

TIFFANY & CHRIS

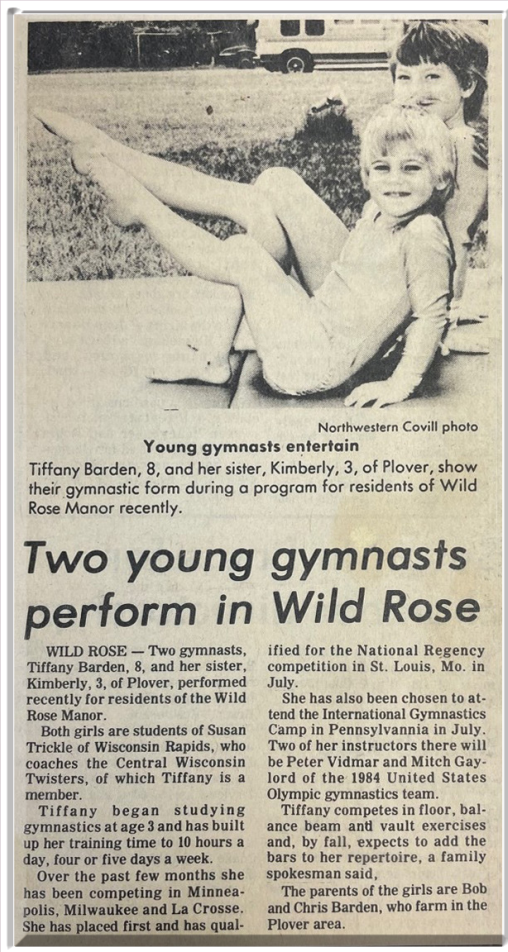
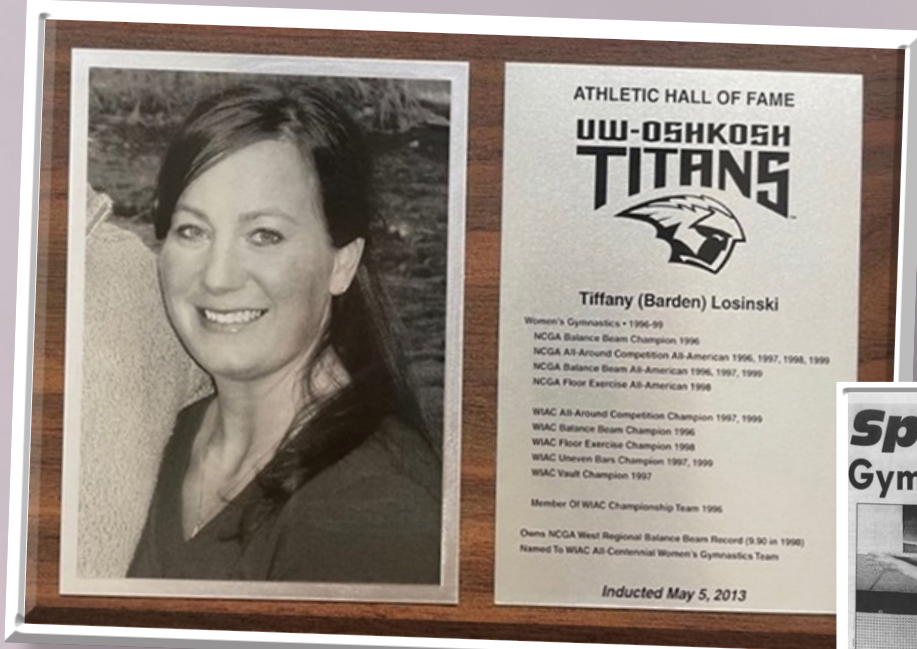
TIFFANY (BARDEN) LOSINSKI

At age 3, Tiffany started at Academie De la Danse in Wisconsin Rapids but quickly outgrew the program and by age 6, she was working out with the SPASH girls at the Stevens Point YMCA. By age 7 she went to International Gymnastics summer camp in Straudsbury, Pennsylvania. She competed through the USA Gymnastics program at meets around the country.

Competing for UW-Oshkosh, she was the National Balance Beam Champion in 1996, a 4x All American and Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Champion in all four events including the All-Around. She currently holds the UW-Oshkosh school record on the balance beam. She was honored at the UW-Oshkosh 2012 Centennial Celebration as part of the WIAC All-Time Gymnastics Team and inducted to the UW-Oshkosh Athletics Hall of Fame in 2013. In 2019, Tiffany was inducted into the NCGA Hall of Fame for her contribution to gymnastics after college.

CHRIS BARDEN

Although Chris and her husband Bob farmed in Plover, she was determined to support her daughters, Tiffany and Kimberly. She became a coach, made uniforms, and volunteered wherever she was able, all while continuing to help her husband with the farm. She had wanted to be a physical education teacher and missed being able to participate in high school athletics, so she did everything in her power to support her daughters. She opened her own gym and was joined by her daughters, Tiffany and Kimberly, coaching a new generation of gymnasts. She is 70 years young and continues to be passionate about coaching and developing young gymnasts.



SARA & KALI

KALI SCHIERL

While training for high school sports, Kali began weightlifting to increase her strength. Kali earned 12 world records in the bench press event, often beating her own prior record. She competed through the World Association of Bench Press and Deadlift. A versatile high school athlete Kali ran cross country, competed in beam and vault in gymnastics and pole vault for the track team.

Kali went to The Ohio State University and earned a “walk on” scholarship in gymnastics as a vaulter and finished her collegiate career as team captain.

SARA SCHIERL

Sara, an accomplished high school diver at Madison West High School, continued her success as an outstanding diver at UW-Eau Claire.

After college Sara traveled the world as a professional diver. In the shows she dazzled the crowd diving from springboard, platform, high dive and pyramids. She was a “fire diver,” where the diver is wrapped in a special costume and lit on fire diving into a pool. According to Sara, the hardest part of this dive was learning to hold your breath long enough and dealing with the wet weight of the fire costume.

After settling in Stevens Point, Sara began coaching at UWSP where she is the current dive coach for the UWSP men and women teams.

UW-EAU CLAIRE

- NAIA 3 meter title 1984, 1985 and 1987, Runner up 1986
- NAIA 1 meter title 1985, Runner up 1984, 1986, 1987
- 3 meter board 1987 National Scoring Record
- Female Athlete of the Year, Madison Pen and Mike Club 1987
- Sports Illustrated Faces in the Crowd, April, 1987
- UW-Eau Claire Blugold Hall of Fame, October 1993

Kali Schierl breaks own world record, claims World Title

Stevens Point native Kali Schierl set a new world record and won the World Championship in the 115-pound division of the Teen 14-15 age group at the 2013 World Association of Bench Press and Deadlift (WABDL) World Championships, held at the Peppermill Resort and Convention Center in Reno, Nev., Sunday, Nov. 10.

Schierl qualified for the World Championship by winning the Midwest 7 State Regional WABDL Championships in the Teen 14-15 114-pound class in Minneapolis, Minn., July 16.

She established herself as the best in her class in Minneapolis by breaking the world record of 149.8 held by Eda Hnacek of Texas. On her third lift she broke the record by 1.1 pounds, which is called chipping the weight, and again on her fourth lift, as she established a new world record at 150.9 pounds.

While representing Wisconsin at the World Championships, Schierl immediately established herself on her first lift by pressing 160.8 pounds for a new world record.

Just getting started, Schierl pressed 170.7 pounds on her second attempt, to again establish a new world record.

On her third attempt, Schierl loaded the bar with 181.7 pounds, or 82.5 kilograms, and just missed as the bar dipped slightly on the way up, thus disqualifying the lift.

Not finished yet, Schierl was granted a fourth lift under the rules, due to the fact she was making a world record attempt.

On her fourth and final lift attempt, she successfully pressed 181.7 pounds to win the 114-pound World Championship in Teen 14-15, while establishing her third world record lift of the day.

By pressing 181.7 pounds, Schierl also had the heaviest lift in the world for the 114, 123, 132 and 165 pound weight classes in the Teen 14-15 division.

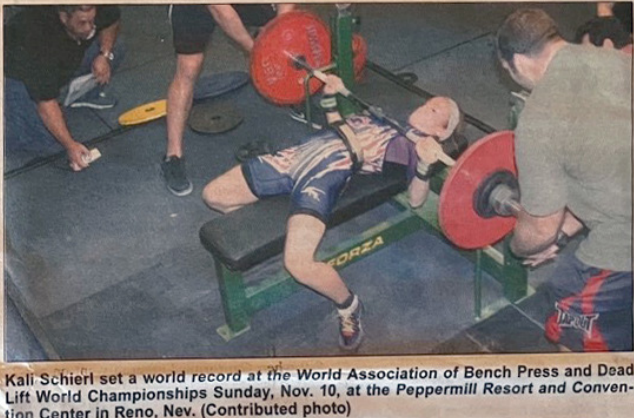
She is trained by her dad, Tim Schierl, and by her coach Nick Buck, who himself placed second in the 165 pound open men's division.

Buck, a 2012 World Champion, began training Kali in June of 2013 at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Strength Center.

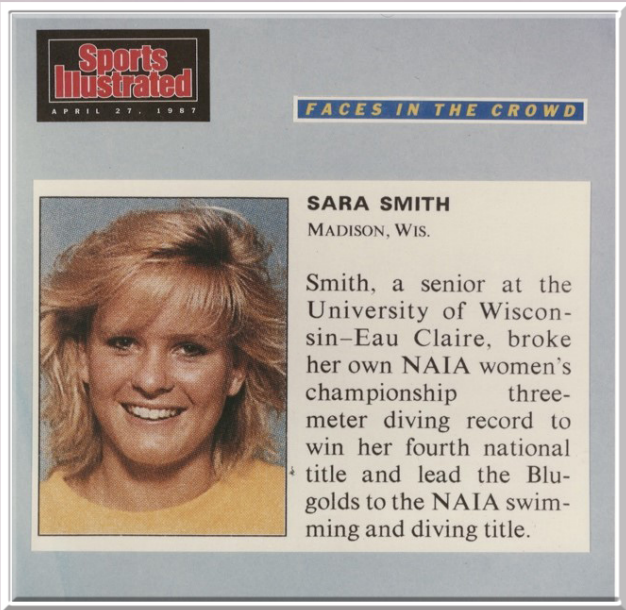
At this year's National Championships, Buck pressed 263.7 pounds on the opening lift, 281.3 pounds on his second lift and barely missed a personal best of 402.2 pounds on his final attempt.

Buck, a native of Adams, resides in Stevens Point with his wife Darlene and his daughter, Marissa.

By winning the World Title, Kali Schierl is automatically qualified to participate at the 2014 World Championships in Las Vegas, Nev.



Kali Schierl set a world record at the World Association of Bench Press and Deadlift World Championships Sunday, Nov. 10, at the Peppermill Resort and Convention Center in Reno, Nev. (Contributed photo)



ALLISON

ALLISON (ALTMANN) WHITE

In 1992 Alison became the first girl to play on the SPASH football team. Allison became interested in football while in elementary school. Encouraged by her parents she talked to the coaches at Ben Franklin Junior high school where she made the cut and earned the Most Valuable Member Award in 1991.

The rest is SPASH history. She played tackle, receiver, kick off team and special teams on the JV SPASH team under Coaches George Roman and Jerry Fitzgerald. When asked if other girls should try out for the football team, Allison said, "You have to be tough, have a lot of goals and stick with it, because it takes a lot out of you." and she was tough!



SPASH player tackles all-boy's sport

[illegible]

LEAH

LEAH BERARD

Leah Berard, a 1997 SPASH graduate, began her rugby career at UW-La Crosse. According to Leah, “I loved playing sports and was always the most aggressive on my teams, so when I was introduced to rugby, it was a perfect fit because I was able to channel that energy into a full contact sport.” After graduation, she played for the Wisconsin Women’s Rugby Club and the Minnesota Vallkyries women’s rugby team but had to stop playing due to injuries and concussions.

She returned to rugby in 2006 as a referee. Leah's rugby career spans over 20 years, with 14 years as a professional referee that has taken her all over the world to places like Barbados, South Africa, Hong Kong, England, Australia, Argentina and Russia, just to name a few. In December 2011 she made her first international appearance as Assistant Referee for the iRB (now World Rugby) Men's Seven Series in South Africa. After that, she secured a spot in the first iRB sanctioned Women's Sevens Challenge Cup in Hong King in March 2012, where she refereed the Cup Final - Australia vs. England. Impressively, Berard was the first woman to referee in a men's professional rugby competition anywhere in the world and is still the only American to referee a Rugby World Cup final (2013 - New Zealand vs. Canada).

She “retired” from rugby in 2020 and now has taken up refereeing American football, where she is currently officiating Division 1 college football in the Missouri Valley conference and has her sights set on refereeing in the NFL.



Leah, third from left

PAULA

PAULA (ALTENBURG) PRATT

For over 50 years Paula has been the “Godmother” of many riders across many disciplines including dressage, western, English, and trail riding. Paula grew up on a farm in the town of Plover.

Paula returned to Portage County after attending Huntley Horse Center in Tennessee to run Pratt Farms to breed and train dressage horses. She has shown her beloved horse Bokken through the Intermediare level of dressage. Her passion for horses is only topped by her passion for helping others in their pursuit of their equestrian goals.

Paula and her husband Bob operate their farm in Bancroft, training horses, raising dairy cows, chasing chickens and caring for their extensive circle of horse family and friends.



Paula and Bokken showing at Wisconsin Equestrian Center in Green Bay

KATHI

KATHI BENNETT

Kathi Bennett was a starting point guard on the 1980 SPASH Championship basketball team but her career was cut short by a knee injury playing volleyball. Her early memories revolve around basketball, tagging along with her dad, Dick Bennett, former UWSP men’s basketball coach. She played basketball at UWSP for one season, then transferred to UWGB where she suffered a career ending knee injury.

She returned to her first love, basketball leading the UW-Oshkosh Titans to 5 conference championships in 7 seasons and to the NCAA Division III championship in 1995 after a perfect season. She continued her successful coaching career at University of Evansville, Indiana and then to the Big 10, at Indiana, leading the Hoosiers to a NCAA tournament berth. She retired in 2015 after a successful coaching career at Northern Illinois. “She impacted me as a player and as a coach - I admire how she handled great success and how she handled hard things.” said her brother Tony.



MARCY

MARCY GERADS

Growing up in Hastings, Minnesota, she was told “girls can’t play basketball with the boys”, but by high school, Marcy was the captain and all conference player on her volleyball, basketball and track team. At Mankato State she qualified for NCAA National Indoor Track and Field in the shot put.

In 2007, Marcy became involved with the Stevens Point Girls Hoops organization when her daughter wanted to play basketball. Within a year, Marcy joined the board, becoming deeply involved with all aspects of the club. Although her daughter aged out of the Point Hoops program, Marcy has continued to run the Point Hoops program, believing strongly in providing opportunities for girls.



DEE

DEE SIMON

Title IX legislation passed the summer prior to Dee Simon’s senior year though opportunities were limited to track and volleyball. In 1970, the WIAA hosted the Wisconsin State Girls Track and Field Sports Day. Dee competed against her future UWSP teammate Marcy Mirman in the softball throw. Dee was selected for the UWSP Hall of Fame in 1988. During her time at UWSP, she was a 4 year letter winner in field hockey, basketball and track, recognized as the UWSP female athlete of the year and qualified for NCAA in javelin after learning two months prior to the competition.

After college, she played semi-pro basketball for the Milwaukee Snitz and semi-pro softball for the Milwaukee Bankettes. She coached Kenosha Bradford High School girls basketball for 23 years and officiated WIAA high school volleyball matches for 40 years.



China wall

Huang Shu-Hua (12) and a teammate from the Chinese Nationalist basketball squad form a line of defense in an attempt to stop Dee Simon (25) of the Snitz's women's team in the first period of their game in the Menasha Fieldhouse Saturday night. The Chinese squad ran to a 90-75 win in the international game, played before between 1,500 and 2,000 spectators. (News-Record photo)



Two teachers on basketball tour

Dee Simon, 40, and Debbie Swanson, 39, are on a basketball tour to China. Simon, who played basketball for four years at UWSP, and Swanson, who played basketball for two years at UWSP, are the only two women's basketball players from Stevens Point to play in China. Simon and Swanson are the only two women's basketball players from Stevens Point to play in China. Simon and Swanson are the only two women's basketball players from Stevens Point to play in China.

TAMMY

TAMMY HUNTER

Tammy, of Amherst, has been running in ultra-marathon events around the country since 1997. An ultra-marathon is any footrace longer than the traditional marathon length of 26.2 miles. She has run ultra-marathons ranging in distances from 20K to 100 K events to a 3 day event for 94 miles. The courses for these races can be over desert terrain, hilly Wisconsin terrain, high mountain passes or up and down steep canyons. She has passed her love of distance running to her daughter Tori who also joins her on some of these ultra-marathons. In 2022, Tammy ran in 10 races and is already signed up for 3 races in 2023.



VAL

VAL ROGACHESKI

Val Rogacheski was one of the original eight women allowed to run in the Boston Marathon in 1972, the first year women were allowed to participate in the event. In 1967, Katherine Switzer was ignominiously pulled out of the marathon, an image that galvanized women around the world. In April of 2022, the eight women were invited back to the Boston marathon to run and Val Rogacheski took up the opportunity to run with her daughters Allie and Abby and a cousin Kris Swanson. She was the only one of the original eight women to take up this challenge. Her daughter Allie coached the SPASH girls soccer team and teaches in the Stevens Point school district.



Left to right: Allie, Val



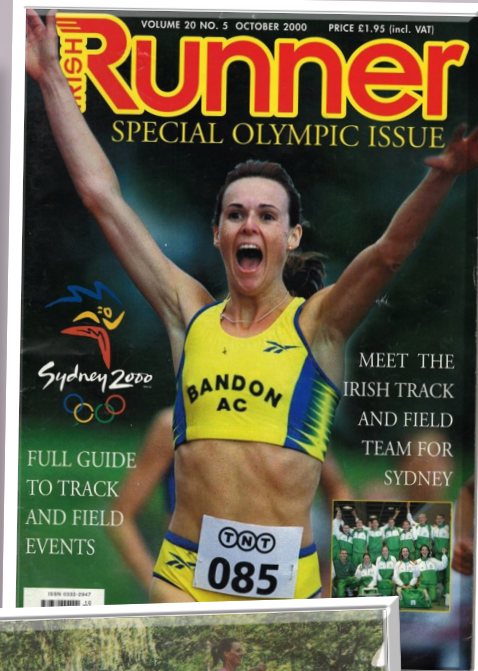
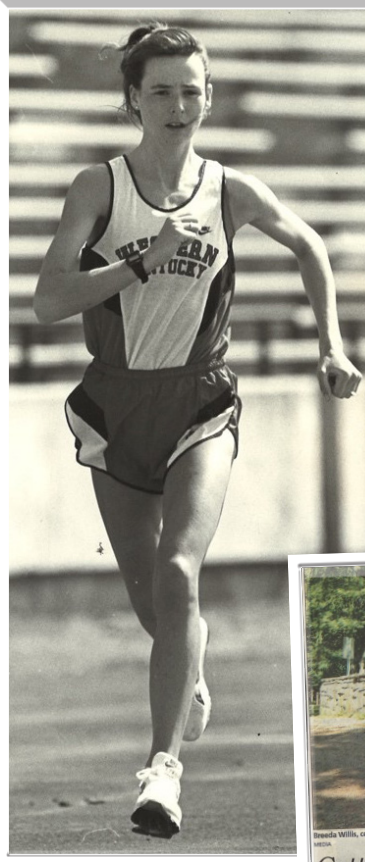
BREEDA

BREEDA (DENNEHY) WILLIS

Known as the mother of Roisin, Breeda is an exceptional athlete in her own right. A member of the Ireland Olympic team that competed in 2000 in Sydney, Australia. She grew up in Cork, Ireland where sports are club based rather than school based. She played camogie (Irish version of field hockey), basketball and karate. Encouraged her to try track by a local coach she got a scholarship to Western Kentucky University where she ran track and cross country becoming an NCAA All-American.

Her professional career spanned more than 10 years making the Irish national teams for the World Cross Country Championship (1992, 1999, 2000), World Track Championship (2001) and the Olympic Games (2000). In the Olympics, she placed 13th in the 5000 M event and 11th in the 10,000 M event. She was the Irish National Champion in the 5000 M event in 2000 and 2001 and she is still the 5th fastest on the Irish all-time lists for the 5000 and 10,000 M events.

In 2013, she and her husband Lee restarted the Stevens Point Area Running Club. Currently, she coaches local athletes with her business “Get Fit Now” and has played a large role in coaching her daughter Roisin during her middle school and high school track career.



ALISSA

ALISSA NIGGEMANN

Alissa, of Amherst, defines the term multi-sport athlete. She is a ice skater, Cross Country State Champion, 4x state qualifier in 800M and 300 M Hurdles, Wisconsin High School Nordic ski championship, 2x qualifier for the Junior National Nordic ski race and midfielder on the girls soccer team.

At UW-Madison, she added steeplechase to her resume in track and cross country. In 2021 she was invited to the Olympic trials in Eugene, Oregon for the 3000 M steeplechase. She is currently pursuing a graduate degree and continuing to compete.

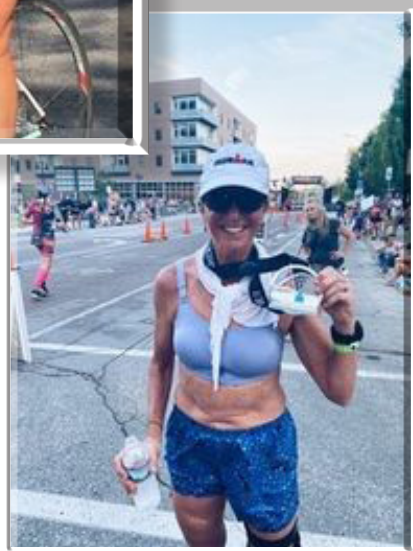
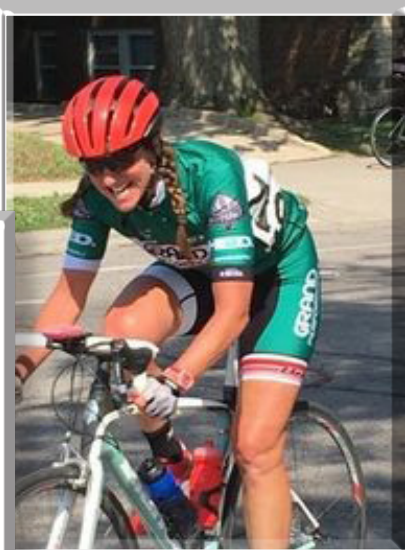
- 2x Second team All-American Track, 2019 (indoor & outdoor)
- Second Team All-American Cross Country, 2021
- Big 10 Champion 3000 M steeplechase, 2019, 2022
- UW-Madison record holder 3000 M steeplechase
- 11th Place at NCAA Outdoor Track & Field Championship in 3000 meter steeplechase
- Number 1 runner for UW-Madison Cross Country team at NCAA Cross Country Championship



KATHY

KATHY JENSEN

Kathy, a member of the 1981 Pacelli State Cross Country Championship team, is still running, biking and competing 42 years later. She won her first triathalon in 1984 and won the National Senior Games Triathalon as she approached 50 years old. She is now competing in Ironman Triathalons, Open Water swimming and endurance biking. Reflecting back on her athletic career, Kathy says, “Running was my first love. I was fortunate to qualify for the 99th and 100th Boston Marathons which were an amazing run through history experience. I feel blessed for all the wonderful opportunities and the great people I have met along the way.”



CARRIE

CARRIE (PORTER) DIAMOND

Carrie helped start the UWSP Women’s Rugby Club in 1993 when a friend who had played with the UWSP men’s club team suggested that they form a women’s team. They put flyers up all over campus and practiced with the men’s club team with no coach and wore men’s uniforms.. They called themselves the “Black and Bloods,” and played matches wherever they could find women’s teams.

Carrie’s daughter Rachel wanted to play rugby too, so Carrie founded the Panther Rugby club in 2017 with two fellow “Black N Blood” alumni. After high school, Rachel continued her rugby career at Northern Michigan University.



Carrie (Porter) Diamond front left



Carrie, crouched down, ready to tackle



Rugby “family” photo
3 original players for SPASH team whose mothers were part of original UWSP Rugby Club
Olivia Schustek, Jennifer (Toepel) Schustek, Rachel Placeway, Carrie (Porter) Diamond, Mia Wandtke, Tim Wandtke, mother not pictured Jen (Thompson) Wandtke

SHELLY

SHELLY JOHNSON

Shelly, a multi-sport athlete and multi-sport coach, grew up in West Bend playing basketball, volleyball and a member of the dance squad during the school year and playing city league softball all summer long. At UW-Whitewater, she was an all-conference volleyball player, team captain and UW-Whitewater Sportswoman of the Year.

Moving to Stevens Point, she coached the Pacelli girls volleyball team from 1983-1985. In 1986, a number of “her girls” asked if she would come back to coach the inaugural Pacelli girls softball team. According to Shelly, “I knew nothing about fastpitch softball! But those girls really wanted to play, so with the help of AD Greg Wendorf, we found a way.” In 1999 she returned to coach Pacelli volleyball during her daughter Toni’s high school career, winning their 1st CWC Conference Championship and their 1st WIAA post season Regional Championship. In 2004, she stepped down from coaching to spearhead the Wisconsin Ice Volleyball program, a developmental volleyball program for girls in the north central part of the state.

Shelly plays on a top level women’s volleyball team which has won the National Senior Games, the World Masters Games, and has medaled in most of the Huntsman World Senior Games. She has joined the ranks of accomplished pickleball players, participating in local tournaments, teaching beginners and holding an executive board position for Heart of Wisconsin Pickleball Association.



Pacelli girls softball team starts 1st season

A new varsity sport has been added at Pacelli High School. Under head coach Shelly Johnson, the Cardinal girls softball team will kick off its season today.

Johnson has a young team to work with, only two seniors and two juniors on the squad, but she has seen much improvement since the beginning of practice.

“They look new because they are new,” she said. “A lot of the girls have never played fastpitch before and didn’t know the rules. It takes time to develop the fast-pitch technique, but they are pretty determined. The girls are glad to get going.”

“I think they have improved about 200 percent since the start of practice. I think our hitting is going to be our strong point while our weakest point will be our game sense, what to do in game situations. But that comes with time. This year we are going to be playing jersey games on the side and



JEAN

JEAN LUETSCHWAGER

Jean grew up in East Troy, WI and started tennis at age 8. At high school tennis meets and practices we had to have car lights on when we went late into the night. She qualified for the WIAA State Tournament which had one big draw of 64 players and no divisions. Jean went on to play at the UW-La Crosse. In 1988, Jean moved to Stevens Point as Assistant Tennis Professional at SentryWorld Sports Center. She coached Pacelli boys and girls tennis teams from 1990-1995 when she stepped down to focus on growing the tennis community for both adults and children, with lessons, conditioning, mini-tournaments and competitive group “play days.” Many of Jean’s “kids” have had successful high school and college careers, including her two children, Bradley and Emily, who had successful tennis careers at SPASH as well as at the DI collegiate level. In 2016, 9 of her students qualified for the state tournament.

Jean notes that “I have reaped the benefits of watching junior players grow and mature into outstanding individuals on and off the court.”

COACHING CAREER

- 1991 - WISAA #2 Singles State Champion, Ann Cooper
- 1991 - Pacelli Girls Tennis team 4th place in WISAA team State tournament
- USPTA Honors

- USPTA Nancy Mickler Award, 2019 and 2020 For contributions as a tennis teaching professional, as a player, coach, special achievements and contributions to the community
- 2020 USPTA Wisconsin Professional of the Year Award



Jean & Emily and Jean & Bradley

