It's tee time....

Courses preparing for another season of challenges for area golf buffs

Acton Meadows

9 holes, 3100 yards, par 35 Semi-private. 853-0631. 1st Line Erin, 1 km north of Highway 7

Membership will have its privileges at Acton Meadows. With the purchase of the Calerin course, Acton Meadows owner Al Kavanagh will be offering dual memberships this

"If you're a golfer who likes to try different courses, you will get a little variety," said Kavanagh.

Although there won't be any changes greeting golfers when

they hit the course at Acton Meadows, Kavanagh there are some on the way. He said sandtraps are going to be added, as well as making improvements to the existing traps. Some new trees will also be added on the course.

Acton Meadows will have a golf league this season on Wednesday nights and will have at least one open tournament, the Moosehead Masters, and possibly two. In addition, it will have member tournaments throughout the season. Kavanagh said junior clinics are also in the works for the

upcoming year. Acton Meadows will also be offering junior and senior rates

for golfers.

(18) \$26 weekends/\$22 weekdays/\$15 twilight (9) \$18 weekends/\$14 weekdays

Blue Springs Golf Club

27 holes, 6821 yards, par 72. Semi-private. 853-0904 Dublin Line, west of Highway 25, south of Highway 7

Anyone who has ever been frustrated by the eighth green on the Turtle Lake Championship Course will be in for a pleasant surprise this season. But then again, maybe not.

"We've completely reconstructed the green on the eighth hole," said Blue Springs general manager Rick Glugosh. "We've made it larger by about 50 per cent in actual green space and created three tiers so it will receive the ball better."

The eighth hole was recently named to the Toronto Star's top 18 holes in the Greater Toronto Area, one of the reasons being its difficult green. But Glugosh said they have by no means tamed the beast.

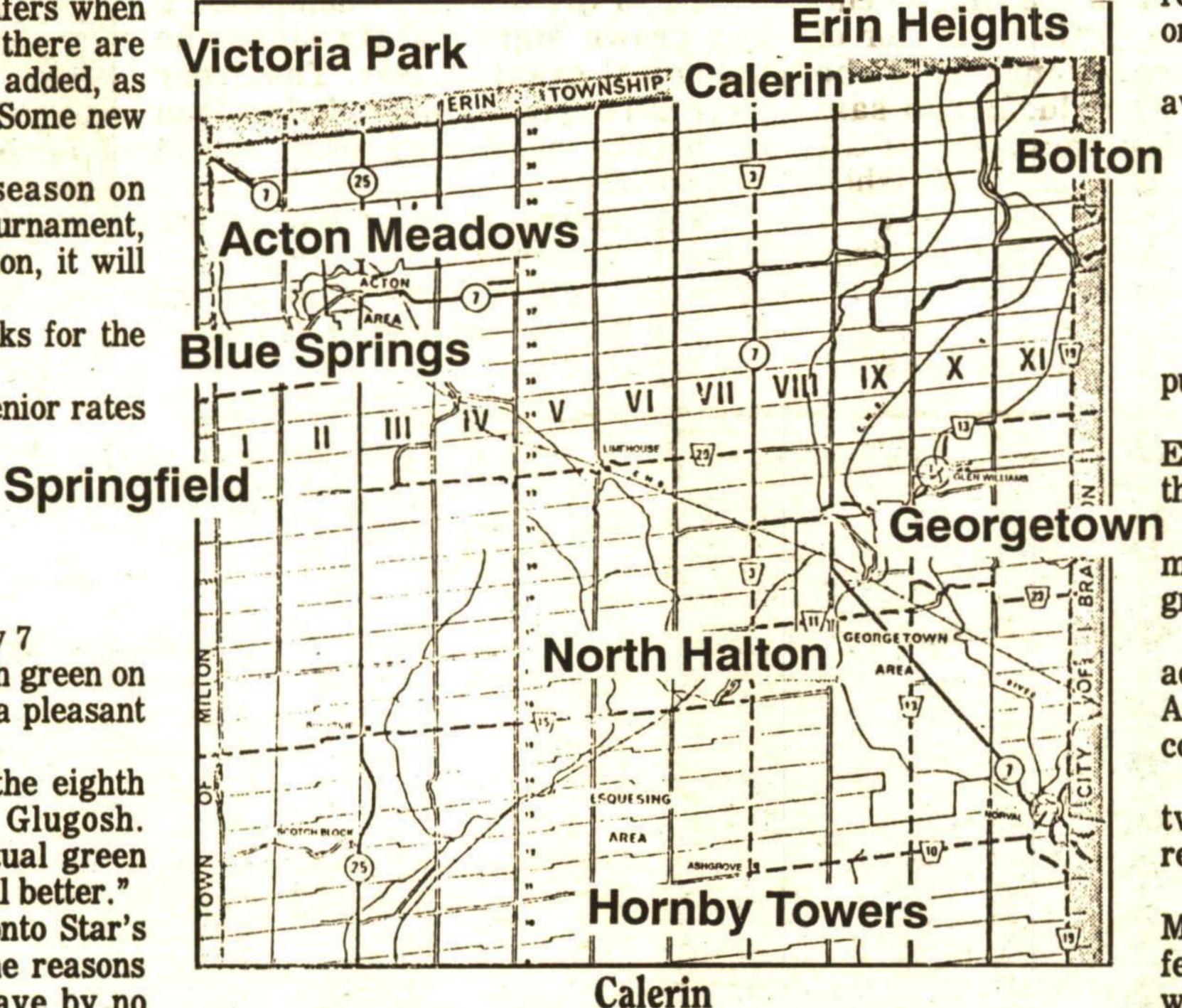
"It had a very severe slope," he said. "It was always a source of conversation because some people considered it unfair. We've reconstructed it but it's still very challenging,"

Blue Springs will have some of Canada's top women golfers to test the new green. The course will host the Canadian Professional Golf Association's Women's Championship August 19-21. The course will host a number of other events including the Paul Murr Memorial Tournament to benefit the Canadian

Cancer Society, the Ducks Unlimited fundraising tournament, the regional chairman tournament for Halton Region and the Canadian Olympic Freestyle Skiing tournament, which had Olympic medalist Jean Luc Broussard as a guest speaker and host last year.

Club pro Shelley Woolner will again run junior programs this summer. Blue Springs will also be offering special rates on season passes for The Trillium par-3 course for junior golfers.

\$59 weekends/\$49 weekdays/\$28 twilight Nottawasaga



9 holes, 6,562 yards (18), par 72 (18). Semi-private. 833-2168 10 Sideroad, 15 min. north of Georgetown

The biggest change at Calerin is in the ownership, where Acton Meadows owner Al Kavanagh takes over.

"This is an attractive course," said Cavanagh. Obviously Kavanagh is not alone in his thinking. The Toronto Star chose Calerin's sixth hole as one of the 18 best in the Greater Toronto Area. Only one other nine hole course made the list.

The change in ownership means there will be dual

memberships with Acton Meadows for Calerin members. It also means many of the same programs offered by Acton Meadows will be available at Calerin. There will be golf leagues at Calerin, ladies on Tuesday night and men on Thursday. There will also be an open tournament, the Upper Canada Open. A second open open tournament will likely be added. Member tournaments will also be held throughout the season.

While the course remains virtually the same, Kavanagh has renovated the clubhouse. The only changes for the course are on the existing sandtraps.

Like Acton Meadows, senior and junior rates will be

available.

(18) \$30 weekends/\$26 weekdays/\$17 twilight (9) \$20 weekends/\$16 weekdays

Georgetown Golf Club

18 holes, 6,100 yards, par 71. Semi-private. 877-6011

Mayfield Road, north of River Drive

After major changes last year, the Georgetown Golf Club put on some finishing touches.

The club worked with the town and the Niagara Escarpment Commission to build stone walls along the bed of the course's river.

"The wall will hold back the erosian," said clubhouse manager Dan Bruton. "We were trying to reclaim some of the ground where the river had been eating away at the fairway."

The club has also planted more trees and installed additional drainage to help improve a couple of problem areas. And for those golfers who don't have time to stroll around the course, there will be more power carts available this year.

The clubhouse also had some changes made. The lobby and two front washrooms were renovated and the bar was remodeled to give it a European look.

Georgetown will also be participating in the Global MasterCard program. The credit card offers two-for-one green fees at courses around North America. Golfers with the card will also accumulate points on a rewards program each time they use the card.

The club will host a number of tournament's this year, including the Chamber of Commerce Tournament, the Mayor's Optimist Club Tournament and the Lions' Club Tournament.

The club will continue its junior program this season. The course is expected to open May 1. \$38 weekends/\$25 weekdays/\$16 twilight

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