

Butler Eagle

BC3 polishes off best golf season

Article published June 8, 2015

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BUTLER TWP — **The Butler County Community College** golf team made program history Friday — twice.

The Pioneers placed seventh in the NJCAA national tournament at Chautauqua Golf Club in Chautauqua, N.Y., the program's best-ever finish in that event. BC3 golf has been competing in the NJCAA since 1998.

BC3 also had two golfers earn All-American honors in the same year for the first time. Knoch graduate Stefan Carlsson finished 15th in the four-day event with a 77-78-76-78-309 while Butler graduate Tommy Dimun placed 16th with a 73-82-77-78-310.

The top 18 placers in the 94-golfer field earn All-American status.

“The nationals topped things off for us,” BC3 golf coach Bill Miller said. “Overall, this was the best season our golf program has ever put together.”

The Pioneers won the WPCC and state championships last fall. This spring, they captured the Region XX title before moving on to nationals.

Cincinnati State won the NJCAA national title with a 1,199. Sand Hill Community College, out of Pinehurst, N.C., finished second with a 1,201. BC3 carded a 1,265 for its seventh-place finish in the 13-team field.

“The competition is tremendous at that tournament and we had our best round the first day,” Miller said. “We shot a 309 and were in fourth place.”

Carlsson, a sophomore, was an All-American at nationals last year as well and became the first BC3 golfer to attain such honors twice. He is studying to be a nursing anesthesiologist. He originally attended Allegheny College in Meadville and played golf for a semester there before transferring to BC3.

“Allegheny didn’t have the nursing program I wanted to get into,” Carlsson said. “I have no regrets going there, but coming back home here really worked out for me.

“I’d love to move on to a four-year school and play more college golf. Hopefully, I did well enough that some school will give me that opportunity. But pursuing my nursing degree comes first.”

Carlsson said he wasn’t surprised by his performance at nationals.

“I feel like I’ve earned it,” he said. “I work on my game a lot. I’m a playing member at Butler Country Club and play there four times a week, often times with other golfers from Knoch.”

Dimun is a Butler graduate and a Pioneer freshman. He plans to return to the team next year, then move on to a four-year program.

“My goal this year was to make All-American,” Dimun said. “I’m hoping to play golf all four years in college.

“Getting back to nationals, doing this again and matching Stef ... That’s next on the list.”

Mars graduate Steve Adametz placed 41st for BC3 with a 322. Knoch graduate Chris Kier placed 57th with a 329, Titusville grad Jayce Corklin 72nd with a 344.

Corklin is a sophomore. Adametz, a freshman, plans to return to the Pioneers in the fall. Kier, also a freshman, played basketball for BC3 as well. He is transferring to Westminster College and will play golf there next season.