

Where Would You Play Last Round Of Golf?

I read an interesting article a while back that began with the notion of where one would choose to eat one's last meal. The author had written a column in a well known periodical asking readers to assume that they could pick any spot they desired to eat a proverbial "last meal" and they were asked to give an explanation of why they made their choice of places to eat.

The answers were all very interesting and ranged from some very formal dining to simple picnics in favorite places. Some went on to give the complete menu and others just said things like, "A hotdog at Yankee Stadium."

Food And Golf Go Together (Trust Me)

It occurred to me that it might be interesting to ponder just where one might choose to play their last round of golf. I have played this marvelous game on three continents and a lot of states, but it did not take me long to know exactly where I would play my last round.

At Fort Benning, Georgia, the home of the infantry, the officers club sponsored a wide variety of recreational and athletic facilities. Among them were two golf courses. A large clubhouse sat on a knoll overlooking the two 18 hole layouts: the Pine Side and the Lake Side. The Pine Side was the longer, stronger, and more difficult of the two. The Lake Side was a shorter, easier course which had more water, but the lakes did not really come into play very often.

Happy Hour At The Golf Course

During my first tour at Fort Benning, as a lieutenant, the golf courses were nice places to observe golfers and the scenery from the veranda of the clubhouse during "happy hour" on Friday afternoons. The sport simply had no appeal to me at the time.

Four years later while on a three-year tour in Germany, I had my first real experience at playing the game. I had caddied for my father for years as a teenager, but nothing I saw or heard created any excitement about playing golf. Caddying was a way of getting out with older guys about once a month to listen to them cuss their luck and argue continuously about their bets.

Golf Was A Command Performance

About a year after arriving in Germany I began to play with a new Colonel who wanted to compete against his Company Commanders about every two weeks or so during the summer. My swing was exactly like my Dad's, a baseball swing with a ten-fingered grip. The standard trajectory was long, but featured a large duck hook. I may come as no surprise to learn that I do not remember a single score that I shot in Germany. We always played bingle, bangle, bungle. As best as I can remember, the colonel wasn't all that good at scoring either.

...And A Ripoff To Boot

Upon my return to the states, I was assigned to a career course that would assign me to Fort Sill, Oklahoma and Fort Bliss (El Paso), Texas for about nine months before returning to Fort Benning to teach at the Infantry School. At Fort Sill all the guys in my carpool played golf, so I went to the Post Exchange and bought a set of Sam Snead Blue Ridge clubs.

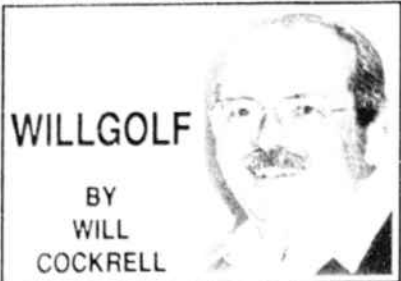
I still remember the cost. Boy golf was an expensive game. I got a full set of clubs, a bag, a pull cart, a dozen balls, and a glove for \$92. The PX did not sell putters so I had to pay \$8 for that sucker at the pro shop. Man, what a ripoff!

The golf course at Fort Sill had been built on limited acreage and was not very challenging. It had two or three interesting holes and some crazy out of bounds areas. But it served very nicely to totally embed the golf bug in my hide. One of the guys I played with was a really good golfer and the rest of us were pure duffers. There was one guy who we insisted tee up his ball on every shot, so we did not spend the whole day looking for his ball. I never broke 110 at Fort Sill.

It Never Rains In El Paso

In El Paso the golf course was one of only two places in town with green grass. The other was the town square. The course was a flat as a pool table with fairways as hard as concrete. The course was fairly short due to heavy winds most of the time. The ball would run almost as far as it would carry. The greens were lightning fast and I had to begin practicing my putting to hold down the three and four putts. I never broke 110 at El Paso. I just got madder at my game and swore to take lessons when I got back to those lush courses I remembered at Fort Benning.

Next Week: The Pine Side.



WILLGOLF
BY
WILL COCKRELL

Lefelar Fires 83 To Win Sea Trail Tourney

George Lefelar fired the low gross of 83 in the Sea Trail Men's Golf Association tournament last week on the Jones course.

Low net honors went to Ted Acton with a 65. He was followed by Bill Kushner, Wayne Ruff and Bob Kakos, who all shot net 71.

The previous week, 32 men competed in a best ball of foursome event on the Maples course.

The team of John Ewart, Bill Kimball, Bill Kushner and Bill Jones placed first with a net 63.

Second place went to the foursome of Wayne Ruff, Dick Zanser, Louis Grace and Walter O'Neill with net 64.

Closest to the pin awards went to Bill Kimball at the fifth hole and Bern Dawley at the 17th.

Brierwood Men

Three foursomes shot net 32 and

GOLFING ACTION

shared top honors in the Brierwood Men's Golf Association nine-hole mixed scramble last Wednesday.

Winning teams were as follows: Ruth Linder, Jack Baker, Morris Hall and Frank Thompson; Marge Roach, Martha Wareheim, Dick Anzelone and Al Butler; and Barbara Baxter, Joyce Thompson, Greg Bouldin and Gene Loflin.

On Nov. 18, the foursome of Jack Causar, Greg Bouldin, Emile Vrydaghs and Gary O'Connell shot 125 to win a two best ball event.

Finishing four shots back in second place was the team of Roy Havenga, Neal McCall, Al Butler and Ed Frey.

Brick Landing

Two teams tied for first place in

the Brick Landing Ladies Golf Association captain's choice tournament last Thursday.

The team of Rose Gomey, Pat Sneyers, Debbie Rupp and Joan Behrle shot 71 to tie the threesome of Pauli Waddle, Vivian Rowe and Terry Ehler.

Brierwood Ladies

Three teams tied for first in the Brierwood Ladies Golf Association fall scramble last week with scores of 72.

Winning teams were Marie Dolan, Ruth Linder, Betty Shreve and Doris Dunfee; Ginny Dorshimer, Marian Corbin, Pat Strauss and Peg Steiner; and Jan Loflin, Tru Schmalzer, Bettlou Bayne and Barbara Baxter.

Finishing second with a round of

74 was the foursome of Ann Causar, Jane Fleg, Ellie Scutt and Jean Lacerenza.

Gill Leading Way On Carolina Tour

Hugh Gill of Calabash is leading the Coastal Carolina Golf Tour money list with more than \$7,000 in winnings for the season.

Gill earned \$1,100 last week after winning the Emerald Venture Classic at Quail Creek Golf Club in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

The local golfer shot 139 over the two-day event to defeat Ray Freeman of Lexington by one stroke.

The Coastal Carolina Golf Tour is tournament series for professional touring golfers played in coastal North and South Carolina.

Trojans Gearing Up For Second Wrestling Season

BY DOUG RUTTER

West Brunswick High School opens its second year of wrestling next week, with hopes of building on the success achieved last year.

"It's all going to depend on their attitude," Coach Joe Noble said. "We had a lot of fun last year, but we also worked hard and learned a lot."

The Trojans went 4-6 in their inaugural season, with wins against North and South Brunswick, Hoggard and New Hanover.

Four of the team's losses last year were against Laney High School, which finished second in the state 4-A tournament.

"We broke in pretty slow because it was our first season, but we have a much longer schedule this year," Noble said. "We're real excited about it."

West Brunswick has 18 matches slated this season leading up to the state team and individual tournaments in February.

The Trojans open on the road Dec. 3 against Hoggard, before their home opener Dec. 6 against New Hanover. West hosts the county tournament Feb. 1.

Noble likes the longer schedule this year, which includes several matches against 4-A schools. "The more you're on the mat the more you learn," he said.

West Brunswick has between 30 and 40 wrestlers this year, compared to 16 last year.

With at least two or three wrestlers in each weight class, Noble said the team will have a "wrestle-off" the night before each

Dec. 3	Hoggard	Away	7 pm
Dec. 6	New Hanover	Home	7 pm
Dec. 10	Hoggard	Home	7 pm
Dec. 14	Laney Tour	Away	TBA
Dec. 16	Socastee	Away	7 pm
Dec. 17	Laney	Away	7 pm
Dec. 20	New Hanover	Away	7 pm
Dec. 23	Tri-Match At S. Brunswick	Away	11 am
Jan. 6	N. Brunswick	Home	7 pm
Jan. 8	S. Brunswick	Home	7 pm
Jan. 11	Tri-Match At Lejeune	Away	11 am
Jan. 17	N. Brunswick	Away	7 pm
Jan. 21	S. Brunswick	Away	7 pm
Jan. 25	NC/SC Tour. At N. Bruns.	Away	9 am
Jan. 29	Aynor	Away	7 pm
Feb. 1	B.C. Tourney	Home	TBA
Feb. 3	Socastee	Home	7 pm
Feb. 5	Aynor	Home	7 pm
Feb. 8	State Dual Team Tourney		
Feb. 15	Reg. Tour. Williamston		
Feb. 22	State Dual Team Tourney		
Feb. 27	State Individual Tour.	28, 29 at Greensboro	

match to determine who will compete.

"The competition level is going to increase because everybody is going to be fighting for that starting job come match time," Noble said.

Noble expects to send at least two or three wrestlers to the state tournament.

They could come from among the following wrestlers who were on the

team last year: Barry Johnson (103), Dexter Cokeley (112), Marty Earwood (119), Eric Andres (140), Jimmy Hagler (145), Wayne Branch (152), William Stanley (160), Trey Hickman (189) and Steve Brooks and Tony Caison (Heavyweight).

Most of the newcomers to the West Brunswick squad are freshmen with little or no wrestling experience, but that doesn't bother Noble.

"We didn't have any experience last year either, and I think we came a long way," he said. "These kids can be good wrestlers in a couple of years if they're willing to work hard and learn."

Noble has four assistants helping him coach this season, all of whom have wrestling experience.

They are Isaac Hines, who wrestled for West Brunswick last year; Matthew Jensen, a 1988 graduate; Mike McCullough and Lee Bollinger, both of whom have college wrestling experience.

Over the last few weeks, Noble and his assistants have been working with the wrestlers on strength and conditioning and various moves.

Noble has coached wrestling for four years. He said he sees things as only getting better for the high school wrestling program, which is still in its infancy.

He looks forward to the day when kids participating in the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation youth wrestling program get into the high schools.

"The system we have going right now is really good," he said. "The only thing we don't have is wrestling in the middle schools."

Noble, who also is an assistant football coach, said there's no more physically demanding sport that wrestling.

"You have nobody to fall back on," he said. "It's you against your opponent. If you screw up, you get beat."

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THE BEACON

South, North Open Wrestling Seasons

South and North Brunswick high schools were both scheduled to open their wrestling seasons Tuesday night on the road with matches against New Hanover County teams.

The Cougars were to travel to Laney for their opening match of the year, while the Scorpions were scheduled to compete at Hoggard. Both matches were slated for 7 p.m.

The two Brunswick County teams are scheduled to compete in tournaments Saturday starting at 10 a.m. South will travel to Dixon and North will go to Laney.

The home openers for North and South are slated Tuesday, Dec. 3, at 7 p.m. The Cougars will host Lejeune, and the Scorpions will host Laney.



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