

NEWS RELEASE

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Golf recruits bode well for future Glen Oaks Community College wins

CENTREVILLE---Is Glen Oaks Community College going to turn into a golf powerhouse? Head Golf Coach Josh Heiple is moving in that direction with the signing of five area prep talents March 25th and another March 30th. "I'm proud of the group that I have assembled. They've got tremendous experience," said Heiple.



Newly signed golfers include (left to right) Chris Mann, Daniel Kershner, Mitch Wolf (all from White Pigeon), Taylor Linebaugh (Vicksburg) and Robbie Wandell (Delton-Kellogg). Coach Heiple stands to the far right. Also signed separately was Mike Prior of Schoolcraft (shown with his parents Diane and Joe and Coach Heiple). The Glen Oaks coach has said he is building a team loaded with depth over the next two years. Wolf, Mann and Kershner are from a White Pigeon Chief's golf program that finished fourth at the Division IV State Championship last season.

"These White Pigeon players are all good and they will work hard to improve so they have a chance to compete for spots on the traveling team," said Heiple.

Wandell, an incoming freshman from Delton-Kellogg High School, was a multi-sport athlete who carried a 3.8 grade point average. He boasts six Top 10 finishes in seven events in Michigan junior golf tour play last summer. Linebaugh, from Vicksburg, also recorded several Top 10 finishes in events across the state and he won the Comstock Invitational as a junior. "Taylor Linebaugh is a consistent performer. With him you know what you are going to get in effort and attitude. With some hard work he could become one of our best players," said Heiple.



Mike Prior finished 11th in last year's Division 3 State Championship. "When I saw Mike play the last five holes of the first day of the State Championship, I saw a toughness in him that my team desperately needs," said Heiple. "Landing a recruit like Mike, who has NCAA talent, will strengthen this program in many ways."

Heiple, who played Division I golf at the University of Northern Iowa, wants to establish a strong Glen Oaks golf program and take the players to the next collegiate level. Heiple played on various tours after leaving college and competed in the Canadian, Hooters and Tight Lies tours. He qualified at PGA and Nationwide Tour events.

Heiple said he expects players will want to be a part of the Glen Oaks team because of the improvement that is taking place at the small college. Coach Heiple expects the 2009-2010 recruiting class will meet the challenge. "I think it takes some faith from some great players to get a championship quality program off the ground. This incoming class has shown that faith and, as a golf program, we are excited about our future," Heiple said.

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