

apple pie

RAISING CHAMPIONS

Drew and Barbara Bledsoe
Kenny Lofton and his grandmother, Rosie Lou Person
Mia and Stephanie Hamm
Cammi, Tony, and Natalie Granato
Erik and Ellen Weihenmayer
Sarah and Reba Fisher
Grant and Janet Hill
Rulon and Virginia Gardner
Brandi and Lark Chastain
Molly Barker and Mary Wilmer
Shaquille O'Neal and Lucille Harrison

A
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PRODUCTION

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ESPN, New Balance, and 50 Eggs celebrate Mother's Day with "Apple Pie," a 90 Minute special on star athletes and their moms, to include Drew and Barbara Bledsoe, Mia and Stephanie Hamm, Shaquille O'Neal and Lucille Harrison.

DESCRIPTION: "Apple Pie," an intimate, riveting film about star athletes and their moms, is a tribute to the often invisible strength, courage and power of mothers. This film offers a new angle on heroism by looking more deeply into the lives and stories of mothers and their children, from NBA star Grant Hill and his mother, Janet Hill, one of six women of color to graduate from her class at Wellesley College; to Erik Weihenmayer, the first blind climber to summit Mount Everest and the strength and passion he drew from his mother, Ellen, who died when he was sixteen; to Major League Baseball star, Kenny Lofton, who learned his work ethic from his blind grandmother, Rosie, a sharecropper from Alabama; to Drew Bledsoe, who unabashedly admits to having inherited his mother's arm.

This film captures intimate histories and private moments between athletes and their mothers, including NBA star and MVP Shaquille O'Neal and his mother, Lucille; soccer star Mia Hamm and her mother, Stephanie; Olympic wrestler, Rulon Gardner, and his mother, Virginia; Indy car racer, Sarah Fisher, and her mother, Reba; NHL star Tony Granato, his sister, Olympic Hockey Captain Cammi Granato, and their mother, Natalie; Triathlete Molly Barker, who founded "Girls on the Run," and her mother, Mary, who have struggled together to transform their own lives by overcoming alcohol and then empowering the lives of those around them.

This is the first large-scale documentary film to explore the private lives and maternal origins of athletes, and what emerges is a film which inspires, moves, and brings the viewer into a range of different cultures, time periods, and emotional bonds between mothers and children. The stories of these mothers will change the way we understand the source of individual strength and the way we see mothers in the history of extraordinary personal or athletic achievement. For more information log on to www.applepiemovie.com.

AIR DATES: Pre-Mother's Day airing, Saturday, May 4, 2002 on ESPN at 12:00 noon and May 9, 3:30 pm. Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12, 2002, 7:30 pm on ESPN Classics and May 13, 11:30 am and 5:30 pm. Other air dates to be announced.

FILM MAKER: Mary Mazzio, herself an Olympian (1992 Olympic Rowing Team), wrote, produced, and directed the award-winning film "A Hero for Daisy," which was hailed by *The New York Times* as "a landmark film" and *Sports Illustrated* as "fantastic." The film chronicled the infamous Title IX revolt at Yale when, in 1976, nineteen athletes stormed the athletic director's office to protest the lack of athletic facilities for the women. "A Hero for Daisy" garnered numerous awards, aired nationwide on ESPN Classics, Oxygen, WGBH, (WTSN in Canada), and is in thousands of classrooms across the country. For more information about the film, log on to www.aherofordaisy.com.

Mazzio is President and CEO of 50 Eggs, Inc., an independent film production company. She is a graduate of Mount Holyoke College and Georgetown Law School. A recipient of several awards including the Henry Luce Foundation Fellowship (to Korea); and the Rotary Foundation Graduate Fellowship, Mary has served on Boards of Directors for Shackleton Schools, Sojourner House (a homeless shelter), The Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras, and The Head of the Charles Regatta.

SPONSOR: New Balance Athletic Shoe, Inc., headquartered in Boston, MA, provided major funding, both for "Apple Pie" as well for "A Hero for Daisy." New Balance is a leading manufacturer of technologically innovative width-sized footwear and athletic apparel for women, men, and children.