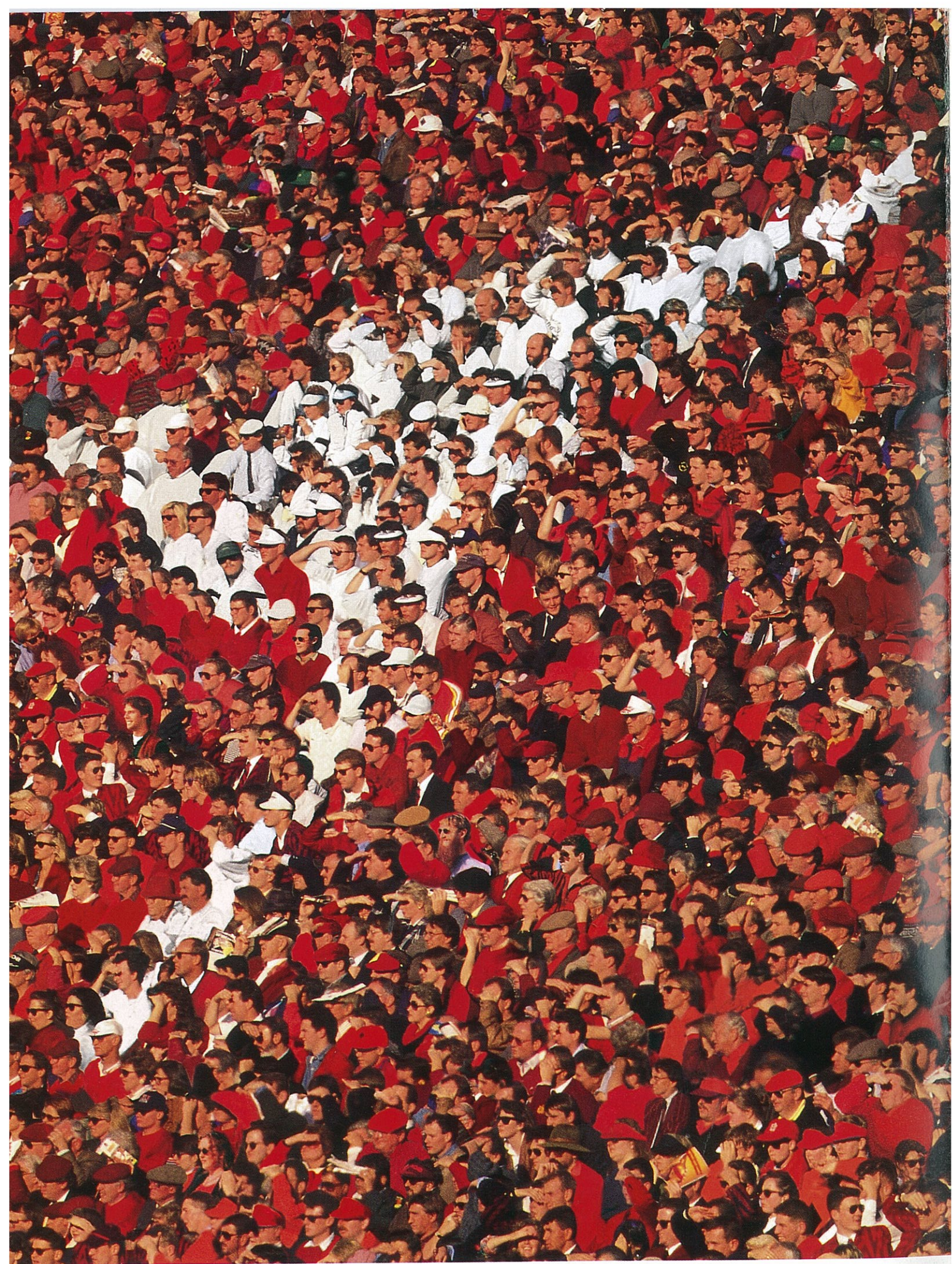


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APF Annual Report 1995
Sydney



**AUSTRALIAN
PARALYMPIC FEDERATION
ANNUAL REPORT 1995**



Proud supporter of the Australian Paralympic Federation.



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CORPORATE DIRECTORY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



President
Bob McCullough



Vice Presidents
Dawn Fraser
Paul Bird



Commission Chairmen



Athletes
Brendan Burkett



Development
Maurice Frichot



Finance & Admin
Ray Stone



Media & PR
Paul Griffiths



Medical
Dr John Bourke



Sport
George Dunstan



Marketing, CEO & Secretary General
Frank Martin

NATIONAL OFFICE

Australian Paralympic Federation
Sports House, Wentworth Park Complex
PO Box 323, GLEBE, 2037

Tel: (02) 552 6589 Fax (02) 552 6347

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Director of Sport | Jenni Banks |
| Fund-raising Manager | Jenni Plucknett |
| Financial Controller | Kellie Urquhart |
| Sport Trainee | Annie Singh |

QUEENSLAND OFFICE

Queensland Paralympic Council
Level 8, 444 Queen Street,
PO Box 9951, BRISBANE, 4001

Tel & Fax: (07) 831 2366

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Executive Director | Gerrard Gosens |
|---------------------------|----------------|

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS & HEAD OFFICE LOCATION

Amputee Federation of Australia - South Aust
Australian Blind Sports Federation - Qld
Australian Disabled Skiers Federation - NSW
Aust Recreation Assn for People with an Intellectual Disability - Victoria
Australian Wheelchair Athletes - ACT
Cerebral Palsy Aust Sport & Rec. Fedn - Qld
Riding for Disabled Assn of Australia - Vic

BANKERS

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

HON SOLICITORS

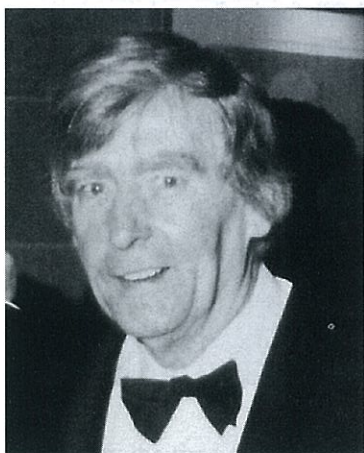
Freehill, Hollingdale & Page

AUDITORS

Felser, Russell & Co



PRESIDENT'S REPORT



On behalf of the Board of the Australian Paralympic Federation I present the Annual Report for 1994/95 and in doing so express appreciation to all those involved in making the period of the most successful in the history of the organisation. The success ranges from bringing the accountability of the organisation under control through to the

implementation of the Paralympic Preparation Program which is professional and fair in its approach.

In terms of the financial accountability of the organisation I am pleased to report that the audit qualifications which prevailed in the 1993/94 report have been rectified and all the necessary financial rules and administrative procedures are in place to ensure that the necessary controls exist in the day to day operations of the Federation.

The management structure which was introduced in the report period is working to a reasonable level of efficiency with good interaction in most areas. As the person responsible for introducing the present management system I am conscious of the need for constant review and it is the intention of the Board to conduct a review in 1995/96 in order that the structure can be further refined and modified. I would expect that member organisations will be consulted in the review process and recommendations will be presented at the 1996 Annual General Meeting.

Without a doubt, the success of our athletes in 1994/95 in international competition has lifted the profile of Paralympic sports in Australia and brought international recognition of the world standing of Australian elite athletes. The Atlanta and Developing training squads can be very proud of their international achievements and on behalf of the APF Members I congratulate all athletes for their significant contribution. To the athletes personal coaches and the APF national coaches, who are assisting in achieving excellence congratulations and sincere thanks for your voluntary work.

The Paralympic Preparation Program is now well established and a reasonable balance has been achieved in the distribution of funds. Distributing limited funds on a fair and equitable basis over fourteen sports and over two hundred athletes is not an easy task, and I congratulate those involved in assisting in maintaining control. It is indeed pleasing to note that all sports have adequate funds to ensure that preparation and training can increase as we move closer to the 1996 Paralympic Games.

In the implementation of the Paralympic Preparation Program it would be remiss of me if I did not acknowledge the work of the Director of Sport, Jenni Banks, in bringing the concept to reality and the Secretary General, Frank Martin, in streamlining the

administrative processes. The workload and effort has been tremendous, but well worth while, as we now have an established system which will provide consistency in the preparation of our athletes through to Sydney 2000 and beyond.

Of course the Paralympic Preparation Program cannot stand alone and its success is heavily dependent on funding from the APF member organisations and from the individual athletes. In the majority of cases the athletes have had to undertake a heavy financial burden in their quest for excellence as the PPP funding represents less than thirty percent of the total outlay for international competition and around fifty per cent for training camps.

The area of coaching is the weakest link in the Paralympic Preparation Program as all APF appointed National Coaches are voluntary with only the bare essential out of pocket expenses being paid. While it is unlikely that this matter can be rectified in the short term it must be addressed and rectified in preparation of the Sydney 2000 Games. If we are to achieve quality performances in the Paralympic sports then professional coaching is a must!

The signs for Australia to be highly competitive at Atlanta in 1996 are indeed exciting and expectations are high in many sports, but we must not be complacent as our competitors are well aware that Australia is strong in most sports and they are working hard to ensure that they are competitive. Our athletes must continue to train hard to ensure success at Atlanta. To this end the APF Director of Sport will be paying particular attention to individual athlete programs to ensure that solid preparation is taking place.

The decision of the APF Board to use Sports Marketing & Management as our exclusive marketing agency has paid dividends and I feel confident that over the next nine months the financial target set by the APF will be achieved and we will not have a repeat of the funding uncertainty experience in 1992. The sponsorship arrangements with the NSW Motor Accidents Authority of NSW & Victoria WorkCover Authority are worthy of note together with the QANTAS airline agreement and the team uniform supply by Dialogue Pty Ltd.

In the fund raising areas, the APF State Councils are beginning to produce results with Western Australia and Queensland making significant contributions. Other Councils are well under way in fund raising activities.

Contributions from State Governments have been sought and to date South Australia and Queensland have responded with a number of other States indicating support in the foreseeable future. The Queensland Government has continued to take the lead in direct support to athletes selected for Atlanta by providing each athlete with \$5,000 as a cash donation.

Co-operation established with the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) continues to strengthen and the APF is very much appreciative of the financial and other direct support and the generous offer to include the Australian Paralympic athletes participating in the Olympic wheelchair track events in the Australian Olympic team. On behalf of the APF Members and

Board may I express my sincere thanks to the AOC President, John Coates, for the assistance and advice so readily given by him and the staff of the AOC.

To Jim Ferguson, the Executive Director of the Australian Sports Commission, and the staff of the ASC and the AIS may I on behalf of the APF Members and Board express our thanks and appreciation for the support received in establishing the APF administration and the Paralympic Preparation Program.

Looking to the future there is much to be done to continue the development of Paralympic sports.

The Federation will need to make some adjustments in its organisation after Atlanta when it steps back from the marketplace to permit the Sydney Paralympic Organising Committee (SPOC) to commence its marketing program and for a joint fund raising campaign between SPOC and the APF to be implemented.

Priorities for the future include;

- * A successful 1996 Atlanta Paralympic Games
- * The planning and implementation of the Australian 1998 Nagano preparation program
- * Addressing future coaching needs through the provision of full time coaches and better utilisation and co-operation with State academies and institutes in providing coaching and sport science services
- * Developing competition programs in the Pacific and FESPIC regions in order to strengthen Paralympic sports in the region and to provide financially viable competition
- * Continued development of the APF management structure and the APF State Councils

- * The establishment of strong links with SPOC to assist in making Sydney Paralympic Games the greatest Games ever.

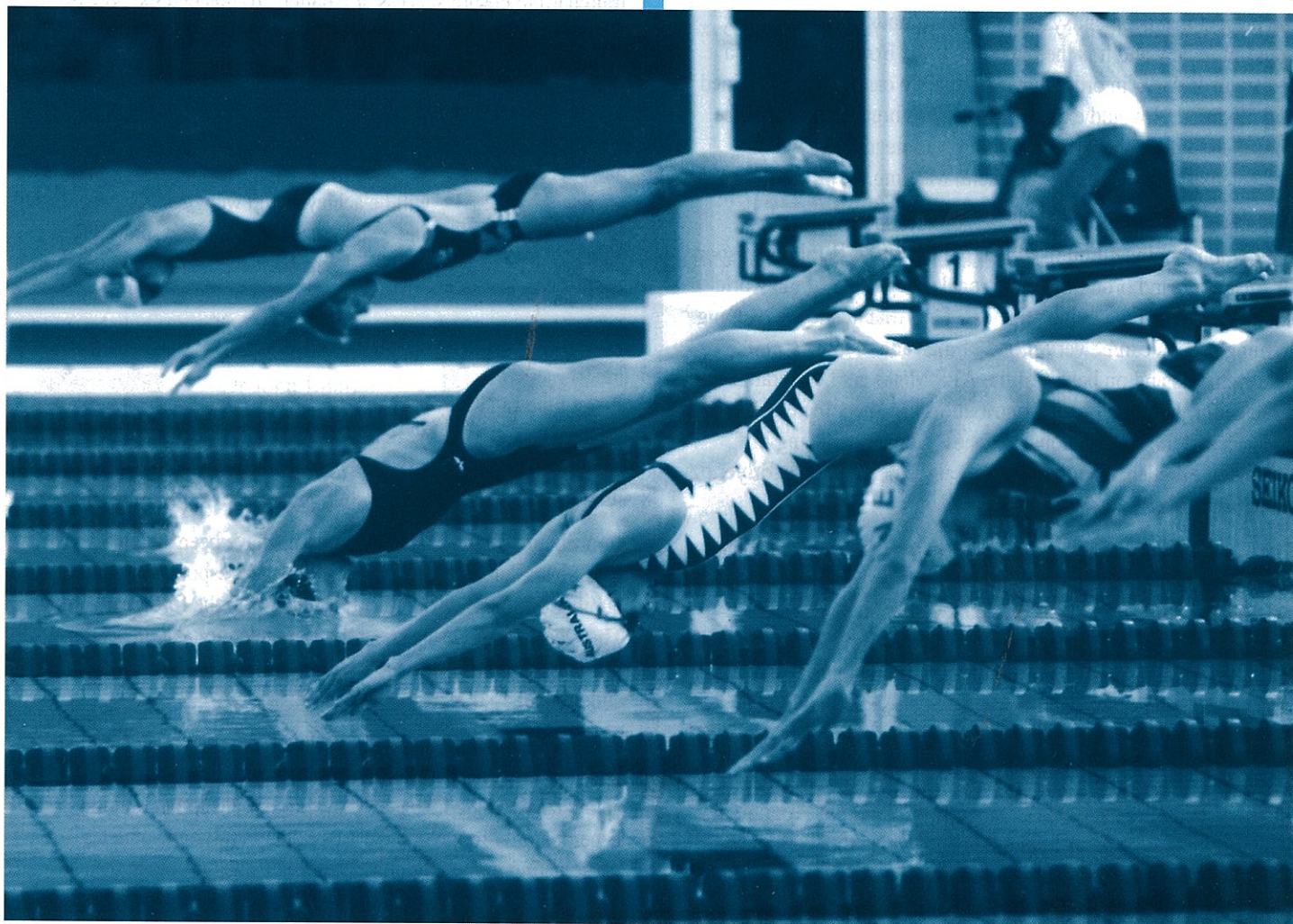
In conclusion I believe the next five years for Paralympic sports in Australia provides the opportunity for the APF and its member organisations to lay a solid foundation for the future. It is going to take total co-operation and understanding between all the organisations involved to ensure success.

On behalf of the Board I thank the Federal Government, State Governments, commercial sponsors, QANTAS, Dialogue Pty Ltd, Motor Accidents Authority, Victoria Workcover Authority, Registered Clubs Association, Unisys, ASC, AIS, State Academies and Institutes, athletes, personal coaches, APF national coaches, volunteers, APF member organisations and the staff of the Australian Paralympic Federation for helping to build the Paralympic Family in Australia and preparing the 1996 Australian Paralympic Team for Atlanta.

I feel confident Australia will be celebrating the success of the team in August 1996.

Bob McCullough

President



SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT



PARALYMPIC PREPARATION PROGRAM

The highlight of the past year was the introduction of the Paralympic Preparation Plan (PPP) and its unprecedented financial support, to Paralympic athletes, from the Australian Sports Commission. More than \$1 million will have been distributed amongst the 200-odd athletes in the Paralympic

squads by the time of the Atlanta Games.

Although this amount falls well short of the total figure expended by most athletes in their pursuit of sporting excellence at international level, it has contributed significantly to easing the financial burden on those athletes who make up the current and future Australian Paralympic teams.

And while we read of the projected medal success of our Olympic counterparts, the success of the Paralympic movement can best be judged by the improvement, across the sports, made since the massive haul of medals from the 1992 Games. If there was a sobering statistic in the results of both organisations in the previous Games it was the number of sports in which Australia won Gold medals - 5 for the Olympics, and 3 for the Paralympics.

It is improvement in this area which will bear testament to the improvement made by our Paralympic team, and the rankings of the team sports compared to their 1992 Games performances. It will also be these results by which the success of the Paralympic Preparation Program will be judged.

STAFFING & FINANCIAL CONTROLS

The continued financial support of the Australian Sports Commission has allowed the development of an effective staff structure in the Federation offices in Sydney and Brisbane. The areas of sport, fund-raising and financial control now receive better day-to-day attention through staff appointed specifically to those tasks.

And even tighter financial controls have been established across the entire spectrum of the organisational structure, including State Councils, thanks to a review of all procedures in consultation of the audit firm, Felser Russell. The presentation of an unqualified statement attached to the Annual Report is evidence of the success of these measures.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The APF has been pro-active in ensuring that Paralympic athletes are not overlooked in the distribution of scholarships

and awards throughout the Australian sporting community, both from Government and semi-Government sources as well as the private commercial sector. The Director of Sport and the Secretary-General have acted in advisory roles in a number of such areas during the past 12 months with significant success in terms of financial and services support for members of the Paralympic squads.

The Australian Institute of Sport recently announced its scholarship allocations for 1996 with nearly 30 Paralympic athletes on the list. Telstra also awarded grants to 10 Paralympic swimmers in its Dolphin program.

The APF has been very active in its resolve to have State and Federal scholarships decided in harmony to better service the number of worthy athletes across the Nation.

The recently revamped MLC Junior Sports Foundation will see greater support of current and developing Paralympic athletes while the John Brown Foundation and the Avon Women's Achievement Award recognised the successes of Paralympic athletes during 1995.

PARALYMPIAN OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The inaugural Paralympian of the Year Awards and dinner were an immediate success with wheelchair racer, Louise Sauvage, a worthy winner amongst a highly talented group of finalists. 1995 has served up an equally successful group of finalists in recently named No 1 ranking wheelchair tennis player, David Hall; Victorian cyclist, Peter Homann; fellow wheeling-duo, Terri Poole and Sandra Smith; quad-road racer, Fabian Blattman; and two of last year's finalists, winner - Louise Sauvage; and super-fish, Priya Cooper.

INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

Two visits to Australia by IPC President, Dr Bob Steadward, provided (if not under the most ideal circumstances) an opportunity for the APF Board and staff to meet the head of the international organisation and share some of his, and our, visions for the future of Paralympic sport. The APF staff also played host to a visiting Japanese delegation, Jenni Banks delivering a presentation on the activities of the APF and Paralympic sport in Australia.

ADMINISTRATIVE GRANTS

The Federation is most appreciative of the continued support of the NSW and Queensland Departments of Sport and Recreation in maintaining a viable administrative role and presence through provision of office facilities (in NSW) and salary support (in Qld). And to Unisys Computers and Jupiters Casino Trust for their provision of office equipment, in the two States, which allows the staff to maintain a primary service to athletes and member organisations.

1994-95 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The detailed audited accounts of the Australian Paralympic Federation Inc., for the financial year ended 30 June 1995, are printed separately.

The accounts have been prepared to comply with the Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) and the Federation's Constitution.

Total income derived from external sources for the year was \$788,695 (which included \$227,812 apportioned from the Paralympic Preparation Program).

Separate income of \$186,813 shown as Event Participation Program Income was received as athletes' contribution to multi-disability competitions participation organised by the APF.

After General Expenditure of \$377,764 and expenditure of \$335,331 on the event participation program allocations (including distribution of PPP funding to athletes), the combined operating surplus for the year was \$262,433.

All surplus funds are invested in the trustee status income earning accounts, and interest earned during the year amounted to \$22,098.

It is noted in the notes to the detailed audited accounts that retained surplus for the financial year ended 30 June 1994, differs from that shown at the beginning of the 94-95 financial year.

The Constitution now requires funds held by the State Councils to be included.

The audited report for the financial year ended 30 June 1995 contained no qualifications and additional financial controls, recommended by the external auditors, have been implemented.



The monthly detailed accounts, produced for presentation to the APF Board, provide an additional regular financial focus.

The financial controller and staff of the APF are to be complemented for their co-operation in meeting the increasing demands on the presentation and detail of the financial reporting requirements.

It should be noted that the 94-95 financial year represents the first occasion where the APF retained total independent internal control of the financial records (previously maintained by an external accountancy firm).



INCOME & EXPENDITURE 1994 - 95

| Income | \$ |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Corporate Sponsorship | 125,000 |
| Fundraising | 242,641 |
| Grants - PPP Funding | 227,812 |
| - Aust Sports Comm | 100,000 |
| Interest | 22,098 |
| Event Income | 186,813 |
| Other Income | 71,143 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 975,507 |
| Expenditure | |
| Marketing & Fundraising | 114,028 |
| Event Support inc PPP allocations | 335,311 |
| Support Services | 239,255 |
| Other Expenditure | 24,480 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | 713,074 |

MARKETING & FUND-RAISING

The decision of the APF Board to utilise the services of Sports Marketing & Management (SMAM) in the task of raising nearly \$2m required to send the Australian Team to the 1996 Atlanta has been rewarded with some marvellous support.

It was a significant step in the long term strategy of establishing on-going commercial partnerships within the corporate world, thus avoiding the need to call upon the "emergency appeal" of past Games. And, while SMAM have managed to surpass any previous achievements in this area, it still remains a difficult task in the competitive market-place of international sports sponsorship.

SPONSORSHIP

Leading the support of the Australian Team for Atlanta has been two innovative programs, developed by SMAM, with the Motor Accidents Authority of NSW, and the Victorian WorkCover Authority.

As well as direct sponsorship for the team, individual scholarships will have been awarded to 17 athletes to assist them in their sporting endeavours. In return, the athletes will be featured in Statewide promotions of safety prevention for the respective organisations (on the road and in the workplace).

The promotions will not only be beneficial to the sponsors in their marketing program but also provide the athletes themselves with an opportunity for developing presentation and public speaking skills which will be beneficial in their everyday lives beyond sports participation.

Since its introduction in NSW the MAA of NSW has been astounded by the success of initiative with more and more organisations seeking the involvement of the athletes in different areas.

The logistics of assembly and outfitting the Australian Team to Atlanta received a major boost when QANTAS were signed up as official airline of the Federation and the Australian team, and as a major sponsor

Similarly the Melbourne-based corporate clothing company, DIALOGUE, have agreed to provide all competition, leisure and formal walk-out uniforms for the Atlanta team. Dialogue have also been appointed as an official licensee in the area of leisurewear - polos and t-shirts, caps, ties, etc. Dialogue will develop a line of Australian Paralympics licensed products for sale through direct marketing, mail order and retail outlets.

Leading swimwear giant, SPEEDO, will continue their sponsorship the Australian swimming team by providing competition and training costumes, goggles, towels, chamois and caps for the Atlanta campaign. Speedo, which sponsored the successful team to the International Paralympic Swim Trials in Atlanta in August, will supply the same uniform as they provide to the Australian Olympic Team.

Licences have also been issued to Melitta Coffee, Vagabond Cruises, Charles Billich and to marketers of the Golden Girls Calendar

FUND-RAISING

The area of fund-raising has been very active in NSW, Queensland and Western Australia in the past 12 months and, more recently, to a lesser extent in South Australia and Victoria. Most significant support has come from the Registered Club Association in NSW which raised over \$100,000 in its second fund-raising dinner within the industry.

The Lions Clubs continue their enormous contribution to the Australian teams. Through their Lion Mints program they expect to raise \$200,000 - a support base which has been in existence for over 20 years. During 1995 the Lions Clubs added a further contribution with a major badges sales drive in Queensland.

The Western Australian public again rallied support of the WA Paralympic Council through its 2nd annual Art Union - this tele-marketing operation, coupled with direct mail activities, has contributing over \$100,000 in the two years of operation.

Other support of the team has come from Max Markson's Our Dawn luncheon, cosmetic giant, Avon, through its Achievement Award, and the Australian Orthopaedic Association in its Adopt a Champion support.

The National office, through APF Fund-raising Manager, Jenni Plucknett, has a string of successful operations to its credit with many more to come in the prime fund-raising period of the months leading up to the Atlanta Games. The 2000 days to 2000 t-shirts were an instant hit with the average price being \$500 each for the 200 limited edition shirts distributed to personalities around Australia.

While a number of dinners, lunches and breakfasts contributed to the fund-raising total, the "don't dress for dinner" idea in Adelaide must rank amongst the most innovative.



COMMUNICATIONS

MEDIA

A SPOC survey, at the beginning of the year, to ascertain media perception of the Paralympics returned a not unexpected picture of an erratic exposure of both the Federation and its athletes based around major competition.

A concerted effort of the APF itself, professional assistance during Paralympic week, media campaigns attached to sponsorships by the Motor Accidents Authority of NSW and the Victoria WorkCover Authority, the appointment of Hill & Knowlton by the Sydney Paralympic Games organisers, and the individual athletes themselves seemed to have made significant contribution to changing this perspective.



1995 records a regular reporting of Paralympic activity both on and off the sporting arena with the appearance of Anne Currie on Australia's most watched TV show, "This Is Your Life" ranking as the most significant. According to the show's producers, the show featuring the captain of the 1992 Australian Games team received the most response.

And not far behind in terms of viewers was the appearance by wheelchair racers, Louise Sauvage and Greg Smith (featured as themselves) in a week-long story line on "Neighbours."

Feature stories and photos appeared in most major newspapers in capital cities, a regular trail of athletes appeared on a variety of talk shows including Today, Good Morning Australia, Eleven O'Clock, Ernie & Denise, The Footy Shows in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane, and Hey Hey It's Saturday.

Feature stories appeared on TEN's highly rated, Sports Tonight and NINE's Wide World of Sports and Sports Sunday.

A weekly show on Galaxy's PSN rundown to the Atlanta will see Paralympic athletes and officials regularly featured alongside their Olympic counterparts.

Radio too has added its voice to Paralympic support with interviews on prime network programs as well as community-based outlets. The Lions badge day featured two radio stations running concurrent outside broadcasts throughout the day in the Brisbane Mall - not only advertising the badge sales but also conducting interviews, with Paralympic athletes and officials, throughout the day.

And Paralympians have left more than a mark on the vast array of general and sport specific magazines. Feature stories have appeared in Womens Day, Who Weekly, New Idea, Sports Weekly, Inside Sport, Runner & Athlete, Women In Sport as well as a number of in-house publications of major corporate organisations like Manchester Unity.

PARALYMPIAN MAGAZINE

The regular production of the Federation's own publication has provided an effective communications tool to member organisations, athletes in the Paralympic squads, corporate supporters and donors, and the media.

Now regularly distributed to 5000 readers it also provides an on-going source of material to satisfy requests from students in schools and those pursuing projects at higher education levels.

MERCHANDISE

By the end of 1995 a line of supporters merchandise will have been developed to augment the two lapel badges which have recently undergone their second manufacturing run. The line of clothing to be manufactured under licence to Melbourne firm, Dialogue, will feature the droplets inside a stylized map of Australia with the wording "australian paralympics" underneath.

Other items currently under investigation include a limited edition art print numbered and signed by artist, Charles Billich.

The successful limited edition 2000 days T-shirt, produced by Illustrated Sports Clothing, provided a significant return to the fund-raising program.





Jenni Banks

Apart from the excellent individual and team performances during 1995 the most significant advances made in the sport area have been the initiative of appointing National Coaches (and assistant coaches in relevant sports) to each of the medal sports on this year's Atlanta Summer Games program.

Likewise the establishment of Sport Advisory Committees has provided a platform for the future development of the Paralympic framework with sport-specific advice available upon request. The Advisory Committee framework has also presented an opportunity for input from all areas of each sport including NSODs, NSOs, athletes, coaches and the APF.

It remains a disappointment that the quality and commitment of the outstandingly qualified men and women, who have dedicated themselves to a position as a National Coach of a Paralympic sport, cannot be more tangibly recognised. The APF through the President and Secretary-General, will continue to champion this cause during the ensuing 12 months.

The demands of presenting Paralympic sports in the most equitable way - taking into account all the interests across a broad spectrum of disabilities and disciplines - continues to challenge both the IPC and Games organising Committees. The introduction of quotas in some sports, ranking lists in others and qualifying tournaments for both team and individual participation at Atlanta has not pleased everyone.

It is a credit to our Australian athletes that, despite what is often a disadvantage being so far from the (European or American) action, we have managed to qualify in all our chosen team sports, mens and womens - Basketball, Goalball, Tennis & Boccia.

The competition which will be generated in the months leading up to the selection of the Australian team will be demanding and, given the previously mentioned constraints, will ensure that the athletes who represent their country in Atlanta will certainly be the best that Australia can produce.



PARALYMPIC PREPARATION PROGRAM SPORTS ALLOCATIONS 1995

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| ARCHERY | 5013.00 |
| ATHLETICS | 91041.45 |
| BASKETBALL - Mens | 44400.00 |
| BASKETBALL - Womens | 51926.00 |
| BOCCIA | 13500.00 |
| CYCLING | 35817.86 |
| EQUESTRIAN | 6419.00 |
| FENCING | 0.00 |
| GOALBALL - Mens | 14200.00 |
| GOALBALL - Womens | 12400.00 |
| JUDO | 1490.00 |
| LAWN BOWLS | 25942.70 |
| POWERLIFTING | 12035.00 |
| SHOOTING | 18527.00 |
| SWIMMING | 65000.00 |
| TABLE TENNIS | 193.74 |
| WINTER | 54000.00 |



MAJOR SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS – 1995

• ATHLETICS

Lisa Liorens, WR - Long Jump
Paul Mitchell, WR - 5000m
Louise Sauvage, Aust only Gold medal at IAAF World Championships - 800m
Fabian Blattman, WRs 800m, 1500m, 5000m

• BASKETBALL - Mens

Yamagata Cup winners, qualified for Atlanta Games

• BASKETBALL - Womens

Won Tests series against Germany. Already qualified with No 3 World ranking for Atlanta.

• BOCCIA

Qualified pairs & teams for Atlanta Games at World Cup

• CYCLING

Terri Poole/Sandra Smith, WRs in sprint, kilometer & pursuit
Peter Homann, WR 5000m time trial
Kieran Modra/Eddy Hollands, WR 4000m pursuit
Lyn Lapore/Paul Lamond, WR 3000m pursuit

• GOALBALL

Men & Women teams qualified for Atlanta Games

• JUDO

Tony Clarke, Silver Medal SA State titles (able-bodied), 5th National titles (able-bodied)

• LAWN BOWLS

World Championships
June Clark, Gold Medal
Pauline Cahill, Silver Medal
Bob Tinker, Bronze Medal
5 players qualified for Atlanta Games

• SWIMMING

38 Gold Medals at Atlanta Swim Trials
Topped medal tally at above meet
Priya Cooper, 8 Gold Medals
Melissa Carlton, 7 Gold Medals
Tracey Cross, 5 Gold Medals
Kingsley Burgarin, 4 Gold Medals
WR, 4 x 100m women freestyle relay team

• TENNIS

David Hall, Won British &
US Open (singles & doubles) Ranked
No 1 player in world
Men & Women
Teams, 3rd place in World Team Cup

APF – NATIONAL COACHES

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-----|
| Archery | TBA | |
| Athletics | Kathy Lee | VIC |
| | Chris Nunn | ACT |
| | Lyndall Warry | QLD |
| Basketball – Men | Mark Walker | VIC |
| Basketball – Women | Peter Corr | VIC |
| Boccia | Tom Organ | VIC |
| Cycling | Ken Norris | WA |
| Equestrian | Mary Longdon | VIC |
| Fencing | Francis Tsang | NSW |
| Goalball – Men | Sam Theodore | VIC |
| Goalball – Women | Terry Kenaghan | NSW |
| Judo | Trevor Kschammer | SA |
| Lawn Bowls | Graeme Clarke | VIC |
| Powerlifting | Martin Leach | VIC |
| Shooting | Yvonne Hill | SA |
| Swimming | Ian Findlay | QLD |
| | Matthew Brown | WA |
| | Helen Cox | NSW |
| Table Tennis | Joe Hoad | SA |
| Tennis | Michelle Johnson | SA |
| Winter | TBA | |



COMMISSION'S REPORT

MEDICAL

Classification continued to be the major source of work for the Medical Commission during the past 12 months. This activity was spread across all States and throughout the sports including new additions such as Yachting.

Classification seminars were held in Melbourne at the beginning of the year with Commission Chairman, Dr John Bourke, explaining the finer details of the ISOD and Les Autres classification systems. At the same venue the National CP organisation conducted a successful seminar dealing with Cerebral Palsy classification.

Dr Sue White has been responsible for setting up an extensive medical network throughout Australia which will allow athletes to be treated or examined by qualified personnel when necessary. This will continue to be particularly helpful prior to overseas trips. Similarly arrangements have been made for access to the medical support services of Institutes of Sport and examination by the Institutes' sport Doctors in relevant cases.

The Medical Commission will assist the APF Board in determinations regarding medical staffing of the team for Atlanta. In the long term the Medical Commission will be actively involved in advising the Sydney Games organisers in relation to medical requirements and classification needs in staging the Paralympic Games in 2000.

While all members of the Medical Commission continue their voluntary involvement, both nationally and internationally, special mention is made of the appointment of Don Perriman as an international basketball classifier (wheelchair) and Jane Buckley for her continued involvement at international level in swimming classification.

ATHLETES

The former representation to the athletes' commission - from a sport base, has recently been replaced by a more workable State-based format with one representative from each State providing a better liaison schedule with athletes. This new format is also seen as a useful conduit between the relevant State disability sporting organisations.

Athletes Commission Chairman, Brendan Burkett, continued to make a contribution to the Paralympic movement on the international front recently representing Summer Sports at the International Paralympic Committee's Assembly and Congress in Tokyo.

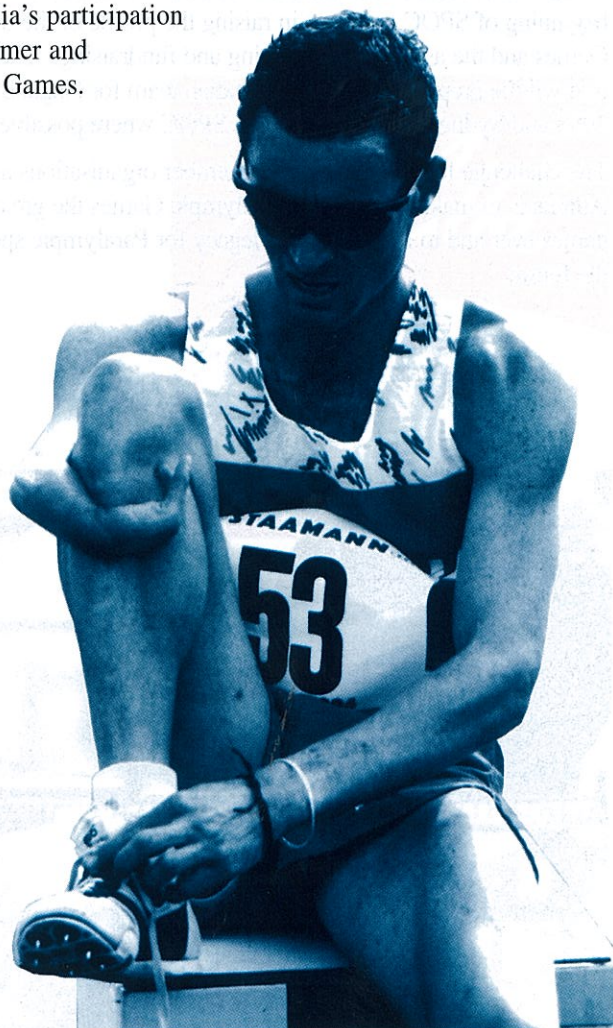
The introduction of an improved survey facility, following international competition participation, has given athletes the same reporting opportunity as the staff which manage the tours. Views are sought on all areas of the tour including preparation, travel arrangements, uniforms (if provided), venue and meals suitability. Comments on event organisers and the staff accompanying the team are also sought from athletes on a confidential (anonymous) nature to assist in future planning.

DEVELOPMENT

The development of the APF Doping Policy, in conjunction with the Medical Commission, has been one of the major achievements in the past 12 months. Following its adoption by the APF Board, a copy was distributed to all member organisations with a request that it be adopted as each member organisation's own policy. Every member of the APF Paralympic squads was also issued with a copy of the policy to ensure they were fully informed of the sanctions which apply to contravention of the policy by use of performance-enhancing banned drugs.

The other area of majority responsibility for the development commission is that of State Councils and, during the past 12 months, the ACT and Northern Territory Councils have been formed and are in operation in the fund-raising area. Activity in the State Council fund-raising programs will increase significantly in the run-down to the 1996 Games in Atlanta.

Another area of development which will be pursued in conjunction with the Athletes' Commission is the establishment of a register of past Paralympians and, more particularly, medal winners. During the next 12 months, member organisations and past and present athletes will be asked to provide information which will help develop a comprehensive record of Australia's participation in Summer and Winter Games.



PARALYMPICS 2000

The Sydney Paralympic Organising Committee (SPOC) has been established, as the responsible authority for the organising of the 2000 Paralympic Games, under the leadership of Dr John Grant as President and Lois Appleby as the Chief Executive.

The work of SPOC is progressing and the foundation for close co-operation in the provision of common services and marketing with the Sydney Organising Committee for the Olympics (SOCOG) has been laid. These include facilities, security, catering, transport, ticketing, accreditation and accommodation. SOCOG is also to include the Paralympic Games marketing in the overall Olympic marketing program. SPOC will organise its own fund raising program.

In terms of co-operation with SPOC, the APF will be entering into a marketing agreement which through a financial arrangement will provide SPOC with sole marketing rights for the Australian Team and the Paralympic Games. This arrangement will maximise the market potential and minimise ambush marketing. Fund raising will be a joint arrangement between the APF and SPOC.

SPOC will have a strong presence at the Atlanta Games Closing Ceremony when the Paralympic flag will be handed over to Australia for the Sydney 2000 Games and there will be a short entertainment segment depicting Australian culture. The completion of Atlanta and the subsequent celebrations of the success of the Australian team back home will mark the beginning of SPOC activities in raising the profile of the Sydney Games and the associated marketing and fundraising. The APF role will be preparation of the Australian team for Nagano in 1998 and Sydney 2000 and to assist SPOC where possible.

The challenge for the APF and its member organisations after Atlanta is to make the Sydney Paralympic Games the greatest games ever and to leave a lasting legacy for Paralympic sports in the future.

During 1995, International Paralympic Committee President, Dr Bob Steadward, signed the host city agreement with the Sydney Games organisers and the countdown began to what will be the most significant milestone in the history of the Paralympic movement in Australia.

The 90s have seen a steep development curve for both the IPC and the APF as technology and the athlete's desire to produce better and better performances have seen the Paralympic Games develop into a real showcase of achievement. But with this advance has come a need for rationalisation.

Atlanta will see a further development of the quota systems in all sports, designed to provide a more manageable competition at the Games. The sheer enormity of the Paralympics is often overlooked by the outsider – where the Olympics produces two 100m sprint champions, the Paralympics (through its diverse classification system) will produce 25 champions each Games, over the distance.

The development of all sports will continue through regional and world championships in the ensuing five years to 2000. Swimming's functional classification system has been successful in its ability to reduce the size of the program. Whether this can be translated to other sports is yet to be seen.

Just over 3000 athletes from 115 Nations will contest the 19 sports in Atlanta, next year. In Sydney the number is expected to exceed 5000.

As the clock winds back to October, 2000. SPOC will be developing the infra-structure required to house and manage the Paralympic Games. The Australian Paralympic Federation will have as its goal the desire to contest as many of the sports and events on the 2000 program as possible but only with athletes of international standard.

There is a young breed of athletes coming through the system. An unfortunate reality of life is that some of our future Games heroes may not yet have suffered a disability. But whatever the source of talent, could it be a realistic goal that Australia could top the medal count, across the sports spectrum in Sydney?



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