

**Holiday Rate ends
Friday, January 9, 2009!**

Western Illinois University

Harry Mussatto Golf Course News

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FROM THE DIRECTOR OF GOLF, MEL BLASI

Holiday Greetings to all of you! It seems like we went right from summer to winter early this year, which is a real bummer for someone like me who loves fall golf. In fact, I play most of my golf in the late fall because I have the time. And that's sad in a way. Last October, I had the good fortune of spending the better part of a day with Eric Gleacher. I played golf with him, listened to him speak to a group of students and community leaders, and transported him from place to place here in Macomb. And by the way . . . he predicted a democratic win in this year's election. I remember him visiting with a community leader and the conversation quickly turned to golf. Eric asked the gentleman how often he was able to play golf. The man responded, "not near as much as I'd like to. I'm just too busy." To which Eric responded, in a very sober and not so humorous way, "you need to get your priorities straight." I've thought a lot about that conversation over the last year. What priorities do we give to our health, our recreation opportunities and our personal fitness. Fortunately for us, golf is an excellent source for all of the above. Playing even nine holes of golf on our challenging hills and enjoying what golf has to offer is something very unique to the sport we love so much. For me, the day just seems different when I'm able to get out there and enjoy being outside breathing fresh air. And when you can enjoy the game with a friend it makes the game that much more desirable. I hope all of you enjoy the game for the recreational value it is, and that in 2009 you will vow to "get your priorities straight." —Mel

HARRY MUSSATTO GOLF COURSE FOUNDATION

The Harry Mussatto Golf Course has recently begun a capital campaign to raise money for ongoing improvements at the golf course. The campaign will include a contact via a phone-a-thon as well as a data base mailing. The goal of establishing such an account is to provide improvements to the golf course by participating in ongoing projects. These projects include such things as tree planting, cart path construction, equipment upgrades and a turf and tree nursery. These projects will help us continue to provide an outstanding golf experience and ensure we protect the integrity of the facility. We hope you will consider contributing to the Harry Mussatto Golf Course Capital Campaign. If you have any questions about the Harry Mussatto Golf Course Foundation, please contact me at mb-blasi@wiu.edu or (309)298-3676.

COMMITTEES

We are looking for people to serve on a few committees for the upcoming 2009 season. These committees will help us promote the game of golf at the Harry Mussatto Golf Course through activities, tournament competitions, and the golf course beautification committee. If you have an interest in serving on any of these committees please contact me @ 298-3676 or mb-blasi@wiu.edu.

I'm the best. I just haven't played yet [on his golf game].

—Muhammad Ali



**WESTERN
ILLINOIS
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2008 SCRAMBLE WINNERS

MEMORIAL DAY SCRAMBLE

Bill Reimers
Greg Montalvo
Curtis Bisby

WIGA WINNER

John Campbell

RED WHITE AND BLUE SCRAMBLE

MEN	WOMEN
Curtis Lynn	Vicki Green
Joe Trotter	Marion Blackinton
Lee Trotter	Carolyn Collins
Marc Lawver	Janine Cavicchia

LABOR DAY SCRAMBLE

MEN	WOMEN
Geogg Clam	Vicki Green
Nick Timmer	Carolyn Collins
Daryl Smith	Janine Cavicchia
	Cari Sheets

WOMEN'S MORNING LEAGUE

This year we had 14 golfers, including one new member.

Hooray! We are always happy to have new golfers. Our season begins the first Wednesday in May and ends on the last Wednesday in August. Our last play date was on the Par 3 course (a lot of fun) and included a salad luncheon on the patio. Lots of good food!!!

Prize winners this year were:

- 1st place - Millie Sorrells and Judith Crowley
- 2nd place - JoAnn Hoerner
- 3rd through 7th place - Chic Carter, Judy Ellsworth
Shirley Carle & Roselyn Chown



Prize money is awarded based on attendance, weekly winners, and point winners. This year we tried something new. Rotating between the front 9 and back 9, we played a scramble each week, with a specific game involved. This made our mornings go faster and gave everyone a better chance of winning. We welcome all new golfers. If you are interested or know of anyone who might like to join us, please call Judith Crowley at 836-8608.

FACULTY-STAFF LEAGUE

Always the perennial underdog, Team #2 was declared the winner of the 2008 Faculty Staff Golf League by virtue of a 4 ½ -3 ½ victory over Team #1 in the championship playoff. Congratulations go to Captain John Wozniak, Ron Goodman, George Hopkins, Sterling Kernek, Rich Mathers, Lee Tichenor, and Ed Woell. Finishing in second place was Team #1 led by Captain John "JB" Biernbaum and team members Will Foran, George Holman, Garry Johnson, Jason Kaufman, Paul Reuschel, Dwaine Roche, and Rob Wallace.

In the playoff for 3rd place, Team #3 defeated The #6 Irons by a 6-2 score. Congratulations go to Captain Matt Blankenship, Bill Bradley, Wendell French, Jim Hackbarth, Bill Howard, John MacKenzie, Matt Morris, Michael Newsad, Chuck Oprian, and Jim Schmidt. Team #3 also captured the first half of the split season. Fourth Place honors (and winners of the second half of the split season went to The #6 Irons led by Captain Ken Durkin with team members: Rick Carter, Tom Cody, Rodney Greer, Darrell Ross, Greg Montalvo, Dale Hample, Dave Wilson, Todd Schultze, and Tim Van Alstine.

Individual league honors:

- Most Valuable Player —Sterling Kernek for winning 85% of his league matches,
- Most Improved Player —Sterling Kernek for lowering his handicap from 18 to 11
- Most Points (17) —Garry Johnson and Sterling Kernek
- Low Stroke Average (38.25) —Tom Cody (for the second year in a row)
- The coveted YOGI Award for most matches ending in a tie —Charles Darnell
- Hole in One—Fred Railsback had a hole-in-one on hole #17 during league action

Ten new golfers joined the league this year. We welcomed Paul Reuschel, Wendell French, Bill Howard, Tim Engel, Nick Knowles, Robert Marshall, Eric Campbell, Casey Connors, Michael Blackburn, and Todd Lough.

The Faculty/Staff Golf League would like to thank Course Superintendent John Owens, Kevin Hainline and Bob Lambert for the excellent playing conditions we enjoyed this year.

HARRY MUSSATTO GOLF COURSE 2009 SEASON PASS ORDER FORM

SEASON PASS RATES			
Membership Category	Holiday Rate **	Early Bird Rate ***	Amount
Public Individual	\$495	\$525	
Public Family	\$730	\$760	
Faculty/Staff/Alumni Individual	\$420	\$450	
Faculty/Staff/Alumni Family	\$620	\$650	
Junior Individual	\$175	\$190	
Senior Individual	\$395	\$435	
Senior Family	\$585	\$615	
WIU Student Individual	\$250	\$295	
WIU Student Family	\$425	\$470	
WIU Student Semester Pass	\$150	\$150	
SPECIAL OPTIONS			
Student Package (10 round pass)	\$80	\$80	
Cart Lease—Single	\$500	\$525	
Cart Lease—Family	\$625	\$650	
Driving Range* Junior \$100	\$100	\$150	
*includes Pitch & Putt Course		TOTAL	

Please print clearly.

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Children: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Campus Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Sign me up for the Handicap Service

Please make the check payable to **HMGC GOLF COURSE** and send to:

**Harry Mussatto Golf Course
1215 Tower Road
Macomb, IL 61455**

For more information, please call Mel Blasi at the Pro Shop (309)298-3676 or e-mail him at MB-Blasi@wiu.edu.

WWW.GOLF.WIU.EDU

"The harder you work, the luckier you get." —Gary Player

2009 HARRY MUSSATTO SEASON PASS GUIDELINES

- Season Pass Dates: Sunday, March 1—Monday, November 30
- Holiday Rate** Payment must be received by Friday, January 9
- Early Bird Rate *** Payment must be received by Wednesday, April 1
- Family Pass: Limited to spouse/domestic partners and dependent children (including full time college students to age of 24)
- Senior Pass: 62 and older
- Student Pass: Full-time undergraduate student taking a minimum of 12 semester hours.
Full-time graduate student taking a minimum of 9 semester hours
- Student Semester Pass: Spring Semester (March 1—May 31), Summer Semester (May 15—August 15),
Fall Semester (August 15-November 30)
- Student Package: Available to grade school, junior and senior high school, undergraduate, & graduate students

Each season pass includes the GHIN Handicap Service and a WIGA membership with a reciprocal card good for reduced rates at over 20 area courses.

A cart lease agreement allows only the holder of the lease to use the cart. The additional passenger must pay cart fees. Lease holders playing in the same group must share carts when possible.

A BIG THANKS TO THE HARRY MUSSATTO GOLF COURSE STAFF

We have had a great working staff at the golf course this year. Thanks to all of our full time and student help that make coming to the Harry Mussatto Golf Course an enjoyable experience.

Pro-Shop Staff

Heather Higgins
Lia Lukkarinen
Ian Taylor
Greg Wilson
Maggie Henke
Matt Panich
Becky Allen
Tyler Rebbe
Kelly Humke
Nate McGraw
Mike McGraw
Richard Sample
Travis Huddleston
Steve Cortese
Jacob Roberts
Nick Knowles

Grounds Staff

John Owens
Kevin Hainline
Bob Lambert
Jim Miner
Paul Reuschel
Corey Black
Kit Holst
Kyle Kluzek
Matt Woolam
Jordan O'Brien
Ashley Lord
Lacey Miles
Riley Skaggs

Rangers

Ron Ray
Jack Carle
Earle Cramer
Gary Saunders
Leslie Jefferson
Dana Roudebush



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**"If you watch a game, it's fun. If you play it, it's recreation.
If you work at it, it's golf."
—Bob Hope**



WESTERN
ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY

THE FIRST TEE OF WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

The First Tee Program had another great year in 2008! Eighty-eight area children participated in our twice-weekly summer sessions for six weeks. The six-week program focuses on a combination of golf skills and life skills that teach the nine core values of the First Tee. The nine core values are honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, respect, confidence, responsibility, perseverance, courtesy and judgment. A big thanks to the following individuals that helped organize and teach our junior golfers in the First Tee Program this year.

Lia Lukkarninen	Linda Engle	Matt Panich	Judy Marshall
Tom Cody	Mike McGraw	Bill Bradley	Chelsea Hadsall
Sue Owens	Maggie Henke	Damaris Blansfield	Dave Wilson
Nick Knowles	Richard Sample	Keith Engle	Bob Crowley
Jim Miner	Mel Blasi	Judy Witten	Nate McGraw
Max Nash Howe	Don Mutch	Becky Allen	

Last winter, we took The First Tee Target Program to area schools and reached over 1600 children in their gym classes. The indoor golf class exposes the students to putting, chipping and the ever popular snag baseball. For more information, or to be a Volunteer Coach contact Lia Biehl Lukkarinen, Program Director: lb-lukkarinen@wiu.edu

WIU DEFEATS ISU IN ANNUAL MATCH

Thanks go to Matt Blankenship for organizing the match and serving as Captain of the WIU Team in our annual competition versus the Illinois State University Golf League Team.

WIU recorded an 8-0 victory over the Redbirds to recapture the traveling trophy for the 4th time in 5 years. Members of the winning teams were Garry Johnson and Dwaine Roche, John Closen and Chuck Oprian, Paul Thistlethwaite and Dale Schofield, and Rick Carter and Mike Lukkarinen. Paul, Chuck and Dale have played on all the winning teams.

“WHAT IS THE RULING?” UNPLAYABLE LIE

One of the most misunderstood and least utilized relief options in golf is the rule involving an “unplayable lie.” First, a player may deem his ball unplayable at any place on the course, except when the ball is in a water hazard. The player is the sole judge of whether the ball is unplayable. A typical example of an unplayable lie would be a ball lying directly behind a tree, inside of a bush or buried in deep grass. If a player deems his ball to be unplayable he has the following three options as proper procedure, each option requiring a **penalty of one stroke**.

- Play a ball as nearly as possible at the spot where the original ball was last played.
- Drop a ball behind where the ball lay, keeping that point directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind that point the ball may be dropped.
- Drop a ball within two club-lengths of the spot where the ball lay, but not nearer the hole.

If the unplayable lie is in a bunker, the player may proceed under any of the above options. However, when choosing option C., the ball must be dropped within the bunker.

Now, if you're like me, you hate to take an unplayable lie. I will literally try all kinds of things to keep from taking an unplayable lie. Like hitting the ball left handed, hitting it backwards, on my knees etc., whatever it takes to move the ball without taking a penalty. But there are situations where taking the unplayable lie is the best option. A few years ago, one of my players made a ten on a par four in our Conference Championship. He was behind a green in some sage bushes and decided to try and hit the ball out. After striking the ball and having it come back to the same place he was just in, he was in real trouble. All of his good options were now gone and he was left to try and hack the ball out of the sage. Needless to say, it was a long hole. And he missed being All-Conference by two strokes. —Mel

"If you watch a game, it's fun. If you play it, it's recreation. If you work at it, it's golf." —Bob Hope

HOLIDAY SEASON PASS RATE

Don't forget to sign up for your 2009 season pass. You can do this by phone by just calling (309)298-3676. We take Visa or MasterCard at the pro shop. The pro shop will be open Monday through Friday through Friday, December 19. The pro shop will then reopen on Monday, January 5. The last day for the holiday rate for 2009 is Friday, January 9.

"The swing is never learned. It's remembered."
—Bagger Vance

SENIOR LEAGUE CONTINUES TO SHINE

The WIU Senior League had a great year in 2008 in spite of five weather cancellations. We played 22 of the 27 weeks and a good time was had by all. Jack Carle got a gold star for perfect attendance, playing all 22 weeks. Jim Distefano and Larry Botts each played 21 weeks. The following are the top point winners for the 2008 season.

Regular Division

1 st	Jack Carle	90 pts
2 nd	Bill Reimers	83 pts
3 rd	Jay Carter	78 pts
4 th	Larry Botts	77pts
5 th	Dick Brewer	72 pts

Top Newcomers (1st Year)

1 st	Dick Brewer	72pts
2 nd	Youn Shik Cho	62pts
3 rd	Jim McCain	52 pts

Super Senior Division

1 st	Wayne Mounts	64 pts
2 nd	Don Viar	63 pts
	Bob Knowles	63 pts

The Senior League lost one of its founding leaders this past spring. We all mourned the loss of Marvin Hall. We miss you Marvin!!!

If you are interested in joining the Senior League please contact Earle Cramer (309-836-6173) or Fred Railsback (309-833-5364). Or better yet, just show up on the first Tuesday next April at 8:30 a.m.

WOMEN'S EVENING LEAGUE

The WIU Women's Evening League met from early May until the end of August this year. We played a variety of games each week which usually included a skins game and a two or three person scramble. The women's evening league is always looking for new players so come on out and join the fun next May. The following ladies have been chosen to serve in 2009.

"Golf is deceptively simple and endlessly complicated." —Arnold Palmer

President Gloria Varcadipane
Secretary Leslie Jefferson
Treasurer Vicki Green

HOLE-IN-ONES

Congratulations to the following members who had hole in ones this year at the Harry Mussatto Golf Course.

Joe Kersting	#3
Bill DeJong	#12
Marion Blackinton	#17
Fred Railsback	#17
Ron Ray	#17

It is almost impossible to remember how tragic a place this world is when one is playing golf. —Robert Lynd