

Sights, stats and sounds: State golf

Quotable

"My son was an alternate last year. No one broke any bones or threw up, so he didn't get to play," **Lima Central Catholic parent**

"It was so gross. They were eating BLT pizza last night. That's disgusting." **NDCL's Talia Trovato, on her teammates' choice of cuisine**

"If my mom wants to play tennis, I'll play with her. But it's too tiring. It's not like playing 18, when you're just walking."

Trovato

"We'll enjoy this for a while, thank our seniors for all they've done for us, take a little rest and get back to work." **University coach Bill O'Neill**

"We started this season by shooting a 343 at Red Tail. Sure, we've come a long way since then," **US' Mac McLaughlin**

"I tell ya what, I'm gonna miss these guys. There's no better group of teammates. But if I'm on fall break next year, I'll be here," **McLaughlin, who will play at the University of Virginia**

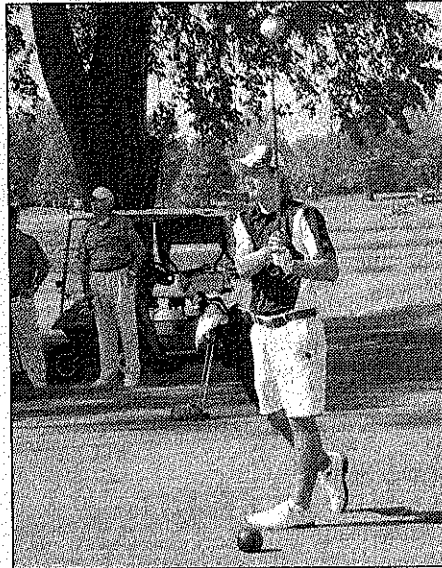
By the numbers

1: Teams who have won four straight state championships (Gilmour boys from 1991-94)

1: Three-putt holes by US' Mike Fazio, on the 18th hole Saturday. Fazio had only 29 putts on the day

3: Consecutive state championships for University

14: Strokes difference from Friday (96) to Saturday (82) by NDCL's Danielle Misencik



John Kampf/JKampf@News-Herald.com

Chagrin Falls' Sam Core earned All-Ohio honors Saturday at the Division II state golf tournament in Columbus.

20: Strokes separating first-place University and second-place Dayton Chaminade-Julienne (627-647)

37: Putts on Saturday by Chagrin Falls' Sam Core, who still shot a 78

Rough view

Grant Pollock is one of three University golfers — including Mac McLaughlin and Scott Smith — with state tournament

experience. But despite shooting an 80-74 (154) last year at the state tournament, Pollock is not in action this weekend. He is US' No. 6 golfer, relegated to a spectator's position since only five golfers are used in the postseason.

"It's not really frustrating," Pollock said. "It's just boring."

Pollock said newcomers Mike Fazio and Jake Heinen came onto the scene this year and "peaked at the right time." Last year's No. 6, Ben Bold, is now the team's No. 4.

"Timing," Pollock said. "Last year I peaked at the end of the season. This year, they did. But it's still fun being here, being with my teammates. It's just tougher to watch from the sidelines."

Growing up

Gilmour coach Charlie Tremont remembers when he first started instructing John Coyne.

"He was about 5-feet tall and little," Tremont said. "He was like, 'My ball doesn't go anywhere when I hit it.' I just told him to be patient. Some day he'd be a junior and senior."

Now Coyne is 6-foot.

"And he's the longest hitter on the team," Tremont said.

Shot of the day

Kristen Helmsdoerfer of Olentangy Orange had a hole-in-one on Hole 2 on the Gray Course. It didn't especially help her score a lot, seeing she shot a 77 on Saturday, but she got the celebrity treatment the rest of the day.

"I told her we give out a car every other year," joked OHSAA assistant commissioner John Dickerson. "Unfortunately for her, this isn't the year."

Helping hand

Kenston sophomore Nikki Henry helped raise money for breast cancer last week at the Division I district golf tournament, getting pledges from family and friends for each par and birdie she scored.

Henry's trek ended when she did not qualify for next weekend's Division I state tournament, but NDCL's girls team, as well as Orange's Brynn Fitzgerald, picked up where she left off by pledging money for each birdie and par they carded this weekend at the Division II state tournament.

Totals were still being added late Saturday, but NDCL's Nikki Sarkisian figured she owed Henry \$75, while Fitzgerald said, "I don't know how much, but it's a lot."

Henry made a surprise visit to the OSU Course on Saturday.

"She surprised us, but it was nice to see her," NDCL's Nicole Trivisonno said. "It's a great cause, and she's our friend."

Meow

Fitzgerald was presented with a stuffed animal cat following her round of 75 on Saturday.

"When I was playing at Powderhorn earlier this year, there was this cat on the course," she said. "The owners said I could have it, but my mom is allergic to cats. So my coach got me this one."

— John Kampf