

Wintry Winni Dippers

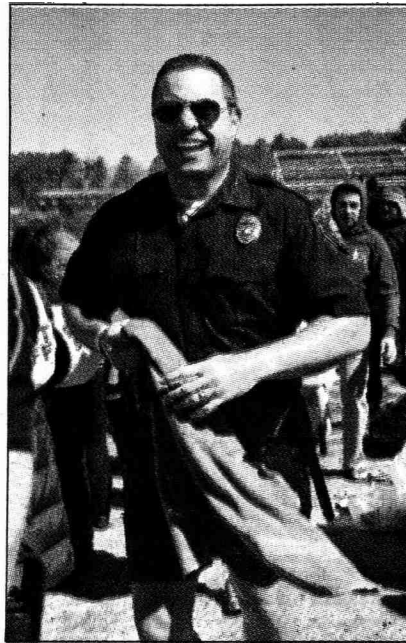
LACONIA — There are many ways one can raise money for charity — walking, running, dancing, jumping rope, pouring ice over your head — but few demand the intense

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dedication to the charity or the ability to withstand cold like a plunge into freezing water. Nevertheless, there was no shortage of willing participants for the Winni Dip this weekend at the Margate at Lake Winnepesaukee.

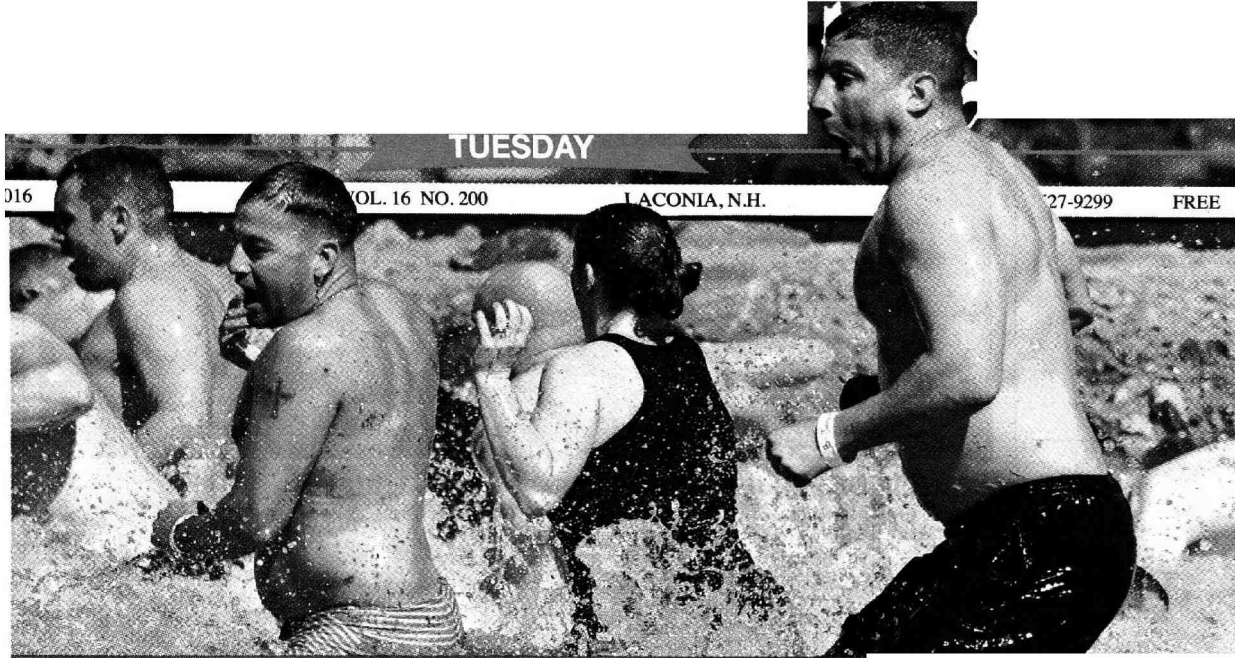
The Winni Dip took place Saturday along with the High School Dip and Middle School Plunge on Sunday, together raising nearly \$100,000 for Special Olympics. Many of those participating Saturday were in law enforcement. Each dipper is required to raise at least \$250, but the average raised was more than double that amount.

Prizes were awarded to the “Grizzly Bear” — the dipper raising the largest amount; “Grizzly Band of Bears” — a minimum of five dippers with the highest dollar average per dipper; “Black Bear” — the dipper with the best costume; “Band of Black Bears” — a minimum of five dippers wearing the best costumes; “Brown Bear” — the public safety professional who raises the largest amount of money; and the “Band of Brown Bears” — to the county whose public safety professionals raise the most money collectively.



Gifford Police Officer Curtis Mailloux and Lt. Kris Kelley make a quick dash for a dry towel following their dip in the lake for the 8th annual Winni Dip for Special Olympics at the Margate Beach on Saturday. (Karen Bobotas/for the Laconia Daily Sun)





Not a balmy day at the beach for members of the Laconia and Sanbornton Police Departments as they enter the lake for the 8th annual Winni Dip for Special Olympics at Margate Beach on Saturday. (Karen Bobotas/for the Laconia Daily Sun)



Team "Live, Freeze or Die" from the Merrimack Police Dept. made a splash during the 8th annual Winni Dip for Special Olympics at the Margate Beach on Saturday. (Karen Bobotas/for the Laconia Daily Sun)