



It was through the encouragement of one of Joni Eareckson's physical therapists that she began writing and painting with a brush held between her teeth. Joni has become an accomplished artist, and her works have been reproduced on a popular greeting card line. In this scene from the new World Wide Pictures release, "Joni," Joni Eareckson portrays herself, and the physical therapist is played by Cloyce Morrow.

"Joni" begins this Friday

"We all know people whose lives serve as an inspiration to others. Joni Eareckson is such a person," said Billy Graham after viewing the World Wide Pictures film, "Joni," based on the real life drama which saw a healthy, athletic girl turned into a quadriplegic as the result of a tragic diving accident in the dark waters of the Chesapeake Bay.

In the film, which starts playing Friday at the State Theatre, Columbia, Joni makes a sensational debut as an actress as she relives the dark days of anguish and finds courage and faith through painful years of

rehabilitation.

"My own life and the lives of millions who know her through her books and artwork have been enriched by the remarkable depth of her faith, and have been awed by her great reservoir of courage," Dr. Graham said.

"Joni's story is sure to touch the lives of all who suffer brokenness—of body, of spirit, of faith, of hope, of family relationships. And the answer that transformed her from a disillusioned, frightened, hurting young girl into a strong, confident, dedicated young woman is the same answer that comes to all who are truly willing to ask honest questions. That

answer is found in the person of Jesus Christ," he said.

"I was privileged to be present on the set during part of the filming. I know she worked to near the point of exhaustion," Dr. Graham recalled. "Time after time, the cast and crew would rally around her. I witnessed her loving, giving spirit. And I sensed how important it was to Joni to share her story with the world through the visual medium of the film."

The movie vividly portrays Joni's long road to recovery where every moment was an obstacle she refused to face until, drawing on her faith in God, she saw a purpose to her existence and began the long, hard fight toward rehabilitation. Not always winning, but never giving up.

"I believe Joni's personal victory over a devastating handicap, as well as over the trauma and depression that accompanied it, have been brought to the motion picture screen in a film so powerful it will profoundly affect all those who see it," Billy Graham emphasized.

At times the filming was painfully real for Joni. After certain scenes, she found it necessary to leave the set because she was so caught up in a past she thought was behind her.

That reality and honesty come through on the screen in what Billy Graham calls, "A triumphant message!"

Run (cont.)

[continued from back page]
Keener (12:45), female, Ann Martin (15:21).

40-49: female, Beverly Sweigart (13:44).

50 and over: male, Clyde L. Sweigart (12:29).

The one mile kids' race, for children under the age of 12, was won by Carolyn Brubaker in a time of 7:03. Tracy Groff was second with a 7:30 time, and John Finger was third at 7:43.

The event was co-sponsored by The Inside Track and Kenny Smith's Sporting Goods.

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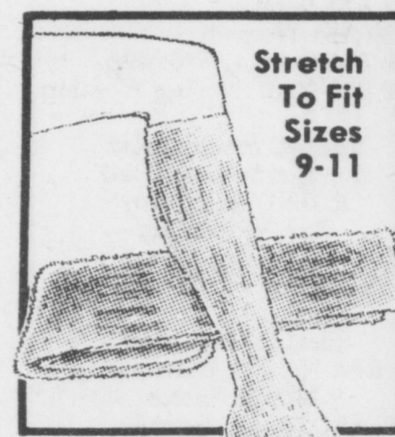
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