



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JON RITCHIE, FORMER NFL FULLBACK, AND EMILY WILLS, MISS PENNSYLVANIA TO BE HONORED AT THE SECOND MILE LANCASTER COUNTY CHAPTER'S SPRING CELEBRATION

On Thursday, May 17, 2007, Jon Ritchie and Emily Wills will be honored at the Lancaster County Chapter's annual Second Mile Spring Celebration. This event will be held at the Netherlands Inn and will begin at 6:00 p.m. Proceeds from the event will directly benefit children served by The Second Mile who are dealing with challenging circumstances. Joining Ritchie and Wills will be Jerry Sandusky, The Second Mile's Founder.

The Second Mile is dedicated to helping children in local communities develop skills which will lead them to a future of promise and personal success. In 2006, The Second Mile served more than 100,000 children in the nine-county Southcentral Region – over 22,600 in Lancaster County. According to event Chairman, Michael Huegel, the goal of the Second Mile Spring Celebration is to raise more than \$13,000 to benefit The Second Mile.

Jon Ritchie, former NFL fullback for the Oakland Raiders and the Philadelphia Eagles, received Big 10 All Academic Team honors at the University of Michigan and was selected a PAC 10 All Academic player at Stanford University. He was drafted at the top of the third round of the NFL Draft by the Oakland Raiders. In 1998, Jon became the Raiders starting fullback as a rookie. He was the Raiders starting fullback for five years and played in the Super Bowl. The Philadelphia Eagles acquired Jon in 2003, and he became the Eagles starting fullback. Jon retired from the NFL in 2005 and is an announcer for NFL Europe games. He worked as a color analyst for CN8's Atlantic 10 games, did a weekly Out of Bounds program for CN8, and was a contributor for WHTM TV's sports news and ESPN2's Cold Pizza.

Emily Wills, Miss Pennsylvania 2006-2007, is a 2006 graduate of Penn State University. She graduated as a Schreyer Honors College Scholar. Emily was named to the Dean's List at Penn State every semester. During her year of service as Miss Pennsylvania, Emily will be an effective and persuasive voice as a spokesperson and ambassador for America's Promise, The Second Mile, and Teen Central. Emily competed for the title of Miss America and in January was named a top ten finalist.

Founded in 1977 by former Penn State Defensive Football Coordinator, Jerry Sandusky, The Second Mile provides nine prevention, early intervention and community-based programs at no cost to more than 350,000 children in Pennsylvania annually. Funding for The Second Mile is made possible through the generosity of individuals, businesses, community organizations and foundations.

For ticket information for the Spring Celebration, contact The Second Mile at 717-763-4614 or email southcentral@thesecondmile.org.