

# **ATC News 2009**

## **ACCELERATED ATC TRAVELS TO RUSSIA WITH USA WRESTLING**

John Bakouris, ATC, Facility Manager of our Lockport location will be traveling with the USA Greco-Roman Wrestling team to Moscow, Russia next week. This is the third overseas trip John has taken over the last three years (Slovenia in 2008 and Romania in 2009).

John has been involved with USA Wrestling for a number of years providing coverage and management of the University Nationals/Cadet Team Trials, Junior Nationals, Chicago Cup, International Cadets, and the Midwest Regional Cadets. Recently, John provided coverage of the Midlands Wrestling Tournament at Northwestern University.

## **USA JUNIOR SELECT HOCKEY TEAM**

During the fall of 2009 Ron Peterson (Head ATC at Willowbrook HS) was selected to work with the Team USA Junior Select Hockey Team. The team was participating in the World Junior A Challenge in Summerside P.E.I Canada. The event ran from November 1, 2009 thru November 8, 2009. USA competed against teams from Russia, Sweden and Canada.

The young US team beat Canada in the gold medal game held on Sunday November 8<sup>th</sup>. Ron's responsibilities ranged from practice and game preparations, evaluating and treating injuries during and after games and managing the athletes overall health. "The team winning the gold medal was definitely the highlight of the trip. It was great to get to meet athletic trainers from the other countries as well"

## **USA TRACK AND FIELD**

Ted Hirshfeld (Head ATC at Hinsdale Central HS) was invited by USA Track and Field to provide athletic training coverage for Team USA (Men and Women) for competition in the 2009 Chiba International Ekiden in Chiba, Japan. The event was held November 19-24, 2009. The Ekiden is a marathon relay race. The athletes chosen for this trip were the top middle distance runners in the US. Many of the athletes will be competing in the 2012 Olympics games.

Ted's responsibilities for the trip included providing daily treatments including massage and stretching, overall health and arranging for convenient and comfortable treatment areas based on the unique accommodations. Team USA finished 5<sup>th</sup> out of 15 countries, their highest finish ever in the 25 year history of the race. This is Ted's 6<sup>th</sup> international trip with USA Track and Field.

## **US OLYMPIC COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER MEDICAL PROGRAM**

Paul Ziemba (Head ATC at Warren HS) was chosen to participate in the United States Olympic Committee volunteer medical program. He will be assigned to the Chula Vista Olympic Training Center in southern California from March 1-15, 2010.

During his time at the training center he will be responsible for daily healthcare of Team USA athletes as well as assisting physicians, chiropractors and physical therapists in the Sharp Health Care Performance Services Facility. He will be handling athletes that participate in archery, canoe/kayak, cycling, field hockey, rowing, soccer, softball, tennis and track and field.

"It truly is an honor to be offered this position to work with Team USA. I have dreamt of this for many years. To be able to assist our counties finest athletes achieve gold at the highest stage in sports is an amazing opportunity. It is also a chance for me to give back to sports medicine what it has given me for so many year."

