

Wall of fame

Athletes aim for honors

By BRUCE STAPLEY

It spans the hallway that leads from the cafeteria to the gymnasium at Stouffville Dist. Secondary School. It represents a pinnacle of athletic achievement for students past and present. And its a source of particular pride for SDSS physical education head Dave Connell.

It's the 'Legends of Sport at Stouffville' display, or 'Wall of Fame' as it is better known, and it is a recognition of the top sports figures at the high school since 1960.

"I guess you could say I instigated it" says the popular Connell as he stands in front of the display, warding off playful jabs from students passing by. "But Anita Tebogt and Lynn Barry were the driving force behind the establishment of the wall."

As a reward for getting the thing started back in 1983, the two were awarded the school's Homestead Trophy for Outstanding Contributions To The Physical Education Department.

A run-a-thon was organized at the school that year which raised \$1,400 to cover the cost of materials for the project. Anita and Lynn went to the school's trophy case and listed the winners since 1960.

Wally Currie, a woodshop instructor, has his class construct the actual cabinet out of oak and sliding glass display doors. The two girls and Connell went to Don Head Secondary School and spent 25 hours at that school's

engraving machine, engraving all the names on plastic strips which were then inserted inside the cabinet.

The grand unveiling was done as part of the school's awards banquet in June 1984.

The wall recognizes top achievers in virtually all fields of high school athletic endeavour. There are the general awards, like Male and Female Athlete Of The Year, Physical and Moral Improvement, and the Homestead Award won by Anita and Lynn in 1983. Then there are specific sport awards for proficiency in badminton, baseball, basketball, volleyball, track, soccer etc.

Connell thinks its a great way of acknowledging the superior talents and efforts of top athletes through the years.

I don't know what we are going to do when we reach the end of the wall", he says. "I guess we'll have to find more space somewhere."

"It's certainly a motivating factor for the students", enthuses Connell. "There are kids who have a burning ambition to get their names up there."

A quick scanning of the wall reveals names that have known such prominence in years gone by. Jim Hill, as Male Athlete Of The Year in 1965 and 66, as well as best basketball player for three years.

Judy Sackfield, now a head coach at an Alabama University, who was Female Athlete Of The Year from '76 through '79, as well as winner of Girls Field from '76-79.

And Kelly Cowen, Female Athlete Of The Year in '84, winner of the Homestead Trophy in

'86, who is now playing first string volleyball for Sir Wilfred Laurier University in Waterloo.

The best, in Dave Connell's opinion?

"For the guys, I'd have to say it was either Phil Kinton, Jim Hill, or Mike Lafleur. For the girls, I'd go with Judy Sackfield, Kim Lewis (now Kim Reesor), Peggy McBride, Kelly Cowen, Linda Hachey or Liz Sled."

The current crop of school athletes are more excited at the prospect of their names joining the others. Rob McConnell, the winner of the Boys' Cross Country in '85 and '87, hopes to see his name up again.

I feel I have the dedication to do it again" he says.

Michelle Hofstee dreams of seeing her name in the Female Athlete Of The Year slot.

"It would be such a great honor," she says.

Matthew McKnight is shooting for boys' cross country.

"It would be really nice to win it, either this year or next", he says.

Leslie Snooks, Rob Pagliaro and others all comment as they walk past the wall how they would consider it the ultimate achievement to see their names engraved on the great wall.

Connell feels the Wall of Fame is the showcase of athletic prowess for a school that has such a great program of athletics.

"There are so many levels of competition at this school", he says. "The kids here have such a good approach."

And for those kids, the Wall of Fame is the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.



Limbo lowdown

Students at Ballantrae Public School got a taste of the Caribbean when the school hosted Caribana last Wednesday. Dancing the limbo are from left, Lavinie Wallace, Andrea Wilson and Chris Ulbl, all 11 years old. Caribbean food, music and culture were highlights of the day.

—Jim Thomas

Powerful prescriptions are often abused by 'patients'

Recently, The Tribune received a report from The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario under the heading 'Powerful Drugs — Responsibilities of the Doctor and the Patient'. It reads as follows:

"Among the many tools available to doctors for the treatment of disease are powerful prescription drugs. These drugs have greatly improved in variety and effectiveness in the past 10 years.

Most patients understand that while these powerful drugs may

be very helpful in treating pain, insomnia, stress and many other conditions, their use also poses certain hazards. Your doctor will explain these hazards when a drug is prescribed.

At the same time, there is another side to the prescription drug story that should be told.

In recent years, the health care professions and police forces have had to deal with people called 'drug-seekers' who make their living by obtaining drugs from unsuspecting doctors and selling these drugs illegally.

These people are very good at faking illness and can make large amounts of money by selling drugs illegally on the street.

For example, one particularly powerful pain-killing drug, that drug-seekers look for, costs a pharmacist about 35 cents a tablet to purchase, but sells on the street for between \$50 and \$100 per tablet.

This problem is not a new or a rare one. The record is a Toronto case in which one woman saw over 300 doctors in a short period of time and obtained huge amounts of drugs.

The R.C.M.P., regional and local forces, and the professional health care colleges of Ontario have recognized this problem for a number of years and have spon-

sored the Joint Consultative Group on Prescription Drug Diversion.

This group meets regularly to study the problem of prescription drug diversion and has observed that drug-seekers use about one-third of what they obtain themselves and traffic the rest in order to support themselves.

Because they are generally young people, they traffic the drugs to young people and school aged children.

Because of this, it is very important before drugs are prescribed to a patient that the doctor know the patient and be certain of his/her identity, establish clearly what the diagnosis of the patient is and responsibly prescribe only that drug that is needed to treat the patient's condition.

For everyone's well-being, it's an important duty of the doctor to prescribe what his or her patients need and not necessarily what they ask for.

Obviously, any doctor's most important priority is to help patients get over the health problems and return to daily life free from pain and disability.

However, it is critical that doctors are very careful in prescribing narcotic drugs, and that patients understand this need for care and caution."

French immersion report approved

A report to the York Region Board of Education concerning French immersion in secondary schools has been approved by the Area's Program Policy and Program Management Committee.

The report dealing with seven recommendations for the implementation of French Immersion in secondary schools was submitted to the Committee by Aurora president Bob Price.

Mr. Price is a member of the organization formed in October 1987 "to examine all aspects of French Immersion in Secondary

Schools and report to the Board in January 1988."

A French Immersion program would see half of the school curriculum taught in French.

While the report garnered support for its commitment "to the provision of high quality French Immersion", it did not meet with unanimous approval.

The one dissenting member of the committee was Markham Trustee Anne Atkins.

"I can't support French Immersion in high schools, although

I have no problem with extended French (French class and one other subject taught in French)," said Mrs. Atkins, the newly elected Program Policy and Program Management vice-chairperson. "French Immersion is a luxury we can't afford."

"My concerns are economic, not program," she said.

"It's not an extravagance," countered Richmond Hill Trustee Margaret MacDonald. "It's a wonderful tool."

Committee Chairperson Peter

Hiscott agreed with Mrs. MacDonald's response and added that extended French was an acceptable alternative for students who won't travel to schools with French Immersion, but was quick to point out "there is no comparison between the two programs."

A second report regarding transportation and the financial issue of French Immersion will be discussed by the committee of Finance, Facilities, and Organization at an upcoming Board meeting.

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