

MacLennan makes short list for Ontario Athlete of the Year

By Jake Courtepatte

Heralded in November by her hometown of King City, Canada's golden girl may just earn the nod as the top athlete in Ontario. Rosie MacLennan is one of 13 athletes nominated for the Syl Apps Athlete of the Year Award, which celebrates one athlete who has made a memorable contribution to Ontario sports during the previous calendar year.

"Just seeing the names on that list, it's an honour to be beside them," said the 28-year old graduate of King City Secondary School.

"Knowing what they have all accomplished, and some of them at such a young age, I'm just glad that I can be a part of that group."

MacLennan won her second gold medal in as many Olympic Games in August, winning in women's individual trampoline.

She won the award previously in 2013, following her gold medal performance in the 2012 games in London.

"To be recognized at that level, it's phenomenal," said MacLennan, who was the woman of the hour at a ceremony put on by the Township of King four months ago. "Whether it's locally, or provincially, or nationally, it's a great feeling."

Finalists for the Syl Apps Award are nominated by their provincial/multi-sport organization. Winners are voted for by the general public.

Other nominees include track star Andre De Grasse, Toronto FC player Sebastian Giovinco, tennis player Milos Raonic, golf up-and-comer Brooke Henderson, CFL wide receiver Brad Sinopoli, and Blue Jays hurler Aaron Sanchez.

Henderson won the award in 2015, while Sinopoli was the recipient last year.

Voting is open at www.oshof.ca, and closes March 31.