The swimming competitions of the 18th Olympic Games held in Tokyo, Japan in 1964 caused a great sensation. A total of 14 world records and nine European records were broken. American swimmers once again dominated the world of swimming. They took 13 gold, eight silver and eight bronze medals, breaking 11 world records.

Don Schollander from the US, who was 18 years old, carried off four gold medals. Galina Prozumenschikova, 16 years old, from the Soviet Union won a precious gold medal for her country in the women’s 200m breaststroke event.

American female swimmer Sharon Stouder captured three gold medals in the 100m butterfly, 4x100m freestyle relay and 4x100m medley relay. She also won a silver medal.

German female diver Ingrid Kramer won the springboard title. Lesley Bush from the United States became women’s platform champion. The Americans took the gold medal in men’s springboard and platform diving.

In the water polo competition, the Hungarian team won at last.
Jed Graef (USA) became the best backstroker in the world on October 13, 1964. The record he set at the 200m backstroke Olympic Finals in Tokyo lasted for three years. Jed led an American one-two-three sweep, set an American, world and Olympic record and took the gold medal with a time of 2:10.3.

Chef Jastremski (USA) takes bronze in the 200m Breaststroke.

Carl Robie (USA) takes silver in the 200m Butterfly. Fred Schmidt (USA) takes the bronze.

Ian O'Brien (AUS) set a World and Olympic Record for 200m breaststroke, winning the gold over both Prokopenko and Jastremski, Tokyo Olympic favorites.

Dick Roth (USA) won the 400 IM setting a new Olympic and world record that lasted four years.

Men's Swimming Events
The American Team, Mike Austin, Steve Clark, Bill Craig, Gary Ilman, Thompson Mann, Roy Saari, Fred Schmidt and Don Schollander won gold medals in men's 4×100m and 4×200m freestyle relay, and 4×100m medley relay, setting World Records in all three.

Thompson Mann (USA) knew he had a shot at breaking his own World Record (set in the U.S. Olympic trials) as the lead-off man in the 400m Medley Relay. He not only got the World Record (so did the relay), but he became the first man in swimming history to go under a minute on his back. His time was 59.6.

Roy Saari (USA) helped take gold in the 4x200m freestyle relay and earned silver in the 400m individual medley.
Women's Swimming Events

- Australian swimmers John Ryan, Peter Phelps and John Stark after a training session at the Olympic Village with a Japanese kimono gift.

- Swim Coach Jim "Doc" Councilman with freestyle swimmer Bill Fartley.

- East German Swimmer Are Pophal at the Olympic Pool with Chung Hee Young of South Korea.

- Dawn Fraser (AUS)

- Dawn Fraser, a famous female swimmer of Australia, was the first athlete to complete the women's 100m freestyle in less than one minute. On February 21, 1956, at age 18, she broke the 20-year-old world record of women's 100m freestyle. In the same year, at the Melbourne Olympic Games, she together with her teammates, swept all medals in this event. In addition, they captured a gold medal in the women's 4x100m freestyle relay for Australia.

- Australian swimmer Dawn Fraser remained champion of the women's 100m freestyle.

- Ginny Duenkel (USA) (C) wins gold, setting an Olympic Record in the 400m freestyle, winning her first individual event in international competition.
Sharon Stouder (USA), at 15 years-old, her performance in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics was the most brilliant all-round Olympic swimming exhibition by a woman up to that time. Her 3 golds and a silver medal was a single games record no other girl had achieved.

Christine "Kiki" Caron (FRA) takes silver in the 100m backstroke.

Ada Kok (NED) wins silver in the 100m butterfly.

Cynthia Goyette, Kathy Ellis, Cathy Ferguson and Sharon Stouder after setting the 4x100m medley relay record.

Cathy Ferguson (USA) captured the gold medal in women's 100m backstroke and French swimmer Kiki Caron the silver medal, both breaking the world record in this event.

Claudia Kolb (USA) wins silver in the 200m breaststroke.

Galina Prozumenshchikova (URS) the old pro of the World breaststokers, was not the only European gold medal winner at the 1964 Olympics in Tokyo but 8 years later she was still a medallist.

On location: Bob Richards, Donna de Varona and Don Schollander during the filming of the instructional public service films of the Wheaties Corporation. Note Olympic swimsuits.
The American Team, Donna de Varona, Kathy Ellis, Cathy Ferguson, Cynthia Goyette, Sharon Slouder and Lillian Watson won gold medals in the 4x100m freestyle relay, and 4x100m medley relay, setting a World Record in the freestyle and an Olympic Record in the medley.

Donna de Varona (USA) took Gold in the 400m Individual Medley and the 4x100m Freestyle Relay. 1964, her biggest award year, voted America's Outstanding Woman Athlete, Outstanding American Female Swimmer, and San Francisco's Outstanding Woman of the Year, plus the Madeleine Award, National Academy of Sports Award and many others.

Lillian Watson, Donna de Varona, Sharon Slouder and Kathy Ellis win gold in the women's 4x100m freestyle relay.

Kathy Ellis (USA), 1964 was Kathy's most successful year. In Tokyo, she again proved her dominance in two strokes by winning gold in the 400m medley relay as the "flyer" and as the anchor of the 400m freestyle relay, both world record finishes. Individually, she captured the bronze medals in the 100 meter freestyle and butterfly.

Lillian "Pokey" Watson (USA) 1964 Gold 4x100m freestyle relay team. (Second from left)

Sharon Finneran (USA) wins silver in the 400m individual medley. (Front row left)

Teammates congratulate Kathy Ellis after she finishes the last leg of the 400m relay.
Diving

Kenneth Sitzberger (USA), strong, powerful controlled, efficient and fundamentally perfect rather than stylish, didn’t miss and won the Olympic gold on the 3m springboard with a score of 159.90.

Bob Webster (USA), won his first Olympic title on the 10m platform in Rome just three years after he took his first tower dive in competition. From that date (1960) until his retirement after winning the 1964 Olympic platform title in Tokyo, Webster never lost a tower diving contest.

Klaus Dibiasi (ITA). No other man or woman has won an Olympic diving title in 3 Olympic Games. He almost won 4, missing the first of what would have been 4 consecutive 10m platform titles by 1.04 points to Bob Webster at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. Dibiasi was king of the tower from 1964 through retirement in 1976.

Ingrid Kramer (GDR) became the first non-American woman in forty years to win an Olympic diving gold medal in 1960. She did it twice, winning both the 3m springboard and the 10m platform. Again at Tokyo in 1964 Kramer snatched gold and won the springboard, although second to American Leslie Bush off the tower.

Lesley Bush (USA), the pride of New Jersey and Indiana University was equally at home on the low board (1m), high board (3m) or platform (10m Tower). She won in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics on the tower and came back three years later to win the Pan American Games off the tower.

Tom Gompf (USA) won the bronze medal on the 10m platform, only two points behind gold medalist Bob Webster (USA) and one point behind silver medalist Klaus Dibiasi (ITA).
Gyorgy Karpati (HUN) His last Olympic tournament was in Tokyo 1964 where he won his third gold medal. He played six matches and scored four goals for the Hungarian team.

Water Polo Team (HUN)

Dezso Gyarmati and daughter Andrea

Dezso Gyarmati (HUN) began his water polo coaching career at the top where he left off as a player. Considered by most to be the greatest player of the modern post-World War II passing game, he led Hungary to Olympic gold medals three times, 1952, 1956 and 1964.

Mirko Sandic (YUG)