



**Rulon Gardner:** The Afton, Wyoming, native trained in Colorado Springs for two Olympiads, and earned a stunning gold medal at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney when he stunned previously unbeaten Aleksandr Karelin of Russia to win the Greco-Roman Wrestling 130 kg crown. He won a bronze medal in Athens in 2004 before retiring as one of American wrestling's most-revered heroes. His career included the 2001 Jesse Owens Award, the 2001 Olympic Spirit Award and the Sullivan Award. He won gold medals at the 2001 World Championships and three U.S. National Championships. He carried the American flag for the USA delegation at the closing ceremonies of the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney. The University of Nebraska graduate was the celebrity spokesman for the 2005 State Games of America in Colorado Springs