

TEAM CAPTAIN



CAPTAIN MICHAEL TEEM

Raleigh Police Department
Raleigh, North Carolina, USA
Years with Agency: 20

Hometown: Wake Forest, North Carolina
Years involved with Torch Run: 15
Family: Wife Gail, children Rachel (16) and Ryne (11)

Hobbies: Family, golf, sports, travel, history, Duke basketball

Previous Final Legs: 1993 - Runner, 1995 - Running Team Leader, 1997, 1999, 2001 - Final Leg Team Captain

Awards of note: 1995 Richard LaMunyon International Torch Run Hall of Fame; 1994 Executive Director's Award in North Carolina; 1987 and 1996 Raleigh Police Department Officer of the Year Awards; Graduate of the 187th Session of the FBI National Academy; several Departmental and City Commendations; seven year member of the International Torch Run Executive Council

Special Olympics Involvement: Friend to North Carolina athletes, volunteer at State events, Special Olympics North Carolina Board of Directors for the past four years, 1999 World Games Board of Directors

Proudest achievement: Without a doubt, having the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of Special Olympics athletes and to grow the cause of Special Olympics through the Law Enforcement Torch Run. Seeing the North Carolina Torch Run grow during my 10 years as Director and raise over US\$8,000,000 has been extremely rewarding!

What Involvement with Special Olympics means to you and your family: The Torch Run and Special Olympics have changed my life, and I have learned so much from so many athletes! My wife is a Special Education teacher and very supportive of my Torch Run involvement. I will always be a Torch Runner and a Special Olympics volunteer!

Inspired by athletes: The positive attitude, effort, determination, and courage of Special Olympics athletes has instilled in me a never-give-up attitude and a desire to do my best in all endeavors. Max Everton's "I am a Torch Runner" shout during the 2001 Final Leg motivates me to give my all to the Torch Run and Special Olympics!



DIVISION CHIEF DOUGLAS ABRAHAM
Aurora Police Department,
Services Division
Aurora, Colorado, USA
Number of Years with Agency: 27

Hometown: Aurora, Colorado

Years with the Torch Run: 3

Family: Wife Susan of 27 years,

daughters Jamie (25), Katie (16), Jennifer (14)

Hobbies: Torch Run, snow skiing, golf

Previous Final Leg: 2001

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch Run: Board Member for Special Olympics Colorado, Member of the Special Olympics Colorado Development Committee

Favourite Torch Run Memory: The honour of participating in the Final Leg Torch Run for the 2001 Winter Games with a Special Olympics athlete and seven other law enforcement officers from around the world.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: The faces of the athletes when the Torch arrives at the Opening Ceremonies surrounded by the lights and sounds of 50 police cars.

Proudest Achievement: Being part of the re-creation of the Colorado Torch Run and seeing our tremendous growth in just two years.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant to you: The glow in my heart when you see the faces of the athletes as they embark on an event and knowing you were, in part, responsible for making the opportunity possible.

Looking forward to in Ireland: Participating in the Opening Ceremonies. Meeting and talking with the athletes.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: To share that which we are given. We are all God's children. We are all blessed. To support Special Olympics is to give to those who are just as blessed but in a different way.

Inspired by athletes: Mike Mulcahy, our Special Olympics athlete on Final Leg team six at the 2001 World Games, was an inspiration to our team! Our week together showed me his dedication and commitment to life and love for others.



**SERGEANT BRANDON C.
ANDERSON**

**Alaska State Troopers, Seward
Post Supervisor**

Seward, Alaska, USA

Number of Years with Agency: 16

Hometown: Seward, Alaska

Years with the Torch Run: 5

Family: Wife Nancy, son Burke,

daughter Janessa

Hobbies: Boating, fishing, physical fitness

Previous Final Leg: 2001

Awards: Director of the Torch Run in Alaska

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch Run: Volunteer medal presenter at the Games.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: The 2001 Final Leg. The Opening Ceremonies of the Games; running the Torch into the arena.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: Presenting medals.

Proudest Achievement: Representing Alaska as the Final Leg runner for law enforcement.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant to you: Helps my children learn volunteerism and compassion.

Expectations for the Final Leg: A great experience being part of a team promoting Special Olympics, and a job well done. It will be the best opportunity yet for a world audience.

Inspired by athletes: One athlete in my town ran our 5k last year even though he moves with great difficulty.

First involvement with the Torch Run: Organising the Torch Run in my town.



ACP EMMANUEL BASULWA
Uganda Police
Kampala, Uganda
Years with Agency: 29

Hometown: Entebbe, Uganda
 Family: Wife and five children
 Hobbies: Swimming, reading, counseling

Awards: Inspector General's Award of Merit 2000

Special Olympics Involvement: Support to volunteers for the Special Olympics World Summer Games 2003.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: When two Cabinet Ministers were involved in the Law Enforcement Torch Run in Uganda in 2000.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: When the Uganda athletes won 21 medals in 1999.

Proudest achievement: One person I evacuated from a remote area by air, who recovered when all hope for survival was lost.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: A satisfaction of being able to serve other people.

Expectations of Final Leg: Sharing the experience and recognition of my country as a supporter of Special Olympics.

Looking forward to in Ireland: Seeing the athletes perform.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: The athletes need all the support they can get.

Inspired by a Special Olympics athlete: She was to excel by obtaining two gold medals, gaining leadership skills and a position at the Special Olympics Africa level plus a role as a Global Messenger.

KENTUCKY, USA



OFFICER GREG BAXTER
Owensboro Police Department
Owensboro, Kentucky, USA
Number of Years with Agency: 1

Hometown: Owensboro, Kentucky
Years with the Torch Run: 6
Family: Wife Mary, daughters Sonya and Janie, son Jason

Hobbies: Fishing, outdoors, family vacations

Awards: Carl Yates Leadership Award - 2002, American Police Hall of Fame Honor Award - 2000, Kentucky Sheriff's Association Citizen Support Award - 2001.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: Running with soldiers from Ft. Campbell, Kentucky in a local Final Leg while they called cadence and sang songs.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: Receiving high fives from the athletes as they entered the field for Opening Ceremonies in Richmond, Kentucky.

Proudest Achievement: Just trying each day to find something positive that I have done to help someone.

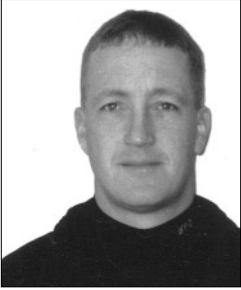
What involvement with Special Olympics has meant to you and your family: It has shown us all we can have an extended family and a greater appreciation for life and its challenges each and every day.

Looking forward to in Ireland: Finishing! And being able to reflect on the friendships and journey of the previous three weeks.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: Torch Run is but one of many ways to let people know that athletes need money and support to help a great programme.

Inspired by athletes: Seeing the local athletes compete, and also watching them in our local Torch Run finish at whatever pace, but finish!

First involvement with the Torch Run: David Brian Stone got me involved, but I really wasn't "hooked" until I went to Richmond to the Opening Ceremonies for Summer Games.



OFFICER TIMOTHY J. BEAUDOIN
Boise Police Department,
Valley Area 5
Boise, Idaho, USA
Number of Years with Agency: 2

Hometown: Boise, Idaho
 Years with the Torch Run: 4.5
 Hobbies: Running, hiking, softball,
 flag football, gardening/landscaping,

volunteer work for Special Olympics and Big Brothers and Sisters

Awards: Special Olympics Idaho, Region 4 - 2002 Officer of the Year, numerous citizen commendations

Favourite Torch Run Memory: The moment when officers hand the torch to the athletes is the one moment that highlights the reason why I am involved.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: I had the honour of running the route of the original Torch Run, and sat next to Greg, an athlete from Wisconsin at the ceremony following the run. Greg was extremely excited and wanted us to cheer for his home state. After almost all 50 states were read, Wisconsin was finally called and 10 officers stood up to cheer with Greg. That moment was typical in that Greg only wanted someone to cheer for him, and we did just that.

Proudest Achievement: Everyday that I am on routine patrol, I take pride in helping others. The greatest achievement of my lifetime was when I was chosen to be a police officer and was awarded the ability to serve my community.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: With every year that I have been involved, my family has become more aware of Special Olympics. I am confident with each year that passes, my family will continue to do their part to benefit the Special Olympics cause.

Inspired by athletes: I met a female athlete from Montana, and quickly found out that my sense of humour was no match for hers. She had me on the ropes from our first meeting! Before we parted ways she was reflecting on why I did not have a response to most of her jokes. She said, "I've got you figured out Tim. You like me." Well, she was right. I do like her, and it brings me joy to help her and others like her continue their involvement with Special Olympics.



DARIUSZ BOROWSKI
City Command of Grudeipok
Grudeipok, Poland
Number of Years with Agency: 20

Hometown: Grudeipok, Poland
 Years with the Torch Run: 8
 Family: Wife - nurse, daughter - student, son - college student
 Hobbies: Music, sport, film

Awards: In 2000, Medal of Torch Run Poland

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch Run: 1995 Special Olympics Summer Games in Poland; 1998 Special Olympics Summer Games in Poland.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: Meeting many friendly people and experiencing great pleasure.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: The smiles and pleasure of Special Olympics athletes.

Proudest Achievement: The Torch Run gives me great satisfaction because we can help people in need of our support.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: It makes the door between all people smaller.

Expectations for the Final Leg: I would like to have much more expertise in organising the Torch Run.

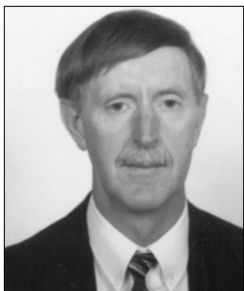
Looking forward to in Ireland: Many people around the Torch Run Final Leg.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: The Torch Run makes positive changes in people's minds about Special Olympics athletes.

Inspired by athletes: Special Olympics athletes can show the real idea of sport. These Games are without drugs.

First involvement with the Torch Run: My friends at Torch Run Poland gave me their votes.

NEWFOUNDLAND, CANADA



S/SGT. DOMINIC BROADERS
Royal Canadian Mounted Police,
Criminal Operation Review and
Analysis
St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada
Number of Years with Agency: 32

Hometown: St. John's,
Newfoundland, Canada
Years with the Torch Run: 11

Family: Wife Marguerite, two daughters

Hobbies: Running, hunting, fishing, golfing, hiking

Previous Final Leg: 1999

Awards: Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Commemorative Medal for community service.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: Running with a Special Olympics athlete.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: Athlete running with the torch to light the flame accompanied by law enforcement officers.

Proudest Achievement: Being able to serve my community throughout my career.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant to you: It makes me feel like I can do something for someone who may not otherwise be able to do something for him or herself.

Expectations for the Final Leg: To promote Special Olympics and bring awareness to the movement. To participate in such a world class event with other law enforcement people.

Looking forward to in Ireland: The opening of the Games and seeing all those athletes in one place.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: I feel that without law enforcement, our Special Olympics Programmes would not be nearly as strong. It is important we stay involved to keep the movement going.

Inspired by athletes: They inspire me with their positive attitude. They are very grateful for the little things in life. I can learn from this.

MONACO



MARIO BULGHERONI
Monaco

Hometown: Menton, France
Years with the Torch Run: 1
Hobbies: Running and organised travel

Special Olympics Involvement: Torch Run in Monaco for the Special Olympics 2001 Games.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: My favourite time was the really big emotion I felt during the Torch Run.

Proudest Achievement: My proudest moment is running for Special Olympics athletes.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: It makes me feel very proud.

Expectations for the Final Leg: To experience great cooperation with all the people around me.

Looking forward to in Ireland: To give and to share my feelings with Special Olympics athletes.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: To give athletes a real chance in life.

Inspired by athletes: Lots of commitment and bravery.

First involvement with the Torch Run: With my friend the national director of Special Olympics Monaco.

OHIO, USA



LARRY L. BUNTING
Ohio State Highway Patrol
(Retired)
Caldwell, Ohio, USA
Number of Years with Agency: 32

Hometown: Caldwell, Ohio
Years with the Torch Run: 9
Family: Wife Connie, two daughters:
Betina Lang, Amber Sweeney

Hobbies: Golf, fishing, jogging, camping

Awards: Trooper of the Year - 1973 Cambridge Post, Over the Hill Plaque for 30 years of service

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch

Run: Polar Bear Plunge - six years, Cops & Lobsters, Softball Game between the Cambridge Patrol Post, Cambridge Radio Station and Special Olympics.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: Running the Torch into Ohio State Football Stadium for the first time.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: Trip to Alaska for the International Torch Run Conference in 1998.

Proudest Achievement: Never having to fire my weapon in 31 years, 110 days on duty.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: We are all proud to help support a worthy cause. It heightened our awareness of the Special Olympics Programme.

Expectations for the Final Leg: To do my best to show how proud I am to be representing the law enforcement agencies of Ohio and their support of Special Olympics.

Looking forward to in Ireland: The Opening Ceremonies of the World Games and all the athletes from different countries.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: These athletes deserve to play and compete the same as all athletes.

Inspired by athletes: Always do your best and don't complain if things don't always go your way.

First involvement with the Torch Run: At a Fraternal Order of Police convention in 1993, I heard some police officers talking about the Torch Run.

NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA



HELEN ANN BURNS

**Royal Canadian Mounted Police,
Fitness and Lifestyle Advisor,
H&L Division**

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Number of Years with Agency: 6.5

Hometown: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Years with the Torch Run: 6

Family: Husband Michael Burns,

S/Sgt. Halifax Regional Police

Hobbies: Running, triathlons, hiking, reading, caring for my cats and dog

Awards: 1999 Sports Makes a Difference Award (from Sport Nova Scotia) for innovative programmes and fundraising efforts.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: During the first Torch Run I was in, I had the chance to run alongside a Special Olympics athlete with the Flame and bring it into the stadium where the athletes were waiting. The pride, enthusiasm and feeling how much it meant to those athletes and families was inspiring.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: Watching the athletes go to the podium to get their awards, the pride they exhibit and the applause from their fellow athletes. Seeing the pride and joy in the families as their child goes forward.

Proudest Achievement: The ability to work with all the other law enforcement groups for such a positive goal — the enthusiasm and support from fellow workers, athletes and families.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: The opportunity to provide a programme which gives such value and quality of life through physical activity to these special athletes and their families.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: Through physical activity and sport these special people and their families are given hope, a chance to belong and be part of something and an opportunity to achieve a goal for themselves.

Inspired by athletes: Watching and listening to the athletes, seeing their faces and observing all the obstacles they must overcome to be the best they can be. They humble me, and I feel I need to give something back to them.

First involvement with the Torch Run: I was asked to take on the role of chair in 1996 for the Nova Scotia Torch Run and have been involved ever since.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, USA



SPECIAL AGENT TYLER G. BURTIS
California Department of Justice
San Diego, California, USA
Number of Years with Agency: 3

Hometown: San Diego, California
Years with the Torch Run: 10
Family: Wife, two daughters
Hobbies: Running, reading, surfing

Awards: Officer of the Year 1994, Top Academic Graduate of the Special Agent Academy 1999, Commendation Letter from the Director of the FBI, Outstanding Achievement from the Federal Narcotic Agents Association, Proclamation from Attorney General for Special Olympics work.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: First Torch hand-off at the U.S.-Mexico border with top law enforcement officials from both sides of the border.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: First Summer Games Opening Ceremonies with all the athletes walking in and giving high fives and hugs to all of the police officers.

Proudest Achievement: Being selected to run the Final Leg Torch Run from Greece to Ireland without a doubt! It is the best thing that has happened in my career, representing the United States.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: Every year the Torch Run event and the Special Olympics Games put my life in perspective. The excitement and enthusiasm of the athletes inspire me and it is the greatest reward for hard work.

Looking forward to in Ireland: I would like to run with my cousin who lost his father in a tragic accident, but was selected to participate in the World Games representing Special Olympics Idaho.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: So many people watch and enjoy sports, and professional athletes frequently get paid millions and do nothing but complain. Special Olympics athletes enjoy it for the sport of the event and truly represent what sportsmanship is all about.

Inspired by athletes: The athlete I ran with in 1992 inspired me to commit myself to the Torch Run, and I have been involved ever since.

MICHIGAN, USA



PATROLMAN THOMAS MITCHELL CAREY
Grand Haven Public Safety
Grand Haven, Michigan, USA
Number of Years with Agency: 14

Hometown: Holland, Michigan
Years with the Torch Run: 17
Family: Wife, two sons (12 and 10)
Hobbies: Fly fishing, hunting,

coaching football

Awards: Officer of the Year, Special Olympics Spirit Award

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch

Run: Play softball with athletes, attend Summer and Winter Games, hand out medals.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: Having an athlete run the whole 20-mile Torch Run next to me!

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: Watching the smiles of the athletes as they accomplish their event.

Proudest Achievement: When an unknown parent told me that he and his son (an athlete) appreciated us raising money so he could attend the Summer Games!

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: It has shown me that you never give up! You can achieve your goals no matter what stands in the way.

Expectations for the Final Leg: To spread the word that our athletes are the true heroes of today, no matter if they win or lose.

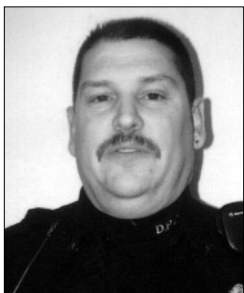
Looking forward to in Ireland: Meeting the athletes from all over the world and other people like myself.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: Without our support, the Games would not go on and these athletes would not be able to participate.

Inspired by athletes: An athlete showed me how to never give up and keep on trying for the gold, no matter how many last places he received.

First involvement with the Torch Run: Being a runner in the Torch Run in Holland in high school.

WYOMING, USA



SENIOR PATROLMAN RONALD T. CASALENDA
Douglas Police Department,
School Resource Officer
Douglas, Wyoming, USA
Number of Years with Agency: 21.5

Hometown: Douglas, Wyoming
Years with the Torch Run: 15

Family: Wife Deb, son Justin, daughter Ashley, daughter-in-law Michelle, granddaughter Kelsey

Hobbies: Hunting, fishing, camping, racquetball

Previous Final Leg: 2001

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch Run: 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games Opening Ceremonies

Proudest Achievement: Selection to the Final Leg team.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: Building respect for athletes and Torch Run volunteers.

Expectations for the Final Leg: Raising awareness and building a team with law enforcement officers worldwide.

Looking forward to in Ireland: Meeting new people and working with a great group of people.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: To assist athletes that cannot do some things for themselves.

Inspired by athletes: To continue to strive, to move ahead and work hard no matter what the obstacles.

CHINESE TAIPEI



COLONEL WEN-JUI (JAMES) CHANG
Central Police University
Number of Years with Agency: 3

Hometown: Taoyuan, Taiwan
Years involved with Torch Run: 2
Family: Wife Sophia, daughter Stacey and son Michael
Hobbies: Chinese Martial Art - Chikung and jogging

Favourite Torch Run Memory: We, the Taiwanese Police Force, held our first Torch Run in 1999 and there is still much to learn. It is my honour to have this chance to join the Final Leg this summer.

Proudest achievement: I have been a police officer for 18 years. I wish to be a problem-solver, not only for the police officers, but also for the people. I was selected to join a training programme at the FBI National Academy in 1999. That was a wonderful occasion to meet more than 200 classmates from the United States and 27 countries. We shared lots of experiences in policing and helping people.

What has your involvement with Special Olympics meant to your family: My family is proud of me and encourages me to play an active role in the Special Olympics events.

Expectations for the Final Leg: Being the second officer of the country and the first runner to represent my agency in the Final Leg, I am looking forward to sharing this experience. It will be interesting to make friends with officers from other countries.

Looking forward to in Ireland: Ireland is far from my country and I'm looking forward to seeing what Ireland looks like and how the police officers work for the Torch Run event.

How did you get involved with the Law Enforcement Torch Run: Special thanks for Frank Huang, Dean of the Student Affairs of the Central Police University and currently the deputy chairperson of the Chinese Taipei Law Enforcement Torch Run group. I also want to express my appreciation to the people of Special Olympics Chinese Taipei. They gave me the chance to join the event.

BELGIUM



**CHIEF INSPECTOR NICOLAS
COTTIELS**

**Federal Police School
Brussels, Belgium**

Number of Years with Agency: 2

Hometown: Brussels, Belgium

Family: One brother and one sister

Hobbies: Sport, history

Awards: Participation in the organisation of Torch Run in Belgium 2002.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: In 2002 in Belgium, running the distance of the marathon from Hammut to Namur. It was a very interesting experience.

Proudest Achievement: To serve people, especially people who need it. To give the best of myself for others.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: It is a very good experience to give the best, run the best that I can for people who need help, and to know many of us support them in many countries with the same motivation and goal in mind.

Expectations for the Final Leg: I am happy to take part in the Torch Run to meet people from other countries and to give my best.

Looking forward to in Ireland: To give my best for all these athletes and people who work with them.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: It is very important for the integration of the people with learning disability in our society (by sport).

Inspired by athletes: They give us a lesson in courage.

First involvement with the Torch Run: My agency chief, Captain Reersmans, asked me if I was interested in taking part in the Torch Run.

NORTHERN IRELAND



SERGEANT TIMOTHY JOHN CRAIG
Police Service of Northern Ireland,
Tactical Support Group
Belfast, Northern Ireland
Number of Years with Agency: 20

Hometown: Belfast, Northern Ireland
Years with the Torch Run: 2

Family: Wife Susan, two children
Kerrie (10), Ryan (7, Down syndrome)

Hobbies: Rugby, boxing, fundraising

Awards: Several commendations for good police work.

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch

Run: Fundraising for Special Olympics. My son Ryan is involved with the local Special Olympics gymnastics club, Salto.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: National Games 2002. Running in with the “Flame of Hope” at the Opening Ceremonies with my friend Fergal McDermott and lighting the cauldron with Karina Holihan, an athlete from Munster.

Proudest Achievement: Early promotion to the rank of Sergeant in 1987. Working in the knowledge that I feel I have made a successful contribution to policing in Northern Ireland, sometimes amid difficult circumstances.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: My family and I are proud to be involved with both the Torch Run and with Special Olympics. My wife is a golf coach for Special Olympics. Having a son who has Down syndrome, we all recognise the benefits.

Looking forward to in Ireland: Seeing my family and reveling in the atmosphere that the Torch Run will have created as it has gone around Europe. It will be a very proud moment.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: Because I feel Special Olympics helps people with learning disability achieve their potential. It promotes confidence and general well-being. It also educates the public as to the all-around ability that our athletes have.

Inspired by athletes: My son Ryan who has Down syndrome is my inspiration. He is not yet a competing athlete because of his age. However, I know that with the help and support of his family and Special Olympics coaches, he will be.

NORTHERN IRELAND



CONSTABLE PAULINE CROMPTON
Police Service of Northern Ireland,
Force Intelligence Bureau
Belfast, Northern Ireland
Number of Years with Agency: 25

Hometown: Dromara, County Down,
Northern Ireland

Years with the Torch Run: 6

Family: Husband Billy, daughter Kerry

(19), son Neil (17)

Hobbies: Reading, cinema, theatre, swimming, running, music

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch Run: Participating in organising part of the route through Ireland and serving on the Ceremonies Committee.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: 1996 joint Garda/RUC Torch Run throughout Ireland. Favourite memory was the run into the stadium with the Special Olympics athletes and the lighting of the torch.

Proudest Achievement: During my training, I won the Endeavour Shield. The look of pride on my family's faces made me feel very proud.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: It has given me and my family an insight into what Special Olympics is about and a better understanding of people with learning disability.

Looking forward to in Ireland: The very first leg when the Torch arrives in Bangor. I think the atmosphere will be electric and I know there will be tremendous support.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: As a runner myself, I think it is important to support all athletes, and particularly Special Olympics athletes to achieve their aims and goals.

Inspired by athletes: No one athlete, but rather Special Olympics athletes collectively, have inspired me. To see their hard work and training pay dividends on the sporting field has given me strength and encouragement to continue training and participating in sport.

First involvement with the Torch Run: Through C/Supt. Brian McCargo, chairperson of PSNI Athletic Club when he got me involved in the 1996 Torch Run.

ONTARIO, CANADA



CONSTABLE MIKE CURRIE
Chatham-Kent Police Service,
Traffic and Marine Safety
Chatham, Ontario, Canada
Number of Years with Agency: 21

Hometown: Chatham, Ontario, Canada
Years with the Torch Run: 16
Family: Wife Paulie, three daughters,
Melissa (16), Emily (13), Lindsey (9)

Hobbies: Golf, swimming

Previous Final Leg: Support Team 1997

Awards: John Carion Memorial "Unsung Hero" Award, Ontario Special Olympics Hall of Fame, Outstanding Fundraising 1993, 1994, 1995, thank you print for 1997 Summer Provincial Games

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch Run: On the Board of Chatham Community Special Olympics.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: Being on the support team in Toronto and Collingwood in 1997 and feeling part of the team. Being honoured with the John Carion Memorial "Unsung Hero" Award in 1998.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: Seeing the runners in the Final Leg run into the Opening Ceremonies of the 1997 Ontario Special Olympics Summer Games in Chatham-Kent.

Proudest Achievement: Completing the schooling and becoming a collision reconstructionist.

Expectations for the Final Leg: To become a close-knit team of runners and help wherever I can while running.

Looking forward to in Ireland: Seeing the area that my ancestors are from, and the venues for the Games.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: Because it lets you see the athletes develop and grow. The money we raise enables the programme to expand.

Inspired by athletes: An athlete from Chatham works two jobs at least and trains all the time. Every time I see him he says that he tries his best and that is all he can do. It doesn't matter if you win or not, just try your best.

First involvement with the Torch Run: Pete Bakker asked me to help. I saw the athletes and have been hooked ever since.

NORTHERN IRELAND



SERGEANT MERVYN DAVISON
Police Service of Northern Ireland
County Down, Northern Ireland
Number of Years with Agency: 24

Hometown: Comber, County Down,
Northern Ireland

Years with the Torch Run: 1

Family: Wife Kim, children Laura,
Peter and Sarah

Hobbies: Keep fit, family, sport

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch Run: Fundraising, informing others of the Games.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: Participating in the Torch Run for Special Olympics Ireland National Games, Dublin, June 2002.

Proudest Achievement: Passing the Sergeant examination in 1987 and passing the Inspector examination in 1988.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant:
Helping others who appear less fortunate.

Expectations for the Final Leg: Meeting members of other police services, proving my personal fitness.

Looking forward to in Ireland: Opening Ceremonies

Reasons to support Special Olympics: Raise awareness of the achievements of Special Olympics athletes and the joy they get from taking part.

First involvement with the Torch Run: Participated in the Torch Run for Ireland's National Games in 2002.

GERMANY



PHM WERNER DOERRENBAECHER
LPD/ Abt. BePo
Saarbruecken, Germany
Number of Years with Agency: 30

Hometown: Schiffueiler, Germany
Years with the Torch Run: 3
Family: One daughter
Hobbies: Marathon, skiing, mountain biking

Previous Final Legs: European Torch Run 2000 and 2002

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch Run: Liaison in recruiting officers to assist with county championships for people with learning disabilities.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: German National Torch Run in 2000 and 2002.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: Opening Ceremonies Berlin 2000, and Opening Ceremonies Frankfurt 2002.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: An increase in tolerance and understanding.

Expectations for the Final Leg: To increase public awareness for Special Olympics.

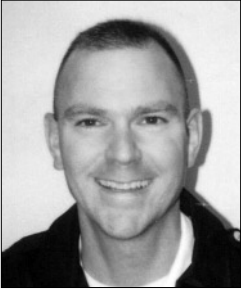
Looking forward to in Ireland: To meet friends with the same spirit.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: To integrate people with learning disability.

Inspired by athletes: With the natural happiness and ability to have fun without competitive ambitions.

First involvement with the Torch Run: Through the International Police Association German Section and Werner Busch, National Secretary General.

RHODE ISLAND, USA



LIEUTENANT ROBERT M. EATON, JR.
Smithfield Police Department
Smithfield, Rhode Island, USA
Number of Years with Agency: 13

Hometown: Smithfield, Rhode Island
Years with the Torch Run: 4
Family: Wife Jean, son Carlton
Hobbies: Running, skiing, boating,
being with family

Awards: Flame of Hope Award in 2001, Co-Director from 1999 to the present.

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch Run: Fashion Show, Sports Carnival

Favourite Torch Run Memory: First time running in the Torch Run in 1996. Coming into Opening Ceremonies for Summer Games and having athletes and their families cheering.

Proudest Achievement: Every day that I put my uniform on and go out and work with the community is the proudest moment in my career.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant to you and your family: It has given us the opportunity to meet wonderful people and has exposed our five-year-old son to Special Olympics and how good it is to help others.

Expectations for the Final Leg: To bring back stories, inspirational memories, learn from other Torch Run runners and observe how to put on a Final Leg event.

Looking forward to in Ireland: Meeting different people.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: To bring awareness and money to the organisation so that athletes can compete in sports for free and to see the athletes grow strong and independent.

Inspired by athletes: They are always positive and they never give up. I see the athletes as an inspiration.

First involvement with the Torch Run: I was asked to participate as a runner in 1996 and for the last three years I have co-directed our state's Torch Run programme.

PENNSYLVANIA, USA



COMMISSIONER PAUL EVANKO
Pennsylvania State Police
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, USA
Number of Years with Agency: 32

Hometown: Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
Years with the Torch Run: 4
Family: Wife, two children, one granddaughter (4)
Hobbies: Martial arts

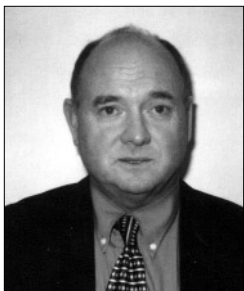
Proudest Achievement: Appointed by Governor Tom Ridge as Commissioner to lead the agency.

Expectations for the Final Leg: Helping Special Olympics athletes.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: Helping athletes achieve their dreams.

First involvement with the Torch Run: Urging by my troopers.

IRELAND



**SUPERINTENDENT EDMUND
FINUCANE**

**An Garda Siochana, District
Officer**

County Dublin, Ireland

Number of Years with Agency: 35

Hometown: Dublin, Ireland

Years with the Torch Run: 13

Family: Wife Teresa, daughters Orla

and Emma, son Senan

Hobbies: Jogging, swimming, fishing, hunting and reading. I have completed 14 marathons, including New York and London.

Awards: Involved with local Torch Runs since 1989. United Nations Service Medal (Bosnia), Garda Overseas Service Medal, Bravery certificate

Favourite Torch Run Memory: Carrying the Flame into the stadium in 1996 for the National Games and being overcome with the exuberance of the athletes.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: Presenting medals to Special Olympics athletes at the Badminton Arena during the Irish National Games in Dublin 2002.

Proudest Achievement: As Irish Contingent Commander with the U.N. International Police Task Force (IPTF) in Bosnia and Herzegovina 1999/2000, I worked as Executive Officer to German IPTF Commissioner.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant:

Becoming involved with the Torch Run has heightened my awareness of the Special Olympics athletes who conquer adversity on a daily basis.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: It is important to support Special Olympics so that all individuals are given the opportunity to participate and achieve glory in the sporting arena at the very highest level.

Inspired by athletes: I have been inspired by Special Olympics athletes for their tenacity, bravery and determination when competing.

First involvement with the Torch Run: I originally got involved with the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics in 1989 after being contacted by colleagues.

SPAIN



**INSPECTOR IGNACIO LACAWE
FERNANDEZ-GETINO**
C.N.P. Espana
Valencia, Espana
Years with Agency: 5

Hometown: Valencia, Espana
Hobbies: Swimming

Proudest Achievement: Achieving this level in my professional career.

Expectations for Final Leg: To proudly represent the national police of Espana, and to help individuals with learning disability.

Looking forward to in Ireland: The increased number of people aware of, and supporting Special Olympics.

Reasons to Support Special Olympics: The athletes of Special Olympics deserve all of our respect and consideration.

Inspired by Athletes: They show supreme desire and spirit each day.

First Involvement with the Torch Run: Through the sports division of the national police.

BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA



CONSTABLE RUSS FOSTER
Vancouver Police Department,
Bike Squad
Maple Ridge, British Columbia,
Canada
Number of Years with Agency: 13

Hometown: Maple Ridge, British
Columbia, Canada

Years with the Torch Run: 6

Family: Fiancée and four children ages 12, 11, 11 and 9

Hobbies: Running marathons (21), gardening, antiques

Awards: Selected to attend last five Torch Run Conferences.

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch Run: Multiple fundraising events.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: “Mobbed” by hundreds of Special Olympics athletes after running into a local stadium to kick-off the local Special Olympics Games.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: Attending a Christmas function with the local Special Olympics organisation.

Proudest Achievement: Organising the first “Copsicle Sit” (billboard sit) in British Columbia, raising close to CAD\$100,000 over the last four years.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: Local Special Olympics events have become family events, assisting those less fortunate.

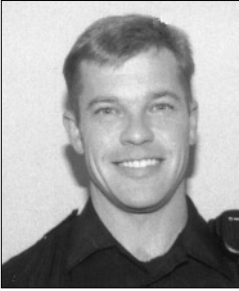
Expectations for the Final Leg: To show British Columbia’s commitment, and to be an ambassador, to invite others to join Torch Run efforts worldwide.

Looking forward to in Ireland: The athletes.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: Special Olympics athletes and their families are continually grateful. A smile, a tear and a hug make it all worthwhile.

Inspired by athletes: Unbridled commitment and determination to succeed.

ALABAMA, USA



POLICE OFFICER KENNETH L. FOUNTAIN
Hoover Police Department
Hoover, Alabama, USA
Number of Years with Agency: 6.5

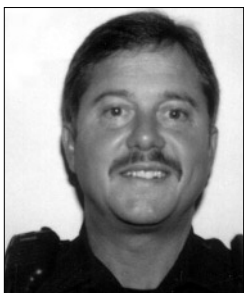
Hometown: Birmingham, Alabama
Years with the Torch Run: 8
Hobbies: Water skiing, motorcycling and horseback riding

Awards: Assistant Director for the Torch Run, two years

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch Run: Local Games volunteer and race director of 5k "Pig Run" for Special Olympics.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: Running into the stadium with the Torch and seeing the expressions and reactions of the athletes. That is always an awesome experience that is beyond any description!

WEST VIRGINIA, USA



CORPORAL JOHN ROBERT FRAZIER
Charleston Police Department,
Traffic Division
Charleston, West Virginia, USA
Number of Years with Agency:
16.5

Hometown: St. Albans, West Virginia
Years with the Torch Run: 16
Family: Wife Karla, daughters Kristen

(13), Chelsea (10)

Hobbies: Running, coin collecting

Awards: Chosen to take over as Director of the West Virginia Torch Run in 2003.

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch

Run: I am the race director for “Run With A Cop,” a 5k road race and walk to benefit Special Olympics.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: Participating with a Special Olympics athlete in the lighting of the cauldron at the West Virginia Summer Games in 2002.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: Too many to detail. It would be seeing the athletes in competition, seeing the determination in their eyes and their pride whether they win or not.

Proudest Achievement: I like to think I have helped people, maybe even changed lives for the better. What I’m most proud of is my involvement with the Torch Run and Special Olympics.

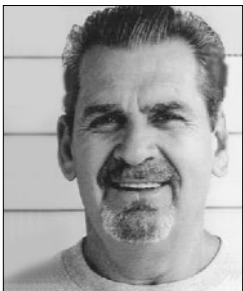
What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: It has blessed me with a ton of memories.

Looking forward to in Ireland: Certainly I am looking forward to the fellowship with other runners and enjoying the scenery and history of Europe — but mostly seeing the cauldron lit!

Reasons to support Special Olympics: Because it gives importance and meaning to the lives of the athletes. They look forward with great anticipation to the events, whether it is the annual Basketball Tournament or the Spring/Summer Games.

Inspired by athletes: Being a runner for nearly 30 years and getting some age on me (I used to be what some would call “elite”), I sometimes would find myself getting discouraged over slower race times. Seeing any number of Special Olympics athletes beam with excitement from their accomplishments inspires me to enjoy the moment for what it is and to enjoy the competition.

NORTH CAROLINA, USA



WILLIAM E. FRICK
Chapel Hill Police Department
(Retired)
Durham, North Carolina, USA
Number of Years with Agency: 26

Hometown: Durham, North Carolina
Years with the Torch Run: 7
Family: Wife Wanda, daughter Tonya
Hailey, son-in-law Stephen Hailey

Hobbies: Billiards, playing golf, relaxing on the beach, raising money for Special Olympics

Awards: John Carion Memorial “Unsung Hero” Award, 2001
Special Olympics North Carolina Triangle Area Award as
“Volunteer of the Year”

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch Run: I am a supporter of the local chapter of Special Olympics and I coordinate a competition between the Special Olympics Basketball and Softball teams and the Police Department teams.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: My involvement with the 1999 Final Leg as a support member with the North Carolina delegation.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: I had the honour of carrying the Torch into the Summer Games and lighting the cauldron with the athlete.

Proudest Achievement: Getting involved with the Torch Run and helping to build our programme into one of the top five in North Carolina.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: My immediate family has adopted my enthusiasm to help provide an opportunity for people with learning disability to become better and more productive citizens.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: I have grown to realise that my efforts and the efforts of my family and colleagues make the biggest difference in the lives of people with learning disability. I have seen the results on many occasions, as I watch athletes participate in Games and work, and see the joy they share with family and friends.

Inspired by athletes: I am inspired by all the athletes that I encounter, because of the big smiles and hugs given for your efforts.

IRELAND



UNIT SERGEANT ANN FRIEL
An Garda Siochana
County Monaghan, Ireland
Number of Years with Agency: 13

Hometown: Monaghan, Ireland
Years with the Torch Run: 6
Family: Three children, Conor (15),
Ciaran (14), Orla (6)
Hobbies: Swimming, walking, gym,

reading, gardening

Awards: Special Olympics Medal

Favourite Torch Run Memory: When the Torch Run arrived at Monaghan to coincide with a special open day I had arranged.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: Leaving Holy Family School Cootehill children on our final day of the last Torch Run.

Proudest Achievement: Being awarded the Gary Sheehan Medal for the best student in Garda College during training.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: On a personal aspect, it has made me more aware of the needs of others.

Expectations for the Final Leg: I am honoured to be representing my country and I expect to be part of a worldwide team representing what is best about Irish people.

Looking forward to in Ireland: Being a native of the host country I look forward to the Irish welcome and enthusiasm that will greet our arrival.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: I get so much out of sport in relation to personal development and I think it is important that anyone who wants to participate in sports should be afforded the opportunity.

First involvement with the Torch Run: I was asked to get involved in the organisational aspect of the Torch Run by my Chief. When I became involved I fully realised what Special Olympics is doing for others.

IRELAND



DEREK GALLAGHER

**An Garda Siochana,
Garda Telecommunications
County Kildare, Ireland**

Number of Years with Agency: 18

Hometown: Newbridge,
County Kildare, Ireland

Years with the Torch Run: 8

Family: Eldest of family of six (3 boys and 3 girls) from County Donegal where my parents live.
Hobbies: Running, scuba diving, triathlon, reading

Additional Special Olympics Involvement outside of Torch Run: Fundraising as part of the 1999 Torch Run. My hometown will be host to the Japan delegation in 2003, and I have been attending events to help raise the EUR\$30,000 target set by the Special Olympics Host Town of Newbridge.

Favourite Torch Run Memory: As part of the launch of the 2002 Special Olympics Torch Run in Ireland, I swam across the River Liffey in Dublin, keeping the Torch alight before passing it on to the Garda runners.

Favourite Special Olympics Memory: The Opening Ceremonies of the National Special Olympics 2002 at Parnell Park, Dublin. This was a colorful, vibrant event.

Proudest Achievement: Selected to represent An Garda Siochana in the Final Leg of the 2003 Athens to Ireland Torch Run.

What involvement with Special Olympics has meant: The Final Leg of the Irish Torch Run in 1999 started at St. Michael's House, Goatstown, where the Flame was lit. Carrying the "Flame of Hope" and the delight and excitement that it brought to the people gave me satisfaction.

Expectations for the Final Leg: It is a chance to show people everywhere that law enforcement agencies are interested in and dedicated to Special Olympics.

Reasons to support Special Olympics: The people who compete in the various sporting disciplines are so dedicated and committed. I think they deserve all the support and publicity that can be given to them.

Inspired by athletes: Kevin O'Callaghan lives in my neighbourhood. He is 16 years old and plays basketball. He attends St. Ann's School in the Curragh and is an example of what can be achieved.