

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 514**  
**Asked on Wednesday, 20 April 2005**

MR LAWLOR asked the Minister for Emergency Services (MR CUMMINS) -

QUESTION:

With reference to Queensland's gold medal winning paramedics who recently defended their title at the World EMT Olympics – Will he advise how their title defence went?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for his question and for the strong support he has shown not only towards the Queensland Ambulance Service, but to all sections of Emergency Services within his electorate.

I am pleased to advise that four paramedics from the Gold Coast Area of the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS), Mr Brett Ferguson, Mr Grant Gamble, Mr Colin Allen and Mr Garry Harris, recently competed and won Silver at the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Olympics in Philadelphia. This performance followed their gold medal win last year and is proof that QAS paramedics are leading the way in pre-hospital care.

The EMS Olympics is part of the EMS Today Conference, an international conference on pre-hospital care. This provided a wonderful opportunity to showcase the professional skills of our dedicated QAS paramedics. There were 18 ambulance services represented in the EMS Olympics.

The competition was held over three nights and culminated in the team being presented with a demanding scenario based on a 'dirty bomb' incident. I am proud to say that the training and expertise of this team paid dividend as they competed against some of the best ambulance services in the world.

The team's silver placing is a great outcome for the four paramedics involved, along with the QAS as a whole. This performance demonstrates that the level of clinical skill practiced by QAS paramedics is world class and is testament to the high level of training and education undertaken by QAS paramedics in Queensland.