



## FRONTLINE TO FINISH LINE.



**Melissa Stockwell U.S. Army**

Melissa Stockwell was a member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps at the University of Colorado. Upon graduation in May 2002, she was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the United States Army. In 2004 Melissa deployed with her unit to Iraq. On April 13, 2004, just three weeks after arriving in country, a blast from a roadside bomb struck Melissa's Humvee causing the loss of her left leg above the knee. Melissa's injury resulted in numerous infections and required 15 surgeries.

Melissa was medically retired from the Army on April 20, 2005. Shortly thereafter she and her husband Dick moved to Minneapolis, MN where she enrolled in a prosthetics program at Century College. Graduating in May 2007, Melissa entered a rewarding profession as a prosthetist, allowing her help other amputees the way she had been helped.

With help from CAF, Melissa was able to get back into sports. She completed her first triathlon in October 2005 and has since completed four others.

Melissa has also twice completed the New York City Marathon and has learned how to ski again. Since her injury, Melissa has become a highly competitive swimmer and is among the top swimmers in her class in the world. She will represent the United States as a member of the U.S. Paralympic Swim Team at the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games.

"I gain so much through sports.", says Melissa. "Being involved with them makes me feel as though I am whole again and can accomplish anything I put my mind to." The generosity of supporters like you gives Melissa the chance to feel whole again.

### How Does CAF Help?

CAF provides funding directly to physically challenged individuals for the acquisition of adaptive sports equipment like sports wheelchairs, mono-skis, tandem bicycles, handcycles and sports prosthetics. Additionally, CAF provides funds to entry- and elite-level athletes for training and competition expenses. CAF also provides mentoring and fitness, and community outreach programs.

### How Can You Help?

Make a tax-deductible contribution to Challenged Athletes, Inc., (dba Challenged Athletes Foundation) a non-profit 501c3 organization. To make a donation, please call (858) 866-0959, send a check to the address listed below, or make a secure payment through our website: [www.challengedathletes.org](http://www.challengedathletes.org).

**Challenged Athletes Foundation  
P.O. Box 910769  
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Nonprofit Tax ID #33-0739596**

