



## NCAA names 2014 Silver Anniversary Award winners

November 13, 2013

Six former student-athletes have been selected as recipients of the NCAA Silver Anniversary Award.

The Silver Anniversary Award annually recognizes distinguished individuals on the 25th anniversary of the conclusion of their college athletics careers. The Honors Committee, comprised of representatives of NCAA member schools and nationally prominent former student-athletes, selects each year's recipients.

The 2014 recipients are Troy Aikman, Rodney Peete, Earl Martin Phalen, George Pyne, Katey Stone and Dara Torres. The NCAA will recognize the honorees at the Honors Celebration during the 2014 NCAA Convention in San Diego, Calif.



### **Troy Aikman**

**School:** University of California, Los Angeles

**Graduation Year:** 2008

**Major:** Sociology

**Sport:** Football

Troy Aikman, former University of California, Los Angeles quarterback, was the 1988 Davey O'Brien National Quarterback Award winner and received All-America honors in 1988. He was inducted into the UCLA Athletics Hall of Fame in 1999, the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2006, and the College Football Hall of Fame in 2008. In 1989, he entered the National Football League (NFL) as the first draft pick (and first pick overall) for the Dallas Cowboys. The

six-time pro-bowler was named the Super Bowl XXVII Most Valuable Player, and he was the first NFL quarterback to lead his team to three Super Bowls in a four-year span. Aikman is the winningest NFL quarterback of any decade (1990s) and ended his NFL career as the Cowboys' career leader in playoff passing yards, completions, passing efficiency and completion percentage. Following a distinguished NFL career, Aikman completed his degree in 2008 and joined FOX as a television NFL analyst. He currently serves as a member of the National Football Foundation Board of Directors and is part of the Oxford Preparatory Academy Charter School Advisory Board in southern California. He also created the Troy Aikman Foundation, which partners with musician Garth Brooks to build interactive playrooms in children's hospitals across the country.



**Rodney Peete**

**School:** University of Southern California

**Graduation Year:** 1989

**Major:** Communication

**Sport:** Football, Baseball

Rodney Peete led University of Southern California to a Pac-10 title and trip to the Rose Bowl. In 1988, Peete was the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award winner, Golden Helmet College Player of the Year, and was the runner-up for both the Heisman Trophy and the Maxwell Award. During his career at USC, he was named the Pac-10 Offensive Player of the Year and was named to the All-Pac-10 team. He also played baseball at USC, and following the 1988 season, was drafted by the Oakland A's. Peete decided instead to pursue a career in the NFL, where he played 16 seasons. He threw 76 touchdowns and for more than 16,000 yards during his career. Following his career in the NFL, he went on to work as a television broadcaster, radio personality, author and philanthropist. He is currently president of HollyRod Entertainment, a Los Angeles-based entertainment and investment firm. With his wife Holly Robinson Peete, he co-founded the HollyRod Foundation, which generates funds to fight Parkinson's disease, support children suffering from autism, and improve the quality of life for those in need.



**Earl Martin Phalen**

**School:** Yale University

**Graduation Year:** 1989

**Major:** Political Science

**Sport:** Basketball

Earl Martin Phalen credits being a member of the Yale University basketball team as playing a significant role in his successes as a student, and later, as a professional. He was a walk-on basketball player for Yale and made the varsity squad his junior year. Phalen is founder and CEO of Summer Advantage USA, a summer reading program that partners with school districts to provide quality summer learning programs for children in grades K-8. The program is one of only two scientifically validated models in the country and spurred federal legislation to replicate the model nationwide. Continuing his focus on education, Phalen founded the George and Veronica Phalen Leadership Academies, named for his parents. These academies are blended learning K-12 charter schools in Indiana, and they are projected to ultimately serve more than 10,000 students each year. Phalen is also the founder and CEO of Building Educated Leaders for Life, which operates summer and after-school education programs in major U.S. cities. The organization now educates 15,000 students annually. Among other achievements, Phalen was awarded the President's Service Award in 1997 by President Clinton for outstanding community service. He is also a Mind Trust and Ashoka Fellow, was awarded the Black Entertainment Television Shine a Light Hero Award, and is a three-time recipient of Fast Company's Social Capitalist Award.



**George Pyne**

**School:** Brown University

**Graduation Year:** 1989

**Major:** Political Science

**Sport:** Football

George Pyne, a two-year starter at offensive tackle and senior team captain for Brown University's football team, was named to the All-Ivy League team in 1987 and the All-New England Team in 1988. He was awarded the Paul K. Sloan Offensive Lineman Award in 1988. Following 11 years as COO of NASCAR, where he oversaw the sport's exponential growth, Pyne became President of IMG's global Sports and Entertainment business, which operates in 30 countries around the world and includes IMG College's business that represents more than 200 colleges and universities across America. He was named to the Sports Business Journal's Hall of Fame and was recognized three times by Sports Business Journal's "40 under 40." Pyne was honored by Business Week, The Sporting News and Sports Business Journal as one of the most influential people in sports. Pyne served on the Brown University Advisory Council on Athletics from 2006-2009. He now coaches boys youth basketball and serves as a board member of the National Football Foundation, which seeks to promote leadership, sportsmanship, competitive zeal, and drive for academic excellence in America's young people.



**Katey Stone**

**School:** University of New Hampshire

**Graduation Year:** 1989

**Major:** Physical Education, Teaching Certification

**Sport:** Ice Hockey, Lacrosse

Katey Stone was a four-year letter winner in both lacrosse and ice hockey at University of New Hampshire. She was a member of the 1985 national championship team in lacrosse, a two-time All-American, and team captain in 1989. In ice hockey, Stone captained her team in 1989, and her team won the Eastern College Athletic Conference Championship in 1986 and 1987. Stone went on to coach Harvard University's women's ice hockey team and is the winningest coach in the history of Division I women's ice hockey. Her resume includes nine NCAA tournament appearances, including five Frozen Four appearances. Stone is now the head coach of the U.S. Olympic women's ice hockey team, and she will be taking the team to the 2014 Sochi Olympics, making her the first woman to lead the U.S. national team into Olympic competition. Stone led the U.S. national team to a gold medal at the Four Nations Cup and a silver medal at the International Ice Hockey Women's World Championships in 2009. She was named the United States College Hockey Online Coach of the Year in 2004-05 and is president of the American Women's Hockey Coaches Association.



**Dara Torres**

**School:** University of Florida

**Graduation Year:** 1990

**Major:** Telecommunications

**Sport:** Swimming, Volleyball

Dara Torres was a two-sport varsity letter winner at University of Florida, competing in swimming for four years, and playing volleyball during her fifth year of school. As a swimmer, she was a 28-time All-American, a nine-time NCAA national champion, a seven-time conference titlist, and two-time SEC female swimmer of the year. In 1988, Torres was named the NCAA Swimmer of the Year and SEC Athlete of the Year. She earned three gold medals at the Pan Pacific games in 1988, and in 1999 was inducted to the University of Florida Hall of Fame. Torres is the first and only U.S. swimmer to compete in five Olympics Games (1984, 1988, 1992, 2000 and 2008), and narrowly missed qualifying for the Olympics in 2012. She has earned twelve Olympic medals: four gold, four silver, and four bronze. In 2008 she became the oldest swimmer to compete in the Olympics, and she was the first woman in history to swim in the Olympics past the age of 40. Torres was inducted into the Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in 2005, awarded the International Fair Play Prize for Sportsmanship during the 2008 Olympics and won an ESPY for Best Comeback in 2009. She currently works as a TV sports commentator for a variety of networks and volunteers her time as a Colon Cancer Spokesperson. She was awarded the 2009 Thurman Munson Award, which is given to New York City athletes for athletics achievement and humanitarian efforts. Torres was a recipient of an Excellence in Cancer Awareness Award in 2012 and is a Global Ambassador for McDonald's Champions of Play.