Pioneers’ Rozzi shoots an 80, in hunt for All-American status

Neshannock High grad in 17th place midway through national golf tournament

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(Chautauqua, N.Y.) Michael Rozzi, a 2016 graduate of Neshannock High School and sophomore on the Butler County Community College golf team, shot an 8-over 80 Wednesday in the second round of the National Junior College Athletic Association Division III national championships and is tied for 17th place in pursuit of the title and All-American status.

If Rozzi, a student at BC3 @ Lawrence Crossing in New Castle, finishes in the Top 18 of the 72-hole tournament at Chautauqua Golf Club, he would become the Pioneers’ fourth All-American since April 2017, the sixth in golf since 1996 and the college’s 26th since 1970.

Rozzi, with a two-round 159, is tied with Liam Miller, of Nassau Community College, Garden City, N.Y.; John Buliga, of Bucks County Community College, Reading, Pa.; and with Koby Markham, of Sandhills Community College, Pinehurst, N.C. Rozzi is tied for first with tournament leader Trey May, of Georgia Military College, Milledgeville, Ga., and with Buliga with 24 pars.

Rozzi, Miller and Buliga are nine strokes behind May, who has shot consecutive 75s on the 6,559-yard Lake Course. First-round leader Zach Breault, of Vincennes University in Vincennes, Ind., shot an 82 Wednesday and dropped into a fourth-place tie at 3 strokes back.

Volleyball setter Brittney Bianco, of Freeport, No. 2 on the Pioneers’ all-time assist list with 1,254, was named an NJCAA All-American in December. Softball center fielder Nicole Houk, of New Castle, who led all three divisions of the NJCAA with a .627 batting average in 2017, was selected in June 2017. Forward Julia Baxter, of Butler, the Pioneers’ all-time leading scorer in women’s basketball with 1,070 points, was chosen in April 2017.
Stefan Carlsson and Thomas Dimon are the Pioneers’ most-recent All-Americans in golf. They became the first golfers in BC3 history to be selected as All-Americans in the same season when they finished 15th and 16th, respectively, in the 2015 NJCAA Division III national championships.