

# SPORTS Journal

Journal | providencejournal.com

Wednesday, July 10, 2013

## Come now, Mr. Kraft, who do you think you're fooling?

I never figured Robert Kraft for a dupe. Thought he was too smart, too sharp, too savvy.

But he admitted Monday that he was, indeed, a dupe.

A sap, a sucker, a pigeon, a pushover, an easy mark.

A guy who got played, big-time, by one of his players.

"I got duped, to be honest," Kraft said, acknowledging that he had been fooled into thinking Aaron Hernandez, currently under indictment on a charge of murder in



Jim Donaldson

the first degree, was, in Kraft's words "a most likeable young man."

How do you like that?

A young man of 23 with an admitted history of drug use who,

when not catching passes for the Patriots, hung around with hoodlums, was able to completely bamboozle an internationally renowned businessman.

Makes you wonder how a guy that glibly ever became a billionaire.

Does the Family Kraft do business deals without performing due diligence?

Are such things not covered in Harvard Business School?

Or is Kraft simply trying to cover his, shall we say, derriere, in all

The judge in the Aaron Hernandez case unsealed 156 pages of returned search warrants and affidavits from the murder probe. **Story, A1**

matters involving Hernandez?

Because, in addition to admitting that Hernandez had reeled him in like a fish on a line, Kraft also said that he was speaking publicly despite his lawyers, who advised against it because of "an ongoing criminal investigation, as well as

other potential civil proceedings."

Among those "other potential civil proceedings" is a suit against the Patriots by the family of Odin Lloyd, the man Hernandez is charged with murdering, execution-style, last month.

While no one would have suspected Hernandez of being capable of the crime he is alleged to have committed, there were plenty of warning signs that he wasn't exactly an Eagle Scout.

SEE DONALDSON, C7

### RED SOX VS. MARINERS

NEXT: Tonight at Seattle, 10:10



AP/JAE C. HONG

Felix Doubront tries to learn something new from each start.

## It's all becoming routine for Doubront

By TIM BRITTON  
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

SEATTLE — It was a common refrain from Felix Doubront last year, during his first full season as a major-league starter.

Every outing I learn more, Doubront said in some form or other after many of his starts. It's all a

good learning experience. Now in year two in the Boston rotation, how is Dou-

bront applying those lessons?

"It's a lot different. I know what to do in situations," said Doubront. "You're learning every outing, and you try to think of that when that happens the next outing. It's the kind of mental game that you play."

That education extends to days he's not pitching. Doubront has spent a lot of this season pitching a day or two after fellow lefty Jon Lester, and he's paid close attention to the way the veteran Lester goes about attacking opposing offenses. When he saw Lester quiet the Blue Jays with a lot of changeups in late June, Doubront made it a part of his game plan two days later.

It was about this time last season that

SEE RED SOX, C3

### GOLF

## NEXT GENERATION



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL/BOB BREIDENBACH

Patrick Welch follows through and keeps an eye on his tee shot on the 18th hole Tuesday at Quiddnessett Country Club. Welch, 13, shot a 1-over 73. He is tied for ninth, three shots off the lead. Welch is the youngest player to ever compete in the R.I. Amateur.

## 13-year-old opens eyes, drops jaws with 1-over 73 at R.I. Amateur

By PAUL KENYON  
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

NORTH KINGSTOWN — It is an enormous accomplishment for Patrick Welch simply to be competing in the R.I. Golf Association Amateur Championship this week as a 13-year-old. The fact that he is playing well enough to put himself among the tournament leaders makes his story one of the best in this area in some time.

Welch, a 5-foot-3, 94-pounder who will be

entering the eighth grade at Bishop Middle School in Providence, stole the show Tuesday on the first day of the weather-delayed 108th Amateur at Quiddnessett.

Playing on a course stretched out to 6,935 yards, to the point where scores were higher than usual for the state's best players, Welch recorded a methodical 1-over 73 to tie for ninth among the 119 participants.

Welch is believed to be the youngest to take part in the event. Two years ago, Matt

Corio of Wannamoisett earned a spot as a 14-year-old. Welch took his accomplishment in stride.

"I did pretty well. I struck the ball really well," he said after the round. "My putting was OK, too." His putting included a curling, downhill 30-footer for par on his final hole.

"That was the only good putt of the day," he said.

SEE AMATEUR, C7

### TENNIS | HALL OF FAME CHAMPIONSHIPS

## Meltdown for top-rated Querrey

He falls to fellow American Tim Smyczek in the steamy heat at Newport Casino

By MIKE SZOSTAK  
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

NEWPORT — After a two-year hiatus, the Curse of the Casino is back.

Sam Querrey, the top seed of the Hall of Fame Tennis Championships as a result of his pre-Wimbledon No. 19 ranking, lost his first-round match to fellow American Tim Smyczek on a steamy Tuesday afternoon at the

Newport Casino.

Smyczek, ranked 120th on the ATP World Tour, toppled Querrey, No. 21 this week, 6-4, 7-6 (10-8). Smyczek avenged a straight-set loss to Querrey in the first round at Indian Wells, Calif., in March 2012, and said this was one of his biggest wins.

"It's pretty neat to play Sam. He's been one of the top Americans for a long time and somebody I've just tried to catch up to. So it means a lot for me to go out there and play well and come away with a win," Smyczek said.

The top seed of this tournament failed to win from the inaugural in 1977 through the 34th annual in 2010. John Isner broke the streak in 2011 and repeated in 2012. He is seeded second this year.

Smyczek, 25, grew up in Milwaukee and resides in Tampa, home of a number of Americans on the ATP Tour. He even lived in Mardy Fish's house for a year. He still roots for the Brewers.

Smyczek has played mostly ATP

SEE UPSET, C6



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL/BOB THAYER

Sam Querrey, ranked 21st in the world, drills an ace during his match against Tim Smyczek on Tuesday at Newport Casino.

### Hall of Fame tennis championships

See a slideshow from the event, at [providencejournal.com/sports](http://providencejournal.com/sports)



Do you buy Robert Kraft's assertion that the Pats were 'duped' by Aaron Hernandez? Tell us what you think, at [providencejournal.com/sports](http://providencejournal.com/sports)



## IN THE NEWS

## BASEBALL

## Case delayed

The marijuana possession case against Cleveland Indians closer **Chris Perez** and his wife could extend to the final month of the season. The two were at Rocky River (Ohio) Municipal Court on Tuesday in suburban Cleveland and the case is to resume Sept. 3. Perez and his wife, **Melanie**, pleaded not guilty to misdemeanor possession charges after marijuana was mailed to their home in their dog's name.

## BASKETBALL

## Around the NBA

■ **Andrew Bynum**, the enigmatic free-agent center who played a single season for Philadelphia last season because of knee injuries, is mulling a two-year offer from the Cleveland Cavaliers, a person familiar with the negotiations told the Associated Press on Tuesday. Cleveland made the offer, which includes a team option in the second year, during his visit to the Cavs' facility on Monday. Yahoo! Sports reported Cleveland's offer and said it was worth \$24 million. Bynum, 25, had arthroscopic surgery on both knees in March. Cleveland has competition in its pursuit of Bynum, who is expected to meet with the Atlanta Hawks on Tuesday and is scheduled to visit Dallas on Wednesday.

■ The Bucks traded forward **Lu Mhah a Mouste** to the Kings in exchange for a 2016 second-round draft pick, a person familiar with the deal said Tuesday. Teams can't

confirm moves until the new league year begins on Wednesday.

■ **Luigi Datome** and the Pistons have agreed to a \$3.5-million, two-year contract, according to a person familiar with the deal. The 6-foot-7 forward, who has made 40 percent of his 3-point attempts over the last 10 years, averaged 16-plus points and nearly two 3-pointers per game last season.

■ Free-agent guard **Devin Harris** is headed back to the Dallas Mavericks, nine years after starting his career with them as a high draft pick. Dallas star **Dirk Nowitzki** tweeted Tuesday that Harris was rejoining the Mavericks, who ended up with him at No. 5 overall in the 2004 draft in a deal that sent **Antawn Jamison** to Washington.

Harris' contract is reportedly for three years and \$3 million. Harris, 30, averaged 9.9 points and 3.4 assists in Atlanta last season.

■ A person with knowledge of the situation says the Golden State Warriors have reached agreements with guard **Toney Douglas** and center **Jermareo O'Neal** on free-agent deals. Both are believed to be one-year contracts. Douglas, 27, played for the Houston Rockets and Sacramento Kings last season, averaging 7.5 points and 2.1 assists in 18.1 minutes per game. The Warriors are hoping O'Neal, 34, can be a reliable backup to **Andrew Bogut** while **Festus Ezeli** recovers from right knee surgery.

## FOOTBALL

## Big deal for Stafford

A person familiar with the deal tells the Associated Press that the

Detroit Lions have agreed to terms on a \$53-million, three-year contract extension with **Matthew Stafford**. The source says Stafford will make \$41.5 million in guarantees as part of a deal that keeps him under contract through the 2017 season. Detroit drafted Stafford No. 1 overall in 2009. After two injury-shortened seasons, he helped the franchise reach the playoffs two years ago for the first time in more than a decade.

■ The Jacksonville Jaguars have signed fifth-round draft pick **Deard Robinson** to a contract. According to the league's rookie slotting system, Robinson gets a signing bonus around \$210,000 and counts about \$450,000 against the salary cap. A college quarterback at Michigan, Robinson is learning how to play running back in Jacksonville. Robinson finished college with the most rushing yards by a quarterback in NCAA history (4,495). He ran for 1,266 yards and seven touchdowns as a senior. He also threw for 1,319 yards and nine TDs.

## HOCKEY

## Making it official

No. 1 draft pick **Nathan MacKinnon** has signed a three-year entry-level contract with the Colorado Avalanche. Executive vice president **Joe Sakic** hailed MacKinnon's signing, saying Tuesday that "his presence will bring additional speed and talent to our team as well as a lot of excitement to our fans." He was just the third 17-year-old drafted No. 1 overall in the last 26 years.

Journal Wire Reports

## PRO HOCKEY



Newest Stars Shawn Horcoff, left, and former Bruin Tyler Seguin are introduced at a news conference in Dallas on Tuesday.

## Seguin apologetic at his Stars intro

By SCHUYLER DIXON  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — Tyler Seguin wants to become the new face of the Dallas Stars. He'll have to wipe a little egg off it first.

That process started at an introductory news conference Tuesday when the dynamic young forward with a penchant for Twitter controversy apologized again for an anti-gay comment that showed up on his account over the weekend.

The 21-year-old former No. 2 overall pick also reiterated that his account was hacked — but acknowledged that even he wouldn't believe that explanation if it came from someone else.

Timing was a problem, too. The tweet showed up within a week of Boston general manager Peter Chiarelli saying Seguin needed to be a "better person" — and just two days after he was traded to the Stars. The Twitter comment could be viewed as anti-Texas, too.

"I understand why that would have been the perfect time for somebody to do that," said Seguin, who has suspended his account. "I'm looking forward to moving on and earning the respect of everyone else."

Seguin acknowledged he was the source of a gay slur on Twitter in April. He said he "wasn't thinking" then and that his Twitter account has since been hacked twice. He says his phone was in his pocket each time it happened, and multiple accounts, including e-mail and iTunes, were improperly accessed.

New Stars general manager Jim Nill says he is taking the center-piece of his first major trade as his worst. "It's not often a player goes on the block just three years after going No. 2 in the draft, but there have been reports that the Bruins weren't happy with Seguin's exploits off the ice."

"Who are we to judge when you don't know," Nill said. "And I think that's why I'm excited about today. I think it's a great chance for Tyler to turn the page. He's starting a new career here in Dallas. We had a great talk about it. He's the only one that knows what happened. I just think it's time to move on and go from there."

Nill gave up one of Dallas'

steadiest scorers, winger **Loui Eriksson**, and three young players to get Seguin, another center in **Rich Peverly** and defenseman **Ryan Button**.

A day later, Nill got Shawn Horcoff from Edmonton for defenseman **Philip Larsen** and a seventh-round pick in 2016. Horcoff, who played his first 12 seasons for the Oilers, has ties to Nill through a pair of Canadian national teams that won world championships.

Jamie Benn is still in place after leading the Stars in scoring last season, and he will get to move to his more natural position on the wing with all the centers Nill has added. Kar Lehtonen is the starting goalie coming off a strong season.

Otherwise, the roster has seen a significant makeover. "We've made a lot of changes," Nill said. "You just don't go down to Walmart or Kmart and pull something off the shelf. It's an everyday thing and you just keep working at it. We were fortunate. At the right time, the right players became available."

Nill hired a new coach, replacing Glen Gulak with Lindy Ruff as the Stars try to end a five-year playoff drought, the longest in franchise history dating to 1967 in Minnesota.

"Everyone knows it's a great city to live and to play, but the biggest thing is we want to get back to winning here," said Horcoff, who played in the 2006 Stanley Cup finals with Edmonton. "When I first came in the league, that's what the Dallas Stars were all about. It was a tough building to come in and play."

Mike Modano was the face of the franchise then and is an adviser now. He headed Tuesday's event and met Seguin for the first time. A day earlier, he tried to ease the mind of Stars president Jim Lites about the Twitter trouble.

"All Mo said to me, a bit tongue in cheek, but he said, 'Thank Lord there weren't cell phones or social media when I was 21,'" Lites said. "That's not to let anybody off the hook. I don't want to make light of anything. It's one of those deals you live and learn and get better." And avoid Twitter for a while.

## HOCKEY HALL OF FAME

## Niedermayer, Shanahan, Chelios head inductees

ASSOCIATED PRESS

TORONTO — Defensesmen Scott Niedermayer and Chris Chelios, along with forward Brendan Shanahan have been picked for the Hockey Hall of Fame.

They'll be joined in the class of 2013 by Geraldine Healy, the third woman to be enshrined in the hall, and coach Fred Shero, who led the Philadelphia Flyers to the Stanley Cup in 1974 and '75. He was selected posthumously in the builder category.

Chelios and Niedermayer earned hockey's biggest individual honor in their first year of eligibility.

The official induction ceremony is scheduled for November. Niedermayer won four Stanley





GOLF | RIGA AMATEUR

## Blanchard finds game in qualifier

By PAUL KENYON  
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

NORTH KINGSTOWN — Charlie Blanchard is off to a strong start in the defense of his R.I. Golf Association Amateur Championship, which is a bit of a surprise.

The Bryant University golf coach recorded his second straight 73 Wednesday at Quiddessett to easily advance through qualifying in the 108th Amateur. His total left him in a tie for sixth, earning him one of the 32 spots for match play, which begins Thursday.

Blanchard has won so many RIGA titles that it never is a surprise when he plays well. Still, his work is a bit unexpected this time because the lefty from Wampanoag had a highly unusual way to prepare for his title defense.

"I wasn't able to play for the last two weeks," he said, speaking softly as if he did not want anyone to hear. "There's just too much going on."

Blanchard not only is the Bryant golf coach. He also helps run a business. A former pro lacrosse player, he remains heavily involved in that sport, now more than ever because his son is involved. He's coaching at a lacrosse camp.

"I'm going to go to the office now," he said after finishing play in early afternoon. "I'll work until 5, then go to lacrosse practice and be there from 6 to 8."

A seven-time RIGA player of the year, Blanchard has not played as well as in the past so far this year. It is the price he has to pay for having so many other responsibilities. But he is not complaining.

"I actually hit it pretty well," he said of the two days of qualifying. "I have to hope the same guy shows up again tomorrow."

His 146 total left him among the leaders because scoring was higher than it usually is. The Quiddessett course is not often listed among the state's toughest, but it is winning the admiration of the players this week. Almost everyone is praising the course condition and the challenge, calling it an excellent test to find the state's best player.

"It's not all that hard," Blanchard said as he looked at a

scoreboard with no scores under-par. "But if you put yourself in the wrong position on the green, it can cost you."

As it was, Blanchard was only two strokes off the top spot. For the first time in 23 years, no one broke par in qualifying. Two former champions, Bobby Leopold and three-time winner Brad Valois, matched par at 144, as did former Junior champ Brendan Lemp of Misquamicut and Jay Barrow of Laurel Lane.

Lemp had the best score of the second day, a 70.

"It was good and solid," he said of a day that included four birdies and two bogeys.

The only others to break par in round two were Jamison Randall, a finalist in this event last year, former champion Tom McCormick, and Jon Drumm, all with 71s.

In past years, the RIGA has followed national policy and declared that the medalist award will go to the player who advances the furthest in match play. However, Bob Ward, the RIGA's executive director, said the association has adopted a policy that allows for presentation of awards to all players who tie for low score through qualifying.

It took a 153 total to move on to match play. Those who are still alive include 13-year-old Patrick Welch, the youngest player ever to compete in the event. He followed his opening 73 with a 76 for 149.

There was a playoff at 153, with seven competing for the final spot in match play. For the second consecutive day, play could not be completed before dark. Metacomet's Jason Kalin and Potowomut's Tyler Cooke kept themselves alive by going par, birdie, par, par on the four playoff holes. They knocked out former champion Ben Tuthill, John Drohen, Michael Petrarca, Mike Pierard and Kevin Marcoux.

Cooke and Kalin will get back at it at 7 a.m. Thursday to determine the 32nd qualifier.

Qualifying included a hole-in-one by Brian Donahue on the 168-yard 16th with a 7-iron.

pkenyon@providencejournal.com  
On Twitter: @PJKenyon7  
(401) 277-7340

### R.I. WOMEN'S AMATEUR GOLF

## Top four seeds into semis

CRANSTON — The top four seeds all won matches Wednesday and advanced to the semifinals of the Women's State Amateur Championship sponsored by the Ocean State Women's Golf Association at Cranston Country Club.

Medalist and defending champion Ali Prazak led the way with a 7 and 5 victory over Kibbe Reilly. Other results were:

**Championship Division**  
Ali Prazak def. Kibbe Reilly, 7 and 5; Angelica MacCallini def. Laura Pizzarello, 7 and 1; Katelyn Hayward def. Elaine Crawford, 7 and 6; Jackie Booth def. Katherine Bullock, 7 and 1.

**First Division**  
Barbara Baris def. Maureen Delonetti, 5 and 1; Deb Ferrara def. Elaine Smith, 4 and 2; Sandra Hargreaves def. Deb Olson, 1-up; Pamela Kelley def. Shirley Booth, 6 and 5.

**Second Division**  
Anne Drexler def. Carolyn Moore, 3 and 2; Vickie Morrell def. Sandra Scallan, 7 and 5; Lisa Clark def. Patricia Johnson, 4 and 2; Linda Dickson def. Ben Hyatt, 1-up.

**Third Division**  
MaryAnn MacLaughlin def. Cindy Sauer, 7 and 6; JoAnn Bourque def. Carry Suggers, 7 and 6.

**THURSDAY'S MATCHES**  
**Championship Division**  
1 a.m. — Prazak vs. MacCallini, 8:30 — Hayward vs. Booth.

**First Division**  
8:30 — Baris vs. Ferrara, 1:24 — Hargreaves vs. Kelley.

**Second Division**  
8:32 — Drexler vs. Morrell, Clark vs. Dickson.

**Third Division**  
8:40 — MacLaughlin vs. Morrell, Bourque vs. MacCallini.

PAUL KENYON

### TOUR DE FRANCE

## Froome adds to lead

MONT-SAINT-MICHEL, France (AP) — Halfway through the Tour de France, Chris Froome appears unstoppable after extending the lead on his rivals in the time trial on Wednesday.

Although Froome missed out on his second stage win by 12 seconds to winner Tony Martin of Germany, the Stage 11 performance felt like a big victory for the British rider because his challengers were at least two minutes slower.

"My biggest race today was with the other GC riders," Froome said. "I've extended my lead so I'm very happy with that."

Spanish rider Alejandro Valverde is still in second place overall but 3 minutes, 25 seconds behind Froome, while Alberto Contador improved to fourth but is 3:54 behind.

Meanwhile, the 2010 Tour

champ Andy Schleck and 2011 winner Cadel Evans lost massive time.

"I'm happy with my shape," Froome said. "I think I've shown in the mountains that I can hold my own and time trial, also."

As the two-time world time trial champion, Martin did not disappoint over the 20.5-mile route in Normandy from Avranches to the breathtaking island citadel of Mont-Saint-Michel.

"Hats off to Tony Martin," Froome said. "It just goes to show what class he has."

Froome was quicker over the first two time splits but slowed down in the last section. Martin won in just over 36 minutes.

Froome was the only rider to get within a minute of Martin, with Belgian Thomas De Gendt 1:01 behind in third.



## RIGA AMATEUR GOLF

# Deluge slows, but doesn't stop favorites

By PAUL KENYON  
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

**NORTH KINGSTOWN** — By nightfall as play was wrapping up, the score sheet after the first day of match play in the 108th Rhode Island Golf Association Amateur looked very familiar

As so often happens, favorites controlled the day. Defending champion Charlie Blanchard and former winners Brad Valois and Bobby Leopold led the way as they all won twice to reach the quarterfinals. One of the young kids pulled off a surprise, with McKinley Slade, a recent South Kingstown High grad, taking over that role from 13-year-old Patrick Welch, although Welch made more waves before falling in the second round.

Quidnessett Country Club, like most of the state, was hit by a deluge in mid-morning. Play began at 7:30, was halted for an hour and resumed briefly before the skies really opened. That brought a 2-hour, 35-minute delay.

Some players had to wait up to five hours after arriving at the course before hitting their first shot. The fact that 36 holes were completed was a testimonial to the work done by the staff at the course.

RIGA tournament director Jim McKenna, who has been arriving at the course at 5 a.m. each day to

help the grounds crew prepare, watched as the workers dealt with the area damaged by the storm. "We finished just as the first match was arriving at the 14th tee," he said. "We have to thank them for what they did today. They were outstanding."

As it was, the last match of the first round was not completed until 4:40 p.m. and the second round until 8:30.

"When we had the heaviest rain there for about 15 minutes, we had about two inches of water on the 18th green," said Bob Ward, the RIGA's executive director. "Some of the players told me we should just cancel. I told them we had to wait as long as we could. Forty-five minutes later we were back playing

again and the course was very playable."

The competition did not skip a beat. The story of the tournament, the 13-year-old Welch, was eliminated in the second round, but not before winning more fans, including the player who beat him, 2012 finalist Jamison Randall.

Welch, the youngest player ever to take part in the event, ousted former pro hockey player Jim Colucci, 5 and 4, in the first round. He then was even-par for 15 holes in the second round. That was not enough, though, because Randall, who was the top player for his Old Dominion University team this year, was 4-under on the way to a 4-and-3 victory.

"He's going to be really good,"

Randall said of the 5-foot-3, 94-pound Welch. "All he has to do is grow and get stronger. I can't believe he's the same age as my sister [Nicole]. I just can't believe he's that young."

Randall had his excitement in the first round, rallying from 3-down at the turn to edge Chris DeLucia of Foster in 19 holes. Other first-round matches included a similar rally by Steve Royer, who won 17, 18 and 19 to edge Cameron Andrade.

Blanchard, the defending champion, first ousted Wannamoisett clubmate Dan Blessing, 4-and-3, a contest in which Blessing was even on the front nine, yet was 3-down because Blanchard was playing so well. Blanchard then eliminated another former champ, Tom McCormick, also 4-and-3.

Valois, bidding for his fourth title, was never behind all day as he first beat Tyler Cooke, 3-and-1 and then high school champion David Kraunelis, 6 and 5. Leopold won by the same 4-and-3 margin over Chris O'Neil and Steve Royer. Veteran Jamie Lukowicz, URI player Andrew Fiorenzano and reinstated pro Kyle Parsons joined Slade, who is headed to Bryant in the fall, in completing the elite eight.

pkenyon@providencejournal.com  
On Twitter: @PEKenyon7  
(401) 277-7340

## R.I. WOMEN'S AMATEUR GOLF

### Prazak, Hayward in final

**CRANSTON** — Ali Prazak and Kelsey Hayward, the two leaders all week, are going to meet in the title match of the Rhode Island Women's Amateur Championship sponsored by the Ocean State Women's Golf Association.

Those two were the only ones to break 80 in qualifying at Cranston Country Club and both have ad-

vanced easily to the title match. Prazak, the defending champion, defeated Angelica Muscatelli, 6 and 4, in her semifinal match while Hayward, a former Bay View All-Stater, ousted Jackie Booth, the OSWGA president, by the same score.

The matches were held after a 90-minute rain delay.





## RIGA CHAMPIONSHIP

# Valois, Blanchard uphold a high standard

By PAUL KENYON  
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

**NORTH KINGSTOWN** — The title match will be held today, but the 108th R.I. Golf Association Amateur Championship has already established its place in state annals. It will go down as the year the best players owned the tournament.

That was assured Friday, when favorites continued to control play at Quidnessett, as they have all week, to the point where the Final Four was made up of the four most highly regarded players in the state right now, Charlie Blanchard, Brad Valois, Bobby Leopold and Jamison Randall.

Fittingly, it is the two most dominant stars over the past decade who will meet for the crown, Valois and Blanchard.

"Usually, you always have an underdog in there somewhere," Valois pointed out. "I don't think I've ever seen it

before where the four best players all made it to the semifinals."

Between them, Blanchard and Valois have already won five Amateur crowns, three for Valois. Between them, the pair has won eight of the last 12 RIGA player-of-the-year awards, seven for Blanchard.

In five of the last seven years, one or the other has been in the Amateur final. In fact, Saturday's match will be the second head-on meeting in the 36-hole title contest. Valois prevailed, 5 and 3, in 2007 at Warwick. Valois is 3-0 in the final, Blanchard 2-2.

Blanchard, who is defending the title he won at Wampanoag last year (when he beat Randall in the final) eliminated Leopold in the semis, 5 and 3. Valois topped Randall, 3 and 1.

Both players are true amateurs. Blanchard, the golf coach at Bryant University as well as a part-time lacrosse coach, did not play a round of golf in the

two weeks leading up to the Amateur because of work and family obligations. Valois, who works as a stock broker, got on his cell phone as soon as he arrived back at the clubhouse after earning his spot in the final and reported to the office that he had just finished play. He told them he hoped to be in the office in about an hour.

Valois, who plays left-handed but putts right-handed, has had a tremendous week. He tied for low in qualifying and entered match play as the No. 1 seed. He has not trailed in any of his four matches.

In one 32-hole stretch during match play, he lost only two holes. In his quarterfinal match, the URI grad lost only one hole in eliminating current URI player Andrew Fiorenzano, 5 and 4. In the semis, with the wind blowing more than at any point all week, he led Randall by only one through 12 holes. He took both 13 and 14 to get his advantage

to 3-up and went on to victory from there.

Randall, who was the MVP of his Old Dominion University team this year, did nothing to change his reputation as the best college-aged prospect in the state. He was disappointed only in that he did not play his best against Valois. Perhaps because of the importance of the match, he felt he played more tentatively than he normally does.

The 47-year-old Blanchard sounded as much like a coach as a player when he spoke about how a player has to react to different situations.

"I was just so-so in the morning," he said of his quarterfinal match against Ledgemont club champion Randy Parsons. The two were tied through 12 before Blanchard won 13, 15 and 16 for his 3-and-2 decision.

pkenyon@providencejournal.com  
On Twitter: @PEKenyon7  
(401) 277-7340



# SCOREBOARD

## SATURDAY ON THE AIR

### Baseball

1 p.m. (MLB) WPRV Twins-Yankees  
6 p.m. (NESN) WHJJ WNBH WBLQ WNRI Rochester Red Wings-PawSox  
7 p.m. (64) (25) Rangers-Tigers  
10 p.m. (NESN) WEEI-FM WSAR WBSM Red Sox-Athletics  
10 p.m. (MLB) Brewers-Diamondbacks

### NBA Summer League

4 p.m. (NBA) Warriors-Wizards  
6 p.m. (NBA) Kings-Mavericks  
8 p.m. (NBA) Bulls-Grizzlies  
10 p.m. (NBA) Nuggets-Bucks

### Bicycling

8 a.m. (NBCSN) Tour de France, Stage 14

### CFL Football

9:30 p.m. (ESPN2) BC Lions-Edmonton Eskimos

### Golf

9:30 a.m. (GOLF) Scottish Open, from Inverness, Scotland  
Noon, (10) (7) Scottish Open, from Inverness, Scotland  
3 p.m. (12) (4) John Deere Classic, from Ill.  
3 p.m. (10) (7) U.S. Senior Open Championship, from Omaha, Neb.

### Lacrosse

7 p.m. (ESPN2) MLL All-Star Game

### Motor Sports

9 a.m. (ESPN2) NHRA Drag Racing, Lucas Oil Series, from Ohio  
10 a.m. (ESPN2) NASCAR Racing, Nationwide Series: New England 200, qualifying, from Loudon, N.H.  
1 p.m. (NBCSN) IndyCar Racing, Firestone Lights Series, from Toronto  
3 p.m. (NBCSN) IndyCar Racing, 2 in T.O. - Race One, from Toronto  
3:30 p.m. (6) (5) NASCAR Racing: Nationwide Series: New England 200, from Loudon, N.H.  
7:30 p.m. (ESPN) Global Rallycross Championship

### Soccer

1:45 p.m. (ESPN) FIFA U-20 World Cup, final  
3 p.m. (64) (25) CONCACAF Gold Cup: United States vs. Cuba  
3:25 p.m. (UNTV) Futbol, CONCACAF Copa de Oro: Estados Unidos vs. Cuba (En Vivo)  
5:55 p.m. (UNTV) Futbol, CONCACAF Copa de Oro: Costa Rica vs. Belice (En Vivo)  
7:30 p.m. (CSNE) MLS, Houston Dynamo-New England Revolution  
11 p.m. (NBCSN) MLS, Los Angeles Galaxy-Portland Timbers

### Softball

Noon, (ESPN) Slow Pitch Border Battle, Canada vs. United States  
9 p.m. (ESPN) World Cup: Japan vs. United States

### RADIO DIALS

WADK (1540), WAKR (1220), WBLO (1230), WBSM (1420), WBZ-FM (98.5), WCNX (1180), WEAN-FM (99.7), WEEI-FM (93.7-Boston), WEEI-FM (101.7-Providence), WHJJ (920), W125-FM (99.3), WLWK (1450), WNBH (1340), WNRI (1380), WOON (1240), WPRO (630), WPRV (790), WSAR (1480), WWB-FM (101.5)

## GOLF

### JOHN DEERE CLASSIC At St. Louis, Ill.

Patrick Reed 67-63-130  
Zach Johnson 64-66-130  
Lucas Glover 68-62-130  
Matt Jones 66-65-131  
Troy Matteson 68-64-132  
Kevin Streelman 66-66-132  
Jerry Kelly 68-64-132  
David Hearn 66-66-132  
Gabe Summerville 67-66-133  
Chris Kirk 72-61-133  
Cher Relvie 65-68-133  
Brendon de Jonge 67-66-133  
Steve Stricker 68-65-133  
L.J. Henry 67-67-134  
Martin Flores 68-66-134  
Charles Howell III 66-68-134  
Jim Herman 67-67-134  
Steve LeBrun 67-67-134  
Kevin Sutherland 67-68-135  
Tom Gillis 69-66-135  
Nicholas Thompson 66-69-135  
Boo Weekley 68-67-135  
Scott Langley 68-67-135  
Jordan Spieth 67-68-135  
Lee Williams 69-67-136  
Ken Duke 70-66-136  
Bryce Molder 72-64-136  
Sony Snyder III 69-67-136  
Chad Campbell 70-66-136  
Y.E. Yang 68-68-136  
Roberto Castro 69-67-136  
Brandt Jobe 70-66-136  
David Mathis 69-67-136  
Joe Azzurri 67-69-136  
a-Patrick Rodgers

### U.S. SENIOR OPEN At Omaha, Neb.

Michael Allen 67-63-130  
Rocco Mediate 68-67-135  
Jeff Suman 69-67-136  
Fred Funk 67-70-137  
Jeff Brehaut 69-68-137  
Tom Lehman 67-71-138  
Mark O'Meara 67-71-138  
Gary Koch 71-68-139  
Duffy Waldorf 70-69-139  
Peter Fowler 70-70-140  
Esteban Toledo 71-69-140  
Fred Couples 71-69-140

Steve Elkington 70-70-140  
Tom Watson 70-70-140  
Kenny Perry 67-73-140  
Among those who failed to qualify  
Brad Faxon 74-150

### SCOTTISH OPEN At Inverness, Scotland

Chris Douak 66-66-132  
J.B. Hansen 68-65-133  
Ross Fisher 68-65-133  
Matthew Southgate 69-64-133  
Peter Uihlein 67-66-133  
James Morrison 68-68-134  
Victor Dubousson 68-66-134  
Simon Khan 65-69-134  
Lorenzo Gagli 67-67-134  
Henrik Stenson 70-64-134  
Chris Piskley 70-65-135  
Francesco Molinari 69-66-135

Also  
Phil Mickelson 66-70-136

### UTAH CHAMPIONSHIP At Sandy, Utah

Chad Collins 66-60-126  
Jamie Lovemark 67-62-129  
Adam Hadwin 64-65-129  
Brian Proulx 63-66-129  
Ashley Hall 68-62-130  
Alex Cejka 68-62-130  
Ben Martin 67-63-130  
Kevin Foley 64-66-130  
Peter Tomasulo 68-62-130  
Roger Sloan 65-66-131  
Nate Smith 66-65-131  
Alex Prugh 66-65-131

Also  
Patrick Sheehan 65-69-134  
Among those who failed to qualify  
Brad Adamson 67-71-138  
Michael Sims 67-71-138

### MANULIFE FINANCIAL CLASSIC At Waterloo, Ontario

Catrina Matthew 63-64-127  
Angela Stanford 63-67-130  
Anna Nordqvist 66-65-131  
Shella Choi 66-65-131  
Ryan O'Toole 66-65-131  
Meena Lee 65-66-131  
Belen Mozo 65-66-131

## CULVER LINE

### MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

National League		
Favorites	Line	Underdog
ATLANTA	-130	Cincinnati +120
St. Louis	-120	CHICAGO +110
PITTSBURGH	-185	New York +175
MIAMI	-130	Washington +120
LOS ANGELES	-185	Colorado +175
SAN DIEGO	-105	San Francisco -105
ARIZONA	-130	Milwaukee +120
American League		
NEW YORK	-160	Minnesota +150
BALTIMORE	-155	Toronto +145
TAMPA BAY	-130	Houston +210
CLEVELAND	-130	Kansas City +120
DETROIT	-160	Texas +150
OAKLAND	-130	Boston +120
SEATTLE	-110	Los Angeles +100
Interleague		
PHILADELPHIA	-135	Chicago +125

Home team in CAPS

## TRANSACTIONS

**COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE** - Suspended San Francisco RHP Paul Davis (Augusta-SAL) 50 games for a second violation and N.Y. Mets RHP Estarlin Morel (Savannah-SAL) 25 games for violating the Minor League Drug Prevention and Treatment Program.

**American League**  
BALTIMORE ORIOLES - Optioned RHP Josh Stinson to Norfolk (IL). Designated RHP Jarir Jurgens for assignment. Selected the contract of RHP Jairo Asencio from Norfolk.  
CLEVELAND INDIANS - Agreed to terms with RHP Adam Ploha on a minor league contract. Optioned RHP Danny Salazar to Columbus (IL). Recalled RHP C.C. Lee from Columbus.

HOUSTON ASTROS - Recalled RHP Jarrod Cosart from Oklahoma City (PCL). Agreed to terms with SS Franky Fernandez and OF Felix Lucas.

NEW YORK YANKEES - Agreed to terms with OF Aaron Judge on a minor league contract.

OAKLAND ATHLETICS - Assigned INF Adam Rosales outright to Sacramento (PCL).  
SEATTLE MARINERS - Announced RHP Jeremy Bonderman declined outright assignment and chose free agency.

TORONTO BLUE JAYS - Agreed to terms with RHP Brett Barber, LHP Jacob deGrom and 1B Rowdy Tellez. Sent OF Melky Cabrera to Duncedin (FSL) for a rehab assignment.

**National League**  
ATLANTA BRAVES - Sent C Evan Gattis to Gwinnett (IL) for a rehab assignment.

CHICAGO BEARS - Agreed to terms with 3B Kris Bryant on a minor league contract.  
COLORADO ROCKIES - Optioned OF Tyler Colvin to Colorado Springs (PCL). Reinstated SS Troy Tulowitzki from the 15-day DL.

Assigned RHP Joe Gardner outright to Tulsa (TL).

MIAMI MARLINS - Agreed to terms with SS Colin Moran on a minor league contract.

NEW YORK METS - Sent RHP Scott Atchison to Binghamton (EL) for a rehab assignment.

PITTSBURGH PIRATES - Traded RHP Tim Alderson to Baltimore for 1B/OF Russ Canzler, and optioned Canzler to Indianapolis (IL). Transferred RHP James McDonald to the 60-day DL.

SAN DIEGO PADRES - Placed INF/OF Kyle Blanks on the 15-day DL. Optioned RHP Miles Mikolas to Tucson (PCL). Designated INF Pedro Garcia for assignment. Reinstated INF's Yonder Alonso and Jedd Gyorko from the 15-day DL. Selected the contract of RHP Sean O'Sullivan from Tucson. Transferred LHP Clayton Richard to the 60-day DL.

SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS - Optioned LHP Mike Klichman to Fresno (PCL). Recalled RHP Jean Machi from Fresno.  
WASHINGTON NATIONALS - Sent RHP Ryan Lugo to the GCL Nationals for a rehab assignment.

### BASKETBALL

**National Basketball Association**  
BOSTON CELTICS - Traded FS Kevin Garnett, Paul Pierce and D.J. White and G Jason Terry to Brooklyn for FS Gerald Wallace, Kris Humphries and Kris Joseph, Gs MarShon Brooks and Keith Bogans and 2014, 2016 and 2018 first-round draft picks.

MINNESOTA TIMBERWOLVES - Agreed to terms with FS Chase Budinger and Cory Brewer on three-year contracts and F Shabazz Muhammad on a two-year contract.

OKLAHOMA CITY THUNDER - Signed C Steven Adams and G/T Andre Roberson.

### FOOTBALL

**National Football League**  
DALLAS COWBOYS - Released FB Lawrence Vickers.

### HOCKEY

**National Hockey League**  
BOSTON BRUINS - Signed C Patrice Bergeron to an eight-year contract extension through the 2021-22 season.

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS - Agreed to terms with F Marcus Kruger on a two-year contract.

LOS ANGELES KINGS - Agreed to terms with D Jake Muzzin on a two-year contract.

MINNESOTA WILD - Agreed to terms with Ds Jonathon Blum and Jon Landry on one-year, two-way contracts.

OTTAWA SENATORS - Re-signed F Erik Condra to a two-year contract.

### SOCCER

**Major League Soccer**  
TORONTO FC - Announced the retirement of D Danny Califf who will remain with the club as a scout.

## CYCLING

### TOUR DE FRANCE At Saint-Amant-Mondron, France (13th Stage)

1. Mark Cavendish, England, Omega Pharma-QuickStep, 3 hours, 40 minutes, 8 seconds.  
2. Peter Sagan, Slovakia, Cannondale, same time.  
3. Bauke Mollema, Netherlands, Belkin Pro Cycling, same time.  
4. Jakob Fuglsang, Denmark, Astana, same time.

**Also**  
30. Andrew Talansky, United States, Garmin-Sharp, same time.  
48. Tejay Van Garderen, United States, BMC Racing, same time.

**Overall Standings (After 12 stages)**  
1. Chris Froome, England, Sky Procycling, 51 hours, 30 seconds.  
2. Bauke Mollema, Netherlands, Belkin Pro Cycling, 2:28.  
3. Alberto Contador, Spain, Team Saxo-Tinkoff, 2:45.

**Also**  
17. Andrew Talansky, United States, Garmin-Sharp, 11:11.  
43. Tejay Van Garderen, United States, BMC Racing, 19:08.

## LOCAL ROUNDUP

### GOLF

#### ILL. AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP At Quilnessett

**Quarterfinals**  
Brad Valois def. Andrew Florenzano, 5 and 4; Jamison Randall def. Jamie Lukowicz, 3 and 1; Charlie Blanchard def. Kyle Parsons, 3 and 2; Bobby Leopold def. McKinley Slade, 1-up.  
**Semifinals**  
Valois def. Randall, 3 and 1; Blanchard def. Leopold, 5 and 1.

**Saturday's Championship Match**  
7:45 - Valois vs. Blanchard. Afternoon 18 holes around noon.

#### ILL. WOMEN'S AMATEUR At Cranston

**Championship Division**  
Alli Prazak def. Kelsey Hayward, 4 and 3.  
**First Division**  
Barbara Baris def. Sandra Harper, 3 and 1.

**Second Division**  
Lisa Clark def. Vicki Moretti, 3 and 1.

**Third Division**  
JoAnn Bourque def. MaryAnn MacLaughlin, 20 holes.

#### LOCAL CLUB SCORES

**ALPINE**  
D. Capizaso-S. Novembrino-J. Salvatore-M. Acciaro, 201; D. Angers-A. Burke-J. Moretti-C. Cooper, 251; S. Henebury-M. DeAngelis-L. Sabatini-D. George, 59.

#### QUILNESSSETT

L. Scaramella-E. Tillinghast, plus 4; J. O'Connor-T. Kearney, plus 1.

**VALLEY**  
J. DiBiasio-N. Meyer, 68; M. Murphy-J. Keenan, 61; M. Murphy, plus 7.

**AGAWAM HUNT**  
Mr. and Mrs. W. Hunter, 25; W. Major-S. Starkweather, 26.

## BASEBALL

### AMERICAN LEAGUE

**At Pawtucket**  
South Weymouth 000 000 0 - 0 1 1  
Cohasset Vagabonds 002 000 0 - 2 4 1

**Thursday at Johnston**  
Navagant Post 05 000 000 4 - 4 8 2  
Hurd Auto 000 000 0 - 0 4 1

Rainville, Labuth (7) and Bare, Bianchi and Cessino.

### JUNIOR AMERICAN LEAGUE

**Thursday at Warwick**  
SK Post 39 350 000 0 - 4 5 2  
Warwick PAL 000 000 0 - 2 4 1

Christina, Wazaris (8) and Butler, Woodmarsee (6); Dressel and Ray.

## LITTLE LEAGUE

**RESULTS FRIDAY**  
**District IV**

MINORS (9-10) - Cumberland National 6, Burnville 2; Lincoln 4, Cumberland American 2.

MAJORS (11-12) - Lincoln 30, Cumberland National 3; Cumberland American 8, Burnville 2.

**GAMES SUNDAY**  
**District IV**

MINORS (9-10) - Championship: Cumberland National vs. Lincoln, 5:30 p.m. at Hein Field.

MAJORS (11-12) - Championship: Cumberland American vs. Lincoln, 7:30 p.m. at Hein Field.

## TENNIS

**FATHER/SON TOURNAMENT**  
**At Agawam Hunt**

**Second Round**  
Nistad def. Karpinski, 6-2, 5-1; Cahill def. Corrigan, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4; Cahill def. Carter, 6-1, 6-0; Lackey def. DiOno, 6-3, 6-1; Frazier def. Klein, 6-4, 6-0; Dylan def. Chougale, 6-0, 6-0; Allen def. Cersullo, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2; Ferman def. Boyer, 4-6, 7-5, 6-1.

**Quarterfinals**  
Nistad def. Karpinski, 6-2, 5-1; Cahill def. Lackey, 7-5 (3), 6-4, 6-0; Dylan def. Frazier, 6-2, 4-6, 7-5 (5); Ferman def. Allen, 6-3, 6-2.

**Consolation**  
Fehrer def. Landin, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4; Fine def. Fehrer, 6-0, 6-1; Lackey def. Patel, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4; Fine def. Fehrer, 6-0, 6-1; Cantor def. Fehrer, 7-5, 4-6, 2-5 (retired); Fehrer-Laddi def. Chougale, 6-4, 7-5; Boyer def. Lackey, 6-1, 6-1.

GOLF | RIGA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

# Valois secures legacy as top amateur

By PAUL KENYON  
JOURNAL SPORTS WRITER

**NORTH KINGSTOWN** — After all he accomplished in the last five days at Quidnessett Country Club, Brad Valois has cemented a place among Rhode Island's all-time great amateur golfers.

The only question that remains is how high Valois can climb on that list over the next 20 or 30 years.

The 26-year-old URI grad earned his fourth R.I. Golf Association Amateur Championship on Saturday when he turned back two-time champ Charlie Blanchard, 4 and 3, in the scheduled 36-hole title match.

The lefty, who grew up in Warwick and plays out of Metacomet, has now won more Amateurs, the RIGA's premiere event, than anyone in the last 42 years. He also won in 2006, '07 and '11.

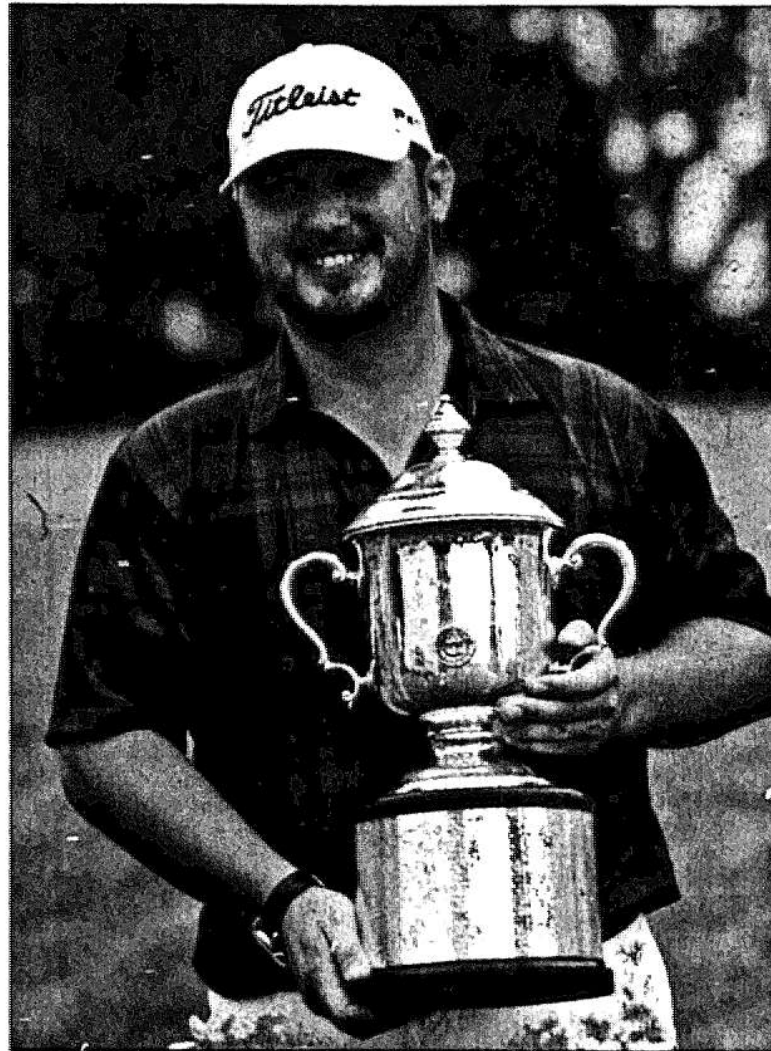
Paul Quigley, George Pirie and Mike Soucy all have won three Amateurs in recent years. Until now, no one has won more than three since Hall of Famer Ronnie Quinn won his fifth and final title in 1971. What's more, the four Amateurs for Valois follow his winning three straight Juniors (2004-06). He was the first to do that since Brad Faxon in 1976-78.

Valois was tired after five long days in the heat, humidity and rain, including more showers during the title match. But he was ready to savor the moment.

"I played extremely well this week until this last 18, when Charlie and I got a little tired," he said. "It feels great to do this."

The champion becomes one of the few winners in the 108 years the tournament has been contested to never trail all week. He tied for medalist honors in qualifying. Then he never trailed in any of his five matches. As could be expected, Blanchard gave him his toughest challenge. The two halved the first seven holes with six pars and a birdie, each making bird on the par-5 third hole. Valois admitted he was thinking about the fact that he had never fallen behind in any of his first four matches.

"I wanted to be able to be the first one to win a hole," he said. He did that with a par on the eighth. His margin swung between one and three holes



THE PROVIDENCE JOURNAL/GLENN OSMUNDSON

**Brad Valois** holds the championship trophy after defeating Charlie Blanchard at Quidnessett in the RIGA amateur tournament on Saturday.

for the remainder of the morning 18. He was 3-up at the lunch break thanks to a birdie on 18, his fourth of the day.

He birdied two of the first three after lunch and led by as many as six. Blanchard fought back and drew within three through 28. Valois responded with a birdie on the par-5 11th (29th hole). Blanchard felt the 29th hole was the one that did him in. He had pulled within three and felt he had the momentum. Both had birdie putts on the 29th.

"I had a great look at it and hit a great putt," Blanchard noted. "It lipped out. If I had made that one, his might have been tougher. Instead, his lead went back to four."

Valois had a six-footer for his bird and dropped it. He was happy with the way he responded to the pressure put on by Blanchard, the RIGA's seven-time player of the year.

"I don't think I would have handled the situation the same way if I hadn't played in so many of these," Valois said. "I made a few mistakes coming

in and Charlie capitalized on them. I was getting a little loose. I think you could tell we were getting quite tired coming down the stretch. But I was still 3-up. I just wanted to stop the momentum, which I did."

"It's match play," he said. "I've gotten used to playing match play. I understand what's going on, what to do and what not to do... With this game, it's about being patient all the way through and not taking your chances all at once."

Valois has matured, off the course as well as on. He had some attitude issues as a teenager. Now, he plays the game quickly and calmly. He has a perspective on it.

"We're not playing for a million dollars a week. If you play great, it's icing on the cake," he offered. "I don't think it has to be super serious out here. It's OK to have a little more fun."

He works as a stockbroker. He and Blanchard both spent time working after competing in the tournament during the week. Unlike so many of his contemporaries, Valois never considered trying to play professionally.

"I had a chance to play with a lot of PGA Tour players. It's a different game, a different level, a different lifestyle," he said. "If I had made different college choice when I was 19 and went down that road, had a little better head on my shoulders back then, it could have been a little different. But to think you could just say, 'I could shoot par or better every day, then all of a sudden go shoot 6 at a PGA Tour event,' it's just unrealistic. But that's what you have to do out there to make a living."

He fully expects to compete in state association events for a long time into the future and earn more titles.

"The entire goal of my amateur career, my biggest thing in staying amateur, was that I wanted to win as many Rhode Island Amateurs as a can. I wanted to be able to leave a mark one way or another. I wanted to be like Charlie and continue to compete."

If he continues as he has been, he has a chance to finish very high on the ladder in a state that has had a proud history in the game.

pkennyon@providencejournal.com  
On Twitter @PEKenyon7  
(401) 277-7340