

# Sports & Leisure

Friday, October 21, 2005



## Comin' through

St. Thomas Aquinas' Sam White grimaces as he's hit by Georgetown's Matt Gray in Tuesday's Halton junior boys football game. Both teams went into the game with perfect 3-0 records but Georgetown dominated, winning 33-1 to take sole possession of first place. Rob Cutting ran for three touchdowns, Mike Lavigne caught a pair of touchdown passes, one from Cutting and one from Jesse Brown. Liam Harland added three converts.

Photo by Herb Garbutt

## Peewee B Twisters extend streak

Emma Bridgwater scored late in the third period to help the North Halton Peewee B Twisters extend their unbeaten streak to three games with a 1-1 tie against Hamilton. Terrilyn Digout posted shutouts in the Twisters' first two games, a pair of 2-0 wins over Hamilton and Niagara Falls.

North Halton 2, Hamilton 0:

Shauna Costello, Holly Kendrick (G); Keely Duke, Laura Brooks (A); Digout (SO).

North Halton 2, Niagara Falls 0: Costello (1G, 1A); Kendrick (G); Delaney McQueen, Amanda Larade, Nathalie Mihalek (A); Digout (SO).

North Halton 1, Hamilton 1: Emma Bridgwater (G); Costello (A); Digout (T).

## Newest hall of famer Lapointe says her best is yet to come

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When Lapointe reached the final of the inaugural Toronto Star Amateur in 2001 her opponent Lindsay Knowlton was standing on the first tee as the finalists were announced.

"When I heard her bio, I thought, 'Oh my God,'" Knowlton said.

Lapointe, of course, won that too.

That bio has grown significantly in the last four years but the biggest addition came last month with her victory at the United States Ladies Mid-Amateur. While her dominance on the course was well-known north of the border, Lapointe showed American golfers what she was capable of doing and scratched another accomplishment off her to-do list in the process. She trailed for only two of the 96 holes she played in six matches as she became just the sixth Canadian to win a U.S. championship.

Wednesday's Hall of Fame announcement was the latest in a string of accolades for Lapointe. On Monday, the North Halton Golf and Country Club, her home club since moving to Georgetown from Montreal in 1994, presented her with a life membership at a reception to mark last month's victory.

"I'm still riding that high from the U.S. Mid-Am. The whole month has been a celebration," she said of the Hall of Fame induction. "But it is really satisfying to know you've built enough of a career to be worthy of this kind of honour."

And it's an honour Lapointe says belongs to more than just herself.

"All my family, they've all put something into this. My parents, my brothers, Richard (her husband), the kids (daughters Kelly and Robin), they all had a part in it and I think they can share in this more than any individual win."

Lapointe won her first Ontario title when she was 23 and that same year finished runner-up to Dawn Coe at the Canadian Amateur. Like Coe (now Coe-Jones) who went on to play on the LPGA tour, Lapointe gave the pros a shot. She played a season on the Futures Tour but didn't enjoy the lifestyle.

"I'm really glad I did it because it keeps me from wondering 'What if?'" Lapointe said. "I

found out it wasn't for me. I found out firsthand that it's a really tough grind."

Lapointe had to wait a year and a half to regain her amateur status and then took some time away from the game to start a family. She got back into competitive golf at the age of 30 and had two more runner-up finishes at the Canadian Amateur, both times losing to an American golfer. In 1993, she didn't have to settle for second any longer, winning her first Canadian title.

Three years later, in the midst of what turned out to be a three-year run as the Ontario champ, she won her second Canadian title.

"You win it once, you think 'Maybe it was a fluke. Can I win it twice?' When you do that you start thinking, 'I wonder if I could get into the Hall of Fame.'"

Gloria Sinclair, who nominated Lapointe, said she wouldn't be surprised if the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame is far behind.

"It's amazing the number of wins she has and she's still so competitive," Sinclair said. "When you play that long it's hard to keep up the motivation but she definitely still has it."

Being a Hall of Famer, Lapointe doesn't see any reason why those wins can't keep coming.

"Physically I have to keep on top of my conditioning. I have to stay in shape to stay competitive and I figure I can do that for another five to seven years. I enjoy it. It's still fun so it's easy to work on it."

And what is keeping Lapointe motivated now is a chance to win for her country at the World Amateur Championships. Last year she helped

Canada finish second, its best showing ever.

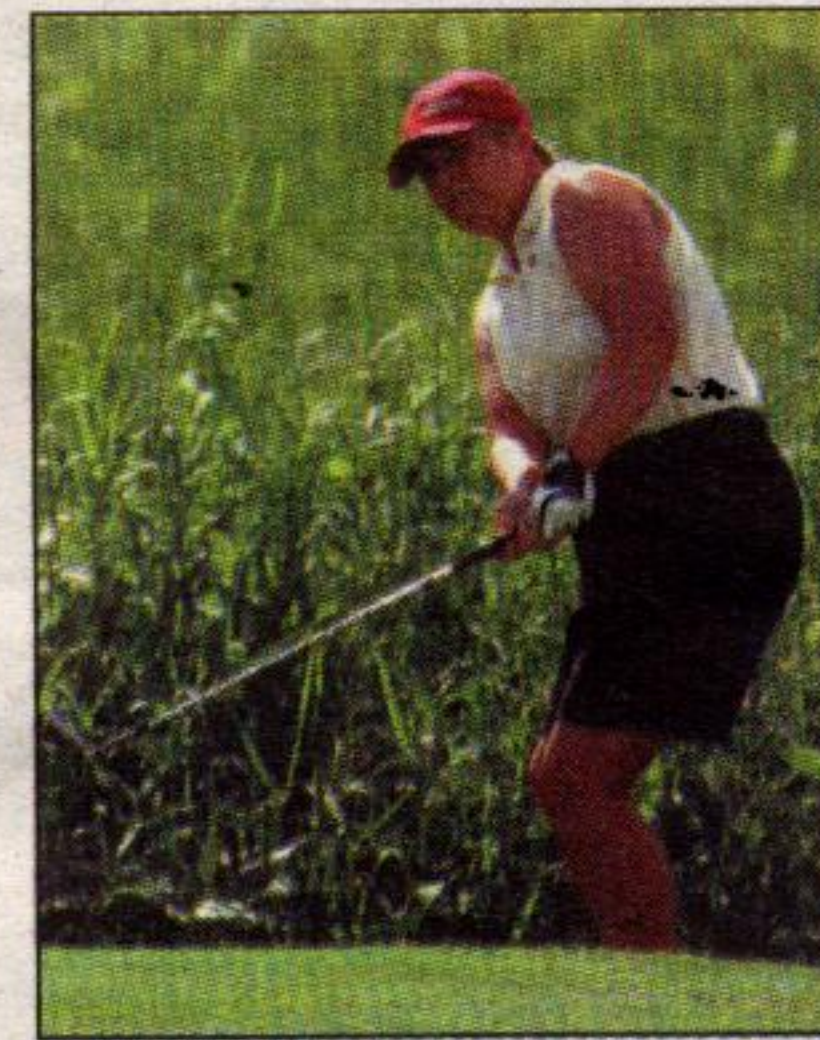
"It would be nice to win worlds. We came so close last year in Puerto Rico," said the six-time recipient of the Score top Canadian amateur golfer award. "It's a tough goal to have because you can't do it alone. I'm hoping Laura (Matthews) and Lindsay (Knowlton) will be back. I figure if I remain competitive, I've got one more shot at making the world team, maybe two, but by then I'll be really old."

For this late bloomer, it might not be an issue.

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer

## Lapointe's title tally

U.S. Ladies Mid-Am: 1  
Canadian Ladies Amateur: 4  
Ontario Amateur: 5  
Quebec Amateur: 6  
Ontario Mid-Am: 12  
Ontario Match Play: 4  
Eastern Provinces: 6  
Toronto Star Amateur: 1



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