

Streit to enter Ontario Golf Hall of Fame

A new Uxbridge golf course and a Stouffville golf legend will be front and centre Oct. 16.

That's when the Ontario Golf Association is to induct 26 of Ontario's finest golf ambassadors into the new Ontario Golf Hall of Fame, to be located at Wooden Sticks Golf Club in Uxbridge. Included in the list of inductees is Marlene Streit, the Stouffville area resident who has won 10 Canadian Amateur championships throughout a long and distinguished amateur career.

Streit is the only person to win the Canadian, British, Australian and U.S. Amateur titles.

The opening of the Hall of Fame is to come just days after the OGA moves its offices from the present site in Newmarket to the highly touted Uxbridge facility.

"The move from Newmarket was perpetuated by the need and desire to be on a top-notch golf facility," said OGA executive director Dave Mills.

The OGA will occupy a temporary location on the course in early October, then will officially move into the



MARLENE STREIT: Also inducted in Canadian Golf Hall of Fame

Wooden Sticks clubhouse upon its completion in the spring of 2001.

All 26 persons to be inducted are currently members of the Canadian Hall of Fame in Oakville. They include Gary Cowan, Sandra Post, Al Balding, George Knudson, Moe Norman and Cathy Sherk. The induction ceremony begins at 6 p.m.

Absence of high school sports is disappointing

It's all in the arithmetic at Stouffville District Secondary School, one half of an extra class plus a whole new curriculum equals zero time for extra curricular sports.

The sports program that has traditionally played such a vital role at SDSS is once again closed down this fall, as it has been several times before over the past few years.

But while similar efforts to get the attention of the York Region Board of Education or the provincial ministry of education have been met in the past with mixed response from students, parents and even some SDSS teachers, there's a genuine solidarity this time around.

"A few years ago, when there were no sports, people thought it was a lot of overreacting," said Heather Henricks, the school's Ontario Secondary School Teachers Association representative.

"But now people are aware there has been this assault on public education."

Henricks, who has established herself as a dedicated and much-admired coach in her six years at the school, said parent representatives on the SDSS school council have been supportive of the teachers.

While understanding the disappointment of the students, she says they are able to see the teachers' predicament.

"People are starting to realize we're at a crossroads. If we don't do something about it will be the end of school as it once was."

Which would mean no more school teams coached by teachers willing to give up their marking time and class preparation time after school, as well as their personal time on evenings and weekends; no more lunch time sports programs or morning hockey to give the students a



Bruce Stapley

chance to let off steam. And perhaps most importantly, the shut down of the athletics program removes the common focus that has brought students together in the past.

"Everybody likes to get out and watch the school teams play and cheer them on," said Grade 11 student Samantha Alston.

She said the recent SDSS Spirit Week with events like ring day and trivia day fell far short of past years when students could rally around school teams.

"It's Spirit Week and you can't give your school any spirit."

PROVINCE IS TO BLAME

Alston, who enjoys playing school volleyball, places the blame squarely on the province.

"I don't blame the teachers. But we can't have sports and that's not fair to us. Thank you Mr. Harris."

OAC student Ryan Penny, who helped manage the SDSS junior boys hockey team last year, said the curtailing of the extracurricular sports program is a blow to the school.

"For a small school, we have a lot of sports so it's a big disappointment."

He also cites the actions of the ministry.

"Bill 74 takes time away from extracurricular activities. If a teacher has one more class to teach then they have as many as 40 more papers to mark."

Henricks points to the extra

burden brought about by the extra half class teachers are now required to teach every two days, along with the new Grade 9 and 10 curriculum, as being overwhelming.

She points as an example to a new civics course she is teaching. The textbooks were late arriving and she has had to go out and line up material on her own for each lesson.

"I thought I'd have all that extra time when I stopped coaching but I don't."

But while she admits it's hard not to be bitter, Henricks believes the teachers must continue to work through issues with the school board during the recent contract negotiations, as well as the province.

"The key thing right now is patience. There are different things with the board and the province. Everyone would like these things to be resolved."

She said part of the solution could lie in lessening some of the non-teaching duties currently done by teachers.

"We're not going to get rid of the extra class. But maybe they could help out with things like photocopying or hall duty."

Henricks, who has seen her six years as a teacher marked by constant turmoil, is trying to remain optimistic through it all.

"Hopefully this is a transition, the end of one era and the beginning of a new one. The teachers are fighting hard to ensure that the new era is for the betterment of education."

She misses the joy that coaching has always brought her while understanding the disappointment of the students who were looking forward to playing on school teams.

"It's a difficult thing for everybody. When you're coaching, you love it. But I don't know how I'd squeeze it in now."

Stars shine in Willowdale

Erin Carter's goal with one minute remaining in sudden-death overtime propelled the Markham Stouffville North Pointe Chev Olds bantam A Stars to a 2-1 win over Stoney Creek in the title game of the recent Willowdale Red Wings Early Bird Girls' Hockey Tournament.

The Stars went undefeated in round-robin play after posting wins

over Aurora 3-1, Detroit Honeybaked 4-1 and Oakville 4-2.

Scoring for the Stars were: Hayley McMeekin and Lindsay Brown, three goals; Stephanie Gilbert, two; Ashley Lucas, Sarah Magee, Shannon Hagarty, Jennifer Kramar and Erin Carter, one.

Danielle Paterson and Danielle Beattie shared goaltending duties and received defensive help from: Jill Morrison, Kristine Sabourin, Melanie Paterson, Amber Wright and Sarah Mikos.



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Regardless of the time of year, practice still makes perfect

It's close to the end of the season and the practice tee seems a little emptier than usual.

It's difficult to get motivated to practice something that's going to come to an end soon, but should you really stop practising?

I'm sure all of you know the answer to that question, although it really depends on how serious you take the game.

If you were diligent at the start of the year and made your goals for the season, now is the time to review them. Were you successful in achieving them? If so, it's time to make some new ones. If not, it's time to evaluate the goals you were trying to accomplish.



Perry Curiston

If your goals seem reasonable, but you didn't make it, perhaps it was the process of how you were trying to get there.

I believe that no matter what your ability is, if you want to improve, now is the time to do it.

It's time to make the changes that will get you to your goal. Making the changes now will be easier than making them in the spring.

If you were unhappy with your game, start planning for the offseason properly and next year is sure to be a hit.

Address your letters to: Impact Golf Schools, c/o Perry Curiston, 19 Mill St., Stouffville, Ont. L4A 1C6. Or e-mail your comments to: impactgolfer@3web.net.

Perry Curiston is director of Impact Golf Schools and was the 1996 and 1998 Ontario PGA Teacher of the Year.