

Ottoville Repeats as 2010 PCL Champions

Putnam County Sentinel – Charlie Warnimont, Sports Editor

OTTAWA – High school golfers haven't had to contend with any adverse weather conditions this season. On Monday, golfers at the Putnam County League tournament not only had to deal with some wind, but also a light rain throughout much of the day. The team that handled these adverse weather conditions the best could come away with the tournament championship.

Ottoville was that team Monday as they braved the elements to repeat as PCL champions at the Pike run Golf Course. The Big Green won with a 328 team score, while Kalida edged Columbus Grove for second place 336-337. Leipsic was fourth with a 357, while Miller City claimed fifth place based on their fifth man score as the Wildcats and Fort Jennings both finished with a 378.

"I think the PCL is becoming more notorious for the weather than it is the golfing," Ottoville coach Jim Brown said. "It wasn't as breezy as it was last year, but it was spitting rain all day. It was pretty damp out there that made it tough on all the golfers. We just grinded it out and that's what I have been working on my kids to do. If your scored is not the best, grind a score out and that's what we did."

The Big Green was led by Zach Weber as he shot a 76 to grab medalist honors for a second straight season. Kyle Karhoff backed up Weber with an 82, while Travis Maag and Craig Odenweller shot 85's. Derek Schimmoeller finished with a 97 for the Big Green. Weber and Karhoff earned first team all-league honors, while Maag and Odenweller picked up second team honors.

"Zach's had a couple of nice weeks," Brown said of his two-time PCL individual champion. "When he went to the first tee he told me he was pretty nervous and I told him he couldn't play this game scared. His first tee shot was rocketed 300 yards so that helps get the butterflies out of the way so he could play golf".

"I was a little worried when I saw the guys on the driving range, I didn't think they were real crisp and I felt it could be an interesting day. Some of the guys

are a little disappointed in their score. Our three and four men have golfed real well all year. Travis has had a real solid year. Last year he was averaging 45 (strokes per nine holes), but this year he is down to around 41.5 and Craig has done a great job for us all year giving us that solid fourth score that we need each and every match."

Kalida edged Columbus Grove for second place as fifth man Eric Kahle finished with a 79. Neil Recker finished with an 84, while Logan Recker had an 86 and Austin Horstman finished with an 87. Kahle was a first team selection for the Wildcats, while Neil Recker was named to the second team.

Clay Bryan led the Bulldogs with a 78, which was the lowest score on the scoreboard for a long time Monday afternoon. Matt Jennell and Matt Silver followed Bryan with 86's and Tyler Giesige had an 87. Bryan earned first team honors for his score for the Bulldogs.

Fort Jennings' Kurt Warnecke and Leipsic's Jason Niese were named to the first team with 83's, while the Vikings' Troy Niese was named to the second team with an 84 and the Musketeers' Cody Warnecke picked up second team honors with an 85. Miller City's Derek Kaufman picked up second team honors with an 85.

SCORES

OTTOVILLE – Zach Weber 76, Kyle Karhoff 82, Travis Maag 85, Craig Odenweller 85 and Derek Schimmoeller 97.

KALIDA – Eric Kahle 79, Neil Recker 84, Logan Recker 86, Austin Horstman 87 and Cody Mathew 88.

COLUMBUS GROVE – Clay Bryan 78, Matt Jennell 86, Matt Silver 86, Tyler Giesige 87 and Bret Schroeder.

LEIPSIC – Jason Niese 83, Troy Niese 84, Spencer Selhorst 94, Corey Berger 96 and Jacob Schroeder 107.

MILLER CITY – Derek Kaufman 85, Austin Lammers 90, Derek Griggs 97, David Rippetoe 106 and Jared Fuka 109.

FORT JENNINGS – Kurt Warnecke 83, Cody Warnecke 85, Alex Vetter 100, Tyler Dray 110 and Lucas Luebrecht 118.