

THE 15th ANNUAL COMPETITOR MAGAZINE ENDURANCE SPORTS AWARDS

ESAW

TO BE HELD AT SEA WORLD IN SAN DIEGO ON SATURDAY NIGHT, FEBRUARY 3, 2007

The evening has been called 'The Academy Awards of Endurance Sports' by Entertainment Tonight and the greatest athletes in the history of running, cycling and triathlon are honored every year. "Greg LeMond, Paula Newby Fraser, Deena Kastor, Alberto Salazar, Dave Scott and Mark Allen are just a few of the names that come quickly to mind," says Competitor Magazine co-founder Bob Babbitt. "There is nowhere else in the world where you can find as many Olympic Medalists and Ironman champions all under the same roof. It's an evening that is guaranteed to give you goose bumps."

This year's collection of honorees is again star studded:

Male Runner of the Year: Dean Karnazes became the first person to run 50 marathons in 50 days in 50 states.

Female Runner of the Year: Deena Kastor broke the American Record at the London Marathon.

Competitor of the Year: Jon "Blazeman" Blais has ALS, Lou Gehrig's Disease. Despite watching his body deteriorate on a daily basis, Blazeman finished the 2005 Ironman World Championship and his log roll across the finish inspired a legion of ALS Warriors to follow his lead.

Running Legend: Peter Snell from New Zealand was the dominant runner of his era, taking home three Gold Medals during the 1960 (Rome: 800 meters) and 1964 (Tokyo 800 & 1500) Olympics.

Male Triathlete of the Year: Chris McCormack of Australia won Ironman Australia for the fifth year in a row, took the Quelle Challenge for the third straight time and then came off the bike ten minutes behind Normann Stadler in Kona and ran the lead down to 71 seconds by the end.

Female Triathlete of the Year: Michellie Jones is the winningest female triathlete in history with two ITU World short course championships and a silver medal in the first ever Olympic Triathlon. This year she added to her resume with her first ever Ironman World Championship.

Event of the Year: The Amgen Tour of California drew more than 1,000,000 cycling mad spectators in it's inaugural year as it traversed the state.

Challenged Athlete of the Year: Major David Rozelle was the first soldier to lose a limb in battle who actually returned to command in Iraq with a prosthetic. After returning to the states, Rozelle set out to prove that he could be an athlete despite now having to race with a prosthetic. He finished both Ironman Coeur d'Alene and the Ironman World Championship in Kona, Hawaii in 2006.

*"The Academy
Awards of
Endurance Sports"*
-ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT

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