

DALE GREENE

Makes Big Defensive Play In Championship Game

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In the top of the fifth, Rockingham County loaded the bases with nobody out. Hamilton, who had walked to lead things off, tried to score on an attempted--but missed--squeeze bunt by Young. KM's catcher, Crook, made a good stop of a high outside pitch and dove in front of home plate to block the plate and apply the tag to Hamilton. Young then lined out to Chris Plonk at shortstop and Chip Cash made a long run to haul in John McCargo's long fly to rightcenter to end the inning.

The Cougars put two runners on base in the top of the seventh. Hamilton walked and an out later, Eric Parker singled. Young fouled out to Crook in front of the Cougar dugout, and Greene made a good play on McCargo's shot between short and third and threw the big Cougar catcher out at first to end the game. McCargo's flying spikes kicked the back of Brannon's ankle and the Mountaineer fans were worried for awhile that he had been injured as team coaches and trainers administered first aid. But, after several minutes with an ice pack, he was pronounced in good condition and ready to play the title game on Thursday

Thursday night's game was delayed for over an hour as players, coaches and fans dried the infield from the afternoon rains. At 7 p.m. the field was covered with water, but players used plastic cups to dip water into huge buckets, coaches took divots out of the ground and used vacuums to pull water out of the holes, others burned wet spots and fans used leaf blowers to try to dry the drenched earth.

"Really, the game should never have been played," said Coach Clark.

"The field was completely under water, but it showed just a tremendous desire on the part of our players who wanted to play it. They felt like they were ready and the coaches felt like that if we played it would catch Rockingham in a state of shock that we were playing it.

"Rick Strunk of the NCHSAA told me that he'd never seen more support from a team and community as he saw Thursday night. When our kids saw how bad our fans and community wanted the state championship, it gave them a tremen- two batters in the first, second, dous boost and I don't think we had opening pitch, it was our ball- end the game. game.

back-to-back singles from Toby plays on shortstop. Deaton and Chris Henson to open hit a home run, breaking still an- score runs.' other state record.

Toby Deaton slammed his second homer of the series in the fourth, a three-run shot over the left-center field fence which boosted the KM lead to 6-0, and KM closed out the scoring with four runs in the fifth to make it 10-0. Chad Plonk led off with his 11th home run of the year. Chris Bullock doubled and Chip Cash reached on an infield hit. With Chris Plonk batting, Bullock and Cash pulled a double steal. McCarbo's attempt to throw Bullock out at third ended up in left field and Bullock scored and Cash took third. Plonk walked and

stole second and pinch-hitter Chris Morris fanned, but gained life on a wild pitch to load the bases. Deaton and Henson walked with the bases loaded to force in the final two runs.

Meanwhile, junior southpaw Keith Allen was mowing down the Cougars at bat. He went the distance, allowing only four hits and fanning 10. He retired the Cougars in order three times and didn't allow a runner past second base until the seventh inning. He struck out third and fifth innings and fanned played any better all year than we Rockingham County's most dandid Thursday night. From the gerous hitter, Lonnie Galloway, to

"That's the best Keith's ever Working on the field for over pitched in his life, at least in high two hours did nothing to weaken school," said Coach Clark. "We the Mountaineers. KM, batting in told him to just throw strikes bethe top of the first because of state cause our hitters were hot and they roles which make the hosts the vis- were going to get him some runs. iting team in the middle game of a He gave a great effort and Chris three-game championship set, got Plonk made some great defensive

"Our team didn't make a single the game. Then Paul Brannon error Thursday, and it's just like slammed his 20th homer of the Coach Bud Bumgardner and I were season to give the Mounties a 3-0 talking about, if these kids don't lead. The homer marked the sev- make errors they may very well be enth straight game the KM star had unbeatable because they're going to

Chris Plonk made several good stops and throws to keep Cougars off the bases. In the fourth, he snared a line drive off the bat of McCargo and doubled Young off first base to end the inning, and in the sixth he went into the hole to field a hard grounder off the bat of Parker and forced Jones at second to end the inning.

'Chad Plonk's efforts went pretty much unnoticed, but he got a single, double and homerun to end the season on a positive note," said Coach Clark. "He started the season on such a positive note and then got hurt, and hopefully this great finish will carry over for him next year."

### Austin, Rudisill Champions

Darrell Austin Jr. and Rudi Rudisill defeated John Gamble and Craig Huggins in a playoff to win their second straight Member-Guest Golf Tournament Saturday and Sunday at Kings Mountain Country Club.

Mickey Powers and Ray Adams won the championship B flight and Geeper Howard and Jerry Hornowski finished second.

First flight winners were Carol and Scott Ledford. John Howze and Ware Schiefer finished second.

Denny Hicks and Dennis Martin won the second flight and John Goforth and Joe Montgomery finished second.

Third flight winners were Lynn Cheshire and Don Ingle, who edged Charles and Chuck Neisler.

Lauren Whisnant and Jeff Davis won the fourth flight and Jim Jennings and J. Burton were sec-

George Bowen and Chuck Austin defeated John Harry and Jerry Simmons to win the fifth flight.

Thirty-eight teams participated. Darrell Austin Jr. won closest to the hole honors on the 8th and 17th holes. John Gamble won the longest drive on number six, Charles Mauney had the shortest drive on number one and John Goforth had the longest drive on number 15.

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## Samm Wolfe Runner-up In Tourney

Samm Wolfe, Assistant Golf Pro at Palmetto Dunes Golf Course, fired a two-under par 70 at Sea Marsh Golf Course in Sea Pines Plantation to take a two-shot lead after the first round of the 1989 Hilton Head Assistants

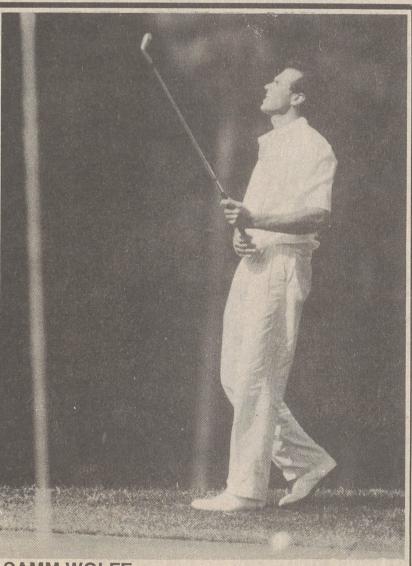
Championship. The annual 36-Hole Tournament is open to all assistant pros at the island golf clubs. The final round was at Ocean Marsh Golf Club in Sea Pines Plantation.

Wolfe didn't know it, but one of the mem playing in his foursome had the power of the pyramids behind him, but all the sand in Egypt couldn't save Wolfe on Tuesday.

Steve Patterson of Sea Pines Club, who trailed Wolfe by four storkes after the first round, shot a 69 in Tuesday's final round on the Ocean Course to win the tournament by three strokes.

For his effort, Patterson receives \$610.00 in cash and a one-week vacation to any one of more than 600 area sin the world compli-

ments of RCI. "I told my girlfriend I'd like to SAMM WOLFE See Wolfe, Page 5-B



Second In Hilton Head Championship



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