



The Sacramento Bee Dave Carr, seen playing in the 1980s, dominated the local amateur scene after graduating from Jesuit High School in 1985.

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Making the Rounds: At 46, Carr is swinging for the fences

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At an age when the world's best pro golfers are looking forward to relief from the relentless wave of twentysomethings who hit the ball a relative mile and whose nerve endings are still fully intact, **Dave Carr** is ready to fight the current.

Three reasons:

- Carr, 46, is playing some of the best golf of his life. And that's saying something for a guy who dominated the local amateur scene after graduating from Jesuit High School in 1985, winning multiple city and county titles.
- Carr has never played alongside anyone he didn't think he could beat. He may have lacked the financial wherewithal to take a legitimate run at being a touring professional over the past 25 years, but he's never lacked the confidence.
- **Melissa Carr** said so. "My wife keeps telling me I need to quit thinking about it and do it," he said.

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lent, won Northern California PGA Player of the Year honors for 2013 competing

That earned him a spot in the PGA Tour's Frys.com Open near San Jose earlier this month, where he missed the cut by one stroke despite birdieing his last two holes when he knew he didn't have a stroke to spare.

"It felt good not to crumble," he said.

Carr also gets a spot in the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am in February. His only previous foray into golf's major leagues came when he qualified for the 2004 U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills, where he missed the cut.

Logic might dictate that Carr wait until he turns 50 and a shot at the Champions Tour. He's thinking of striking while his irons are hot, maybe trying to qualify for the www.sacbee.com/2013/10/30/5864084/making-the-rounds-at-46-carr-is.html

Canadian Tour and then the Web.com Tour qualifying tournament next year.

"It's something I've been struggling with the past couple of years, but the juices are flowing again after this year," he said.

Carr has built a solid teaching business at Teal Bend. He took an unsuccessful swing at the Canadian Tour in 2002, then had to rebuild his client base. His roots and reputation are stronger now, but chasing a dream has its risks.

"I would basically have to walk away from my job," he said. "I have a family that depends on me."

Carr's son, **David Jr.**, is 10.

"When it comes down to it, I teach for a living. But I feel I'm good enough, if I can get (on a tour). I've played enough professional golf that I know what the best players, how they play. And the level of me to the level of them isn't as far as you might think.

"At some point, if I'm going to do it, I need to do it. It's something you think about until they beat your brains in."

Whitney Oaks retains NorCal team championship

Whitney Oaks defeated Lake of the Pines 26-10 Saturday at Carmel Valley Ranch to win the Northern California Golf Association Team Match Play Championship for the second straight year.

It's not as if Whitney Oaks accomplished its repeat using a bunch of players with inflated handicaps. Of the 16 players who competed for Whitney Oaks in the semifinal and final matches, seven had handicap indexes between 0 and 4.

"In one match this year, we gave away more than 100 strokes," team captain **Gary White** said. "Whitney Oaks gives us a great home-field advantage. If you can play well there, you can play well anywhere."

The winning team: **Scott Straub, Steve Rath, Greg Larson, Pat McDonald, Steve Ronan, Mike Poetsch, Fred Huston, Chuck Roberts, Jeff Burkhead, Terry Siler, Ed McGreehan, Spencer Page, Ben Menold, Kyle Gillmore, Jeff Lafleur** and White.

Et cetera

• **Mike Williams** teamed with **Scott Bubany** to beat **Juan Gonzalez** and **Luis Pelayo** 1 up in the title match Sunday at Mather to win the Sacramento County Four-Ball. Williams, aka the common denominator, teamed with **Vince Venard** to win the title last year.

• The girls golf teams from Rocklin, East Union of Manteca and St. Francis high schools finished 1-2-3 at Monday's Sac-Joaquin Section Masters tournament at the Reserve at Spanos Park and advanced to next week's Northern California championship. Medalist **Emilee Hoffman** (2-under-par 70) of Vista del Lago, Woodcreek's **Brianna Areia** (72), Roseville's **Virgie Velazquez** (74) and Pleasant Grove's **Sarah Debnkoff** (74) advanced as individuals.

• Lincoln's **Tim Scott** finished 16th at the Speedgolf World Championship on Saturday at Oregon's Bandon Dunes Golf Resort. Roseville's **Shanon Hoyt** finished 19th in the 25-player pro field. In the 36-hole event that totals score with time, Scott shot an 83 in 50 minutes at Old Macdonald and an 85 at Bandon Dunes in 54 minutes. Hoyt shot an 87 in 50 minutes and an 83 in 54 minutes. **Rob Hogan** of Ireland shot a 77 in 39 minutes and a 79 in 41 minutes to win the \$15,000 first prize.

Call The Bee's Steve Pajak, (916) 326-5526.

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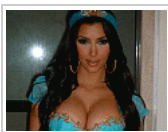
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