



Marisa Shackelford, shown here driving around Mercy's Kim Caccamise during a game January 7, will attend Bishop Kearney High School this fall.

SPORT SHORTS

Mooney alumna bolster best MCC softball season

Three former female athletes at Cardinal Mooney High School have recently finished successful careers with the Monroe Community College women's softball team.

Lori Padulo was the team's leading hitter with a .444 batting average. The Lady Tribunes' shortstop led the team in hits (24) and was tied for most RBI (20). Padulo was named to the National Junior College Athletic Association All-Star second team for the second consecutive year, and was also named a Penn-York Conference All-Star for the second time. Padulo hit .383 as a freshman.

Twin sisters Cathy and Theresa Nietopski also played key roles for MCC this season, in which the Lady Tribunes posted a 16-3 record for their best finish ever. Cathy, a second baseman, hit .377 and joined Padulo on the All-Conference team; Theresa, an outfielder, batted .261.

All three Mooney graduates were multi-sport athletes in their two years at MCC. Theresa Nietopski played soccer, basketball and softball both years; Cathy Nietopski played all three sports as a freshman and played basketball and softball this year; and Padulo played basketball and softball in her freshman year, but only softball as a sophomore.

DeSales' Brague, Cook are first-team all-stars

Two DeSales softball players were among those named first-team Finger Lakes West all-stars last week.

Sophomore shortstop Tara Brague and junior left fielder Stacie Cook were tabbed from Pat Luzzi's team, which lost in the Section 5 Class D championship game to Bradford.

Brague batted .377 for the Saints, including three doubles, one triple and a home run. She also used her speed to steal 14 bases.

Cook, who transferred over the summer from Geneva High School, batted .357 with two doubles and two home runs. Her defense drew high praise from Luzzi throughout the regular

season and the sectionals.

Three DeSales players — Megan Jenkins, Danielle Boncaro and Mary Kelly Sullivan — earned spots on the second team.

Mary Ellen Chilbert of DeSales was named honorable mention.

Kentucky woman coming to St. John Fisher this fall

The St. John Fisher College women's basketball team will have a one-two Kentucky punch in the lineup next season, with the recent decision of Jamestown, Ky., resident Kendra Foley to attend the Rochester school.

Foley, who is expected to join senior guard Julie Cole of Nicholasville on the Lady Cardinals squad, was a two-time all-district selection as a forward with the Russell County High School girls' basketball team. She averaged 17 points, five rebounds and three assists per game last season, and led her team in scoring, free-throw percentage and three-point field goals. The team's Most Valuable Player, she also received all-state honorable mention.

"Kendra is an outstanding scorer whose best years on the court are still ahead of her," said Phil Kahler, who coached the Fisher Lady Cardinals to a 28-3 record this year and the team's third consecutive state championship. "I am very pleased that she has decided to attend St. John Fisher College."

Standout for Mynderse to attend Fisher this fall

Tim Buckingham, a graduate of Mynderse Academy in Seneca Falls, has decided to attend St. John Fisher College this fall.

The 6-foot-6 Buckingham played forward and center for a Mynderse team that went 16-6 and placed second in its league last season. Buckingham averaged 19 points, 11 rebounds and three assists per game. He also contributed an average of three blocks and three steals each game.

Buckingham was named the team's most valuable player for his efforts. He also was named to the Finger Lakes Athletic Association and Ronald McDonald Exceptional Senior all-star teams.

Contrary to reports, Shackelford picks BK

By Richard A. Kiley
Staff writer

Marisa Shackelford, who was reported to have transferred to Our Lady of Mercy High School, will attend Bishop Kearney High School her senior year.

Shackelford helped Cardinal Mooney to the Section 5 Class BB basketball championship last winter. Mooney officials announced in May that the school was closing because of a declining enrollment and a large financial debt.

Several Rochester newspapers, including the *Catholic Courier*, previously reported that the highly touted basketball player would attend Mercy this fall.

But former Cardinal Mooney soccer and softball coach Paul Forte, who is the new varsity girls' basketball coach at Kearney, said those reports were false and premature.

"She's going to Kearney," said Forte, who has coached Shackelford in softball the past three years. "She feels she wants to stay with her classmates and with the (Mooney) coaches who'll be going over to Kearney."

Barbara Jablonski, head of public relations at Bishop Kearney High School, confirmed that Shackelford was officially registered for next year.

In addition to her many classmates transferring to Kearney for their senior year, Shackelford will join several longtime Mooney coaches such as Forte, Ed Nietopski and John Walker at the Catholic high school on Kings Highway.

The 5-foot-11 Shackelford averaged 19.3 points and 9.5 rebounds for the Cardinals last winter. She has become one of the Rochester-area's most dominating inside players, but will be joining a girls' basketball program that has struggled in recent years.

Kathy Boughton, head coach of the girls' basketball team at Mercy, said Shackelford's decision to attend Kearney did not come as a surprise.

"It makes sense for her to stay with her friends," said Boughton, who guided the Monarchs to the state Class A semis last March. "I wish her all the luck over there."

As does Scott Morrison, the former girls' basketball coach at Mooney who will teach at Aquinas this fall. "She's a great kid; she's one of the most coachable players I ever had," Morrison said.

Forte said that Shackelford will be attending several basketball camps this summer, and will also play for the Western team at the Empire State Games in August.

U.S. sprinter 'greatly inspired' by pope's presence, wins race

By Agostino Bono
Catholic News Service

FORMIA, Italy — Calvin Smith, former world record holder in the 100-meter dash, wanted to meet Pope John Paul II. So the U.S. sprinter won the international race held in the pope's honor at the World Formia Meet.

The win meant Smith, a 28-year-old Baptist, received his first-place trophy from the hands of the pope.

The leader of world Catholicism was the VIP spectator at the June 25 sprint, which was held at Formia's Stadium of the Oranges, nestled between fog-covered mountains and the Mediterranean Sea, 84 miles south of Rome.

Competing were seven runners representing five countries.

"It was a great honor for me to meet the pope," a smiling Smith said afterward.

"I was already inspired for this race. But the pope's presence gave me greater ins-

piration," Smith said. "I didn't know if everyone would get to meet the pope or only the top three. So I wanted to finish at least in the top three," he said.

After the 100-meter race, the pope did meet all seven participants, handing out awards to the top three finishers.

Smith, who set a world record in 1983, finished in 10.25 seconds, well off his record time of 9.93. His record has since been eclipsed.

But the Formia pace was just good enough to defeat U.S. sprinter Dennis Mitchell by one-hundredth of a second.

Smith also helped set two world records as a member of U.S. 100-meter relay teams.

The 100-meter dash was the only event of the June 24-25 meet that the pope watched. It was held especially for him as part of a papal gathering with youths from the Archdiocese of Gaeta, which includes Formia.

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If yours is the winning entry, you will be mailed a certificate redeemable for \$10.00 OFF any purchase of \$25.00 or more at Locker Room Sports, 560 W. Ridge Rd.

All entries must be received within seven days of this paper's issue date. Winning names and answers will be printed the week following each drawing.

The *Catholic Courier*
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