

Thursday, May 18, 2017

It has been three years since I have written a diary for the ECI, but how fitting that I contribute on our 15th anniversary!

There are so many memories to look back on from the Endicott Golf Team, to the ECI and to our crack-of-dawn weekend risers to play in the Blue/White Ryder Cup at Rowley.

I remember watching Carl Bean, without a wink of sleep, walking up to the Post Center in mid-October, inebriated and ready to play match play golf against the likes of McLear and Barnes. I remember not taking golf seriously in the summer of 2002, and subsequently missing the Team my Junior year in place of some fly-by-night mystery named Esteban who never qualified, but made the team. Care to comment, Nesbitt?

Then, with the change of the guard, I re-qualified under the one-hit-wonder of Bemis and Butthead, got a chance to tour The Renaissance under construction, and halved my first-ever match against Gordon to retain the Ambassador's Cup for Endicott my senior year! I remember, that with an Endicott hockey game later that night at PINGREEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE and my duty as public address, that I missed out on heavy celebratory drinking from the Cup somewhere in Tower Hall.

As the ECI continued to gain momentum with laughing stock nights at Barnhart Street Grille, this tournament quickly became a circled event on the calendar each year. We've had players come and go, traveling from as far as Oklahoma, overnight stays with Alex Lawner and Craig Roderick's in-laws, damaged carts and near fist fights, we have all – truly seen it all.

Cheers to the next 15 years of a healthy and strong ECI, and maybe one day, my day will come where the tournament I help organize, will also be the tournament I've conquered.

*Marc Zirolli
Class of 2004.*