

SPORTS



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

Klaas Westera (left), who coaches one of the many youth soccer teams for the Whitchurch-Stouffville Soccer Club, gives some valuable pointers to these group of youngsters who play for the Kaitlin Group Ltd. houseleague club at the Novopharm fields on Monday.

Coleman has fond memories of SDSS

BY BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

Sheila Coleman sits at her desk in the Stouffville District Secondary School girls' physical education office that has been her home away from home for much of the past 11 years.

When a student comes in to pick up her phys. ed. mark, Coleman, who is moving on to teach phys. ed. at Markville Secondary School in Markham this fall, offers a farewell.

"Hopefully I'll be back to see you graduate," says Coleman.

"You better be," replies the student as she gives her teacher a good bye hug.

Coleman contributed towards the high school education of countless students while coaching 20 girls' volleyball and basketball teams in her years at SDSS.

She taught math, business and phys. ed. her first two years at the school before being named physical education department head in 1990.

She coached the Spartans senior girls' volleyball team to a York Region Athletic Association title and an appearance at the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Association final in Stratford in 1998.

She accompanied her teams to overnight tournaments and went with the school's Grade 11 classes for the annual three-day Bruce Trail hiking expeditions.

"There are a lot of good memories," said Coleman, who takes pride in the fact that past students keep in touch and sometimes return to help coach SDSS teams.

Coleman said she came to appreciate both the town of Stouffville, as well as the traditions associated with SDSS, during her time at the school.



SHEILA COLEMAN
Coached girls' volleyball and basketball at SDSS

"It's a great high school and a great community," Coleman said.

She said the sense of history portrayed by championship banners on the gym walls, the Track and Field Wall of Fame, and photos of former SDSS Athletes of the Year is positive.

"The history is really unique. It makes a terrific link from the past to the contemporary."

But there were also negatives attached to being part of small town school.

"Money and facilities wise, we were always short changed," Coleman said.

She praised the fund raising efforts that helped make up for the short fall.

"The students and the community picked up the slack."

She said student fund raising incentives helped provide the school with a track, student parking lot, and some extra gym equipment.

An Ontario scholar in high school, Coleman said she and her staff always stressed a balance between the physical and the academic.

"We didn't gear things just towards the athletes. We really tried to develop all aspects of the person, not just the physical."

She cited the phys. ed. department's popular square dance jamboree program as an example.

"Everybody gets involved and does it together, both sexes, all ages, the jocks, the geeks and the staff. It's phenomenal."

Coleman's own interest in physical education and athletics can be traced back to her days growing up in the Ottawa Valley. She was Athlete of the Year at her high school in Eganville, and played on the varsity women's basketball team in her five years at Queen's University.

Coleman leaves SDSS at a time when provincial cut backs have resulted in less time for sports and other extracurricular activities.

She's hopeful things will turn around next year at SDSS and elsewhere with the restoration of a spare class that had been taken from teachers

Youths can kick up a storm

Soccer players aged 5 to 15 will get the chance to add to their skills at Summer Soccer Camp 1999.

The annual camp, held in co-operation with the Whitchurch-Stouffville Soccer Club, is being put on

by the International Sports School July 5-9 at the rec centre fields.

Sessions run from 9:30 a.m. til 3 p.m.

For more information call (416) 298-3637

O'Connor to host radio show from Strawberry Festival

Provided adequate electrical hook ups can be lined up, this Saturday will see The Fan 590 doing an on-location broadcast from the Strawberry Festival.

Lindsay O'Connor, the Stouffville resident who co-hosts the station's International Sports Report Saturday afternoons, is looking to set up shop and broadcast from noon til 2 p.m. somewhere in the area of Memorial Park.

The catch is that as of Tuesday afternoon the show's producers were still trying to find a power source. The back up plan would see the whole thing done by phone.

If all goes according to plan, O'Connor will have yours truly on air to help introduce a segment that is to look at Stouffville's contribution to sport through the decades.

Special guests are to include Stouffville favourite hockey son Keith Acton and running guru and town historian Fred Robbins.

Saturday will also see a trio of Spirit of Stouffville players manning one of the entries in Indy 500 Model Car Race at the Strawberry Festival.

Andrew Francone, J.D. Smithson and Justin Graham are to team up to push and steer one of the Indy cars through the course that runs up Park Drive and along Main Street. The event runs from 11:30 a.m. til 1 p.m.



Bruce Stapley

See you there.

Acton a proud Canadian

Keith Acton's not buying into the line that it's all over for Canadian hockey players with aspirations of playing in the National Hockey League.

Acton, who was part of the New York Rangers contingent at last Saturday's NHL entry level draft in Boston, isn't phased by the fact the first Canadian wasn't selected until the sixth pick, or that there were only 32 Canadians in the first 100 players drafted.

"We'll see where they all are in November," said the Rangers assistant coach of the wave of Europeans taken in the early rounds of the draft.

"Everyone looks good on draft day." He's a good ol' Canadian boy, that Keith!

25,000 FLAG WAVING FANS
10 WORLD CLASS GOLFERS
2 GREAT COUNTRIES
1 TROPHY...

Chrysler Nations' Cup

Presented by ClubLink

US AGAINST THEM.

DAWN GOE-JONES	JULI INKSTER
A.J. FATHORNF	NANCY LOPEZ
GAIL GRAHAM	MEG MALLON
LORIE KANE	DOLLY PEPPER
NANCY HARVEY	KELLY ROBBINS

JULY 4TH - CELEBRITY AM JULY 5TH & 6TH - TOURNAMENT MATCH PLAY

EMERALD HILLS GOLF CLUB, A PROPERTY OF CLUBLINK CORPORATION
500 LYNBELL, ONTARIO, MINUTES FROM HIGHWAY 401

COME CHEER ON TEAM CANADA AT THE CHRYSLER NATIONS' CUP.

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE MAIN GATE OF KING EVANS OR CALL 1-888-732-1600 WWW.HDREES.COM

CHRYSLER CLUBIN ROOTS HICKORY SPALDING CASIDIA