



# One Step Ahead

## BELLMORE STRIDERS EXCEL IN USATF-LI ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP

On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, Long Island Youth, Open and Masters athletes took part in the 2008 Association Championship competition. The meets were held at both St. Anthony's and Half Hollow Hills High Schools. We congratulate all of the fine champions. Full results of the meets can be found on the USATF-LI website.

The Bellmore Striders led the team competition at the Open and Masters level.



## HENNING EARNS FIRST EVER GOLD MEDAL IN WORLD JUNIOR HAMMER

Bydgoszcz, Poland - **Walter Henning** extended his American Junior record to 76.92m/252-4 in the process of winning gold and leading a U.S. 1-2 finish in the hammer at the 12<sup>th</sup> IAAF World Junior Championships.

Walter is a native Long Islander and a long time member of USATF-LI. He was a participant in our Youth Program since its inception in 1999 and has won many titles in USATF Youth Competitions. Walter graduated from St. Anthony's High School, attended the University of North Carolina and currently attends and competes for Louisiana State University.

Walter's father, Walter Sr., is an integral part of our association youth program and has been of great assistance in coaching many of our young athletes.

## USA OLYMPIC TRIALS EUGENE, OREGON – JUNE 27-JULY 6

By Sue Polansky

*Picture this - Historic Hayward Field – home of Bill Bowerman and Steve Prefontaine – Beautiful Eugene, Oregon – “Track Town – USA” – Capacity crowds at every session – The best of the best competing for a spot on the United States Olympic Track & Field Team.... This was the 2008 Olympic Track & Field Trails.*

The Track & Field Trials were exciting, to say the least. The performances were outstanding and included many record breaking (or near record breaking had the wind been a bit less) wins. Long Island was well represented in Oregon. I am proud to say that our association had several master level officials who were selected to work at the Trials. Included were **Michele Walker** – long jump, **Sue Polansky** – Assistant Chief Umpire, **David Katz** – Technical Manager, **Gary Westerfield** – Race Walk Judge and **Michael Roth** – Umpire. Though Michael has moved to North Carolina, Long Island

still claims him as one of our own.

In addition, there were many competitors whose roots are on Long Island. Many are still members of USATF-LI. Included in this group are Race Walkers **Maria Michta**, **Jolene Moore**, **Loretta Schuellein** and **Tim Seaman**, 800 Meter Runners **Dustin Emrani** ( Great Neck North), **Elliot Blount** (Uniondale), 400 Meter Runner **Shana Cox** (Holy Trinity), Steeplechase Gold Medalist **Anthony Famiglietti** and Shot Putter **Erin Gilreath** (NYAC).

To be a part of the Olympic Trials was a thrill and an honor. To see our own local people reach this level was even more of a thrill. Though they did not all attain their Olympic dream, they are all our heroes, and we are proud of them.

USATF-LI joins the rest of the nation in wishing the USA Track & Field Team luck in Beijing.



Sue Polansky & Michael Roth ready to go to work



Great Neck's Dustin Emrani after the 800 Meter Run



Michele Walker takes a break from the track

**CROSS COUNTRY SERIES BEGINS WITH  
DIRTY SOCK 10K – AUGUST 17<sup>TH</sup>**

**YOU'VE GOT TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT**

**SEE YOU THERE!!!!**