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Newsletter

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PRESIDENT CLINTON NAMES COUNCIL MEMBERS

President Clinton appointed a diverse group of 15 physical fitness, sports, health and community leaders on May 23rd to become members of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports (PCPFS). In a statement announcing the Council members, the President called on them to expand their already active leadership roles by helping to energize Americans to become more physically active and thus healthier and more physically fit.

In selecting the 15 appointees to the 20 member Council, President Clinton sought individuals from a wide range of backgrounds with outstanding records of leadership and community involvement. The appointees come from the fields of medicine, professional and amateur sports, physical

education and training and advocacy for physically disabled persons.

Florence Griffith Joyner, an Olympic triple gold medal winner in track and field, and Tom McMillen, a retired professional basketball player

Studies have consistently shown the health benefits that result from even modest increases in physical activity. Physical activity and fitness are seen as essential components of individual responsibility for improved health, both physical and mental.



Members of the PCPFS are sworn-in.

In the Rose Garden

The Council members were sworn-in at a Rose Garden ceremony on Tuesday the 31st of May and then proceeded to an orientation briefing at the White House Conference Center. President Clinton's appointees to the PCPFS are:

Elizabeth Arendt of St. Paul, Minnesota - Dr. Arendt, an orthopedic surgeon, is the Director of the Sports Medicine Institute at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. She is a member of the Big Ten

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and former Congressman, were appointed by President Clinton last June as Co-Chairs of the PCPFS. Sandra Perlmutter, the first woman to be Executive Director of the PCPFS, was appointed by the President and Health and Human Services Secretary Donna E. Shalala in September.

Physical Activity is Essential

Both Joyner and McMillen underscored the significant role that the PCPFS will play in increasing public awareness of the numerous benefits of physical activity. "It is clear from the caliber of the individuals whom President Clinton has appointed that he has high expectations for the President's Council," the Co-Chairs said in a joint statement.



HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala speaks at President Clinton and Vice President Gore look on.

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