

Ostermeyer's hot rounds on cool weekend give BC3 golfers 6th straight WPCC title

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The Butler County Community College golf team on Sunday won its sixth consecutive Western Pennsylvania Collegiate Conference championship in a row. Members of the team are, front row, from left, Julia Fischer, Luke Ostermeyer and Tom Schall. Back row, from left, Shawn Gray, Tyler Johnson, Kyle Mudger and coach Bill Miller.

(Apollo, PA) Luke Ostermeyer shot a season-low 82 on Sunday as the Butler County Community College golf team won its sixth consecutive Western Pennsylvania Collegiate Conference championship and 10th overall behind three players placing in the Top 5.

Ostermeyer, a Laurel High graduate, finished second in the 36-hole tournament with a 167, 11 strokes behind Zack Harvey, of Garrett College, Arnold, Md., on the par-72 course at The Links at Spring Church. The Pioneers' Tyler Johnson, of Armstrong High, ended fourth with a 174 and Tom Schall, of Mars High, fifth at 176.

Holden Hitchcock, of the Community College of Allegheny County-Boyce, was third with a 172. Ostermeyer, said Pioneers Coach Bill Miller – whose team finished 15-3 and who was named the WPCC coach of the year for the fifth time since 2013 – played his best two rounds of the fall.

“He came to play,” Miller said of Ostermeyer, who shot a first-round 85. “It was an important tournament. Being the only second-year guy who was playing for us, he took a leadership role and I think he was serious about it.”

Prior to the WPCC championships, Ostermeyer's best round came Aug. 31, when he fired an 87 at the Valley Green Golf and Country Club in Greensburg against Westmoreland County Community College and Garrett.

“I kept thinking about being focused on every shot, that I had to get closer to the hole on every shot, and not rush ahead of myself,” Ostermeyer said. “If I made a bad shot, I had to focus harder to make sure I would have a good shot to make up for it, and not get down on myself. That will throw your game out of whack. I kept thinking to keep my head in the game and that I would do well.”

Kyle Mudger, a Cochran High graduate, shot a 191 for BC3, as did Shawn Gray, a Butler High graduate, during a tournament that saw temperatures reach only 48 degrees on Saturday and 57 on Sunday.

“It had been 70 and 80 degrees all through our fall season, and then Saturday, I don't know if it even reached 50 degrees and it was kind of damp,” Miller said. “It didn't rain, but it was damp. The weather really played a part in the whole thing.”

Despite the cool conditions, Ostermeyer was hot, Miller said.

“I thought he was hitting the ball off the tee very well,” Miller said. “He kept it in play and stayed out of trouble.”

Ostermeyer and BC3's Julia Fischer, who won the women's tournament with a 193, were selected to the WPCC's all-tournament squad.

“She hit the ball off the tee pretty well,” Miller said. “She struggled a bit around the greens at times. This golf course is not an easy one. Her scores were just as good as some of the guys individually today, and her tee shots were every bit as far as theirs or longer from the red tees.”