

Sports & Leisure

Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2003

MAM PRO SPORTS

ARE YOU READY FOR CAMP?

LOADS OF HOCKEY

GEAR IN STOCK!

10 Mountainview Rd. South, Georgetown 905-877-8889

A perfect 10 Lapointe sets golf mark

Mary Ann Lapointe earned herself a place in Ontario golf history by winning her 10th Ontario Ladies Mid-Amateur Golf Championship Thursday.

Lapointe shot a final round of 71 to secure a five-stroke victory over Terrill Samuel of Etobicoke and became just the third golfer to win an Ontario championship 10 times. She joins Ontario Golf Hall-of-Famers Marlene Streit, who won 11 Ontario Ladies Amateurs, and Nick Weslock, who won 11 Ontario Men's Senior Amateurs.

"I wasn't aware of that stat; that's good company," Lapointe said after being told of the exclusive club she had joined.

Lapointe has had a decade-long hold on the Ontario Mid-Am, winning nine of the last 10 events, with Samuel's win in 2000 being the only break. With a three-shot lead heading into the final round, the North Halton Golf and Country Club member made the job of mounting a comeback against her even tougher when she birdied the first hole.

"I played pretty darn close to a perfect round of golf today," she said of her one-under 71. "I was fortunate to make a birdie on the first hole which set the tone for the day. I was swinging well all day and after Terrill bogeyed the fifth I felt pretty good about my chances."

Lapointe opened the tournament with rounds of 71 and 72.

Lapointe boasts an impressive resumé that can rival anyone except maybe Streit. Lapointe has 11 provincial amateur championships— five in Ontario and six in Quebec— 10 Ontario mid-amateurs, three Ontario match play championships and three Canadian amateur championships.

Now Lapointe would like to add some international flavour. She is playing in a qualifying tournament for the United States Mid-Amateur this week.

"I'm looking forward to playing in it again," said Lapointe. "I've played in it twice before and was medalist once, but lost my second round match."

The tournament will be played at the Long Cove Golf Club in Hilton Head, South Carolina from Oct. 11-16.



Ryan Del Monte of the Georgetown Raiders opponent during the Raiders' 7-1 win in exhibition attempts to keep the puck away from a North York Jr. A Hockey League action. Photo by Herb Garbutt

Raiders show offensive punch in pre-season romp

With the season opener just nine days away, the Georgetown Raiders are still looking to put some major pieces in place.

The Raiders did solidify one position, signing Aaron Barton to back up starter Daniel Bellissimo. Barton played for the Halton Hurricane minor midgets last season and was a fourth round pick of the Peterborough Petes, who made him the first goalie chosen in the Ontario Hockey League draft.

The Raiders did appear to be making progress toward boosting the

offence with three players who played in the OHL in the lineup for Thursday's 7-1 exhibition Provincial Jr. A Hockey League win over North York.

Matt Bacon, who played his fourth season in the O with the St. Michael's Majors, scored twice. A couple of other players who are no strangers to the Provincial Jr. A League— Ryan Del Monte and John Winstanley— also suited up. Del Monte had 25 points for Sarnia last year. The Raiders tried to acquire Winstanley last year and he sat out the first half of the season before

returning to Sudbury where he had nine points in 26 games. Although none have them are signed, the Raiders are working on securing the rights to all three.

The Raiders trio of Rick Varone, Vince Laise and Ross Smith continued to be an effective scoring unit. Varone had both the Raiders' first-period goals and Laise had two assists. The Raiders homegrown line of Robert Sgarbossa, Matt Velten and Jay Sprague also produced a pair of goals, setting up T.J. Manastersky's second-period goal while Sgarbossa closed out the scoring.

Veltman ready for the pros as final bid for Minto title falls short

You would think by now Peter Veltman would have seen enough of Burnaby.

For the second time in four years, the Burnaby Lakers put an end to his bid to win a national championship. Burnaby scored with 57 seconds to play to edge Orangeville 7-6 in last Tuesday's Minto Cup semifinals.

For Veltman, it was his last shot at a national Jr. A title. After five years with the Orangeville Northmen, the 21-year-old will move on and look to begin a pro career with the Vancouver Ravens of the National Lacrosse League. And

many of the fans that cheered on Burnaby—a Vancouver suburb—in its wins over Orangeville will be cheering for Veltman and the Ravens.

Originally drafted by Ottawa last season, Veltman was selected by Vancouver in July's NLL dispersal draft when the Rebel folded.

"It would have been nice to win a Minto but I've had five good years and I'm ready to move on," Veltman said.

Five 'good' years may be a bit of an understatement. Veltman averaged more than three points a game over his Jr. A career, tallying 103 goals and 230

points in 74 games. Those numbers may have been even more impressive had a torn ACL not wiped out most of the year. The injury, sustained in last year's playoffs, shelved his pro debut and limited him to just two regular season games in junior. But after six months of rehab, Veltman showed little sign that the injury slowed him down. He racked up 17 goals and 38 points in 14 playoff games to help Orangeville reach the Ontario final.

His return also reunited him with brother Daryl. They played two games together in last year's Founders Cup

but this brought them together as true teammates.

Daryl also had an impressive rookie campaign for the Northmen. He had 12 goals and 31 points in eight regular season games and had 10 goals and 30 points in 13 playoff games.

While Daryl will have a few more years to win the Minto Cup that eluded his brother, Peter is excited about the prospect of playing pro next season.

"I haven't played at that level and I don't really know what it's all about but I'm looking forward to it."

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer

LOOKING FOR THE BEST WAY TO REACH YOUR CUSTOMERS?

...you've found it with your award winning community newspaper

The Independent & Free Press
At The Georgetown Marketplace
280 Guelph Street, Unit 29 • 873-0301

REACH 49,000
READERS TWICE A WEEK
905-873-0301



Serving Halton Hills

www.independentfreepress.com