



Countrywide® AMERICAN SKI CLASSIC

2007 COUNTRYWIDE FORD CUP CELEBRITY BIOS

STEVE AZAR

Country music star Steve Azar is currently reaping the benefits of his recent album, “Indianola”, which was released at the beginning of 2007 on Dang Records/Midas Records Nashville. The new project highlights Azar’s extraordinary songwriting talent that he has become known for and offers even more insight into his life in the Delta region of Mississippi. One of country music’s brightest young stars, Azar burst onto the scene in 2001 with his successful debut album “Waitin’ On Joe”, which produced the No. 2 hit “I Don’t Have To Be Me (‘Til Monday)”. He spent the end of 2006 and the beginning of 2007 touring with rock icon Bob Seger and his latest music video, “You Don’t Know A Thing”, features golfer John Daly.

LORENZO BORGHESE

Prince Lorenzo is the 9th bachelor on ABC’s “The Bachelor” reality dating show. The cosmetics entrepreneur’s storied paternal ancestors include Pope Paul V (Camillio Borghese) and Cardinal Scipione Borghese, both of whom had an enormous influence on Italian art and beautifying Rome in the 1660’s and who helped finish St. Peter’s Basilica. Aside from his television role on The Bachelor, Borghese juggles a variety of positions in the cosmetics industry, including founder and president of Royal Treatment Pet Spa, a high-end bath, body and skin care products for pets, and executive vice president of Multimedia Exposure, an agency for various products for television shopping channels in the U.S. and Europe. Lorenzo picked Jennifer at the final rose ceremony, leaving Sadie with a broken heart. Most recently, it was reported that Lorenzo and Jennifer were no longer seeing each other and Sadie has moved to New York to be with him and also pursue her career.

ROBERT CARRADINE

From the renowned family of Carradine actors, Robert Carradine is currently seen as Sam McGuire, Lizzie’s dad, on the Disney hit *Lizzie McGuire*, but he also made a name for himself as Louis Skolnick in *Revenge of the Nerds*.

JOHN CASTELLANOS

Castellanos portrays attorney John Silva on CBS’s daytime drama The Young and the Restless. Previous television credits include guest starring roles on the series Hard Copy and Miami Vice. In addition, he has a wide ranging theater career, appearing with the American Conservatory Theater, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the Berkeley Shakespeare Festival and the Sunnyvale Repertory Company.

LIZ CLAMAN

Claman is the co-anchor of CNBC's "Morning Call" and also anchor of the primetime program "Cover To Cover". She joined CNBC in 1998 after spending three years as an anchor/reporter for NBC affiliate WHDH-TV in Boston. During that time, she also served as contributing correspondent for the NBC-syndicated daytime show "Real Life"

BILL ELLIOTT

Bill Elliott started racing on short tracks in Georgia with his brothers, Dan and Ernie. He started in the Sportsman division in 1970, made his Cup debut in 1976 and competed in his first full Winston Cup season in 1983. His first win came in his 117th start, in the Winston Western 500 at Riverside, Calif., in 1983. His first pole came in his 56th attempt, in the 1981 Rebel 500 at Darlington, S.C. In 1992 Elliott won four consecutive races to tie the modern-era record. He won a single-season record 11 superspeedway races in 1985. That year, he won the Winston Million, from which came the nickname "Million Dollar Bill." He owns the fastest recorded time in a stock car, qualifying for the 1987 Winston 500 at Talladega with a speed of 212.809 mph. His lengthy list of career accomplishments includes being one of only 10 drivers to top \$20 million in career winnings in Winston Cup racing. He was named the driver of the decade for the 1980s in a fan poll conducted by ESPN Speedweek. He was named one of NASCAR's 50 Greatest Drivers of all time and was the first Winston Cup driver on the cover of Sports Illustrated.

GIANCARLO ESPOSITO

Esposito joined the cast of the critically acclaimed drama Homicide: Life on the Streets, in 2001. He has an impressive list of film credits, as well as television and theater accolades, including the drama Twilight, opposite Paul Newman. He has also appeared in several Spike Lee productions, including Do The Right Thing, School Daze, Mo Better Blues and Malcolm X. Esposito's Broadway credits include a starring role in Sacrilege, along with performances in eight musicals.

ERIC FLAIM

As a rising young speedskating star throughout the 80's, Eric Flaim first came on the Olympic scene in Calgary at the 1988 Games, breaking the world record and taking home his first Olympic medal, a silver in the 1500 meters. By the 1994 Olympic Games, he had made the switch from long track speedskating to short track, the only American athlete to do so at the Olympic level. At the Lillehammer Games, he lead the U.S. short track team to a silver medal finish in the 5000 meter relay, becoming the first and only athlete ever to win medals in two different Olympic disciplines. He carried the U.S. flag in the Opening Ceremonies of the 1998 Nagano Olympics.

MITCH GAYLORD

Mitch Gaylord first thrilled the world in 1984 when he led the United States Olympic gymnastics team to its Gold Medal victory at the Los Angeles Summer Games. In addition to being the first American Gymnast in history to score a perfect “10,” Mitch went on to capture a Silver medal for Vaulting and two Bronze medals for Rings and Parallel Bars. As the number one ranked gymnast in 1983 and 1984, Mitch invented two skills now named internationally after him. To this day, the Gaylord Flip and the Gaylord Two are considered to be among the most difficult and spectacular feats in gymnastics. In 1986, Mitch made his acting debut in Columbia Pictures’ “American Anthem” and went on to appear in several commercial advertisements including Levi’s, Diet Coke, Nike, Vidal Sassoon, Soloflex and Texaco. In 1995, he was inducted into UCLA’s Hall of Fame, and in 2006, he was inducted into the US Olympic Hall of Fame.

MERRIL HOGE

Currently a football analyst for ESPN, Hoge played eight seasons at running back for the Pittsburgh Steelers and Chicago Bears, retiring after the 1994 season. He was a four-year starter as a running back for Idaho State, setting 44 ISU and Big Sky Conference records (22 of them still intact), while still holding two NCAA records. He is a member of the ISU Hall of Fame and his ISU Bengals jersey has been retired. The Steelers selected Hoge in the tenth round of 1987 NFL Draft with the 261st pick overall. He became a key member of the offense and led the team in rushing and receiving in four of his seven years. He is one of only two Steelers to rush for more than 100 yards in back-to-back playoff games (the other was Franco Harris). Hoge was named the Steelers' Man of the Year in 1989 & 1990, and was named to the All-Madden team in 1989. After seven seasons with the Steelers, Hoge signed with the Chicago Bears as a free agent in 1994, but played in just five games with only six carries and 13 receptions. He retired after suffering a series of concussions. He gained 3139 rushing yards and 2133 receiving yards, along with 34 touchdowns, playing fullback for the Steelers two-back offense.

ROBERT KENNEDY, JR.

The son of the late senator Robert F. Kennedy, he is the chief prosecuting attorney for the Hudson Riverkeeper Fund and senior attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council. Through these organizations and in conjunction with the Pace Environmental Litigation Clinic, Kennedy has help prosecute companies and governments for polluting the Hudson River and Long Island Sound. He currently heads up the Waterkeeper Alliance, which works with communities throughout the nation to protect our valuable bodies of water.

CAROL LEWIS

Carol was one of the U.S.'s best long jumpers in the early 1980s, making the first of three Olympic teams as a high school student in 1980. She went on to break the American record twice, and claimed a bronze medal at the first World Championship in 1983. During her illustrious, Carol captured four national titles, and two NCAA Championships for the University of Houston. She also won six Mt. Sac Relays' titles. Her winning leap in 1984, 22-10 1/2, remains the meet and stadium record. The sister of sprinter Carl Lewis, she currently serves as a television commentator for track and field.

STEVE LUNDQUIST

Steve Lundquist, better known as “Lunk the Hunk” in the swim world, emerged as the best American Breaststroker in the history of international swimming during the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. In that year, he swam to two Gold Medals and as many World Records, including the Gold in his favorite and best event, the 100m breaststroke. He also helped his team to a World Record in the 100m Medley Relay, swimming the breaststroke leg.

JIM MCMAHON

It was a game in 1980 that first put Jim McMahon in the national spotlight. As a junior at BYU, McMahon rang up gaudy statistics that were derided by critics as coming against weak opposition. But in the Holiday Bowl that December, McMahon led the Cougars back from a 45-25 deficit in the final 4:07 to stun Southern Methodist, 46-45. The performance put him on the map, and in the following season, McMahon again put up stellar numbers, finishing his college career with 71 NCAA records, and selected by the Chicago Bears in the first round of the 1982 NFL Draft with the number five overall pick. McMahon won the Bears' starting quarterback job as a rookie and was named to several All-Rookie teams when he nearly led the team to the playoffs. In 1985, the Bears won their first 12 games and finished 15-1 for the season. He appeared in a rap video made by the team, "The Super Bowl Shuffle," and ended the season with a strong performance in Super Bowl XX, which the Bears won 46-10 over the New England Patriots, becoming the first quarterback in the history of the Super Bowl to rush for two touchdowns. Throughout his career McMahon was known for both on and off field antics, most notably his wearing of headbands while on the sidelines, one such led to his being fined by then NFL commissioner Pete Rozelle as it had an un-authorized corporate logo on it. The next week his headband simply said "Rozelle". Since retiring from football in 1997, he has worked as a restaurant owner and motivational speaker.

JUSTIN MELVEY

Skiing has been an integral part of Justin's life since the age of three. At 17, he was selected for the Australian Freestyle Team and at age 18, he was among the top five in the Australian National Championships. He is also dedicated to extreme sports, including freestyle "chopper-drop" skiing. As an actor, Melvey played Harry on Australia's premier evening show Home and Away, earning the prestigious "Logie" award as the best new talent on Australian television. In the states, Melvey has starred in the feature film *Faultline* with Melrose Place's Doug Savant, while also starring as the nefarious Dr. Colin Murphy on NBC's Days of Our Lives.

HUBERT NEUPER

Born in Bad Ausseer, Austria, Hubert Neuper recorded an extremely distinguished ski-jumping career, earning a career total of eight World Cup victories between 1979 and 1985, while also claiming the silver medal on the large hill at the 1980 Olympic Games of Lake Placid. Neuper is currently an organizer of the ski-jumping tournament in Kulm and a passionate golfer.

MIKE RICHTER

One of the most successful American-born goaltenders in history, Richter is best known for having led the New York Rangers to the Stanley Cup title in 1994 and for repeatedly representing the United States in international play. After playing for the United States in the World Junior Championships in 1985, he played for the University of Wisconsin from 1985-1987, and the Rangers made him the 28th overall pick in the 1985 NHL Entry Draft. He would again represent the US in the World Junior Championships, World Championships, and the 1988 Calgary Olympics before making his NHL debut in the 1989 playoffs. Richter had his first season as the team's number one goaltender in 1993-94, posting a career-best 42 wins and 2.57 goals-against average as the Rangers won the President's Trophy, while his play was a key factor in the Rangers' Stanley Cup championship win over the Vancouver Canucks. He became the eighth goaltender in history to post four shutouts in one playoff season, and over the next few years, he would consistently be ranked among the world's top goaltenders. He was selected as the top goalie for Team USA in the 1998 and 2002 Olympics, winning a silver medal in the 2002 Games. A year later injuries forced him to retire, but not until after he became the first Ranger to record 300 wins.

NIKKI STONE

At the 1998 Nagano Olympics, Stone became America's first-ever Olympic Champion in the sport of inverted aerials. Less than two years earlier, a chronic injury almost took her out of the sport completely. During the course of her illustrious career, Nikki earned 11 World Cup Freestyle titles, four U.S. National crowns, two overall World Cup championships and a World Championships gold. She now spends her time as a motivational speaker.

RYAN SUTTER

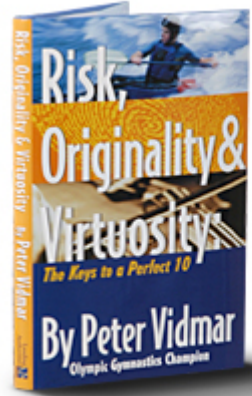
The Vail Valley's most recognizable ex-bachelor, Ryan and his wife Trista further helped to put Vail on the map via *The Bachelorette* television show. The former cheerleader and current Vail fire fighter continue to make public appearances to benefit Vail Valley charities, while Ryan trained and competed in the 2004 Ironman Triathlon in Hawaii. A defensive back and special teams player for the University of Colorado, Sutter led the Big 12 Conference in his senior year with 170 tackles, ranking him second in that category in CU history. He was drafted by the Baltimore Ravens, but injuries cut short his NFL career. The couple is expecting their first child.

CORBIN TIMBROOK

Actor Corbin Timbrooks film credits include starring roles in the comedy hit *Ski Patrol*, as well as the critically acclaimed *The Glass Shield*, *The Killer Within*, *An American Reunion* and most recently, *Taken By Force* with Elliott Gould. His television credits include recurring roles on the hit shows *Reasonable Doubts*, *Renegade*, *Air America* and *Coach*, while on the soaps, he played Woody on *The Bold and The Beautiful*. Behind the camera, he has just finished principle photography on *Death Ranch* and last spring, he directed the action thriller *Double or Nothing* with Dolf Lundgren.

PETER VIDMAR

Peter Vidmar is the highest scoring American gymnast in Olympic history. The winner of numerous national and international titles, Peter finished his successful career at the 1984 Olympic Games. As the USA men's gymnastics team captain, he led his teammates to America's first team gold medal with their stunning upset victory over the defending world champions, the People's Republic of China. He went on to win the silver medal in the individual all-around competition (the only American to have ever won an Olympic All-Around medal), and with a perfect score of 10, he captured the gold medal on the pommel horse. Peter continues to contribute to the Olympic movement today. He serves as the Co-Chairman of the US Olympic Committee Summer Sports Summit, an annual series of workshops designed to prepare America's medal hopefuls to win Gold in future Olympics. Peter has worked for many years as the gymnastics commentator for CBS Sports and ESPN and continues to work as a journalist or broadcaster at each summer Olympics.



MURRAY WILSON

The Montreal Canadiens used their 1st-round draft pick in 1971 to select Murray Wilson 20th overall from the Ottawa 67's from the Ontario Hockey Association. Wilson played four years of junior hockey, making the 67's as a 16-year-old, where he contributed seven goals and eleven assists in just 24 games. During a six-year career with the Canadiens, Wilson played on four Stanley Cup winning teams. From an individual perspective, Wilson's best season was 1974-75 when he tallied 24 goals and 18 assists for 41 points in 73 games with Montreal. The 1978-79 season was the last NHL season for Wilson, who decided to play for the Los Angeles Kings rather than retire. In 58 games he collected eleven goals and 15 assists.

PAUL WYLIE

A Silver Medallist at the 1992 Winter Games in Albertville, figure skater Paul Wylie participated in all levels of International Skating Union Championships, two Olympic Winter Games and numerous professional championships and tours. He has been a commentator for CBS, NBC, FOX, TNT and ESPN, as well as a columnist for Newsweek and USA Today. A graduate of Harvard University and Harvard Business School, Paul was Director of Marketing and Synergy for the Walt Disney Studios from 2001 to 2003.