

play true

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AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WORLD ANTI-DOPING AGENCY



RELYING ON RESEARCH

Performance enhancing substances are nothing new to the world of sport, but new research techniques are helping to turn users into losers. A look at how today's champions of science run a race of discovery to keep athletes honest, and competition fair.

play true

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WORLD ANTI-DOPING AGENCY

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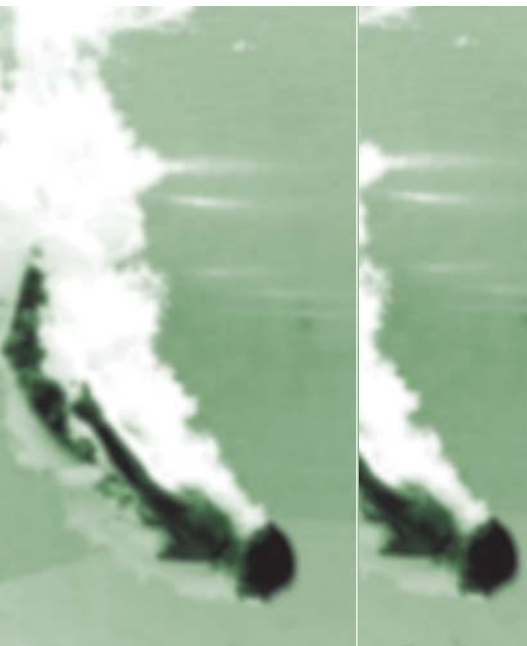
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Editorial: Long Past Due

Tremendous progress has been made in a very short time as WADA and its mandate mature and the World Anti-Doping Code moves toward its implementation date next year.

However, governments need to recognize that their financial commitments are equally important in keeping WADA a credible and effective body

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Cover Story: Relying on Research

Since 2001, WADA has committed more than US \$6 million to research projects and has already dispensed nearly \$3 million of that amount. A look at how that money is being spent and the constant scientific race to stay one step ahead of the dopers

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Interview: Olivier Rabin

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01 Long Past Due

In the first issue of Play True, I wrote about the historical significance of the World Conference on Doping in Sport and the unanimous acceptance given by the delegates to that Conference to the first-ever World Anti-Doping Code. It is a pleasure to report that great progress has been made, in a few short months, to translate that acceptance into concrete actions.

Since March, 51 sports organizations have formally adopted the Code and have begun the internal process for complete implementation prior to the Olympic Games in Athens next year. In a particularly important milestone, the International Olympic Committee adopted the Code at its Session in Prague in early July. IOC president Jacques Rogge reiterated his comments from the World Conference—any sport that does not adopt the Code has no place in the Olympic Games. Although the timelines for putting the Code in place have always been ambitious, this show of positive support from the IOC and other sports organizations has convinced me that the Code will be implemented as planned by next year, and that a new era in anti-doping at the Olympic level will begin with the 2004 Games.

Of course, sports organizations are not the only ones that need to act as quickly as possible. World governments, who represent half of WADA's stakeholders, have an equal responsibility to ensure that the Code is adopted and implemented. I am happy to report that many governments have already signed the Copenhagen Resolution, a document through which they affirm their support for WADA and their acceptance of the Code as the basis for the fight against doping in Sport.

Fifty-one governments signed the Resolution at the Conference and an additional 23 governments have signed since March. We are now working with UNESCO for the development of an international convention through which governments can formally adopt the Code.

An important part of the Copenhagen Resolution is affirmation of government support for WADA and its mission, not just through adoption of the Code, but also through

until a substantial amount of the missing dues had been paid. That figure has now been met but our finances remain in a precarious state.

Because almost half of our budget is yet to be received, we continue to be hampered in our efforts. The important research that you will read about in the following pages cannot be carried out if there is no funding. We cannot reach out to athletes at major sporting events, as we did at the South Pacific Games in Fiji, and

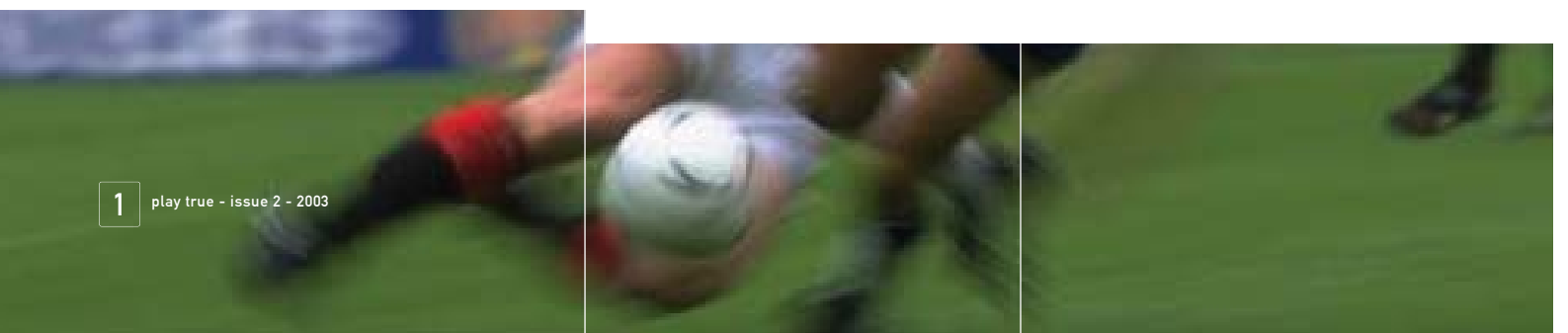
I can only stress how difficult it is for WADA to carry on the important work against doping without sufficient resources—the resources promised to it by its stakeholders.

financing of the organization on a timely basis. Unfortunately, we have had some difficulties in receiving the dues owed to WADA last year and again this year. Even though the dues to WADA should be paid prior to the beginning of the calendar year, by May we had received only 30 per cent of WADA's budget for 2003. By the end of July that figure had risen to around 60 per cent. I can only stress how difficult it is for WADA to carry on the important work against doping without sufficient resources—the resources promised to it by its stakeholders.

WADA's problems have risen not only from the fact that we have not received the money, but that we have no idea whether or when during the year individual governments will pay. This uncertainty makes forward planning virtually impossible and led our Executive Committee to make the difficult, but fiscally responsible, decision to halt all further commitments undertaken by WADA

at the Pan American Games in the Dominican Republic, without funds. In short, because we have been let down by our own stakeholders, we lose the ability to do the things the world expects we will do under the World Anti-Doping Code. The opportunity to give full effect to this historic document will be blunted and cheaters in the world of sports will continue to have the upper hand.

I urge governments to fulfill their financial commitments to WADA on a timely basis. Notwithstanding its own obligation on behalf of the Olympic Movement to pay its full contribution at the beginning of the year, the IOC has adopted the policy that it will match, dollar for dollar, the contributions received from governments, so the government commitments become doubly important. Let us work together to ensure that the legacy of the World Conference and the resolve expressed there to stop doping in sport is carried out with no further delays.



RELYING ON

RESEARCH

02 The battle against doping in sport has been underway for a long time. There is evidence that, as early as the third century BC, performance enhancing substances were used by athletes at the ancient Olympic Games. Unfortunately, the use and abuse of products and methods that may improve an athlete's performance in competition continue to plague the world of sports.

Indisputably, one of the most important weapons in the fight against doping in sport is research. To keep pace with those who cheat, researchers are constantly working on new and better ways to detect prohibited substances in the body and to catch those who would rob themselves and their fellow athletes of a fair competition.

Since WADA's inception, providing funding for worthwhile research projects has been one of the Agency's top priorities. Since 2001, WADA has committed more than US \$6 million to research projects and has already dispensed nearly \$3 million of that amount. Only two short years after the first investments by WADA in research projects, the work has

already led to significant advances. Soon, scientists will be able to test athletes for products that were never detectable, giving those fighting doping in sport some new, powerful weapons.

"Research is the backbone of the fight against doping in sport," said Richard W. Pound, WADA's president.



Research Focus: Feature

"Investing in research helps us find new and better ways to stop cheaters from not only hurting themselves, but harming their sport and the spirit of fair play."

Areas of Focus

Although the potential for the use of prohibited substances is great and exists in many fields of research, WADA's Health, Medical and Research Committee decided early on to focus on five priority areas:

- Compounds enhancing the oxygen carrying capacity of blood (EPO, HBOCs, blood transfusions, etc.).
- Exogenous and endogenous anabolic steroids.
- Factors regulating and enhancing growth (i.e. human growth hormone).
- Gene technology and performance enhancement.
- Miscellaneous projects relating to the list of prohibited substances.

hGH

One area of research in which WADA has invested significant resources is looking at the factors that regulate growth, particularly human growth hormone (hGH). There are currently five research groups collectively receiving more than \$1 million from WADA to look into different aspects of how growth hormone can be detected when used to enhance athletic performance.

Growth hormone is naturally produced by the body and can be abused to develop muscle mass and help with tissue repair. It is widely available commercially in some countries.

Until now, it has been difficult to distinguish between naturally secreted growth hormone and that which is taken to increase performance. The International Olympic Committee and the European Commission co-funded a major study in this area in the 1990s but no test has yet been developed.

Following on the research generated by the IOC studies, researchers, with

funding from WADA and the United States Anti-Doping Agency, are now working to finalize a test that will detect hGH external to what is naturally produced by the body.

"A test for the detection of growth hormone will be a major weapon in our arsenal in the fight against doping," said Dr. Olivier Rabin, WADA's science director. "We know that growth hormone is a major problem in doping and we have searched for a long time for a method of testing for the abuse of this substance."

Researchers have developed methods to distinguish between naturally occurring and exogenous hGH and believe a test might be available in the near future.

HBOCs

In addition to significant progress made in detecting growth hormone, another advance that has arisen from WADA's research program is a test to detect Hemoglobin Based Oxygen Carriers (HBOCs). Seen as the new threat on the horizon in blood doping,

A QUESTION OF COLLABORATION

The fight against doping in sport can only be effective through solid collaboration between agencies. To that end, WADA, created to coordinate the fight on a global level, plays a key role.

In research, as in other areas of collaboration, WADA is in constant contact with global partners in the fight against doping, including the International Olympic Committee, international sports federations, national anti-doping agencies, and anti-doping laboratories that work on research projects.

"We have contact with all our partners to harmonize and coordinate each of our activities in the fight against doping," said Olivier Rabin, WADA's science director. "We exchange information, we consult on certain issues such as international standards, we jointly finance certain research projects and we work to optimize our resources. The goal is to create a large network that allows us to keep everyone informed of the themes we are researching and to optimize how each organization uses its resources so that there are no redundancies and the focus can be placed on priority areas."





HBOCs have been a major focus of WADA research that led to the development of a test for its detection (see accompanying story).

"As soon as the test is validated in the laboratory, we will have a way to stop those who use this method of doping," Rabin said. "Scientifically, this is a significant step forward."

The test for detecting HBOCs will be a blood test, as these compounds are not detectable in urine. This advance is the result of a close collaboration between research teams and pharmaceutical companies.

Gene Doping-The Next Frontier

WADA is also planning to do more in the area of gene doping, seen by many as one of the next frontiers in the world of performance enhancing products and methods. It is already listed on the IOC's List of Prohibited Substances and Methods, even though its application and a test for its detection may be some time away.

In gene doping, modifications are made at the genetic level to allow for better performance, greater speed and

stamina, more muscle mass, or any number of other alterations that create an enhanced athlete. These modifications, even when possible for therapeutic or medical reasons, are very difficult to accomplish and highly risky. When the technology renders these procedures safer and more accessible, their application is bound to move to the sports world.

In recognition of this looming threat, WADA brought together in March 2002 a prominent group of scientists, researchers, ethicists and figures from the sports world to discuss how the ever-growing world of gene technology may impact sports and doping. It was the first time such a meeting was held to discuss this increasingly worrisome issue. Participants walked away with a greater knowledge that more will need to be done quickly to develop new and effective weapons if gene doping becomes a reality.

WADA has identified genetic doping as one of its five priority research areas and encourages scientists to submit proposals for consideration for research in this important area, Rabin said.





Research Focus: Interview

OLIVIER RABIN

03 WADA's Science Director discusses the significant advancements in testing methods made in recent years, the importance of the collective will that led to the creation of WADA, and the resulting coordinated world effort that has developed between researchers and pharmaceutical corporations to help keep testing methods on the cutting edge of enforcement.

How do you explain recent announcements by different groups of researchers regarding significant advances in the detection of new substances and methods?

I think the collective decision to seriously fight doping in sport that led to the creation of WADA in 1999 had an important effect. It not only prompted the creation of a number of national anti-doping agencies and expanded the number of doping controls performed, but it also stimulated collaboration in the area of research and allowed for more work to be done in this area. One can clearly see this today with the development of new methods of detection. When different players in the fight against doping, particularly anti-doping organizations such as WADA, select and financially support top research groups, when pharmaceutical companies are asked to join in the collaboration, concrete results become apparent much more quickly.

Skeptics maintained, for example, that human growth hormone would never be detectable. But today, scientists are announcing significant advances in this area.

For me, this is a prime example of effective coordination, which is the best response to the most difficult challenges that the detection of certain substances pose for us. Doping is always a misuse of substances used for therapeutic means, and these substances are becoming more and more technically advanced, more like the natural substances found in the human body. In this context, there are those who said we will never be able to detect exogenous human growth hormone because it is identical to the substance produced by the human body. Developing a test takes time because we have to be absolutely sure that the test is 100 percent reliable. In addition, we have to understand the specificities and

particular physiological variations of athletes: they are young, they have physiological capacities often greater than normal and life behaviors that are not typical.

But we have arrived there, whether for substances or methods we've mentioned earlier, or for testosterone. For the latter, we are able to distinguish between naturally occurring and the exogenous substance. An even more sensitive test is in development.

How is a method of detection scientifically validated?

It must be published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal. Also, one or more other scientific teams must be able to reproduce the results using the same method. There is also a more rapid validation process, which was utilized, for example, with EPO prior to the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000. In this process, a committee of international experts gather before



publication in the peer-reviewed journal and are asked whether, in their opinion, the method can be scientifically validated.

You mentioned the collaboration with pharmaceutical companies in identifying detection methods. Is this something new?

It is a new and very encouraging phenomenon. We could already see it before and during the Olympic Games in Salt Lake City in 2002, when cooperation with the company that had developed and marketed Aranesp (a synthetic EPO) led to the detection of this new product in several doping controls. As I said before, doping is often the misuse of products created for medical purposes. And the companies that produce these substances have a goal similar to ours, which is to assure the proper use of their medications and to avoid their abuse by healthy people. Therefore, if a good collaboration exists, we can stay a step ahead of this misuse. This can happen, for example, through exchange of information on the molecules - information that allows us to better understand what problems the substance may pose in doping. Or the

company can make available samples of a substance in development for testing.

The work done by researchers on oxygen carriers is a good example. Certain of these substances are not available commercially except in a handful of countries; the majority of them are still under development. Researchers targeted the problems these substances could pose if used in doping, contacted the companies that are developing them and asked for access to samples and other confidential information, and developed a method of detection. The collaboration worked well.

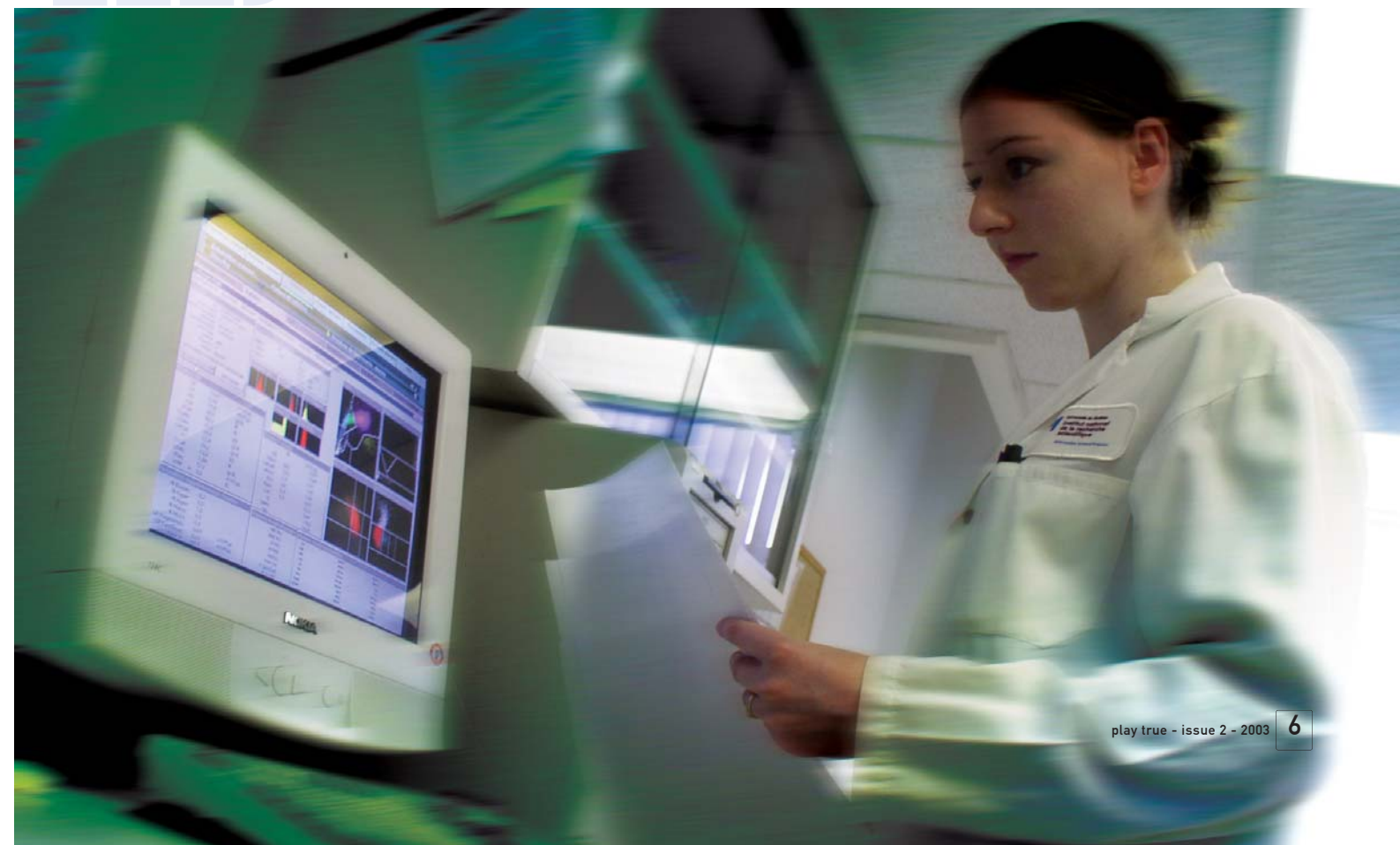
Up to what point can you anticipate the coming of a new product or method and work against it?

There will always be substances developed for therapeutic purposes that will be used for doping by cheaters. The challenge that we are facing more and more is to identify rapidly - in the development stages - those substances that can be used for doping. If the collaboration works well, we can reasonably expect to already be working on detecting a substance two or three years before it is available commercially.

Speaking of thinking ahead, there is much talk in the sports medicine world about genetic doping. What tools do we have to fight this form of doping?

We are certainly thinking ahead, because to our knowledge genetic manipulation has not yet been applied to enhance sports performance. Also, this technique carries great risks and is yet to be perfected, even by the medical community for therapeutic use. But, if one day it is used by athletes to better performance, I'm confident that we will find a way to detect it. Technically, detecting gene doping is without doubt less difficult than detecting the presence of an exogenous substance that can be formed naturally by the body. By studying fragments of DNA, we can see if there is an extra copy of a particular gene. The solution is within the grasp of the researchers and this is reassuring news.

Dr. Olivier Rabin has served as WADA's Science Director for the past year. He has a doctorate in science and a degree in biomedical engineering and has worked in both academic institutions and the pharmaceutical industry throughout his career.





04 Thicker Than Water

Despite the serious health risks involved, some athletes still employ blood doping techniques to improve their performance. An overview of the methods and their dangers.

No phenomenon has played a greater role in changing the world of doping in the last few years than blood doping. Athletes have unfortunately turned to several options in blood doping to better their performance, often without realizing the great harm they can do to themselves through the use of these substances. A major focus of WADA's research has been in the detection of these substances and methods in doping controls.

EPO

Recombinant human erythropoietin has been available for almost two decades and offers some important benefits in the world of medical therapy. EPO is a hormone that stimulates the production of red blood cells in the body, which has an enormous therapeutic benefit in the treatment of anemia related to cancer or kidney disease. An increase in the number of red blood cells allows the body to transport more oxygen to the muscles. While the product was created and is authorized for medical use, it has been used by athletes because it helps increase performance in endurance sports.

While EPO, when used properly to treat a medical need, can help save lives, it can lead to serious health risks for athletes who use the product simply to gain a competitive edge. It is well known that EPO, by thickening the blood, leads to an increased risk of several deadly diseases, such as heart disease and stroke.

EPO is on the International Olympic Committee's List of Prohibited Substances. While certain parameters in a blood test can indicate the possible use of EPO, a study funded by WADA recently determined that the only scientifically validated method for conclusively determining the presence of EPO is through a urine test. WADA has funded a number of projects over the last two years focused on research into the detection of EPO.

Blood Substitutes

Blood substitutes represent the next level of blood doping that WADA is attempting to fight. Hemoglobin-based oxygen carriers (HBOCs) are, in essence, extractions of the protein in blood cells that transport oxygen, a function normally carried out by human blood. Like EPO, the medical advantages of such a product are many. For example, HBOCs could be used as a blood substitute in medical emergencies when real blood is not available.

However, using HBOCs to gain an advantage in sport is considered doping and its use also carries many risks of cardiovascular diseases. The potential for its abuse in the sports community already exists. To that end, WADA has been rigorous in making a significant investment in developing a test for detecting the presence of HBOCs.

Finding a method for detecting HBOCs has been one of WADA's top research priorities. The Agency has funded a number of studies in this area and a test for detecting the

substance in blood has been created and is now being validated. The test should be available for use in doping control before the end of 2003.

Transfusions

One form of doping that may have recently resurfaced in the sports world involves blood transfusions. Although this method of doping dates back several decades, it is only recently that stories have surfaced about its resurgence. Athletes can transfuse themselves either with their own blood, which has been stored until needed, or the blood of teammate or fellow athletes. Blood transfusions are on the IOC's List of Prohibited Substances and Methods.

Like the other forms of blood doping, transfusions have serious medical consequences. A fellow athlete's blood may contain a virus, which is unwittingly passed-on during the transfusion. Even if an athlete uses his or her own blood, there are significant health risks involved if the procedure is not done properly or if the blood is not handled or stored in an acceptable manner.

A test for detecting homologous transfusions (blood taken from another person with the same blood type as the athlete) does exist and is currently being further developed. WADA is working with the USADA on this development. Since scientists believe homologous transfusions are more common than autologous ones (when the athlete withdraws his or her own blood and stores it for later re-injection), this test represents an important step in deterring and detecting this serious form of doping.

Destination South Pacific Games

Often referred to as the Pacific's version of the Commonwealth or Olympic Games, the 12th regional South Pacific Games (SPG) offered more than 4,000 athletes from 22 countries the opportunity to compete with fellow athletes from the region in 32 sports. WADA's Athlete Outreach team attended the event in Suva, Fiji, and a regional team of experts and athlete role models had the opportunity to speak directly with the competing elite athletes.

Takale Tuna, two-time Olympian from Papua New Guinea, and member of the ONOC Athlete Commission, assisted WADA during the event. "There is a great need for information in the Pacific region," Takale said. People think the drug issue won't come to the Pacific, but that is not true. There are more and more incentives to do well at events like the SPG Games and many athletes are also learning about drugs from the internet. One of our greatest needs in the region is for basic information related to inadvertent doping and supplements. The Outreach Program

has offered the platform to get this information out."

Also joining WADA's Outreach Team were Paralympic athlete Hamish MacDonald (see *athlete profile on page 10*), and Carolyn Brassil and Chris Butler from the Australian Sports Drug Agency. As the biggest anti-doping agency in the Oceania region, their expertise was well received by the athletes, coaches and others. ASDA's willingness to be involved and to take further steps to understand the region's needs in relation to anti-doping will allow them to take an even greater role in educating athletes on the dangers of doping.



The Fiji Outreach Team from left to right: Takale Tuna; Carolyn Brassil; Hamish McDonald; WADA Outreach Manager Stacy Spletzer; and Chris Butler



Destination PAN AM'S

The Pan American Games bring together athletes from the countries of the Americas in a festival of sport and international friendship. The Games are held every four years in the year preceding the Olympic Games.

The Dominican Republic played host to the XIVth Pan American Games where over 5,000 athletes from 35 sports and 42 countries participated. WADA's Athlete Outreach Program had the opportunity to interact with hundreds of athletes on a daily basis utilizing the expertise of individuals from the United States Anti-Doping

Agency - USADA (Kate Mittelstadt and Stephanie Isley), Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport - CCES (Tom May and James Sclater) and Dr. Italo Monetti from Uruguay.



Above far left: Part of Pan Ams Outreach Team (from left to right): James Sclater, Stacy Spletzer, Kate Mittelstadt and Italo Monetti.

Below (from left to right): Mr Luis Tapia, Secretary General of Sports of Ecuador; Mr Luis Francisco Hurtado, International Affairs Advisor of the National Institute of Sport of Panama; Mr Antonio Maria Pretelt, Director of the National Institute of Sport of Colombia.

Hamish McDonald

06 Paralympics Champion Hamish McDonald reaches out with a message to disabled athletes everywhere

While growing up in Melbourne, Australia alongside three brothers, Hamish McDonald never thought of himself as different.

Although he was born with the disability of cerebral palsy, he attended the same school as his siblings, participated in the same games and sports, and had the same childhood experiences, thanks to his mother, a nurse who fought hard to ensure that all her children were given equal opportunities.

During primary school Hamish was encouraged to participate in everything, and twice a week he made the train trip

unprecedented crowd support and television coverage, and the athletic performance at these games proved that the Paralympics had become the most elite and prestigious competition for athletes with a disability—with many athletes performances comparable to able bodied Olympic times.

Today Hamish, 29, is one of Australia's leading Paralympic athletes and has represented his country at three Paralympic Games and three world championships, winning gold medals in the shot put at the 1996 Atlanta Paralympics and the 2002 IPC World Championships. Although he is a

"Many people don't fully realize that elite athletes with disabilities are subject to the same testing protocols and sanctions as other athletes. Doping or any misuse of a banned substance or practice are as relevant as issues for the world's elite athletes with a disability as they are for any other member of the elite sporting family."

into the city to attend physiotherapy at the Children's Hospital.

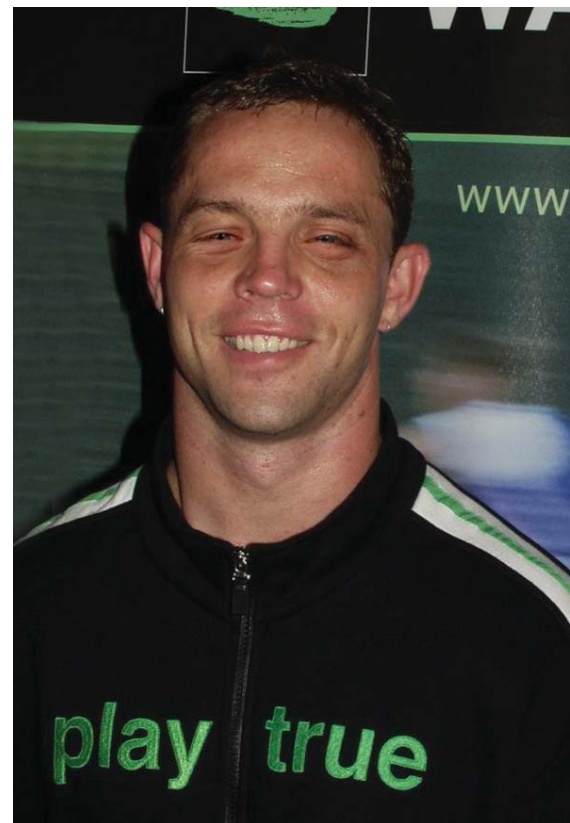
It was not until high school that Hamish began taking sport seriously. In 1991 he was completing his final year of school with a view of going to university when he also made his first Paralympic team in athletics.

The 1992 Barcelona Paralympics proved to be a turning point for the Paralympic Movement, with

celebrated athlete worldwide, he can still recall the excitement of his most outstanding competitions.

"My most significant sporting experiences so far have been winning medals in 1996 and 2002 and being a joint team captain for the 2000 Sydney Games," Hamish said with a smile.

That may change next year if he adds one more medal to his collection. Hamish is aiming to compete at the



2004 Athens Paralympics while also planning to finish a university degree in primary teaching.

Off the field Hamish is a member of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) Athlete Commission and is an active liaison person to WADA. He is employed by the Australian Sports Commission, where he works in the ASC's *Disability Education Program*, a service providing advice and assistance to education and sport providers in

"Therapeutic use exemptions are a serious issue for athletes with disabilities, I believe this is where the new World Anti-Doping Code can help, as the process for seeking a therapeutic use exemption will be more clearly defined"

Australia on the inclusion of people with disabilities into Physical Education and Sport programs. He has delivered similar programs in regions around the world including India, South East Asia, the Caribbean and the South Pacific.

"Sport has become an important part of modern global culture," Hamish said. Sportspeople from all over the globe are recognized for their individual achievements and subsequently can be used as spokespeople for any number of companies, organizations and causes. Sport has the ability to highlight the potential of everybody to achieve."

For his part, Hamish frequently uses his own notoriety to bolster important programs, such as ones that highlight the dangers of doping in sport. He recently joined WADA's Athlete Outreach Program during the South Pacific Games to talk to athletes, coaches and others about anti-doping.

"For many participants here, the Outreach program has provided them with their first experience of anti-doping

information," he said. "This is their first opportunity to better understand the "Play True" message which will obviously leave participants better informed as they continue on their sporting career."

Hamish also continues to focus much of his attention on anti-doping within the Paralympic Movement.

"Many people don't fully realize that elite athletes with disabilities are subject to the same testing protocols and sanctions as other athletes," he said. "Doping or any misuse of a banned substance or practice are as relevant as issues for the world's elite athletes with a disability as they are for any other member of the elite sporting family."

Two areas are of particular concern to him within the world of Paralympics. The first is to help elite athletes with disabilities better understand their responsibilities related to seeking a therapeutic use exemption. With a TUE, athletes are allowed to take medications deemed necessary for their health that might otherwise be substances banned in competition.

"TUEs are a serious issue for athletes with disabilities," Hamish said. "I believe this is where the new World Anti-Doping Code can help, as the process for seeking a therapeutic use exemption will be more clearly defined."

The second area of concern, which is unique to elite sport for people with disabilities, is the practice of autonomic dysreflexia or 'boosting'. This is a practice predominantly used by athletes with spinal cord injuries where they deliberately create toxic shock within the injury affected parts of the body to enhance performance. The side effects of boosting are potentially very serious, leading to further permanent injury and possible death. There is no effective test for 'boosting.'

Hamish believes this is an area that needs a closer look.

"With the advent of WADA there is now the opportunity for all the relevant stakeholders to collaborate and develop much needed research in this area," he said.





UK Sport Headquarters in London, where Michele Verroken (right) heads up the 11 members of UK Sports Drug-Free Sport Team.



UK Sport

Britain's drug-free sports team focuses on implementing the World Anti-Doping Code as it prepares for the upcoming Olympic Games in Athens.

UK Sport, the agency charged by the British Government with creating a strategy for developing high performance sport in the UK, has a busy year ahead. In addition to helping prepare athletes for the 2004 Games in Athens, it will be working hard to ensure the adoption and implementation of the World Anti-Doping Code in the UK.

UK Sport's purpose is to lead the UK to sporting excellence by supporting winning athletes, world class events, and ethically fair and drug-free sport. The United Kingdom Sports Council, the equivalent of a Board of Directors, was established on 19 September 1996 by Royal Charter in order to focus directly on high performance sport at the UK level, with the aim of achieving sporting excellence on the world stage. UK Sport officially began its work in January 1997. The organization's overall aim is to help the UK become one of the world's top five sporting nations by 2012,

measured by athlete performances at world championships, Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Drug-Free Sport team

The 11-strong drug-free sport team at UK Sport, headed up by Michele Verroken, is divided up into four major work areas: testing; education; results management; and doping control.

Testing Program

Each year UK Sport carries out around 6,000 tests across more than 40 sports. On average, approximately 98 percent of the tests produce negative results.

In the first quarter of 2003/04 (covering April-June 2003), 1,307 test had been conducted, of which 358 (27.4%) were out-of-competition.

Tests conducted by UK Sport are analysed at the IOC accredited laboratory at King's College London - one of only

30 such laboratories in the world.

UK Sport launched its national Statement of Anti-Doping Policy (SADP) in January 2002. The policy sets out clear lines of responsibility for all those involved at each stage of the anti-doping process. It has been praised for providing a consistent and transparent system that benefits governing bodies and, more importantly, athletes.

In October 2002, UK Sport introduced quarterly reporting of results from the testing program to demonstrate that sports were managing disciplinary actions more swiftly and efficiently than before, yet still ensuring fairness of the process.

Over the years, the drug-free sport team has been responsible for testing at a host of major events staged in the UK. Most recent of these was the World Indoor Championships in Athletics held in Birmingham in

March and before that the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester, where over 900 tests were conducted in the ten days of competition.

Athlete Services

UK Sport knows that the vast majority of British athletes want to compete drug-free and believes it is the agency's responsibility to provide them with all the information and support they need to do so. A number of tools exist to facilitate this, including:

Drug Information Database (DID) - launched in January 2002, the database provides athletes with 24 hours a day, seven days a week access to drug information. Available via UK Sport's website at www.uk sport.gov.uk/did, the database allows athletes to check whether or not products they wish to use are permitted according to the IOC's list of prohibited substances. At their fingertips are details of UK-licensed pharmaceutical products or substances. The database, which is updated monthly, draws on information from 102 sports and contains around 2,100 substances and 4,300 products, making it the world's most comprehensive and up-to-date online drug information service for sport. In the first year of operation, 21,000 enquiries were received - an average of 60 a day. Indications are that this figure will be

surpassed in the second year, with around 200 enquiries currently being received each day.

Drug Enquiry Line - the database is complimented by a freephone drug information line providing advice on the status of substances in sport and the anti-doping programme in the UK.

Factsheets - UK Sport has produced a series of factsheets on all prohibited substances, along with guides to the testing procedures and the UK's anti-doping policy. These are available in hard copy and can also be downloaded from the website. Many resources can be ordered in high visibility print for the visually impaired.

World Anti-Doping Code

Looking ahead, the big challenge over the next year is to smoothly and successfully adopt the World Anti-Doping Code in the UK. A four-stage process has been set up to achieve this:

Stage 1: Planning and Consultation (March-June 2003)

UK Sport has been studying the practical implications of the Code and its standards. A series of meetings are now being arranged with all affected parties—including home country sports councils, devolved administrations, British Olympic Association and British Paralympic Association, national governing bodies, medical

partner organisations and legal professionals - to discuss the Code.

Stage 2: Drafting and Resourcing (July-September 2003)

A thorough review of the UK's existing Statement of Anti-Doping Policy is taking place, with revisions made as necessary, although the policy does already meet the majority of requirements of the Code. The current structure of UK Sport's drug-free sport directorate will also be looked at to ensure the right resources are in place to deliver the Code.

Stage 3: Restructuring and Training (October-December 2003)

Any restructuring and training that may be required in anticipation of Stage 4.

Stage 4: Implementation and Policy (January-April 2004)

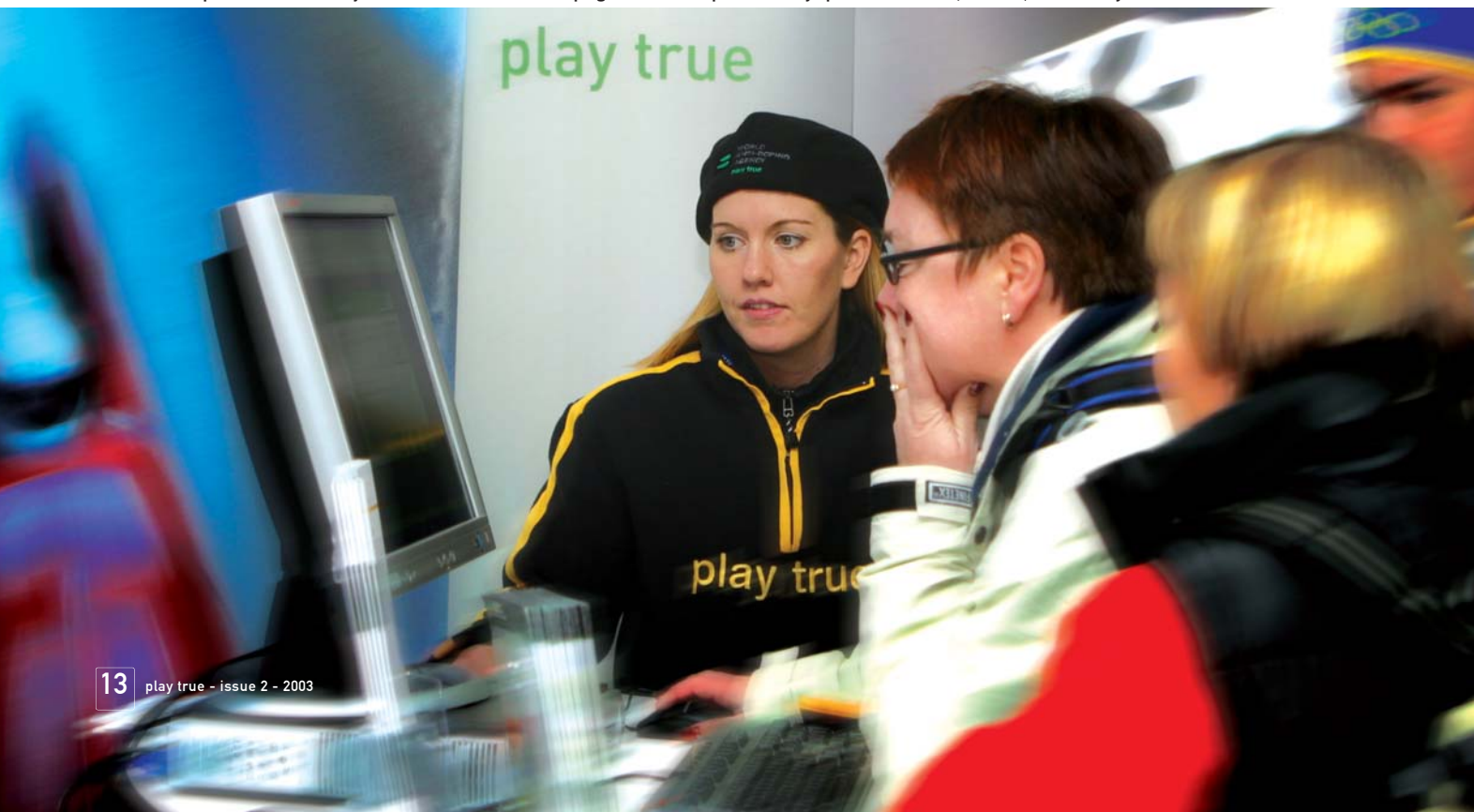
The roll out of the newly revised Statement of Anti-Doping Policy, which will be fully compliant with the World Code.

The priority throughout this process is to ensure that all athletes are made aware about the implications of the Code, well before it is fully implemented.

Contact

For more information on UK Sport, visit: www.uk sport.gov.uk

UK Sport's Allison Connell joined WADA's Athlete Outreach program at the European Youth Olympic Festival in Bled, Slovenia, last February



Director General Harri Syväsalmi Leaves Wada

Director General Harri Syväsalmi has decided to leave WADA for personal reasons.

Mr Syväsalmi had served WADA for more than three years. He was appointed Director General in January 2000. Prior to that, he had played an instrumental role in the development of the WADA statutes as a representative of the Finnish government, where he was the director of the Sports Division of the Ministry of Education.

"On behalf of all the WADA stakeholders, I thank Mr Syväsalmi for his work and his input," said Richard W. Pound, WADA's president. "His

contribution has helped the organization to grow and to occupy a leading role in the fight against doping in sport, symbolized by the approval of the World Anti-Doping Code in Copenhagen last March."

"It has been a privilege to work with WADA during this exciting and formative period," said Harri Syväsalmi. "I leave the organization with the feeling that I've carried out my duty and I wish WADA all the best as it continues to move forward."

COO and Special Counsel David Howman will now act as WADA's Director General.

Funding Update

Contributions to WADA's budget as of 05 August 2003 (US\$)

| | Amounts Budgeted | Amounts Received |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Olympic Movement Contribution | \$10,117,500 | \$6,109,160 |
| Public Authorities Contribution | \$10,117,500 | \$6,186,087 |
| Total | \$20,235,000 | \$12,295,247 |

| Region | Percentage of Public Authorities Contribution | Amounts Budgeted | Amounts Received |
|----------|---|------------------|------------------|
| Africa | 0.50% | \$50,588 | \$16,136 |
| Americas | 29.0% | \$2,934,075 | \$435,000 |
| Asia | 20.5% | \$2,070,041 | \$1,612,963 |
| Europe | 47.5% | \$4,805,813 | \$3,865,003 |
| Oceania | 2.54% | \$256,985 | \$256,985 |



Casey Wade named Director of Education and Planning

WADA has named Casey Wade as the Agency's new director of education. This position had been vacant since the departure of Angela Schneider. Wade had previously served as director of corporate planning and projects. The two departments have merged and Wade will head the new department of education and planning.

Independent Observers at the Tour de France

WADA has sent, for the first time, a team of Independent Observers to the world-famous Tour de France on the occasion of the event's 100th anniversary. The Observer group was composed of team president Dr. Luis Horta, director of sports medicine at the National Institute of Sport in Portugal; Dr. Anik Sax, secretary of the National Committee for Anti-Doping in Luxembourg; and Jennifer Ebermann, WADA's manager responsible for the Independent Observer Program.

Launched at the Sydney Olympics in 2000, the Independent Observer Program's primary objective is to assure athletes and the world at large that anti-doping rules are being properly applied in the course of

major competitions. Observers follow all aspects of the doping-control operations and issue a public report after the event, in which they report on whether the doping-control rules have been applied. The report may also contain observations on improvements that can be made in the process at future events.

The Independent Observer Team at the Tour de France observed doping-control procedures from the 1st of July until the 10th of July. Afterwards, the team president received daily laboratory reports and other relevant information. The Independent Observers Report will be published at the beginning of September on WADA's website: www.wada-ama.org

World Anti-Doping Code Developments

Acceptance and implementation of the World Anti-Doping Code, the first instrument harmonizing the rules and regulations concerning doping in all sports and all countries, is moving forward. Unanimously approved in March by the delegates to the World Conference on Doping in Sport in Copenhagen, the Code had been formally adopted by 51 international sporting organizations by mid August. It was also adopted unanimously by the International Olympic Committee

(IOC) during its July session in Prague. Other international sporting federations plan to also adopt the Code at their annual congress scheduled for this year and modify their rules as necessary in order to implement the Code prior to the 2004 Olympic Games.

In addition, 74 governments have signed the Copenhagen Declaration, through which they signal their support for WADA and their

acceptance of the Code as the basis for the fight against doping in sport. The next step for the governments will be the creation of an international convention, through which they will be able to formally adopt the Code (see below).

The list of governments that have signed the Copenhagen Declaration, as well as the sporting organizations that have adopted the Code, can be found on WADA's website.

International convention under the aegis of UNESCO

Given that the majority of governments of the world cannot be legally bound by a nongovernmental document such as the World Anti-Doping Code, work is underway for the creation of an international convention under UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. This convention would allow governments not only to adopt the rules of the Code, but also to formalize their recognition of WADA and their

financial commitments towards the Agency.

Following the recommendations in January of the round table of ministers and officials responsible for physical education and sports in UNESCO to create an international convention, a preparatory meeting of experts in the fight against doping took place at the end of June in Paris at the organization's headquarters. The members of the General

Conference of UNESCO will vote on whether to take the next steps in preparing and creating such a convention at UNESCO's 32nd general session, to be held in October in Paris. If the creation of the convention is accepted, a working group will then be charged with drafting the document.

The goal is to finalize the convention by 2005, so that the governments can ratify it before the Winter Olympic Games in Turin in February 2006.