

## MARGARET (ESSON) ELLIOTT



As a 15-year-old used to playing on sand greens in Rosetown, Margaret Esson's win of the 1936 Saskatchewan Ladies' Open Championship in Regina was amazing. She had learned from a book by Bobby Jones on how to play golf and competed on nine-hole sand green courses. Her father caddied for her in the competition and bought her a 7-iron to add to a bag containing a driver, midiron, mashie, and putter. She was runner-up in 1937, then won Provincials again in 1938 and 1941. She competed nationally in 1937 in Winnipeg at age 16 and 1938 in Ottawa. She was frequently interviewed by the national press who were impressed by her youth, her long drives and good sportsmanship. She set many course records during these years with amazing scores in the seventies. She set a record of being the youngest male or female provincial winner in Canada.

National and Provincial Championships were cancelled during WWII, but Margaret won the Ladies' Lobstick Tournament at Waskesiu six times during those years. She was the top qualifier in 1940 with a course record of 80. Margaret won the Saskatoon city title in 1947. After the war she married William Elliott and began raising a family in Regina. She won the Wascana Country Club championship nine times between 1958 and 1976 and won the Regina City Championship in 1973. In 1981 she won a spot on the Saskatchewan Senior Ladies' team which competed in Nationals at Wascana, finishing the competition in seventeenth place.

Margaret continued to golf in club and local competitions until 2007 at age 86. She is a member of the Regina Sports Hall of Fame.