

I-500 Race Is This Weekend

I-500: From page 1

I-500 has used for 40 years. It will feature the two most popular styles of snowmobile racing, traditional "oval track" racing, with an emphasis on speed, and snow cross racing, with an emphasis on maneuvering over moguls and jumps, taking place at the same time and same location. All races are open to spectators.

A \$15 button allows admission to the whole week's events, or \$5 will allow admission to a day of watching time trials. Children younger than 12 are admitted free. Buttons are available at the gate.

Time trials are Wednesday and Thursday, followed by a Pro Am division race Thursday evening. A youth race will take place at the track Friday evening.

Vintage snowmobiles will be displayed outside the gates Saturday, and no admission is required to visit that area. Track racing and snow cross competitions will continue all day Saturday, and snow cross will continue Sunday inside the gates. As the action takes place, results will be posted to the I-500 Web site, www.i-500.com.

The schedule of events for the 41st Annual International 500 Snowmobile Race follows:

Wednesday, February 4

Resume qualifying for positions from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Thursday, February 5

Final qualifying session from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Rookie Round-up on the track at 6 p.m.

Pro-Am race at 7:30 p.m. on the track

40 Laps (first 20 laps by an amateur driver, last 20 laps by a pro driver)

I-500 Pub Crawl in the Evening

Friday, February 6

Race Registration 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Drivers Meeting 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Meet the Drivers 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Kids Mini Z Races 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 7

Green Flag at 10 a.m.

Food and Vendors

Expanded Vendors area

Heated Beer Tent

Vintage Snowmobile Show

ISOC Snow Cross

Sunday, February 8

ISOC Snow cross

Mackinac Straits Agrees To Share Resources With Petoskey Hospital

Hospital: From page 1

from remote locations, allowing specialists to monitor patient health. Having this information also will eliminate the need for duplicate tests when a patient is transferred from Mackinac County to Petoskey.

The system will also benefit ambulance service by standardizing procedures at all the facilities in the county with those the ambulance corps and the Petoskey hospital.

William Case Earns Academic Honors

William Charles Case was named to the dean's list at Pensacola Christian College, for academic achievement during the 2008 fall semester, a result of earning a B average or higher.

Mr. Case is the son of Barton and Nancy (nee Nye) Case of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and the grandson of Eileen Nye of Petoskey and Hessel.

Much of the collaboration has been developed over the past several years and has led to an increase in patients returned to St. Ignace for recuperative care after surgery in Petoskey, and standardizing procedures that facilitate easier transfers and referrals.

The formal partnership, according to Mr. Mitchell, will maintain the independence of each organization while enhancing the sharing of high quality resources and practices that are not always attainable alone.

St. Ignace Coaches Get State Backing To Share Duties

Coach: From page 3

season, said Marty Spencer, St. Ignace athletic director.

But at the Petoskey game December 5, when she asked that her husband stand in the box, she was required to temporarily resign her position as head coach so he could do so, and her coaching efforts from the bench were ignored by the referees.

"To me, it's a common-sense issue," said Mr. Spencer. "If they were both using the coaching box, obviously that's an infraction of the rules. They're not."

He called the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) to see what could be done. They promised a response, but he didn't receive one.

Then, during a game one week later in Newberry, it happened again. Before the game, the Ingalls talked with game officials, who agreed to the coaching plan, however, Newberry coach Tom Rahilly did not. Mrs. Ingalls again lost her head coach status.

The situations at the two games were humiliating and infuriating, she said, and she would like to see a rule change to prevent what happened to her from happening to other coaches.

She has been a St. Ignace coach for 10 years and has needed a wheelchair since 2005. She wants other coaches in similar situations to be treated with respect and dignity.

"I don't want it to be about Dorene Ingalls being in a wheel-

chair," she said. "I want it to be about whoever it happens to be, who is in a situation where they cannot get up there and utilize the box."

Mrs. Ingalls, who has coached the girls varsity team to two state championships in 1999 and 2000 and one runner-up title in 2001, would like to see an addition to game rules that acknowledges special circumstances.

After the Newberry game, Mr. Spencer called MHSAA a second time, and within an hour, he received a letter that could be presented to officials at each game this season.

In the letter, MHSAA Assistant Director Mark Uyl wrote, "During play, Coach Doug Ingalls may utilize the coaching box for purposes of directing and coaching players (not officials). While seated, Coach Dorene Ingalls still maintains all other duties and responsibilities of the head coach, such as calling time outs, addressing officials, etc."

It is a letter Mrs. Ingalls hopes she will never have to use.

State Representative Gary McDowell of Rudyard, who has been in contact with Mrs. Ingalls, said he would like to see an addition to the rules, and has offered his support.

"What happened to her was totally unacceptable," Rep. McDowell told *The St. Ignace News* Thursday, January 29. Officials need latitude to make exceptions, he said.

Last Friday, Mr. Uyl said there

are no plans to change the rules.

When a unique situation arises, he said, rather than making any changes to regulations, MHSAA will issue a rules deviation. Rules deviations, which are letters like the one Mrs. Ingalls now has, are issued in the fall of the year, upon request.

Requests, he said, mostly relate to safety issues like the wheelchair and like that faced by a state wrestler who was given a deviation

this year. The wrestler had a closed head injury, which he suffered when younger. Now, he has gotten his doctor's permission to wrestle, although only while wearing specially padded head gear. His deviation allows use of the head gear.

In Mrs. Ingalls' situation, he said, it works best for her to coach from the bench and Mr. Ingalls to coach from the coach's box.

He said MHSAA is not aware of any other coaches in wheelchairs.

No Home Show Planned This Year

The annual spring Home and Garden Show hosted in St. Ignace by Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME) of Mackinac County will not be offered this year by the agency, announced organizers Lori Pieri and Michelle Walk Thursday, January 29.

Several factors, including rising costs for organizing the event and increasing difficulty securing vendors for the show, played a part in the decision to discontinue it, they said.

"HOME has decided not to do the Home and Garden Show this year," said Mrs. Pieri. "We offered it to the Chamber of Commerce, but they were not interested or able to continue it at this time. Little

Bear East is giving some consideration to continuing it, so we have provided information to [City Manager] Eric Dodson and [Recreation Director] Scott Marshall to review."

Little Bear East Arena served as the site for the show in previous years.

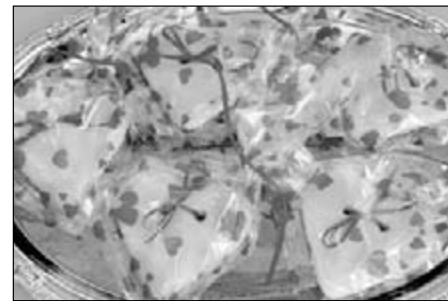
Letters have been sent to vendors and sponsors informing them of the decision to discontinue the show as a fundraiser for HOME. The agency will focus its energy on making the November Christmas auction its primary fundraiser during the year. HOME's mission is to bring affordable housing opportunities to Mackinac County.

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