

## US Olympic Festival-'87 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Press

AUGUST 10, 2007

# Biz

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It's been 20 years since the Triangle hosted the 1987 U.S. Olympic Festival with 14 days of sporting events including the likes of archery, diving, basketball, cycling, volleyball, weightlifting and yachting.

But for the group of 60-plus volunteers who gathered for a 20-year reunion Aug. 4-6, it might as well have been yesterday.

U.S. Olympic Committee Chairman Emeritus **LeRoy Walker** and local Olympians **Elena Bechke** (silver medal in pairs figure skating),

**Gary Dilley** (silver medal in swimming), **Anita Simonis Zetts** (bronze medal in gymnastics), and **Rick Cavanaugh**, **Raymond Fales**, **Jim Murray** (luge) joined local sports marketing guru **Hill Carrow** and others to celebrate the milestone.

When Carrow, who served as president and executive director of the Olympic Festival-'87, took the stage at the Aug. 6 banquet in Durham, he went through a list of sporting groups and events that were spawned from the event: The North Carolina Amateur Sports group, which organizes the annual State Games of North Carolina; the 1999 Special Olympics World Games; and the 2002 winning bid for the relocation of the headquarters for USA Baseball to Cary. Then Carrow announced his next project: a bid for the first-ever Youth Olympic Games in 2010.

*Contributing to Biz were Staff Writers Chris Baysden, Patrick Hogan, Amanda Jones Hoyle, Leo John and Web Coordinator Chris Coletta.*

