

# Celebrities whip up cheers for a good cause

## All-star game raises money for St. Mary's

By Mike Latona  
Staff writer

ROCHESTER — Baseball players have populated Ken Kaiser's dinners, and basketball luminaries have headlined the late Pete Pavia's banquets.

Yet it's not nearly as simple to classify the group which invaded the Community War Memorial this past Saturday, Feb. 20. Perhaps, since this particular star-studded event involved an ice rink, "melting pot" would suffice.

Television stars, a movie celebrity, a saxophonist and former hockey greats all converged for the first-ever Rochester Amerks Alumni Celebrity All-Star Hockey Challenge. The game, which pitted a team of ex-Rochester Americans against a squad of "All-Stars," was won by the Amerks alumni, 12-10.

Yet the final score didn't seem very important to the more than 5,200 spectators. They were more concerned with getting photographs and autographs of such celebrities as Kelsey Grammer, also known as Dr. Frasier Crane on "Cheers," and Clarence Clemons, who rose to fame for his saxophone playing in Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band.

Both Grammer and Clemons served as honorary "coaches" last Saturday. Stars who laced up skates included Mike Eruzione, captain of the 1980 United States Olympic gold medal-winning hockey team; Jason Hervey of "The Wonder Years;" Jerry Houser, who appeared in the comedy movie *Slap Shot*; and former National Hockey League stars Charlie Simmer and Joe Watson.

The Amerks alumni team, meanwhile, comprised 19 former Rochester Americans from the 1970s and 1980s.

The game unfolded much like a Harlem Globetrotters basketball exhibition, as good hockey combined with good humor. For instance, after the alumni scored their first goal early in the opening period, former Amerks Clint Fehr was instructed to pose for a "commemorative" photograph — whereupon he received a pie in the face from Eruzione.

Between periods, a bunch of 5- to



Michael Fishman, who plays D.J. on the popular sitcom 'Roseanne,' makes an airborne attempt at a slapshot during the first-ever Rochester Amerks Alumni Celebrity All-Star Challenge at the Community War Memorial Feb. 20. Proceeds from the event will go to the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Program at St. Mary's Hospital.

7-year-old youth hockey players found great scoring success in a penalty-shot showdown against ex-Amerks goalie Jim "Seaweed" Pettie, who seemed to have temporarily lost command of his craft.

Not only did the game provide good entertainment, but it also succeeded in its chief purpose: to raise funds for the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Program at St. Mary's Hospital.

Sandy Armbruster, executive director of the St. Mary's Foundation, estimated that net proceeds from the event will total in excess of \$40,000.

Ray Maluta, president of the Amerks Alumni Association, noted that this amount was inflated by the fact that none of the celebrities charged appearance fees.

"My hat goes off to them. They were all down-to-earth, great people," said Maluta — a popular defenseman with the Amerks from 1974-79 — who



Kelsey Grammer, who portrays Dr. Frasier Crane on 'Cheers,' signs autographs from his position in the announcer's booth before the celebrity contest.

served as co-organizer of the event.

Also contributing to the total proceeds was a post-game Nik and the Nice Guys concert at Midtown Plaza. More than 2,000 people turned out to see the popular Rochester-based band, along with a guest turn by Clemons.

Both the Amerks alumni and celebrity All-Stars are active in additional benefit games throughout the year. The ex-Amerks, many of whom still reside in the Rochester area, have raised money for the Ronald McDonald House as well as for the late Christie Simonetti.

The celebrities, meanwhile, have raised more than \$3 million since that team's inception in 1986.

"It's a lot of fun, and we help many good causes," Grammer, who has been with the celebrity team for five years, told the *Catholic Courier*. "I feel it's something I want to do, since I've had a little luck in my life."

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	St. Charles Borromeo St. Mary	1 Holy Apostles St. Stanislaus Our Lady of Mercy	2 Bishop Kearney Guardian Angels Holy Family Home School Assoc. Our Lady of Perpetual Help	3 St. Anne St. James St. Michael's St. Stanislaus St. Jude the Apostle	4 Holy Ghost Most Precious Blood St. Cecilia's St. Mark's	5 Good Shepherd St. Thomas the Apostle
7 Holy Family St. Ambrose St. Boniface St. Rita's St. Stanislaus St. Theodore	8 St. Charles Borromeo St. Mary	9 Holy Apostles St. Stanislaus Our Lady of Mercy	10 Bishop Kearney Guardian Angels Holy Family Home School Assoc. Our Lady of Perpetual Help	11 St. Anne St. James St. Michael's St. Stanislaus St. Jude the Apostle	12 Holy Ghost Most Precious Blood St. Cecilia's St. Mark's	13 Good Shepherd St. Thomas the Apostle
14 Holy Family St. Ambrose St. Boniface St. Rita's St. Stanislaus St. Theodore	15 St. Charles Borromeo St. Mary	16 Holy Apostles St. Stanislaus Our Lady of Mercy	17 Bishop Kearney Guardian Angels Holy Family Home School Assoc. Our Lady of Perpetual Help	18 St. Anne St. James St. Michael's St. Stanislaus St. Jude the Apostle	19 Holy Ghost Most Precious Blood St. Cecilia's St. Mark's	20 Good Shepherd St. Thomas the Apostle
21 Holy Family St. Ambrose St. Boniface St. Rita's St. Stanislaus St. Theodore	22 St. Charles Borromeo St. Mary	23 Holy Apostles St. Stanislaus Our Lady of Mercy	24 Bishop Kearney Guardian Angels Holy Family Home School Assoc. Our Lady of Perpetual Help	25 St. Anne St. James St. Michael's St. Stanislaus St. Jude the Apostle	26 Holy Ghost Most Precious Blood St. Cecilia's St. Mark's	27 Good Shepherd St. Thomas the Apostle
28 Holy Family St. Ambrose St. Boniface St. Rita's St. Stanislaus St. Theodore	29 St. Charles Borromeo St. Mary	30 Holy Apostles St. Stanislaus Our Lady of Mercy	31 Bishop Kearney Guardian Angels Holy Family Home School Assoc. Our Lady of Perpetual Help	<b>MARCH BINGO CALENDAR</b> SPECIAL PAID ADVERTISEMENT		

### BINGO TIMES & LOCATIONS

Bishop Kearney 125 Kings Hwy. S. 671-1065 Wed. 8p.m.	St. Boniface 15 Whalin St. 271-1468 Sun. 7:45p.m.
Good Shepherd 3288 E. Henrietta Rd. 334-3518 Sat. 7:30pm	St. Cecilia's 2732 Culver Rd. 467-4286 Fri. 8p.m.
Guardian Angels Church 2061 E. Henrietta Rd. 334-1412 Wed. 7:30pm	St. Charles Borromeo 64-Maiden Lane 663-3230 Mon. 8p.m.
Holy Apostles 6 Austin St. 254-7170 Tues. 7:30p.m.	St. James 119 Brockley Rd 482-9796 Thur. 7:30p.m.
Holy Family Church 899 Jay Street 328-3110 Sun. 7:30pm	St. Jude the Apostle 41 Lyell Rd. 247-4322 Thur. 7:45p.m.
Holy Family Home School Assoc. 899 Jay St. 328-4800 Wed. 7:30p.m.	St. Mark's 54 Kuhn Rd. 225-3710 Fri. 8p.m.
Holy Ghost 220 Coldwater Rd. 247-3535 Fri. 8p.m.	St. Mary Lyceum Hall, Auburn 315-252-9545 Mon. 7:30p.m.
Most Precious Blood 179 Stenson St. 458-6079 Fri. 7:30p.m.	St. Michael's 869 Clinton Ave. N 325-4040 Thur. 7:30 & 9pm
Our Lady of Mercy 600 Denise Rd. 865-0775 Tue. 7:30pm	St. Rita's 1008 Maple Dr. 671-1100 Sun. 7:30pm
Perpetual Help 923 Portland Ave. 467-2725 Wed 7:30pm	St. Stanislaus 1150 Hudson Ave. 467-1472 Sun. 6:15p.m., Tues. 7pm & Thur. 8pm
St. Anne 1600 Mt. Hope Ave. 271-3260 Thur. 7:30pm	St. Theodore 170 Spencerport Rd. 429-6811 Sun. 7:30p.m.
	St. Thomas the Apostle 41 Colebrook Dr. 342-2323 Sat. 8p.m.

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