



## Photos from the Gay Games VII in Chicago, Illinois

By [ChicagoPride.com News Staff](#)

---

Chicago, IL - The Gay Games VII Sports and Cultural Festival took place July 15-22, 2006 in Chicago, Illinois. With 11,750 athletes from 50 countries competing in 30 sports, the weeklong event included band, cheerleading and color guard performances, chorus, an ancillary arts festival, and a series of community-organized social events and parties. The opening ceremony was held July 15 at Soldier Field, the lakefront home stadium of the Chicago Bears. Closing ceremony was July 22 at Wrigley Field, the home of Major League Baseball's Chicago Cubs.

### ChicagoPride.com Photos Coverage:

**Gay Games VII Opening Ceremony:** An estimated 30,000 spectators and 12,000 athletes and participants filled Chicago's Soldier Field for the Gay Games VII Opening Ceremony.

[Opening Ceremony Procession by Rick Campbell](#)

[Opening Ceremony by Ryan Kolodziej](#)

[Opening Ceremony by Frank Failing](#)

[Opening Ceremony by Rick Campbell](#)

### Gay Games VII Events:

[Rowing by Ryan Kolodziej](#)

[Wrestling by Frank Failing](#)[Wrestling by Rick Campbell](#)

[Diving by Rick Campbell](#)

[Martial Arts by Rick Campbell](#)

[Tennis by Rick Campbell](#)

[Swimming by Rick Campbell](#)

[Physique by Frank Failing](#)

[Swimming by Ryan Kolodziej](#)

[Men's Basketball by Ryan Kolodziej](#)

[Indoor Volleyball by Ryan Kolodziej](#)

**Gay Games VII Closing Ceremony:** Thousands of spectators filled Wrigley Field as Chicago said an emotional goodbye to the seventh Gay Games. The celebrity-packed entertainment included Cyndi Lauper, Kristine W, Chicago's Righteously Outrageous Twirling Corps and more!

[Closing Ceremony by Ryan Kolodziej](#)

[Closing Ceremony by Frank Failing](#)

*Photo: Gay Games VII swimming competition at the University of Chicago. Swimming is consistently among the largest participant sports at the Gay Games. ChicagoPride.com was a proud sponsor of the Gay Games VII and the swimming competition.*