

From the Desk of the Chancellor – June 25

An amazing, inspiring group of more than 200 athletes will be on campus later this week as we host the 2012 U.S. Paralympics Track and Field Trials at our Michael A. Carroll Track and Soccer Stadium. Many of the athletes are staying in the University Place Hotel. The competition serves as the final qualification opportunity for track and field athletes to earn a slot on the 2012 Paralympic Team bound for London. Even though the competition is mostly meant to determine the U.S. team, it is open to athletes from all countries, so this is another great opportunity for a national and international audience to "discover" IUPUI and experience our city's special brand of hospitality. And how wonderful it will be to cheer on these top-ranked athletes and Paralympic hopefuls!

The competition takes place June 29-July 1. Tickets are available at the stadium, and the cost is only \$10 (ages 10 and up) for an all sessions pass. On July 1, the athletes who qualify for the U.S. Paralympic team will be announced at the National Art Museum of Sport, 6 pm - 8 pm, in the University Place Conference Center.

The U.S. Paralympics chose the Carroll Stadium for "fast times and good distances" and because the venue features an oval 400-meter, eight-lane track made of Mondo surface, which mimics the surface athletes will have at the games in London. Our history of being able to conduct track and field meets was another reason why Indianapolis was chosen. In the past, the 2006 and 2007 USA Track and Field National Championships and the 1988 U.S. Olympic Track and Field Trials were held here. Although IUPUI has hosted Paralympic swimming competitions before, this year marks the first time we will host a Paralympic track and field event.

Comments? Write_chancellor@iupui.edu.