.

**Q. You have come so close twice with silver (9.99 sec, Sydney 2000) and bronze (9.90 sec, Atlanta 1996) medals before? How do you see it this time?**

A.B. On both occasions, it took great races by Donovan Bailey and Maurice Greene to defeat me. I feel that if you get that close consistently, eventually you would score a goal or hit the ball out of the park and I'm hoping this time it's the one.

**Q. What does the experience of being a part of the Olympic Games mean to you?**

A.B. Whether I like to believe it or not, The Olympic Games define who I am. People identify me by that and in many countries they come up and congratulate me saying 'I saw you at Atlanta or Sydney and loved your race.' It's truly given me a very big voice and I am grateful for that.

**Q. How did your transition from playing football to athletics take place?**

A.B. It took place when I went to Barcelona for my first Olympic Games. Here I was, an 18 year old and I was running in the heats with Linford Christie. When you are 18 and you are running in the Olympic Games, then that's what you are supposed to be doing; everything else becomes secondary. That was when I decided that I would 'run away' from football and just 'run'.

**Q. You also got a degree in sociology from University of California Berkeley. How did you manage this level of academics with**

**your athletic excellence?**

A.B. Well, I had initially started off with engineering but my priorities then as a 22 year old were to win the gold and break the world record. That put constraints on my time and I then majored in sociology. Besides, more than plain structured education I am more inclined towards practical learning. Computers, political science and other issues, which you cannot necessarily learn in a book, are what fascinate me.

**Q. How do you handle the enormous**



**responsibility that comes with being the most recognisable sporting face in Trinidad & Tobago, along with Brian Lara (cricket)?**

A.B. That (the responsibility) is something I have embraced from the first day I started running. I realized that being on a global platform and being televised would mean that kids would emulate all that I say and do. I am very careful of what I say because being at a stage like mine gives a person an almost 'sacred' power, which can be used to make or mar lives. I want to ensure that after my time is gone my legacy, which is all that I say or do at this stage, is remembered as a positive one.

**Q. How would you describe your experience in Greece so far?**

A.B. I was training in a focused manner without any distractions in Crete earlier and I came here to the Olympic Village a couple of days back to relax before the race. I had a great time in Crete and despite coming to Athens every year since 1997, I had no idea that this place existed. Even Maurice (Greene) who is training there loved the place. In fact, we just did not want to leave.

**Q. How do you find the Greeks and all the volunteers here?**

A.B. Before coming here I read online '101 things about Greece' and they mentioned that the Greeks are not too polite and quite formal. I beg to differ. I think they are wonderful people and I have thoroughly enjoyed being with them.

**Q. You mentioned leaving a legacy behind? What are your plans for the future?**

A.B. I have a lot of things calling my name. I'm reading scripts (Ato loves drama and stage plays), I have offers to sit on the Board of Directors of a few companies and some other options. It is easier to walk away from something when you have options to pursue.

**Q. Your final thoughts on the race here?**

A.B. People are doing what they do every time. 'Who ran the fastest this year? Who has the world record? Yes, he will win the gold medal.' It's not like that. I ran fast all season in 2000 and someone else may run as fast this season. In the end, it's just one lane, one number, 10 seconds. What you do with it is up to you.

With the right blend of experience behind him and the desire within, Ato Boldon may just be the man who sets the track on fire.

Neelay Bhatt

### I know, you love me

The name Voula Patoulidou takes us back a few years to Barcelona 1992 when the Greek athlete won first place in the 100 m hurdles. She is a celebrity who has repeatedly proven that every limit can be overcome. One needs only to remember that at the same Olympic Games where she won the gold medal she improved her time from 12.96 seconds to 12.88 seconds in the preliminaries, and managed to stop the clock at 12.64s

in the final. It is evident that a contest with Voula Patoulidou is no easy matter as she is an athlete who exhausts the very last of her reserves of stamina.

Still, there is one person who can defeat the Greek Olympic victor without encountering any resistance from her part. It is her son George. As she confided to the Olympic Village Pulse: "One of our favourite games is to wrestle in bed and I am constantly defeat-

ed"! However, we are certain that the taste left her by these particular defeats grows sweeter every time! At this moment, what is most on the mind of Mama Patoulidou - other than the Athens Olympic Games - is the eagerness to see her six-year-old son take the road to school for the very first time. Here she will be confronted with a new hurdle: how to tame the little first-grader's temperament. "In George I can see



myself when, a few years back, I was climbing the school fence and got told off by the teachers".

The hurdler who has reaped World and European awards recalls her pregnancy. "It is true that I found it difficult to accept the changes my body underwent. I did not stop thinking of sports for even one moment and immediately after the breastfeeding period was over I returned to a heavy training regimen," she said. She admits that, naturally, this wouldn't have been possible without her mother's help. Asked how a child can accept the peculiarities of a life of championship sports and excuse his mother's absence, either because of training or

because she was competing, Voula Patoulidou replied: "I believe that through our conversations George has realised that the nature of my profession makes it necessary to spend some hours in the stadium, and he is truly understanding. Despite that, a mother always feels guilty...."

In these Olympic Games her son accompanied her to the Olympic Village and had the opportunity to appear next to athletes he admires and to be photographed with them. In fact, everyone at the Greek Delegation bent over backwards to make little George feel like he was King of the Village. We wanted to know what he said when it was time to leave her. Instead, Voula Patoulidou

told us what he told her at a previous meet, when he simply bid her farewell with: "I know, you love me".

Nadia Dimitriou



## Pre-Game Rituals: From Praying to the Haka

They can be elaborate and dramatic, or simple, even private. Some teams use them as a form of intimidation, others for quiet reflection. Pre-game rituals are often deeply rooted in tradition, and based on a belief that the absence of such a practice will result in a loss. There are also much more relaxed antics that teams do in order to settle their nerves before competition. Whatever the reason, athletic customs are found often and in a wide variety at the Olympic Games.

One of the most prominent and most menacing is the Maori Haka. Trevor Shailer, of New Zealand's Athlete Services, and former boxer for New Zealand at the 1992 Games in Barcelona, said traditionally the Haka is viewed as a war dance done before a competition. It is a way for teams to ready themselves for the challenge ahead, the most well known of which is New Zealand's national rugby team, the All Blacks. For the Olympic Games, New Zealanders have broadened its meaning.

"The Haka is about New Zealanders expressing themselves on the world stage," Shailer said. "It also provides the opportunity for us to greet our athletes and officials that come in, the goal is for us all to know each other."

Shailer said the Haka is also a way for New Zealand's Olympians to give support to their teammates.

"When we get medalists that come back to the Olympic Village, we do the song and dance. It's about acknowledging that person's achievement," Shailer said. Athletes from New Zealand will also break into a

Haka during a contest. "When the team isn't doing so well, we might spontaneously Haka to give them a boost."

The Brazilian Women's Volleyball team does not dance or sing, but they always pray. "We pray before the games. All together," said Arlene Xavier, a universal position player on the team. Athletes, coaches and physical trainers huddle together and pray to give thanks for everything that they achieved until now.

The coach or one of the players prays and the rest of the team repeats, according to setter Helia de Souza, a bronze medalist in Atlanta and Sydney. Souza and Xavier were part of the Brazilian team that won the World Volleyball League last month in Italy, the third most important tournament, after the Olympic Games and the World Championship.

The Spanish Synchronised Swimming 8-person teams, silver medalist in the 2004 European Championship in Madrid, form a circle with their hands in the center before an event. They jokingly repeat to not kick one another while in the pool and to not grab each other's nose clip, and then they scream. "It helps to relax and to handle the pressure", team member Andrea Fuentes said.

The Belarus Table Tennis Team does not do anything special. "Maybe that's why we lost", said one Team member. "Sisonke", the South African Field Hockey Team screams in unison to start their competitions. Marsha Merescia, member of the South African hockey team, said it translates closely to mean "powerful" in English.

Joao Manha, the Portuguese Press Chief, said Portugal's Football and Swimming teams shout before their competitions. The Swimming Team, which competes in the 200-meter freestyle relay and in some individual races, always loudly scream "Portugal" before starting the events.

Shailer said New Zealanders will Haka for



New Zealand in one of their "Haka" chants.

their team members no matter what. "The underlying premise is a bunch of passionate people who want to show their support, regardless of the outcome," Shailer said. According to Trevor Shailer, of New Zealand's delegation office, the chant of the Haka.

*Ka mate, ka mate  
It is death. It is death  
Ka ora, ka ora  
It is life, It is life  
Tenei te tangata puhuruhuru  
This is the hairy man  
Nana I tiki mai whakawhiti te ra  
Who caused the sun to shine again for me  
Upane, upane  
Up the ladder, up the ladder  
Upane kaupane  
Up to the top  
Whiti te ra  
The sun shines*

AJ Nseir. Sabino Ahumada



### A Very... Colourful Matter



A Very Colourful Team

If you think that frequent trips to the hairdresser and strange hairdos or hair colours are the privilege of womankind alone, you are very much mistaken! Slovenia's national rowing team is positive proof that even men can give artistic creativity its head!

So as least we were told by Matej Prelog, an athlete with this team, whom we came across more by chance than design in the International Zone, where he was spending a couple of quite moments. But not for long. A lengthwise red streak, which he recently acquired at the Olympic Village hairdresser's, adorns his hair and is a magnet for all eyes in the Village, not to mention ours. Looking weird is a way of life for Matej. He has, he told us, extensively experimented with his external appearance. Before his present hair-style he was golden blond, while earlier he had also tried out David Beckham's well-known Mohican cut. And there's more. The motto 'Never give up' tattooed in Chinese on his spine says it all about the brash energy of this Slovenian rower.

A little later the doctor of their national Rowing team, Robert Hajdinjak, joined us, conspicuous in his adherence to this latest fashion - His hair is dyed red and orange. When asked if this trend expresses anything in particular, he said it was one way to break the monotony [!] and, of course, to attract attention in the Village! "Everyone in the team has had their hair dyed. I wanted it blue, but somebody else got there first. Some like it pink or violet, some even have it in print!"

One thing is sure as far as the Slovenian team is concerned. They may or may not be among the medals for rowing, but they will sure as Jackson Pollock have the most colourful hair in the Village.

Haroula Zaxopoulou

### A Small Delegation in a Great Celebration

"We might be a small country, but we have great expectations from these Olympic Games", the British Virgin Islands Chef de Mission, Dean Greenaway, told us. In fact, the 25,000 residents of the Virgin Islands are hardly intimidated by the fact that they are a small country. Besides, ever since 1984 when the country started participating in the Olympic Games it can be proud of its athletes' quality, which is without doubt far more important than quantity.

At any rate, the Athens Games is a special celebration for this islanders' country, for the additional reason that they celebrate their 20th year of uninterrupted participation at the Games, as the badges they freely hand out proclaim. They also hope that this celebration will reach its high point with the participation of their delegation's single athlete, Grabbe Dion, in the 200 m finals. The athlete himself told us "once you get in the finals, anything is possible." Amazingly,

Grabbe is not stressed by the fact that all his country's hopes rest squarely on him.

"When you come from a small country, sooner or later you get used to being 'the one' ", he said.

The celebratory spirit is not only reserved for the stadium, so the apartment of the British Virgin Islands Delegation, open to everyone, is full of smiles, humour and picture taking. When asked about the summer 'colour' that dominates the area, Dean Greenaway simply replied: "We made sure that us Caribbean people would be in the same building".

After the interview we asked Dean Greenaway to let us take his picture for the Pulse, and he asked to take our picture in return. He told us then that his country's interest in the Olympic Games is so big, that he was asked to create a web page for the Athens Olympics to let them experience the huge celebration that is the Olympic Village.

And if you are wondering about the origins of this country's name, here is how the story goes: When Columbus first saw the islands, he was reminded of Saint Ursula and the 11,000 maidens. Seen from the ocean, the shape of Virgin Gorda Island looked like a woman lying on her back, while the smaller islands of the archipelago were the Saint's maiden disciples.

Iasonas Kantas/ Efthymia Ntivi



Dean Greenaway, Chef de Mission of the British Virgin Islands Delegation with athlete Grabbe Dion

### Quote of the Day



"The Olympic Village should remain in history, now that the Olympic Games return home. A good way to achieve that is to name the apartments of the Village after the names of the countries who live there now."

**Spanos Alekos**  
Chef de Mission of Cyprus



## People

### Question of the Day

**“How did you decide to play your sport?”**



**Ahmed Bassit**  
Administrative Staff  
Egypt

“There are two places in Athens where I enjoy myself most. The first is Acropolis because it’s the source of inspiration for many people and for me. The roots for the future of this nation is in Acropolis. And the second one is the Olympic Village facilities, which is the reflection of civilisation in the present.”



**Sayed Mahmood Zia Dashti**  
Vice President of the Olympic Committee of Aghanistan

“I was traveling from Thessalonica to Athens and what I liked most are the hills around Athens! ”



**Algars Fadejevs**  
Walking  
Latvia

“The historical centre of Athens is amazing, the whole atmosphere is so exciting.”



**Jennie Finch**  
Softball  
USA

“I guess my favourite place is the Elliniko Olympic Complex, where I spend my day training.”



**Adam Franklin**  
Visitor  
Australia

“I like most Plaka, the food, the drinks and the atmosphere is amazing!”



**Marios Glourdas**  
Volleyball  
Greece

“Alexandroupoli, but I guess this doesn’t exactly answer the question.”



**Gunnar Struckmann**  
Sailing  
Germany

“Glyfada! Because that’s where I trained and also because it’s a magnificent spot.”



**Ingo Steinhofel**  
Weightlifting  
Germany

“I like Kastella because it has good night life and nice places near the beach to relax.”



**Aime Nthepe**  
Athletics  
France

“The Acropolis, for its view of the entire city of Athens.”



**Nora Subschinski, Conny Schmalfluss, Ditte Kotzian**  
Diving  
Germany

“Definitely Monastiraki! The best clubs are located there and you can enjoy Athens’ night life.”



**Dominik Hrbaty & Karol Kucera & Karol Beck**  
Tennis  
Slovakia

“It’s our first time in Greece. But from what we have seen, we liked Acropolis and the Airport!”



**Abdel Moussa, Eduardo Mingas and Edmar Victoriano**  
Basketball  
Angola

“The Olympic Village for sure. It’s fantastic to be here.”



## People

### Employee of the Day Positive Energy Team

When you feel physically tired, try an energy drink. But when you feel down, try having a word with Nikos Goudas. Where will you find him? The answer is: at the Guest Pass Centre.

Nikos always assists Olympic Village guests with a smile, and without ever growing tired. Up to 2,000 people pass by his workstation each day. "I think working for the 2004 Olympic Games is a unique experience. I am honoured to be able to participate in this event", says Nikos enthusiastically.

The best moment of the day is when guests congratulate him on his work. He doesn't

say a lot about himself. "I am modest", he teases, "I can't talk about myself: I leave it up



**Goudas Nikolaos**  
Guest Pass Assistant  
Greece

to the others to talk about me". Nikos' colleagues say he is a very special young man. He is very smart, always cheerful; but his greatest quality is his skill at communicating. "Our guests are very fond of him and on his days off, the hours appear endless. Whoever gets to meet him should count themselves lucky", say his colleagues.

Nikos Goudas is the quintessence of positive energy, but he thinks this is a quality shared by everyone working in the Guest Pass Centre where they create a great atmosphere.

Marina Chatzikosta

### Volunteer of the Day Pericles the Navigator

As every Greek will know Pericles was the leader of the Athenians in the time of the Golden



**Pericles Economopoulos**  
Navigator  
Greece

Age. He commissioned a great statue of Pallas Athena, together with a golden spear, to stand before the Parthenon. It is said that the tip of her javelin was so bright from reflection of the sun that captains could be navigated home to the port of Piraeus.

Now there is a modern living representative in person with a most appropriate name: Pericles Economopoulos. Every morning he steps onto a bus that carries Employees, Volunteers and Residents of the Olympic Village. He doesn't drive the actual bus, a qualified driver has the responsibility, but he is vital non the less. In a collaborative mission Peri-

cles the navigator studies the route beforehand, carries a stopwatch with him and directs the driver in case he gets lost. Every Olympic express bus is likewise accompanied by a navigator. I met him on the X25 en route from the Olympic Village to drop off people at Doukissis Plankentias Metro Station. Pericles himself is a retired water engineer, but in the great tradition of Greek discovery he is also an inventor managing to find out a method of tapping undersea freshwater springs. I told him my mother was Greek, born in Athens and her name was Aspasia, like Pericles' beautiful wife or courtesan, who some

said was the real power behind the throne.

The Olympic bus operation has been a splendid success so far. Apparently out of thousands of scheduled bus trips only one vehicle has got itself lost. The driver was not accompanied by a navigator, but luckily a Zeppelin watching overhead spotted the wayward bus, notified the authorities and it was soon back on the right track.

At our successful journeys end, I said 'thank you for navigating us safely.' He departed saying 'best wishes to Aspasia!'

Peter Pitt

## Features

### Word of the Day

#### Broadcast

Andy Warhol believed each one of us has a right to 15 minutes of fame. Make sure your loved ones know the precise time your race will be broadcast. The great moment is here!



## Country Links



### Nectar of the gods

Numerous contemporary writers, painters, sculptors and composers of universal fame draw their inspiration or their subjects from the inexhaustible source of ancient Greek myths. An outstanding book is the **Ukrainian** artist Oksana Chau's *The Twelve Gods and the Distribution of Time*.

The author presents the gods and their personality traits in the form of a tale on the theme of each one's desire to control time and the world's order. This myth-making plot introduces the reader to the imaginary universe of Greek mythology, at the same time attempting to explain the relation of the gods to the twelve months of the ancient Greek calendar.

Sifis Kapakis



### In the steps of the Amazons

The ancient Greek myth of the Amazons has travelled South America but is also claimed by Mongolia, where it is maintained that the legendary horsewomen lived in Asia. The **Mongolian** steppes are renowned for the 'Nadaam', a festivity of "Dionysiac character" in which nomads and shepherds marshal their every skill to compete in riding, archery and wrestling. The custom, modelled on the ancient Greek rites, is revived all over Mongolia, presenting the traditional life of the nomads who live in yurts.

Sifis Kapakis

## IOC Message

### To the Top of The World

Olympic Gold Medallist in Cross Country, Manuela di Centa had a dream which began when she first met her present partner Fabio Meraldi, a skyrunning champion. Together they decided to embark on the adventure that would lead them to reach the peak of the world's highest mountain, Mount Everest. Before starting the ascent, her aim was simply to get in touch with the mountain and she had no ambition to reach the summit. Fabio wanted to establish a new ascent/descent speed record within 24 hours without the assistance of oxygen. They year 2003 proved to be the perfect year for such an adventure since it marked the 50th anniversary of the first successful summit climb of Everest. During the ascent,

Manuela always carried the Olympic flag with her.

Here are five lessons that Manuela and Fabio learned from that wonderful experience:

- 1) **HARD WORK:** you always have to work hard if you want to reach your goals.
- 2) **SIMPLICITY:** sherpas (porters) are very simple people and you can learn a lot from their humble and honest approach to life.
- 3) **ENVIRONMENT:** when you face such extreme conditions, you learn how precious and fragile our environment is and how often we take it for granted. Moreover, you understand that man is just a small part of a much bigger system and air is really vital, which we sometimes tend to forget.

- 4) **VICTORY and DEFEAT:** sport helps you to understand that there's always a winner and a loser and if you lose, you have to accept that without feeling defeated. Manuela reached the peak, but Fabio had to stop at 8,000m in order not to risk his life. If you really love sport, you learn that you sometimes have to give up your ambitious goals... but that is not defeat, that is love!
- 5) **EMOTIONS:** it was for her a very enriching experience. She treasured all the moments she spent in that wonderful land with its special people and its long history. The Olympic flag is now flying on the peak of the world's highest mountain as a sign of human achievement, reconciliation and peace.

## Venue of the Day

### Welcome to the Pampeloponnisiako Stadium, Patras

The fully renovated Venue of the Pampeloponnisiako Stadium in Patras, with a capacity of 22,000, is accommodating the Olympic Football Tournament - to be exact, the men's and women's quarterfinals, and the women's semifinals.

The organisation of the event has received the most favourable comment - from the very first day of the tournament - from visitors as well as officials (IOC, FIFA, members of the OCOG ATHENS 2004, local media). This success is doubtless due to the unremitting labours of the Venue Operations Team, with Nasos Nasopoulos as City Venue Manager, and the valued help of other local bodies involved.



24 March 2004



June 2004



August 2004



A team of 1100 people - workforce, Volunteers, external associates - has been working harmoniously to execute the Olympic plan begun four years ago. We should not forget the significant contribution of the Volunteers, 479 in all, their labour of love, and their conscientiousness and anxiety that the Games shall be a success. Then again, there is the City of Patras, which has supported the Olympic task by its citizen participation - all those people who have been in the stands as spectators.

Their best reward is the loud 'bravo!' from FIFA, the National Missions to the Olympic Games, and the IOC.

## Village Views



© ATHOC/ Photo: N. Bhatt

Svetlana Pesova, from Turkmenistan, training at the Olympic Village Sports Centre

For more photos  
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[www.athens2004.com/olvpulse](http://www.athens2004.com/olvpulse)

## What's On

### Today 20 August 2004 the Village Celebrates

#### Birthdays

Ioannis Gianneas	PHYSICAL THERAPY PERSONNEL
Styliani Kefala	NOC ASST
Eleni Kousidou	VIL SP PROJ & GAMES INTEG ASST
Ioanneta Konstantellou	PROTOCOL VEN ATTENDANT
Stiliani Mazanitou	PROTOCOL VEN ATTENDANT
Eleni Maria Papapavlou	VIL CUSTOMER SERVICE STAFF
Dimitrios Siatounis	TPT DESK VEN SPV
Niki Soulti	VIL ACCOMODATION SERVICES ASST
Despoina Stamatopoulou	NAVIGATOR
Iliana Tefa	VIL ACCOMODATION SERVICES ASST
Filippos Hatzioannou	NOC DRIVER
Natsuki Kiuchi	VIL ACCOMODATION SERVICES ASST
Jaroslav Skvorchov	VIL RESIDENT SERVICES ASST

### Street Performers

<b>Friday</b>	20/8/2004	19.00 - 19.50
CHIPOLATAS	BRITISH JOGGLING GROUP	
<b>Saturday</b>	21/8/2004	19.00 - 19.50
CHIPOLATAS	BRITISH JOGGLING GROUP	
<b>Sunday</b>	22/8/2004	19.00 - 19.50
CHIPOLATAS	BRITISH JOGGLING GROUP	
<b>Tuesday</b>	24/8/2004	19.00 - 19.40
fundastick	GREEK JOGGLING GROUP	
<b>Wednesday</b>	25/8/2004	19.00 - 19.50
CHIPOLATAS	BRITISH JOGGLING GROUP	
<b>Thursday</b>	26/8/2004	19.00 - 19.50
CHIPOLATAS	BRITISH JOGGLING GROUP	
<b>Friday</b>	27/8/2004	19.00 - 19.50
CHIPOLATAS	BRITISH JOGGLING GROUP	
<b>Saturday</b>	28/8/2004	19.00 - 19.40
fundastick	GREEK JOGGLING GROUP	



## Club-Cafe "Poseidon"

The north-most place of the Olympic Village is a dreamy place to be! Everyday from 17:00 till 21:00 the Club- Cafe "Poseidon" is the main pool bar-cafe for the swimming pool of the Village. From 21:00 till 01:00 "Poseidon" becomes the ultimate place to be for a pre-clubbing situation (Poseidon club kindly closes @ 01:00), or for a chilled drink and fresh snacks near the pool after a possible "summer cinema" experience with great dolby digital sound (the Open Air Cinema is near the gym of the village and very close to "Poseidon" club-cafe spot).

Cafe: 17:00-21:00  
Club: 21:00-01:00

The Club- Cafe "Poseidon" is going to present a lot of parties with superclub dj's on decks playing many kinds of music (reggae parties, ethnic, Greek nights, latin, R 'n' B, mainstream, house) Currently (and during non-guesting nights) the soundtrack of Poseidon consists of chill out, lounge, dance, house, tech house, progressive house, tribal, mainstream house, presented by George and Panos. More info for party dates soon!

Club staff (Panos, George and Manolis) welcome to all of you!

## DJ Schedule

Tuesday 17/8 - Thursday 19/8	Petros
Floorfiller	Progressive House
Friday 20 & Saturday 21/8	Andreas
Acratos	Progressive House, R & B, Mainstream

## Enquiries

If you want to be informed about the schedule and results of the Games, weather forecasts and transport itineraries, all you need to do is call 210-373 2004.

## National Holidays

Hungary  
St. Stephen's Day

## Cinema

Friday, 20 August

**SNATCH**

22:00



Guy Ritchie, Writer/ Director of "Lock Stock and Two Smoking Barrels", delivers another awe- inspiring directional masterpiece, snatch- an edgy and hilarious film about a diamond heist gone wrong, a colorful irish gypsy turned prize fighter... and a very temperamental dog. In the heart of gangland, two novice unlicensed boxing promoters, Turkish (Jason Statham) and Tommy (Stephen Graham) get roped into organising a rigged bare- knuckle fight with local kingpin villain and fellow boxing promoter, Brick Top (Alan Ford). But all goes wrong when wildcard Irish gypsy boxer, One Punch Mickey O'Neil (Brat Pitt). Starts playing by his own rules and the duo find themselves heading for a whole lot of trouble... Meanwhile Franky Four Fingers (Benicio Del Toro) and his stolen 86 carat diamond have gone missing in London. Head honcho Avi (Dennis Farina) hires local legend, Bullet Tooth Tony (Vinnie Jones) to find them, launching everyone into a spiral of double- crossing vendettas and events, most of them illegal...

Saturday, 21 August

**EVOLUTION**

22:00



College teachers Ira Kane (Duchonvy) and Harry Block (Jones) are inadvertently called to the site of a meteorite crash where they discover a variety of single-called alien life forms. Government scientist Allison Reed (Moore) gets involved and goes ahead to head with the local scientific duo. But when the alien cells begin evolving at an alarming rate, they find themselves playing on the same team. It's Darwin's biggest nightmare and survival of the fittest in the funniest, wildest comedy of the year.

Monday, 22 August

**JOAN OF ARC**

22:00



In 1429 a teenage girl from a remote French village stood before her King with a message she claimed came from God; that she would defeat the world's greatest army and liberate her country from its political and religious turmoil. As this small voice in the heart of a simple girl grew stronger, rulers empowered to fight and her country inspired to believe.

Following her mission to reclaim God's diminished kingdom -through her amazing victories until her violent and untimely death- the life of Joan of Arc is explored in this startling epic.

Tuesday, 23 August

**SPIDERMAN**

22:00



Peter Parker (Tobey Maguire) is an ordinary guy who lives with his beloved aunt and uncle and quietly pines for the girl next door, Mary Jane (Kirsten Dunst). But when a genetically engineered "super- spider" bites him while on a school trip, Peter develops unusual skills- fantastic acrobatic strength, supernatural awareness and a talent for web- spinning. It's not until tragedy strikes at home that Peter decides to use his new powers to fight crime under a secret identity: SPIDER-MAN! When the evil Green Goblin (William Dafoe) attacks the good people of new York and endangers the life of Mary Jane, Peter commits himself to the ultimate tests: to thwart his arch-enemy and to win the heart of the girl that he loves.



Welcome to the Olympic Village Pulse, the official daily Newspaper of the Olympic Village!

Through our pages you can surf the streets and neighborhoods of the Olympic Village, feel the pulse of everyday developments, and meet some of the 25,000 people who live and work in this exciting Village.

The Olympic village paper is in electronic form for the first time, and can be accessed from the ATHENS 2004 website: [www.athens2004.com/olvpulse](http://www.athens2004.com/olvpulse).

This printed form (pdf) can be found online from the 'Print the Pulse' menu link. Are you living in the Olympic Village, visit an Internet Cafe and ask the helpful staff to print you a copy. The Olympic Village Pulse publishes articles and pictures about life and events in the Village on a daily basis. It contains exclusive interviews with athletes, officials, employees, and volunteers, not to mention dozens of Village activities. The 'What's On' section is updated daily and highlights cultural events but also birthdays and a movie schedule for the open air cinema.

The journalist staff is made up of young volunteers who are carving their way into the arena of global journalism. It is their drive to learn, their willingness to be challenged and their commitment to volunteer that makes this paper better everyday. We take pride in the privacy of all residents and employees of the Village and look to enhance the positive and welcoming environment that has been created by everyone.

Though the immediate readers of "The Pulse" are the Olympic Village residents. Its online availability opens a virtual window to the whole world for everyone to appreciate. Welcome to the Olympic Village, the beating heart of the Olympic Games and enjoy these unique days of multicultural and athletic excellence in the names of peace and

## About the Pulse

determination to succeed. We wish all our readers success and hope to receive all your 'letters to the editor'

The team members of the Olympic Village Pulse are the following:

**Village Information and Publications Manager:** Symeon Tsalicoglou

**Language Editors:** Julia Kourafa, Mark Riley

**Journalists & Guidance Counselor:** Josef Kapakis

**Photography:** Penelope Seiragaki

**Translation Liaison Officer:** Maria Oikonomidou

**Web & Layout Editors:** George Bogosian, Anthi Mouriadou, Dimitris Thomos

**Journalists:** Kostas Alexandropoulos, Mihalis Apostolidis, Sabino Ahumada, Greg Bezanis, Neelay Bhatt, Sylvia Campeanu, Lazaros Dimitriou, Nadia Dimitriou, Clement Dubois, John Grand, Marina Hatzikosta, Joanne Ioannou, Iason Kantas, Nikos Koropoulos, Anastasia Kostopoulou, Philippe Langrene, Marina Lirigou, Aliko Marinaki, Efthymia Ntivi, AJ Nseir, Zoi-Silvia Oikonomou, Peter Pitt, Agelos Stavrakis, Ioanna Tziriti, Haroula Zahopoulou, Xanthippe Voutsala.

**Translation:** Marcel Durand, Jean-Louis Satre, Dimitris Alexakis, Delphine Boca, Patricia Ghika, Nathalie Haggard, Helene Katsaras, Eliane Pauwels, Cyndie Sompayrac, Dimitris Boscainos, Clement Hartley, Daphne Karathanos, Aimilia Maniataki, Rosalind Sloman, Augoustinos Touloupis, Matesa Xylouri-von Hildebrand, Diamantis Konstantinidis, Ageliki Bountogianni, Martha Natsoulidou, Klaiti Sotiriadou, Christina Sotiropoulou, Christina Touloupoulou