

- Home
- Merrimack Valley
- New Hampshire
- Haverhill
- Boston and Beyond
- World/Nation
- Business
- Sports
- ET TV
- Video
- Taste of the Trib
- Lifestyle
- Opinion
- Obituaries
- Celebrations
- Community Listings
- Blogs
- Find a Business
- Find a Home
- TV Listings
- Special Features
- Buy Photos
- Classifieds
- Text Alerts

Sports

August 17, 2010

Sager tourney a Renaissance classic

Golf
Hector Longo

HAVERHILL — "He had a great love for all people. Nobody cared for people more than Tom."

Andover's Clive Fazioli perfectly summed up the collective energy pulsing through a room of over 100 golfers and friends gathered after the first Tom Sager Golf Classic at Renaissance Country Club here yesterday.

Fazioli's beloved late friend Sager, who was president at Holy Family Hospital in Methuen, passed away last year from a heart attack. The event held in his memory will go a ways in helping heart attack victims in the Merrimack Valley through the Tom Sager Heartbeat Fund.

Renaissance, the host course and lead sponsor, welcomed the opportunity to celebrate Sager's memory. An avid golfer, Sager was one of the early members at the club.

"The event is very special for all of us here," said Southworth Development President David Southworth, the owner of Renaissance. "We plan on this being here for a long, long time."

Played under pristine conditions, the event skirted showers that streaked through the area late in the afternoon. Golfers from throughout the region competed in the scramble format.

Included in the field were celebrities like ex-Red Sox infielders Rico Petrocelli and Lou Merloni, former Celtics great Dave Cowens, legendary Lowell boxer and fan favorite "Irish" Micky Ward, and former Boston Bruins Ken Hodge and Brad Park.

"Being here at Renaissance assures that this is a first class tournament. It will become an annual event in our region, celebrating Tom's memory," said tournament board member and emcee for the evening Bill Burt of The Eagle-Tribune.

"I only met Tom three times in my life. But in those three occasions I quickly learned that he was a very special guy. I can understand why everyone is here. He was a guy with so much energy, and he just threw it into you."

North Shore Am on tap

Area golf enthusiasts should keep their eyes on one of the region's top competitive events, the North Shore Amateur, which kicks off today and concludes tomorrow at Bill Flynn's Far Corner Golf Club in Buxford.


Many of the region's top amateurs will tee it up in the 36-hole medal play event.

Brookstone news

A pair of rising, young female players, Derry's Kaitlyn Lutinski and Hampstead's Micaela Griffin battled it out for the Junior Club championship at Brookstone Golf Course.

In the end, Lutinski took the battle of the eighth graders with a two-day total of 78-72 —150. ... Atkinson's Tom Young captured the Brookstone Men's Club championship, notching a 75-70 — 145 totals, knocking off Plaistow's Chuck Copp by a three shot margin. Derry's Jim Ellingwood was third at 156.

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