

San Diego resident and five-time US National Boxing Champion Wins Silver at the Pan American Games in Guayaquil, Ecuador!

-San Diego, California



*Cheryl Houlihan
Five-Time US Flyweight Champion*

Five-time US National Flyweight Champion and San Diego resident Cheryl Houlihan won the silver medal for Team USA at the Pan American Games in Guayaquil, Ecuador. Cheryl is ranked #1 in the country scored an impressive victory over Marie Acros of Ecuador before falling short in the final round against Mandy Bujold of Canada. Cheryl adds this medal to her growing collection as she won the gold for Team USA at the 2006 and 2005 Pan American Games.

Cheryl has an unheard of resume of national and international titles. She is a five-time US National Flyweight Champion, two-time Pan American Games Champion, 2004 World Invitational Games Champion, two-time National PAL Champion and two-time National Golden Glove Champion. At the 2007 US National Championships, Cheryl won the outstanding boxer award as she battled to her fifth straight gold medal.

While boxing is still the only sport that does not include a single women's event in the Olympic Games, Cheryl hopes to reach the top of the Olympic podium with it's anticipated inclusion in London 2012. Cheryl looks to become a world champion and inspire other women to excel and be the best they can be. Cheryl's greatest strength in the ring is her ability to adjust to different boxing styles using her incredible speed and power. She currently studies psychology at Bristol Community College. Originally from Norton, Massachusetts, Cheryl trains with professional boxer and coach Carly Batey in San Diego, CA.

The 12 member women's Team USA reported to training camp at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs on September 18 and the competition took place in Guayaquil, Ecuador October 5-10th. Other countries that competed include Canada, Argentina, Brazil, Trinidad, Dominican Republic, Barbados, Bermuda, Peru, Ecuador and other countries in the Americas. Team USA coaches included 2001 World Championship head coach Dr. Christy Halbert and WCAP coach Charles Leverette. Team USA brought home 3 gold medals, 2 silver medals and 4 bronze medals.

In the United States women's boxing is enjoying a surge in popularity. EPSN ranks boxing as the toughest sport in the world based on overall athleticism, endurance, strength, power, speed, nerve, durability, coordination and analytic aptitude compared with 63 other sports. In October 1993, women's boxing recorded its first victory in the United States. Acting on a lawsuit filed by Dallas Malloy, a 16-year-old female from Bellingham, Wash., USA Boxing officially lifted its ban on women's boxing. Not only are the number of women boxers growing rapidly in the U.S., there is a dramatic increase in female boxing numbers around the world. As of 2007, female boxers from 120 countries compete on local, national and international levels. Currently boxing is the only sport in the Olympic Games that does not yet include women. Athletes around the world are training in it's anticipation of inclusion in London in 2012.



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