

Sports

Corey puts bow on stellar career at Yorktown

By Sean Douglas

On the final day of sports for the 2020-2021 sports season in Grant County, the tremendous career of Mississinewa’s Ty Corey came to an end, while Eastbrook’s all underclassmen squad battled admirably in a field of tough competitors at The Player’s Club in Yorktown. Mississinewa’s Justin Dakin also played his final high school match on Thursday afternoon.

Corey came out firing on the front nine, rallying from a first hole bogey to record a pair of birdies and five pars, finding his rhythm quickly.

“He had a bad three-putt on one, but then had a great second shot on three for birdie to get back to even,” Mississinewa Head Coach Andy Varner said. “He had another birdie [as well.] He was solid on the front nine.”

“I just came out on the front and hit really good shots,” Corey added. “My numbers were working perfectly. I putted well. I just did everything well.”

However, the back nine was not as kind. After being forced to take a stroke penalty following a poor drive on hole 10, Corey was unable to recover, finishing +9 on the final nine holes.

“He had a bad tee shot on 10 that, unfortunately, set the tone for the back nine,” Varner said. “Golf is



Eastbrook’s Andrew Jarck fired an 83 at the Player’s Club in Yorktown to cap off a stellar season. **Photos by Sean Douglas**

that way. One bad swing and you think everything you shouldn’t be thinking. I think that’s what happened.”

Despite that, however, Corey still finished with a solid score of 81, putting a capper on what has been an incredible high school tenure at Mississinewa – one that he will look back on with fondness.

“My senior season was pretty good,” Corey said. “I medaled in conference, and overall, I just played really well. Grant Four wasn’t my

best, but other than that, I was happy with the way I played.

“I’m just proud of the whole team. Every team I’ve been a part of, [there have been] a lot of great memories, a lot of good golf, and a little bit of bad golf. I’m sad to see it go, but I know I had a good time, and I’m thankful for that.”

After not playing a season ago due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Varner, after serving as an assistant in 2019, took the head job in

2021 and helped Corey take his game to new heights.

The senior credited Varner, an excellent golfer in his own right, for his stout play throughout the season.

“He was great,” Corey said of Varner. “No matter what it was...he always helped me. When I made a mistake, he would help me calm down and get my stuff back together. He was a great coach.”

Dakin finished his high school career with a 98,



Ty Corey watches his drive on the front nine at The Players Club in Yorktown,

and Varner thanked both Dakin and Corey not only for their tireless work ethic, but the lasting impression they will leave on the Mississinewa boys golf program.

“They are both great kids on the golf course, and even better off the course, which is all you can ask for,” Varner said. “I’m proud of both of them.

They didn’t have the round they wanted today, but I’m definitely proud of them.”

After scoring an 85 at the Norwell sectional, Eastbrook’s Andrew Jarck capped off a strong season with an 83 at The Players Club, which included a 39 on the front nine. Tyler Harness fired a 94 for the Panthers, while Cole Myrick finished with a 99.

Partnership will benefit Mississinewa students with \$1.6 million in funding

Family Service Society, Inc. (FSSI) in partnership with Project Leadership (PL) and Mississinewa Community Schools (MCS) has been awarded funding in the amount of \$1,636,163.00 from the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) to support recovery learning and remediation services for students enrolled in grades K-12.

As founding members of the Grant County Comprehensive Counseling Coalition, FSSI, MCS, and PL have a collaborative history serving the 63.8 percent of Mississinewa students who are economically disadvantaged.

Lisa Dominisse, President/CEO of FSSI, shared that FSSI has been working alongside Grant County schools since 2015, building foundations for social and emotional learning and mental wellness. Receiving these grant funds will allow for additional resource and tools



to further build and sustain the network necessary to support youth in our communities.

The funding will be utilized over a 2-year period of time to all Mississinewa Community School students from grades K-12. Mis-

ssinewa will be able to introduce new academic interventions to grades K-5 to compensate for COVID learning loss and increase the number of grades 6-12 students receiving academic interventions for English/Language Arts and

Math. Mississinewa will provide transportation and family engagement programming for students in these programs to reduce participation barriers.

Project Leadership will expand its college and career programming to include a new Connect mentoring program for high school students that will help ready them for post-secondary pathways. Project Leadership Director Tammy Pearson said the new initiative is designed around evidence-based models.

“Students who receive targeted support during high school are more likely to follow and succeed in their post-secondary pathways,” Pearson said. “This partnership is a positive example of three community partners collaborating to better serve students across three areas of comprehensive counseling —academics, social & emotional learning, and college & career services.”

Family Service Society, Inc. will expand professional development around Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) allowing more teachers to use programming on a regular basis, and students will have access to individual and group therapy to support wellness in all areas.

“Mississinewa Community Schools is excited to work with community partners in programming that support students, families, and staff in the areas of social and emotional learning, college and career readiness, and overall learning opportunities for all students. Working with community partners strengthens our resources and broadens our reach to more students. We believe all these opportunities for our students, families, and staff will promote a growth mindset and cultivate a school community where all stakeholders grow,” said Lezlie Winter, Superintendent of Mississinewa Community

Schools Corporation.

Winter continued. “All stakeholders have encountered multiple challenges during this past year and a half where it has required us to discover new and innovative ways to gather and provide information. Our partnership with Family Service Society, Inc. and Project Leadership has become an invaluable pathway to many of these resources. Together we have become better!”

This grant funding is part of the Student Learning Recovery Grant Program, House Enrolled Act 1008, and the IDOE awarded over \$122 million across the state of Indiana. For more information, visit www.doe.in.gov.

For more information about the services provided by Family Service Society, Inc. and the mission we serve, please visit www.family-services.com.