

Independent Shorts

- Despite what Vic Rauter of TSN mentioned earlier this week on the national broadcast, curlers David St. Louis and Amie Shackleton are not married to each other.

- At the Tim Hortons Brier, David St. Louis' Nunavut rink had one last game remaining to play when the Independent went to press yesterday. As expected against some of the world's very best curlers, the Nunavut team has posted a record of 0-6, though the week's has not been without its highlights. Against Brad Jacobs' rink (former Olympic Gold Medalists) from Northern Ontario, St. Louis' team made it to the 10th and final end before losing 6-3. David St. Louis' skip shooting percentage of 68% places him in between Jamie Koe (71%) of Northwest Territories and Greg Smith (65%) of Newfoundland. Brad Gushue of Team Canada leads all skips at a remarkable 93%.

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Business of the Week

Timbo Slice Golf

By Stewart Grant

With his new business which started up February 1st, St. Marys native Tim Ament is stirring up a lot of excitement for local golfers getting ready for the upcoming season. Timbo Slice Golf, located on Dundas Street (Highway 2) between Thamesford and London, is an indoor/outdoor driving range where golfers can work on their games twelve months a year. Furthermore, Ament will soon be introducing additional features that will make his operation a hit with non-golfing families as well.

Ament, who is Head Golf Professional and General Manager at "The Bridges at Tillsonburg" golf course, is no stranger to entrepreneurship. He is a graduate of the business program at Pratt University in Kansas and has previously founded and operated successful driving range facilities in Tillsonburg and Sarnia.

With his new indoor/outdoor facility just east of London, Ament has created a driving range that is unlike any other in southwestern Ontario. Throughout the winter, golfers can hit balls from within heated indoor golf bays and into the distance, which Tim has measured to be 290 yards to the fence that borders the property. "With our brand-new, bright yellow Taylor Made golf balls, you can even follow your shots in a snow storm," says Ament. The indoor area also includes a putting green and lounge/bar area.

Ament credits St. Marys businesses Raezor's Edge, Forman Electric and Cubberley Plumbing with their great service in helping him get the new building constructed and ready for initial operation. More work is in store to round out services as the spring season approaches. An ice cream stand branded as "Fore Scoops" is opening in April, with a walk-up window and patio area reminiscent of



Hearn's Dairy. Later, a safari jungle-themed mini-golf course is in the works for families to enjoy.

When the season changes to spring, golfers can also take advantage of Timbo Slice's outdoor golf facilities, which will include 60-yard-wide grass tee decks, two greens and four bunkers. Those looking for golf instruction may make appointments with Ament, who has been recognized as a "Top 50" teaching professional in Canada.

With Tim also keeping busy in his roles at the Bridges in Tillsonburg, he is very thankful to have his parents, Larry and Ruth, so instrumental in the operation of the new Timbo Slice Golf business.

Timbo Slice Golf is located at 4744 Dundas Street, London. Current operating hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week. The cost to hit balls within the indoor bays is \$20 (taxes included) for 40 minutes. Once the golf season is fully underway, hours will lengthen to meet golfers' morning to dusk demands. Prices at the outdoor range will be \$7 (small bucket), \$9 (medium bucket) or \$11 (large bucket). Memberships are also available for purchase for either the full year or just the summer season.

For more information, visit their Facebook page TimboSliceGolf, email timboslice@gmail.com, or call 519-851-1124.

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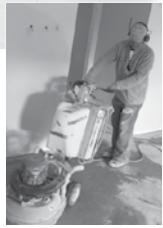


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