

**Special Olympics Athlete Terrence Dublin Gives Speech at Gala Dinner in Miami**

*Terrence Dublin, a Special Olympics athlete from St. Vincent, earned a standing ovation from more than 400 guests at the Florida Caribbean Cruise Association Foundation's Gala Dinner, March 9, when he made the following speech:*

Good night, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I want to say how excited I am to be here tonight. I am so very proud to be able to speak on behalf of all the Special Olympics athletes in the Caribbean. Thank you FCCA Foundation for inviting me—I feel very special.

I would like to tell you a little about myself:

I am 17 years old and live in St. Vincent with my parents and four sisters. I attend the School for Special Needs. This was how I got involved with Special Olympics. I play football, bocce, floor hockey, and cricket.

I really like floor hockey. In 1993 I went to the World Winter Games in Austria. This was so exciting meeting so many people from other countries. I really felt proud being a part of Team Caribbean and we really trained hard to win our medals.

I like sports very much. That's why I like Special Olympics. If it wasn't for Special Olympics, I would not have been able to train and play team sports.

I like Special Olympics because people make you feel good when you try hard. I have won medals and ribbons at National Games and at World Games because I train hard and do my best. If I was not in Special Olympics, there would be no way that I would be picked to play on the national football or cricket teams.

I always try to remember that I cannot always win, but I must try hard to do my best at all times. The Special Olympics motto says "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt." Special Olympics makes me feel good when I try my best. I like when my team wins, but if we don't it's not the most important thing. It's more important that we get the chance to do our best and have fun.

I feel good about what I can do and what I have done. I like being able to show that people with mental retardation can do much more than people think.

I'm glad that the FCCA Foundation is helping to support Special Olympics. I hope the Foundation will continue to help Special Olympics athletes like me to help ourselves. I would also like to see more persons with mental retardation get the opportunities to train and compete and feel good about themselves.

Thank you for listening to me tonight. Thank you FCCA for joining the world of winners!

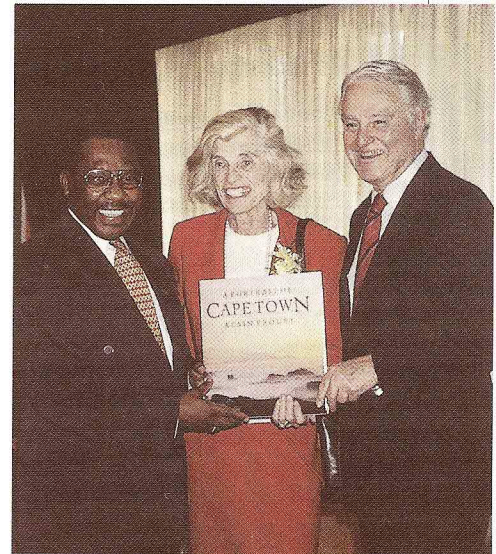
**Sargent and Eunice Shriver Visit South Africa**

During a recent trip to Cape Town, South Africa, SOI Chairman **Sargent Shriver** challenged Minister of Sport **Steve Tshwete** to host the Special Olympics World Games in Cape Town in 2003 as a "symbolic act."

Shriver made the challenge during a speech he gave at the Mary Harding Centre for the Mentally Handicapped in Athlone:

"I suggest you gird your loins and welcome the Special Olympics [Games] to your country in 2003. It would be marvellous for your country to host both the Special Olympics and the Olympic Games a year later."

Shriver and his wife, Special Olympics Honorary



*Sargent and Eunice Kennedy Shriver exchange gifts with Cape Town's mayor, the Reverend William Bamton.*

Chairman **Eunice Kennedy Shriver**, visited South Africa March 12–19 to spearhead a major fundraising initiative to send 76 South African athletes to the 1995 World Games in Connecticut.

**Teams Battle in Team Handball Nationals**

The Special Olympics team handball program continues to gain respect nationally after an impressive showing at the recent U.S. Team Handball Federation National Championships Tournament. The annual event, which showcases the nation's top amateur teams, was held April 20–23 in Atlanta, Georgia.

For the first time, Special Olympics was represented by two teams in the tournament—a southeast regional select squad and a Unified Sports® team from Alabama.

The young southeast select team struggled against established programs, including teams from the U.S. Military and Air Force Academies, but gained invaluable playing experience and showed tremendous improvement over the course of the tournament. The Alabama squad recorded the best finish ever by a Special Olympics team in the tournament, finishing eighth among 12 teams in Division II play.

—*David Trudeau, Alabama Special Olympics*