
Men's Golf Statistics

Golf

Spring 2008

2008 Golf Update

Cedarville University

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“Coach’s Chat”



The loss at the AMC/NAIA Region IX Championships was the hardest of my coaching career. I just knew how much work these guys had put into not only their golf games, but also their witness to others. Not being sovereign like God, it is always hard to understand why God wouldn't reward our hard work with earthly successes. Hopefully, these guys on this great team will always take with them our striving to be the best we can be for God, and let Him determine the result of our work. Maybe the way we handled this tough loss will speak volumes to our competitors, maybe not. Only God knows and we need to trust in Him! "And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." (Romans 8:28)

Our team verse was John 15:5: "I (Jesus Christ) am the vine. You are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing." We worked all year on "abiding in Christ" and what that means on and off the golf course. Sometimes we did well, sometimes we didn't. But we were striving to "bear fruit" by abiding in Christ. Now, I can't speak for each individual member of the team that day, but I think most were abiding in Christ in defeat as much as possible. So, as hard as that

was to take, I believe God was using that experience to bear fruit. It may have been a pruning experience, but one that might just cause these guys to become even more productive for Jesus Christ.

My prayer for all of the guys on the 2006-07 team is that they will be open to be used by God in whatever way He wants. I believe the younger guys on the team can use this experience for their benefit in the golf careers. There is no doubt that the seniors left with a bad taste in their mouths due to this loss. But, I pray that God will use this past season and this tournament for His glory in their lives.



**Cedarville University
Golf**
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CEDARVILLE university Yellow Jacket Golf UPDATE



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September 2007

Best CU Golf Team Ever?

Spring recap

• Record-breaking season

Could the 2006-2007 CU golf team be the best ever at Cedarville? That is a question that can never fully be answered. Whenever comparisons are made between teams of different eras assumptions are made, such as "Scores are lower, so they must be better!". Well, there could be many reasons for why scores are lower with equipment being the first and foremost. One fair comparison would be tournament results. There have been two Cedarville teams that have qualified for the NAIA National tournament (1979 & 1982), something that this team did not do. However, let's take a look at what the 2006-2007 team did to the record book this year.

The 18 hole school record was set back in 1982 with an eight over par 296. This was the same team that won the MOC conference and qualified for the NAIA National Tournament. This record was something that teams of recent years have had their eye on. However, it still wasn't broken until the 2006-2007 team broke it Sept 9, 2006 at Mohawk CC at Tiffin with a 290. But, this team wasn't done. They not only broke it once, they broke it a total of three times! On March 24, 2007 they shot a 295 on day 2 at the Elks CC at Shawnee State. Then, a month later on April 24, they shot a 3 under 285 at Country Club of the North to win the Cedarville invitational! Once the season was done, this team finished with 7 of the top 10 18 holes scores in Cedarville history!

This team also broke the 36 hole record with a 587 at Tiffin, and finished the season owning the top 4 36 hole scores ever at Cedarville. They completely demolished the 54 hole record by 29 strokes with a 907 in the season ending AMC/NAIA Region IX Championships!

Individually, the top three guys on the team, Scott Aker, Trevor Bowman, and Adam Schlappi finished with 3 out of the top 4 career averages in Cedarville history!

So, there can be a case made for this team being the best team ever. However, as well as they performed on the course, they strived all year to show Jesus Christ to their opponents, coaches, and fans through their actions on and off the course. They were a special team and the three seniors will be missed.

• Spring break...tough start in GA

The team took it's annual trek down to Lakeland, FL over spring break in 2007. But, it was cut slightly short to visit the Atlanta area and play two amazing courses. Thanks to a special friend, we were able to play Settdown Creek and Atlanta Athletic Club. It is amazing how giving friends are to the golf program, and without their help, these trips would not be possible.

On the way back from spring break, the team stopped at Berry College in Rome, GA for their first tournament of the spring. Playing a new course against several top 25 schools, Cedarville struggled to an 8th place finish out of 15. Trevor Bowman led the way with a 149 (74-75) and a 7th place finish. Adam Schlappi struggled in the first round still feeling the effects of a nasty flu, but rebounded with a solid 74 on day 2.

• Victory at cold Mount Vernon

After a second place finish at Shawnee State, and a cancelled tournament due to sub 30 degree temperatures, Cedarville rebounded dramatically with it's biggest win of the season. The weather was overly nasty - windy, rainy, and very cold. In some cases, ice was forming on the golf balls as they were sitting on the green! But they outlasted the rest of the field by firing a solid 610 (306-304) and won by 5 strokes over Ohio Dominican. Cedarville won this tournament with solid balanced play. Scott Aker, Dan Atkeson, and Trevor Bowman all shot a 152 to tie for 8th place overall. Adam Schlappi wasn't far behind with a 154 and a 12th place finish.

This was the biggest win of the season since all the top schools in the AMC were competing, except for Malone. This tournament really solidified Cedarville's status as one of the favorites to win the AMC Championship!

• Set-back at Malone

In a tournament that was very important for NAIA region rankings, Cedarville struggled to a 8th place finish out of 9 teams. All the top schools in the AMC were there and Cedarville lost to many of the teams they had just beaten

the previous weekend. Adam Schlappi led the way for the Jackets with a 149 (71-78), good for a tie for 16th place.

• CU wins own invitational!!!

What a roller coaster of a season this has turned out to be! After a tremendous, hard-fought victory at Mount Vernon, and a difficult set-back at Malone, Cedarville won its own invitational for the first time since the inaugural tournament in 1982. After a slim 3-shot lead on day one, seniors Scott Aker and Adam Schlappi led the team to an impressive 23-shot victory by firing a pair of 3-under 69's! The second day total of 285 set the 18 hole school record (again) and capped off an outstanding regular season.

• Season comes to an end with heart-breaking 3rd place finish

Coming off two victories in its last three tournaments, the Jackets were confident and open to what God would have for them at the biggest tournament of the year, the AMC/NAIA Region IX Championships at Apple Valley Golf Club in Mount Vernon, OH. The winner earns a trip to the NAIA National Tournament.

Cedarville came out strong and was tied for the lead with Malone and Tiffin after 18 holes. The Jackets stayed strong by holding the lead with Malone after 36 holes. Trevor Bowman was leading the way with a solid 70-73 and a share of the overall individual lead. Scott Aker wasn't too far behind Trevor with a 72-75 after two rounds.

On the final 18 holes, the front side seemed to be going Cedarville's way. Both Tiffin and

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- 2007 Fall Schedule
- Fall Preview
- "Where Are They Now?"
- Win a CU Golf T-shirt!!
- Coach's Chat



Best Season Ever.....?

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Malone were struggling while the Jackets remained solid. However, the back nine provided plenty of dramatics that left Cedarville out of an NAIA National Tournament berth. Malone freshman, Ben Smith, who was a last minute substitution before the start of the tournament, shot an amazing 4 under par 32 on the back side to help his team to a 7 shot victory. Tiffin also had an amazing finish with a couple of guys going under par on the last nine to squeak by Cedarville by a total of 2 strokes. Tiffin ended up getting a rare at-large bid at the national tournament. So, the Jackets ended up 2 strokes away from the NAIA National Tournament. Trevor Bowman ended up finishing second to Smith, giving up seven strokes in the final nine holes.

It was a heartbreaking loss and one that is hard to describe. Maybe a similarity would be losing the final game of the conference basketball tournament by a last second three point shot.

2007-08 Yellow Jacket Golf Roster

Name	Yr	Hometown	High School
Dan Atkeson	So	Galena, OH	Big Walnut
Brett Bigler	Jr	Elkhart, IN	Concord
Nick Bigler	Fr	Elkhart, IN	Concord
Trevor Bowman	Jr	Harpster, OH	Upper Sandusky
Matt Krogstad	So	Madison, WI	Abundant Life
Brendan Ojala	Jr	New Ipswich, NH	Mascenic Reg.
Trent Roach	Fr	Elkhart, IN	Concord
Matt Yeiter	Fr	Traverse City, MI	Traverse City Chr.

2007 Yellow Jacket Fall Golf Schedule

Date	Tournament	Course	Location
Sept. 7	Kyle Ryman Memorial	Mohawk CC	Tiffin, OH
Sept. 8	Kyle Ryman Memorial	Mohawk CC	Tiffin, OH
Sept. 14	Urbana Invitational	Woodland	Cable, OH
Sept. 28	Huntington Invitational	Brookwood	Ft. Wayne, IN
Sept. 29	Huntington Invitational	Brookwood	Ft. Wayne, IN
Oct. 9	NCCAA Nationals	The Hombre	Panama City Beach, FL
Oct. 10	NCCAA Nationals	The Hombre	Panama City Beach, FL



The Yellow Jacket golf squad after shooting a school-record 285 for 18 holes to win the Cedarville Invitational.

2007-08 Team Profile

• No seniors!

The 2007-2008 Yellow Jacket golf team will sorely miss three seniors who graduated in June 2007. Travis Roach was a four year performer and was able to contribute in the top 5 for two of those years. Adam Schlappi was a solid performer for 4 years and is 4th on the all-time career averages list. Scott Aker transferred from Wittenberg University after two years. At the end of his two years at Cedarville, he holds school records for 18 holes, 36 holes, single season average, and career average.

• 3 new freshmen

After losing 3 seniors, 3 capable freshmen are starting their careers this fall. Trent Roach, younger brother of Travis Roach, is coming off a great senior season at Concord High School in Elkhart, IN. He ended his season by finishing 15th in the Indiana State Tournament. Concord teammate Nick Bigler will also be joining him at Cedarville. Nick played #2 for Concord and is the younger brother of current Yellow Jacket Brett Bigler. Matt Yeiter comes to Cedarville from Traverse City, MI. Matt was a three time MVP of his Traverse City Christian High School team.

• Great depth & competition

One of the great things that came out of last year's team was depth and internal competition. As more and more solid golfers decide to further their careers at Cedarville, competition for the top 5 spots increases. Last year, I had to change my qualification system due to the number of guys on the team who could help the top 5 at any given time. I see the same competition coming from this group of guys. I am excited to see how this team gels together and gives it all on the course for God's glory.

Trevor Bowman returns after an impressive sophomore season that ended with a runner-up finish at the AMC/NAIA Championships. Trevor's leadership will be important to this team. Dan Atkeson and Matt Krogstad had very good freshmen years. Both ended up rounding out the top 5 at the AMC tournament. I am looking forward to seeing how each of them improve this year. Brett Bigler and Brendan Ojala return as juniors to provide experience and leadership to an already deep team.

Prayer requests for our team....

- That this year's team will develop close relationships with each other and be able to depend on each other throughout the year.
- For new students Trent, Nick, and Matt as they adjust to life in college.
- That all the guys would be able to grow closer to God this year and our opponents would see Jesus Christ in us and through us.

Where Are They Now?

Craig Bennington, a 2003 CU graduate, played for 4 years under coaches Jim Kragel and Ryan Bowen. He averaged 77.85 in 2002 and finished 4th in the AMC that year shooting a 10 over par 226 (78-75-73), thus earning All-AMC honors. Throughout his career he continually played either #1 or #2 and was a consistent performer.



Craig currently lives in Blacklick, OH with his wife of 3 years, Jolene (Nourse), a 2005 CU graduate. They worship at Jersey Baptist Church in Pataskala, OH. He works as the National Sales Manager for Christian Voice of Central Ohio, Inc, which is the parent organization for 8 radio stations including 104.9 The River in Columbus, OH. He and his team are responsible for selling on-air advertising for all 8 stations.

Cedarville University prepared him well for his vocation. When arriving at The River, Craig felt "ahead of the game" and was fully prepared for his challenges in radio sales. With his involvement in U99.5, the Cedarville student radio station, he learned how a radio station operates and didn't have a big learning curve when he started at The River. He attributes his preparedness to the wonderful faculty he came in contact with at Cedarville while getting his degree in broadcasting.

He also appreciates the total education offered at Cedarville. Bennington adds, "Cedarville is more than a Christian college. They give you not only the correct Christian view, but they strive to educate students on what happens in the real world. They prepared me for life in the real work world outside of Cedarville."

When asked about any advice he had for current Cedarville golfers, he said "Remember that these are the four best years of your life. I know that is a cliché, but it really is true." He remembers all the fun he had playing golf for Cedarville including those precious spring break trips to Florida. "It was great just spending a week doing nothing but playing golf and watching March Madness basketball."

Craig follows the Jackets throughout the season on the internet by going to yellowjackets.cedarville.edu and also by receiving the Hole-by-hole Tournament Email Updates.

Fall Preview

• Tournaments at Tiffin and Huntington

We start out the fall season at the Kyle Ryman Invitational at Tiffin University on Sept 7 & 8. Tiffin is now an NCAA Division II school this year and is no longer in our conference. However, they hold an outstanding tournament and we have done quite well at Mohawk CC over the past few years. So, it will be a great test right off the bat. A number of Division II schools and other top schools from our conference will be there.

The rest of September has us playing at Urbana and Huntington. We have never played at Huntington before, so that should be a good tournament for us. The timing of this tournament turned out to be perfect, the weekend before we leave for the NCCAA National Tournament. It should be fun playing schools we don't normally get to play against.

WIN a T-Shirt!

HOLE-by-HOLE Tournament Email UPDATES

Last spring many of you benefited from receiving email updates after each tournament. I will continue to do the same thing this year as well. These updates give you an inside look at the tournament results and how the guys did specifically. Sometimes this includes scores, sometimes it includes how a player was feeling, how a particular round went, or my thoughts on how we did compared to our competition. Here is a portion of an email that was sent after the Shawnee State tournament this past spring:

"...I did take one individual to the tournament. He actually played VERY well! Matt Krogstad shot a 72-71=143...good for 2ND OVER-ALL!!! Great job Matt!!! Yep, I picked the starting 5...boy, we could have used Matt's scores this weekend. That is the way it goes sometimes. I'm just glad Matt is playing well! It is a sign that this program is getting better and the team is deeper.

The guys knew they were the team to beat, and they played like it. I'm proud of the way the guys handled themselves...for the most part. We are still working on abiding in Christ on the golf course (through both good shots and bad). During our team meeting we evaluated each performance and concentrated on all phases of playing golf, physical and mental. We also read a passage in I John that references how to abide in Christ...which is to "walk in the same manner as He walked".

One funny story...one of Scott's playing partners had a unique experience on one green. After missing a short putt (actually maybe the second or third putt), he quickly reached his putter past the hole to tap the ball in (toward the hole and him). Well, he actually missed the hole and the ball deflected off of his foot and into the hole! He just stood there with a bewildered look on his face. His 8 quickly became a 10 for hitting himself with his ball.

Hopefully, this tournament will be used to make us better and stronger. When we play well we can beat anyone, but we need to find a way to win the ones we are expected to..."

If you would like to receive email updates after each tournament like this, please send me an email (bowenr@cedarville.edu) with "Hole-by-hole" in the subject. Also, I will send a Cedarville Golf T-Shirt to the first 5 CU golf alumni to sign up (for the first time).

• NCCAA Nationals

For the next two years, the NCCAA National tournament will be held at the Hombre Golf Club in Panama City Beach, FL. So, just when our weather is starting to turn cold and nasty in October, we get to travel south to a beautiful course within a mile of the Gulf of Mexico. We have played this course before in 2003 and 2004. It is a challenging course, one that hosts a PGA Tour Stage II qualifier. Course management will be a key here since so many holes are lined with water hazards.

Keep up to date on Yellow Jacket golf and all other Cedarville University athletics by logging onto:
www.yellowjackets.cedarville.edu