

Basketball's loss is golf's gain

By Tim McFarlin
STAFF WRITER

"I thought golf was nerdy. I've always wanted to play basketball. I love the game." These are not words you would expect to hear from your average two-time All-American golfer. You definitely wouldn't hear them from one of your average top-ten returning Division III players in the nation. But then again, there is nothing average about Guilford senior Bo Reitz.

Reitz started golfing at about the age of six. That's not too hard to believe since his father played four years on the PGA Tour. His father is also the head pro at the River Ridge Country Club. With a father like that and a mother who also played, you can see how easily pressure could have been put on Bo to golf. The amazing thing is that he says there was very little pressure.

"Some people may have expected me to golf well," Reitz said. "If I came out and shot in the 80s everyday they would want to know what my problem was, but for the most part it was left up to me."

As well as golf, Reitz played basketball for the Milbrook High School team in his junior and senior years. The golf team won the state championships all four years that he attended. By the end of his senior year, Reitz had cast aside his thoughts on golf and shifted them to his love of basketball. He worked out intensively to get in shape in order to play basketball at Guilford College.

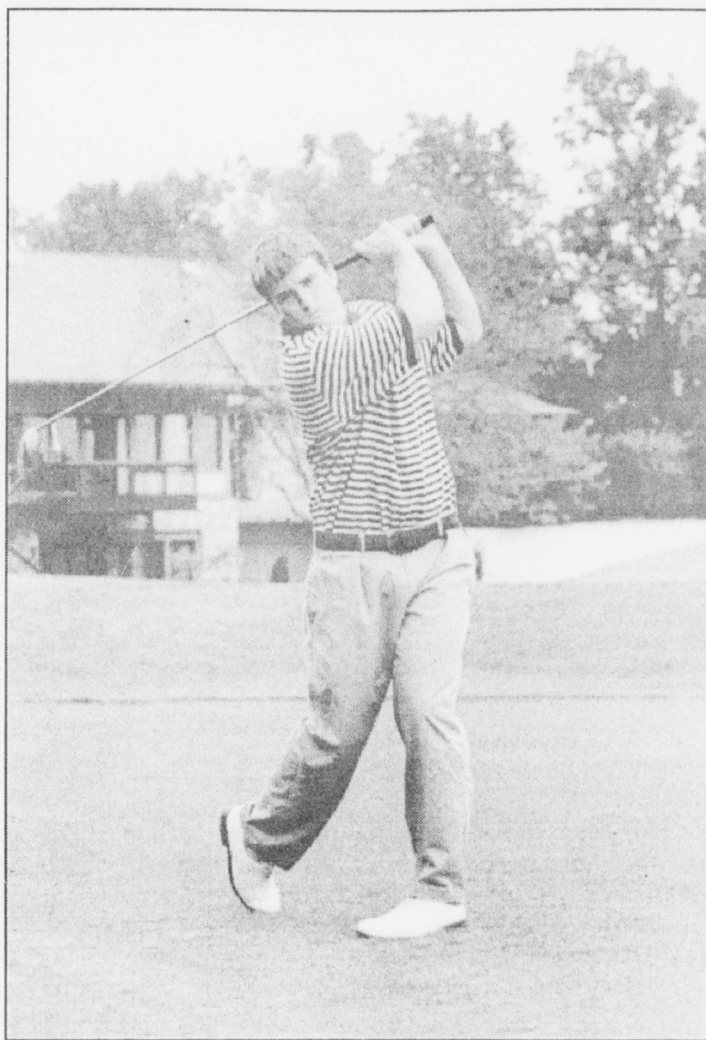
"I didn't play any golf in the summer before college," Reitz said. "I was so into basketball, but I needed to be in shape to play for a college team."

Basketball/golf coach Jack Jensen tried to get Reitz to change his mind.

"I told Bo he was a golfer and that he was better suited for golf than basketball," Jensen said. Reitz agreed by the end of the hoops season when he was only seeing about eight minutes of action per game. However, Jensen urged him to wait until the next season before playing for the golf team.

"I knew that Bo could lose a year of eligibility if he failed to do well in that first season," Jensen said. "But Bo, as well as his parents, felt that he was ready to play. I couldn't tell him that he couldn't play golf; he was paying tuition to come here, but I did my best to convince him to wait. He just really wanted to play again." It turned out that Jensen was right. Reitz lost a season.

By his sophomore year, though, he was back on track. He earned second team All-American honors and placed fifth in the



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFORMATION
Bo Reitz is a two-time All-American golfer.

league championships.

"I'm always going," said Reitz. "I like to play fast. I think I play better when I go faster." He can play games in about two hours if they are at his pace. His personality is much like his golf game. Words pour out of his mouth as fast as his brain can process them.

"I'm aggressive," Reitz said. "Driving the ball is my favorite

part of playing. I get to swing harder, and I'm not really much of a finesse player anyway."

Low numbers tend to come in clusters for the senior golfer.

"I can get kind of streaky," said Reitz. "When I play well, I can play really well." This could be why he won the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) Player of the Year Award, not to mention the ODAC Tournament last year.

As for the future, he intends to play on the mini-tours. "I need to play some more before the PGA," Reitz said. "But that is definitely where I want to go."

Reitz came to Guilford because it was the only place where he could play basketball and golf. It was small, and his girlfriend goes to neighboring UNCG.

"If I had it all to do over again, I would still come to Guilford," he said. "I wouldn't try to play ball, but I would still come here. Being successful at golf is great, but I'm more proud of going to college." He has good reason to be. He is the first on his father's side of the family to go to college.

Celebrate Guilford!

Join the Guilford community for a celebration!

Wednesday, October 7, 1998
11:00am-1:30pm
Founders Lawn, Founders Lobby, and the Cafeteria

Sponsored by the Community Time Committee. For more information, please call Anne Lundquist (x2127) or the FYC (x2425).

Fearless forecast: the next generation



Gary Young



Laura Parker



David Heggie



Dave Walters

Penn State at Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State
Tennessee at Auburn	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee
Nebraska at Oklahoma State	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska
Florida at Alabama	Florida	Florida	Florida	Florida
Arizona at Washington	Washington	Arizona	Washington	Washington
Florida State at Maryland	Florida State	Florida State	Florida State	Florida State
Washington State at UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA
Arizona State at USC	USC	Arizona State	USC	Arizona State
Colorado at Oklahoma	Colorado	Colorado	Colorado	Oklahoma
Georgia at LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU
Last week	5-5	7-3	7-3	8-2
Season to date	24-16	25-15	25-15	27-13

Taste the
Rainbow
Guilford's
Coming Out Ball

Dana Lobby

Saturday, October 3rd

10:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.