

Butler Eagle

BC3 golfers snare state title

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By Josh Rizzo

FAYETTEVILLE — Waiting for the spring golf season to start may be an excruciating period for **Butler County Community College** men's golf coach Bill Miller.

The Pioneers closed their fall season Monday by winning the Pennsylvania Invitational Tournament with a two-day score of 465 at Penn National Golf Club.

BC3 edged CCAC North by six strokes.

It was BC3's first win at the tournament and means the Pioneers will close their fall schedule undefeated.

"I'm really optimistic about this team's chances to win regionals," Miller said. "The team that finished second at states, CCAC North, is in Division II, so we wouldn't have to play them."

Sophomore Stefan Carlsson, a Knoch graduate, earned medalist honors with a 153 (76-77).

Chris Kier (Knoch) and Tommy Dimun (Butler) also earned all-state honors by shooting a 154 and 159, respectively.

Carlsson, who missed the Western Pennsylvania Collegiate Conference championship tournament with a kidney stone, wanted to finish strong.

"That was kind of a fluke thing," Carlsson said. "Not having the chance to play well up there made me determined to do well this week."

Carlsson finished tied with CCAC North's Austin Sicilia, but won in a play-off.

Carlsson took Dimun out with him as a caddy for the final hole.

"The big advantage to having a caddy is not so much with for shots with the driver," Carlsson said. "It's with reading the greens. Tommy and I took some extra time to read the green."

It was the seventh time in his golf career that Carlsson was in a playoff.

He's 6-1 in those situations, only losing at an amateur qualifier last June.

“It’s kind of cool,” Carlsson said. “Everyone comes out to watch you. I just try to focus a bit more.”

While the top three scores were counted toward the team score, three other BC3 golfers participated.

Steve Adametz (Mars) shot a 171, while Jace Corklin and Andre Groff carded a 168 and 172, respectively.

Miller’s hoping this group can capture the school’s third NJCAA Division III region crown. The Pioneers already won their fifth WPCCC title last week.

“We’re excited for the spring because the matches are more important,” Dimun said. “During the winter, I want to keep my swing together and work on my short game.”