

UHS ready for another season of school action

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Correspondent

It's back to the gridiron, the boards, and the great outdoors as Uxbridge Secondary (USS) teams prepare for the upcoming fall athletic season.

In all, 21 teams will compete this autumn in football, volleyball, basketball, golf, cross country running and tennis.

Leading the way are the Junior and Senior Tigers football teams, coached by Brian Minorek and veteran Phil Mazza respectively, and the Midget, Junior, and Senior Tigers Girls Basketball squads.

The cagers are being coached by Karen MacDonald (Mgt.), Barb Taylor-Bone (Jr.), and Dawn Korbak (Sr.).

The Senior grid Tigers, who lost in the quarter finals to Metro-finalist Pickering in Regional play-off action last fall, have eight returnees, with halfback Jamie Miller and lineman Troy Davis expected to assume leadership roles.

Chris Elson, who shone with the Junior Tigers last season, is expected to take over the quarterback position.

The Juniors, who finished strong but missed the playoffs in 1989, had 33 hopefuls report for practice, with the rookies enduring the initiation rite of having short haircuts imposed upon them.

Coach Minorek says that while his team will miss Elson, he is hopeful either Chris Spearen or Ryan Wilkinson can fill the void.

"We don't have a lot of experience, but we have enthusiasm, and we have a few big boys with us. If we can avoid last year's slow start, we could go somewhere."

On the basketball court, the Senior Tigers, who advanced to the first round of the playoffs last fall, will have most of last year's players back again, with Kerry Holland and Jennifer Prentice expected to be among the leaders.

Brian MacKay will coach the Senior Tigers boys volleyball squad. John McMaster is heading up the school's golf teams, and new staff member Gord Humphrey is coaching the USS Cross Country teams.

Doug Barton will look after the tennis units.

Action starts this week for most squads, with both Tiger football squads set to do battle this Friday in their season openers.

High School Sports Preview

In Brief

Stingers Fogged Out

The Stouffville Stingers Intermediate Ladies Softball Team was in a fog Thursday night at the Town Park.

Up against Uxbridge Precision Auto Refinishing in the third game of their three team round robin for the South Lake Simcoe Ladies League championship, dense fog rolled in just as the match started. Umpire Bob French called the game in the top of the third inning.

The Stingers, who have won one and lost one in the final set, will play Mt. Albert, the third team in the series, at the Town Park this Thursday night (Sept. 20) at 8:30, with the Uxbridge contest rescheduled for next Thursday.

Timekeepers Needed

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association still needs several timekeepers to work Saturday House League games and Wednesday night rep contests at the Recreation Centre.

The job pays a nominal fee, and interested people should contact Cliff Dunkeld at 640-1204.

Abbot and Son Take Eastern Canadian Gold

Stouffville Stingers co-coach Bob Abbott was the official Ontario Representative with the Shedden (near London) team that captured the Eastern Canada Intermediate Men's Fastball Championship in Prince Edward Island Sept. 9. Abbott's son Richard, who lives in Shedden, played third base for the title winning squad, which went undefeated in six games.

Abbott is involved in men's and women's fastball at the provincial and national levels, and has managed several teams which have competed in international tournaments.

SDSS Needs Trophies

An increase in both sports programs and athletes has Stouffville District Secondary School looking for businesses and families to donate trophies to the school. People interested in having a trophy bearing their name or business, to be given to a deserving individual or team each year, should contact Dave Connell, 640-1433.

SDSS Stays AA

Despite having had its student population suddenly increased by 130, Stouffville District Secondary School (SDSS) will remain at the AA level in high athletic competition. The school's student body now numbers 850, which is the mark where schools usually move up to AAA competition. But the rules allow for a one year period of grace, and with the SDSS student body expected to return to approximately 720 next year, the school should continue to compete at the double A level.

Grade 12s To Canoe the Magnetawan

Twenty SDSS Grade 12 physical education students and three teachers from the school are off on a four day wilderness canoe expedition on the Magnetawan River this week. The 40 kilometre water journey through a wildlife sanctuary is being headed up by SDSS phys ed staffers Scott Croucher, Dave Connell, and Lynn Smith.

It is the fifth such outing in four years for SDSS students.

Track Still Possible This Fall

Despite set backs and procedural delays, the Stouffville Community Track complex may still get underway this fall.

Dave Connell, of the Track Advisory Board, says the Track Committee has been meeting frequently of late with the School Board and the Town in an effort to finalize construction plans.

Connell says the fall would be the ideal time to construct the facility because it would mean the Whitchurch-Stouffville Soccer Club wouldn't lose a field during the construction period. Another advantage would be that the rubberized asphalt could then be applied to the track in the spring, giving the ground all winter to settle.

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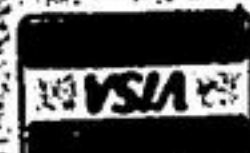
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By calling Cathy Lee 294-3179