

Michigan Golf Hall of Fame Class of 2007

By Jack Berry

The Michigan Golf Hall of Fame covers the spectrum of the game and the 2007 class reflects it with the induction of players Steve Maddalena and John Lindholm, coach Bruce Fossum, greenkeeper Ted Woehrle, and rules expert Mark Wilson.

Maddalena grew up in the hotbed of Jackson golf, an area that produced professional stars Dave and Mike Hill. Maddalena elected to remain an amateur after an All-Big Ten career at the University of Michigan and he has been one of the state's best with Michigan Amateur championships in 1980, 1990 and 1995, one of just nine players to accomplish that in the state's oldest championship that dates to 1906.

Maddalena played in six U.S. Amateurs, won the 1989 GAM Championship and the 1988 Horton Smith and 1988 Michigan Medal Play championships. He

owns 13 Country Club of Jackson championships and his 10-under-par 61 at Jackson's Sharp Park in 1982 is the course record.

Lindholm has excelled both as a "junior" - that's before he reached the senior age - and now as a senior. He won the 1997 Michigan Amateur over collegian Mike Harris who now plays the pro circuits, won the state's premier stroke play doubleheader of the Horton Smith and Michigan Medal Play tournaments in 2003 at the age of 58.

Lindholm, a 13 time club champion including eight times at Flint Golf Club, won the Michigan Senior Amateur in 2004 and 2005 and has reached match play in the U.S. Amateur, Mid-Amateur and Senior Amateur championships. He was second low amateur in the 1997 U.S. Senior Open at Olympia Fields and made the cut in the 2002 British Senior Amateur.

As well as playing, Maddalena and Lindholm have worked for

golf on the volunteer side, Maddalena as a governor of the Western Golf Association and Lindholm as a member of the Golf Association of Michigan board of directors and USGA Sectional Affairs official.

Fossum was hired at Michigan State as an assistant basketball coach and director of the Physical Education Department's golf program. It wasn't long before he became head golf coach, a position he held until his retirement in 1990. During his tenure the Spartans played in 11 NCAA championships and his top player, Hall of Famer Lynn Janson, inducted him into the Hall of Fame. The Hall now is a family affair for the Fossums. Bruce's wife, Mary, long-time MSU Women's Coach, was inducted in 2002.

Growing grass came naturally for Woehrle whose father was greenkeeper in Kankakee, Ill. Woehrle has seen

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golf course maintenance change drastically since he graduated from Purdue in 1954 with a four year degree in the new subject. He spent nine years at Beverly Country Club, a Donald Ross course in Chicago, preparing it for two Women's Western Opens and then moved to Oakland Hills where his 24 year career included preparing the course for five men's major championships.

Nine years at The Orchards from the grow-in of the Robert Trent Jones Jr. course and a U.S. Public Links Championship finally signaled retirement for Woehrle, a past president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association. He had

the satisfaction in seeing more than 50 of his assistants "graduate" to head superintendent positions.

Wilson's knowledge of the Rules of Golf has taken him to all of the major championships in golf. The Michigan State graduate currently is Chairman of the PGA of America Rules Committee. He is the Chief Rules Official of the PGA and Senior PGA Championships and will be head Rules Official at the 2008 Ryder Cup at Valhalla. He was appointed

Photo: Michigan Golfer archives



Bruce Fossum, Michigan Golf Hall of Fame Class of 2007, is pictured with Judy Cunningham of Timber Ridge.

to the PGA Rules Committee in 1990 and has worked every PGA Championship since then. He also has officiated at 11 Masters Tournaments, three British Opens and three U.S. Opens. The Michigan PGA Section has named him seven times winner of the section's Horton Smith Award for his work to improve member education.

The five new members bring the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame membership to 80. The full list is at www.michigan-golf-foundation.com. **MG**

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