

# Cramahe player tours Scandinavia

By BOB OWEN  
STAFF WRITER

A conversation with anyone will reveal something about her personality. A conversation with Cramahe Township's Margie Dingwall unveils a young woman with strong values and a sense of direction - a person who knows she's headed somewhere.

That somewhere in March was Finland with her Ajax ringette team.

Ten years ago Margie began a two-year campaign to convince her parents Mae and Dave to allow her to try out for the Warkworth ringette team. Her persistence paid off. At age nine she was allowed to join the team.

Area resident Don Clarke was the coach and his daughters Nicole and Melissa played on the team that cleaned up in "C" competitions, then moved up to "B", playing Oshawa, Omeme and Sunderland.

In 1995-6 at age 14 she was part of their "B" regional championship team. There were

no more mountains to climb at that level. A decision she made two years ago has culminated in a trip this month with her Ajax ringette team to Finland for a tournament and a side trip to Sweden.

At 15, when most of her friends were changing from Warkworth ringette to hockey, Margie weighed her options and chose to move up to a higher level of ringette competition offered at the Ajax club.

It's meant a lot of travel that, until this winter was a parental commitment. Now at 17, she often drives herself to the regular practices and games.

Her team plays in the Central Region at the "A" level against teams from as far away as St. Catharines, Stratford and Kitchener.

She rationalizes the choice, saying that, if she had played hockey she would have gone to Belleville to play at the same level. The trip to Ajax from her home just outside of Castleton is only 10 minutes longer.

The decision was clearly the right one for her. In her first season the Ajax team won the Provincial Championships. Playing forward, Margie scored the series winner in overtime.

Since then she has dropped back to defence and the 5'4" teenager considers herself one of the best skaters on the team.

That ability is only one of many factors she will have to consider over the summer as she weighs her options for next year.

The Ajax and Pickering teams are thinking about merging to form a strong contender at the AA level. She would probably be selected to play on the team that would vie for a trip to Nationals.

But next year is her OAC year at high school and she has her sights set on a university degree to pursue interests in business, law



**MARGIE DINGWALL**-a girl who's going somewhere and that's all the way to Finland.

or physical education. She knows that will require a commitment.

For now, she is basking in the afterglow of a trip to Finland and Sweden set up by head coach Julie Mavin a former Finnish national team player.

The team left on March 9 and after a brief layover in Germany made their way to Helsinki, Finland where they met up with the Finnish team that came to Canada a year ago.

On the 11th they were on a six-hour bus ride with the Helsinki-based team bound for Lapinlahti and a ringette tourney.

Three days later they returned to Helsinki for three days of touring and practices.

Then it was off to Sweden on a "party boat". After a couple of days in Stockholm they were in the air again, stopping briefly in Frankfurt before returning to Toronto.

The trip cost \$2500 a player, but aggressive fundraising and corporate sponsorships reduced that to \$500.

By going on the trip the girls missed the Provincial Championships being held this year in Whitby.

While hockey isn't her primary sports focus, Margie has put in a few games.

After being part of a winning E.N.S.S. team in a "B" tournament at York University on Feb. 9-10, the team was shifted to the "A" division for the OFSSA championships on March 3-4.

The team was 1-2 in round-robin games in their four-team pool.

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The week before they took a tourney that was played in Campbellford, knocking out teams from Cobourg and Peterborough. With the upcoming trip to Finland looming and more time off school, she chose to step aside for the Campbellford contests.

The Cramahe resident has other interests too.

She's played soccer since she was seven and baseball from the age of 12. Work commitments at the Big Apple have restricted her summer sports for the past two summers.

She does some track and played volleyball for a year before she made the decision to go with ringette.

And while ringette is her current passion, with roots buried deep in Cramahe soil, and a wonderful sense of self nurtured by strong family ties, Margie Dingwall is a young woman with a fascinating future.

EBERLIE, DR. WILLIAM JOHN  
DYMOKE

Aged 78 years, died March 26, 1999 at St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto. Beloved husband of Doreen for 49 years and cherished father to Peter (London), Sue (Windsor) and Bill and his wife Debbie (Dartmouth). Dearest grandfather of Simon and Mark Eberlie, Jeni and Richard Sharpe and Katie Eberlie. Coming from England in 1966, Dr. Eberlie served as family physician to the village of Colborne for 20 years. A dedicated doctor for 54 years and a keen entomologist for 73 years, his knowledge and love of nature will live on in our memories. He also leaves behind in England, sisters Liz, Garvin, Margaret, Little and brother Dick Eberlie. A memorial service will be held at St. Peter's Anglican Church, King St. E., Cobourg on Wednesday, March 31 at 1pm. In memoriam donations may be made to the World Wildlife Federation.

THROWER, ALFRED WILLIAM

Suddenly on Wednesday, March 24, 1999 at Trenton Memorial Hospital, Alfred Thrower in his 80th year. Devoted husband of Jane Louise Thrower (nee Hodges). Beloved father of David Thrower and his wife Tracy, and the late Frederick Arthur Thrower. Loving grandfather of Nicole, Crystal and Katelynn. Dear brother of Isobel Swoffer and her husband George. Dorothy Grant, the late Harold Thrower and his wife Stella, and the late Ted Thrower and his wife Margaret. Alfred will also be missed by many nieces and nephews. A Funeral Service was held at MacCoubrey Funeral Home, 11 King St. W., Colborne on Saturday, March 27 at 2pm. Visitation was held at the funeral home on Friday 2-4 and 7-9pm. Those wishing may make memorial donations by cheque to the Diabetes Association or the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

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