

Vicki Keith



Ontario Aquatic Hall of Fame

Inducted as Athlete in 1993

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Vicki Keith achieved her first world record in August 1985, by swimming the butterfly stroke for 12 miles. The swimming community was amazed at this extraordinary feat by the Kingston Blue Marlins' assistant coach. However, this accomplishment paled in comparison to her later successes, which were crowned with a world record for swimming 47.18 miles in 23 hours and 33 minutes across the English channel, again exclusively using the strenuous butterfly stroke.

During her career as a solo swimmer, Vicki attained the impressively high number of 17 world records. These remarkable achievements include 129 hours and 45 minutes of continuous swimming in 1986, the first double crossing of Lake Ontario in 1987, the first person to swim all of the Great Lakes in September 1988, and crossing the Straits of Juan de Fuca in August of 1989 in 14 hours using the butterfly stroke. One month later, in September 1989, Vicki achieved the greatest number of Lake Ontario crossings, and in January 1990, she swam the greatest distance in 24 hours, covering 43.067 miles.

During her years as a swimmer, Vicki raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for charity, mainly for projects benefitting the disabled. Her passions for children and the disabled are quite apparent. Vicki lists her major interests as working with children and the disabled, and writing children's books.

Vicki Keith always will be remembered as one of the world's greatest female swimmers of our time.

SUMMARY

Recipient of over 41 awards and recognitions.

- 1985 12 miles, butterfly.
World record (F)
100 hours continuous swimming.
World record (F)
- 1986 129 hours and 45 minutes continuous swimming. World record (F)
- 1987 First double crossing of Lake Ontario. World record
- 1988 20 miles in 20 hours swim - Lake Erie
48 miles in 46 hours and 55 minutes swim -Lake Huron. World record
45 miles in 53 hours swim - Lake Michigan. World record
20 miles in 17 hours swim - Lake Superior. World record
32 miles in 23 hours and 30 minutes swim - Lake Ontario.
- 1989 14 miles in 13 hours and 30 minutes butterfly- Sidney Harbour. World record
21 miles in 23 hours and 33 minutes butterfly - English Channel. World record
47.18 miles in 23 hours and 33 minutes - English Channel, World record
greatest distance butterfly swim
20 miles in 14 hours butterfly - Juan de Fuca. World record
18 miles in 14 hours butterfly - Lake Winnipeg. World record
Greatest number of Lake Ontario crossings. World record
32 miles in 31 hours butterfly - Lake Ontario. World record
22 miles in 14 hours and 53 minutes - Catalina Channel. World record
- 1990 43.067 miles in 24 hours - greatest distance. World record