



Big Names Return to ECI; Dailey Looks to Three-peat

DEVENS, Mass. – In a tournament that’s been dominated by Nick Turczak and John Dailey over the past 5 years, other players look to leave their mark on the Endicott Invitational this weekend at Red Tail Golf Club in the Greater Boston area. Dailey comes in looking to win his third title in as many years, while Nick Turczak goes for his 4th in the last six years. Other players are simply looking to break through for the first time, hopefully vaulting their own names into Endicott history. “I think last year was a good year for the balance of the tournament,” said Matt Gajda in the *Trenton Times* last week from his home in New Jersey. “I shot 78, Turczak had a good round, and Brian Gill played terrific. I think there’s hope out there that if someone can put together a few good holes, you never know who’s going to pop up and win. It’s a deep field.” Brian Gill and Ken Dargon are the only other players who return this year with a title under their belt. Ken Tessier has finished runner-up twice, while Matt Davis and Justin McLearn have top-5 finishes to their credit in recent years and hope to break through. “I feel like I’ve been close,” said McLearn in a phone interview last week. “I’ve had good first nines in the past, but need to figure out how I can play better down the stretch.”

Off the golf course, Co-chairman Marc Zirolli is coordinating efforts once again to raise money for the Endicott College Golf program. Zirolli feels this is really the backbone of the tournament. “It’s a fun event for the fans and players, but we do a great job for charity and Endicott College. Money raised from the event goes directly to the golf program, and we’re so proud to contribute.”

Players to Watch

John Dailey:

Can Dailey win three in a row? At one time, Dailey often wondered if he’d ever capture an ECI, now he’s booming with confidence and hopes to keep the streak alive.

Ken Tessier:

Always in the hunt, Tessier flies up from the South this week in rusty shape, just like his pee-pee. Tessier missed the cut at the Toro Lawnmower Amateur Open in Atlanta last week. The ECI will be only the 2nd event on his schedule in 2010.

Nick Turczak:

Turczak’s 2009 title hopes were doomed after making a triple bogey on # 10 last year that ruined any chances at winning his 4th title. The youngest player in the field



looks to regain his form next weekend, but comes in with an injured wrist, and says he will be about 50% at best!

Justin McLear:

McLear already has a tournament title on his 2010 resume by winning the BBH Open in western Massachusetts over the Easter holiday. "I know one of these years I'm going to win this thing," said McLear from Pinehurst, N.C. last week where he was preparing. "I'm taking a more serious approach this year and hopefully the new mindset pays off."

Matt Barnes:

Withdrew battling swelling of the testicles.

Matt Davis:

The bad boy of the ECI field looks to sway peoples' opinions on the solid player from New Hampshire. Davis has shown flashes of brilliance in the past and shouldn't be overlooked this weekend in Devens.

Alex Lawner:

After being in contention most of the round last year, Lawner has high hopes coming into 2010. The long hitter feels like this is a golf course he can attack and might be a sleeper pick this weekend.

Carl Bean:

Bean withdrew last week as he is battling legal issues out in western Massachusetts. Some think the end of the road is near for Bean and the ECI. Co-chair Marc Zirolli was quoted as saying on TMZ that "we just won't tolerate this kind of behavior from our players. Let's allow for the law to take its course, and we will go from there."

Ken Dargon:

The long ball days for Dargon are over, just like the hair on his head. Dargon claims he's going to take a more conservative approach this weekend at Red Tail in hopes of capturing his second ECI.

Marc Zirolli:

Zirolli might be playing his most consistent golf of his career right now, and is excited to come to a golf tournament that he calls his own "personal major." Zirolli tied Jim Kuhn in the CT Match Play Challenge in their third place match back in early April, and knows he can compete if he can keep the big number out of play and rattle off a few birdies.



Craig Roderick:

Banned for substance abuse – see you in 2011.

Brian Gill:

After a heartbreaking loss in 2009, can the “Pro” rebound and win his 2nd ECI title?

Pete Woodward:

Got married, and hasn't gotten laid since. Woodward is having erection problems, and he's in the hospital trying to find his weapon that he used to urinate all over Endicott Stadium after graduation with a Master's degree in 2006.

Josh Clark:

Clark is hoping to break 100 in 2010.

Derek Sharon:

Sharon is playing more golf as of late, and thinks that if he can get something going, he might be able to go low this weekend.

Matt Gajda:

Another sleeper pick. Gajda played terrific in 2009, and looks to keep up his good play this weekend.

Tim Byram:

Byram might have the most luxurious job of all, the women's volleyball coach at Endicott. He's enjoyed views while on the bench, and he's sure to enjoy some more this weekend at Red Tail Golf Club.