

York beats Lancaster in War of Roses golf

SPORTS STAFF

Seizing the momentum by winning eight of Saturday's 12 fourball and foursomes matches, York outlasted Lancaster Sunday at Bon Air Country Club in Glen Rock to earn a 12.5-11.5 victory in the War of the Roses.

For York, it was the fourth win in the last six years in the annual Ryder Cup-style event, which pits 12 of Lancaster's top amateur golfers against their counterparts from York.

Lancaster was the defending champion, having won last year's event 13.5-10.5 at Foxchase Golf Club.

This time, York set the stage early, going 4-2 in Saturday morning's foursomes (alternate shot) matches before putting together another 4-2 mark in Saturday afternoon's fourball (better ball) matches to take an 8-4 lead.

Two of Lancaster's four points Saturday came from the father-son team of Deryl and David Denlinger, who finished the weekend as Lancaster's only undefeated players.

Lancaster's other two points Saturday came from the teams of Bunky Burgess and Aaron Fricke (in foursomes) and Chris Fieger and Mike Burkhart (in fourball).

Lancaster tried to right the ship in Sunday's singles matches, in which it took a quick 3-1 lead.

A half point by Hawk Valley's Aaron Fricke was followed by David Denlinger, of Lancaster Country Club, beating York's Axel Hartman 4 and 3.

Conestoga Country Club's John Weber followed that with a 2-up victory over York's Matt Henry, before Meadia Heights' Craig Kliewer halved with York's Jay Kostenbauder to cut Lancaster's deficit to 9-7.

But York did enough down the stretch to keep its lead, winning 3.5 of the remaining eight points.

In addition to half points from Burgess, Crossgates' Andy Zook and Meadia Heights' Corey Gast, Lancaster got victories from Deryl Denlinger (LCC), Alan Over and John Barry (LCC) to win the singles portion of the event 7.5-4.5.

Still, it wasn't enough to overcome York, which got a pair of singles wins from Cary Walton, who beat Fieger 1 up, and Brett Berkheimer, who cruised past LCC's Mike Burkhart 5 and 4.

Berkheimer finished the weekend as York's only undefeated player.

Since it was founded in 1995, Lancaster holds a 13-7 record in the War of the Roses, which is tentatively scheduled to be played next year at Meadia Heights Golf Club.