

Brett Quigley  
Continued from page 5.

Tiger. You always know when Tiger's coming because there's so many people around. He always has five to ten people around him. Even in the locker room he has this presence about him.

JS: How is he accepted by his fellow pros?

BQ: I'd say a lot of guys don't know him. The only way I got to know him was in the fitness trailer. That's when his guard is down and you can talk to him.

JS: How do you think he'll do this year?

BQ: I think he'll do great. He's so strong physically and mentally. He's just incredible.

JS: You got some pretty nice exposure with the Tommy Hilfiger magazine ads. How did you get hooked up with them?

BQ: I got hooked up with them on the Nike Tour in '96. A friend of mine got me an introduction to the tour rep for their golf division. I don't know if they liked the way I looked or whatever, but I just decided to do it and they had a photo shoot with Dana (Brett's uncle, Senior PGA Tour player Dana Quigley) and me, and Tommy Tolles and his son, and David Duval and his dad. (laughing) In all my life growing up playing golf I never had the aspiration of being in a clothing ad.

JS: Speaking of Dana, was his winning on the senior tour inspirational to you?

BQ: Sure. It was an incredible week for him with my grandfather, his dad (dying). It was just amazing how it all happened. It was good motivation, and it was amazing what he did.

JS: Dana kind of paved the way for Brad, Billy, P.H. and now you by being the first Rhode Islander to play the tour. Did people come up to you on tour with "Dana stories"?

BQ: It was amazing. Every week people would come up to me asking me about Dana, asking me what relation I was to him - players, fans, tour officials, tournament people. People would come up to me and say how Dana had stayed with them when he played in that tournament.

JS: What kinds of things do you like to do to get away from the game?

BQ: I just like to sit down. I did for all of November. I do some

kayaking, some biking, anything to just sort of get away.

JS: How often did your dad, Paul, caddy for you last year?

BQ: Five times, I think. It's good having him caddy because he knows the game and he's easy to talk to. It's not like, "Oh my gosh, my dad's out there watching me"; it's not like that kind of pressure if your parents are watching you from a distance. He's in there and he likes to be involved.

JS: Does he pull clubs for you out there?

BQ: Sure. He's pretty funny. He won't say anything, but if I ask he'll tell me what he thinks. Sometimes it's to my detriment that he doesn't say anything. He won't say anything unless I ask even if he knows (my decision or club selection) is wrong.

JS: Did you have other caddies working for you on a regular basis?

BQ: That was probably my biggest distraction last year - the caddie situation. I never really found a caddy that I felt comfortable with. I had somebody on the west coast who was pretty good but didn't work out. The guy that I had at the end of the year I had for about two months so that was the longest I had anybody. Faxon has Cubby and all the big guys have their guy and it's someone they can trust and don't have to worry about. That's the thing I'd like most this year - to find a caddy I can rely on, who I can trust and have for the whole year and not have to worry about.

JS: I asked Brad and I asked P.H. when I interviewed them, so I'm going to ask you. What's the one piece of advice you would give to the average player who wants to improve his or her game?

BQ: I think the biggest mistake people make is swinging at the golf ball. To me, I'd say for people to work on their follow-through. With the majority of players, their club head is slowing down when it gets to the ball because they're trying to hit at the golf ball instead of swinging all the way through. So I'd say making a big follow-through so your club can accelerate through the ball.

Sitting here talking about golf, it seems like it shouldn't be hard to shoot 68. That's only four birdies, but when you get out there putting theory into practice is something else.

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Rhode Island Golf Association

Newsletter of the Rhode Island Golf Association  
**RIGA NEWS**



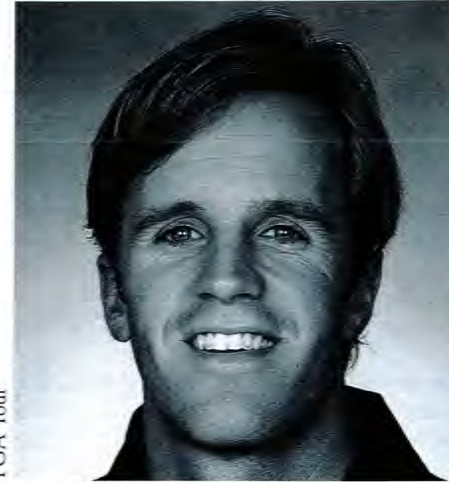
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# RIGA NEWS

Newsletter of the Rhode Island Golf Association

## BRETT QUIGLEY ON THE RISE



PGA Tour

Brett Quigley had the taste of golfing success at an early age. When he was just 14 he won the R.I. State Juniors. Two years later he won again. In 1987 Brett made his first splash on the national scene by winning the crown jewel of junior golf, the USGA Junior Amateur. That fall he headed off to the University of South Carolina to begin his college golf career.

After completing his freshman year, Brett came back to Barrington and promptly won the 1988 Northeast Amateur. If his peers didn't know him from winning the U.S. Juniors, they certainly knew about Brett Quigley now. Brett earned RIGA Player of the Year honors in 1988, and in 1990 he won the State Amateur. Teamed with his father, Paul, Brett also won the Four-Ball in 1988 and '90. Brett was named an NCAA All-American by his senior year and upon graduation he turned pro in the summer of 1991.

During the summer of '91 Brett qualified for his first PGA Tour event at Pleasant Valley by advancing through a Monday four-spot qualifier. He made the 36-hole cut and collected a check for \$1,990. In 1992 Brett played the Nike Tour with limited success followed by three years of grinding his way through mini tours and state opens. He had a close brush with victory in the 1993 A.T. Cross Open, finishing second to his uncle, Dana.

The next time Brett gained playing privileges on the Nike Tour (1996), he made the most of his opportunity by winning the Nike Philadelphia Classic. He recorded seven other top-10 finishes in '96 including a clutch eighth place finish at the Nike Tour Championship which allowed him to move from sixth place to fifth on the money list and secure the final fully exempt spot for the 1997 PGA Tour.

As most people already know, Brett had a very good first year on tour. He made 21 of 34 cuts in '97 and collected more than \$172,000 in official money. He finished 128th on the money list, a mere three spots away from fully keeping his tour card. More importantly, though, he proved to himself and everyone else that he could compete with the world's best players. If golf is a game of confidence, then Brett surely must have added a few extra helpings after his 1997 PGA Tour campaign. Look for his star to continue to rise.

Joe Sprague, Jr. conducted the following interview with Brett at his home in Bristol just prior to the start of the '98 season:

Joe Sprague, Jr: How did you enjoy your first year on tour?

Brett Quigley: It was incredible. It was probably everything I thought it would be and more. It was unbelievable to play with guys that I grew up watching on TV like Davis Love and Fred Couples.

JS: Was it intimidating at first, and did you have to reach a certain comfort level when you started to play with the big-name players?

BQ: It certainly was intimidating. It probably took until May or June to really feel comfortable. Playing on weekends was more like a job. When I started playing better I started thinking about what I had to do to get closer to the lead.

JS: Was it helpful knowing Brad Faxon, Billy Andrade and P.H. Horgan going into

your first year?

BQ: Knowing Brad and Billy was helpful. They didn't play in a lot of the same tournaments I did. They played in the invitational tournaments which I didn't get into, but P.H. was pretty helpful to me. He helped me a lot on the Nike Tour in '96 and this past year he helped me out about traveling, where to stay, which programs to play in. We played a lot of practice rounds together and he helped me with the golf courses. P.H. was great.

JS: You and P.H. got to be pretty good friends when you both played the Nike Tour in '96.

BQ: It's weird. The Nike Tour and PGA Tour are very similar but there's also a big gap in the way people behave. Nike Tour guys are a lot closer. The majority of guys stay in the same hotels. A lot of times it's a small town so a lot of guys go out together. With the PGA Tour a lot of guys have their families with them, it's a bigger city and everything's a lot more spread out. A lot of guys don't hang out with each other because they have a lot more distractions, more so than the Nike Tour. The Nike Tour is more of a close knit circle and guys become closer friends. On the PGA Tour you see your friends on the golf course.

JS: Did you get to be friends with any guys on the tour who you didn't know from the Nike Tour?

BQ: Mike Hulbert was a good friend to me and I'm pretty good friends with Justin Leonard and Davis Love. It's neat to know them on a different level than seeing them on TV. Everyone was really good to me. I don't know if it was that they knew that I knew Brad or P.H.

JS: How different did you find the course set ups on the PGA Tour compared to the Nike Tour?

BQ: I'd say it was a lot harder on the PGA Tour. There's a lot more rough. There's

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## President's Message



Patrick J. Shannaham, Jr.

Happy New Year and welcome to the 1998 Rhode Island Golf Association. Although we are still in the doldrums of winter, most of our thoughts are for warm temperatures, clear blue skies, lush fairways and lower golf scores.

The RIGA has another wonderful year of golf scheduled for your enjoyment. There will be 13 major tournaments and 27 weekly tournaments throughout this golf season. Please read the very important article contained in this addition of

the RIGA Newsletter that informs all of us of the new method of playing in the weekly tournaments. This year an innovative program has been established so that you may purchase in advance "packages" for weekly tournaments. We at the Association believe that this system will assist you in playing in all of the weekly tournaments that you have enjoyed so much through the years but without having to wait each and every week on the telephone for confirmation. This system will provide an opportunity for you to purchase in advance four packages that will guarantee you a tee time. We believe that you will find this system to be far more convenient and assist you in your planning throughout the golf season.

Administratively the Rhode Island Golf Association will be very busy this year as it establishes a more formal committee structure and re-examines its by-laws. A new Finance Committee is in place, a new By-Law Committee is in place and hopefully a new Technology Committee will be in place soon that will help the Association improve its communications to all members.

Best wishes for an enjoyable golf season and as always if any member of the Rhode Island Golf Association staff may be of assistance to you, please don't ever hesitate to call the office.

## Executive Director's Report



Are you getting anxious? If you're like me, you can't wait for spring and the start of another season. That sure sounds strange coming from an old hockey guy like me, but it's true. Believe me.

Since the beginning of the year we've been preparing for the '98 season, and as you've heard me say before, we're trying to make this one the best. With this in mind, we're making a few changes in our tournament schedules – the result of

players' complaints and recommendations. We hope these changes will serve both as a solution to the complaints and at the same time, hopefully, generate new interest for our players.

Along the same line, I was given approval by the Executive Committee to start a new tournament in memory of Fred Malcolm, longtime official scorer of the Association. Fred really enjoyed being around the tournament scene, and this will be a nice way of keeping him a part of us.

Evelyn Cottam, our office manager for the past 10 years, retired at the end of December. During that time she did an outstanding job for the Association; she's presently spending time between here and Florida and enjoying her retirement.

Kathrina McCurry was hired full-time in October and is getting ready for the start of her first season. I'm sure she'll do just great.

As you may not know, probably two thirds of our membership does not play in any of our tournaments; they just join to show support to us which we really appreciate. To show our thanks, we're planning on producing five newsletters this year. They have been received very positively, and we're hoping they'll continue to create interest and enjoyment for our supporters.

If you can believe it, I'm still looking for that paper with my new-found swing secret written on it. Without it, '98 will be a repeat of my previous seasons which in a word, "blah".

Until spring, when we're back hitting it again, stay well, everyone.

– Joseph J. Sprague

### FOUR-BALL – "Something Different"

The Four Ball Championship will have a few new twists this year which will make it appear to be a combination of the old and the new.

Rather than being just 54 holes of Best Ball from each two-man team over two days, we're going to have a combination of stroke and match play which will cover three days with 100+ teams competing.

Day 1 will be 18 holes of Best Ball with 32 teams qualifying for match play (16 teams in the upper bracket and 16 teams in the lower; your position determined by score). If necessary, a play-off to determine the 32nd team will take place at the completion of play of day one.

Day 2 will be two rounds of match play with the four winning teams in each bracket advancing to day three.

Day 3 will have two more rounds of match play to decide the winner of each bracket. The winners will then play five more holes of best ball stroke play to determine the champion.

By employing this format we're trying to appease both the match play as well as the stroke play proponents.

### FRED MALCOLM MEMORIAL – "Something New"

The Fred Malcolm Memorial should prove to be an interesting and exciting tournament in '98. It will be a two-man team event which will be played on two courses over two days. The players must have a combined handicap of 9 or less, and the entries will be limited to 52 teams.

The format will vary which should help to add some excitement and keep the outcome in doubt:

Day 1: 36 holes will be played starting times assigned; in the morning, it will be 18 holes of Best Ball, and in the afternoon it will be 18 holes of Foursomes, i.e. one player drives off the odd holes and his partner drives off the even, with only one ball in play.

Day 2: A morning start of 18 holes will be played where aggregate score (meaning the scores of both players will count) will be the format.

Although we play only 54 holes, the total score for each team will total 72 holes. The winning team will have the lowest 72 hole total – i.e. Best Ball (18), Foursomes (18) and Aggregate (36).

## WEEKLY INVITATIONALS – "A Package Deal"

Almost since day-one we've heard players complain that they can't get through on the phone to our office to get a starting time for one of the Weeklies. To a certain extent that was true, but not as frequently as they would lead you to believe. To correct this situation as well as to alleviate the telephone problems, we're going to offer four packages of six Weeklies which must be purchased in advance of the season.

After researching this project, we feel that we have put together four packages of six – each of which cover the entire season and are very equitable. You may purchase one, two, three or four packages (\$140.00 per person or \$560.00 per foursome – checks made payable to the RIGA). Some courses will be \$25.00 and others will be \$20.

Each foursome will designate its own Captain who will be responsible for coordinating arrangements with the RIGA office. Each package will be limited to 30 foursomes each day. You will indicate Day (1st or 2nd); Time (Early: 7:30 – 8:45) (Mid: 8:45 – 10:15), or (Late: 10:15-11:30). Tee times will no longer continue into the afternoon – 11:30 will be the cut-off. In effect, the Captain is reserving a tee time for a particular package. The four players need not be the same for each Weekly; that will be the Captain's decision. However, all players must be members of the RIGA.

If the Weekly is cancelled because of inclement weather, a refund check of either \$100.00 or \$80.00 will be mailed immediately to the Captain of the foursome.

The Captain of the foursome is responsible for completing the application correctly, collecting the money and forwarding a check for \$560.00 to the RIGA and listing the other three players, if known. All this must be done by the Captain by Wednesday, March 25 in order to reserve a tee time.

We will confirm your package and tee time during the week of March 30 – April 3.

If you have any questions, please call the office (272-1350).

## WEEKLY PACKAGES

- |                              |                                |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| A) PAWTUCKET – April 13-14   | B) QUIDNESSETT – April 20-21   |
| TRIGGS – May 18-19           | METACOMET – May 11-12          |
| GREEN VALLEY – July 27-28    | MONTAUP – June 8-9             |
| ALPINE – Aug. 31 – Sept. 1   | CRANSTON – July 21-22*         |
| WARWICK – September 22-23*   | FOSTER – August 11-12*         |
| POTOWOMUT – October 19-20    | AGAWAM – October 13-14*        |
| C) LEDGEMONT – April 27-28   | D) RHODE ISLAND – May 4-5      |
| WANUMETONOMY – June 1-2      | VALLEY – June 16-17*           |
| NEW ENGLAND – July 8-9*      | WINNAPAUG – July 13-14         |
| NO. KINGSTOWN – August 3-4   | LAUREL LANE – August 17-18     |
| CRESTWOOD – September 29-30* | WANNAMOISSETT – September 8-9* |
| POINT JUDITH – October 26-27 | KIRKBRAE – October 6-7*        |

\*Denotes not a Monday or Tuesday

(please clip or photocopy and mail to RIGA office by March 25 with check made payable to RIGA:  
Price per package is \$560 per foursome.)

Check off one or more packages:

PACKAGE A \_\_\_\_\_ Day (circle one): Day 1, Day 2 TIME (circle one) EARLY, MID, LATE

PACKAGE B \_\_\_\_\_ Day (circle one): Day 1, Day 2 TIME (circle one) EARLY, MID, LATE

PACKAGE C \_\_\_\_\_ Day (circle one): Day 1, Day 2 TIME (circle one) EARLY, MID, LATE

PACKAGE D \_\_\_\_\_ Day (circle one): Day 1, Day 2 TIME (circle one) EARLY, MID, LATE

Captain's name and club affiliation 1) \_\_\_\_\_

Captain's daytime telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Other players in foursome 2) \_\_\_\_\_

(if known) & club affiliation 3) \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

## Metal Spikes or Soft Spikes?

For the past few years the wearing of metal or soft spikes has been a much discussed issue at golf clubs around the country. For the upcoming season we have surveyed our member clubs regarding their policy for 1998, and as of this writing our findings are listed below:

M = Mandatory soft spikes / O = Optional

1. Agawam Hunt	O	17. North Kingstown	M
2. Alpine	M	18. Pawtucket	M
3. Cranston	M	19. Point Judith	M
4. Crestwood	M	20. Potowomut	O
5. Foster	O	21. Quidnessett	M
6. Gloucester	M	22. RICC	O
7. Green Valley	O	23. Sakonnet	M
8. Kirkbrae	M	24. Seaview	O
9. Laurel Lane	O	25. Triggs	O
10. Ledgemont	M	26. Valley	M
11. Lincoln	M	27. Wannamoisett	M
12. Metacomet	O	28. Wanumetonomy	O
13. Misquamicut	O	29. Warwick	M
14. Montaup	M	30. West Warwick	M
15. New England	M	31. Winnapaug	O
16. Newport	M	32. Woodland Greens	M

## REMEMBER WHEN . . . ?



More than 40 years ago, Metacomet undertook a renovation project of mammoth proportions. Many of the older members had been complaining about the steep incline up to the 3rd green and also back up to the 8th tee from the 7th green. They nicknamed it "coronary mountain". The solution was to renovate both greens to reduce the amount of climbing involved. The photo at left depicts the enormous nature of the work as it was being done on the 3rd hole.

The photo and accompanying article – written by Geoffrey Cornish – appeared in the April 1961 issue of *The Golf Course Reporter*, the official magazine (at the time) for golf course superintendents. The name of the article was *Golf Moves Mountains*, and it was intended to demonstrate the ability of modern machinery to move vast amounts of earth during golf course construction. The following is an excerpt:

*For example, Metacomet moved a mountain. This club built in East Providence, Rhode Island in the Twenties decided in 1957 its steep grades were just too rugged for golfers past their middle years. Chairman Ed Perry, now club president, proposed the direct but at the time not so obvious solution of bulldozing off the mountain and filling in a canyon. Under direction of course superintendent, Pat Tameo, this was duly accomplished in sixty days with an array of bulldozers. After reopening the following spring Pete McCarthy in the Providence Journal observed that "The Perry Project" had made old timers at Metacomet feel ten years younger.*

**NOTICE: To all RIGA Members: This newsletter will be your final newsletter unless you renew your membership for 1998. Take a minute to renew so you don't miss out. It's still just \$15.00 and your membership will include an extra special gift for '98!**

## Brett Quigley

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more of a premium on driving. I'd say the par-3's were a little longer. The Nike Tour definitely doesn't have the rough like the PGA Tour. You could see that in my driving stats. I was in the higher percentage in distance but not in accuracy. Last year on the Nike Tour it didn't really matter. You could just step up and hit it.

JS: Obviously, it was a disappointment to just miss keeping your card. Was that a distraction mentally going into tour school?

BQ: No, not really. I had put it behind me. I think about it more now. I was close at the end, and at the last tournament it turned out to be two shots, but there's so many shots during the year, you could say it was one shot here or there. It's disappointing because the difference between me finishing 125 and 128 is huge. Now I'm not sure when I'm getting into tournaments whereas at 125 I'm totally exempt. It's going to be a tough year because I won't know until the Friday before the tournament if I'm in or not. Last Friday I was in the Bob Hope in two weeks, but a lot of guys will commit this week so I probably won't get in. I'll probably go play the Nike tournament in Pompano Beach. So I've got a ticket to Palm Springs on Saturday and a ticket to Florida on Saturday. It'll be tough, but I think it will also be good because it will force me to take some weeks off. (Brett ended up playing in the Nike South Florida Classic for his first tournament of the year where he missed the 36-hole cut.)

JS: It's going to be difficult to plan a schedule, but how are you going to try to plan one?

BQ: I called the Tour and asked them how many tournaments the guy in my position got in last year. I have a general idea of what I'll get in. There's an outside chance that I'll get into AT&T (Pebble Beach). I'll probably get into San Diego and Hawaii, maybe Tuscon and probably L.A. I won't play very much before May, but after that I'll play more. So I'll have plenty of time to play well and do my job. It's just a matter of me staying patient.

JS: Last year you played in 34 tournaments. Only a few guys played more. Do you think that was too many?

BQ: Definitely. I played nine in a row to start the year. I played four on the west coast and then Doral and Honda which is just crazy. I ended the year with ten in a row. Looking back I probably could have taken a couple off. I was playing well and I wanted to keep playing. I felt like I had to so I did. I don't regret that, but I know now that I wouldn't play that many again.

JS: A few years ago when we talked and you were still playing the mini-tours, you said that controlling your emotions and being patient were two of the biggest parts of your game that you were working on. How do you think you've progressed in those areas?

BQ: (laughs) I'd say some days great, some days horribly. Overall, pretty good. Golf is about learning your emotions and learning what makes you tick. Depending on how you're playing, some days it's easy to be patient and then some days it's not so easy. Overall, though, I'd say I've definitely gotten better.

JS: Now that you've played a year among players at the highest level, what do you see as your strengths and where do you feel you need to improve?

BQ: I definitely see my driving accuracy as an area I need to improve. And not that I'm complaining, but I really didn't putt well last year. I'm normally a pretty good putter. I just didn't make a lot of putts. I hit a lot of good putts but they just didn't go in. Overall, I proved to myself that I could compete at that level. I made a bunch of cuts and I played pretty good. But defi-



Brett (left) and Dana Quigley after the 1993 A.T. Cross Open. Brett finished second to his uncle by one shot.

nately my driving accuracy. Especially when the rough's deep, a lot of times you can't even go for the green. It's so penalizing, you just need to get it in the fairway (off the tee).

JS: Does that mean pulling out three woods and one irons?

BQ: That's the thing, too, that's deceiving about the tour – the driving distance or accuracy (statistic). You can hit a good shot and have it go just into the first cut of rough so it's not too bad. Or the driving distance hole – they only do it on two holes – and a lot of times it's a three wood or iron hole. I had a hard time with that in the beginning because I said, "Awright, it's a driving distance hole; I need to hit driver." This was my mentality in the beginning; I didn't want to hit a three wood 240 or 250 when it was a driving distance hole. That stat is absolutely worthless. It's good to have distance to reach a par-5 in two but it's important to have the discipline to take out the three wood.

JS: What kind of practice routine do you have for yourself during a tournament week?

BQ: I'd say I probably spent too much time at the golf course. I spent basically sun up to sun down. It's tough because it's what I love. I love playing, I love being out there. You wake up in the morning and you're excited to go to work. I played a lot of weeks in a row and made a lot of cuts so I played a lot of days in a row. I played in a lot of Monday pro-ams on-site just to learn the golf course. It just got to the point where I was just doing too much. I'd get there early in the morning on Tuesday – probably around 8:00 – and play 18. And then I'd practice and then maybe play another nine just to learn the course.

JS: How royally are you guys treated on the PGA Tour, and did you always have your own courtesy car?

BQ: The rookies don't always get their own courtesy car. I probably had it half the time. We're treated very well, though. It's amazing. Anything you could possibly want, you can probably get. They're there to make sure that you're taken care of. I liken it to being in a circus. We go to a town every week to put on a show. We leave that town on Sunday and go to another town on Monday and put on a show there. I feel very, very fortunate to be out there.

JS: Did you play with Tiger Woods last year?

BQ: No, I didn't. I hit balls next to him a couple of times. He talked to me a little bit. It's tough because you can't get close to