

Great Golf Weather; Local Courses Thriving

It is really good to see the local golf courses thriving with the nice weather we have had recently. If the number of rounds being played is any indication, we must surely be pulling out of the recession.

I made a tour of the golf courses this past weekend and they were really stacking up the traffic. Many of the golfers were coming back for replays in the afternoon. Thanks to the recent rain the courses all look great and the excitement of the chatter in the clubhouses, bars and restaurants at the courses indicates the players are really enjoying themselves.

WILLGOLF

BY
**WILL
COCKRELL**



West Golf In Preseason

The West Brunswick High golf team took advantage of the teacher workday last week to be the guest of Lion's Paw for a team tournament last Monday. The youngsters really enjoyed the challenge of this new course. They were warned in advance that the greens were fast, but it took most of them three or four holes to get speed of their putts matched the Lions Paw putting surfaces.

When I called Lion's Paw to schedule the tournament, I was delighted to hear Eddie Pratt answer the phone. Eddie was a member of the first golf team I coached at West back in the late 70s. He went on to play golf at UNC-Wilmington and is now the assistant professional at Lion's Paw. The pro shop was so busy that I did not get much time to talk to Eddie, but when I do I suspect there will be a story worth telling.

Jeremy Grainger was the winner of the tournament with a solid 80 for the day. Joey Stadick came in second and Tony Shreve was third. The course was new to most of the players and they shot a few strokes above their average. I suspect that they are glad that I am not divulging any other scores.

During preseason preparations the team is alternating between range practice and playing nine holes after school each day. There just is not enough daylight to get in 18 holes after school. Most of the team manages to play a couple of full rounds each weekend.

Short Game For Lower Scores

The team devoted lots of practice last week to the short game. We worked on a variety of wedge shots and run-up shots around the greens and spent some time in bunkers. This old coach is trying to instill in them the need to master the short shots to take pressure off of their drives and approach shots.

Putting and putting drills are also getting some emphasis as we approach our first scrimmage against Whiteville. Most of the players have long since settled on their favorite putter, but too many of them have yet to decide on their putting strokes. This week they will be looking at drills on three, four and five foot putts which must finish either in the hole or no more than three feet beyond the hole. If any of their putts finish up short of the hole, the drill must be repeated.

Woe Be Unto A Careless Putter

All of the players know that these short putts will save many strokes in medal play over 18 holes. During the team tournament, one of our players suffered the misfortune of backhanding a two-footer and missing it. I say misfortune because we have a very special putting drill for players who putt in any careless fashion and miss.

Incidentally, all members of the team have finally passed their rules test. None of them passed the first time, one passed on the second go around, and five of them had to take it four times. Until they passed the test they were not allowed to play a practice round. What they really learned on the test was to have a strong working knowledge of the definitions, and keep a rule book in their bag.

The Carolinas Golf Association rules workshop at Sea Trail Plantation for the PGA Professionals was most interesting. I learned a few new wrinkles on how to make a ruling and a lot about how to properly mark a golf course for a professional tournament.

North Golfers To Play In Waccamaw

North Brunswick's golf team will participate in its first Waccamaw 2-A Conference match next Monday, March 16, at Old Fort Golf Club.

Coach Randy Roberts said all seven conference schools with golf teams will compete in the season-opening tournament, which starts at 2 p.m.

Roberts said this will be North's

first year competing in conference golf matches. The team was started last year.

"We're really looking forward to it," he said. "We're really excited about it."

Old Fort, located on N.C. 133 near Winnabow, will be North Brunswick's home course.

College Golf Team Loses First Match

Brunswick Community College lost its season opener last Wednesday by three strokes to Horry-Georgetown Technical College, 327-330.

John Doshier led the BCC team with a round of 74, followed by Chris Bland with 80, Julia Hayes with 85 and Ray Andrews with 91. The match was played at Sandpiper

Bay Golf Club near Calabash.

Other BCC team members include Norman Sampson, Tim Lombardi, Jason Hayes, Jeff Williamson, Scott Bowling and Andy Clemmons.

This is the second year for BCC's golf team. The college was to host a team from Rhode Island on Tuesday at Oak Island Country Club.

Foxy Ladies Team Shoots 108 At Sandpiper

Rose Reiter, Joanna Lang, Pierrette Tompkins and Bettilou Bayne teamed up for a 108 and won the Foxy Ladies tournament last Thursday at Sandpiper Bay.

Finishing three shots back in second place in the best ball event was the foursome of Jan Loflin, Ellie Scott, Bobby Cordisco and Martha Wareheim.

Ann Causer, Margaret Wood, Lou Akers and Molly Hoke finished third with a score of 115.

The Foxy Ladies' next event will be held April 23 at Land O' Lakes Golf Course near Whiteville.

CS Travel League

Al Wright, Gene Miltner, Frank Steiner and George Turns shot 53 to win the Carolina Shores Men's Travel League best ball tournament last Friday at Colonial Charters.

On a match of cards, the team of Fritz McCabe, Leo Jamusz, Jack Baumeister and Frank Torgersen took second with a net 55.

John Farley, Bob Murphy, Charley Abarno and Ken Singleton placed third with 55, followed by the team of Tom Brendgord, George O'Connell, Frank Eckert and Bernie Anderson with 55.

Placing fifth with a round of 56 was the foursome of Don Kedding, Phil Nardocci, Chuck Jann and Tony Basile.

Brierwood Ladies

Marge Roach fired an 82 to earn low gross honors in the Brierwood Ladies Golf Association tournament last week.

Mary Schaack and Bobbi Maples tied for low net in the first flight with rounds of 65. Schaack also had low putts with 26.

Top finishers in the second flight were Ruth Linder with a gross 97 and Ellie Scott with net 67. Ester Smith had low putts with 27.

In the third flight, Joan Cowie fired the low gross of 99 and had low putts with 30. Pierrette Tompkins had the low net of 64.

Louise Blizzard fired the low gross of 103 in the fourth flight. Evelyn Wuthrich had low net with 64, and Edith Wilkens had low putts with 30.

Schaack chipped in for birdie at the 16th hole. Other chip-ins were carded by Wuthrich at the sixth hole, Joanna Lang at the seventh, Doris Dunfee at the 12th and 16th



and Smith at the 18th.

Birdies were recorded by Molly Hoke at the third hole, Roach at the sixth and Lois Beato at the 15th.

Sea Trail Men

Dave DeFerie, Winston Stephens, Augie Douglass and Bill Kushner fired a 64 to win the Sea Trail Men's Golf Association captain's choice on March 3.

The threesome of Don Lowenstein, Bill Morris and Bern Dawley placed second with a round of 65.

The tournament was played on the Maples course, with a record number of 50 golfers competing.

Five teams tied at 66. On a match of cards, the team of Gene Bilz, Gene Williams, Al Cambria and Bob Moore was awarded third place.

Brick Landing

Alice Grossman had low gross and Martha Cullen shot low net in the first flight of the Brick Landing Ladies Golf Association tournament last week.

Second flight winners were Ginny Hohing with low gross and Sue Nelson with low net.

Betty Squire had a chip-in at the 16th hole and Cullen birdied the 17th.

Nifty Niners

Charlotte Martin fired the low gross of 56 in the Carolina Shores Nifty Niners tournament last Thursday at Ocean Isle Beach Golf Course.

Runners-up were Ellen Miltner with 60 and Marge Marcyes with 61. Ellen Erickson and Edna O'Connell each had chip-ins during the round.

Brierwood Men

Hal Schuler fired a 47 to win the Brierwood Men's Golf Association tournament last Thursday.

Golfers used their full handicaps and dropped scores on the four worst holes. Ed Asten and Paul Keeley tied for second place with rounds of 49.

Jim Crosby, Charlie Stransky, Dave Harper and Roy Havenga tied for third place with scores of 50.

On March 2, Bob Holk won a points tournament at Brierwood with five points. Neal McCall finished second with four.

Each golfer received two points for an eagle, one for birdie, zero for par, minus one for bogey and minus two for double bogey.

Jerry Smith and Howard Scutt tied for third with three points each. Hank Culp was fourth with two, followed by Paul Keeley with one.

Two teams tied for first in the 18-hole captain's choice mixed scramble March 1 at Brierwood.

Jack Baker, Joe Reiter, Priscilla Shoemaker and Ruthmary Buzzell shot 68 to tie the foursome of John Martocci, Ed Asten, Marian Rockstroh and Lois Beato.

The team of Bob Brooks, Piney Hershberger, Pat Narazinski and Audrey Salmon finished third with a three-under-par 69.

Ruth's Renegades

Members of Ruth's Renegades counted even-numbered holes only and used half of their handicaps in the weekly tournament last Thursday. Twenty-four women competed at Carolina Shores and 10 played at Brierwood.

Top finishers at Carolina Shores were Jenny Briggs with net 29, Arlene Singleton with 30 and Blanche Johnson with 34.

Evelyn Wuthrich had the overall low gross of 108 and low net of 68. Marie Terzo had a chip-in at the fourth hole.

Jennie Ward led the way at Brierwood with net 38. Phyllis Harding shot 40 and took second place on a match of cards over Toni Kobos.

Barbara Pointer had the low gross of 100 and low net with 69.

Carolina Shores Ladies

Mary Johnson shot net 37 to lead the first flight in the Carolina Shores Ladies Golf Association tournament last Thursday.

Golfers counted scores on holes starting with the letters "T" and "I" and used half of their handicaps.

Top finishers in the second flight were Jean Sperry with net 34, Ruth Radcliffe with 34.5 and Alice Abene with 39.5.

Joan McNamara led the way in the third flight with net 36. Mary Shafer finished second with a round of 37.

In the fourth flight, Kay Kennedy placed first with 36.5, followed by Claude Kyker with 37.5. Kyker chipped in for birdie at the third hole.

Gloria Lucas chipped in at the 16th and had low putts for the tournament with 29. Grace Thorpe also chipped in at the eighth.

Tourney To Benefit Bradley Foundation

The Fred Bradley Foundation will be the beneficiary of a captain's choice golf tournament Sunday, March 22, at Lockwood Golf Links near Holden Beach.

The four-man event starts at 1:30 p.m. and will be limited to 25 teams. It will feature closest-to-the-pin and "beat the pro" contests.

The \$50 per person entry fee covers golf, snacks and beverages and a pig pickin' following the tournament.

Trophies will be awarded to the top three teams in each flight. Participants also will be eligible to win door prizes.

The Fred Bradley Foundation is named in honor of a former West Brunswick assistant football coach who died last year of cancer.

Its goal is to provide a partial scholarship and trophy each year to a West Brunswick football player.

For more information, call Michael Hobbs at 842-2002.

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