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## SCULLIN WITHDRAWS OLYMPIC BID

NORCROSS, GEORGIA, JUNE 27, 1996-- In a stunning, often tear-filled announcement, local adman Patrick D. Scullin declared he would not compete in any of the Centennial Olympic Games to be held next month in Atlanta.

"It is with great regret," Scullin said cramming fistfuls of Lay's Potato Chips into his mouth, "that I will not continue my heroic efforts to compete in the Olympics." A stunned audience stood motionless, mouths agape as Scullin continued. "Maybe I'd been slurping too much loudmouth soup when I claimed I could win big in the Olympics."

Scullin was referring to boasts he had made in a Baltimore bar in October, 1993 that he was "going to dominate the whole damn Olympics." Scullin claimed to have figured out a way "to give 119%" which he bragged "will kick the butt of anyone giving a measly 110%."

Scullin reportedly plead his case so passionately and obnoxiously, a bouncer was forced to give him a thorough thrashing and hurl the Olympic-hopeful's body like a rag doll into a dumpster in an alley.

Since that now famous incident, Scullin said he had been in training for the 1,600-meter relay race (which he said he would run alone), decathlon, 10-meter platform diving, Women's Gymnastics, equestrian events (in which Scullin said he would "be the horsey"), javelin and "that one where you've got that big honking stick to hoist yourself over the bar that's set real high in the sky."

At the news conference, a dejected Scullin admitted he had failed to receive "a big bucks deal" from Nike or Reebok. "The whole lousy system's fixed," Scullin said bitterly as he popped open a Mickey's Malt Liquor bottle, "maybe if I was Michael Jordan or Babe Ruth they'd return my calls."

The sarcasm lingered in the air as Scullin's eyes filled with salty tears. "Maybe it's all for the best," Scullin said biting into a Dove Bar. "I live in Norcross and the commute to the Games is going to be a dilly of a pickle. Besides, all that athletic stuff can get a guy pretty sweaty, you know."

Despite Scullin's announcement, Olympic officials confirmed the Games will go on as scheduled.

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