

## Sporting Our Finest



### **KATHY KANGAS: SKY-DIVING** **Northwestern Ontario Sports Hall of Fame**

Kathy Kangas of Thunder Bay enjoyed an outstanding career in a sport many of us would not have the nerve to try. Kathy served as a member of the National Sky-Diving Team from 1970-85 and enjoyed considerable success at the national, international and world levels.

Competing in 15 National Championships, she placed in the top 5 consistently, claiming the Canadian National Parachuting Accuracy title a total of 4 times, doing so in 1971, 1981, 1982 and 1983.

At the World Invitational Parachuting Championships in Canton, China in 1981, Kathy earned a bronze medal in Women's Accuracy. Kathy also represented Canada at 8 World Championships and in 1982 she served as the top-scorer on the Women's team that won a silver medal in the Team Event, the first of its kind for Canada.

In 1984 Kathy became the first Canadian woman to reach 3,000 freefall parachute jumps earning her 'Double Diamond Wings'. At the time of her retirement, Kathy also held the records for the most parachute jumps by a Canadian Female (3,191), the most years on the National Team (15) and the Canadian Women's Accuracy record of 5 dead centre jumps.

Kathy did not just limit her exceptional talents to the sport of sky-diving as she was also very active as an all-round athlete while attending University. In 1967 she was named the University of Western Ontario's Female Athlete of the Year.

Other honours bestowed upon Kathy have included being named Thunder Bay's Female Athlete of the Year for 1971, receiving an Outstanding Citizen's Award from the City of Thunder Bay in 1981 and the Ontario Sports Achievement Award in 1983. In 1989 Kathy was inducted into the Northwestern Ontario Sports Hall of Fame.

YOU HAVE MOST OF THIS I BELIEVE