

U.S.P.C. National Youth Congress
Academy of Achievement
2010 Alumni Honorees



Conrad Adams

Stephanie Noonan Drachkovich

Janell Goode Hoffman

Michael Hoffman

Gina Miles



Conrad Adams

Conrad Adams is an attorney at Bailey & Galyen in Houston. He is licensed to practice law in all Texas State Courts, as well as in the United States Federal District Courts for the Southern, Eastern and Northern Districts of Texas. Conrad focuses primarily on pharmaceutical litigation, products liability, and personal injury claims including injuries resulting from automobile design and manufacturing defects.

Prior to pursuing a career in law, Conrad pursued his other ambition to compete in the Olympics as a pentathlete. He moved from Virginia to Texas to train for three years and succeeded in becoming not only a member, but also the Captain of the U.S. Olympic Pentathlon Team that competed in the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona, Spain.

Conrad received his Bachelors degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry from Texas A & M University. After college he worked as a pharmaceutical sales representative before returning to school to pursue a law degree. Graduating from The University of Texas School of Law, he was Permanent class President of his graduating class. Today he is a member of the State Bar of Texas, the Texas Trial Lawyers' Association, and the Houston Trial Lawyer's Association.

A former member of the Mattaponi Pony Club in Fredricksburg, VA, Conrad achieved his C3 rating. His all time favorite horse, by far, was his three-day event horse named "Flash". He also enjoyed his brother's mutt, Skippy, and his very large tabby cat named Charlie who, oddly, was often found draped around Conrad's neck as he warmed up Flash.

Conrad's other hobbies include swimming, swimming, and swimming. He raced as an elite/professional triathlete for several years, so also enjoyed running and cycling. He now lives in Houston with beautiful wife Margo Adams and a modern day Brady bunch family: He and Margo bring two children each to the marriage: Cavanaugh (19), Elise (13), Lauren (9), Allie (7), one old black lab named Clyde, and a tabby cat named Tigee.





Stephanie Noonan Drachkovich

Stephanie Drachkovich is a B graduate who belonged to Fiddlers' Green (Fort Leavenworth, Kansas), Cornhusker (Lincoln, Nebraska) and Lake Oswego (LO, Oregon) Pony Clubs. She attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as a freshman, and then transferred to and graduated with a Bachelors degree in Journalism from the University of Oregon in Eugene. Having trained for years with US Dressage Federation founder Lowell Boomer, she learned from the start how to focus on getting things just right.

Her current title is Executive Vice President/Co-owner of 44 Blue Productions, Inc., a television production and entertainment company she and her husband started in 1984. She has won both an Emmy and a Peabody Award (one of the most distinguished awards in broadcast television) for the PBS parenting series, "A Place of Our Own" & "Los Ninos En Su Casa," which she co-produced with Sesame Workshop and KCET in both English and in Spanish. She is executive producer for several other series, including the Emmy-nominated "Split Ends," "Peter Perfect" and "Family Court With Judge Penny." As head of programming at Warner Bros./Telepictures, she launched "The Bachelor", and while at Disney/Buena Vista, launched "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire," and numerous other programs. At 44 Blue, she has eight series in production, ranging from the long-running prison series "Lockup" on MSNBC to Animal Planet's newest hit, "Pitbulls & Parolees."

Before rejoining 44 Blue in 2003, she was Senior Vice President of Programming & Development at Warner Bros./Telepictures, Senior Vice President of Development at Buena Vista Television/Walt Disney Studios, Executive Vice President of Programming at Pearson Television (now Fremantle), Vice President of Programming at Group W Productions and Director of Development at Buena Vista Television/Walt Disney Studios.

While she's not riding these days, she has fond memories of two particular horses: Yankee Doodle, a chestnut TB the family got as a lanky 4-year-old that she schooled to the Prelim level of eventing. She took him to the national rally in St. Louis that year with mixed results. Her second favorite was another big chestnut TB named Sierra Sun, bought through former Olympic 3-Day rider Kevin Freeman. He was built more like a Quarter Horse but also competed up to Prelim level. "He was just never that athletic...but I loved him anyway," she said.

Stephanie has been married almost 25 years to Rasha Drachkovitch. They have three sons: Michael, 23 (just graduated from USC); Tommy, 18 (U of Colorado in Boulder), and Christopher, 16 (Notre Dame High School in Sherman Oaks). When not consumed with work, Stephanie loves to read, hike in the Los Angeles-area canyons, and to run, in addition to volunteering at her kids' schools.





L. Janell Hoffman, RN BSN

Janell Hoffman graduated from the Loudoun Hunt Pony Club with her “A” rating in August of 1980. She then spent the next seven years under the instruction of Bruce Davidson at Chesterland Farm in Unionville PA. One of the most important things that Bruce Davidson taught her is a solid work ethic. No matter what the job is, do your best and work hard. Janell went on to compete at Intermediate level and was ready to move up to the Advanced divisions, when life dealt her a difficult decision. Her father died and she decided to go back to college to pursue a nursing career.

Janell graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Shenandoah University in Winchester Virginia, in spring 1991. She is currently a practicing critical care nurse that has dedicated significant time and energy to advancing the care giving skills of clinical staff in order to improve the quality of care, reduce length of hospital stays, and lower the risk of secondary health conditions. She is currently the Chairman of the Board for the Loudoun Healthcare Foundation. She sits on the Inova Healthcare Systems Foundation Board of Trustees and the board of directors for the Inova Loudoun Hospital.

Professionally, Janell has served as the Director of Patient Center Care at Inova Loudoun Hospital and managed eight teams to implement a Patient Center Care Work Flow operations plan, to move into a new hospital at the Lansdowne Campus. It was in this role that her passion for clinical education developed. While working with the clinical staff at the bedside, the need for continuing clinical education to improve the quality of bedside care became very apparent. One of Janell’s dreams is to create a Clinical Education Endowment Fund to support continuing education programs for all clinical staff. Her belief is “The higher the clinical skill level at the bedside, the higher the quality of care delivered to the patient population and the lower the mortality rates and length of stays”. Janell’s passion for education also led her to join the Board of Trustees at Shenandoah University where she serves on the Planning and Development committee.

Pony Club and the guidance of Bruce Davidson taught Janell how to work with others, how to work hard, and how to get the job done with attention to detail while always striving for perfection. Her current favorite horse is “Strap,” an Irish Sport Horse that she hunts and tries to encourage enjoyment of dressage, but he truly loves his hunting job. Janell and her husband Michael (who is also being inducted in the USPC Academy of Achievement) currently have several field hunters that they both enjoy foxhunting together. They started eventing again in spring 2009 in the lower divisions. They both enjoy the work, companionship and goals that horses bring to people’s lives.



Michael E. Hoffman

Michael E. Hoffman is a securities firm director of research and a senior equity research analyst. He earned a Bachelors degree in Engineering from Widener University, and an MBA from the Johnson School at Cornell University.

In his most recent position as Director of Research at Wunderlich Securities Inc he is part of the start-up team building an institutional equity business at this venerable Memphis TN firm. Prior to that he was President, Chief Operating Officer and Director of Research at Caris & Company, where he was involved in research and firm management. Prior to that he was the Deputy Director of Research, Head of Fixed Income Research and Group Head of Diversified Industrial Research at Friedman Billings



Ramsey covering the Pollution Control, Solid Waste and Homeland Security Industries. He spent five years with Salomon Brothers covering Pollution Control, Solid waste and Specialty Chemicals, a year with Robertson Stevens rebuilding its Pollution Control practice, and ten years with Credit Suisse where he built and managed an international team of 80 in the US, Europe and Asia that created the firm's fundamental global research database that is still used today. He has been ranked number two by Institutional Investor, Greenwich Associates and Reuters in Pollution

Control.

Michael was a member of the Blue Ridge Hunt Pony Club in the Virginia region, where at the time, he was the youngest to earn a B rating. Michael has the distinction of being the owner-rider winner of the 2001 Maryland Hunt Cup with his horse Solo Lord, who could do anything. He also won the VA Field Hunter Championship the first year after he had run the Maryland Huntcup. Gorham Blue, Michael's current fox hunter, is also multi-dimensional; he recently got Michael through his first dressage test in 30 years (Open Novice!!!) and even placed second!

Michael has been a MFH in both the US and Ireland and has hunted hounds in both countries as an amateur huntsman. He is also an avid fly fisherman and errant golfer. He is married to Janell Hoffman who is also being inducted into the USPC



Academy of Achievement.
Gina Miles

Gina Miles represented the United States at the 2008 Beijing Olympics where she earned the silver medal in the individual Eventing competition. She was also a part of the gold medal winning team at the 2007 Pan American Games, earning the individual bronze medal. Other competitive highlights have been the 2002 World Equestrian Games, 2008 Chronicle of the Horse Eventing Horsemen of the Year, 2006 USEA Gold Cup Champion and 2006 Fall USET Champion. Gina is a graduate "A" from Panache Pony Club in Davis, CA, she is certified with the USEA as a Level III instructor and has earned her silver medal with the USDF. Her future goals include the World Equestrian Games in 2010 and the Olympics in 2012.



Gina graduated cum laude with B.S. in Crop Science and a minor in Agribusiness from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. She now operates a full-service equestrian business – “Gold Medal Equestrian” located at Rancho Del Rio in Atascadero that offers training in Three day eventing, Show Jumping and Dressage. She is a member of the USEF Eventing Technical Committee, past Chairmen of the USEA Professional Horsemen’s Council, Chairman of the Eventing Standards Task Force, a Pony Club national examiner, and she frequently travels to teach clinics throughout the country.

As for a favorite horse, Gina praises McKinlaigh as an incredibly special “horse of a lifetime” who has taken her to many amazing places and given her great opportunities. She also fondly remembers her first pony named Lily, who her father purchased at a Boy’s Club auction for \$170. She was a scruffy un-kept thing who had only been ridden western. With no saddle or bridle and much convincing of her mother, Gina started riding bareback in a halter and in short order taught Lily to jump. For her first event, she rode an Arabian purchased after a lesson from

Jimmy Wofford and recalls having two stops at every fence (luckily in those days they let you keep going back!).

Gina’s other hobbies include experiencing Disneyland in every way possible, skiing (she competed in high school), dancing (she was formerly in a semi-professional company), and Harry Potter. She shares her passion for horses with her husband, Morgan, whom she met in high school, and her two kids, Austin (age 11) and Taylor (age 4) who both ride. Other members of her family include a liver dalmation named Pippin, cats Captain Jack and Tigger, two stray rabbits that recently became 4 rabbits, and a self-adopted stray cat.

