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Eddie Meath update

Players and coaches have been tabbed for the sixth-annual Eddie Meath All-Star Football Game, which will be played at the University of Rochester's Fauver Stadium on Saturday, August 6, at 8 p.m.

Three players from McQuaid Jesuit High School, **Brian Laudadio**, **Kevin Flanagan** and **Brad Davis** have been named to the East team. Laudadio (6-0, 227 lb.) is one of two centers on the roster, while Flanagan (5-10, 200 lb.) will do the kicking and Davis (6-3, 213 lb.) will see action as a tight end.

McQuaid head football coach **Tom Sprague** will once again be an assistant for the East squad, which will be coached by Len Colivito of Newark High School. Other assistants for the East will be Jim Cleveland (Penfield), Dan Moretti (Waterloo) and Dennis Greco (Newark). The trainer for the East squad will be Lew Rende of RIT. East practices will take place at Penfield High School, beginning Saturday, July 23.

Aquinas Institute and Bishop Kearney will be represented on the West squad. AQ's **Mark Chapman** (6-3, 185 lb.) and **John Messura** (6-2, 250 lb.) will play defensive safety and defensive lineman, respectively. **Frank Valente**, a 6-3, 215 lb. defensive lineman from the Section 5 Class AA runner-up Fighting Kings, has also been named to the team.

The West squad will be coached by John Kreydt of Batavia High School. His assistants are George Giordano (Greece Olympia), Gene Mastin (Hornell), Jim Laemlein (LeRoy Central) and Al Pannoni (Gates-Chili). The trainer for the West team will be Tom Koesterer of the State University College at Buffalo. West practices will take place at Gates-Chili High School and will also begin Saturday, July 23.

Last year's Eddie Meath All-Star Game was a defensive battle on both sides. The East squad, which was led by two touchdowns from Clyde's Calvin Johnson, scored the game's first 16 points against the West stars on the way to a 16-6 victory at Fauver Stadium.

The win gave the East a 3-2 game edge in the series. The East won 49-24 in 1986.

Tickets may be purchased prior to the game at any Perkins Restaurants or at the gate the night of the all-star classic.

Knick on the links

The second annual March of Dimes Rochester Business Classic will take place at Green Hills Country Club on Monday, August 22.

This year's special guest will be Patrick Ewing, a former All American at Georgetown University, now with the up-and-coming New York Knicks in the National Basketball Association.

"Ewing may be playing, and rumor has it he can slam dunk putts from 10 feet away," joked Jim Growney, who is tournament chairman this year.

A few openings still remain for players. The format for the tourney will be a four-man scramble with handicap. Registration on the day of the event is at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch at noon and a 1 p.m. shotgun start.

Proceeds from the Rochester Business Classic are earmarked for the March of Dimes. Call Growney at (716)385-7710 for information.

Challenging disease

The third annual Cystic Fibrosis Sports Challenge, in which 40 Rochester-area businesses, clubs and organizations will compete, is scheduled Sunday, August 21, at the Rochester Institute of Technology.

Coed teams consisting of five men and five women will compete in six different athletic events: tug of war, obstacle course, golf shot, plank race and two relays.

Individual Olympic-style medals will be given to the top three teams in six separate flights. A trophy will be awarded to the overall winning team.

Entertainment during the competition will be provided by the Rochester Musicians Association and Nard's Rock & Roll Review. Proceeds from the event will go to the Rochester Chapter, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Call Coralee Henriksen at (716)546-5890 for information.

Mercy grad emerging as top triathlete

By Richard A. Kiley

Michelle Kriesen likes to hang out with rats any chance she can get.

Before you start thinking that the former cross-country runner and skier at Our Lady of Mercy High School is a big fan of furry rodents, you have to realize that R.A.T.S. are Rochester Area Triathletes.

Kriesen, 19, is arguably the Flower City's best woman triathlete in her age group. She placed second in the 15-19 age classification at the fifth-annual Darien Lake Triathlon — which consists of a quarter-mile swim, an 11-mile bike and a five-mile run — two weeks ago. She finished just one minute off the pace with a time of 1:21.24, and marked the first time Kriesen had raced in the popular triathlon.

And back in mid-June at the Batavia Biathlon, Kriesen won her age group with a time of 1:36.17. Yet despite her success in both triathlons, Kriesen was a little disappointed.

"(The Batavia Biathlon) was my first race this season. I won my age group, but my time wasn't the greatest," said Kriesen, who was racing to help raise money to send children to summer camp. "I finished off by a minute at Darien Lake; I got caught behind a whole pack of women for a little while."

Although Kriesen's resiliency and her constant determination to do better have helped catapult her to the top, she said her success — especially as a cyclist — has more to do with her upbringing.

"My whole family was raised on bikes. When it came to getting jobs, we wouldn't have a car to use so my parents would say, 'Get up on your bike and go,'" said Kriesen, who rides her bike from her home in Webster to her job as a lifeguard at North Ponds Park every day.

"I've been cycling since I was eight years old. My parents got me in the Rochester Bicycling Club, and I've been (competing) in RCB time trials since my sophomore year," she added.

Hockey star's wedding stirs mild protest

By Frank Dolphin

Edmonton, Alberta (NC) — Hockey superstar Wayne Gretzky and Hollywood actress Janet Jones exchanged vows in a large and lavish wedding ceremony Saturday, July 16, at St. Joseph's Basilica in Edmonton, but not without some controversy.

The marriage was dubbed "The Royal Wedding" and "The Marriage of the Decade" by some Canadian media. The basilica rector, Father Michael McCaffery, and a retired Anglican priest, Father John Munro, officiated.

The controversy arose when Gretzky, an Anglican, and Jones, a Methodist, announced they wanted to be married at St. Joseph's Basilica, one of Edmonton's largest churches, which seats 1,250 people.

The 45-minute marriage ceremony was held before 700 guests. Members of the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra supplied the music.

About 5,000 people crowded the streets around the basilica to catch a glimpse of the bride and groom as the wedding party left the church and drove to the reception in a fleet of at least a dozen limousines.

Father McCaffery received at least 50 phone calls and four letters from people opposed to the marriage taking place in a Catholic church. Most referred to the couple being non-Catholics, but some objectors cited the fact that Jones had posed seminude for Playboy magazine in March 1987.

Gretzky, 27, is the captain of the Stanley Cup champion Edmonton Oilers, winners of the trophy in four of the last five years. He originally is from Brantford, Ont., but lives in Edmonton.

Gretzky is acknowledged as the greatest hockey player in the history of the game, and is rated in a recent *USA Today* poll as the fourth greatest athlete of all time, ranking behind Babe Ruth, Jim Thorpe, and Muhammad Ali.

Jones, also 27, was born in St. Louis, Mo. A dancer who lives in Los Angeles, she has performed in several movies, including "A Chorus Line" and "Police Academy 5."

Father McCaffery, who is a friend of Gretzky, said he agreed to allow the marriage in the basilica after consulting Archbishop Joseph MacNeil of Edmonton.

Kriesen's mother, Carolyn, is the class of her age group as well. In her most recent competition — the Swix-Snow Country Triathlon at Webster Park on Thursday, July 21 — the 42-year-old Kriesen was the top finisher among competitors in the women expert division with a time of 1:02.44. She has also qualified for the women's open-cycling competition at the Empire State Games this summer.

"My mother provides the motivation for me," said Michelle Kriesen, who finished the Swix-Snow Country Triathlon in 1:10.46 — which was good enough to win her age group once again. "We run together sometimes ... she always beats me."

During the summer, the younger Kriesen often competes in biathlons and triathlons at Webster Park, where she and nearly 65 other RATS work out with Roger Weston. The 42-year-old Weston, who has helped train hundreds of Rochester-area triathletes — including four-time NCAA All American Bruce Likly — believes Kriesen's lifestyle and environment have bolstered her as a triathlete.

"Because of that lifestyle, she has a very good mental approach to the sport," said Weston, who is a graduate of the State University College at Brockport. "The mental approach triathletes take to it is extremely important. What these people have shown is that everybody can do a lot more than they think they're capable of doing. It is a large commitment; you have to have the mental maturity as a triathlete, and you have to know how to pace yourself."

Mercy cross-country coach Tim Jones knows all about pacing himself. In addition to coaching cross-country as well as track and field at Mercy, Jones is a triathlete. He and Kriesen were two thirds of a mixed team that won the 1986 Hamlin Beach Triathlon.

"She's so competitive. If I had to say one word about her that's it. And she's a motiva-

tor," Jones said. "I chose her as captain of the cross-county team because of her hard work alone."

During her junior year, Kriesen spearheaded the effort to start a cross-country team at the all-girls school on Blossom Road. As a senior, Kriesen was enjoying a stellar season until she came down with mononucleosis.

"I was having the best season ever. It really wiped me out for awhile," Kriesen said.

Jones said her absence had much to do with Mercy's disappointing sixth-place finish in the sectionals weeks later. "When we got to the sectionals and didn't have her, it really hurt," Jones said. "People would run with her figuring if they stayed up with Shelly they were doing OK. But we didn't have her to set the pace."

Kriesen was also instrumental in getting a cross-country skiing team started at Mercy. The team began with four members and finished the season with one: Kriesen.

"The team was just starting out, so there wasn't really a commitment," said Kriesen, who still went on to win the Metro League championship that season.

"She doesn't know when to quit," Jones said.

As for her future plans, Kriesen will continue to train and compete in biathlons and triathlons for the remainder of the summer. After finishing a year at St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia, Kriesen said she may attend the University of Rochester this fall and try out for the cycling team.

She would also like to qualify for the 1989 Empire State Games in both cross-country skiing and cycling.

"I would like to go as far as I can with it," Kriesen said. "The RATS are talking about the Hawaii Iron Man (the ultimate triathlon), but I don't know about that."



Paul Dolphin/NC News
Hockey superstar Wayne Gretzky and actress Janet Jones are married in St. Joseph's Basilica in Edmonton, Alberta, July 16 by the basilica's rector, Father Michael McCaffery, and Anglican Father John Munro (right).

"We welcome this as an ecumenical service. We're not setting any precedent. Protestant churches have welcomed Catholic congregations for Mass," Father McCaffery told the *Western Catholic Reporter*, the Edmonton archdiocesan newspaper.

Despite the protests, Father McCaffery did not change his decision, which was supported by many Edmonton Catholics, who regard Gretzky as the city's No. 1 citizen.

"Wayne has made a tremendous contribution to the community. This is a gesture of hospitality," Father McCaffery said.

Gretzky visits sick children in hospitals throughout North America; and organizes annual tennis and golf tournaments to support his work for the blind and the mentally handicapped.

He buys 55 tickets to each Oiler home game for distribution to clubs and charities around Edmonton.

Father McCaffery would not comment on the amount of the donation the couple made to the basilica, but said he received "a million dollars worth of memories."

Fitness program designed for physically disabled

A group of rehabilitation and fitness specialists in Rochester has designed a new fitness program for physically disabled adults.

Barrier Free Fitness combines aerobic exercise, muscle strengthening and stretching in a one-hour class for the disabled.

The program is open to disabled individuals who are 17 years of age or older and have been deemed medically safe or who have received medical clearance to exercise. Amputees, paraplegics and quadriplegics as well as those with cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, spina bifida, post-polio and other congenital and traumatic disabilities may participate.

Exercises are designed to be performed in both standing and sitting positions so that even those in wheelchairs can fully participate. The program is also designed to accommodate a variety of fitness levels, adapting to different kinds of disabilities.

Nancy Steincamp, who works at the Rochester Rehabilitation Center, is director of the program. The first session of Barrier Free Fitness will begin in September, according to Steincamp, and the program will take place at the Brighton Parks and Recreation Department facilities at Brookside School. Afternoon, evening and weekend classes will be offered.

Call Steincamp at (716)271-2520 for information.