

FALL



2007

### **HOPE Network Scholarship Program for Active Involvement in Sports/Fitness Activities**

HOPE Network recently received a grant from WOMEN of Southwestern PA Inc. to develop a scholarship program for women with disabilities to become active in sports/recreation. The program will offer financial assistance to new, female participants who want to get involved with the Healthsports programs. Each applicant will be able to select individual programs of interest.

Scholarships will range in amounts from \$100 to \$200. Any adolescent or adult female with a disability interested in applying, please call the Healthsports office for an application.

### **Adapted Racquetball Clinic**

On Saturday, November 17, 2007 HOPE Network will conduct an adapted racquetball clinic at the Oxford Club in Wexford, PA. The clinic will run from 1:00PM until 4:00PM. Instruction will be given on the rules and regulations of the sport, as well as, hands-on practice on the court. Racquets will be provided. If interested in participating in this clinic, please call the Healthsports office before Friday, November 9th. Space is limited.

### **Steel City Starz**

The Steel City Starz are entering into their 6th season, as the area's only all-women's wheelchair basketball team. Even though practice began on Wednesday, September 12th, any female with a disability is invited to join, or even observe. Eligible females do not need to be full-time wheelchair users. A minimal disability rule applies whereby the player needs only to have a permanent leg injury that prevents her from playing regular stand-up basketball.

The Starz hope to host a couple of home games this year, so stay tuned to the website for further details. The 2007-2008 season schedule is as follows:

October 20-21, 2007—2nd Annual Brandi Zimmerman Tournament, Baltimore, MD  
November 18, 2007—vs. NY Western Wheels, at Slippery Rock University ARC at 10:00 AM  
January 25-26, 2008—Southern Shootout, Warm Springs, GA  
February 27-March 2, 2008—34th Annual NWWBT—University of Illinois

### **Third Annual Las Vegas Night**

The staff and volunteers at HOPE Network are busy planning the 3rd Annual Las Vegas Night fundraiser. This years exciting evening of fun and games (and food) will benefit the Steel City Starz women's wheelchair basketball team, as well as, other Healthsports programs that promote women's and children's involvement in physical activity. The event will be held at the Hampton Community Center and will feature a Silent Auction

will some great prize packages. Games of fun including poker, blackjack, and craps will be in full swing with winners converting their play money into chances for prizes in a Chinese Auction.

Please see insert for more event information. If you are interested in making a donation or becoming a sponsor, please call the HOPE Network office at 412-826-2703.

### **The Pittsburgh Steelwheelers Rugby Schedule for the 2007-2008 Season:**

October 27-28, 2002—Capitol Clash, Washington D.C.  
November 11-12, 2007—5th Annual Steel City Slam, Slippery Rock University  
November 17-18, 2007—Beast of the East, Philadelphia, PA  
December 8-9, 2007—Columbus Collision, Columbus, OH  
January 19-20, 2008—Vegas Vengeance, Las Vegas, NV

### **The 2007-2008 Pittsburgh Steelwheelers Basketball Schedule:**

October 20, 2007, - @ PA Thunder & Lightning, Erie, PA  
October 26-27, 2007—Keystone Conference Tournament, Edinboro, PA  
November 9-11, 2007—Boro Shootout, Edinboro, PA  
November 17, 2007—vs. Rochester

Home games are played at Oliver High School on Pittsburgh's North Side and begin at 1:00 PM

## **Past Events**

### **17th Annual Hoops Classic**

HOPE Network's most successful annual fundraising event, the Hoops Classic, was held on June 9, 2007 at the beautiful Galleria at Pittsburgh Mills. The event attracted over 200 teams for friendly 3-on-3, basketball competition in male and female divisions of age groups from 8 to 55. An estimated 2000 spectators joined in the day-long festivities that also featured special event contests (3-point shoot-out, 2-man hotshot, free throw) for prizes. Eat'n Park Restaurant and Charley's Grilled Subs provided the crowd with plenty of good food. Giant Eagle and Coca Cola provided the drinking refreshments. As one of the longest running special events in the Pittsburgh area, the Hoops Classic looks to continue to grow in size and success in 2008. Look for upcoming details as plans for the Hoops Classic 2008 are unveiled.....but set your calendar now to participate in the Classic on June 14, 2008.

### **15th Annual Chuck Scally Memorial Golf Outing**

The 15th annual Chuck Scally Memorial Golf Tournament was a tremendous success. HOPE Network and Three Rivers Adapted Sports (TRAS) teamed together to co-host this exciting event on August 13th. This year, 33 golfers with disabilities came to Fox Run Golf Course in Beaver Falls, PA to compete in this "all-disabled," 4-man scramble.

Shooting 11 under par, the 4-man team of Hoard Mumau, Neal Isenberg, Bob Pilewski, and Jim Hoolahan emerged as the victors of this year's contest. Taking second place with another 10 under par score was the team of Jerry Swidzinski, Jack Swidzinski, Herb Cavalier, and Larry Karpuszk. Rounding out the trophy winners, in third place, shooting 7 under par, were : John Wroe, Steve Baughman, Kevin O'Connor, Frank Morris, and Jim DeMeo. Congratulations to all of the teams that competed in the event to honor Chuck Scally, Sr.

**This year's special contest winners were:** Longest Drive (hole #1)—Steve Baughman; Closest to the Pin (hole #6) - Bob Glorioso; Closest to the Pin (hole #15) - Howard Mumau; and Longest Put (hole #18)— Steve Baughman.

HOPE Network and TRAS would like to extend a special thanks to all of those who contributed to the success of this tournament. **Hole Sponsors:** Accessible Home Automations; Mallinger & Eger Optometric Associates; Blackburn's Physician's Pharmacy, Inc.; Brookside Lumber & Supply Co., Inc.; Healthsouth Metropolitan Hospitals of Pittsburgh; Keystone PVA; Union O & P; Beaver Valley Rehabilitation Associates/Dr. Michael Cozza; Matta Motors; Bender Consulting Services, Inc.; Pittsburgh Steelwheelers; The Watson Institute; Dellatorre O & P; and Clark Manny. **Door Prize Donors:** Ambridge Country Club; Arnold Palmer; Butler Country Club; Caroselli, Beachler, McTiernan & Conboy; Claire Scally; Cranberry Highlands Golf Club; DS/USA; First Tee of Pittsburgh; Green Oaks Country Club; HOPE Network; Ligonier Country Club; Lindenwood Golf Course; Lone Pine Golf Club; Marsh; Mirada Golf Course; Mocassin Run; Montour Heights Country Club; Mt. Odin Park Golf Course; Niagra-Cutter; Pat Corr; Pittsburgh North Golf Course; Pittsburgh Steelwheelers; Quicksilver Golf Course; RMU-Island Sports Center; Scally's Golf Center; Sewickley Heights Country Club; South Hills Country Club; Southpointe Golf Club; The Club at Nevillewood; West Penn Minority Golf Association; and The Woodlands—No Handicap Golf Course; Oakmont Country Club.

HOPE Network and TRAS would like to extend gratitude to the Scally Family, Fox Run Golf Course, and Marc Kowatic for supporting this event for all 15 years.

### **Assorted Healthsports Programs**

HOPE Network has wrapped up another season of summer sporting opportunities. **Water skiing** anticipated a great summer season, but was postponed for a few weeks due to all of the rain that we received in the Pittsburgh area this summer. But once we got started, there was no stopping those dedicated skiers that were in the water until mid-September. What a great season!

Special thanks go to: **Mark Gerson and Steve Cooper** for donating their boat and jet-ski, as well as, their time to this summer's water ski program. And, thanks to the **many volunteers who made it possible. through their amazing dedication to the success of this program.**

Members of the Steel City Starz and the Pittsburgh Steelwheelers rugby team made an appearance at the Bill Mazerowski Sports Camp at the Woodlands in July. Various adaptive sporting activities were discussed, followed by an in- depth demonstration of wheelchair basketball and quad-rugby that involved the active participation of the campers. HOPE Network looks forward to this camp every year to introduce some new recreational activities to all of those in attendance.

The **Bi-weekly Golf Gatherings** went well this year. The season started and ended with a visit to Donegal Highlands. The final gathering saw the greatest attendance and competition with 6 golfers in a head-to-head battle to redeem themselves from last year's get-together.

## Donations

A significant percentage of HOPE Networks' operational budget is dependent upon, and supported through, private donations. There are many ways to donate to HOPE Network including :

- \$ monetary donations made directly to the HOPE Network
- \$ in-kind donations (i.e. equipment, services)
- \$ the United Way Contributor's Choice Program (**Code #968193**)
- \$ the Combined Federal Campaign (**Code #47982**)
- \$ Volunteerism

Any of these methods of support will help to continue all of HOPE Network's programs. Additionally, they provide great opportunities for you to experience the world of adapted sports. All donations are tax-deductible and are greatly appreciated!

### **Thank you to recent contributors:**

Rachel Check	FSN-Pittsburgh
Michael Cozza, MD	Farrell & Company
David Frankovich	Frazer VFC#1
Michael Frick	Frazer VFC#2
Paula Johnston	Giant Eagle
Marc Kowatic	Grogan Graffam
Bonnie Maguire	Grubb & Ellis
Nancy and Jim Schwoebel	Guardian Life Insurance
Bill Shay	H&R Block—Janet Zaleski
John Trant	Har-Kel, Inc.
	Healthsouth Harmarville
AC Dellovade, Inc.	Holbein, Inc.
Accessible Home Automations	KPVA
Alle-Kiski Medical Center	Matta Motors
American Beverage Corporation	Medrad
Bender Consulting	NPTCO
Blackburn's Pharmacy	NWBA—Cause Marketing
Brookside Lumber	Optometric Associates of Pittsburgh
Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney LP	Pittsburgh Steelwheelers
Cavanaugh, Inc.	Snee-Reinhardt Charitable Trust
Choice Care Physicians	Union Orthotics & Prosthetics
Cigna Foundation	University of Pittsburgh -Athletic Dept
CRONS	UNUM
DeLaTorre Orthotics & Prosthetics	UPMC Health Plan
Eat'n Park Hospitality Group	US Army
ESPN Radio	Watson Institute
WOMEN of Southwestern PA, Inc.	The Woodlands Foundation

## **Team USA is Golden!**

John Sikora completed the 2007 basketball season as an assistant coach on the USA Women's National Wheelchair Basketball team. Under the guidance of head coach Ron Lykins (Stillwater, MN), and also assisted by Robbie Taylor (Tucson, AZ), the team had several summer training camps at Warm Springs, GA and at the US Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid, NY. This year's squad was a true team of athletes that gelled together both on and off the court. Their mission was twofold—to qualify the US team for the Paralympic Games in Beijing, China next summer and also to win the gold at this year's ParaPan Am Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Following the training camps, the team felt confident in their knowledge of the game, comfort with playing together as a team, and up-tempo assertive style of play both on offense and defense. The USA squad was ranked second in the world going in to the games in Brazil due to the loss to the number one ranked Canadian team a year earlier. Once arriving in Brazil, the US women maintained their focus and set forth to accomplish their mission. In the competitions the US faced and defeated teams from Brazil, Argentina, San Salvador, Mexico, and Canada. The US played a great Canada team in the second game of the tournament and with its newly found strength in the full-court defense, the US was able to come away with a 14 point win. Refreshing redemption from the year earlier. However, the gold medal was not assured as the US would once again have to face the always tough Canadians in the Championship game. Although Team USA did not play at its highest level during the championship, its defense led to many opportunities for the offense to convert scores. The team full-court press forced Canada into 31 turnovers and thus less scoring chances for them. The US women came away with a hard fought 7 point win and the GOLD MEDAL! Mission accomplished! However, the scoreboard is now clean again and we look forward to 2008. The USA team has now qualified to compete in the Paralympic Games in China. Try-outs for the Paralympic team will take place in April and be followed with several training camps and tournaments leading up to the Paralympic Games. Much preparation and work needs to be done in order to defend the prestigious Paralympic Gold.

## **Healthsports Manager Among 25 Honored**

Leah Gray was honored, along with 24 other area women, by the Women and Girls Foundation of Southwestern Pennsylvania as an outstanding leader within the world of women and sports. This year's theme was centered around "leveling the playing field" for girls and women and providing sports and fitness opportunities for them. Leah was selected due to her involvement with HOPE Network (Healthsports Program Manager), the NWBA (Board Member and Women's Division President), as well as, coaching her daughter's local 4th grade basketball team.

The event was held on Saturday, October 13, 2007 at Heinz Field. The 1984 Olympic gymnastic gold medal winner Mary Lou Retton was the featured keynote speaker.



**DATE:** Friday, November 2, 2007

**TIME:** 7PM until 11:30PM

**LOCATION:** Hampton Township Community Center

**DONATION:** \$30 per person or \$50 per couple

Includes light dinner, hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine, soda, coffee, dessert, & \$5,000 in gaming money for Craps, Roulette, Black Jack, Money Wheel, and Chinese Auction.

Event also includes a Silent Auction with fabulous sports memorabilia, gift baskets, trips, and more!

**Visa/Mastercard/Checks Accepted**

**BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**

**Call 412-826-2703**

The official registration & financial information of HOPE Network may be obtained from the PA Dept. of State by calling, toll-free in PA, 800-732-0999.

Registration does not imply endorsement.

## 2007 Calendar of Events

Fitness & Conditioning.....	every M, W, F 10AM – 2PM
Aerobics.....	every Wednesday @ 12:15PM
Junior Sports Clinic - (held at Children’s Institute).....	.....March 10, April 14, May 5, June 2, July 7, August 3, Sept 8, Oct 6, Nov 3 (10AM –2PM)
Rock Climbing, SRU.....	April
Track & Field Clinic.....	May 12
Tennis Clinic.....	May 19
Hoops Classic (The Galleria at Pittsburgh Mills).....	June 9
Water Skiing (2 sessions every Thursday – 1PM-4PM & 5:30PM – 8PM).....	June 21
TRAS Water Skiing Clinic, Conneaut Lake.....	July 16-19
Cheat Lake Outing, Cheat Lake, WV (water skiing, cycling, & fishing).....	August 11
Golf Gatherings.....	Tuesday, July 17 & 31, August 21 & 28
Chuck Scally Memorial Golf Tournament.....	August 13
Steel City Starz (women’s basketball).....	Sept-March
Racquetball, - Oxford Club, Wexford, PA.....	November 17, 1 PM—4 PM
3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Las Vegas Night.....	November 2
Introduction to Sled Hockey.....	TBD

**Check out the new HOPE Network website for information and updates on scheduled events at  
[www.hopenetwork-pa.org](http://www.hopenetwork-pa.org).**

**HOPE Network is always looking for participants and people to conduct various programs. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, instructor, and/ or participant, give us a call TODAY!!!**

**For information and to register for events, call 412-826-2703**