

## A love match

### All in the family . . .

Legendary boxer Muhammad Ali's daughter, Jamillah, 39, and former State Sen. Jeremiah Joyce's son, Michael, 42, tied the knot in Naples, Fla., last weekend.

It was the uniting of two families with deep Chicago roots: Jeremiah Joyce has been one of Mayor Daley's closest political advisers in the past . . . and both families have Irish ancestry.

Sneed is told Michael Joyce, a lawyer and a boxer, asked "The Champ" for his daughter's hand in marriage when the couple accompanied the aging pugilist on a trip to his maternal grandmother's hometown in Ireland last year.

"The Champ" said, "Yes, and so did Jamillah," said Joyce's brother, Kevin, who told Sneed: "No one ever thought Mike would get married. For the last two years, he's been the happiest anyone has ever seen him. At the wedding, Mike said, 'Muhammad, you'll always be 'The Champ,' but 'The Greatest Ever' is my mother, Mary Joyce, and she's going to pass that title on to my wife, your daughter'."

Ali, who suffers from Parkinson's disease, was able to walk his daughter down the aisle at the beachside wedding before 140 friends and dozens of onlookers at the Ritz-Carlton hotel in Naples. The wedding was performed by the Rev. George Clements.

"Muhammad Ali sat throughout the whole reception and invited people to come up and take pictures with him," a wedding source said.

Joyce, a former prize fighter known as "Irish Mike Joyce," promotes young boxers and opened a boxing club at his alma mater — Leo Catholic High School in Auburn Gresham.

"Mike has always been consumed in helping others and has been the best man in at least six weddings," Kevin Joyce said.

Jamillah, one of Ali's family of seven daughters and two sons, works at the Secretary of State's office. Joyce's dad, Jeremiah, was a Chicago alderman for four years and an Illinois state senator for 14 years.



Michael Joyce and Jamillah Ali

ory of former Chicago School Board President Michael Scott, who committed suicide in the wake of a whisper of fiscal scandal last year.

### The art scene . . .

It's being described as a descent into memory and an untold truth. But for artist Sheila Finnigan, whose exhibit of paintings opens Friday at Josef Glimmer Gallery, 207 W. Superior, it is a way to let ancestral voices speak.

♦ Translation: Finnigan, who was raised in the Irish Catholic tradition by a Jewish mother keeping a death-bed promise to her dying husband, is the granddaughter of a Jewish Talmudic scholar — something she was aware of, but hadn't processed emotionally.

♦ The paintings, many of which deal with the Holocaust, "are my way of letting the two rivers in my life, which were running separately — come together," Finnigan said.

♦ "It's her way of crossing a very powerful bridge, and she does it via German expressionism," Glimmer said.



Sheila Finnigan's "Encounter"

## SNEED



## CHICAGO LAWYER SCORES A KNOCKOUT MARRYING ALI'S DAUGHTER

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