

# Golfing Goodbye

## Junior breaks school record in coach's last year

Getting into his Honda Fit at the Jester Park Golf Course, junior Jarred Bowser had one thought on his mind... make it on time to Rock Around the Clock and join his team in the homecoming week competition. He had just shot a respectable 69 shooting 36 on the first nine and 33 on the last nine holes.

What he did not realize was that he had just shot a school-record five birdies in a row, holes 11 through 15, in the meet with Ames. His coach Steve Smith told him several days later.

"I don't really know (what the old record was)," Smith said. "It's not like we keep 100% track of that. I just know that nobody has made five-in-a-row before."

Besides playing well, Smith considered him a leader. "He doesn't just lead, I mean he leads by example, not just words," Smith said. "His actions speak very loud for him. If we're working on something in particular, he's going to be doing that thing, and the other kids see that as an example of what to do."

The season was up and down for both Bowser and the team. "It was okay, we struggled at points I would say but overall I thought it was a pretty solid season," Bowser said. "We had some good showings here and there."

Bowser was selected Second Team All-State. "I was okay with it (making second-team all-state) and I wasn't," he said. "This is my second year making second-team all-state. I came in with the goal of making first team all-state, missed that by five spots, but that kinda killed but otherwise it was okay."

Senior James Hansen, a JV player, felt bad for the Black team (varsity) players that did not make state. "I feel bad for them just because they put in the dedication since their freshman year," Hansen said. "Jarred Bowser especially, he's very good at what he does, on the golf course."

The season was the last for Smith who decided to retire after 29 years at Johnston and 33 overall as a coach. The retirement came as a surprise for the team as they thought he would last for one more year.

"Throughout all the years he's been nothing but supportive of the entire team," Hansen said. "He's always flexible with everything I had going on with my life, so I just think he's a great guy. Great coach as well."

Senior Jacob Gault agreed. "He does a good combination of letting us decide what we need to work on based off of our game at the time and also still deciding what to work on to help all of us get better," he said.

Smith reminisced about years past. "I mean, I really enjoyed my time," he said. "I really loved being around the kids, and it's something I'm going to miss, but I'm still going to be involved with so I won't be going that far."



Story: Victoria Verde and Savannah Metzger  
Captions: Victoria Verde  
Layout: Taryn Mock  
Mod: Savannah Metzger

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WORK ORDER

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Junior Jarred Bowser sets up for a putt at the Dragon Invitational. He placed fifth over all at the meet with an 18-hole average of 76.40. Photo by: Jordyn Cimmiyotti



Sophomore Calen Bishop hits his tee shot on the seventh hole. Bishop had an 18-hole average of 85.00. Photo by: Jordyn Cimmiyotti

Before taking his swing, senior Mason LeRoux sets up the tee. "Just getting to play with people I've played with for a long time, that's always nice," LeRoux said. "Getting to see those faces once again." Photo by: Steve Smith

After eight years, senior Gavin Miller, plays his last season. Miller's favorite part of practice was on Fridays when they would play speed golf. "You'd like get hit with golf balls," Miller said. Miller did not get hit with any golf balls. Photo by: Jordyn Cimmiyotti



Having golfed for seven years, senior Nadeem Amiry, swings at the ball at the Urbandale Duel. With an 18-hole average of 89.57, Bowser performed better than the average 18-hole shot of 99. Photo by: Jordyn Cimmiyotti

Senior James Hansen hits with a driver at the Ankeny Duel. Hansen's favorite memory of the season was playing a par three speed golf, where he got hit by a golf ball twice. "I know one for sure was by (junior) Jack Gorsche, that one hurt a lot," Hansen said. Photo by: Steve Smith



Senior Jacob Gault hits a chip shot onto the green. Gault said the highlight of his season was the conference meet, where he placed sixth. Photo by: Jordyn Cimmiyotti



Junior Logan Fritz whacks his ball out of the sand trap at a Hyperion meet. Fritz had an 18-hole average of 81, second only to junior Jarred Bowser. Photo by: Jordyn Cimmiyotti

## RECORD BLOCK

- Iowa City West Invitational - Score 351, Record 5-4, 5th place
- North Scott Invitational - Score 318, Record 8-1, 2nd place
- Cedar Rapids Washington Invitational - Score 326, Record 8-9, 10th place
- Dragon Invitational - Score 306, Record 4-5, 6th place
- Centennial Duel - Score 174, Record 0-1
- Downing Duel - Score 151, Record 1-0
- Ames Duel - Score 307, Record 0-1
- Ames Invitational - Score 307, Record 0-1, 6th place
- Valley Invitational - Score 328, Record 4-4, 5th place
- Ankeny Duel - Score 167, Record 0-1
- Urbandale Duel - Score 322, Record 1-0
- CIC Conference - Score 318, Record 1-4, 5th place
- District - Score 336, Record 7-5, 6th place

## WORK ORDER

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