

Dana on parade in DCBE

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Rick Mauch

The accolades just keep coming for Dana Vollmer. The 16-year-old who won a gold medal winner in swimming at this past summer's Olympics will be honored with a second parade. Dick Pruitt, mayor of DeCordova, said the city will pay tribute to her Thursday with a golf cart parade through the neighborhoods.

The Vollmer family--Dana, her brother Nick and parents Les and Cathy--live in DeCordova.

Dana has already been honored with a parade through Granbury.

Vollmer swam a leg of the world-record-setting women's 4x200-meter relay in Athens, Greece. Their time of 7:53.42 broke a 17-year-old mark held by East Germany.

Thursday's parade will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the driving range by Northgate Road. Golf carts, led by a fire truck, will proceed through the neighborhoods to the clubhouse.

At the clubhouse, a ceremony featuring Dana and several local and state dignitaries will take place at 7 p.m. A dinner will follow at 7:30 p.m.

"A golf cart parade is certainly something different," Pruitt said. "Very seldom do you have the opportunity to have someone from your hometown who has an achievement like this young lady has accomplished. We want to honor her in a special way."

Pruitt said the Vollmer family will be recognized as well, along with coach Ron Forrest of the Fort Worth Area Swim Team for whom Dana swims year-round. Forrest is Dana's trainer.

Pruitt and Dana will ride in a golf cart that is a replica of a 1957 Chevrolet, Pruitt said. Cathy and Dana's grandmother will ride in a similar cart.

Ceremonies will include Dana receiving a key to the city and a plaque of appreciation.

The festivities are open to the public, but de Cordova is a gated community. Anyone wishing to attend should call the clubhouse in advance, Pruitt said, at (817) 326-2381.