



CLUB DEVELOPMENT

usaswimming.org

Dear Coach,

1. Zone Select Camp. Assistant Coaches Now apply!
2. 7th Annual National Black Heritage Championship Swim Meet
3. Sign up for the 5th Build A Pool Conference
4. 2009 Diversity Select Camp Athlete Application
5. An article on Sportsmanship.
6. Open Water Trials and Nationals Flyer
7. Free WSI webinar Update

USA Swimming is currently seeking assistant coaches for each camp. Coach applications are available in the box to the right. Assistant coaches must apply within their own zones. Additional information is provided on the applications.

[2009 Zone Select Camp Rosters.](#)

Information about the [Zone Select Camps](#)

Zone	Host Site	Camp Dates
Eastern	University of Buffalo (NY)	May 28-31
Central	Miami University (Ohio)	May 21-24
Southern	University of Louisville (Ky)	May 21-24
Western	Soka University (Ca)	June 4-7



If you have questions about the Zone Select Camp, please contact [Bill Krumm](#).

Camp Staff Applications

[ZSC Assistant Coach: Central Zone](#)

[ZSC Assistant Coach: Eastern Zone](#)

[ZSC Assistant Coach: Southern Zone](#)

[ZSC Assistant Coach: Western Zone](#)

The North Carolina Aquablazers Swim Team will host the 7th Annual National Black Heritage Championship Swim Meet at the Curran Aquatic Center on Memorial Day weekend, May 23-24. Thirty teams from as far away as California are expected to attend the meet with over 600 swimmers, bringing an estimated economic impact of \$500,000 in direct visitor spending to the Triangle area.

Details for the meet, including information about 2004 Olympian Maritza Corriea's swim clinics, and World Record Holder and 2008 Olympian Cullen Jones' lottery swims can be found at www.blackheritageswimming.org

5th Annual Build a Pool Conference
1st Aquatic Engineer Conference
April 14 – 17, 2009

www.usaswimming.org/facilities

What is USA Swimming Build a Pool Conference?

- A conference that gives you the opportunity to talk directly with the best Providers of the Aquatic Industry
- A conference with real Case Studies who have build facilities after attending a previous BAP conference
- A conference that addresses “Total Aquatic Programming” to make a Profitable Aquatic Center
- A conference that introduces you to the resources needed to put your plan to work

Who should attend the USA Swimming Build a Pool Conference?

- Coaches who want to secure water time for their teams
 - Interested swim club board members who want to secure water time for their team
 - Anyone who has a dream to build an Aquatic Facility that meets the need of the community
 - Architects – Engineers – Consultants who want to know what their customers really need
-
-

Diversity Select Camp

The Diversity Select Camp will be held at the Olympic Training Center from April 23-26, 2009. All USA Swimming members who meet the qualification criteria are encouraged to apply. The purpose of this camp is to instill a vision of success and inspire swimmers from ethnically under-represented populations to become leaders in the sport of swimming. Additional information and applications are available below.

[Information about the Diversity Select Camp.](#)

[Athlete Application.](#)

The application deadline is **March 2, 2009.**

Amid the grieving, a rare act of sportsmanship

Posted Online: Feb. 18, 2009, 11:28 pm



By **Tim Dahlberg**

The coach never considered any other option.

It didn't matter that his DeKalb, Ill., High School basketball team had ridden a bus two and a half hours to get to Milwaukee, then waited another hour past game time to play. Didn't matter that the game was close, or that this was a chance to beat a big city team.

Something else was on Dave Rohlman's mind when he asked for a volunteer to shoot two free throws awarded his team on a technical foul in the second quarter. His senior captain raised his hand, ready to go to the line as he had many times before.

Only this time it was different.

"You realize you're going to miss them, don't you?" Rohlman said.

Darius McNeal nodded his head. He understood what had to be done.

It was a Saturday night in February, and the Barbs were playing a non-conference game on the road against Milwaukee Madison. It was the third meeting between the two schools, who were developing a friendly rivalry that spanned two states.

The teams planned to get together after the game and share some pizzas and soda. But the game itself almost never took place.

Hours earlier, the mother of Milwaukee Madison senior captain Johntell Franklin died at a local hospital. Carlitha Franklin had been in remission after a five-year fight with cervical cancer, but she began to hemorrhage that morning while Johntell was taking his college ACT exam.

Her son and several of his teammates were at the hospital late that afternoon when the decision was made to turn off the life-support system. Carlitha Franklin was just 39.

"She was young and they were real close," said Milwaukee coach Aaron Womack Jr., who was at the hospital. "He was very distraught and it happened so suddenly he didn't have time to grieve."

Womack was going to cancel the game, but Franklin told him he wanted the team to play. And play they did, even though the game started late and Milwaukee Madison dressed only eight players.

Early in the second quarter, Womack saw someone out of the corner of his eye. It was Franklin, who came there directly from the hospital to root his teammates on.

The Knights had possession, so Womack called a time out. His players went over and hugged their grieving teammate. Fans came out of the stands to do the same.

"We got back to playing the game and I asked if he wanted to come and sit on the bench," Womack said during a telephone interview.

"No," Franklin replied. "I want to play."

There was just one problem. Since Franklin wasn't on the pre-game roster, putting him in meant drawing a technical foul that would give DeKalb two free throws.

Though it was a tight game, Womack was willing to give up the two points. It was more important to help his senior guard and co-captain deal with his grief by playing.

Over on the other bench, though, Rohlman wasn't so willing to take them. He told the referees to forget the technical and just let Franklin play.

"I could hear them arguing for five to seven minutes, saying, 'We're not taking it, we're not taking it,' Womack said. "The refs told them, no, that's the rule. You have to take them."

That's when Rohlman asked for volunteers, and McNeal's hand went up.

He went alone to the free throw line, dribbled the ball a couple of times, and looked at the rim.

His first attempt went about two feet, bouncing a couple of times as it rolled toward the end line. The second barely left his hand.

It didn't take long for the Milwaukee players to figure out what was going on.

They stood and turned toward the DeKalb bench and started applauding the gesture of sportsmanship. Soon, so did everybody in the stands.

"I did it for the guy who lost his mom," McNeal told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. "It was the right thing to do."

Franklin would go on to score 10 points, and Milwaukee Madison broke open the game in the second half to win 62-47. Afterward, the teams went out for pizza, two players from each team sharing each pie.

Franklin stopped by briefly, thankful that his team was there for him.

"I got kind of emotional but it helped a lot just to play," he said. "I felt like I had a lot of support out there."

Carlitha Franklin's funeral was last Friday, and the school turned out for her and her son. Cheerleaders came in uniform, and everyone from the principal and teachers to Johntell's classmates were there.

"Even the cooks from school showed up," Womack said. "It lets you know what kind of kid he is."

Basketball is a second sport for the 18-year-old Franklin, who says he has had some scholarship nibbles and plans to play football in college. He just has a few games left for the Knights, who are 6-11 and got beat 71-36 Tuesday night by Milwaukee Hamilton.

It hasn't been the greatest season for the team, but they have stuck together through a lot of adversity.

"We maybe don't have the best basketball players in the world but they go to class and take care of business," Womack said. "We have a losing record but there's life lessons going on, good ones."

None so good, though, as the moment a team and a player decided there were more important things than winning and having good stats.

Yes, DeKalb would go home with a loss. But it was a trip they'll never forget.

"This is something our kids will hold for a lifetime," Rohlman said. "They may not remember our record 20 years from now, but they'll remember what happened in that gym that night."

Tim Dahlberg is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at tdahlbergap.org

Open Water Nationals Coming in June.

See attached pdf. OW-GCST Flyer.

Online Instructor Update for the New American Red Cross Swimming and Water Safety Program



**FREE Webcast on Wednesday,
March 11, 2009 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm ET**

The new Swimming and Water Safety program from the American Red Cross is releasing February 27, 2009! Here's your chance to update your Water Safety instructor or instructor trainer authorization online quickly and easily with experts from the American Red Cross National Headquarters. This two-hour online event will give you a complete overview of the new program, including skills changes and materials enhancements, as well as new instructor requirements, so you'll be ready to implement any or all of the new Swimming and Water Safety courses and presentations for the 2009 swim season.

This online instructor update will cover the following newly revised courses and presentations:

- Water Safety Instructor
 - Parent and Child Aquatics
 - Preschool Aquatics
 - Learn-to-Swim
 - Longfellow's WHALE Tales
 - Safety Training for Swim Coaches
 - Water Safety Courses and Presentations
-

Register Now for this FREE Webcast on
Wednesday, March 11, 2009
from 2:00 – 4:00 pm ET
Sign up today. Space is limited.
www.aquaticsintl.com/redcross



Stop receiving email to [phogan@usa-swimming.org]:
Hanley Wood uses email to send our customers information on various products and services we offer, including our conferences and trade shows, magazines, books, email newsletters, and other offers directly connected to your business interests. To STOP receiving these emails, please click [here](#)

Hanley Wood, LLC • One Thomas Circle NW • Washington DC 20005

The material in this e-mail is provided for educational and informational purposes only and does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement with respect to any company or product. One of the objectives of the USA Swimming Coach's Blast e-mails is to make coaches aware of potential resources available.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: USA Swimming reminds all member organizations and coaches that you are responsible for complying with applicable copyright laws regarding publication and distribution of printed materials, including internet content.

If you have any concerns about whether material you seek to reprint is covered by copyright law, we encourage you to contact the author and obtain permission or otherwise seek appropriate counsel regarding the use of the materials.

Peter C. Clark
Sport Development Consultant
USA Swimming
719-866-3561 (direct line)
719-330-0743 (cell)

Check out USA Swimming's new Club Recognition program. Follow the blueprint to develop a strong, stable, financially sound and athletically productive organization. See www.usaswimming.org/ClubRecognition