


Michael Phelps

Phelps was born and raised in the Lake Point area of Baltimore County, Maryland. He graduated from Towson High School in 2003. In his youth, Phelps was diagnosed with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). He started swimming at age seven, partly because of the influence of his sisters and partly to provide him with an outlet for his energy. He excelled as a swimmer, and by the age of 10 held a national record for his age group. More age group records followed, and Phelps's rapid improvement culminated in his qualifying for the 2000 Summer Olympics at the age of 15. Phelps attended the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

" I want to test my maximum & see how much I can do...I want to change the world of swimming."

Phelps represented the United States at the 2008 Summer Olympics. He qualified to compete in three team and five individual events, swimming seventeen races in nine days and winning the gold medal in all eight events. Phelps set an Olympic record in the preliminary heats of the men's 400-meter individual medley. He followed that up in the final by winning the gold medal, as well as breaking his previous world record by nearly two seconds. Right after words, he told us that "Records are always made to be broken no matter what they are ..." Only Soviet gymnast Larissa Latynina holds more total career Olympic medals with 18 (nine gold), compared to Phelps's 16 (14 gold). Entertainment Weekly put his performance on its end-of-the-decade, "best-of" list, saying, "Athletes and pop culture don't often overlap, but the Aquaman of Beijing and his staggering eight gold medals were bigger than sports. For those nine days, there was no brighter".

Medal Record		
Men's Swimming		
Competitor for the  United States		
Summer Olympics		
Gold	2008 Beijing	400 m Individual Medley
Gold	2008 Beijing	100 m Freestyle Relay
Gold	2008 Beijing	200 m Freestyle
Gold	2008 Beijing	200 m Butterfly
Gold	2008 Beijing	200 m Freestyle Relay
Gold	2008 Beijing	200 m Individual Medley
Gold	2008 Beijing	100 m Butterfly
Gold	2008 Beijing	100 m Medley Relay
World Championships		
Gold	2005 Canada	100 m Freestyle Relay
Gold	2005 Canada	200 m Freestyle
Silver	2005 Canada	100 m Butterfly