

Golfer makes Amateur Hall of Fame

It's not prestigious titles or an obsessive desire for winning that keeps golfer Tom Draper at the sport, but, rather, it's the friendship that results from his many years of participation.

Ever since Draper, a Troy resident who owns more championship trophies than a printing shop, began playing golf, he has been a source of unending enjoyment. This enjoyment, coupled with his natural playing ability, recently netted him a spot in the Michigan Amateur Hall of Fame.

In formal ceremonies conducted at the Warren Clubhouse Hall, Draper, an outgoing man of dignified stature, was among 11 men inducted. The Michigan raised a stir will now be associated with such amateur athletes as Fred McMorris, a famed Oaklander, and Bobbie Jones, a well-known figure in fast-pitch softball.

Draper, says a pragmatic philosophy about the sport. He begins with the idea that golf is fun and part of this delight in the sport is his companionship. He is a socializer, among all ages, enjoying the physical stability and an increasing self-confidence.

Finally, says the prime characteristic for youth, "enjoyed the 14-year-old look." When you connect with a sweet smile, it's a good feeling all over and that feeling is what keeps the enthusiasm for the sport.

Golf is an enchanting game because it

doesn't necessarily cater to the quickest or the strongest individuals like some sports do. It's a combination of different skills and philosophy that makes golf a great game.

You know, one of the good things to play golf and win and the next best thing is to play golf and lose," he said. "But the unfortunate thing is not to play golf at all."

THE AVERAGE AGE of the 16-member Amateur Hall of Fame is 50 and the average amount of experience in a sport before recognition is 30 years. Draper has figured correctly, both.

Draper has been associated with the sport for the past 50 years—ever since his dad introduced him to the game at the tender age of 7. He grew up and learned the game near the muddy Mississippi in St. Louis.

While studying at Harvard, where he obtained his degree, Draper was the golf team captain. He was a pioneer in the women's liberation movement but it became a popular cause as he invited a woman to compete in one of the tournaments—a move that incited quick calls from the school's dean, athletic director and chairman.

He also found time to play golf with professional Sam Snead at least three times a week.

One of Draper's friends in a long list of individual achievements occurred in Great Britain in Aug. 15, 1923, when he shot a

hole-in-one. His personal accomplishments blossomed after that.

AMONG THE HIGHLIGHTS of Draper's career include the North-South championship at Pinehurst South Carolina when he was 50 years old, and the United States Golf Association (USGA) National Seniors title in 1971, besting 150 other golfers and claiming status as the best senior golfer in the country.

Draper won the Michigan Amateur title in 1949 and in 1956, became the oldest player to take the Michigan Golf Association title. The talented lookman repeated the performance in 1960 and again in 1964—a day before his 60th birthday.

He qualified for match play in the U.S. Amateur a remarkable 10 times, has been on the Golf Association of Michigan Honor Roll 17 times, was runner up in the 1962 Canadian Amateur, and was a semifinalist in the 1966 French Amateur.

He is the type of guy who plays better when the competition is really strong, said Charlie Kovich, who was inducted to the Hall of Fame in 1974 and belongs to the same club as Draper—the Red Hot Golf Club in Royal Oak.

Tom is a good steady player, not a long driver but long enough to keep up with his competitors. The outstanding part of his game that he has passed to his wife and mother as well as in the past 10 years.

He enjoys the game and the way it fits

enthusiasm," he said. "He can handle almost any situation and is definitely an ambassador for the game."

MICHIGAN'S AMATEUR HALL of Fame, not to be confused with the Michigan Hall of Fame for professional athletes that honors its member with plaques at Detroit's Cobo Hall, was organized in 1973. The purpose is to provide a medium to recognize outstanding amateur athletes in a field of its different sports.

It is registered and incorporated in a non-profit basis, with Larry Weiss, one of the original founders, president of the board. The first and second vice-presidents are both Farmington Hills residents, John

Walter and Benjamin Bagdale.

Other athletes voted into the Hall of Fame last week included, from baseball, Philip Frakes and Ronald McMen, former national champion Nancy Barnard from bicycling, Thomas Dick, a competitive lawn bowler, and Marvin Laidlaw, an all-star bowler.

Also inducted were Edwardina Cox from swimming, Carl Walker, a champion fast pitch softball player, Roy Lemmenda, a longtime associate of slow pitch softball and tennis expert Ted Jax.

A special award was given to Henry Gerth, who has been a state champion since 1929 and is generally recognized as the finest in his craft in the world.

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Square Lk. tops Oak Park in Metro Tennis League

The Square Lake Speakers chucked up their second straight victory of the Metro Tennis League season Nov. 12 at Square Lake by beating Oak Park Racquet Club 20-16 and winning 15 matches while losing only six.

An exceptionally strong Square Lake women's team stayed on its winning streak and won every singles match except one and all its doubles matches. Oak Park's Ellen Schwartz paired out a victory for her team with her steady playing defense. Jane Greenwald of Square Lake 6-2, 7-5 in the second singles position.

The men's side of Square Lake men proved doubles is for the experienced. The number one team of Dave Fitzgerald and Dick Smith, after losing singles matches by respective scores of 6-1, 7-5 and 6-1, 6-1 in their doubles match by the score of 9-6 in a tie-breaking tiebreaker. They

played the Oak Park team of Frank Schubert and Errol Poschel.

Barry Siff, after losing his third singles match to Marc Berke of Oak Park by the score of 6-3, 6-3, teamed with Square Lake's fourth singles player Dick Carney to win their doubles match 8-6.

Ed Hawley, voted the evening's most valuable player by the Square Lake team, defeated Marty Rott 6-1, 6-2 in singles and teamed up with Frank Bagdon to beat Paul Wheeler and Bruce Hutchinson 8-1.

After the match the teams enjoyed a buffet and a large birthday cake since each team had a player celebrating a birthday. Both teams are looking forward to a rematch.

IN ANOTHER Metro Tennis League match, Central Farms Racquet Club defeated Rochester Hills at Rochester by a score of 19-15. Central went into the match with a 20-point deficit owing to the fact that a member of their men's team was not able to play. They were forced to

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Water polo players excel in tourney

Eastern Michigan University's water polo team finished undefeated and took first place in the Great Lakes Water Polo Conference Championships held Nov. 13 and 14 in Kalamazoo.

Bucky Greenhaide, a graduate of Southfield Township and Brian Tyler, a graduate of Birmingham Groves, each scored six goals for Eastern Michigan in the final three games.

Eastern Michigan defeated Michigan State 6-0, Western Michigan 11-4 and Bowling Green University of Ohio 15-7.

Bill Thompson, a graduate of Birmingham Groves and Greg Arnold, a graduate of Farmington Hills, are other local members of the team who have done an outstanding job.

Tyler, Thompson and Greenhaide were selected by the coaches to an all-tournament team.

Southfield girl paces Huskies

Michigan Tech's volleyball team won the Lakeland University Tournament in Thunder Bay, Ont. recently and Wendy Wagner of Southfield played a prominent role in the triumph.

Wagner, a senior at Michigan Tech, scored six points to help the Huskies defeat the Thunder Bay Independents, 15-7, in the second round and then added four more points in the final game, a 15-11 victory over the same team. Michigan Tech, with a roster of only nine players, breezed through the tournament with a 9-0 record.

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OTHER SCOUTS

Wendy Wagner, Michigan Tech, defeated Central Farms Racquet Club 8-6 in doubles. Frank Bagdon, Square Lake, defeated Paul Wheeler and Bruce Hutchinson 8-1 in doubles. Dick Carney, Square Lake, defeated Marty Rott 6-1, 6-2 in singles. Barry Siff, Square Lake, defeated Marc Berke of Oak Park 6-3, 6-3 in singles. Ed Hawley, Square Lake, defeated Mike Rott 6-1, 6-2 in singles. Frank Bagdon, Square Lake, defeated Paul Wheeler and Bruce Hutchinson 8-1 in doubles. Dick Carney, Square Lake, defeated Marty Rott 6-1, 6-2 in singles. Barry Siff, Square Lake, defeated Marc Berke of Oak Park 6-3, 6-3 in singles. Ed Hawley, Square Lake, defeated Mike Rott 6-1, 6-2 in singles.

METRO TENNIS LEAGUE

RAQUET CLUBS 10-11 FARMINGTON

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