

# **Local Area Sports – Golf**

Compiled from:  
The Burgettstown  
Enterprise

Fort Vance Historical Society

## **Allison Wins Ponderosa Golf**

Rob Allison shot an 83 to win last Thursday's junior golf tournament at the Ponderosa Golf Club. He earned 12 points for winning the event.

Don Doak was second with 86 and earned nine points. Following were Jason Evers, 90; Ross Kladakis, 94; Jim Cain, 95; Ralph Strope, 95; and Tom Mitchell, 104.

The standings after two tournaments:

<b>Name (Grade)</b>	<b>Points</b>
Don Doak (9) .....	21
Jason Evers (11) .....	15
Rob Allison (12) .....	12
Jim Cain (11) .....	6½
Ross Kladakis (11) .....	6
Tom Mitchell (11) .....	1
Ralph Strope (11) .....	½

# Local golfers raise record to 6-2

Burgettstown's golf team improved its section record to six wins and two losses by taking the measure of Chartiers-Houston, 223-232, at the Ponderosa last Tuesday, Sept. 27.

Medalist honors for the day went to the Blue Devils' Craig Pagasky, who turned in a round of 43.

Close behind in the locals' balanced scoring were Duane Frazier, 44; Barry Barto and Doug Frazier, each with 45; and Chris Cooke, 46.

Ed Hosni and Greg Shriver each carded a 44 for the Bucs.

Eric Bitz and Tim Jaap each had a 47, and Justin Nackoul trailed with 50.

Chartiers-Houston dropped to 2-6 with the loss.

## Avella golfers lose to C-H Bucs

Chartiers-Houston took a 228-248 decision over Avella Thursday afternoon at the

Lindenwood course.

Three players tied for medalist honors.

They were C-H's Tim Jaap and Todd Crispin, and Avella's Matt Rea. Each fired a round of 44.

Other scores for the winners were Justin Nackoul, 46, and Eric Bitz and Ed Hosni, each with 47.

Following Rea in the Avella scoring summary were Charlie Knox, 47; Dave Taczak, 51; Ron Cline, 52; and Brian Corwin, 54.

## Weir High posts victory

In an exhibition match held Monday, Sept. 26, at Pleasant Valley Golf Course, Weir High posted a 158-174 win over the Blue Devils.

Ted Newbrough led the Red Riders with a low score of 35. Jason West had a round of 40, Brandon Anderson shot 41 and Brent Hawkinberry carded 42.

For the locals, Chris Cooke and Duane Frazier each fired a round

of 42, while Barry Barto and Kevin Frantz each shot 45.

## Blue Devils edge Fort Cherry

Coach Jon Vallina's Blue Devil golf team edged Fort Cherry, 216-219, at the Fort Cherry course Thursday afternoon.

The Rangers' Scott Clark took medalist honors for the day with a round of 35.

Craig Pagasky's 39 was the low round for the Blue Devils, 7-2 in section competition this season. Doug Frazier carded 41, Barry Barto 43, Kevin Frantz 46 and Chris Cooke 47.

Chris Hatton was next to Clark in the Rangers' (2-4) scoring summary, turning in a round of 43. Following were Tony Moore, 46; Greg Robertson, 47; and Tim Tropeck, 48.

Local Golfers raise record to 6-2  
The Enterprise-October 5, 1994 Edition

*Courtesy of Fort Vance Historical Society*



### **Junior Golf Champions**

The following golfers won championships in the Washington County Junior Golf Association, from left, David Vallina of Langeloth, winner of 7 year-old division, Brian Galica (age 8), Chris Durko (age 9), Eric Rohanna (age 10), Mark Hazen (age 11), and Tom McCune (age 12). Back row: Tim Peterson (age 12), Colleen McCune (girls), Jared Hazen (age 13) Neil McKay (age 14), and Brett Carman (ages 15-17).

**The Enterprise-August 26, 1992 Edition**

# Five area Class AA golfers survive cut

By JOE TUSCANO  
Staff writer  
jtuscانو@observer-reporter.com

SEWICKLEY HEIGHTS – Without question, the golfer who had the longest wait in Thursday's WPIAL Class AA Golf Championships was Austin Lis.

The senior from Burgettstown High School came in with the seventh group in a field of 15 with an iffy score of 11-over par 81 over the 6,143-yard hilly course on a rainy afternoon at Allegheny Country Club.

Would he be one of the 16 qualifiers?

It took nearly an hour for him to find out he was, finishing in 15th place.

## Five

*Continued from Page C1*

"It was a good, long wait," said Lis. "I wasn't too confident coming off 18. I didn't think it would be enough."

Lis was one of five area golfers to advance to the PIAA West Region Tournament Oct. 17 at Tom's Run Golf Course in Blairsville. The other four were Colin Chapman and Hunter Donahue from McGuffey, Aaron Yorrio of Waynesburg and Christian Sadler of Bentworth.

Skyler Fox, a freshman from Riverside, won the gold medal with a 2-over 72. He became the first champion in Riverside's history.

Fox stepped into the lead when Jason Li, a senior from Sewickley Academy and the defending champion, had a quadruple-bogey 8 on the par-4 14th. Still, Fox birdied 17th and nearly holed out a chip shot on 18 to force a playoff. Li finished tied for second with Tyler Brinker of South Park at 3-over par.

"I was pretty confident coming in," said Fox. "I felt I was playing good enough to win."

McGuffey had a strong effort with Chapman, a senior who shot 4-over 84 that was good enough for a tie for fourth place; and Donahue, a junior who shot 78 and tied for 11th place.

Donahue hovered at the top of the leaderboard until a double-bogey 5 on the par-

**AARON YORRIO, A JUNIOR FROM WAYNESBURG, HAD THE SHOT OF THE DAY, GETTING A HOLE-IN-ONE ON THE PAR-3, 130-YARD NO. 15 HOLE THAT HELPED HIM MOVE ON TO THE REGIONAL TOURNAMENT. HIS 9-IRON SHOT HIT ABOVE THE HOLE AND SPUN BACK INTO THE CUP FOR HIS FIRST ACE.**

3 15th. Donahue played the par-3s in 8-over-par.

"I played really well, except for the par 3s," Donahue said. "That nearly killed me. I wanted to stay below the hole. The greens were really fast. I made some mental changes in my game. I used to get down on myself after a bad shot. I tried to stop doing that."

Chapman was 2-over heading into the final two holes and had a chance to win. But bogeys on Nos. 17 and 18, both par-4s, put him tied for fourth.

"I had 31 putts and that's what saved me," said Chapman. "The main thing I needed to get down was the speed of the greens. That's what ultimately saved me. This was my best round because it moved me on to (regionals)."

Yorrio, a junior from

Waynesburg, had the shot of the day, getting a hole-in-one on the par-3, 130-yard No. 15 hole that helped him move on to the regional tournament. His 9-iron shot hit above the hole and spun back into the cup for his first ace.

"I've come really close before," Yorrio said. "I've been inches. I definitely needed that because it wasn't looking good til then. I was on the bubble until that happened."

Sadler, a junior, birdied the par-3 15th, which secured his spot of qualifiers.

"I shot a bad 79 because I missed some short putts, some par putts I needed to make, but I hit the ball pretty good," said Sadler. "I kind of realized upper 70s would be pretty close. So I knew I was close."

The toughest finish went to California's Nate Luketich, who finished tied for 16th and required a playoff with Josh Redding of Southmoreland for the final berth to the regional tournament. Redding birdied the first playoff hole, No. 1, thanks to a bunker shot that ended up four inches from the hole. Luketich will serve as an alternate, meaning he can get in if another player who finished ahead of him pulls out.

"Three holes killed me," said Luketich, who had double-bogeys on the par-4 No. 2; a triple on the par-4 16th and a double on the par-4 18th. "On 16, I lost my tee shot ... and on 18, I had a few putting mistakes."

**Austin Lis, One of Five Class AA Golfers to Survive Cut  
Observer-Reporter-September 30, 2016 Edition**

*Courtesy of Fort Vance Historical Society*

## Local Junior Golf Results

Following are results of the Ponderosa Junior Golf Tournament:

### Week No. 2

#### Senior High Division

First, Don Doak (11), 35-37-72, 10 points.

Second, Bryan Orenchuk (12), 42-46-88, 7 points.

Third, Drew Bohn (10), 45-48-93, 5 points.

Fourth, Ryan Brazill (10), 51-47-98, 3 points.

Fifth, Paul Bianchini (10), 50-50, 100, 1 point.

#### Junior High Division

Bryan Barto (9), 10 points.

### Week No. 3

#### Senior High Division

First, Bryan Orenchuk (12), 46-42-88, 10 points.

Second, Drew Bohn (10), 45-49-94, 7 points.

Third, Paul Bianchini (10), 47-48-95, 5 points.

Fourth, Randy Petricca (10), 47-50-97, 3 points.

Fifth, Ryan Brazill (10), 55-51-106, 1 point.

#### Junior

#### High Division

Bryan Barto (9), 10 points.

#### Point Leaders

#### Senior High Division

Bryan Orenchuk (12)	27
Don Doak (11)	17
Drew Bohn (10)	12
Paul Bianchini (10)	10
Ryan Brazill (10)	8
Randy Petricca (10)	3
Dino Dunch (12)	1

#### Junior

#### High Division

Bryan Barto (9)	10
-----------------	----

## Raccoon Valley Golf Standings

Team	Points
Roberts-McAvoy .....	17
Edwards-Garcia .....	14
Dugas-Kowalski .....	12
Cherenko-McKee .....	11
Couch-Toth .....	10
Niedzialkia-W. DuBois .....	10
Wos-Bohn .....	10
Lese-Vallina .....	9
Dellaria-T. DuBois .....	8
A. Roberts-J. Roberts .....	8
Vraninin-Alouise .....	8
Pappas-Elias .....	6
Birkhimer-Botto .....	6
R. Kranak-F. Kranak .....	6
Pappas-Carlin .....	6
Markovitz-Slovick .....	6
Wonsevicz-Kucher .....	6
Budash-Downey .....	2
Markovitz-Ransil .....	2

**Raccoon Valley Golf Standings**  
**Burgettstown Enterprise-July 11, 1990 Edition**

## **Raccoon Valley Golf League**

### **STANDINGS**

<b>Teams</b>	<b>Points</b>
Edwards-Garcia .....	20
Kowalski-Dugas .....	18
Roberts-McAvoy .....	17
Dellaria-T. DuBois .....	15
Alouise-Vraninin .....	14
Couch-Toth .....	14
Niedzialkia-W, DuBois .....	13
Pappas-Carlin .....	12
Cherenko-McKee .....	11
Lese-Vallina .....	11
Wonsevicz-Kucher .....	11
Birkhimer-Botto .....	10
R. Kranak-F. Kranak .....	10
Markovitz-Slovick .....	10
A. Roberts-J. Roberts .....	10
Wos-Bohn .....	10
M. Pappas-Elias .....	9
Downey-Budash .....	8
Markovitz Jr.-Ransil .....	4



## R-V Golf Standings

Latest standings of the Raccoon Valley Golfers Club have been announced as follows:

AMERICAN DIVISION--  
E. Petrucci-J. Durko 8 1/2 - 3 1/2, D. Majernik-M. Beharry 8 1/2 - 3 1/2, J. Labishak-M. Gobleck, 8-4, L. Petrucci-T. Petrucci 8-4, J. Dellaria-B. Pappas 8-4, E. Lukon-E. Kowalski 8-4, A. Longo-G. DeSantis 7-5, F. Koraido-C. Kortyna 7-5, G. Ankley-J. Snyder 6-6, C. Williams-B. Robertson 5 1/2-6 1/2, J. Carnali-T. Lee 4 1/2-7 1/2, J. Kriznik-M. Bihum 4-8.

NATIONAL DIVISION--  
J. Adams-J. Sendora-11-1, B. Dellapina-B. Fidago 8 1/2-3 1/2, E. Gilson-M. Trimarki 8-4, A. Matalik-J. Kinkela 8-4, J. Mitchell M. Rupani 7 1/2 - 4 1/2, J. Hall-L. Maslyk 6-6, D. Boynes-B. Bernhart 6-6, E. Phillips-P. Vraninin 6-6, A. Gonzalez-J. Repole 5-7, B. Bruno-C. Filipponi 5-7, F. Tucci-M. Garcia 5 1/2-6 1/2, F. Filipponi-A. Dvorsak 4-8, A. Shuble-S. Baloga 3 1/2-8 1/2.

# Vallina retiring from junior golf tour after 30 years

BY JOE TUSCANO  
Staff writer  
jtuscano@observer-reporter.com

When Don York asked Jon Vallina to help with the Southwest Pennsylvania Junior Golf Tour, he said yes. Anything to help a friend and boost golf in the area was agreeable to Vallina.

When York asked Vallina to take over as president two years later, he couldn't say no. He wanted the tour to continue so his answer was yes.

"Don talked me into it," said Vallina. "I thought I'd

be there a couple years then find someone to take over."

Vallina stayed for 28 years.

Vallina oversaw the growth of the tour and will now turn over his responsibilities to Brian Vensel, who has been with the tour for the past decade.

"I just don't have the time anymore," said Vallina, who was the athletic director at



Vallina

**"DON TALKED ME INTO IT. I THOUGHT I'D BE THERE A COUPLE YEARS THEN FIND SOMEONE TO TAKE OVER."**

JON VALLINA

Burgettstown High School for 29 years.

Vallina was recently appointed Associate Executive Director for the Pennsylvania State Athletic Directors Association. He is responsible for recruiting corporate sponsorship for PSADA and his reach will be statewide.

He is also responsible for the PSADA Hall of Fame.

"What Don York did was make golf affordable for all those kids," Vallina said. "This tour has helped improved the quality of golf in southwestern Pennsylvania. We have had a lot more top-10 finishes in the state tournament of kids who

played on the tour."

The SPJGT had a high of 250 participants a few years ago. The total is between 180 and 200 this year, Vallina said. That number includes nearly 50 females.

It's an all-volunteer organization and the golf courses donate the tee times and green fees for these events. The first 132 golfers to sign up can play in the tournaments each week.

"They told us to bring as many kids as you can," Vallina said of the area golf pros. "They are going to be

their future golfers."

The SPJGT is available to beginners through high school with age 13 and under competing in 9-hole events and the others in 18-hole tournaments. An annual membership is \$15, which gives the player the opportunity to participate for only \$9 per tournament.

The SPJGT venues include some of the best private and public courses in southwestern Pennsylvania. Information about the tour can be found at [www.spjgt.com](http://www.spjgt.com).

**Jon Vallina Retiring from Junior Golf Tour after 30 Years**  
**Observer-Reporter-August 17, 2018 Edition**

*Courtesy of Fort Vance Historical Society*

# One worth repeating

## Practice makes perfect as Vallina earns second boys title

BY TOM ROSE  
THE OBSERVER-REPORTER  
tomrose@observer-reporter.com

BELLE VERNON — After shooting a one-over-par 73 here Monday, David Vallina was sitting in the Cedarbrook Golf Course restaurant, munching on a sandwich and receiving congratulations for successfully defending the WPIAL individual boys golf championship. He felt pretty good about his day.

Then his uncle, Burgettstown High School golf coach Jon Vallina, walked into the restaurant with the news. Upper St. Clair junior Mark Cimarolli had just holed an 80-yard wedge shot at No. 18 for an eagle. Cimarolli also would finish with a 73 to force a sudden death playoff.

"My heart dropped straight to my stomach," Vallina said.

A good workout on the practice range helped Vallina to regain his composure, and a brilliant eight-iron shot that he had worked on during the warm-up led to a six-foot birdie putt on the second extra hole. And this time, Vallina really won his second straight WPIAL championship.

Vallina, a senior at Burgettstown, becomes the first Washington County player to win a pair of WPIAL titles and joins some rare company of two-time winners. Included on that list of eight players is a guy who won a few tournaments in his career, Latrobe High School graduate Arnold Palmer.

It was a memorable day for the Burgettstown team, as seniors Ryan Zurowski (78) and Sean Dove (79) joined Vallina in qualifying for the PIAA Championships, to be held Oct. 22-23 at Penn State. Zurowski placed fifth while Dove was sixth. Only six players managed to break 80.

Waynesburg sophomore Robert Rohanna edged Pine-Richland's David Dankmyer for third place in a playoff after shooting a 77.

Frank Palermo, a senior at Upper St. Clair, and USC sophomore Matt McGinnis also qualified for the state championships with 81s.

Vallina, who started the day

'I was trying to think of what shots I would be playing on the first few playoff holes, so I practiced those shots.'

**David Vallina**  
Burgettstown golfer

with a six-inch, tap-in birdie at No. 1, appeared to be cruising to the title defense, as putting horror stories wiped out the competition. When Vallina finished with seven straight pars for the 73, it appeared no one could challenge him.

But along came Cimarolli. And he pulled off the shot of the tournament, even if he never saw it, or had no idea what its impact would be.

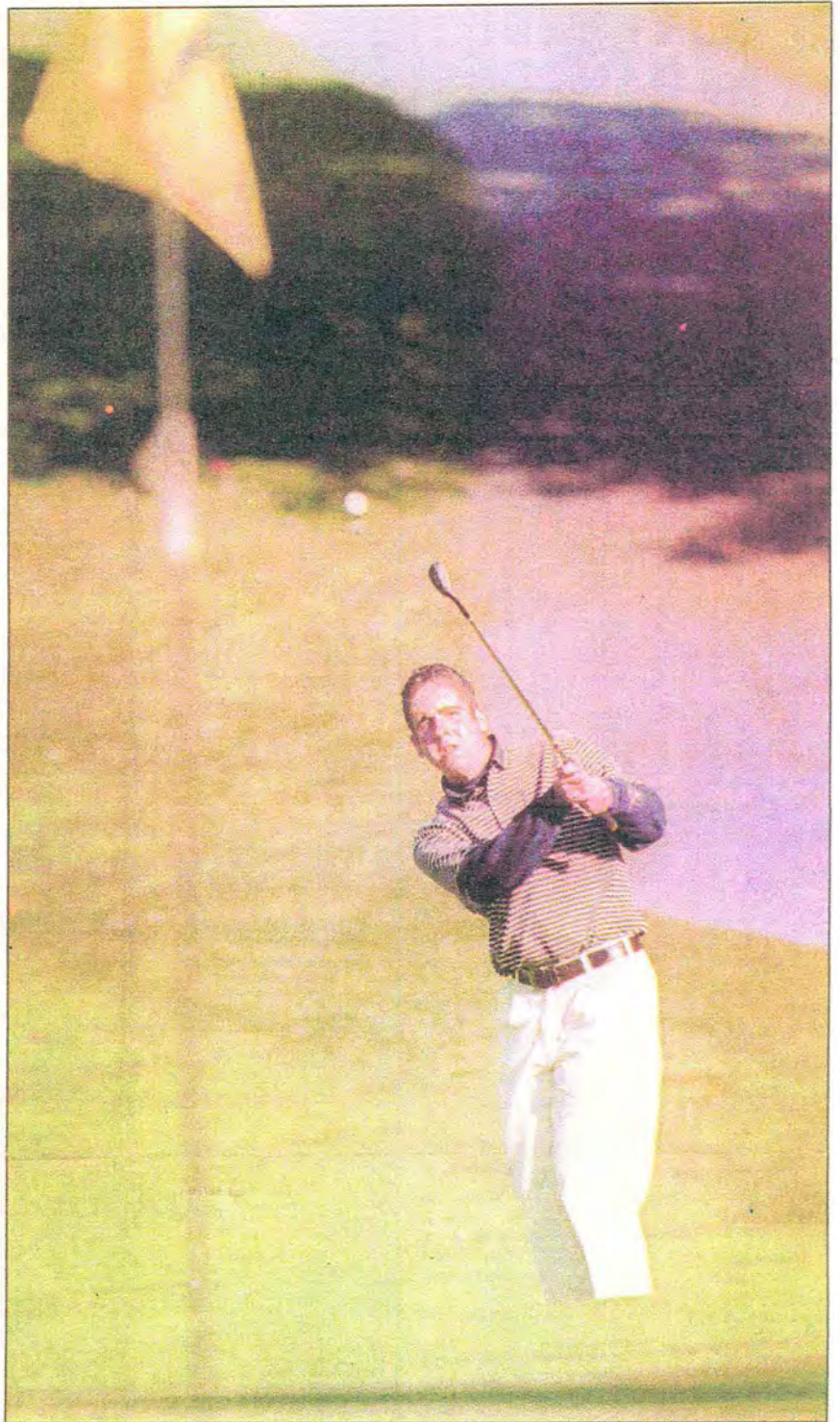
"They said it just trickled in," said Cimarolli, who was hitting into an elevated 18th green. "Then my teammates came and told me what it meant."

Both players had par on the first extra hole. But at the second sudden death hole, a par-three, 184-yard shot over a pond, Vallina hit an eight-iron to within six feet. Cimarolli also hit an eight-iron, but was a bit strong and was faced with a long downhill putt for birdie. His attempt slid past the hole, and Vallina calmly sank his twisting, six-foot putt to win a tournament he thought he had wrapped up two hours earlier.

"I hit 10 balls on the practice range with a punch eight-iron and it paid off," Vallina said. "I was trying to think of what shots I would be playing on the first few playoff holes, so I practiced those shots. It paid off."

Rohanna will be making his second straight trip to the PIAA tournament, and was excited with the playoff win for a third place medal.

"I said on the way here that shooting below 78 was my goal," said Rohanna. "I didn't think 77 would place me as high as it did, but the course played hard."



DAVE GRIB / THE OBSERVER-REPORTER

Burgettstown High School's David Vallina watches his chip shot fly toward the pin on the No. 17 hole Monday in the WPIAL Golf Championships at Cedarbrook Golf Club. Vallina won his second consecutive title when he defeated Upper St. Clair's Mark Cimarolli on the second playoff hole

**David Vallina Wins Second Boy's Title  
Observer-Reporter-October 9, 2001**

## **Youth golf**

Ryan Brazill fired a round of 84 to first the first week's youth golf tournament title at the Ponderosa. Mark Tasz was second with an 85, followed by Paul Bianchini, 88; Drew Bohn, 89; and Craig Pagasky, 94. Junior high honors went to Bill Markivich with a score of 114.

In the second week, Bohn was the winner with 77. Bianchini and Brazill tied for second with 87 each, while Pete Strobe, 93, was fourth and Pagasky, 98, was fifth.

Senior high point standings after two weeks of competition have Brazill in first place with 16 points. Bohn is next with 13. Following are Bianchini, 11; Tasz, 7; Strobe, 3; and Pagasky, 2.