

## **Pittsford Resident Going To 14th Olympics.. As Photographer**

It all started for Richard Mackson in 1976 when he worked for volleyball magazine.

"They called one day and said, 'We're looking for a volleyball photographer. Do you know any?' And I said, 'Yeah, me'."

Mackson went to his first Olympics that year in Montreal. After long stints with Sports Illustrated and Kodak, he'll be going to his 14th Games this summer in London.

"Every event is like going to three Super Bowls in the same day. And you do it for two straight weeks," Mackson said. Once you do one Olympics, you want to do more."

The photos Mackson took in Montreal were mostly black and white. He didn't see them for up to three weeks. Now, the pictures appear in a photographer's camera faster than you can read "photographer" and they make it to the internet even faster.

"Everything looks spectacular," Mackson said. "The reason you shot so much film before because you never really knew what you were going to get. Now, we've got a better idea because we're seeing it instantly... you see a background and what it's like.

The technology has gone from everything manual to everything automatic, including being wired directly into the internet."

No camera or technology will top what the longtime Pittsford resident is bringing to London this year--his 18 year old daughter Lauren. Already a published photographer herself, Lauren isn't just daddy's helper. She's accredited her own job as a photo editor and she has her own responsibilities, separate from her father's.

"It's just the biggest, most important event in sports and for sports photographers... and I'm going. I don't think it'll hit me until I get off the plane," Lauren said.

"How much prouder could a father be?" Mackson said. "I didn't push her into it. She came up to me one day and said, 'I want to do this'. So I said, 'OK, let's see if you're any good'. So, I started taking her to games and, my God, she's good."

Which means there will probably be a Mackson working the next 14 Olympics, too.

For more perspective on what photography was like in the early parts of Mackson's career, enjoy our web extra as he describes the process of getting a photograph published at the 1984 Summer Games in Los Angeles. It'll make you wonder how any pictures ever made it to a newspaper.

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Greece, NY - The dry spell across Western New York isn't just impacting your yard, it's also affecting area businesses who rely on rain.

Tina Shively spoke with owners who say they're not panicking just yet, but a full-fledged drought could be devastating.

Just three months ago, the owner of Birchcrest Tree & Landscape was a big fan of Western New York's unusually warm weather.

Today, the story's a bit different.

Dave Dailey "It's almost too much of a good thing, it really is."

In this dry, hot summer, tree trimming and removal are just about the only tasks left for Dailey's crews.

He added "Mowing has pretty much stopped at this point, but planting is certainly much more difficult. The ground is turning rock hard."

Dailey's been advising customers to provide what Mother Nature isn't, to turn on the hose in the early morning or late evening hours.

"We're just moving into a drought, if it continues it's gonna get much much worse. Most people can still save a majority of their plants. But if it stays like this for another month it will be terrible."

At Lake Shore Golf Course in Greece all is not lost. The moisture that Mother Nature doesn't provide in terms of rain is brought to the course via an irrigation system, powered by a pumping station.

300,000 gallons of water a day is now pumped across the course underground, but the course's president says he's not complaining about the cost.

"It's a pleasure to pay those bills compared to last year when it was non-stop rain and we didn't have any golfers out here," said Chuck Hart. "At least we have lots of golfers so it helps offset the expense."

If weather patterns don't change in the next few weeks, the water levels in the pond that supplies Lake Shore's irrigation system could fall too low to power the pump.

Hart added "When we get to that situation we'll start rationing and we may not water some fairways as much as we would like to water them."

After that, Hart will have to tap into the budget, buying water from the City of Rochester, at a cost he calls "substantial".

But until then, Hart remains positive, and so does Dailey.

"It was the greatest winter as far as I can remember as far as working goes spring was wonderful warmed up early," he said. "Summer's been a little too hot, a little too dry, but overall picture I'd take this year over any year."