

PEEL BIOGRAPHY: BURGESS, Sherry 10/16/04

Burgess hopes to compete at Olympics

Mississauga's Sherry Burgess is one of the best at her sport. In fact, the 22-year-old has the inside track on representing Canada at the next Summer Olympics in Atlanta.

Unfortunately such talent and \$1.12 will buy Burgess a cup of coffee at most restaurants.

Unlike some of the more high-profile sports, windsurfing has no funds to send its athletes to prestigious competitions throughout the world.

Instead, Burgess pays her own way on most occasions to such far away destinations as France, Italy, Germany and Holland. To complicate matters, although Burgess has tried, it's difficult to stuff a board in one's knapsack while trekking through Europe, or for that matter, place a board on the seat beside you on the train.

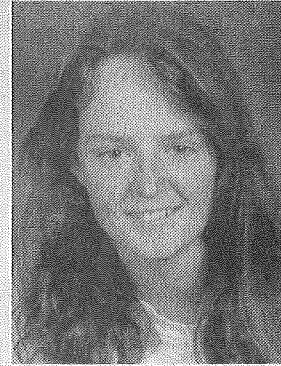
Burgess suggests it was different competing and taking in the cultures of Germany and France while "living out of a car."

Still, such experiences have been rewarding for the Toronto Windsurfing Club member, who was first at the Tudor Canadian Championships this past season while being named to the Canadian team for the third consecutive year.

After spending April through June in Europe, Burgess spends much of the winter perfecting her trade in Florida, Georgia and California.

"I spend no longer than two weeks at home at a stretch much of the year," admits Burgess. "From January to August I was home on three occasions for no longer than two weeks."

Anyone wishing to help sponsor Burgess, can call 274-6423.



Mississauga's Sherry Burgess has gotten wet in just about every corner of the globe in anticipation of qualifying for the Olympic Games.