



Ted Stonehouse

Golfer aims at future on the links

By BRUCE STAPLEY
He stands on the driving range, propelling five iron shots a consistent 185 yards straight out into the sunny morning sky.
For 17-year old Stouffville resident Ted Stonehouse, a 10:20 a.m. start at school has given him a chance to sneak out to the golf course for what will end up being one of about 40 hours of practice on this, an average week.
He is a young man with a mission — to finally make the Ontario Junior Golf finals this year, and then go on to compete for the Canadian Junior Championship in Prince Edward Island in August.
A five-handicap golfer who swings from the left side, Ted has come a long way from that day in Nassau in 1977 when he rode around his first ever course in a golf cart driven by golf pro and

Stouffville resident Ted Maude.
"When I got back home, I got a cut-off putter, and I'd go out with my dad and just keep hitting the ball until it went in the hole," he recalls.
He then graduated to a set of used clubs, purchased at the local Sales Barn, which also had to be cut down for him. After a few rounds on the executive par three course at the John Evelyn Golf Centre just outside of town, he moved on to the Maples of Ballantrae, where he caught on as a back shop helper.
He now works part-time, and summers, at the Sleepy Hollow Country Club north of Stouffville having been promoted to the pro shop. He spaces practice rounds around shifts in the shop.
And after a winter spent taking intensive instruction from pros at a Markham indoor golf centre,

Ted feels he is about to make his move.
He will compete in approximately 12 junior tournaments leading up to the Ontario qualifier in July. The king pin of the Stouffville District Secondary School golf team, Ted is hopeful of making his mark on the York Regional high school golf scene again this season. He was second in the region in 1987.
He has been shooting from 74 to 76 consistently this spring, and feels he is finally at the point where he has all the tools to succeed as a golfer. Now it's simply a matter of putting it all together, he says.
"I could put a swing together and shoot under par at any time. But I'm at the point where it's all in the attitude and the concentration. You can have just one shot where you are not concentrating,

and when it goes out of bounds, it will throw you off for the next few holes."
Ted is in the process of contacting colleges and universities in the southern United States in hopes of securing a golf scholarship.
"Bob Roxborough, a pro who works at Sleepy Hollow, plays for the Jacksonville State University team in Alabama, and he's been showing me how to go about trying for a golf scholarship."
Ted would like to eventually join the Canadian Pro Golf Tour for a few years, and catch on as an assistant pro at a course, becoming a head pro after the required five year apprenticeship.
In the meantime, it's back to the course to work at perfecting the game.

Photo/BRUCE STAPLEY

Ted Stonehouse could be an up-and-coming star on the junior golf scene this summer. The Stouffville golfer hopes to build a career around his passion for the sport.

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