

Amputee golf tourney coming to city for first time

THERE are golf tournaments and then there are remarkable golf tournaments. One of the latter is coming up at Southwood Golf and Country Club, Sept. 3-5. Eighty-eight players are already registered for the Canadian Amputee National Golf Championships, presented by Canada Safeway.

The 54-hole stroke-play competition comes to Winnipeg for the very first time in the championship's history. Last year, it was played in London, Ont. The event also features international players from Australia, Great Britain, South Africa and the U.S.

Tournament chairman Ralph Warington reports that several impressive international players will be present for the event, including last year's champion, Australian Geoff Nicholas.

Nicholas grabbed the 2002 title with a final round of four-under at Forest



Tim Campbell

City National, edging Canadians Bob MacDermott and Rick Kraft for the title. Nicholas, a 42-year-old golf professional from Sydney, has won dozens of titles on the international stage since 1990.

MacDermott, a two-time Canadian champ and two-handicapper from Edmonton, will also be in attendance to try to reverse last year's result.

U.S. National Amputee Golf Association executive director Bob Wilson, a single-digit handicapper, has also entered the tournament, while Warington has also received an entry from Vince Moran. He's a former U.S. marine from Nashville who was last year awarded the Disabled American Veterans National Commander's Trophy signifying "ability, not disability," and Moran's contributions in furthering opportunities for disabled veterans.

2002 women's champ Gwen Davies, winner of eight of the last 10 Canadian titles, leads the prominent entries for this year's tournament. Well-known American Kellie Valentine of Pennsylvania is also entered.

THE Manitoba Golf Scholarship Fund

has named six recipients for awards for the 2003-04 school year.

Awards are made to Manitoba golfers who are entering or continuing their education at post-secondary institutions and who have demonstrated scholastic excellence.

Robert Hardy of Niakwa (University of Winnipeg), Ryan Rawluk of Breezy Bend (University of Manitoba), Jill Hardy of Niakwa (University of Manitoba), Stacey Bieber of St. Charles (Texas Christian University) and Christin Thomson of Kitchen Creek (St. John's University, New York) are all recipients of \$1,000 scholarships.

The MGSF has also initiated a Glen Hnatiuk Scholarship award of \$1,000 this year and it's been given to Jordan Krantz of Eagles Landing, who studies at the University of Texas.

THE MGSF has awarded \$83,000 in scholarships to 90 students since its inception and is always available to accept donations for its ongoing work. For more information, contact Rudy Boivin at 268-1872.

SHOOTERS Family Golf Centre is planning an elaborate event for Sept. 20, the

inaugural Survivor Golf Tournament.

Shooters is looking for the first 180 entries willing to fork over the \$100 plus GST entry fee to compete for a first prize of \$5,000 in cash, plus other great prizes, including \$200 to the winner of each starting group. The best local amateurs may shy away from the cash, but Shooters is promoting the event as a fund-raiser for the Canadian Diabetes Association, promising a minimum \$2,000 contribution.

The rules are many, but it's really quite a simple plan Shooters has in mind. It's open to all players, professional and amateur. All holes are par-3's for this event at the Main Street North facility. Groups of 10 are going to tee off on every hole (a shotgun start) and proceed around the course. Once the elimination begins, it's one player punted after every hole until they're down to a single winner for the big prize.

In the final round, a player will have to win four holes to be declared the champion.

If you've got short game, this sounds like a potentially lucrative day.

You can make an entry, or get more

information and briefed on all the rules by calling Shooters Family Golf Centre at 339-2326 or e-mailing at shootersgolf@mts.net.

CONGRATULATIONS on two items for 15-year-old Winnipeg junior Burke Nagle. First, Nagle has spent much of his golf season travelling around North America in order to beef up his competitive schedule, something Canada's elite junior golf mentors are always encouraging.

Secondly, Nagle, who has played local events, Western Canada Junior Golf Tour events and south of the border in Minnesota Youth Sports events, also entered local and regional qualifiers for the annual United Commercial Travelers International, and earned a berth in the UCT championship at Disney's Lake Buena Vista Golf Course.

At the UCT International championship in early August, Nagle shot 77-76-153 and finished second overall to Dan Atkeson of Galena, Ohio.

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