

BURKE FUND 2000



The first graduating class of the next millennium has entered its freshman year in college. It has a futuristic ring to it – the Class of 2000.

There are 24 new recipients of the John P. Burke Memorial Fund, 23 of whom are in the Class of 2000, and they come from 15 different RIGA clubs.

Burke Fund scholarships are open to any young man or woman who has worked at least three years in a golf-related capacity – caddy, grounds crew, pro shop – at one of the RIGA member clubs.

The Burke Fund's namesake is Johnny Burke, a caddy and eventual championship golfer of national prominence, who was killed during his tour of duty in World War II. The first Burke scholarships were awarded in 1947.

☆ BURKE FUND CLASS OF 2000 ☆

Alpine Country Club
John DeFazio
University of Massachusetts
– Dartmouth

Cranston Country Club
Stephanie Marcone
Providence College

Crestwood Country Club
Thomas Grant
University of Rhode Island

Kirkbrae Country Club
Gary Blazejewski
University of Rhode Island

James DeGulio
University of Rhode Island

Robert Dobosz
University of Rhode Island

Michael Halloran
Rhode Island College

Ledgemont Country Club
Stephen DiLustro
University of Massachusetts
– Lowell

Metacomet Country Club
Christopher Chantre
University of Rhode Island

Newport Country Club
Allen Landel II
University of Rhode Island

Pawtucket Country Club
Neil Correia
Rhode Island College

Point Judith Country Club
Garret Gorenski
University of Rhode Island

John O'Hara
Bryant College

Quidnessett Country Club
Joel Osterman
Pepperdine University

Rhode Island Country Club
Joshua Berlo
University of Massachusetts
– Amherst

Andrew Loftus
Marquette University

Ryan Loftus
Marquette University

Garth Noack
University of Massachusetts
– Amherst

Wannamoisett Country Club
Patrick Cronan
University of Rhode Island

John Pimental
University of New Hampshire

Warwick Country Club
Stephen Davis, Jr. (1999)
University of Nebraska

West Warwick Country Club
Rebecca Mailloux
Longwood College

Woodland Greens
Jason Horridge
University of Rhode Island



RIGA NEWS

Newsletter of the Rhode Island Golf Association

A TRIP TO THE OPEN



John Davis tees off at the '96 U.S. Senior Open.

At last count there totaled more than 24 million golfers in the United States. One of them, John Davis, resides in Little Compton, Rhode Island, the summer home of the late, legendary golf architect Donald Ross.

Numbers always came easy to John. He knew how hard it was just to make first alternate for the 1996 U.S. Senior Open by virtue of his 71 in sectional qualifying at Segregansett CC. So when he received a telephone call from Paul Barkhouse, one of the two local qualifiers, saying that an ailing back would prevent him from playing, John couldn't get to the first tee fast enough at Canterbury GC in Cleveland.

John knew what the odds were of qualifying for any USGA championship. He also knew he was not going to Cleveland to beat Hale Irwin, Jim Colbert, Jack Nicklaus, Tom Weiskopf or the eventual winner, Dave Stockton. John was going

to fulfill the dream of every single-digit amateur – the dream of competing in a USGA Championship.

LATE BLOOMER

Few Rhode Island golfers have worked harder on their games in recent years. At the relatively late age of 52, John's game has matured and, by his own admission, so has John. With his mother having passed away this past spring, John has put things more in perspective. "I think it just took me longer to grow up than most people," offers John. "What you shoot in a golf tournament isn't the most important thing in the world." All this has helped John to appreciate even more deeply the experience of "Contestant – USGA Senior Open Championship".

In the end it really didn't make any difference that John was 27 shots off the lead after 36 holes. After rounds of 83-78, it mattered even less that he had missed the

cut by 14 shots. John had already won in his dream world just by getting there.

FIRST-CLASS TREATMENT

Courtesy cars were at John's beck and call as were wound practice balls and a "J. Davis" sign when he entered the range at Canterbury GC. The golf course was groomed to perfection and there were staff and volunteers to take care of just about any concern. John's most lasting memento, his player's badge, will allow him access to all future USGA events.

John's participation in the Open gave him the opportunity to play a practice round with one of his best golf friends, Tony Jacklin, a former British and U.S. Open champion. The other players rounding out the foursome were reigning U.S. Senior Amateur champ Jim Stahl and Joel Hirsch, the eventual low-amateur.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Here we are winding down another season, and at the same time making plans for the '97 season. It's an ongoing process and as golf continues to grow in popularity we're striving to satisfy the needs of the different segments of our golfing population.

The weather certainly played a vital role with our tournament schedule this year. Rain affected both our majors and weeklies. Although the weather put a damper on some of our tournaments, it sure did put a smile on most superintendents' faces.

Three of our leading amateurs fared very well against a strong field in the sectional qualifying for the U.S. Amateur at Crestwood. Bill Lunnie, Andy Young and Mike Capone grabbed three of the five spots and were off to Portland, Oregon where Mike became one of the 64 qualifiers for match play.

The Parent-Daughter Tournament took a step in the right direction in its second year with more teams participating at Potowomut. Bill Cooke from the host club and his daughter Patricia Ray were the overall winners, and Fred and Amy Schick came out on top in the Junior Division.

The Tri-States will be coming up in early October at the Country Club of Waterbury, a wonderful Donald Ross design in Connecticut. Rhode Island will be defending the title it won last year at Pawtucket Country Club.

Our GHIN Handicap System is winding down another successful season. Jules Cohen, our GHIN consultant, states that many clubs made use of the Tournament Pairing Program this year.

Remember, fall is a great time to play golf in these parts. Don't be too quick to put the clubs away because we all know how long the winters can be. Who can forget the winter of 1995-96?

—Joseph J. Sprague

A Trip To The Open Continued from page 1.



John Davis (far right) with practice round playing partners (L-R) Joel Hirsch, Tony Jacklin, and Jim Stahl.

Asked for his favorite memory of playing in the Open, John is quick with an answer. "Just being in the locker room and talking to the players. And to say you played in the same tournament with Palmer, Player and Nicklaus."

One of the more telling moments of John's character came late in his first qualifying round. It was well after 7:00 p.m. as I waited for him to hit into the par-3, 17th hole. The stands were empty except for one woman volunteer. I asked her who she was following and she said, "John Davis." Noticing a puzzled look on my face that said, "What the heck for?" she said, "He was so nice during his registration that I just had to come out to root for him." It might be interesting to note that Irwin, Colbert, Nicklaus, Weiskopf and Stockton all came through the same registration area.

—Text and photos by Ed Mauro, Jr.



Senior Amateur

A little rain didn't hamper the RIGA Senior Amateur Championship. Valley Country Club hosted the 38th playing of the event which featured many exciting matches. One of the most exciting came in the championship final where Don Lamb of Montaup outlasted Jerre Pease of North Kingstown in 20 holes.

Pictured at left before their second round matches are Wally Quinn of Crestwood, Don Lamb, Dick White of Kirkbrae and Peter Erickson, an RIGA Past President from Potowomut.

ASSOCIATION NEWS & MISCELLANY



Mike Capone

What's not to smile about? Mike Capone of Quiddnessett Country Club began his summer with the 36 hole lead at the Northeast Amateur, eventually finishing 15th. A month later he was crowned Rhode Island State Amateur Champion. By summer's end he had qualified for the U.S. Amateur where he cruised through stroke play qualifying and won his first match. Having reached the final 32 in the National Amateur out of 5,538 entries is not too bad for a college sophomore-to-be.

Congratulations to Brad Adamonis for capturing RIGA Player of the Year honors for 1996. He didn't win a tournament, but Brad was unquestionably the most consistent player in the majors. He was a sectional qualifier for the U.S. Open, medalist and semifinalist in the State Amateur, 8th at New England Amateur, 7th at the A.T. Cross Open and 11th in the Stroke Play. Brad compiled a record 580 points.

Al Faenza has been playing golf for 63 years and he's been waiting patiently. On August 31st it finally happened. The 1954 Rhode Island State Amateur Champion from Point Judith CC recorded his first career hole-in-one at the 9th hole of his home course by dunking a 6-iron. Al was obviously happy, and a little relieved, too. As he puts it, "Sixty-three years in this game and I finally made one."

Becky Mailloux of West Warwick CC began her collegiate career in blockbuster fashion. The Longwood College freshman won her first tournament, The Longwood College Invitational with rounds of 79-78. Becky also won the RIWGA Juniors and the RIGA Mixed Foursomes with Rob Grossguth earlier this summer.

Don't expect universal acceptance of spikeless golf shoes anytime soon. Despite all the major shoe companies introducing new and updated versions of the spikeless shoe, PGA Tour players are less than enthusiastic. Surprisingly, they do not cite slippage, but saucer-like indentations on the greens as their number one concern. It's been a fairly common trend that if Tour players don't embrace an innovation, the general golfing public won't either.

The USGA has announced the U.S. World Amateur Team which will compete in November in the Philippines. Jerry Courville of Milford, CT, the old man of the bunch (37), was named to replace Tiger Woods, the \$43 million dollar man. All four team members finished 9th or better in this year's Northeast Amateur Invitational: Jason Enloe (1st), Steve Scott (2nd), Jerry Courville (4th), and Joel Kribel (9th). John Curley of Osterville, MA, who was first alternate, finished third at this year's Northeast. Go get 'em guys!

World Cup of Hockey Champions Team USA held some of their pre-tournament practice sessions at Providence College's Schneider Arena. While they were in town many of the players including Brett Hull, Chris Chelios and Keith Tkachuk also managed to squeeze in a few rounds of golf. Not only can these guys play hockey, but they can play golf as well. Wannamoisett accommodated the players twice and Warwick CC once. Three of the players including Coach Ron Wilson shot 75's from the blue tees at Wannamoisett. It was somewhat of a homecoming for Wilson who worked one summer on the grounds crew while a student at East Providence High.

The RIGA Caddy Championship was played at Seaview CC on August 16th. Low gross honors went to Point Judith's Chris Hynes who shot a one-under par 71. On his heels with even-par 72's were Chris Chantre, Mike Frattarelli and Tom McCormick. Quiddnessett won the team championship with a 347 total. Members of the winning team include Hike Larson, Chris Machado, Antonio Giorgi and Mark Dufresne.

There's still time to register for the 2nd Annual John P. Burke Memorial Fund Golf Tournament. The one day event is a 12:00 shotgun start at Wannamoisett Country Club on Monday, October 21st. The \$100.00 entry fee includes lunch, golf, dinner and prizes. You may register as a foursome or as a single by October 15th. All proceeds will benefit the Burke Fund (see back page). To enter call the Burke Fund at (401) 272-1350 or mail your check (payable to the John P. Burke Memorial Fund) to 10 Orms Street, Suite 326, Providence, Rhode Island 02906.

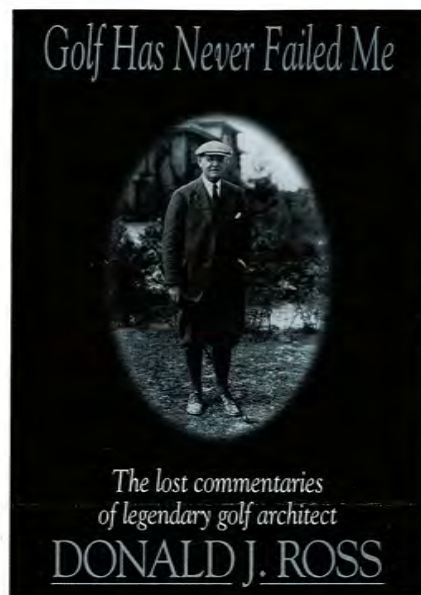
“GOLF HAS NEVER FAILED ME”

Donald Ross admirers take note. There's a new book out which chronicles the revered architect's thoughts on all facets of golf course design, and some reflections on his love for the game. All in Ross' own words.

Golf Has Never Failed Me: The Lost Commentaries Of Legendary Golf Architect Donald J. Ross was published this past June by Sleeping Bear Press. The basis for the 256-page book is a manuscript which was discovered last year and brought to the attention of the American Society of Golf Course Architects.

Written before World War I, the manuscript was originally intended for publication in 1914. *Golf Digest* architecture editor Ron Whitten took the manuscript and added material from other sources. The book is also replete with photos of Ross and the courses he designed.

Ross was also an accomplished player who twice won the Massachusetts Open, finished eighth in the 1910 British Open and four times finished in the top 10 in



the U.S. Open. He often makes the distinction between courses which are true championship tests and those which are more enjoyable for the average player.

Ross speaks with both candor and humor of the average or beginner golfers he encounters who desire to play the Pine

Valleys of the world. What he writes more than 80 years ago is just as true today: “The most famous holes in the world are not holes which the novice will enjoy playing and yet, strange as it may seem, this sort of course is exactly the sort of course the novice insists upon playing... These duffers were enjoying the game on some of the hardest links to play properly in the world, and woe to the one who should suggest to them that they might find more pleasure on an easier or inferior course.”

In many ways the book resembles the popular series of books by Harvey Penick which have been published in recent years. There are many short, anecdotal passages written in a very conversational tone. Some of the “chapters” are less than a paragraph in length, and some of the technical material can become tedious when Ross talks about such things as rock pullers and fertilizers. Taken as a whole, however, the book is an enjoyable experience which gives the reader much insight into the mind of Donald Ross.

I am reminded of my friend Alec Campbell, who is noted for his frank, pithy way of making observations. One day he was asked by an enthusiastic club member what he thought of a certain course, to which he answered, “Not very much.” Not satisfied, still another question was plied, concerning what should be done to make it a good course. “Well,” said my friend Alec, “it would require a damned earthquake. And plenty of topdressing.”

— Donald J. Ross

MONTAUP'S 16TH — A GREAT GOLF HOLE —

Montaup Country Club, site of this year's State Amateur, is a gem of a golf course with many good holes. It proved itself a great test of golf for the Rhode Island's best players, and from day to day it's one of the most enjoyable courses we have to play.

Montaup also provides one of the more spectacular views in all of Rhode Island golf — the 16th green which overlooks Narragansett Bay and the Mount Hope Bridge.

The 16th is a 526 yard par-5 with the green guarded by a small

NOT JUST ANOTHER SUNDAY AFTERNOON



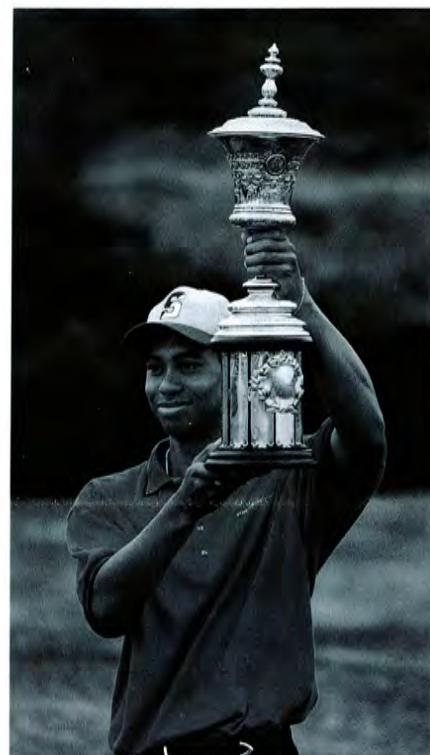
Steve Scott

Tiger Woods wore a red shirt in the finals at Pumpkin Ridge just as he had last year at Newport. Red as in “red numbers” as in “go low”. Red like a bull fighter’s cape which says “bring it on”.

History will decide, but this year’s U.S. Amateur final was, perhaps, the greatest match-play final of all time. Even more impressive than winning his third consecutive U.S. Amateur was the manner in which Tiger Woods won.

After chipping away at Steve Scott’s five-up lead, Woods found himself still two-down with three to play. Both players were playing flawless golf and it looked like only a miracle could help Tiger escape his almost certain fate.

As improbable as a lightning strike on a sunny day, a miracle did happen or, more accurately, Tiger Woods manufactured one. He birdied the 34th and 35th holes to halve the match in a display of will that appeared almost otherworldly in its execution. The two players went to extra holes where Tiger went straight for the kill to keep his date with destiny.



Tiger Woods

DANA QUIGLEY SETS OPEN RECORD



Dana Quigley (L) poses with RIGA Executive Director Joe Sprague with yet another first place check. The victory is Quigley’s fourth in five years and sixth overall in the Open.

“Only 277 more days til my 50th birthday.” These were Dana Quigley’s words after firing a five-under par 29 on Pawtucket CC’s back nine in the A.T. Cross Open. Having started on the 10th hole, he still had nine to play. Flirting with shooting in the 50’s, Dana “settled” for a 64 to match the 64 he shot the previous day. He stood at 128 after 36 holes, four shots ahead of Cape Cod’s Rusty Gunnarson who was also playing some superb golf.

In the afternoon round no one could muster a charge as Quigley continued to post red numbers. He cruised to a three-under 66 and a tournament record 194 total in winning by a whopping 11 shots!

Rusty Gunnarson and Mickey Herron, also a Cape Cod pro, played with Quigley all 36 holes the second day. Gunnarson admitted to playing for second early into the final round. Of Quigley’s magical day, Herron called it “the finest exhibition of golf I have ever witnessed.”

What more can Dana accomplish in New England? Simply put, nothing. In 200 and some days he can try his luck in the big leagues of senior golf – the Senior PGA Tour. If his New England buddies are smart, they’ll bake him a cake and buy him a plane ticket.