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FORMER LADY VOL MICHELLE BROOKE-MARCINIAK JOINS PEDAL FOR PAT

Named as a Co-Chair as team prepares to ride 1,098 miles in honor of Pat Summitt

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., August 2, 2017 – University of Tennessee Lady Vol basketball Hall of Famer Michelle Brooke-Marciniak announced today that she is joining the Pedal for Pat fundraising initiative and plans to cycle in the 1,098-mile event, October 17-28, 2017, to benefit The Pat Summitt Foundation.

“As players, Pat always challenged us to get out of our comfort zone to achieve even greater goals,” Brooke-Marciniak said. “When I first read about Pedal for Pat on Twitter, I thought to myself ‘I need to talk to Josh Crisp about participating in some way.’ Josh and I hopped on a call together the next day and after 20 minutes of hearing his passion for the cause and the incredibly challenging event, I said ‘I’m in for ALL of it, from Knoxville to Key West.’”

Crisp and a core group of riders announced Pedal for Pat (www.patsummit.org/pedal) in March 2017 and have been training ever since. Each team member is committed to raising \$10,000 which will be donated to The Pat Summitt Foundation, which designates 100 percent of its grant funding to The Pat Summitt Clinic. “I am thrilled that Michelle has joined the Summitt Cyclist as we Pedal for Pat, 1,098 miles this October,” Crisp said.

“As a UT fan, I had the privilege of cheering for Michelle when she was leading the Lady Vols under Coach Summitt. Throughout Michelle’s life she has been a leader both on and off the court. As I spent time getting to know her and discussing the event, Michelle’s passion and excitement to do something special to contribute to Pat’s legacy was evident. I felt an urgency to ask Michelle if she would co-chair the event with me and was honored that she would give of her time in such a generous fashion.

“I look forward to accomplishing things together that are much greater than we ever could apart,” Crisp said.

As a fiery leader on the basketball court, Brooke-Marciniak, nicknamed “Spinderella,” drove Tennessee to the 1995 and 1996 NCAA title games, as well as captained the national championship team in 1996, and was named the NCAA Tournament Most Valuable Player. In 2012, Tennessee honored her extraordinary basketball career and contributions to UT women’s athletics by inducting her into the Lady Vol Hall of Fame. Post-collegiate career, the former unanimous National High School Player of the Year and 10-year veteran of USA Basketball, spent six years as a professional basketball player, completing her career with the WNBA’s Seattle Storm in 2002. She stepped into the coaching arena in 2003 as an assistant coach at the University of South Carolina, where she inked back-to-back top 10 nationally ranked recruiting classes.

The 43-year old Brooke-Marciniak is the Co-Founder of SHEEX®, Inc., the world’s first performance fabric bedding company with globally patented technology and also serves on The Pat Summitt Foundation Advisory Board.

“Michelle’s participation as a ‘Pedal for Pat’ cyclist and co-chair will make a huge impact on the event and raise significant support for The Pat Summitt Foundation,” said Patrick Wade, Executive Director of the Foundation. “It’s very fitting that Michelle would give back this way in that she thrives on incredible challenges and she is also very passionate about helping patients and families who are coping with Alzheimer’s disease.”

The ride has special significance to Brooke-Marciniak since she helped to contribute to 91 wins of the 1,098 miles/victories they are undertaking on the ride.

“In that first mile, and every mile thereafter, I know I’ll be thinking about Pat, hearing her voice and seeing in my mind the faces of the 161 women who contributed to her amazing 1,098 victories as Lady Vol basketball players,” Brooke-Marciniak said. “I’ll also envision the measurable impact of the money we raise while Pedaling for Pat and how it will help the patients and improve the lives of families living with Alzheimer’s and other forms of dementia who are being treated at Pat’s phenomenal clinic at the UT Medical Center.”

For those wishing to donate to the ride, Brooke-Marciniak has set-up a Go Fund Me account at:
<http://www.gofundme.com/MBMpedalforpat>

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Contacts for Michelle Brooke-Marciniak: Debby Jennings at SHEEX®, Inc., debby@sheex.com, 865-806-5671 and Lia Giordano, The Brand Amp, 949-438-1089, lia@thebrandamp.com

Contact for The Pat Summitt Foundation: Sunny Biden, sbiden@patsummitt.org, 865-524-1223

Contacts for Pedal for Pat: Sara Mitchell, saramitchelltv@gmail.com, 731-695-0243; The Point Group, Susan Hoover, 214-378-7970, ext. 304, shoover@thepointgroup.com; Amy Jones, 214-378-7970, ext. 302, ajones@thepointgroup.com

ABOUT PEDAL FOR PAT

Pedal for Pat is a cross-country cycling fundraiser in which a team of 12 individuals will ride for 12 days from Knoxville, Tennessee, to Key West, Fla. Each team member will raise a minimum of \$10,000 benefitting The Pat Summitt Foundation, which designates 100 percent of its grant funding to The Pat Summitt Clinic at The University of Tennessee Medical Center. The team will ride a total of 1,098 miles to commemorate Pat Summitt’s 1,098 wins as the legendary coach of the University of Tennessee Lady Volunteer basketball team. Joshua Crisp, president and founder of TLC Senior Living and partner at Knoxville-based Dominion Senior Living, a faith-based company which owns and operates assisted living and memory care communities throughout Tennessee, Kentucky, and South Carolina created the event to honor Summitt and raise awareness about Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia. He will be co-chaired on the ride by Michelle Brooke-Marciniak who starred at the University of Tennessee under Summitt from 1993-96, and helped to carve out 91 of Summitt’s 1,098 victories. As an Academic All-American and a fiery leader on the court, Michelle drove Tennessee to the 1995 and 1996 NCAA title games, as well as captained the National Championship team in 1996, and was named the NCAA Tournament Most Valuable Player. In 2012, Tennessee honored her extraordinary basketball career and contributions to UT women’s athletics by inducting her into the Lady Vol Hall of Fame. She is now the Co-Founder of SHEEX®, Inc., the world’s first performance fabric bedding company with globally patented technology and also serves on The Pat Summitt Foundation Advisory Board.

ABOUT THE PAT SUMMITT FOUNDATION

The Pat Summitt Foundation, a fund of East Tennessee Foundation, was established by Pat and Tyler Summitt in November 2011. Its mission is to award grants to non-profit organizations that advance research for treatment and a cure, provide support for patients and caregivers, and educate the public on Alzheimer’s disease. In 2015, The Pat Summitt Foundation formed a strategic partnership with The University of Tennessee Medical Center to create The Pat Summitt Clinic. The clinic, which opened in December 2016, greatly improves access to healthcare services for families and patients facing Alzheimer’s disease in a facility created to advance Alzheimer’s research, detection, treatment, family caregiver support, and ultimately, lead to a cure. To learn more please visit www.patsummitt.org, like us on [facebook.com/patsummittfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/patsummittfoundation), and follow us on Twitter and Instagram @webackpat.