

# DSCA

## Athlete Discovers Talents at Age 50 DSCA Employee Wins Gold Medals in Track and Field

Imagine receiving a pair of new running shoes on your 50<sup>th</sup> birthday and becoming so inspired that you join a professional track team. That's not quite how it happened for Oscar Peyton of the Information Technology Directorate, but it's pretty close.

At 54, Peyton took gold in the 60-meter dash and the 200-meter dash during the USA Track and Field Masters National Indoor Championships in Boston in February.

Although his Track and Field experience spans less than five years, the seasoned DSCA employee with the energy of a college competitor is snatching gold medals across the country.

He represented the State of Maryland and won gold



medals in the 100-meter and 200-meter dash at the National Senior Olympics in Pittsburgh last June. To qualify for the Nationals, he competed at the

state level and won two gold medals in the Maryland Senior Olympics in September 2004.

In September 2005, Peyton competed in the Maryland Senior Olympics again, age group 50-54 and won gold medals in the 100-meter and 200-meter dashes. Both victories are new Maryland Senior Olympic records.

In April 2005 he broke a 28-year-old record by winning a gold medal in the 100-meter dash in the Southeastern Masters Outdoor Championships at Duke University in Durham, NC.

In August 2005, he was awarded a silver medal in the 100-meter dash and a silver medal in the 200-meter dash at the USA Track and Field

National Masters Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Honolulu.

Wherever there is a competition for his age group, Peyton said he is willing to travel; and if past experience is an indicator, the young athlete might bring home another gold.

### Support needed for PSRW event

LPA is soliciting help to staff the DSCA display at Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW) on the National Mall May 2-8. Directorate POCs have information on how you can support this wonderful event. A sign-up sheet is on the Agency Intranet.

### Golf Tourney Scheduled

There is still time to join DSCA and DTSA for the golf tournament at the Medal of Honor Course at Quantico Marine Base on June 1. Participation will be limited to DTSA and DSCA Employees and their families, Component Security Assistance Commands (Army, Navy, Air Force), Foreign Embassy Procurement colleagues, and DTSA / DSCA Alumni. Please contact Jim McGaughey at 703-604-6596 for more information.

## OGC Answers Ethics Questions

Periodically, DSCA employees receive invitations to attend lunches, dinners or events paid for by a non-Federal entity. For example, the Country Program Director for Bandera may be sent an invitation to attend the annual Bandera Gala hosted by the American-Bandera Council. May she accept the invitation?

The Joint Ethics Regulation (JER), which applies to the entire Federal government, has specific rules regarding acceptance of gifts from non-

Federal entities, including gifts from a prohibited source or given because of the employee's official position. Even in such instances, the JER rules may permit her to accept this gift from the American-Bandera Council.

The JER requires review by the agency's ethics counselor before an employee may accept such invitations. The ethics counselor will ascertain and navigate through the facts and apply the rules to determine if the invitation may be accepted.

DSCA employees who receive invitations from non-Federal entities should consult with the Office of General Counsel. The invitation, and any points of contact, should be provided to expedite a response. In most cases, exceptions exist that will allow an employee to attend, particularly if a gathering is widely attended. There is still such a thing as a free lunch. If you have ethics questions, contact the Office of the General Counsel at 601-3703.