BY SARAH MCGOLDRICK

## **RISING ABOVE PAR**

It has been called the sport of kings and queens. Mary Queen of Scots was an avid player, and to many, a golf course is hallowed ground. It is a place to escape the pressures of the busy world and enjoy being close to nature. As you take out your driver for the first time this spring, take the time to explore the courses in your own backyard.





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"The elevation changes through the course, creating some of the most breathtaking vistas in Southern Ontario," says Head Golf Professional Cameron Muirhead. "Our emerald green fairways are designed by

The course does not have a single sand bunker. Instead, golfers are

"Our course is suitable for golfers of all skill levels while remaining

Signature holes include the 10th, which features a 200-foot drop from the tee to the green below, and the 18th, which has the Hockley

Wrap up your day at the club house with a cold drink and a world-



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course, which opened in 1990, offers spectacular views of the Hockley Hills and the Nottawasaga River.

renowned Canadian golf course architect Thomas McBroom."

challenged by the enhanced landscapes and varied levels of play.

challenging enough for seasoned veterans," says Muirhead, adding there are CPGA Professionals on hand to assist all levels of play.

River flowing down the middle.

class meal by the pool.

Visit www.hockley.com Continued on page 8

### GREAT FUN

#### GLEN EAGLE GOLF CLUB, CALEDON

Celebrating half a century of play, Glen Eagle Golf Club is one of the area's premier golf courses. Its challenging fairways and varied course options offer something for all levels of play.

The course trumpets the "seven best par-three holes in the GTA."

"From the daunting risk reward of the number two yellow to the brute length of number eight blue, each par-three poses a unique scenario and will appeal to every level of playing ability," says Glenn Garratt, course CPGA Executive Professional.

The course offers large forgiving green surfaces with great speed and true ball roll.

"Glen Eagle offers traditional golf-course design with modern conditioning and player challenges," says Garratt.

The most stunning hole on the course is number two with a tee shot perched above a water feature. "Beyond, it funnels into an undulating fairway placed in a chute between maple and European larch trees," says Garratt. "The green is elevated and surrounded by pine trees and slopes back to front making each putt an adventure."

After your round players can enjoy the patio and survey their conquest while enjoying a great meal.

Glen Eagle also has a full-service Pro Shop and banquet facilities. Visit www.gleneagle.ca









#### WILDWINDS GOLF LINKS, ROCKWOOD

Sitting at the top of the second highest point of Wellington County, Wildwinds Golf Links can truly say it is at the top of its game. Featuring spectacular countryside views, this course offers a unique blend of natural and man-made challenges.

What began as a six-hole course quickly grew into one of the area's most popular 18-hole courses. Its links-style design lends to an easy movement of play. "There are few courses that offer the views and diversity of Wildwinds," says General Manager Scott MacKay.

The carefully designed course lends itself to a fast-paced, but enjoyable round of play for every calibre of golfer, which has led the course to be dubbed "the home of the four-hour round."

The original six holes remain untouched and have been carefully blended into the rest of the course to provide a unique round of classic and modern golf.

"Wildwinds is set up for every genre of golfer," says MacKay. "With four sets of tee decks to choose from on every hole there is no need to hit the ball 200 yards to enjoy your round of golf. We like to promote the fact that you can 'drive a little and save a lot at Wildwinds."

Unique holes include numbers 16, 17 and 18, which have been dubbed the "Amen Corners."

"Customer service might be one of the main reasons why we have seen an increase in repeat golfers," says MacKay.

The Links Grille has a menu featuring many dishes with ingredients from local farmers.

MacKay invites golfers, new and experienced, to the game to visit Wildwinds for a round they will never forget.

Visit www.wildwinds.ca Continued on page 10

and more









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### GREAT FUN

#### VICTORIA PARK VALLEY GOLF CLUB, GUELPH

It didn't take long for the DeCorso family to find the ideal land for the new Victoria Park Valley Golf Club, which opens this spring. The natural rolling hills south of Guelph made for the optimal location.

"We were able to effectively incorporate the lay of the land into the design," says course manager John DeCorso. "As a result, very little earthmoving was required to accommodate the course and driving range."

The 27-hole course (6,100 yards) is a unique blend of holes designed for all levels of play and provides breathtaking views of the countryside surrounding it.

"The mix of challenges will be appreciated by golfers of all skill levels, with each nine featuring its own characteristics in style," says DeCorso.

Designed by Scott Covell, the course flow allows for a quick and interesting round.

DeCorso notes that there are a number of exceptional holes, including Lakes 3 and Pines 7, which offer unique design elements and obstacles.

He says the course is ready for large events and tournaments with a professionally-constructed marquee available for private and corporate functions.

The Pro Shop is also fully stocked for golfers who want to pick up new equipment or gifts.

"We are committed to offering exceptional service in all departments," says DeCorso, noting the facility offers great value to members and a welcoming environment for public golfers.

Visit victoriaparkgolf.com gl









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