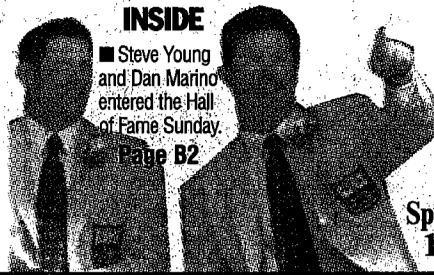


Sports

INSIDE

Steve Young and Dan Marino entered the Hall of Fame Sunday. Page B2



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Sports Editor: Luke O'Neill
1-800-836-4069 ext. 2262

NORTHERN COLUMBIA TRIATHLON

Inaugural triathlon draws 200 athletes

By Luke O'Neill
Hudson Valley Newspapers

The first-ever Northern Columbia Triathlon, a fundraiser for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation sponsored by the New York State Police and First Niagara, among others, drew 200 athletes Sunday, a turnout that was double the expectations of event organizers.

"We were really thrilled," said Susan Hollister, who along with husband Jim conceived of the benefit to raise funds for research and treatment of the respiratory

disease that afflicts their niece, Halley.

The grueling event included a quarter mile swim in Queechy Lake in Canaan, an 18-mile bike ride through Chatham and Ghent, and a four and a half mile run from Ghent Airport to the Kinderhook Village Square. Individuals could take on all three legs by themselves or just one section as part of a three-person team.

John Noonan, 45, of Ballston
Please see Triathlon, page B2



Chip Moon/For Hudson Valley Newspapers

TOP: Nancy Weingard, left, provides athletes Suzanne Wightman (wave 3, of Chatham) and Chris Greklek (wave 1, Watervliet) with a cool mist of water from the front lawn of her Kinderhook home during the 4.5 miles run on Columbia County Route 21 Sunday. BOTTOM: With the clock ticking, soaking wet Thomas Fraser (wave 2, Valatie) catches his breath following the swim event as he prepares for 18 miles of bicycling from Canaan to the Klein Kill Airport running transition in Ghent. LEFT: Jamie Zimmermann (wave 1, Kinderhook) tears off her goggles as she exits Queechy Lake at Adams Point Beach after completing the quarter mile swim on her way to the bicycling transition.