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Special Needs Individuals are Athletes at Newport County Olympics: Community Lends Support to Annual Event at Salve Regina

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NEWS RELEASE
The Newport College - Salve Regina

Office of Public Relations
(401) 847-6650 ext. 223

Newport, Rhode Island 02840

CONTACT: Susan Closter-Godoy
847-6650 x 223

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SPECIAL NEEDS INDIVIDUALS ARE ATHLETES AT
NEWPORT COUNTY OLYMPICS; COMMUNITY LENDS SUPPORT
TO ANNUAL EVENT AT SALVE REGINA

Area residents who are special needs individuals will have an opportunity to experience track and field competition at the Newport County Olympics May 9 on the grounds of Wakehurst Mansion at The Newport College - Salve Regina. Approximately 70 local "athletes" ages eight and older are participating in the track and field events from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Track events include the 400 meter run, 50 meter sprint, 200 meter sprint and 400 meter relay. Field events are the long jump and softball throw. The annual event is co-sponsored by The Newport College - Salve Regina and

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The James L. Maher Regional Center.

Activities begin at 9:00 at the College Boathouse on Ochre Point Avenue. A parade of athletes, college and community leaders will wind its way to Wakehurst grounds for the morning competition. In case of rain, the event will be held at the same time at Building 1801 on the U.S. Navy base.

Awards will be given after each track and field competition and a raffle drawing held during the closing ceremony. Raffle prizes include an autographed football from former Dallas Cowboy Roger Staubach and hockey gifts from the Boston Bruins. Expected to attend for raffle and award presentations are former Providence College and Boston Celtic player Kevin Stacom and local Boston marathon runners from the Newport Running Club.

The college students have planned a special "Olympic Village" for spectators and athletes to be held following the competition on the campus Boathouse lawn all afternoon. The public is invited to spend the day at the Newport County Olympics community event.

This special athletic event has generated wide support from many area businesses and civic organizations. Major contributions toward the success of the event have been made by the Newport Lions Club, the Newport Knights of Columbus, the Middletown Knights of Columbus and the Thompson Junior High School Band.

Also lending community support to the event are the following businesses and organizations: Center Court Restaurant, Ebenezer Flagg Company, Marvelous Enterprises, Inc., Safeway System, Inc., Sielers Food Service and WADK Radio. Also, Anderson Little Company, Crest Farms, Friends Leather, Jimmy's Saloon,

MORE.....

Mike Hattub, Inc., Nice Ice, Inc., O'Brien's Pub, Sears and Roebuck, Co.,
The Glass Workbench. Also, Animal Medical Clinic, Fifth Ward Liquor, Miles
End Package Store, Newport Bootery, Ten Speed Spokes, Inc. and the Linen Shop.

Also, the Patique Shop, the Vogue Shop, Radio Shack, Spring Pottery,
Warwick Zayre, You and Me Incorporated, K-Mart, Pappagallo of Newport and
Flashback. Finally, Aquidneck Liquor, Embassy Restaurant and the 1890 Shop.

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