

USA MEN – News Dispatch #4 – Monday, 25 June 2007  
2007 World Deaf Basketball Championships  
Guangzhou, China (12 hours ahead of EDT)  
22-30 June 2007  
<http://www.wdbc2007.org>

### **USA Men Escape Ukraine Upset Bid, Wins 71-62**

USA Men narrowly escaped Ukraine upset bid with a 27-18 third quarter advantage that helped build USA men's lead to victory. Ukraine desperately wanted the win tonight, considering each Ukraine player will get money from their country if they bring home the Gold. USA's mentality was not focused on the game since they overlooked Ukraine's growing talent and had their eyes set on the competition in medal round.

Pavlo, #5 on the Ukraine team, is a mean-spirited 6'7 post player that knows no boundaries. Andriy, #13 for the Ukraine, is probably the fastest anyone has ever seen. Pavlo and Andriy are both key players for the Ukraine team.

In the first four minutes of the game, USA scored only 2 points and both teams had 10 fouls altogether. Robert Haney's dunk with 45 seconds left in the first quarter finally put USA on top of Ukraine, 12-11. The first quarter ended with a third personal foul for Ukraine's Pavlo.

USA offense stuttered as the team had a pitiful 8 assists and 15 turnovers in the game. The second quarter was not any better as USA was clearly frustrated with their miserable shooting and distracted with fouls and ultra-sensitive referees. Ukraine led by 7 points at the most in the quarter and the game went to halftime with USA down 23-28. Head Coach Keith Westhoelter was clearly disappointed with the team's free throw shooting and talked to the team about playing with more focus and determination.

Westhoelter put in Jon Mowl, Jaimie Valencia, Anton Jackson, Robert Haney, and Bradley Miller in the starting lineup for the second half. Jackson and Miller led the team with 15 points apiece. As soon as Pavlo went to the bench, Jackson got busy as he drove to the basket shooting 86 percent (6-for-7).

Miller was dominant in the paint by going to the line 14 times and grabbing 9 rebounds. Miller tolerated 4 key charges from Ukraine and put their best players in foul trouble and out of the game. "We need to do a better job of passing the ball inside, improve team passing, and be more aggressive with getting rebounds. We desperately need to make our free throw shots. We were positive throughout the game and never once gave up," Miller said.

At the five minute mark in the fourth quarter, Ukraine and USA was tied at 58. Haney received a nice pass for a near dunk to put USA up 62-58. Ukraine, playing with their best player on the bench because he fouled out, was clearly frustrated and disorganized. Jon Mowl drove with three seconds left on the shot clock to draw a foul and the basket. He made the free throw to complete the three-point play and put USA up for good rest of the game. Ukraine later made a desperate three-pointer at the buzzer to finish the game 71-62.

“We came in the game overconfident. I was happy to see that we did not panic and lose focus. It was an ugly win, but we’ll take it,” Jaimie Valencia said. Valencia had 4 points and 2 rebounds in the game, but his leadership was a major factor in the team’s win.

USA Men (3-0) play Russia (2-1) on Tuesday, June 26th. Tip-off is at 3 PM.

### Game Statistics

**Date:** June 25, 2007

**Time:** 5:00PM

**Location:** Paralympic Sports Centre, Court B

Team	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
USA	12	11	27	21	71
Ukraine	11	17	18	16	62

Name	#	FG	3PT	FT	Pts	ORB	DRB	TR	Ast	TO	BS	ST	Ch	Min
Jon Mowl	4	2/6	1/3	5/6	12	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	32
* Jaimie Valencia	5	2/4	0/1	0/0	4	0	2	2	1	3	0	0	0	25
Luther Weedon	6	0/1	0/1	0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Matt Johnson	7	1/1	0/1	0/0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Nick LaLanne	8	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robert Roth	9	0/0	0/0	1/2	1	1	2	3	2	2	0	1	0	8
Ben DeMario	10	0/0	0/0	2/2	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
Orion Palmer	11	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
* Robert Haney	12	6/10	0/2	2/6	14	1	5	6	2	2	0	2	0	37
* Bradley Miller	13	3/7	0/0	9/14	15	5	4	9	1	3	1	2	4	31
* Anton Jackson	14	6/7	0/1	3/5	15	1	3	4	0	2	0	2	0	31
* Sekoe White	15	3/4	0/1	0/2	6	0	0	0	1	2	1	2	0	24
<b>Team Total</b>		23/40	1/10	22/37	71	8	18	26	8	15	2	9	4	

---