Sportlight



Osgoode Phys-Ed director Jim Kerruish

(Garey Ris Photo)

Osgoode Township High School physical education director Jim Kerruish is a team player and a great competitor. Maybe that's why he has been teaching students all about fitness and health at OTHS for 14 years.

"I enjoy teaching the kids, watching the results improve with each class. It's a very rewarding job," Kerruish said in an interview.

Osgoode didn't have a sports program when Kerruish arrived in 1966. The only sports offered to students were volleyball, hockey, track and field and six-man football. He started 12-man football, basketball, badminton, wrestling and soccer, just to name a few.

He admits sports and physical fitness are geared towards the male population. He says boys are pressured into sports and it's a natural thing for boys to be more interested in playing sports.

"There is more publicity towards traditional boys' sports such as hockey, football and baseball although many girls are now involved in these sports. Most of the local boys also play for hockey and baseball teams in the community," he said.

Kerruish says there has been an increase in the interest of fitness of the students because of the Universal Gym, installed about two years ago when the addition was completed.

Larry Robinson of the Montreal Canadiens was one of his students. Kerruish says Robinson was one of the best athletes to attend Osgoode.

"Larry always wanted to help kids in sports, has a good attitude and is a leader with the Canadiens. While here, he was very involved in track and field," Kerruish said.

Robinson possessed leadership skills and represented Osgoode at the Ontario Athletic Leadership Camp. Kerruish says he almost steered Robinson into the wrong sport as a career.

"Larry always looked better in football and I encouraged him to make it his career. Even Don Holtby, Canadian Player co-ordinator for the Ottawa Rough Riders said Robinson could make it in football," said Kerruish.

Leo, Larry's father, still kids Kerruish about whether he can tell the difference between a hockey player and a football player.

Kerruish also taught grade eight at Sir Winston Churchill for three years. Two students he taught went on to the Canadian Football League; Eric Upton, offensive guard with the Edmonton Eskimos and Peter Stennerson, a slotback with the Ottawa Rough Riders.

When he's not teaching, Jim is probably golfing, swimming, fishing or water skiing. In the winter, his attention focuses on skiing.

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He's been married to Ellie for 17 years and has a 14-year-old daughter

what does he have planned for the future?

"I've got nothing planned. You always wonder whether you want a change of scenery, but I still enjoy teaching at Osgoode."

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Pool staff set to swim

Sounds of splashing and children laughing will soon begin to vibrate throughout Russell. The pool committee and staff of our local pool have once again set the wheel in motion and plans are in progress to make this summer a memorable experience for our village.

Our staff this year consists of five rookies and two seasoned veterans. Camilla Cook, Catherine Sherwood, Marc Baillon and Lance Schulhauser have all been very busy this winter qualifying for their positions. These pool rats of the highest degree are ready and willing to instruct our young swimmers.

T.J. Mondeaux, our assistant lifeguard, is also prepared to help and learn, in order to obtain a position next year. Lindley Stachon, a well-known figure in the swim team circle, has once again returned to lead our team to victory.

I'd now like to introduce myself, Pamela Smit, as the 1981 pool supervisor. I have probably become a familiar face around the pool, as it has been my place of employment for the past three years. Together with my enthusiastic staff, I hope to create an atmosphere of fun and learning for the people in our district. The pool has been a great source of enjoyment in the past and I'm proud to admit I've gained most of my credentials there.

The staff is prepared to offer lessons in both French and English. Registration for lessons and the purchase of family and single passes will take place at the Russell arena on June 4 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and June 6 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

A good turnout at registration will indicate the children and parents of Russell are ready for another fun-filled summer. Another successful term will in all likelihood, lead to a new structure surrounding the pool for the summer of '82. I hope to see many of you at registration

Garey Ris RISRAP

I played my first game of golf of the season but should have brought a fishing rod.

It was a beautiful Friday afternoon and I didn't expect to burn up the course in Stittsville with the flair of Tom Watson or the showmanship of Lee Trevino. But I thought I'd have my game under some sort of control. How wrong I was!

I don't think I played one hole without hitting water. I've never seen so much water in my life. The course has water on every hole. There wasn't one sand trap I didn't have to blast out of. I just couldn't avoid the water. The odd time I would manage a great tee shot, only to lose my confidence and flub up every shot to the green. Putting wasn't one of my strong points. I think I three-putt every hole. However, I never threatened to dispose of my golf clubs. A few lessons and a couple of trips to the driving range should cure my ineptness.

Help!

Talk about upsets! It's nice to have unpredictable teams winning against the top teams. The youthful Edmonton Oilers fated for success in the coming season after their three-game sweep of the once mighty Montreal Canadiens. They also gave the defending Stanley Cup champion New York Islanders a superb battle. With a few more breaks, the Oilers could have upended the Isles.

The New York Rangers have surprised many hockey fans by getting past the Los Angeles Kings, forth in the overall standings, and the second place St. Louis Blues. Goaltender Steve Baker is the key to their recent accomplishments. How about Minnesota North Stars' easy series wins over the Buffalo Sabres and the Boston Bruins? The Stars who had never won in Boston, won two in this year's playoffs. The Calgary Flames, inept when it came to playoff hockey astonished the Philadelphia Flyers in the deciding game at the Spectrum.

Who knows what surprises await hockey buffs in the Stanley Cup finals!

Three Osgoode High School students will be representing the school in the Sixth Annual Athletes in Action — Ottawa Rough Rider Senior Bowl football game slated for May 14 at Lansdowne Park. The game begins at 7:30 p.m.

Running back Gary Manwell, defensive back Ron Wilson and linebacker Stewart McGee are the players. The game between the Ottawa and Carleton Boards of Education provides players with talent, a stepping stone to university and the Canadian Football League. Doug McGee, Jeff Avery, Bruce Walker, Gary and Glenn Cook are all products of Ottawa and Windsor camps of this nature. Camp begins May 8.

If all the recent changes in employment of players from the United States and trades between CFL teams doesn't create more interest in the upcoming season, the league might as well fold.

The Toronto Argonauts finally have a proven quarterback because of their acquisition of Condredge Holloway from the Ottawa Rough Riders.

Third place Southern Junior boys won the 11th Annual OTHS Invitational Basketball Tournament with a 48-32 victory over fourth-place Pleasant Corners. Southern Junior advanced to the final by upsetting Russell 27-25. Unbeaten Metcalfe, which finished the regular standings with a 4-0 record, lost a 33-30 heartbreaker to Pleasant Corners.

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Russell Juniors in South Carleton

A Junior fastball team is finally a reality in Russell. After a number of years of operating a successful minor softball program it was decided that now is the time to put the graduating players into tougher competition. The team will be managed by Jim Sullivan and coached by Jack McLaren and Don Oshier, all of whom played in the league in years past. The coaches feel that they have the nucleus of a fine young ball team. The team is entered in the South Carleton League but hopes to participate in a number of intermediate tournaments as well as playing in the Junior Ontario playdowns.

The team will commence league play about mid-May and home games are scheduled every Wednesday night beginning at 8:30 p.m.

Russell Atoms Win at Embrun

The Russell Warriors Atom A team finished the season on a high note when they emerged from the prestigious Embrun tournament as Atom A Champions. Coach Garry Patterson was most pleased with the young boys' efforts all season, but felt that capturing the Championship in a tournament of this size was the highlight of the season. Garry was assisted by Emery Meade during the tournament and Chuck Norris during regular season play.