Williamson, Sweat Win Shriners Open

DeCarol Williamson and Greg Sweat turned in matching 7-under-par 67s Saturday and Sunday to claim the championship at the first National Shriners Crippled Children's Open Golf Tournament played Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Sea Trail Golf Links.

Brunswick County Shrine Club spokesman Don Willetts said 130 golfers competed in seven flights during the event, which featured celebrity entertainment. All proceeds of the event will go to Shriners' hospitals for burned and crippled children.

Last year Brunswick County Shriners raised $18,200 for the hospitals with a fish fry, a figure the club plans to top this year with the addition of the golf tournament, Willetts said. In addition to the golf tournament proceeds, a portion of the funds raised by the Shriners' Aug. 24 fish fry will also go to the hospitals.

"We don't have all our bills in yet," Willetts said, "but we know the profit won't be as much as we had expected."

He said Brunswick County has 24 children under treatment at the Shriners Orthopedic Hospital in Greenville, S.C., but no patients at any burn facility right now.

Golfers practiced on Friday before a qualifying round on Saturday and the finals on Sunday.

Saturday's prime rib dinner ended with a floor show that featured Dennis James, a professional master of ceremonies best known for hosting the Cerebral Palsy telethons; a group of songwriters from Nashville who performed their own songs, including *Wind Beneath My Wings* made popular by Bette Midler, and Foster Brooks, a humorist known for his "lovable lush" routines that imitate drunks.

The two 67s Saturday and Sunday on the par 72 course gave the winners a final score of 134 in the two-man, best-ball event.

Runners-up in the championship flight were Leon Milner and Mike Causey at 135 for second place and Lee Harris and David Redwine at 138 for third place.

Closest-to-the-pin prize winners were John Murphy on No. 5, who received a diamond watch from Tripp's Jewel Shop; Joe Hester, No. 13, gas grill, Lowe's of Whiteville; and Frances Williams, No. 17, outboard motor, Mike's Marine.

Clyde Raymond Babson won a television set from Lowe's of Southport for the best score over the two-day period on the No. 2 hole.

On Sunday, Greg Sweat won the longest drive prize on No. 11, a driver from Brunswick Funeral Service. Frances Williams had the longest drive on No. 9, receiving a driver from Carolina Custom Golf.

Other winners, by flight, were as follows.

First Flight: Sean Mulholland and Paul Allard, 142, first; Rick Ward and Rennie Clark, 143, second; and Buzz Clark and Joe Potts, 144, third;

Second Flight: Dean Walters and Al Morrison, 147, first; Charles Ostwalt and Marshall Hester, 149, second; and Melvin Pontiff and Ken Currin, 153, third;

Third Flight: John Ewart and Bob Brossia, 157, first; Willie Galloway and Harry Chetfield, 157, second; and Charlie Dietz and Don Dixon, 160, third;

Fourth Flight: Elwood Hall and Gary Smoke, 160, first; Phil Joyner and Tommy Combs, 161, second; and Tom Wilkerson and Chip Young, 165, third, on a tie broken by a match of cards;

Fifth: Bobby Dixon and John Phillips, 168, first, on a tie broken by a match of cards; Albert Parker and Merlee Johnson, 168, second; and Gerald Bishop and Bob McConnell, 173, third; and

Sixth: Willard Buffkin and Tom Thacker, 176, first; Al Laughinghouse and David Batten, 179, second; and John Murphy and Bob Helme, 182, third.

"This is going to end up the biggest event in Brunswick County," Willetts predicted, "in terms of both dollars and national attention. Now that we're established getting major figures won't be as hard to get."

He said the Shriners are already negotiating with the courses for next year's tournament, which he expects to again be set in August. American Airlines is working with Sea Trail Corp. to develop a special golf package for the event that includes transportation, lodging and golf fees, he said.

"If we can promote this thing nationally, can you imagine what that could do for Brunswick County?" Willetts asked.

Foster Brooks plans to return next year if his schedule permits, Willetts said. If so, the entertainer plans to bring with him another headliner.

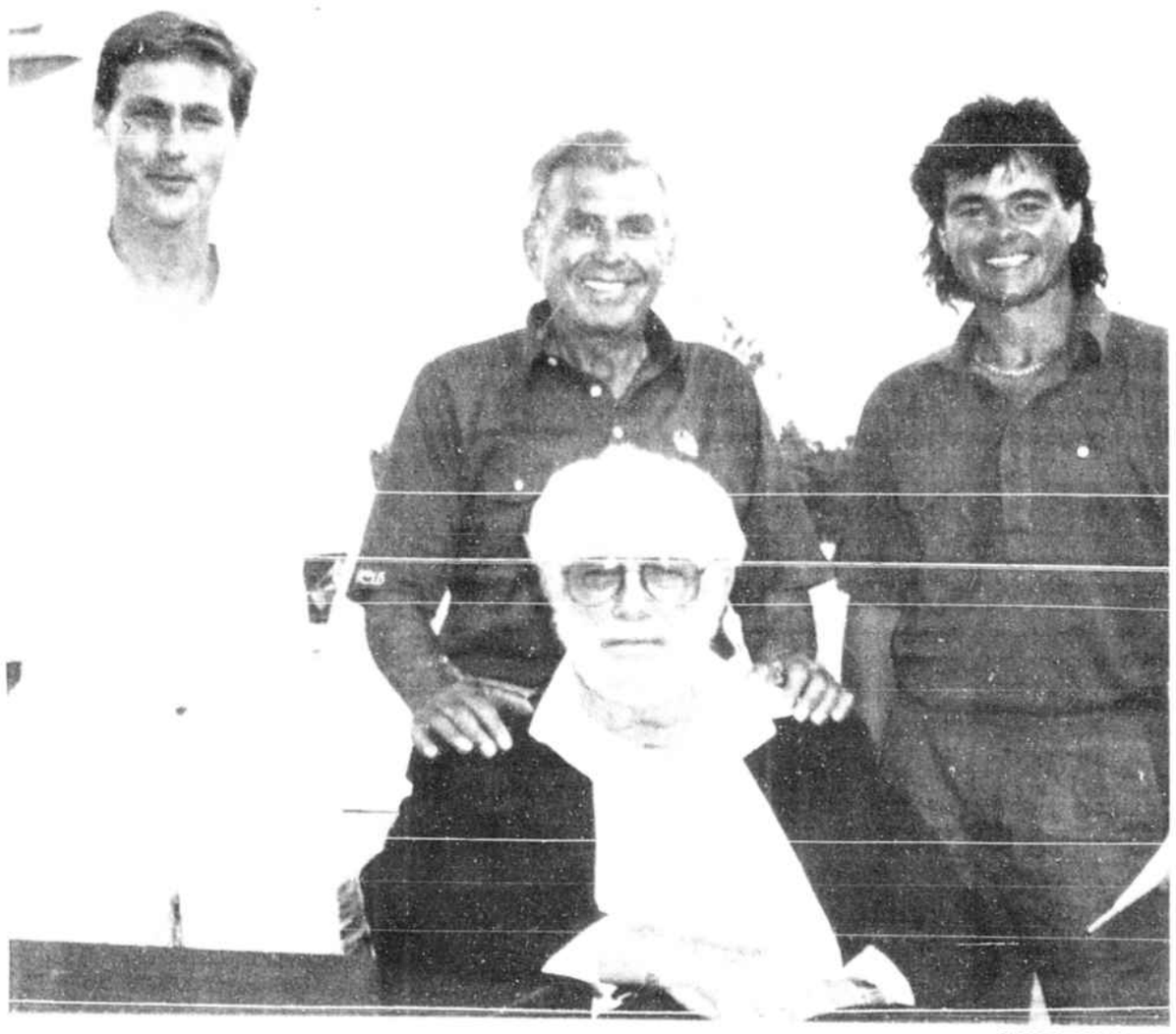

PHOTO BY STEVE SMITH

SHRINERS TOURNAMENT WINNERS Greg Sweat (left) and DeCarol Williamson (right) flank celebrity guests Dennis James (center rear) and Foster Brooks at Sea Trail Golf Links.

Spaces Available In Jaycee Tourney

Spaces are still available for golfers wanting to compete in the third annual South Brunswick Islands Jaycees golf tournament Sunday, Aug. 12, at The Pearl Golf Links near Calabash.

The four-man captain's choice tournament is scheduled to start at 1 p.m. Sunday with a shotgun start. The entry fee is $200 per foursome, according to tournament director Steve Gardner.

Teams will be flighted according to handicap. There will be trophies and prizes for winning teams and prizes for winners of closest-to-the-pin and long-drive contests.

A barbecue picnic and awards ceremony will follow play. The Jaycees will use proceeds from the tournament to aid local charities.

For more information, call Gardner at 579-9301.

Tournament Raises $2,000 For Scouts

Golfers raised about $2,000 for Boy Scout troops in southeastern North Carolina in the "Swing A Club For Scouting" tournament held July 28 at The Pearl Golf Links near Calabash.

Proceeds from the captain's choice event will benefit scouts in the eight counties including Brunswick that make up the Cape Fear Council of Boy Scouts of America, said spokesman Chris Clemmons.

Winners of the team tournament were Larry Boyte, Don Ramsey, Rick Brown and Bob Stenger with 59 in the "A" flight. Second place in the top flight went to the foursome of Tom Willis, Al Laughinghouse, Robert Cox and Kemp Causey with a 65.

In the "B" flight, the team of Rennie Clark, Francis Williams, John Williams and Harriet Ward took first place with net 62. Finishing three strokes back in second place was the foursome of Buddy Hollowell, Michael Cox, Brad Bruestle and John Morris.

State Sets 1990-91 Dove Season

The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission has set the mourning dove seasons and bag and possession limits for 1990-91.

The Commission adopted a 70-day dove season with a 12-bird daily bag limit and a possession limit of 24 birds.

The dove season dates are Sept. 1 through Oct. 6, Nov. 20-24 and Dec. 15 through Jan. 12. The season allows for hunting from half an hour before sunrise to sunset.

Biologists report an abundant population of doves this year, according to a news release from the state Wildlife Resources Commission.

Commissioners also clarified the agency's baiting enforcement policy, according to the release, saying that wildlife officers will not inspect any field at the landholder's request to determine whether it is baited for migratory game birds.

Hunters should check fields before hunting and discuss with landowners to ensure the fields are legal to hunt, the release states. Officers will explain, when asked, the law that determines baiting, the release says.

Under these state and federal rules, a court may convict a hunter of shooting over bait without having to prove the violator had knowledge that the field was baited, the release says.

Baiting is defined, by law, as "any area where shelled, shucked or unshucked corn, wheat or other grain salt or other feed whatsoever capable of luring, attracting, or enticing birds is directly or indirectly placed, exposed, deposited or scattered."

State and federal regulations prohibit hunting over a "baited" area for 10 days after the bait has been removed, because doves habitually return to the same area after their food supply no longer exists, the release states.

North Carolina also prohibits hunting within 300 yards of a baited area, according to the release. But, it says, dove hunting is allowed over fields where the crop was mowed, bush hogged or knocked down, as long as it is not harvested and redistributed on the field.

In the release, the Wildlife commission also reminds hunters that the minimum fine is $150 for using improper firearms when hunting migratory birds, using live decoys or bait, hunting during closed seasons and exceeding the bag or possession limits. The penalties call for a mandatory one-year suspension of the violator's hunting license.

The release says hunters can now purchase their 1990-91 hunting licenses. Before buying a 1991-92 hunting license, it says, hunters must prove they have previously had a hunting license or must show they have passed a certified hunter safety course.

The Commission also set seasons for rails, gallinules and moorhens, woodcocks, common snipe and Canada geese, according to the release.

A 70-day season, from Sept. 1 through Nov. 9, was adopted for rails, moorhens and gallinules. A daily bag limit of 15 and a possession limit of 30 was set for king and clapper rails, gallinules and moorhens. A daily bag limit and a possession limit of 25 were set for sora and Virginia rails.

North Carolina's woodcock season will run from Dec. 6 through Jan. 19, with a daily bag limit of three and a possession limit of six. The common snipe season is Nov. 14 through Feb. 28, with a daily bag limit of eight and a possession limit of 16.

A special Canada goose season was set for Sept. 4-10, but only west of Interstate 95. A special permit is required to hunt Canada geese during this season.

Chamber Plans Golf Tourney

Golfers who compete in the upcoming South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce golf tournament will be among the first to play the new Willard Byrd course at Sea Trail Plantation.

The captain's choice tournament is scheduled Saturday, Aug. 18. It will begin with a shotgun start at 9 a.m.

Cash prizes of $100, $75 and $50 will be given to the top three teams in each of two flights. There also will be prizes for closest-to-the-pin winners on each par 3 hole and the winner of the longest-drive contest.

Prizes including a golf bag, microwave oven and sunglasses valued at more than $200 will be awarded at a buffet luncheon following play.

Hole sponsors and teams are needed for the tournament. Individuals or businesses can sponsor a hole for $100 and enter a four-member team for $200.

For more information, call the Chamber of Commerce at 754-6644.

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