



MARCY Mirman

"Three fine human beings have had the biggest impact on my teaching and coaching career. My late father, Harvey Mirman - who would watch two mice fight if it were on TV or in an arena-nurtured me as an athlete. He watched all of my games and was proud of me in victory as well as defeat. UWSP instructor and men's basketball coach Bob Krueger, demanded excellence and perfection from his students, a philosophy I have used in my teaching. But it was because of my high school teacher Marilyn "Amy" Whelihan that I knew I wanted to be a high school physical education teacher and coach." - Marcy Mirman

Marcy graduated from P.J. Jacobs in 1971, playing on GAA and Rec League teams. Summer days were filled with Rec Department softball and basketball games. According to Joan Belmont, a childhood friend and teammate, *"She was and still is an incredible athlete. Everyone wanted to be on her team."*

During her 5 years at UWSP, she was a multi-talented athlete, excelling in field hockey, basketball, softball and tennis. In 1976

she started her teaching and coaching career at SPASH, coaching the first SPASH softball team. From 1982 through 1988, her softball teams dominated the WVC and won the State Championship in 1986.

Her greatest joy as a coach came from seeing the girls develop as players and individuals over their time in high school sports. Nancy Page, her UWSP field hockey coach and mentor, served as a role model. George Roman, long time SPASH boys coach, supported Marcy in her efforts to develop girls sports at SPASH.

Marcy's impact on the community extends far beyond the classroom and dugout. She has refereed countless local basketball and volleyball games. In recent years, Marcy has become an avid golfer and has become deeply involved with the local and national pickleball community, from welcoming and teaching new players to refereeing at national tournaments in Naples, Florida.



Marcy, UWSP Softball



Marcy, Referee



Rec Dept. Softball Team: Marcy, first row far left. Coach: Tim Siebert, second row far right.



UWSP Field Hockey with Coach Nancy Page & teammate Sheila Meich. Marcy, first row second from right. Sheila, right of Marcy.



P.J. Jacobs Physical Education Dept.: Judie Janquardt, top row first from left & Marcy, third from left.



Rec Dept. Basketball Team.



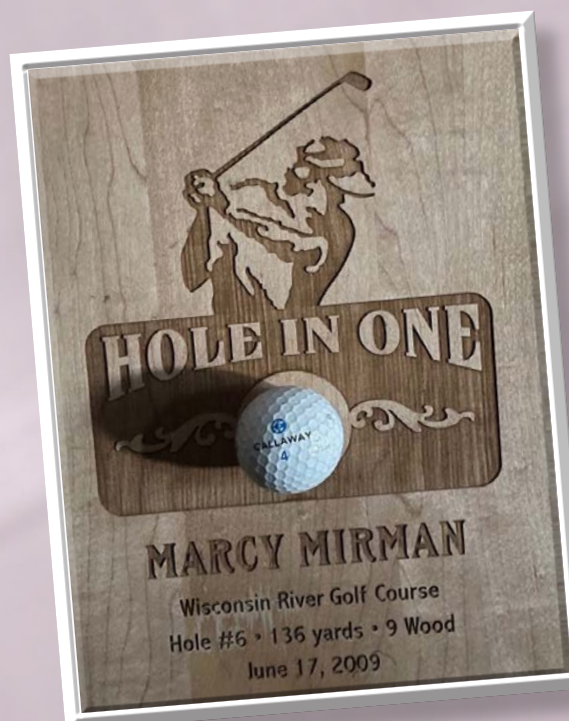
Stevens Point Journal June 13, 1986.



1986 State Champion Softball Team: Marcy, first row far left.



Champion Rec Volleyball Team: Marcy, second row left.



Marcy and Rick Berry, Marcy refereed his gold medal match at the US Open Pickleball Tournament in Naples, FL.



Stevens Point Journal August 15, 2015.

UWSP ATHLETIC HONORS

- UWSP Hall of Fame, 1988
- 4 yr Letter Winner Field Hockey
- UWSP National Field Hockey Tournament Team, 1975
- 1st Team North Central Section & Regional Field Hockey Team, 1975
- #3 Singles WWIAC Tennis Conference Champion, & UWSP Tennis MVP, 1975
- "Most Outstanding College Athlete of America", 1975
- 4 yr Letter Winner in Basketball, Scoring 221 career points in 41 games

SPASH COACHING CAREER

- Softball**
 - 1st Team Coach, 1976
 - State Championship Team, 1986
 - 12 WVC Championships
- Basketball**
 - State Championship Team, Assistant Coach, 1980
- Golf**
 - Boys Varsity Golf Assistant Coach



DEB Vercauteren

Like many women who grew up prior to Title IX, Deb found outlets for her competitive spirit. During summers, Deb not only swam on the city team but she competed in barrel racing, pole bending and jumping with her horse Samur. During her senior year, Ashwaubenon offered a high school track and field program and a window to a whole new career opened up.

While attending for Physical Education UWSP, Deb competed in swimming, gymnastics and track and field. She became the first Wisconsin collegiate woman to break 60 seconds in the 440. In 1980, she and her husband John joined the coaching staff at UW-Oshkosh, she as Head Badminton and Assistant Women's Track and Field and John as the Men's Track and Field Coach.

At the end of 1980, the Badminton program was dropped and Deb convinced highly skeptical administrators to add a Cross Country program to strengthen the track program. In 1981 Deb became the Head Track and Field coach as well as first Women's Cross Country coach. During her years as head coach, her teams and individuals became a force to be reckoned with on a national level.

In 2008, the award given each year for the most outstanding DIII Cross Country and Track programs in the nation was named in honor of her achievements, USTFCCA Deb Vercauteren Program of the Year Award. According to Deb, her greatest reward was watching a young woman set a seemingly unachievable early career goal career and then sharing her pride when that dream was realized.



Deb, UWSP Track Team



Deb, Coach



Deb and John won National Cross Country Titles on the same day in 1988



Deb, 1975 UWSP Relay Team



Deb on UWSP Swim team 1976



Deb and her horse Samer, left

National cross country titles leave friendly rivals at an even keel

By DENIS DOUGHERTY of the Northwestern
John Zupanc has become one of the most successful NCAA Division III cross country coaches in the nation.
Yet, at least in terms of conference and national titles, he is second in his own household. Zupanc, the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh men's cross country coach, is married to Titan women's Coach Deb Vercauteren.
Zupanc took over the men's program in 1982, one year after Oshkosh finished eighth in the Wisconsin State University Conference. He has led the Titans to three runnerup finishes in the WSUC and four trips to the national meet, which include three top 10 finishes and the program's first national championship Nov. 19.
Vercauteren started the women's program at Oshkosh in '81 and has coached the Titans to the last three Wisconsin Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Conference titles and two consecutive national championships.
Not surprisingly, Zupanc says there is a rivalry between man and wife.
Particularly frustrating for Zupanc was the lack of acclaim his team received after finishing third in the 1987 national meet — a period when the women owned the spotlight after tying for the national title with the College of St. Thomas in Minnesota.
"I don't think it gets in the way of our relationship," he said. "I don't think we'd be any less happy if we both weren't winning. But when her team does well, I want my team to do as well as they do."
Vercauteren is sympathetic toward her husband's feelings.
"I don't have any rivalry with John, but I think he has one with me. I think both of us are very competitive and some breaks have fallen our way. They've always been very

winning time.
Titan sophomore Scott Steuermann was ninth (25:04.1), while senior Pete Bauguet was 11th (25:06.7) and freshman Dave Lambert of Oshkosh was 25th (25:23.9).
Also for Oshkosh, junior Ron Wehner was 32nd (25:30.4), and John Paustian was 110th (26:38.4).
Zupanc said Lambert was the only freshman to make All-American in Division III this year. Last year, Steuermann was the only freshman to gain the honor in Division III.
"I can't really say anything more than we did what we wanted to do," said Zupanc. "At the national meet, we were one of four teams that could win it, said Titan Coach John Zupanc. "I was certainly surprised in some instances that we won,



Please turn to Coaches / Page D6

Titans rule Division III cross country

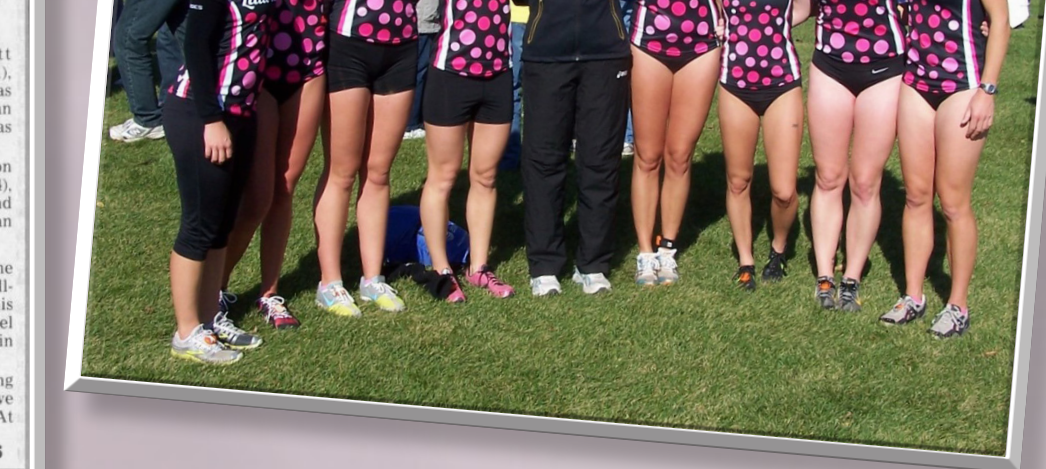
Women win 2nd consecutive title

ST. LOUIS — The patience of the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh women's cross country team paid big dividends on Saturday.
While most of the 14-team field went out on a slower but steadier pace, Oshkosh, which started its cross country program in 1981, caught up and passed the rest of the field in the final mile to capture its first outright national title at the NCAA Division III Women's Cross Country Championships.
"Last year we were happy to share the title, but this year we wanted to win it outright," said Titan Coach Deb Vercauteren, referring to last year's co-national championship with College of St. Thomas (Minn.). Oshkosh won the meet with 69 points to St. Thomas' 93 and State University of New York-Cortland's 94. Titan senior Cheryl Niederberger finished second, traveling the 3,200-meter Forest Park course in 17 minutes, 54.8 seconds, behind Carleton College's Anna Prince, who placed 26th (18:51.3).
Also for Oshkosh, Cathy Niederberger, who won the

Midwest Regional and placed third in last year's national meet. "It was nice to finally do it and do it for real."
"Last year was nice, but we thought we had it won. It's really neat. This year we know going into the meet who we had to beat. Last year we didn't know who to look for, but we still performed well."
Oshkosh's Tiffany Fox, a junior from Markesan, finished 16th (18:37.7) and teammate Marina Colby, a junior from Nekeosha, was 22nd (18:42.0). The top 25 finishers are All-Americans. Just missing out was Titan sophomore Nancy Dare, who placed 26th (18:51.3).
Also for Oshkosh, Cathy Niederberger, who won the

Men capture first championship

ST. LOUIS — It was three weeks ago Saturday that the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh men's cross country team finished a "disappointing" second to UW-La Crosse in the Wisconsin State University Conference meet.
So for the last three weeks, the Titans have been working to erase that memory. On Saturday they did just that.
Oshkosh placed four runners in the top 25, all of which gained All-American honors, to beat out North Central College (Ill.) 66-75 for the Titans' first NCAA Division III national championship.
"We figured we were one of four teams that could win it," said Titan Coach John Zupanc. "I was certainly surprised in some instances that we won,



Please turn to Men / Page D6

UWSP ATHLETIC HONORS

- 1987 Hall of Fame
- 4 yr Letter Winner in Track
- 1st Wisconsin collegiate woman to break 60 seconds in the 440 yard dash (57.8 seconds)
- State Champion 440 yard dash, 1973, 1974 and 1976

UW-OSHKOSH COACHING CAREER

Track Career Coach

- UW-Oshkosh Hall of Fame, 2013
- National Track Coach of the Year, 1994
- 9x WIAC Coach of the Year
- 14 Division III Track & Field Team National Championships
- 10 WIAC Track & Field Team Championships
- 58 Individual National Champions
- 331 All-Americans

Cross Country Coach

- 4 Division III Cross Country National Championships
- 15 WIAC Championships
- 2x National Coach of the Year
- 10x WIAC Cross Country Coach of the Year



NANCY Page

An exceptional athlete herself, Nancy grew up frustrated at the lack of opportunities for females to compete in sports. As a result, she took full advantage of every opportunity that was available to her and fought calmly, but tenaciously throughout her career to open more doors for female athletes.

Nancy started her collegiate athletic career at UW-Madison in the early 1960's. Although her club basketball team was only allowed to use the gym for one hour a week and had no coach, they challenged the highly touted team from Northern Illinois to a game. Northern Illinois showed up in a coach bus with classy uniforms, but returned home wondering how they were soundly defeated by a feisty group of Wisconsin girls with their numbers taped on t-shirts.

Nancy was a stellar goalie for three years for the UW-Madison field hockey club team. She was selected to goaltend twice for the Midwest All-Star team as they competed for the National Championship and in the process, earned second team All-American honors in both of those years.



Nancy's UWSP Field Hockey Team with fellow trailblazers Marcy Mirman, first row second from right. Sheila Meich, right of Marcy.



Nancy, 2006

In 1973, she and her husband Dave moved to Stevens Point. Nancy, with two children under the age of four, began her teaching and coaching career at UWSP. She was a full time Physical Education professor as well as Field Hockey Coach and Assistant Track and Field Coach. In addition to her teaching and coaching responsibilities, she was Associate Athletic Director from 1984 until her retirement in 2004. She was a charter member of the Women's Athletic Fund, which provided critical financial support to women's sports.

"Role Model" are the two words that are most often used by other females to describe Nancy. She showed women how to be a successful mother, teacher and coach. Most of all, she shared her passion for sports and for life. According to one of her players, "We were all touched and shaped by her magic."



WOMEN'S FIELD HOCKEY COACH NANCY PAGE

The top field hockey program in the WWIAC is headed by the top coach in the conference in Nancy Page. She has controlled the fortunes of the Lady Pointer sticker for nine years and in that time has developed a dynasty of sorts.

Page's 1981 team won its second straight WWIAC championship and for the second consecutive year advanced on to national competition. Last year's team concluded the year with a 20-4 record after being eliminated in regional play in the NCAA Division III National Tournament.

Her 1980 team compiled a glossy 30-6-1 record with a WWIAC crown and an appearance in the AIAW Division III National Meet included in the record.

The fact that field hockey is not played at the high school level in Wisconsin has not deterred Page from piling up an impressive nine year record of 109-61-14 at UW-SP. She overcomes the above detriment by recruiting top all-around athletes.

Page's teams are known for their outstanding defense. Her teams have posted an incredible 35 shutouts (out of 50 wins) the last two years while scoring 198 goals of their own.

Page began coaching field hockey at the Germantown Friends School in Philadelphia in 1965 and held that position until 1968.

She was a standout player herself prior to coaching the sport. She played for three years while an undergraduate at the University of Wisconsin—Madison and during that time was selected to compete on the Midwest first team at the United States Field Hockey Association National Tournament. In her junior and senior years, she was selected to play for the U.S. Reserve team as its goalkeeper.

A native of Janesville, Page earned her bachelor of science degree from UW-Madison in 1965 and then moved on to Germantown Friends School. She came to UW-SP in 1973 where she has since coached field hockey. She also assumes control of the fledgling softball team in 1980 and has guided the team to two conference titles in its two years of existence.

Page has a wide variety of extra-curricular interests. She is a top tennis player and conducts tennis clinics in the summer months in Stevens Point. In addition, she is a WIAA basketball official and has had the distinction of working in five state tournaments.



Page named tennis coach

Last spring UW-Stevens Point was forced to drop field hockey, a sport that had been highly successful under the guidance of Coach Nancy Page.

In 13 years, Page's squads posted a 189-75-5 record, won four WWIAC championships and a trip to the NCAA finals.

Due to the lack of local competition, however, field hockey had to be dropped as an intercollegiate sport. That sport's unfortunate fate was a blessing in disguise for the Lady Pointer tennis program.

With the recent resignation of Dave Nass, who had coached the team for seven years, UW-SP Athletic Director Don Anst was faced with finding a tennis coach. He had to look no further than his existing staff. Nancy Page was the logical choice.

Page, a competitive player herself, looks forward to the challenge.

"I am really excited about coaching the sport," she said. "Dave (Nass) has left the program in great shape, and I want to continue what he has worked so hard to achieve."

"We have excellent players coming in and a good group of veterans to lead them. I see no reason why we can't finish in the upper half of the conference standings."

Anst believes Page can continue to elevate the program.

"I am happy that Nancy accepted the position," he said. "She has the ability to communicate well with student-athletes. That skill and solid recruiting is what it takes to be successful at our level."

Page is known locally for her highly successful Pointer tennis clinics, which she has run for 12 years. During that span, hundreds of players of all ages have honed their skills in the sport.

Page is a 1965 graduate of UW-Madison where she earned a bachelor of science degree. A native of Janesville, Page coached at Germantown Friends School in Philadelphia from 1965-68. She came to UW-SP in 1973 where she began coaching field hockey, then later softball. She earned a master's degree in education in 1980 from UW-SP and in 1984 was named associate director of athletics.

Nancy Page

Banquet to honor Point Legion team set for Aug. 23

A banquet honoring the 1986 Stevens Point American Legion baseball team will be held on Saturday night, Aug. 23.

Jim Zblewski, president of the Stevens Point American Legion Baseball Club Inc. board of directors, said the banquet will be held at the Stevens Point Clubhouse on Clark St. Scraper Post 4 Clubhouse on Clark St. The banquet will start at 6 p.m., followed by dinner and a program at 7.

Announced at the banquet will be the recipients of two major awards—the Post 6 most valuable player and the Post 6 most valuable player.

Zblewski said the affair will be open to the public. Tickets are \$5 each and reservations can be made no later than Wednesday, Aug. 21, by calling the Legion Club at 344-2100 or Florence Dahlman at 344-6221.

This coach is never sidelined

Nancy Page has had her hands in many UW-SP sports

By LAURA PETZOLD for the Journal

When Nancy Page joined the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point staff as field hockey coach back in 1973, women's athletics was a whole different ballgame.

"The first year I coached field hockey the coaches were the referees. I'd be running up and down the sideline officiating the game while my 2-year-old daughter was running behind me hanging on my leg," laughed Page.

Since then Page has filled many roles for UW-SP coaching many sports, as the associate director of athletics, and as professor of everything from self defense to



Nancy Page

cross country skiing. "One of the real gratifying things about coaching is seeing students improve and mature," said Page. "It goes fast because we have a good time and we're fairly successful."

Page has taken Pointer athletes all over the country, traveling by plane, bus, van and even an 18-passenger airport limousine.

"When I first started I had to parallel park this limousine that looked like three full-sized station wagons hooked together — we called it the blue goose."

The transportation to meets isn't the only change the veteran coach has seen. In 1973, the entire women's athletic budget — which included seven sports — was \$85,000. "The volleyball, basketball, and track and field teams all shared the same

(See Page, page 9)

Page

uniforms," explained Page.

Despite the small budget, morale was high as the new coach led her field hockey teams to the top of the conference.

As a field hockey coach, Page tallied a record of 229 wins, 89 losses and 33 ties from 1973-1985, captured four conference titles, sent four teams to national tournaments, and received the Coach of the Year Award in both 1980 and 1981.

In 1981, the university added a softball program and looked to Page as the new coach. Although she had no experience in the sport, her newly formed team won the state championship that year and qualified for a post-season play.

Page continued to lead the purple and gold in softball until 1990. As a professor, Page has tackled basically everything she calls "just

along the way."

This year, Page just finished her 12th year as UW-SP tennis coach, making her the longest running women's coach in the conference.

"Tons of people have taken tennis from me," said Page. Besides coaching the University's team she also offers several tennis classes every year, and headed up 12 years of community tennis lessons.

"I've learned from her both as a coach and as an instructor in my mind," said Jamie Jensen, currently director of tennis at the Manitowish YMCA. "As a team we all got very close between regular practices and trips. We laughed, had a lot of fun, but also improved in our sport and knew when it was time to get serious."

As a professor, Page has tackled basically everything she calls "just

fun things to do," including tennis, golf, bicycling, badminton, volleyball, softball, racquetball, self-defense and cross country skiing and that's just the tip of the iceberg.

"I've always been a hands-on person," explained Page. "If the class is skiing, I'm skiing with them. If it's biking, I'm biking."

"I still like what I do," Page said with a smile. "It doesn't seem like a job at all. I enjoy working with a variety of students who are enthusiastic about learning."

This year, the coach's plate of extra activities includes working for the Wisconsin Special Olympics games in June, leading a 19-day bike trip in Scotland and coaching the final tennis meet of the season come spring.

(Continued from page 7)

UW-MADISON ATHLETIC HONORS

- 2x Second Team All American, Field Hockey
- 2x Midwest All Star Field Hockey Team Goaltender

UWSP COACHING CAREER

- Field Hockey Coach 1973-1985
4 NCAA Tournament Appearances
- 2x Field Hockey Coach of the Year
- UWSP Softball Coach 1980-1990,
2 NCAA Tournament Appearances
- UWSP Tennis Coach 1986-2004



JUDIE Janquart

Judie's dad, an avid athlete, nurtured her passion for sports. Family legend has it that when she was 2 months old, her dad took her to watch a Green Bay Packers practice and Ray Nitschke stopped and tapped her on the head, setting off her lifelong love of all things Packer and all things football.

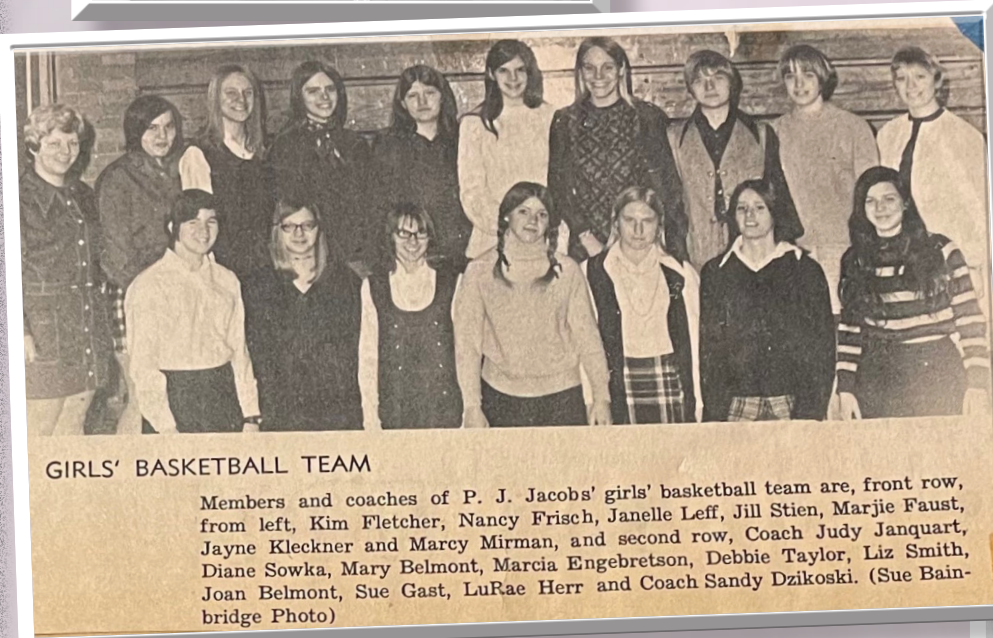
After high school graduation, Judie followed a proud family tradition and joined the Army. While in the Army, she played on her first organized sports teams, softball and basketball. After the Army, she finished her Physical Education degree at Central State Teachers College (UWSP) and played softball, volleyball, tennis, track and field hockey.

In 1970, she took her first job as a PE teacher at P.J. Jacobs while continuing in the Army Reserves. In 1979 while on reserve duty at Camp Perry near Toledo, Ohio, she saw an ad in the Toledo Blade newspaper for the Toledo Troopers Women's Professional Football Team. According to Judie, "at tryouts, coach asked me if I knew

what a 3 point stance was, which I did, and I was on the team." She commuted to Toledo on weekends from August to October while teaching during the week. During that same 1980 school year, she also coached the SPASH girls basketball team to a state championship and completed her Master's degree.

Judie was Assistant Athletic Director at SPASH from 1987-1994 and worked hard to increase athletic opportunities for her girls. In She played slow pitch softball until 2011, retiring her spikes at age 68. She continues to follow her beloved Packers, golf and regularly attends NCAA women's basketball tournaments.

In the summer of 2022, 1972 SPASH alumni contacted UWSP to honor Judie with a letter for her athletic achievements. At the 1972 SPASH 50th class reunion in September, Judie accepted her letter from UWSP to a standing ovation, a fitting tribute to a woman who tirelessly worked for opportunities for "her girls."

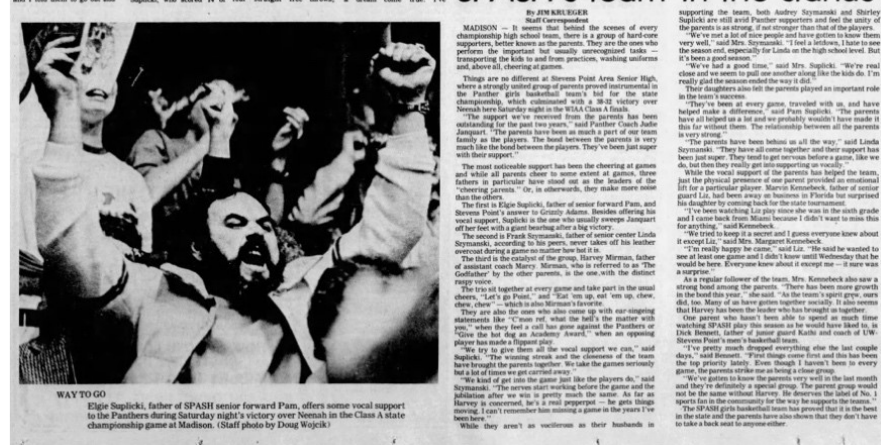


1980 State Championship Basketball Team



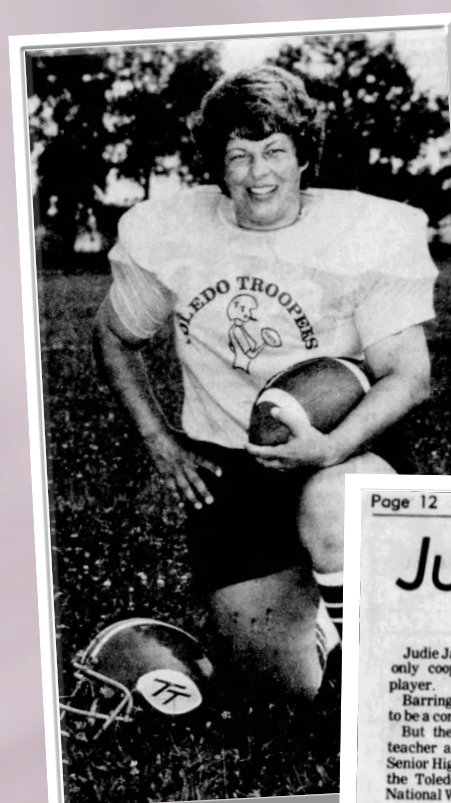
State title dream comes true for SPASH

Stevens Point Daily Journal
By DENNIS FUNGEL
Journal Sports Writer
Judie Janquart had always sworn that had Mother Nature only cooperated, she would have made quite a football player.
Barring a journey to Fantasy Island, however, that figured to be a contention that would never be tested.
But then this summer Janquart, a physical education teacher and girls basketball coach at Stevens Point Area Senior High, happened to stumble across an advertisement in the Toledo Blade stating that the Toledo Troopers of the National Women's Football League would be holding tryouts.
"When I saw the ad, I knew I had to give it a shot," said Janquart. "There's no money in it, but I was something I had to try. People laugh and say 'you're crazy' but I just wanted to see if I could compete."
So Janquart, who was on duty as a U.S. Army Signal Corps officer with the reserves working the National Life Matches at Camp Perry, made the 36-minute drive to Toledo and was one of 12 women to attend the first tryout. But while many of the others may have been there to pick up the free T-shirt offered to all candidates, Janquart was there to play football.
But she didn't quite know what she was in for.
"After that first night of practice, I thought I was going to die," she said. "I thought I was tough, but you have to be tougher than tough to play football. But after that first night, I knew I had made the team."
That accomplished, she then set out to earn herself a spot among the veteran Troopers, who unbeknownst to the majority of sports fans, have dominated the NWFL since its inception in 1971. The Troopers were the league title the first six years and entered this season with an overall record of 56-2.
Janquart, commuting daily from Camp Perry where she worked until 6 p.m. to Toledo where practices were held from 7-9 p.m., earned a starting job as an offensive guard for the



SPASH's team in the stands

While the Troopers may have been knocked out of the stomach, they were replaced in the fourth quarter by bells in her head.
"I got knocked out on a kickoff return," she said. "I put a kick on a big girl and she spun me around and I got tangled up between the tacklers and the tackle. I was on the bottom of a big pileup and when everybody got off the pile I was still lying there, not cold. But I came out of it and stayed in the game."
The Troopers lost that game, but came back the following week to rip the Middletown Mavericks, 24-0. Janquart was ably to tackle for the second game and played in the way on offense, defense and special teams. And to top it off, she was responsible for the game's only points as she fell up a Midwestern player in the endzone for a safety.
"I had much more fun the second game," said Janquart. "I was a lot more confident. I put more pressure on myself to do well because I had another week to prepare and there wasn't as much to think about at tackle as there was at guard. I felt playing the whole game was a real accomplishment."
Players for the Troopers are not professionals in the true sense of the word because they receive no pay. The team provides uniforms and equipment and pays expenses and medical bills. Even the coaches are volunteers.
Janquart doesn't foresee any changes in that arrangement in the near future.
"I don't see any growth in it at this point," she said.



Judie Janquart lives out football fantasy

Page 12 Stevens Point (Wis.) Daily Journal Thursday, September 6, 1979
Troopers' opening game against the Columbus Peacemakers.
"I was more nervous and scared at the start of the game than I'd ever been in my life," she said. "I never realized a guard has as much responsibility as it has and I didn't want to make a mistake like jumping offside or holding. But after the first bit, I was all right. That chased the butterflies away."
While the butterflies may have been knocked out of her stomach, they were replaced in the fourth quarter by bells in her head.
"I got knocked out on a kickoff return," she said. "I put a kick on a big girl and she spun me around and I got tangled up between the tacklers and the tackle. I was on the bottom of a big pileup and when everybody got off the pile I was still lying there, not cold. But I came out of it and stayed in the game."
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SPASH HONORS

- SPASH Panther Hall of Fame, 2024

COACHING CAREER

Basketball

- 1st SPASH Girls Basketball Coach, 1972/1973 season
- Prior to the 1st WIAA Girls Basketball State Tournament, her teams went 9-0 in first season, 1972/1973, 15-0 in 1974-1975
- Wisconsin Valley Conference Girls Basketball Championship, 1980
- Basketball State Championship Team, 1980

Track & Volleyball

- Assistant Coach when sports started at SPASH in 1972



MARGE Spring

Marge Spring was a true trailblazer and supporter of women's athletics throughout her whole career as a coach, educator and administrator at UW-Stevens Point

In 1965 as a new faculty member, Marge discovered the old women's field hockey equipment in a storage area. Marge was inspired to restart the women's field hockey team which was active from its first year in 1917 through the 1940's. In 1970, she started the women's track and field from scratch, working hard to create opportunities for female athletes.

As a further indication of her deep commitment to women's athletics, from 1968-69 Marge took part in discussions regarding the formation of the Wisconsin Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WWIAC). This conference exists today as the WIAC.

Marge joined five other people from the university and the community in 1980 to form the Women's Athletic Fund which provided a vital financial support system for women's athletics through 2006.

Her contributions to UWSP's Elementary Physical Education program are still being felt today. She developed the "Friday Program", allowing undergraduate students to work with physically and mentally challenged children in the Stevens Point School District. This class exists today as PEX 400 and PEX 401

Marge retired from the University in 1983 and in recognition of her efforts to promote and support women's athletics, she was one of the first two women inducted in the UWSP Hall of Fame. According to her students who nominated her for this honor, "Due to her boundless energies and efforts, doors were opened to women's collegiate athletics on a scale only dreamed of to that point in time." Marge passed away in 2008 at age 86 but her legacy lives on.



Marjorie Mullen, Barb Tenneson, Marjorie Spring
(Stevens Point Journal)





STEPHANIE Hauser

As the youngest Trailblazer, Stephanie was fortunate to never have known a time when opportunities in sports were not available to girls and women, but she never took those opportunities for granted.

Stephanie was an outstanding athlete at Antigo High School, starring in volleyball, basketball and softball. After completing her own three sport career at UW-Superior, she taught Chemistry and coached volleyball for 12 years at 3 high schools; Cumberland, Green Bay Southwest and Bayport. She completed a Master's degree from Marion University in 1997. She moved into an Assistant Principal/Athletic Director role in New London for four years prior to moving to the same role at SPASH in 2007.

According to Stephanie, her Dad and high school coach, was the most influential coach in her career. When she started her own coaching career, it was her Dad who reminded her that *“coaching is not about you, but the lessons and confidence your athletes are*

gaining from their athletic experiences.” As an Athletic Director, she worked to instill that philosophy in her coaches.

In 2015 Stephanie accepted the Assistant Executive Director position for the WIAA and on July 31, 2021, Stephanie made history as the first female Executive Director of the WIAA in its 126 year existence. When asked what three words Stephanie would like to be used to describe her, those words were: *“Genuine, committed and personable.”*

In a recent interview Stephanie said there were, “thirty-seven words that changed everything for girls in sports. I was too young to remember that happening. I’ve always had the opportunity to play sports, just like my brothers did. But I’ll tell you what, I don’t think I would have been named the first female executive director of the WIAA if it weren’t for what happened 50 years ago.”



WIAA

Hauser named first female executive director

JON MASSON
jmasson@madison.com

The WIAA Board of Control on Friday named Stephanie Hauser as the WIAA's next executive director. Hauser will replace the retiring Dave Anderson.

"I am grateful and so proud to have been offered the opportunity to serve our diverse membership and to move education-based athletics forward," Hauser said in a WIAA release. "Our member schools are facing challenging times, and I look forward to supporting and involving them in the process as we embrace this new chapter together."

Hauser becomes the first female to serve as executive director in the 125-year history of the WIAA. She is preceded by P.F. Neversman from 1924-51, Clifford Fagan 1951-57, John Roberts from 1957-85, Doug Chickering from 1986-

2009 and then Anderson.

"We are excited to announce Stephanie Hauser as the next executive director," WIAA Board of Control president Eric Russell said in the release. "Stephanie brings great experience, plans and excitement to the position, and we are proud to have her represent the membership."

Hauser will begin her new role in July, working in the transition with Anderson.

Anderson's retirement as executive director becomes effective July 31, 2021.

Hauser has served as an assistant director with the WIAA since joining the executive staff July 6, 2015. Finalists for the job were

Hauser, WIAA deputy director Wade Labecki, Stratford superintendent Scott Winch and Watertown superintendent and business manager Luke Francois.

Hauser's accomplishments since joining the WIAA include the administration and coordination of her current duties for gymnastics, volleyball and softball, as well as cross country and track and field prior to the hiring of Kate Peterson Abiad in the spring of 2018.

Hauser is credited with leading the conference realignment task force committee; creating the WIAA Award of Excellence and Spirit of Sport Award; implementing a fifth division in softball; establishing innovative co-op team classifications in gymnastics; supervising the move of the boys volleyball state tournament to the Resch Center; and negotiating

partnerships with sponsors and a number of convention and visitors bureaus, according to the release.

Hauser also has been active at the national level since joining the executive staff.

Prior to the WIAA, Hauser served eight years as the athletic administrator and assistant principal at Stevens Point Area Senior High School. She also had high school coaching experience.

Hauser and her husband, Dave, have three adult children, Nicki, Sam and Joey.

Sam Hauser played men's basketball at Virginia this past season after playing at Marquette. Joey Hauser played men's basketball at Michigan State this past season after also playing at Marquette.

At its meeting Friday, the Board of Control approved the 11-player football conference realignment solution for the 2022

season and admission requirements for baseball and softball tournament series games this spring, according to a separate WIAA release.

The football conference realignment plan was initiated by the WIAA conference realignment task force committee and impacts 23 schools. Baraboo and Reedsburg opposed being shifted from the Badger Small Conference to the Mississippi Valley Conference.

The WIAA state boys golf tournament will be June 14-15 in Wisconsin Dells (Division 1 at Wild Rock Golf Club and Divisions 2 and 3 at Trappers Turn Golf Club), WIAA assistant director Tom Shafanski told Wisconsin Golf.

The state tournament wasn't held in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. University Ridge Golf Course has been the tournament's home since 1994.

CLASS A ANTIGO

ANTIGO HIGH SCHOOL

District Administrator Peter Nield
Executive Principal Jann Peterson
High School Principal Thomas Schmeltz
Athletic Director Donald Guse
Head Coach Ralph Elleson
Manager JoAnn Cejka
Team Colors Cardinal & White
Conference Wisconsin Valley
Enrollment 1313

SEASON RECORD

Conference Won 6 — Lost 2
Final Conference Standing 3rd Place
Other Nontournament Matches Won 1 — Lost 0

INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Mini Invitational 1st Place (5-1)
Shawano Invitational 1st Place (8-2)
Neenah Invitational 3rd Place (7-5)
Valley Invitational 5th Place (4-4)
Antigo Invitational 3rd Place (9-5)

TOURNAMENT RECORDS

Regionals

New London 15-1, 15-3
Shawano 15-7, 15-13

Sectionals

Appleton West 15-3, 15-6
Seymour 15-8, 15-9
Marinette 15-11, 9-15

THESE ARE THE RED ROBINS

As shown in picture:

L to R	Name	No.	Position	Ht.	Gr.
Front Row	Michelle Fleischman	3	Setter	5'3"	10
	Tammy Breitenfeldt	6	Hitter	5'5½"	11
	Kathy Gaudette	5	Setter	5'5"	12
	Mary Galuska	2	Back Row	5'4"	11
	Laura Tatro	1	Hitter	5'4½"	11
	Debbie Suchon	10	Setter	5'4½"	11
	Debbie Jackson	8	Setter	5'3"	12
2nd Row	Ralph Elleson	—	Head Coach		
	Janis Schroepfer	7	Back Row	5'4"	12
	Connie Banczak	4	Setter	5'4½"	11
	Lori Lenzner	13	Hitter	5'6"	12
	Stefi Hafemeister	11	Hitter	5'8½"	11
	Patti Scheurer	15	Hitter	5'9½"	11
	Stephanie Fermanich	12	Hitter	5'9"	12
	Toni Zima	14	Hitter	5'6½"	12
	Cheri Galecke	9	Hitter	5'8½"	10
	JoAnn Cejka	—	Manager		



NANCY Schoen

Graduating high school in 1970 Stockbridge, Wisconsin where sports opportunities were limited, Nancy went to UW-La Crosse to major in physical education and quickly found out how unprepared she was for her career when classes began. Classes were gender specific and performance based. In high school, she had only been taught the basic sports: basketball and track but as a Phy. Ed. major, she had to learn swimming, gymnastics, soccer, dance and other sports that she had never encountered.

After completing a Master's Degree from Arizona State, she joined UWSP in 1978 teaching and coaching volleyball and track. As a student, she lived through the inception of Title IX, watching and waiting for the equity it promised women. As a UWSP coach, she received less pay for her contract than her male colleagues and her budget did not include an assistant coach, unlike the men's programs. She was told "your program doesn't make any money." Consequently, Nancy ran camps in the summer to pay for an assistant during the school year. Her struggle for equality between the men's and women's athletic programs was constant.

Coach Schoen's tenure as the volleyball and track coach at UWSP created a winning mentality with the athletes in those programs. Schoen's 1981 volleyball team had the most successful season in

the history of the program up to that time, capturing the WWIAC Championship and reaching the finals of the NCAA Division III Regional Championship.

According to Tina Hill, 1982 Women's volleyball team captain, "to say she had a positive impact on the lives of her players and the Stevens Point community is an understatement. Her dedication to her craft inspired me to pursue a degree in physical education and Master's degree in sports management. I've dedicated my entire career to intercollegiate athletics at 5 different institutions in four different states. I can assure you, I look for the very traits Coach Schoen instilled in us, as search for coaches to join my staff. It's hard to beat her work ethic and commitment that made us better players, students and women."

Doing her best for the students was the only way Nancy knew. Despite success on the volleyball court and the track, the onset of Title IX was a marathon, not a sprint. Teachers do what is necessary, often at their own expense and time, for their students. Coach Schoen always did what she could for her students and student athletes. Her tenure from 1978-1990 at UWSP left an indelible mark on both the volleyball and track programs.



Nancy Schoen and the 1978 UWSP Volleyball team



Nancy Schoen and the 1979 UWSP Volleyball Team



1982 UWSP Volleyball team at NCAA Regional Championship finals



1978 UWSP Track Team

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL COACH
NANCY SCHOEN

Conference championships and national tournament berths are becoming an annual result of the tough schedules played by the volleyball team at UW-SP. These occurrences began taking place since 1978 when Nancy Schoen came to UW-SP and assumed control of the fortunes of the Lady Pointers.

Schoen's 1981-82 team had the most successful season in the history of the sport at UW-SP as it captured the Wisconsin Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship and then reached the finals of the NCAA Division III Regional championship which it hosted.

Last year's squad concluded the season with a remarkable 34-5 record and had the distinction of entering tournament play as the No. 4 ranked team nationally in NCAA Division III.

In the 1980-81 season, Schoen's team compiled a 26-15 record and finished second in the WWIAC Tournament. By virtue of receiving an at-large bid, UW-SP then participated in the MAIAW Regional Qualifying Tournament at Ohio Northern University where they finished fourth.

Schoen's 1979-80 team had the highest national finish in UW-SP history as that cinderella team surprised everyone with their sixth place finish in the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIW) Division III National Tournament in Occidental, Cal.

At the completion of the 1979 season record 36-18, Schoen was selected by her peers as the WWIAC Division III Coach of the Year.

One could sense that Schoen was developing something special in her first year in 1978 when she took an average team and guided it to a 19-10 record. Schoen has a four year record of 115-42 at UW-SP with one conference title, two runnerup finishes, three regional tournaments and 1 national appearance.

Schoen was a volleyball player herself prior to coaching the sport. She competed at UW-LaCrosse where she was also a member of the field hockey and track and field teams.

She received her Master of Science Degree in physical education at Arizona State University. She specialized in exercise physiology. As a graduate assistant, she was an assistant softball coach for the ASU softball team which placed fourth in national competition.

Prior to coming to UW-SP, Schoen taught physical education at Sauk Prairie High School and coached volleyball, basketball and track and field. She held a position at Reedburg High School prior to that.

During the summer months, Schoen is the director of UW-SP's highly successful volleyball camp and clinic.

ASSISTANT COACH SHARON BACKMAN

Sharon Backman is a big part of the rich recent history of volleyball at the UW-SP as a player and now she is a part of the success story as an assistant coach.

She is in her first year in that position at UW-SP after serving as an assistant coach in the sport at Rhinelander High School in 1981.

Backman earned four letters in volleyball as she played from 1976 through 1979. She was captain of the team her last two seasons and was a member of the 1979 team which captured sixth place in the AIW National Tournament in Los Angeles. She graduated from UW-SP in 1980 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in physical education.

She is currently pursuing graduate work in physical therapy and is also a registered WIAA official in volleyball.

Schoen voted top volleyball coach

Nancy Schoen, the women's volleyball coach at UW-SP has been selected by her peers as the Wisconsin Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Division III volleyball Coach of the Year for 1979.

In only her second year as the UW-SP head coach, Schoen guided her women's team to its best finish ever in school history this past season.

The highlight of the team's season was a sixth place finish in the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIW) Division III national tournament in Occidental, California, this past fall.

The Pointer women compiled a 24-8 regular season record and then went on to finish second in the WWIAC tournament. By virtue of receiving an at-large bid, UW-SP then went on to participate in the AIW Regional Qualifying Tournament in Upland, Indiana, where it captured third place to qualify for the national meet.

Schoen and her team continually fooled the seeding committees at the various tournament sites. At the regional qualifying tournament, UW-SP was seeded seventh and finished third, and in the national meet, Point was seeded eighth and finished sixth.

Wisconsin Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

Honors
NANCY SCHOEN
as
Year 1984 Sport **VOLLEYBALL**

Coach of the Year

In Recognition of Outstanding Contributions to Women's Athletics by Promoting and Perpetuating the Highest Degree of Excellence in the True Spirit of Sport.

Wisconsin Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

Honors
NANCY SCHOEN
as
Year 1982 Sport **TRACK AND FIELD**

Coach of the Year

In Recognition of Outstanding Contributions to Women's Athletics by Promoting and Perpetuating the Highest Degree of Excellence in the True Spirit of Sport.

VOLLEYBALL

- 1981 WWIAC Volleyball Championship
- 1980 WWIAC Championship Runner-up

TRACK

- 1982 WWIAC Division III Coach of the Year Track & Field
- 1982 6th place at NCAA Division III National

- Coached 11 Track & Field All-Americans
- WWIAC Top 3 finishes consistently



SHEILA Miech

Growing up in Wausau in a household where competition was the norm, finding competitive opportunities for girls in the late 60's and early 70's was challenging beyond the 1 hour a week GAA activities. Timing was everything for competitive girls in this time. 70's. Despite a lack of opportunity in middle school, she excelled in track in high school.

At UWSP, Sheila thrived as an athlete, participating in the judo club, gymnastics and track. Nancy Page, the UWSP field hockey coach, recognized talent and knew her speed would be an asset to the team. Sheila earned MVP honors in both Track and Field and Field Hockey in 1978 and was recognized as UW-SP Athlete of the Year.

After teaching and coaching at the high school level and assistant coaching at UW-Whitewater, she returned to UWSP in 1987 as a

professor and assistant track coach. In 1987, UWSP became one of the first Wisconsin colleges to add women's soccer and Sheila was named the first head coach and remained for 25 seasons.

With soccer as a fall sport and her husband John the UWSP Football Coach, Sheila had to juggle raising two boys, a 75% teaching load at UWSP and road trips for both sports. She once said, "if I just stop to read the paper in the fall, it throws off our whole 3 month schedule!"

As a product of Title IX, Sheila would tell young athletes to never forget their place in history. "Many great female athletes never had the opportunities that you have today. Be grateful to all those who made this possible and appreciate the advances we have made. Use your gifts from God wisely and enjoy the ride!"



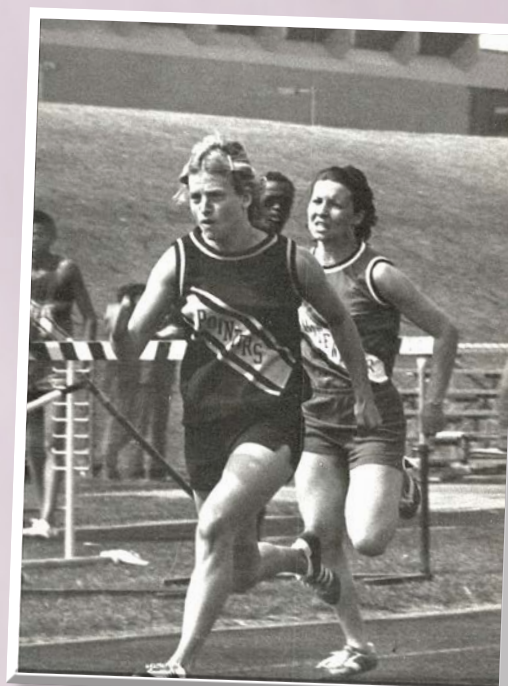
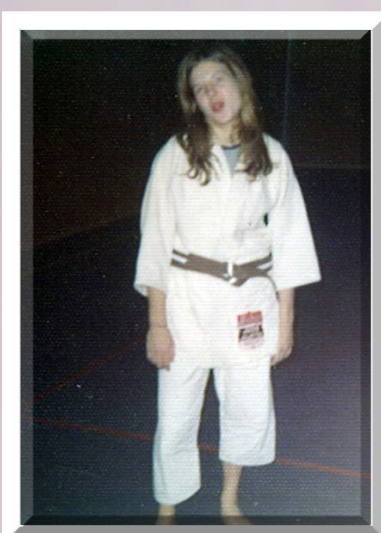
UWSP Field Hockey with Coach Nancy Page and teammate Sheila Miech



Field hockey practice, Sheila in striped pants



Sheila and fellow UWSP HOF field hockey player Dee Simon



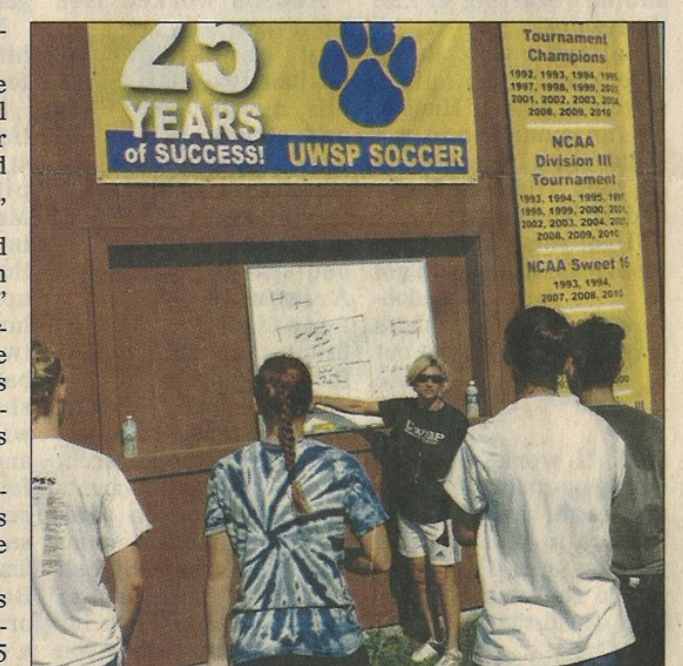
Miech making history at HOF

By Scott A. Williams
scott.williams@ownnews.net

Sheila Miech has a long list of accolades during her coaching career at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Miech will add another accolade Saturday when she will become the first woman inductee into the Wisconsin Soccer Coaches Association Hall of Fame. The all-time winningest women's soccer coach in Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference history, Miech ranks sixth on the all-time NCAA Division III wins list with 376 wins in 25 seasons. The ceremony for the fourth class will take place at the Monona Terrace in Madison at 6 p.m. Miech will be joined by Marian University men's soccer coach Craig Peltonen, Aleks Nikolic and Tim Alexander. "First of all, I think the timing is awesome with

this being my silver anniversary. It's happening at a great time in my life," said Miech, who owns a 376-125-31 record. "Being the first woman is a great honor. "It's hard to say something like this is all you," Miech added. "This is a great honor for everyone who has ever been involved with soccer at UW-Stevens Point — the university, the great coaches, the great players who all have made me look good, share in this." Miech, however, has been the one constant through the 25-year history of women's soccer at UW-Stevens Point. No one in the WIAC has come close to equaling the success she has enjoyed during her tenure with the Pointers, including 14 WIAC titles and a 137-167 record in the regular season. From 1997 through 2003, Miech guided the Pointers to 70 consecutive conference victories, the longest conference soccer winning

streak ever in NCAA competition at any level. Making the Hall of Fame honor even more special for Miech will be seeing her son, Jesse, who is the head coach at Illinois-Springfield, introduce her. "It's such an honor and so special to have my son Jesse speak about mom," said Miech, who not so surprisingly was named the WIAC's all-time women's soccer coach in conjunction with the conference's Centennial Celebration. "A lot of family members and former coaches and players are going to be there." Miech has led the Pointers to 15 conference tournament championships, 15 NCAA tournament appearances, multiple trips to the Elite Eight and Sweet 16 and a Final Four trip in 2000. "You just have to be old and have a lot of silver hair for something like this to happen," Miech said. "If someone would have told



University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point women's soccer coach Sheila Miech will be the first woman inducted into the Wisconsin Soccer Coaches Association Hall of Fame on Saturday in Madison. (DOUG WOJCIK/STEVENS POINT JOURNAL)



Sheila, second row, 4th person



UWSP soccer, first year of Sheila's coaching career

Tradition lives here!	
Wisconsin State Champions 1989, 1990	
WIAC Champions 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2008, 2009, 2010	
WIAC Tournament Champions 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2008, 2009, 2010	
NCAA Division III Tournament 1993, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010	
NCAA Sweet 16 1993, 1994, 2007, 2008, 2010	
NCAA Division III Elite Eight 1993, 1994, 2000	
NCAA Division III Final Four 2000	

UWSP Women's Soccer

COACHING CAREER

- UWSP Hall of Fame, 2014
- Wisconsin Coaches Soccer Hall of Fame, 2012 (first women inductee)
- WIAC Women's Soccer All-Time Centennial Coach
- Coaching record 365-11-31 (.742 winning percentage)
- 14 WIAC regular season titles
- 15 WIAC Tournament Championships
- NCAA record 70 straight conference games wins
- NCAA ranking 15th in all-time wins for any division of NCAA
- 15 NCAA appearances including Final 4 in 2000
- Development 10 All-American players



LYNDA Schrader

At age 7 Lynda's grandmother wanted to give her ballet lessons but her mom took her to an ice rink for ice skating lessons instead. With limited skating opportunities in her hometown, Lynda's parents sent her to summer skating camps in Colorado. Through the process of testing skating skills through the US Figure Skating Association, Lynda found her passion for teaching skating and coached in three different rinks in the Chicago area.

When Lynda moved to Stevens Point in 1983, there was a Learn to Skate with no real format or guidelines. With her past experience, she developed the Learn to Skate program and the Crystal Ice Figure Skating club, focusing on Freestyle skaters and private lessons using the Ice Skating Institute program. The Crystal Ice Figure Skating Club joined United States Figure Skating as a competitive club in the 1990's.

In 2007, Lynda and her daughter Lindsay formed the Red Panther Figure Skating High School team in 2007, giving skaters from SPASH, Pacelli, Homeschool and other local schools, another avenue for competition.. The current coach of the Red Panther team is a former student of Lynda's as are many of the instructors in the Learn to Skate program.

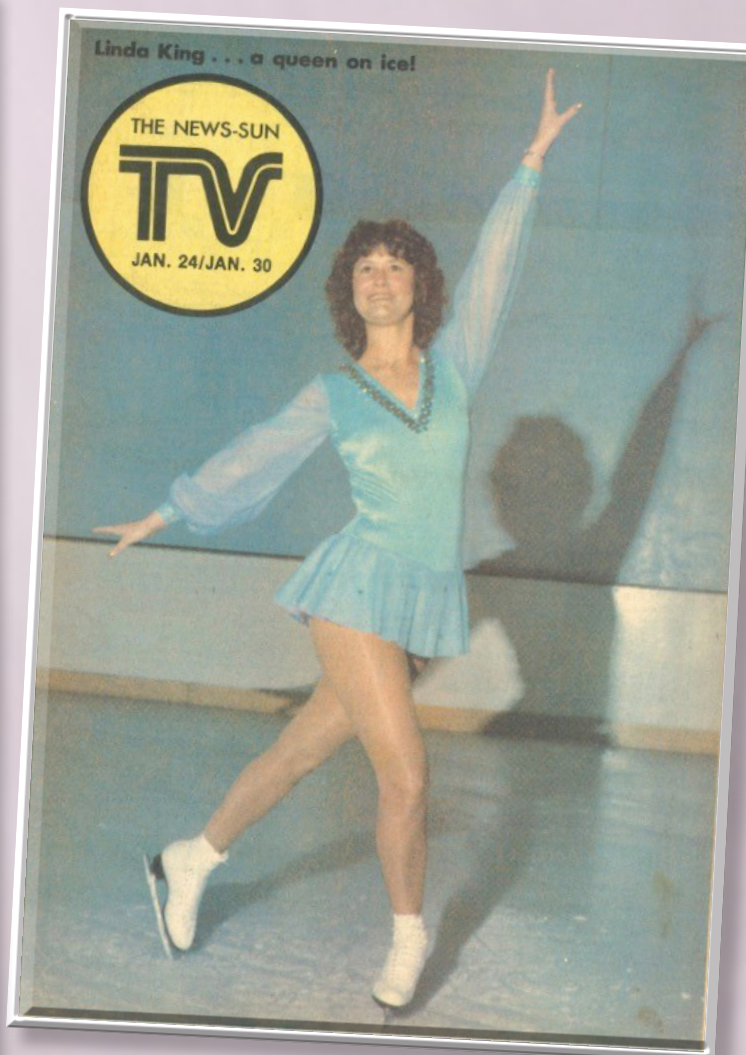
According to Lynda, "I loved skating from the beginning. I always looked forward to being at the rink. I met great friends throughout my skating career from all over the country. The skills became harder and sometimes frustrating, but there was nowhere I would rather have been than at the rink." Through her passion for ice skating, she has grown not only the Learn to Skate program, the Red Panther Figure Skating High School team and the annual ice show, but developed competitive synchronized skating teams.



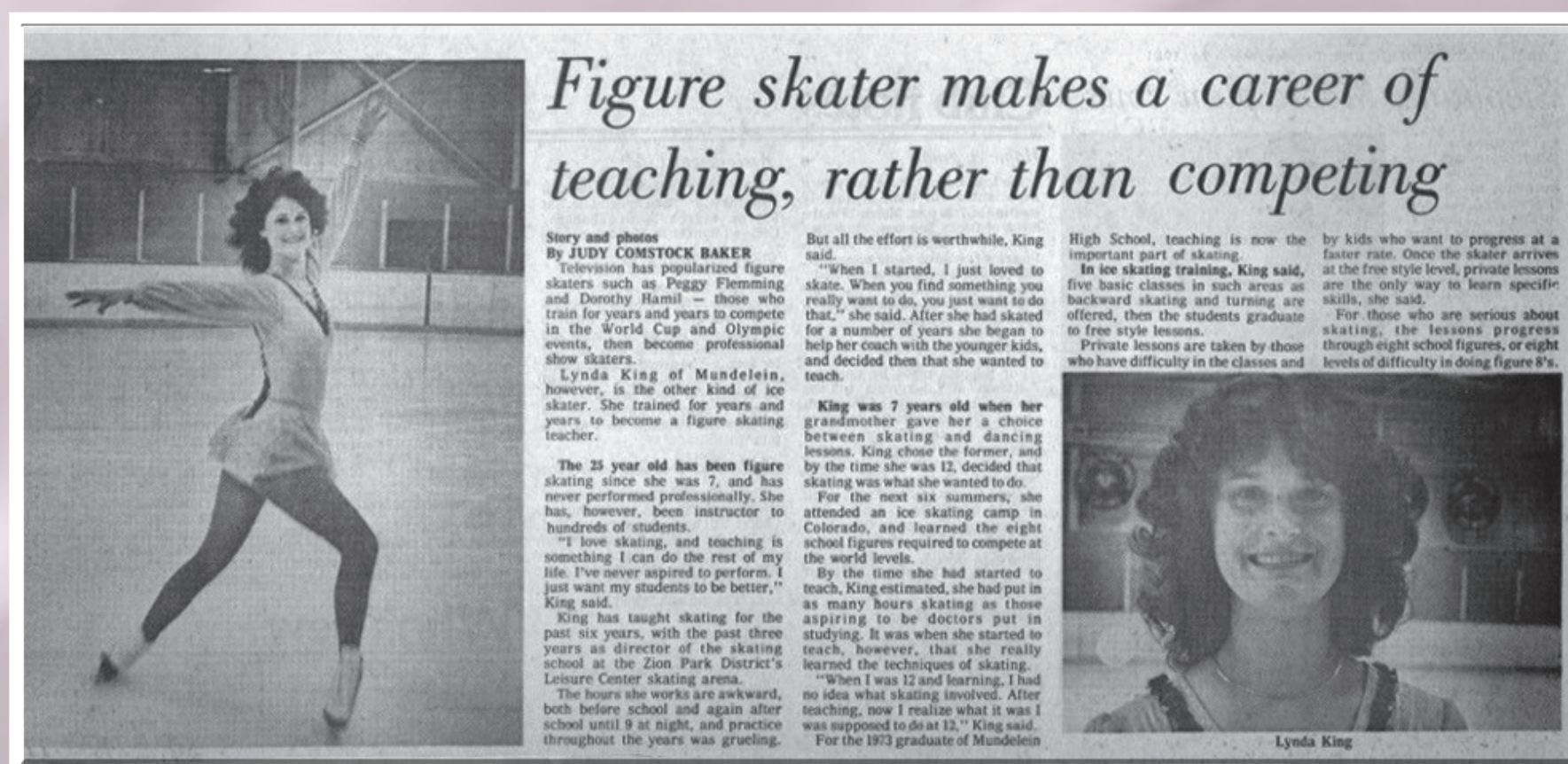
Lynda (dark sweater) skating in Winnetka, Illinois



Lynda, formal portrait taken in Aspen, Colorado



Crystal Ice Figure Skating Club Synchronized Skating Competition team, early 2000's



Lynda & Lindsay with Red Panther Skating team at first competition in Marquette, Michigan, 2007