

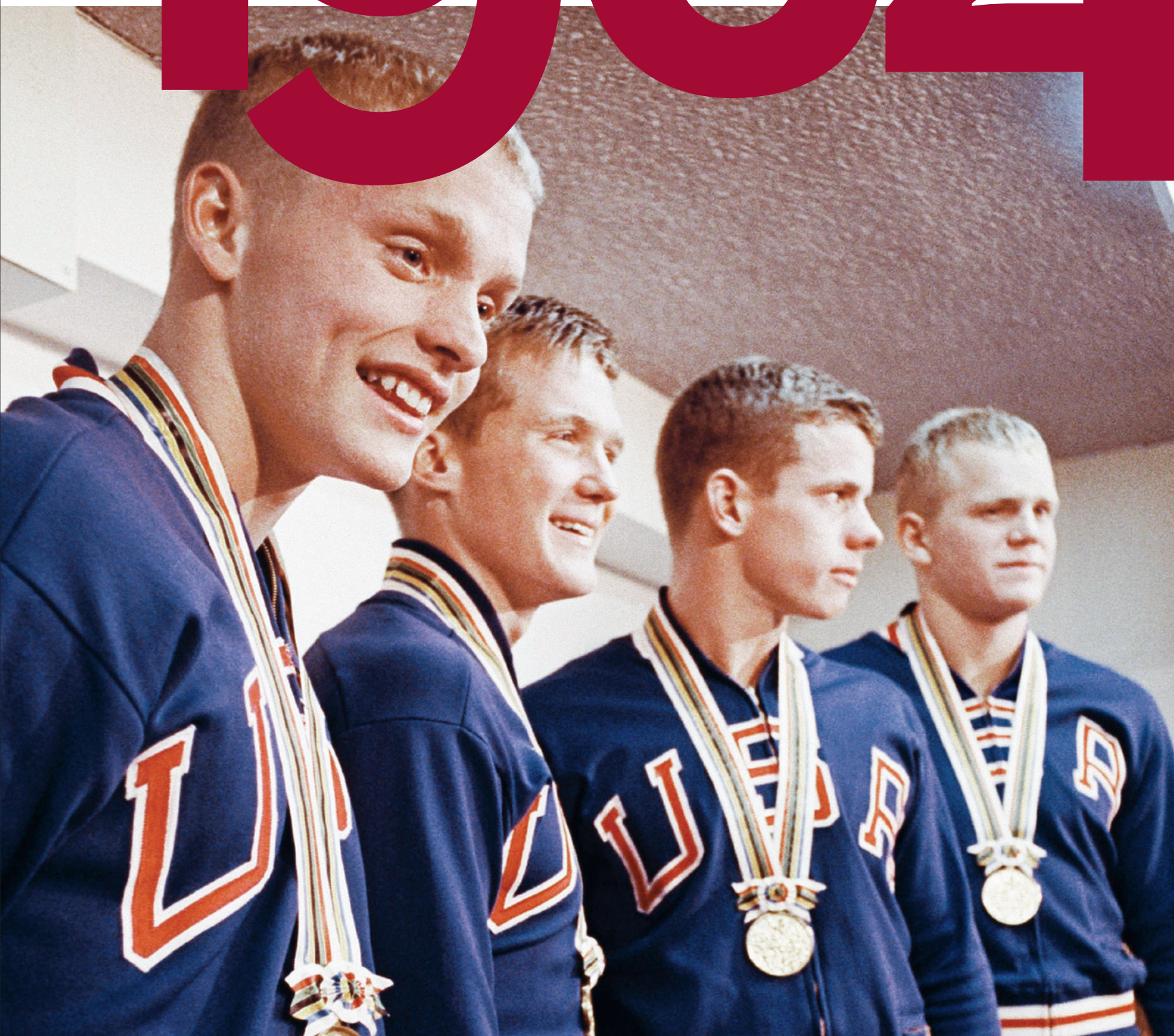
TOKYO

The International Olympic Committee first granted Tokyo the right to host the Olympics in 1940, but rescinded the award after Japan’s invasion of China in 1937. Ultimately, World War II prevented the 1940 and 1944 Games from happening, and Japan was barred from participating in the London Games in 1948. Tokyo submitted a second bid in 1952, and in 1959 finally beat out proposals from Brussels, Detroit and Vienna to host the 1964 Summer Olympics. This marked the first time that Olympic competitions took place in Asia. Referring to the symbol of the five interlocking rings, which represent the union of the five continents, *The Japan Times* proclaimed, “The fifth ring in the Olympic symbol has been completed.” With the launch of Syncom 3, the first geostationary satellite, the Tokyo Games were also the first to be telecast live in the United States, and the Games also marked the first time computers were used to track results. For the Japanese government, the 1964 Olympics marked an important opportunity to show the country’s reconstruction, economic growth and commitment to peaceful international partnership following the devastation of World War II. Major infrastructure projects were completed, including highways, subways and, just in time for the opening, the *Tokaido Shinkansen* — the world’s first high-speed bullet train. Runners bore the Olympic torch through every province in Japan, with torchbearer Yoshinori Sakai — born in Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, the day of the atomic bombing — lighting the Olympic cauldron. Two sports that were very popular in Japan at the time made their Olympic debuts: volleyball and the native Japanese martial art of judo. Ninety-three countries participated in the 1964 Games, with 16 competing for the first time. Among the 5,151 athletes, a then-record 35 Olympians with ties to USC won 15 medals, including seven golds.

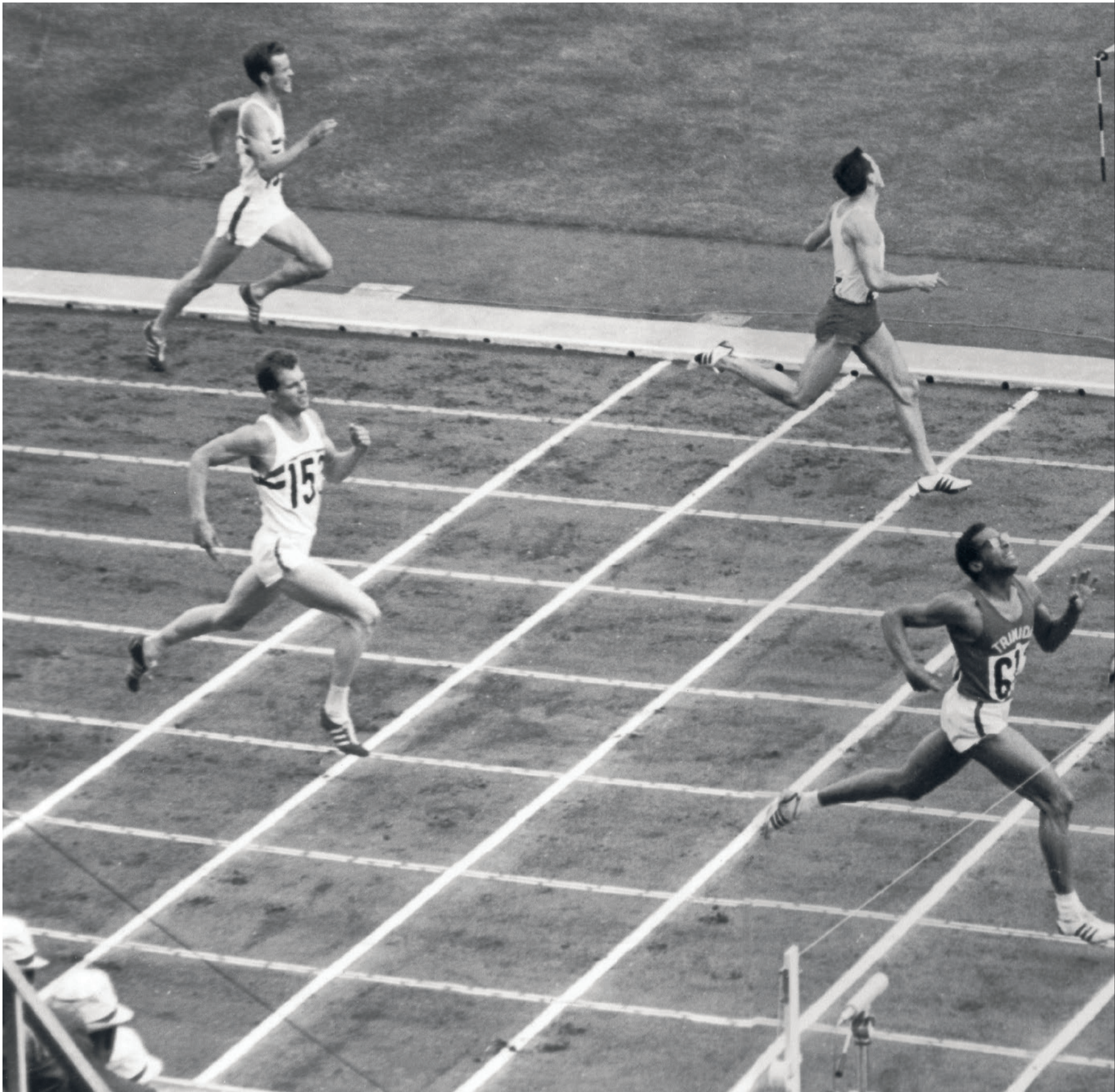
Trojan swimmer Roy Saari ’67 (far right) won silver in the 400-meter individual medley and also teamed with (from left) Don Schollander, Steve Clark and Gary Ilman to capture gold for the United States in the 4x200-meter freestyle relay in Tokyo.

WES" CLAYTON BILL CRAIG DAN DROWN CONN FINDLAY SHARON FINNERAN RITTENHOUSE JOHN "SANDY" GILCHRIST JEANNE HALLOCK RICHARD HAMMER
ICH MCGEAGH NED MCILROY LES MILLS PARRY O'BRIEN MICHAEL O'HARA TONY RALPHS JANICE-LEE YORK ROMARY ROY SAARI MAKOTO SAKAMOTO
TT PATTI LUCAS BRIGHT TERREZENE BROWN PANO CAPERONIS REX CAWLEY WESLEY CHOWEN WELLESLEY "WES" CLAYTON BILL CRAIG DAN DROWN

1964



MIKE LARRABEE





Mike Larrabee '57 was on a rapid rise to greatness as a young sprinter. But after earning a scholarship to USC, injuries and illnesses derailed his fast start.

Larrabee was a fun-loving prankster but was all seriousness when it came to athletics. He lettered in track for three seasons and was part of the Trojans' 1954 and 1955 NCAA championship teams. In 1956, he came down with the flu before running in the Olympic Trials in Los Angeles. He finished eighth in the 400 meters and failed to qualify for the Games in Melbourne. A year later, while competing for the Southern California Striders Club, he tore a hamstring muscle. His doctor, one of Los Angeles' foremost orthopedic surgeons, said he would never race again.

But Larrabee recovered, and by the late 1950s, he was back in top form. Misfortune soon found him yet again, though. In 1960, Larrabee ruptured an Achilles' tendon just days after winning the Compton Invitational. The injury prevented Larrabee from competing for a spot in the Rome Games — and one of the men he beat on that Compton track, Otis Davis, took home gold at the Olympics.

Yet Larrabee still harbored Olympic dreams. By spring 1964, he was 30 years old and was teaching high school math, but was eager to try out for the Games. According to Rob Fernas of the *Los Angeles Times*, "his students laughed when he told them of his plan, and his principal advised Larrabee that he 'needed to face reality'

at his age, which was considered ancient for a sprinter." Despite the widespread skepticism, he kept on training. Unfortunately, he also kept on getting injured.

A few months before the 1964 Olympic Trials, Larrabee's pancreas became inflamed after one of his students hit him during a light-hearted karate fight. Larrabee fought through it and ran the 400 meters at the Olympic Trials with a high fever. He was the top qualifier, with a time that equaled the current world record.

He finally made it to the Olympics, and it was a memorable triumph. In the dramatic 400-meter final, Larrabee rallied from fifth place coming off the final curve, passing the four runners in front of him and winning the race by 10 meters. It would be only his first gold: He won a second as a member of the world-record-setting 4x400-meter relay team.

After his victorious turn in Tokyo, Larrabee went back to teaching high school students until 1968, when he moved to Santa Maria, Calif., to take over his family's beer distributorship. He remained tremendously active later in life, climbing mountains and even raising llamas at one point. In 2003, he was inducted into the National Track & Field Hall of Fame. He died that same year after a two-year battle with pancreatic cancer.



REUSE, RECYCLE

TOKYO BASED ITS WINNING BID FOR THE 2020 OLYMPICS ON ITS PLAN TO MAKEOVER THE MAIN STADIUM, ARENA AND SPORT COMPLEX ORIGINALLY BUILT FOR THE 1964 GAMES.

JOHN "SANDY" GILCHRIST '69, MBA '71

A member of the Trojan men's swim team, three-time All-American Sandy Gilchrist swam for Canada at the Tokyo Olympics in 1964 and again in Mexico City in 1968. His brother Allen Gilchrist '56 swam in the 1948 and 1952 Games.

HANS-JOACHIM KLEIN

West German swimmer Hans-Joachim Klein, who attended USC from 1962 to 1963, hauled in four medals at the 1964 Olympics. He won silver medals in the 4x100-meter and 4x200-meter freestyle relays and the 4x100-meter medley relay, and a bronze in the 100-meter freestyle.

TROJAN VICTORIES AND HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1964 TOKYO GAMES

USC OLYMPIANS: 35 GOLD: 7 SILVER: 6 BRONZE: 2



REX CAWLEY '64

Inducted into the USC Athletic Hall of Fame in 2009, Rex Cawley is considered one of the greatest Trojan track athletes ever. In 1963, he became NCAA champion in the 440-yard hurdles, setting a USC record that still stands. He won gold in the 400-meter hurdles in Tokyo.



FROM THE VAULT

POLE VAULTERS WERE ALLOWED TO USE POLES MADE OF FIBERGLASS INSTEAD OF ALUMINUM AT THE OLYMPICS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 1964.

SHARON FINNERAN RITTENHOUSE

Swimmer Sharon Finneran Rittenhouse won silver in the 400-meter individual medley at the 1964 Olympics. Rittenhouse, who attended USC from 1965 to 1966, held six world and 13 American records. Her daughter Ariel Rittenhouse, who attended USC in 2009 and 2010, competed in diving at the 2008 Games.





WILLIAM "BILL" CRAIG '68

Breastroker Bill Craig helped the U.S. to a gold medal in the 4x100-meter relay at the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo. At USC, he was a three-time All-American.



GOOD TIMING

THE TOKYO GAMES WERE THE FIRST IN WHICH VIEWERS COULD SEE ATHLETES' FINISHING TIMES LIVE ON THEIR TELEVISION SETS.

DAVID KIRKWOOD MS '70

At the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo, David Kirkwood won a silver medal in the modern pentathlon, a team event combining horseback riding, fencing, shooting, swimming and running.

PATTI LUCAS BRIGHT '64

Patti Lucas Bright played on the inaugural U.S. Olympic women's volleyball squad at the 1964 Games, where women's volleyball debuted as the first Olympic team sport for women. She returned to the Olympics in 1968 in Mexico City.

CARLOS VAN DER MAATH '72

Carlos Van der Maath represented Argentina in water polo in Tokyo in 1964 and then in swimming in Mexico City in 1968. He is one of only four Trojans to compete in multiple sports at the Games.

MAKOTO SAKAMOTO '70

Makoto Sakamoto competed in gymnastics at the 1964 and 1972 Olympics. He won four NCAA individual championships at USC, and was inducted into the USA Gymnastics Hall of Fame in 1986. His brothers Isamu and Mikio also were Trojan gymnasts.



THE DALAND DYNASTY

VENERATED USC SWIM COACH AND MENTOR PETER DALAND LED THE U.S. WOMEN'S OLYMPIC SQUAD THAT CAPTURED SIX OF EIGHT POSSIBLE MEDALS IN TOKYO IN 1964 AND COACHED THE MEN'S TEAM THAT WON NINE GOLD MEDALS IN MUNICH IN 1972.

ROY SAARI '67

Nine-time NCAA Champion Roy Saari competed in four events at the 1964 Olympics, capturing a gold medal in the 4x200-meter freestyle relay and silver in the 400-meter individual medley.

