

T-BIRD AUTO Q & A

Need Automotive Advice?

ASK TAYLOR: Car won't start? It runs, but makes a funny noise? You want to know more about the mechanics of your vehicle but don't know where to turn? Ask Taylor!

Send an email to: taylor51763@msn.com.

Taylor's new column will be published in *Out in the Mountains* beginning in our October (or November) issue.

Taylor manages Maynard's Auto Supply in Richmond, Vermont.

FIVE VERMONTERS BRING HOME MEDALS

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gether.

"This is the most competitive thing we've ever done," said Mintz, a professor of sociology at UVM.

Their 25 years of playing paid off. Mintz won a bronze medal for singles raquetball, Rothblum won a silver medal for singles, and the two together won a bronze medal for doubles.

"This was our last hurrah to play together," Mintz said after returning from Chicago. She said there will be no raquetball at the next Gay Games in Cologne, Germany in 2010, as the United States is one of the few countries in the world that has raquetball courts.

However, one of the positive things to come out of the Gay Games was the establishment of a national gay and lesbian raquetball group that plans to hold its own tournaments, Mintz noted.

"If this gets off the ground, I'll definitely play competitive raquetball some more," she said.

The sweltering heat wave that hit much of the country in

July didn't spare the competitors in Chicago. While participants in air-conditioned venues, including raquetball, may have been able to stay fairly cool, others found that their performance at the Games was affected by the heat. Some events, held outside under the sun, must have been especially challenging, such as biking. Even so, one Vermonter brought home several medals in biking events. *OITM* did not get to speak with her directly, but learned that Elizabeth Campbell of Rutland earned a bronze medal in the criterium, silver in the road race, silver in team time trial, and a gold medal in the mountain bike race.

Fran Moravcsik of South Burlington also took part in outdoor events, winning gold medals in shot and discus, and silver in javelin (see her story on page 1).

Joan Gardner, a powerlifter from Charlotte, said the heat index probably hovered around 100 to 105 degrees on the hottest days, and her events were not air-conditioned. As a

result, she competed in only one event, the bench press, and won a gold medal in her one try.

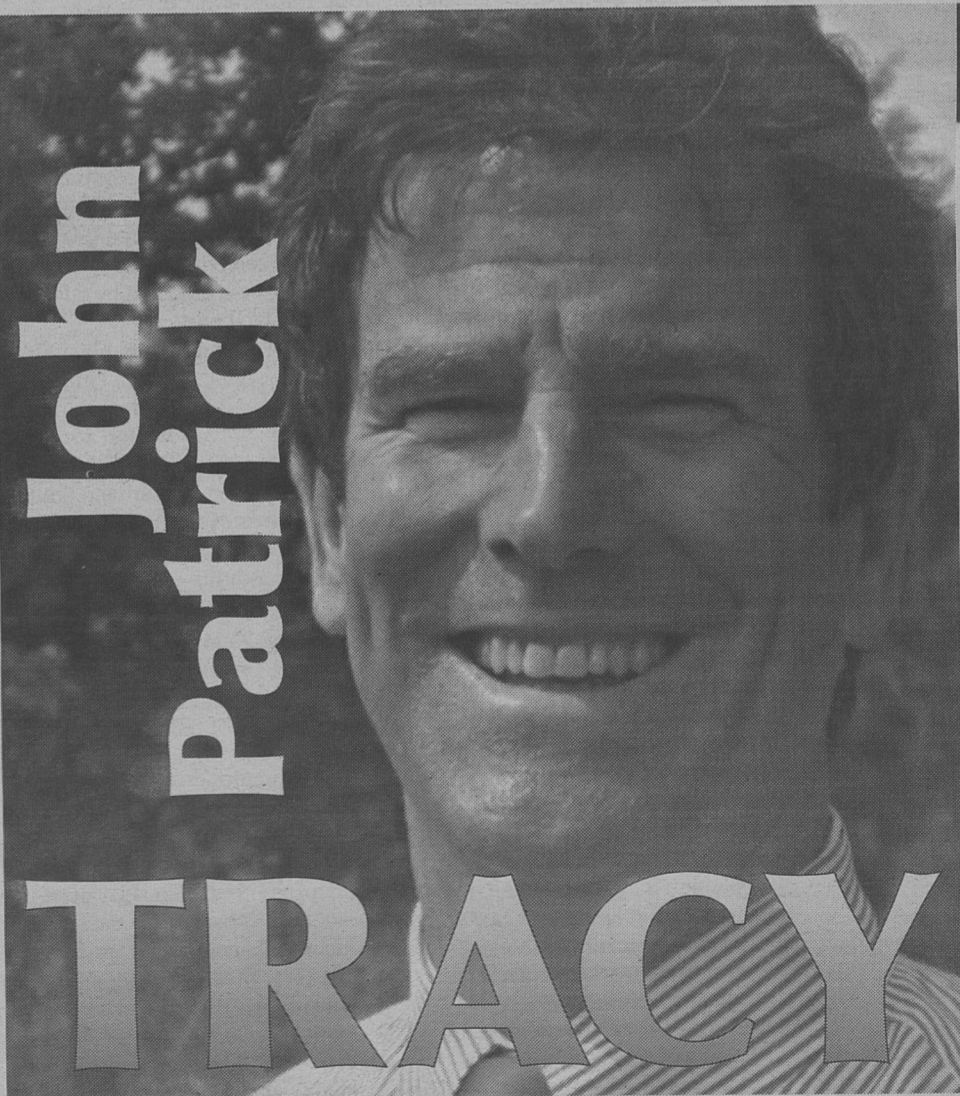
"It was so hot at this thing," Gardner said. "It's so hard to do your best in conditions like that."

Gardner said there were organizational problems, and she still doesn't have her gold medal. Only a few events - including weight lifting - required drug testing, and participants had to wait until after the closing of the Games to receive their medals. Gardner sounded otherwise positive about her experience, however.

"It was a lot of fun to be there with everybody," she said. "Participating in the opening and closing ceremonies were the most gratifying part of going to the Gay Games, affirming of me as a gay world-class athlete."

Gardner said she planned to compete in another event shortly after the Gay Games, but closer to home, in Brattleboro.

"I expect I will break my own record at that," she said. ▼



John
Patrick

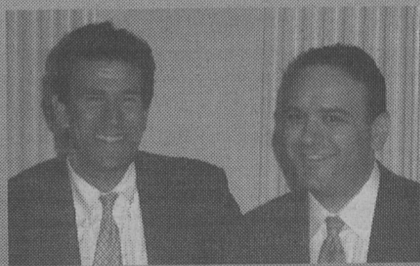
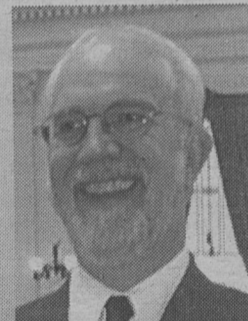
TRACY

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What Vermont State Legislators have to say about John Patrick Tracy's leadership abilities...

"As House Majority leader, John led the fight for civil unions. John stood up for what was right and delivered for our community. I'm pleased to support John Patrick Tracy for Lieutenant Governor."

— Rep. Bill Lippert, Hinesburg



"John stood with us at RU12? to protest the Governor's veto of the transgender anti-discrimination bill. As Lieutenant Governor, John will continue to fight for our communities."

— Rep. Jason P. Lorber, Burlington

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