



BP Educational Consultation

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The American Athlete

Episode #2409

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Participants: **Sugar Ray Leonard – Boxing Legend**

Shaquille O’Neal – NBA Legend

Gail Devers – Track and Field Legend

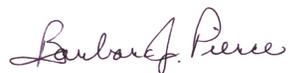
General Synopsis for Episode #2409

In this episode of ‘Legends’, sports icons share their family background and stories of how they began their path towards their chosen fields of athletic endeavor. Host Byron Allen’s insightful questions open up each athlete to respond with applicable advice for fans to follow. Boxing legend **Sugar Ray Leonard** got into boxing because it is individual, when I win, I win and when I lose, I lose. He always had dreams of becoming somebody and boxing was the way to do it. Winning a gold medal is one of his most cherished moments, “I felt like I had made it, it was so amazing to me.” During 30 years as a boxer, Sugar Ray won world titles in 5 weight classes. NBA legend **Shaquille O’Neal** playing sports as a kid, he focused on basketball to be like Dr. J. He practices everyday using visualization to focus on what he wants to accomplish. His advice to young fans is not to be like him but to be better, stay out of trouble, follow your dreams, listen to their parents, believe in yourself. Track and Field legend **Gail Devers** started formally running in high school. She sets goals for herself by writing them down, something to attain, to achieve, to show dedication and to work for. Gail achieved 3 Olympic Gold medals and has been inducted into the National Track and Field Hall of Fame. She has a philosophy she lives by focusing on respect, commitment and excellence.

Observation and Conclusion

The American Athlete episode #2409 trivia questions between each segment challenge young viewers to research and learn sports facts. Each participant encourages young viewers to pursue their passion and focus by overcoming obstacles, displaying athlete virtues of diligence, perseverance, the value of training and sportsmanship. **Shaquille O’Neal** tells the viewers, “I think all parents should be role models and athletes just set a good example”. This episode inspires, educates, informs and empowers children 13 years of age and up.

Sincerely,



Barbara J. Pierce, MA Ed.

Educational Consultant