Athletics: Men’s Golf

2010-11 Review

A hot start and a sensational finish from a senior helped the Muhlenberg men’s golf team round out the year with its fourth straight top-three finish at the Centennial Conference Championship.

The Mules jumped out to a seven-shot lead after the first round before being caught over the course of the final two rounds. But that could not deter senior Zachary Oyer, who carded a 71 during the tournament’s final round to tie the conference record for lowest round at the championship.

Oyer finished second and was joined in the top 10 by classmate Jordan Carpenter (t-10th), while junior Matthew Cohen finished 13th to help Muhlenberg finish third for the third year in a row. It capped a season in which Muhlenberg tied the school record for tournament wins (three) and finished in the top three at eight tournaments featuring nine or more teams.

The Mules started the fall season with a second-place finish at the Penn State Harrisburg Invitational. Sophomore Brandon Davis fired a 1-under-par 71 in the final round, which tied for the third lowest round by a Muhlenberg player in more than two decades.

Three days later, the team picked up its first win of the season at the Moravian Invitational. Led by top-five finishes from freshman Chris DiMaio (t-2nd), Oyer (4th) and Davis (t-5th), the Mules lapped the 20-team field by 13 strokes, their largest margin of victory in a one-day tournament since 2000.

The Mules then took full advantage of their local knowledge of the Lehigh Country Club to win the Muhlenberg Fall Invitational for the first time since the 2007-08 season. Oyer led the way with a 76, which tied for second. He also tied for second as the Mules closed out the fall season with a third-place finish at the Messiah Falcon Fall Classic. Davis tied for fifth for his third top-10 finish of the fall.

The spring season brought more cold, wet and windy conditions for Muhlenberg. After finishing sixth, 10th and ninth at the first three tournaments of 2011, it was back to business as usual as the Mules, led by Carpenter (2nd) and Oyer (t-4th), placed second by one stroke at the Ursinus Invitational.

Muhlenberg then clinched the Matte Award by finishing third and beating Moravian at the Lehigh Valley Cup before once again placing second by one shot at the Messiah Falcon Spring Classic, where Oyer, senior Eric Boskey and junior Zack Meyers all tied for sixth.

Oyer finished the season with a 77.5 stroke average, the school’s lowest in more than 15 years, and 17 rounds in the 70s, also a school record.

Cohen joined Oyer in the sub-80 club (79.1), while Boskey (81.5) and Carpenter (81.7) closed out their careers by posting impressive averages.