

ECI Diary  
John Dailey

Hard to believe another ECI is upon us, and 15 years at that! Amazing to think we are still going strong after all these years. I can remember the inaugural tournament, originally started by Pete Woodward and Craig Roderick, who at the time worked at the Post Center. Their plan was to offer a one day golf trip to Endicott students. They approached me to try and rally some of the golf team members, largely in part because no one else wanted to sign up for their little getaway. Anyways, the entire team went, minus Nick Gorham, and we played a one day low gross tournament. Kenny Dargon took home the title with a 79 at Cyprian Keys. A year later Marc Zirolli and I took over the reigns, and the Endicott College Invitational was born. We've seen guys come and go...Tim Byrum, Craig Roderick, Matt George, Jerry Miceli to name a few, but the core group of guys have remained the same. It's our players championship. A prestigious event, and while we can't have those outrageous pre-tournament dinners anymore, it's still great to see everyone and come together to honor our golf program, which for about a five to six year span, but undeniably one of the more noteworthy and hilarious groups to be a part of in the New England area.

As for me, it's been a fun off-season. After the ECI last year, I was able to qualify for the Connecticut Open in July, which was a great experience. Summer turned into Fall, Fall turned into winter, and another high school basketball season came and went ending in a 30 point loss in the State Tournament up in Hartford. Marc Zirolli was in attendance that night, and so appropriately blasted the score all over Facebook. Thanks Marc, and thanks for yelling at the Gordon men's basketball coach who was at game recruiting my big man..... "Gordon fucking sucks, Go Gulls" as you drove right by him on the way out of the parking lot. Needless to say, my 6'9" center won't be attending Gordon next year.

Looking forward to another ECI on Saturday. Weather looking good. I better start looking to compile a tourney outfit.

Cheers,

JD