

Fox finishes senior season on four tournament wins

By **Garrett Chapman**
Staff reporter

Landon Fox, business senior, claimed first place individually in four out of five spring golf tournaments. He placed 14th with a three-round score of 223 in the fifth tournament, the KCAC Conference Championship.

“Winning four tournaments in one semester was a dream. The love and support from everyone at SC was so awesome,” said Fox.

Justin Churchill, assistant golf coach, said, “Landon was a huge part of our team’s success this season. We relied heavily on him to perform well so we could perform well as a team, and he definitely answered the call.”

Although Fox dominated his competition all season long, he did not have his top notch performance when it mattered most, the KCAC Conference Championship, which served as the national qualifying event.

“I don’t think that I deserve to make nationals just because I had a great semester, it’s just kind of how it goes,” said Fox, “Not qualifying for nationals hurts a little bit because I wanted nothing more than to qualify as a team. We all wanted it so bad, but it wasn’t meant to be.”

His teammate Brian Peck, accounting senior, took the spotlight as he clinched first place in the conference championship with a tournament record, 12 birdies, helping him to a 10 under par score of 206. Peck’s performance qualified him to play in Illinois, Ill. May 16-19 in the National Cham-

pionship.

“I’m extremely happy for Brian to have qualified. He is a heck of a player and he played phenomenal at Garden City. No one was beating him,” said Fox.

Fox was introduced to the game of golf by his grandpa and didn’t start competing in tournaments until his senior season of high school.

After high school, Fox went on to play at Barton County Community College, a junior college, where Fox claims he had his “real first instruction.”

Fox acknowledges that all of his golf mentors have impacted where he is today. “What led me to Southwestern was Coach

Sexson and his ability to make me a better player,” said Fox.

Under Brad Sexson, head golf coach, Fox has four individual first place finishes and has also earned two KCAC men’s weekly golf award.

Fox is different than your average golfer, he prefers to play in the wind. “The perfect day for a college tournament is lots of wind. I tend to hit the ball pretty low so wind doesn’t affect me the way it does other people. Of course it is harder to shoot a great score, but relative to everyone else, I play better in the wind,” said Fox.

Fox proved this point when he carded a score of 150, with two 75 stroke rounds,

to claim first place in the South Central Kansas Spring Invitational that was held at Quail Ridge in Winfield. The golfers faced winds up to 40 miles per hour and Fox showed that he handles the wind better than his competition.

Although Fox enjoys playing in the wind, the rain is a different story.

“My biggest challenge as a golfer personally, is rain. Rain makes it hard to hold the club and swing the way I want to,” said Fox. Fortunately enough, none of the spring tournaments were hindered by the rain.

No matter the weather, Fox always finds time to get a few extra swings in. Fox said, “I practice around 2-3 hours per day on my own, and then whatever we have for scheduled practice on top of that.”

Coach Churchill said the best part of Fox’s game is “his dedication and determination, he is always out practicing trying to perfect his swing, putting, and all-around game.”

His favorite course to play in Kansas is Sand Creek Station, in Newton. Fox likes golfing there because it is generally in good condition and he argues that it is a fun course.

Throughout his golfing years, Fox has learned to stay calm and collected.

“It requires you to be patient and composed at all times. I’ve become a much more mellow and cool-headed person,” said Fox.

Garrett Chapman is a senior majoring in communication. You may email him at garrett.chapman@sckans.edu



Landon Fox, business senior, uses his driver to hit the ball off the tee box. (Southwestern College Sports Information/Courtesy Photo)

Thompson discusses greenhouse’s presence on campus

By **Turki Alturki**
Staff reporter

Behind the Beech Science Center you will see the greenhouse that has been there since 1972. It used to be for growing plants for research purposes, but not anymore.

Max Thompson, greenhouse supervisor, said, “When I started working here we didn’t have greenhouses so I started to raise money for it and the students and I built two greenhouses for the class.”

The biology department doesn’t work with plants as much anymore, so the greenhouses have been put to other uses.

“Every other year, students will come and work and show an interest in plants,” said Thompson. Thompson graduated from Southwestern College in 1957 and then went to the University of Kansas for his



A wide variety of flowers, plants, and other landscaping items are sold at the SC Greenhouse. (Turki Alturki/Staff Photographer)

masters and the University of Ohio for his PhD. His masters is about birds, so after he finished it he traveled around the world to collect birds for museums. After that he focused on plants for his PhD. “I always like to work on plants,” Thompson said.



The college doesn’t operate the greenhouse, and the college doesn’t take any money from it. “I pick the students to work from the college,” Thompson said. Also the greenhouse pays the students who work on it.

“We ship plants all over the United States,” Thompson said. He also said that the greenhouse has big orders for California and they always deliver to Wichita.

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