

Dillon earns state medal as a freshman



Louisburg's Calvin Dillon watches his tee shot during the Class 4A regional tournament earlier this month. At the Class 4A state tournament Monday in Wamego, Dillon shot an 80 which earned him a 10th place medal.

WAMEGO – Calvin Dillon may have been a freshman in the classroom at Louisburg High School, but he certainly didn't play like one on the golf course this season.

Dillon played more like an upperclassmen on the biggest stage the state has to offer.

At the Class 4A Kansas State Golf Tournament, Dillon shot an 80 and earned a state medal as he finished in 10th place overall Monday at Wamego Country Club.

"It definitely means a lot," Dillon said of the state medal. "I worked hard throughout the season and medaling at state was an expectation for me. My goal was to finish in the top 10 at state."

Dillon finished in a three-way tie for 10th place and had to compete in a playoff for position. Dillon teed off on hole No. 5 and his ball made his way into the rough.

He then was able to put the ball on the green on his next shot

and was about eight feet from the hole, which set up a birdie opportunity. Dillon went on to par on the hole while the other two players bogeyed.

It was the end of a long day for Dillon, one that featured that lengthy delay in the middle of his round due to inclement weather

“I felt like I shot well, given the conditions and the toughness of the course,” Dillon said. “Wamego Country Club has tight fairways and fast greens. I hit a few shots that cost me, but the course was playing tough for everyone.”

Dillon was joined by Louisburg senior Ty Martin who also had a big improvement off his previous state appearance a year ago. Martin shot an 85, which put him in a tie for 28th place, and was 10 strokes better than his state performance last season.

The Wildcats had two top 30 finishes in a tournament that featured 104 golfers from across the state.

“Calvin played a great round,” Louisburg coach Brian Burns said. “He deserved a top 10 medal for all of his hard work this season. Ty played good also. He was in the top 27 percent in the state tournament and that is pretty darn good.”

Dillon also saw a familiar face on the course as he faced off with his cousin Chase Dillon – a junior from Wamego. What was even more unexpected was the two Dillon’s shot the same score and played in the playoff together to determine 10th place.

“Playing with my cousin was fun,” Calvin said. “He is an outstanding golfer and he had a terrific season. It was ironic that we posted the same score and Chase and I were excited to play against each other. It was a neat way to end the state tournament.

“I felt like I had a good freshman year. I met most of the goals that I set at the beginning of the season.”