

**Aaron Kirkpatrick  
Pendleton, IN  
Men's 3-meter**

If diving ever loses its ability to satisfy Aaron Kirkpatrick's need for thrills and challenges, he might just have to turn to the professional wakeboarding circuit.

"Wakeboarding is very challenging and it is something that you can do with all your friends and have a great time," he said. "There's nothing better than being out in the sun on a boat with all your friends."

Except, maybe, diving for the U.S. in the Olympics, which Kirkpatrick will try to qualify for at the 2004 U.S. Olympic Trials – Diving presented by Bank of America in the 3-meter event.

At the 2004 American Cup Kirkpatrick finished fourth in the 3-meter individual and eighth in the 3-meter synchro with Tom Davidson.

He has been preparing for the Trials by cutting back his work schedule and class load, and by getting more sleep.

Besides a diving plan, he also has an agenda for his meals leading up to the Trials. A pasta dinner the night before will give him a good start, then a sub sandwich right before the meet, followed by a good supply of Gatorade throughout his performance. And finally, he'll eat a huge dinner after the meet.

While Gatorade will be there between his dives, he doesn't have any particular choice when it comes to music.

It just needs to "have a good beat and help me get pumped up," he said.

His variety of music interests can also be seen through his choices in life. As a pharmacy major at the University of Kentucky, he also enjoys wakeboarding and boating in his free time.

"I like to try new things and when I set my mind to a task I won't give up until it has been accomplished."

Those on the wakeboarding circuit better hope he sticks to diving.