

?North Harrison girls' golf team completes best season ever; senior Allison Dooley competes at state meet

Written by Administrator

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North Harrison senior Allison Dooley failed to make the cut into Saturday in the annual IHSAA State Meet for girls' golf at the Legends of Indiana Golf Course in Franklin, Indiana.

On Friday, Dooley carded a score of 84, missing the cut. Floyd Central's Kristen Reed, also competing as an individual, also missed the cut. She carded a score of 89.

Despite missing the Saturday round of the State Meet, Dooley got back to the State Meet, like she did as a freshman in 2005.

As she explained, that was a personal goal of her own. More importantly, the team had few goals of their own, which they managed to pretty much achieve.

One goal was to win the Mid Southern Conference (MSC) Meet, like they did in 2006 in Salem. The other goal was to win the Floyd Central Sectional, held every year at Valley View Golf Course near Highlander Point, which is also Floyd Central's home course.

As it turns out, they managed to do both. The Lady Cats won the MSC Meet at Old Capitol Golf Course east of Corydon, and Dooley was the individual medalist, with a score of 81. It was the 4th time she was All MSC, a feat achieved by senior team mate Courtney Barr as well.

The Lady Cats then managed to win the sectional for the first time, and golf sectionals are not divided according to school size (as in the class system). A few unofficial practices at Valley View by North Harrison's players the week before the sectional didn't hurt anything, either, according to Martin.

At the sectional, North defeated sectional favorite Floyd Central 373-376. New Albany was in 3rd place as a team.

Allison Dooley led all scorers with a low score of 81, and her North Harrison team mates were right behind her: Courtney Barr (90), Megan Woolston (98), Cyndi Garrison (104), and Sara Lang (106).

"We've competed with Floyd, NA, Seymour, Columbus; you name it, all of the bigger schools, and competed well, and won," said Coach Joan Martin.

North Harrison will lose no. 1, no. 2, and no.4 players, Allison Dooley, Courtney Barr, and Cindy Garrison after this season. The cupboard won't be completely bare, however.

Megan Woolston returns in 2009 as no. 1, and was no.3 this year.

"We've got a freshman coming up, Devon Smith. She can hit it. She doesn't score as low as Dooley did as a freshman, but by the time this girls' a senior, she'll be right there, I think. She's got a powerful swing," said Martin. Of Dooley, Martin said, "(She) is more accurate. She had an ability to come back from a bad hole, I've never seen a student at that age to let go after a triple bogey and come back and birdie the next hole. A lot of times, at this age, a bad hole will cause the player to blow up. She's very even keeled. Floyd Central was favored to win. It's their home course, but we came in and took care of business."

Dooley said she was pleased with the season so far. "We've achieved two or three of our goals. One of them was to win the Mid Southern Conference, which we did, and to win the sectional, which we did, and then place in the top five (at regional)," she said. They finished in 5th spot in the regional at Evansville.

The soft spoken senior will miss her North Harrison team mates, but is considering attending Bellarmine University in Louisville, and playing golf for their women's team.

"We get along great," she said of the other Lady Cats players. "From the beginning, we did. We support each other, and if we have a bad day, we don't blame it on (each other). We all get along pretty good."

"We're looking at Bellarmine, and if I go there, I'm going to play golf there," Dooley added. She is also looking at the University of Indianapolis, and Franklin College.