Virginian Reilly wins boys senior Scott Robertson title

By: Steve Hemphill May 19, 2024

For more than a quarter century, Virginians experienced a cold spell when it came to claiming the top spot in the boys' title at the Scott Robertson Memorial, presented by Janney.

On Sunday, not one, but two golfers who call Old Dominion home were battling for championship crystal.

And the difference turned out to be Logan Reilly's birdie on the 17th hole. The rising senior from Lovettsville who attends Bishop O'Connell High School in Arlington shot a 2-under-par 67 to edge Michael Lee of Fairfax at Roanoke Country Club.

Reilly was the third Virginian since 2018 to win the tournament, joining Connor Johnson of Richmond and Michael Brennan of Leesburg. But before that, the last Virginian to win the tournament was Jason Barba of Virginia Beach in 1992.

"Home state, I've gotta show out," Reilly said. "It definitely feels good to cement my name as one of the best Virginia golfers here."

Reilly, who plans to play golf at Auburn after completing his senior year of high school, claimed two titles in less than a week. Last Monday, he shared medalist honors with another Scott Robertson competitor -- Xander Goboy of Chesapeake and Catholic High School, in the Virginia Independent Schools state tournament in Williamsburg.

Goboy finished in a tie for eighth place. Two other Virginians, Jake Albert of Blacksburg and Nate Faulkner of Roanoke County and Cave Spring, also finished in the top 10.

"Obviously, it hasn't sunk in completely yet, but I see that list of (former winners) and it feels so good," Reilly said.

Lee took a one-shot lead into Sunday but went in knowing it was going to be a competitive day. Nine players were within four shots of the leader, including 2023 champion Tyler Mawhinney, who birdied three of the first five holes to close in on the leaders. However, the rising junior from Fleming Island, Florida, slipped back after that with two bogeys on the next four holes.

The biggest charge of the day came from Brady Catalano of Columbus, Ohio, whose 66 was the low round of the day and vaulted him to third place for the tournament.

Still, it was going to take either Lee or Reilly to falter if anyone was going to get to the top of the leaderboard. Lee had the early advantage, shooting a 1-under 34 on the first nine. But he ran into trouble early in the back nine, carding bogeys on the 10th and 12th holes. He did birdie No. 11 in between but finished his day with six straight pars.

Meanwhile, Reilly heated up on the back nine, getting birdies on the 13th and 14th holes, and then taking the lead on the par-5 17th.

"I probably hit the best drive of the week on that hole -- I hit right down the middle," Reilly said. "I was about 230 yards (out), and it was kind of a mud ball, so I wasn't sure where it would go, but it was a fine shot. It went into the right rough, and then I chipped it up to about 5 feet and drained it."

Lee had a chance to force a playoff on the 18th hole when he had a putt for birdie, but his attempt came up short.

"I just didn't putt too well today, and I had a few mistakes," Lee said. "There were a lot of mud balls out there today and then (the next shot) didn't do what I was hoping it would do. I played well, but Logan was better and deserved it."

For Reilly, the SRM was his second high-level win in the past year. Last July, he won an AJGA event in Pennsylvania. He has had two other AGJA top-10s as well.

"My iron game and my wedges have improved (since last year), Reilly said. "I'm giving myself birdie opportunities and even if the putter isn't rolling, some of them have to go in because they're so close."