
Puppet Skit: The Greek Olympics¹

- Characters:**
- **Socrates Smith** – a teacher wearing toga and crown of ivy, carrying a microphone
 - **Donald Discus** – with Frisbee
 - **Jennifer Javelin** – with broom
 - **Shirley Shotput** – with small nerf ball
 - **Additional students – trainers, part of the crowd, or press**

Socrates Smith: Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to the opening ceremonies of the annual Olympic games. This is your reporter on the go, Socrates Smith – Soc for short – representing NERD Network (that's National Enterprise of Radical Dudes). Today, in the year 50 A.D. we're broadcasting from the ancient and sunny city of Athens, Greece. Looks like a beautiful day for a race.

You can just feel the excitement in the air, folks, as athletes from all over the known world gather here. Go ahead, reach right out and feel it. I'll wait.

I've had a look at the competitors, and it's obvious that each has just one goal in mind – winning the big prize that goes to the best athlete in the world, this crown I have on my head. Winners will be heroes all over the world – doing grape nectar commercials, toga ads, and announcements for over-priced running sandals.

While we wait for the events to begin, let's meet some of our competitors. Follow me over to the locker room.

Soc knocks

"Is everybody decent?"

As Soc enters the locker room, the athletes are warming up and going through exercises. Soc moves from athlete to athlete.

So, Donald Discus, can you give me a brief description of how you throw the discus? Would you demonstrate for our audience here?

Donald throws the Frisbee to the audience.

So, Donald why is it you want to be in the Olympics?

Donald Discus: I want that gold medal. That's all I've been able to think about for the past 15 years. That is the reason I have trained and worked so hard. I WANT THAT MEDAL!

Socrates Smith: Thank you for talking with me, Don. So, Jennifer Javelin, better known as J.J., can you give me a brief description of how you throw the javelin?

Jennifer draws broom back and appears ready to throw, but stops before she lets go.

So, Jennifer why is it you want to be in the Olympics?

¹ Adapted from *Adventure Club, The Great Commission Expedition Guidebook*, David C. Cook Publishing Co., 850 N. Grove Ave., Elgin, IL, 60129, 1991, p. 70, 71.

Jennifer Javelin: I want to make lots of money on grape nectar announcements, toga ads and javelin commercials. I have sooo many things I want to buy for myself. I just love to have lots of money so I can buy lots of STUFF!

Socrates Smith: Thank you for an enlightening interview, J.J. We must move on to Shirley Shotput. How are you today, Shirley?

Shirley is puffing and panting as she is going through exercises

Can you give me a brief description of how you throw the shotput and maybe demonstrate for our audience?

Shirley grunts and throws the shot-put into the audience

So, Shirley, can you tell us why you want to be in the Olympics?

Shirley Shotput: Only one reason. I want to be FAMOUS. I want people all over the world to know who I am and HOW GREAT I AM! You do know that I AM GREAT, don't you?! Well, everyone in the world deserves to know the GREAT SHIRLEY SHOTPUT!!

Socrates Smith: Thank you, thank you all for giving us your time.

All athletes exit

We've heard from three athletes who have shared with us their reasons for the hard work and training they go through so they can participate in the Olympics. Unfortunately, these athletes don't know what is the greatest race of all. The greatest race of all is winning people for God. Gold medals, money and fame are nothing in comparison to the privilege of seeing God work in your life and in the lives of others.

It's time for you to go back to your classrooms and learn more about this race. This is your reporter of choice, Socrates Smith, of NERD Network, saying so long for now. Tune in later when the games begin.

Socrates exits