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SC's Next Top Junior!



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Ford wins Super-Senior title

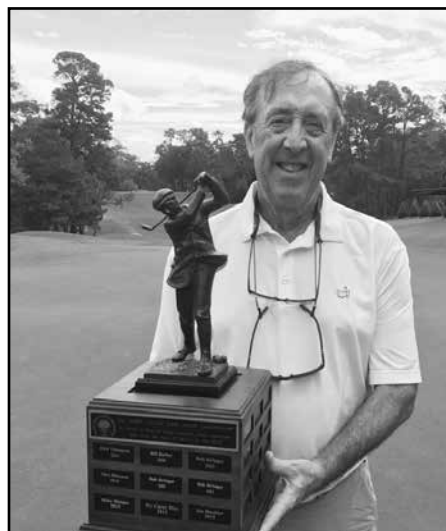
Spartanburg's Pope finishes second at Florence

Frank Ford trailed first round leader Tim Pope by a shot going into the final round of the SCGA Harry Wilson Super-Senior championship at the Florence Country Club.

The Charleston golfer shot a second round 3-under par 68 to slip by Pope for the victory.

Pope, from Spartanburg, finished in a second place tie with John Long from Murrell's Inlet four-shots behind the winner.

Defending champion Rick Cobb from Greenville finished in a tie for 11th.



Charleston's Frank Ford shot a final round 68 to win the SCGA Harry Wilson Super-Senior championship at the Florence Country Club.

Red Fox closing in November

Red Fox County Club in Tryon, NC has closed. The course is involved in a law suit between the owner and property owners around the club.

Rod Holbrooks, whose family has owned the course for 26 years, has sold Red Fox to a developer to turn the course into a number of horse farms.

The property owners maintain that their original agreements require the ownership to maintain the property as a golf course.

While the matter is being contested the course will close and is not expected to reopen.



Rapp and Moore win Mixed Team title

Emily Rapp and Jeremy Moore teamed up to win the WSCGA/SCGA Mixed Team championship at Fripp Island.

The winning team shot rounds of 71 and 76 for a 147 total and a one-shot win.

The team of John Ducey from Greenville and Kate Burns from Mount Pleasant finished in second place.

Lee and Shawn Venable from Simpsonville finished in third place.



USC Upstate teammates Matt Carter and Reid Bedell qualified for the USGA Four-Ball championship next spring. The team of Weston Bell and Robert Lutomski tied Carter and Bedell for the top spot in the qualifying tournament.

Upstate golfers qualify for 4-ball

Four golfers from the Upstate make up the two qualifying teams to play in the 2019 USGA Four-Ball championship.

USC Upstate golfers Reid Bedell and Matt Carter finished in a tie for medalist honors with Weston Bell and Robert Lutomski.

Bell and Lutomski survived a bogey by

making 10 birdies to post their 63.

Bedell and Carter didn't make a bogey and had 7 birdies, but it was Carter's eagle on the final hole that gave the two Spartan golfers the tie.

The two teams each shot rounds of 9-under 63 to earn the opportunity to play in the National Championship at Bandon Dunes, Oregon starting on May 25th 2019.

The sectional qualifier was played at the Lonnie Poole Golf Course in Raleigh.

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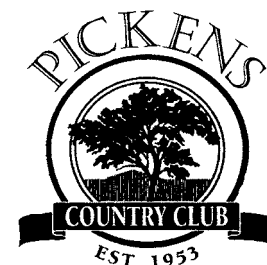
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Griz goes deep to win The Chapman

Future Clemson golfer gets first big national victory

When you watch Jonathan Griz play you have to wonder how good he is going to be when he grows up.

The 14 year old golfer booms drives over 300 yards and keeps them out of the rough. His short game often produces chip ins from the fairway and when his putter is hot he can shoot very low scores.

You don't have to wait long because Griz is very good right now and getting better every day.

The Hilton Head junior added the Bobby Chapman Junior Invitational to his collection of wins.

The future Clemson golfer came from six shots off the lead in the final round to win the prestigious title by a shot.

"I knew it was a long shot, but I knew I had the game to do it and I was mentally tough enough to get it done," said the new Chapman champion.

His confidence came after carding an even par first round at the event played at the Country Club of Spartanburg.

"I missed a lot of putts in the first round and I knew if I could get the putter going I would have a chance to catch up," he said.

The first round lead was shared by Joseph Pagdin from Orlando and Fred Biondi from Port St Lucie. The two Florida golfers shot 6-under par 66s to open the tournament.

Gordon Sargent from Birmingham was one shot back and Dorman golfer Nathan Franks from Roebuck was close behind after shooting a 4-under par 67.

Not only did Griz need to catch the leaders he had to get past 16 golfers who were in front of him on the leader board.



Future Clemson golfer Jonathan Griz from Hilton Head made up a six stroke deficit in the final round to win the Bobby Chapman Junior Invitational. Gordon Sargent (top) from Birmingham finished second. Dorman golfer Nathan Franks tied for 13th and was the top local golfer in the tournament.

The recent winner of the Orange Jacket Classic in the Upstate got off to a hot start.

"I birdied the first hole, almost birdied the second hole, chipped in for a birdie on three, eagled number five and I was right there," he said.

While Griz was playing seven groups in front of the leaders, Pagdin and Biondi were not playing as well as they did in the first round. Biondi made the turn at 2-over par while Pagdin finished the first nine at even par.

Griz shot a 32 on the front nine to move up to second behind Biondi. His birdie on number 11 got him to within one of the leader. Another birdie coupled with Biondi's bogey on number 13 earned him



a share of the lead and one more birdie on number 14 put him in front by a shot.

"I played really good coming in. I hit fairways and didn't hit the ball in any trouble," he said.

Griz added a birdie on number 16, just missed another birdie on number 17 and finished with a solid par on number 18. He finished his round with a tournament best 7-under par 64, but then had to wait for the rest of the field to finish.

"I didn't watch. I was on the range in case there was a playoff. You don't want to cheer against anybody. It was nerve-racking because I really wanted to win," said Griz.

Sargent was the last golfer to have a chance to catch or beat Griz. The future

See highlights, story and video interview with Jonathan Griz and Butch Harmon at www.scgolfclub.com

Vanderbilt golfer made his run with four birdies in five holes on the back nine and came to the final hole even with the clubhouse leader.

A par would tie and a birdie would win, but trouble off the tee cost Sargent a chance at the victory. His second shot flew the green and left him with a difficult downhill chip.

Being extra careful, Sargent's third shot stopped well short of the pin. He was left with a very fast 25 foot downhill putt for a par and the tie. His fourth shot rolled 7 feet past the pin. Sargent made the putt coming back for a bogey and second place.

"A runner up finish here is better than the two AJGA wins I have," said Sargent. "This is an important tournament and I played well. Last year I finished in the middle of the field so this year is better," he said.

Griz has emerged as the top junior in South Carolina. In addition to the Chapman win, he set a scoring record to win the Orange Jacket at Pickens.

Last summer he earned the victory at the Carolinas PGA Junior and was the top qualifier for both the US Junior Am and the Big I National Championship where he finished fifth.

"It has been a really great year. This is my first national event win. I've been winning a lot, but not at this level. It's great to know that all my hard work is paying off," concluded the new Chapman champion.

Dorman high school golfer Nathan Franks was the top Spartanburg area finisher. The future South Carolina golfer ended up in a tie for 13th.

Chapman...continued on page 10

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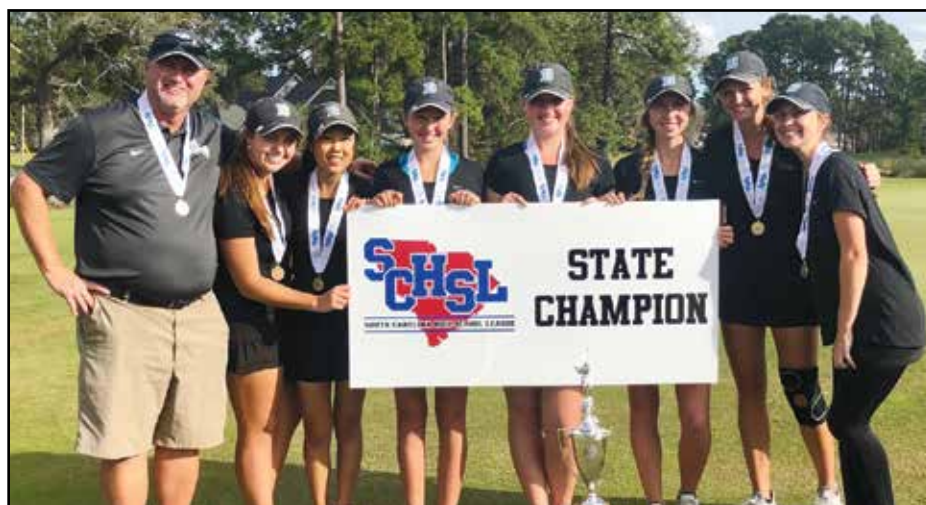
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The Daniel Lions (top-left) won the school's first golf championship. The Lions are bringing the state AAAA title to the school in Clemson. Team members include Coach Andy Swords, Gillian, Adrienne and Peyton O'Brien, Jennifer Goa and Emileigh Swords. Boiling Springs (top-right) finished third in the AAAAA championship. (R-L) Coach Shannon Turner, Kylie Antley, Amber Amaker, Allison Starnes, Gracie Greene, Madison Dixon, MK Talledo, Assistant coach Macy Tate.

Lions roar to AAAA state title

Daniel wins first state girls golf championship

The Daniel Lions' season ended in a tournament that appeared to be out of their reach in recent years.

Daniel finished in second place last year and in the history of the program has had a number of near misses.

"Daniel has been trying to win this championship for 15 years," said the Lions' coach Andy Swords. "There have been a lot

of golfers in the past who helped build the program and get us here," he said.

However, it was this year's team that is bringing the trophy back to Clemson.

The Lions held a four-shot lead over their upstate neighbors from Pickens after the first round. Swords was glad his team was leading the tournament, but was not happy with the way the Lions played.

"We had a little talk when we left the course to make sure everyone knew they needed to play better in the final round. Pickens is a good team and they put some pressure on us," said the Daniel coach.

Playing in the same groups the Daniel

More pictures with team and individual scores available at www.scgolfclub.com

and Pickens golfers were in a head to head competition for the championship.

"We played the final round as if everything was even," said Gillian O'Brien. "We had to go out and beat the girl we were playing," said the Daniel senior.

Each player finished ahead of their playing competitor, but some of the match ups were difficult.

"I got five shots down after five holes and took a depth breath," said Emileigh

Swords. "I picked myself up and had a strong finish to end up in front," said the six-year member of the team.

The Daniel coach knew the final round was not going to be close when the Lions third player, Adrienne O'Brien, turned in a final round 78.

"She improved by 11 shots from her first round and when I saw that score I knew our first two golfers were playing well and we were going to finally win a championship," said Swords.

The Lions improved by 14 shots from their first round total to finish at 654. They

High School..continued on page 12

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Hartin claims Traynham tourney

Reeves and Clontz win Evatt Memorial at Pickens

There was only problem with the outstanding 11-under par 61 posted by the team of Ron Clontz and Crawford Reeves after the first round of the Jimmy Evatt Texas Two-Man at Pickens.

There were three teams a stroke back and five more teams just two strokes off the lead.

The first round leaders needed a second round as good as their first round to win the title.

Reeves and Clontz matched their first round 61 with the same score in the second round and pulled off a three shot victory.

The team Ricky Roach and Corey Turner shot a second day 63 to finish three shots behind the leaders in the Championship Flight.

First Flight winners Michael Jordan and Mike Teasley had the second best score in the tournament finishing at 124 to win their flight.

Other Flight winners included, Second Flight - Phil and Eric Grumbles, Third Flight - Jon Guest and Adam Guest, Fourth Flight - Carey and J.B. Sanders, Fifth Flight - Art Nilson and Matt Hightower.



Mike Hartin (left) needed an extra hole to top Johnny League and win the Dillard Traynham title at Paris Mountain Golf Club. Crawford Reeves and Ron Clontz (right) teamed up to win the Jimmy Evatt Memorial.

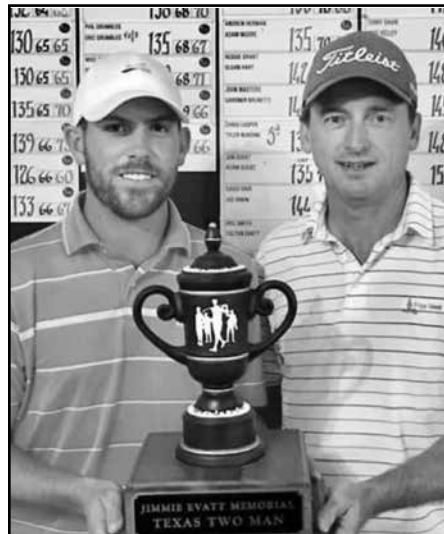
At Paris Mountain the Traynham Memorial came down to a playoff between two golfers who always seem to play well in the event.

Hartin opened the tournament with a 1-under par 71 and held a one shot lead over Jimmy Wilson in the Championship Flight.

In the second round most of the scores went up as Hartin carded a 3-over par 75.

While Wilson fell off the pace in the final round 2008 champion Johnny League shot a 1-over par 73 to finish in a tie with Hartin.

Hartin made short work of the playoff



making a birdie on the first hole to win the championship.

Scotty Scott finished third, Rusty Stegall was fourth and Wilson finished in fifth place.

Flight winners included, First Flight - Rick Cobb, 2-Corey Turner. Second Flight - Cam Wedding, 2-Barry Morgan.

Barry Dilworth won the Senior Championship shooting rounds of 76 and 73 for a 149 total and a four shot victory over the 2013 Senior Champion Freddie Dilworth.

Chip Owens was the winner of the Senior First Flight.

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Bearden masters the SCGA Mid Am

Perfect conditions make for great scores at Greenville

Kyle Bearden took full advantage of perfect scoring conditions at the Greenville Country Club's Riverside course to win the South Carolina Golf Association's 37th annual Mid-Am Championship.

Bearden finished the 54 hole event at 15 under par and was four shots in front of the field. The championship is the most significant win recorded by the former Winthrop University golfer in his amateur career.

"The course was in amazing shape," said Bearden. "To go out and play well for three days in a row, this is probably my greatest accomplishment as an amateur golfer," said the Barnwell resident.

When current Greenville County Amateur champion Danny Brock opened the tournament with an 8-under par 63 to hold the first round lead, it served notice that the winner was going to have to go really low to win.

"I knew some good scores were out there. I knew that if I wanted to get the job done, I would have to put the pedal to the metal for the next two days," he said.



Barnwell golfer Kyle Bearden won the SCGA Mid Am at Greenville Country Club's Riverside course. Brent Delahoussaye (top-right) finished in third place. Greenville County Amateur champion Danny Brock (bottom right) shot a 63 in the opening round and finished in fifth place.

Bearden opened the tournament with a 6-under par 65 and followed it up with a 5-under par 66 in the second round. The way he finished his second round helped him to a 2-shot lead going into the final day.

"I played the back nine first on Saturday and finished on the front. There are back to back par-5s on that side and I knew if I could make a couple of birdies it would put me in great position for the final round," he said.



Bearden birdied both the par-5s as well as the eighth and ninth holes to finish with four straight birdies to make a good round even better.

While Bearden moved to the top of the leader board, the rest of the field was engaged in a battle for the second spot.

Former Clemson golfer Brent Delahoussaye shot rounds of 65 and 68 to be in second place going into the final round. He finished with a 70 to take third place.

First round leader Danny Brock could not match his opening round 63 and posted a second round 72. His final round 70 earned him a fifth place finish.

Holly Tree golfer Robert Lutomski fired a 5-under par 66 to move up from 18th to tie for third after the second round. In the final round Lutomski shot a 2-under par 69 to finish in fourth place

With the lead Bearden didn't play safe, but he also didn't take many chances.

"I hit a lot of hybrids off the tees and played to the fat part of the green. The last thing you want to do is get cute and make a bogey and then another one," he said..

The tournament is often called the "working man's championship" since the players must be at least 25 and usually have full time jobs. Bearden, who is a shipping manager at a company in Barnwell, fits the profile perfectly.

"I couldn't get away to play a practice round. When I played the first round, it was the first time I had seen the course," he said.

In the final round Bearden didn't make a bogey. His 4-under par 67 left him on top of the field with a 15 under par 198 total.

On the final hole Bearden sank a six foot par saving putt to wrap up the win.

"Making that putt on the last hole was a great way to cap off the tournament," concluded Bearden.

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Tom Watson presented the first Watson Cup to Jack Lewis, the South Carolina captain after the winning the matches. Watson lent his name to the international series and was at Kiawah Island for the matches. The tournament featured 8 juniors from South Carolina matched up against 8 junior golfers from the East Lothian Junior Golf League of Scotland playing a Walker Cup type of match. Woodruff's Daniel Brasington helped the South Carolina team earn the victory.

Honoring the foundation of the game

South Carolina and Scottish juniors play first Watson Cup

When golf came to America it had a Scottish accent. Almost 300 years ago the first balls and clubs arrived in the Carolinas in a shipment sent from the oldest golf club in the world.

Now centuries later junior golfers from the historic club came to Charleston to play juniors from South Carolina in the first Watson Cup matches.

"Royal Burgess Golf Society, which is the oldest golf club in the world, in Edinburgh dating back to 1735, in 1739 golf clubs and balls were shipped from Edinburgh to Carolina and that was the start, as far as anyone can determine, of golf in the USA," said David Warren, who lead the team of Scottish Juniors.

The idea for the tournament began two years ago. While traveling in Scotland, South Carolina Junior Golf Association chairman Ben Zeigler began a conversation with junior golf leaders to put together a junior competition.

"There is a historical connection between golf in American and Scotland and especially between one club and South Carolina," said Zeigler.

Golfers earned a spot on the South

Carolina team through their play during the year in the Hootie and the Blowfish Summer Series and the season ending All-Star championship.

"We wanted to develop a reward for the juniors who play in our events. Our tournaments are open to all juniors and playing in the Watson Cup gives them another goal for their game," said Zeigler.

Once the competition was set it was obvious that the matches would be held in Charleston this first year and then in Edinburgh in 2020.

The Watson Cup name was chosen to honor the American golfer who had the most success playing in the Open Championship. Watson was the 'champion golfer of the year' five times during his Hall of Fame career.

Watson has lent more than just his name to the event. He spoke to the teams and presented the Watson Cup to the winners after they played his signature Cassique course on Kiawah Island.

"It was a bit of a fantasy to think about something like this for our boys. I'm pinching myself, to be at Kiawah. Getting a putting lesson from Dave Stockton and meeting Tom Watson, for me its exciting for the kids it must be fantastic," said Warren.

The Scottish golfers came from the East Lothian Junior Golf League of Scotland.

The South Carolina Junior Golf Association team won the cup with a 19 1/2

See the story pictures and video interviews from the Watson Cup at www.scgolfclub.com.

to 16 1/2 victory.

"You boys are some of the luckiest young golfers in the world," said Zeigler. "You are going to remember this experience for the rest of your life," he said.

During the two days on the course and the time the teams spent together at tournament activities they got to learn more about each other.

"It was fun to get to know the other golfers and compete," said Logan Hawkins from Williamston. "They get to play a lot more golf in Scotland than we do here. I enjoyed competing against them," he said.

After putting up a near perfect score in the first round, Daniel Brasington ran into a buzz saw in the second round as David Rudd took all three points in the match.

Brasington was one of the youngest golfers in the field while Rudd at age 18 was amongst the most experienced and it showed as he was 6-under par when the match ended on number 16.

"I didn't like getting beat, but it still was a great experience," said the junior from Woodruff. "Meeting new people and playing these courses was special," he said.

In addition to lending his name to the competition Watson spent the final round on the course watching the boys compete.

"The way you get better is to compete," said Watson. "And always play for something. Put something on it, so every shot means something. That is the way to get better," said the five-time British Open Champion.

While officials with walkie-talkies had an idea of the score during the final round, the last pairing on the course was played as if it would be the deciding match.

When Nicholas Velasquez and Cameron Spencer came to the final hole both teams and the spectators ringed the 18th green.

"It was crazy to see all those people," said Velasquez. "I have never had that many people watching me play," he said.

The Johns Island junior won his match with a conceded par on the final hole and earned all three points.

"We are looking forward to hosting the matches in 2020," said Warren. "We will play two fantastic golf courses. Murifield which has hosted 15 Opens and Royal Burgess Golf Society which is the oldest golf club in the world," he added.

Watson sees a bright future for the event being played in his name.

"With events like this, other kids who didn't get in this event will target this event. They will want to be in the event. They will play harder, practice harder, play in more competitions. And what does that do? It makes them lifetime golfers and it grows the game," concluded Watson.

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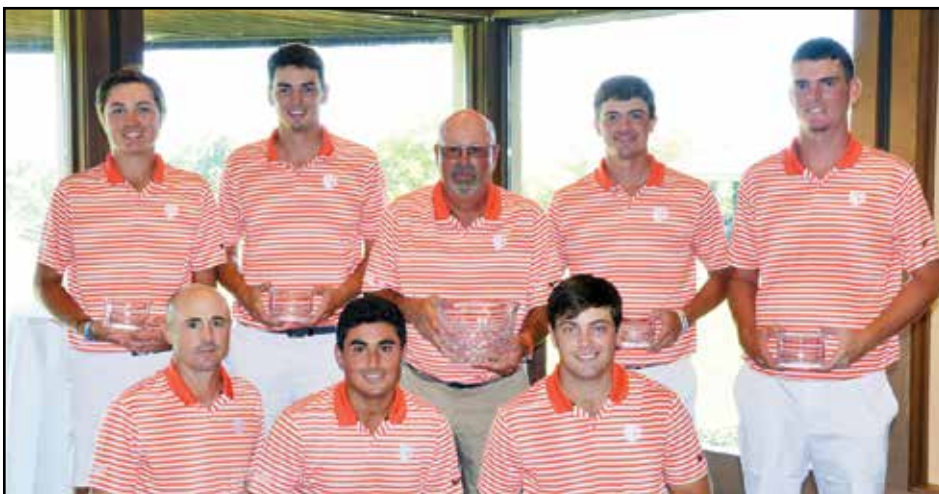
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Clemson finished as co-champions of the Jack Nicklaus Collegiate Match Play at Muirfield Village in Ohio. The Tigers followed up the win with a strong second place finish at the Golf Club of Georgia Collegiate in Alpharetta. Sophomore Turk Pettit and Clemson coach Larry Penley talk strategy on the tee. Pettit finished as the runner-up at the tournament near Atlanta. Clemson photos.

Fall success has Clemson ranked 11th

Tigers move up after win and strong second place finish

When the fall college season started the headlines from the Clemson golf team were about the outstanding play of Bryson Nimmer.

The Tiger senior won two tournaments and was on the Haskins Award (college golf's version of the Heisman) Watch List.

Nimmer continues to lead the Tigers, but now the rest of the team is catching up.

The depth of the team is showing and the results have pushed the Tigers to the

edge of the top-10 rankings.

"There is no doubt that we are a top-10 team," said Clemson coach Larry Penley. "We have a lot of really good players who are getting it done," he said.

Clemson has played in five tournaments and has had five different lineups.

It is a given that Nimmer will be in every tournament, but after the senior the other spots have been up for grabs.

Seven different Tigers have been competing for the other four spots in a tournament line-up.

The Clemson coach expects the lineup to be changing all the way up to the ACC Tournament next spring.

Turk Pettit came very close to giv-

ing the Tigers a third individual title with his second place finish at Clemson's last tournament.

The sophomore's resurgence from a mini slump has been a big part of the Tigers success according to Penley.

"He is a special player, we saw that last year when he made All-ACC and was an honorable mention All-American. His confidence level is back," he said.

Pettit made a critical putt on the last hole at the Golf Club of Georgia to push the Tigers into second place behind Southern Cal.

Freshman Jacob Bridgeman from Inman finished tied for seventh at the Georgia Collegiate.

The three-time South Carolina High School champion has played in four of the Tigers' five fall events.

"Jacob has one of the best golf swings I have ever seen. He is solid and powerful. He works hard and does not play like a freshman," noted Penley.

The match play tournament at Jack Nicklaus's course in Dublin, Ohio gave several other Tigers a chance to play.

Greenwood's Coleman Self had his turn in the line-up and won two important matches to move the Tigers into the finals and the co-championship at Muirfield.

Zack Gordon is the Tigers' other freshman who is coming off a South Carolina **Clemson..** continued on page 12

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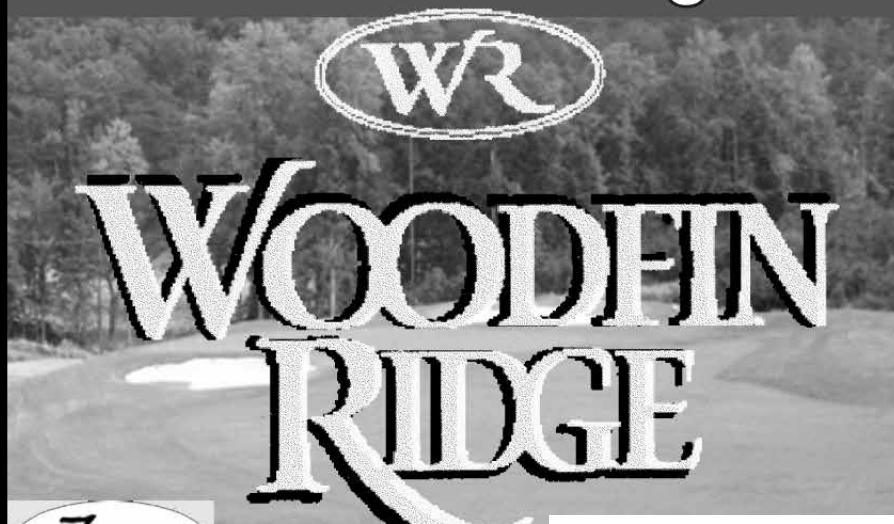
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top instructor Butch Harmon (center) talked with the top junior players at the Chapman. Harmon was joined by tournament chairman Doug Smith (l) and PGA Tour golfer and Chapman board member (r) William McGirt.

Chapman... continued from page 4

This was the 24th annual tournament held in honor of Bobby Chapman, a nine time Spartanburg club champion. Chapman led his family's business, Inman Mills, for 30 years. He also served as the president of both the South Carolina Golf Association and the Carolina Golf Association.

2009 US Open Champion Lucas Glover was the first winner of the championship. Bubba Watson, Kevin Kisner, Brian Harmon, Wesley Bryan, Ben Martin, Scott Brown, Bill Haas, D.J. Trahan and Chapman board member William McGirt played in the tournament and went on to win on the PGA Tour.

Golfweek's top ranked instructor Butch Harmon gave a pre-event talk to

the players and their parents at the Players Dinner.

The select field of top juniors are invited based on a series of qualifications. State junior champions, US Junior and Amateur qualifiers, AJGA tournament champions and winners of recognized national junior events may apply for an invitation.

This year 35 golfers in the field were ranked among the top 100 juniors in the country and 2/3 of the 91 player field have made commitments to play college golf.

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Limestone has big goals for the season

Saints get back to back wins to start a run to post season

Every college golf team sets a goal of playing in post season tournaments. It is easy to set the goal, but much harder to achieve it.

The Limestone Saints have that goal and after two fall wins look like they may have what it takes to meet their goal.

"This is a really good team and could be a national championship team," said Saints coach Zack Siefert. "We have played well and we are still getting better," he said.

The Saints won the Patsy Randleman Invitational and the Flagler Fall Slam.

Junior Reme Cortes won the Flagler tournament and finished in a tie for third at the Randleman.

Cortes was joined by three of her teammates in the top ten as the Saints ran away with a 16 stroke win in St. Augustine.

Lena Schilowsky finished in a tie for fifth, Pilar Martinez was seventh and Ebba Hellman tied for ninth at the Flagler tournament.

"Our team understands who they are and how we need to play to be successful. They are starting to understand how good they are," said the coach.

A very good team will get stronger in the second half of the season. Siefert's best player is returning to action after recovering from surgery.

"Hailey is our best player and having her back in the lineup is only going to make us stronger," said the coach.

In her first tournament back in action Cleary, playing as an individual, won the



The Limestone women's golf team won back to back tournaments in October. Team members included Reme Cortes, Lena Schilowsky, Pilar Martinez, Eleonor Skoog, Ebba Hallman and Coach Zack Siefert and Assistant coach Ansley Smith. Hailey Cleary (below) returned from an injury to strengthen the team. Jack Crosby (right) is congratulated by his coach, Matt Davidson after his first college win. Crosby won the Camden Collegiate and helped his Furman team to a second place finish.



Converse Fall Invite

The Saints have played in the post season in two of the last three years.

Currently Limestone is ranked 14th in the NCAA Division II polls and just as significant they are ranked 4th in their region

"I don't think we have played our best golf yet this year. Our team is doing what we ask of them and it is going to pay off at the end of the season," concluded the Limestone coach.

Furman freshman plays and wins in his college debut

Jack Crosby walked on to the Furman golf team last year hoping to get a chance to play.

After qualifying for his first college tournament the Paladin red-shirt freshman made the most of his opportunity.

Crosby won the Camden Collegiate at the Camden Country Club.

"I had to qualify under par to make the lineup," said Crosby. "It is great to get to play and to win," he said.

Crosby opened the 54 hole event in the lead and held it for the first 36 holes.

"I made a birdie on my first collegiate hole. I felt really comfortable the first day," said the Paladin golfer from Memphis.

The start to his second round could have caused him some concern, but he



played through two opening bogeys to shoot a final round 2-over par 72.

His 210 total gave him an even par finish and a one shot victory for the individual title.

The victory was the second by a Paladin golfer this fall. Keller Harper won the River Run Collegiate in September.

Ironically, both of the Paladin individual winners came to Furman as walk-ons.

After his first college win Crosby now would like to help his team win.

Furman has finished in second place by one shot in three tournaments this fall.

The Paladins finished one shot out of the top spot at the River Run Collegiate the Firestone Invitational in Akron and the Camden tournament.

Crosby wants to make sure he stays in the lineup.

"The win is going to give me a lot of confidence for the rest of the season. I know I am going to keep working hard to get better," he said.

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High School... continued from page 5

also increased their lead over Pickens from four shots to a convincing 38 shots.

Gillian O'Brien finished in fifth place and Swords followed her in sixth on the final leader board. Both golfers made the AAAA All-State team.

Courtney Collins, Jennifer Gao and Peyton O'Brien each contributed to the championship.

"We knew if we put two good rounds together we could win this year and we did. As a senior, this is a great way to finish up," said Emileigh Swords.

Emma Charles from Hartsville was the AAAA medalist. Charles shot rounds of 71-75 for a 146 total to edge Travelers Rest's Ashley Looper by one shot. Kennedy McGaha from Belton - Honea Path was third with a 148 total.

The three golfers joined O'Brien and Swords on the All-State team. Also earning All-State honors were Katelyn Lee from Wren, Rachel Page and Jordan Deck from Pickens, Bonnie Chapman from A.C. Flora and Jordan Guyton from Dreher.

Lexington wins third straight title

The Lexington Wildcats won their third straight state AAAAA title. With a lineup that featured two sophomores and three freshmen, the Wildcats look to be the team to beat for the next few years too.

"We are not going to run out of golfers any time soon," said Lexington coach Brandon Smith. The Wildcats have won 13 state championships in the last 15 years.

Lexington shot an opening round 313 and improved by 13 shots in the second round to pull even further away from sec-



The AAAA All-State team included (L-R) Isabella Rawl, Karlee Vardas, Adrian Anderson, Molly Hardwick, Elle Johnson, Emily Dunlap, MK Talledo, Smith Knaffle, Madison Dixon. Future Clemson golfer Isabella Rawl (right) won the individual AAAA championship. Emma Charles (below) of Hartsville was the AAAA medalist.

ond place Blythewood.

"We really played well on the back nine. We have very good players and they played well," he said.

Defending champion Elle Johnson from Spartanburg had the first round individual lead, but she fell off the pace in the second round and a pair of Lexington golfers were ready to take over the top spot.

Isabella Rawl and Karlee Vardas each posted final round scores of 2-under par 70 to move past Johnson and finish first and second respectively.

Rawl finished with a two-day total of 144 followed by Vardas at 148. Adrian Anderson of St James was third while a third Lexington golfer, Molly Hardwick, finished in a fourth place tie with the defending champion Johnson.

Blythewood, the Upper State champions, finished in second with Boiling Springs taking third place.

The Boiling Springs finish was remarkable considering the Bulldogs had to rebuild their team shortly before the season began.

Three members of the Boiling Springs team that finished as the runner-up to Lex-



ington last year were not on this year's team.

The three golfers, who attend Chesnee High School in the same school district as Boiling Springs, were allowed to play on the Bulldogs team in the past because Chesnee did not have a girls' golf team.

This year the AAAA classification schools did not grant a waiver to continue to allow the Chesnee students to play for Boiling Springs, leaving the Bulldogs with a much different team than expected.

"I'm really proud of how our team handled every thing this year," said Boiling Springs coach Shannon Turner. "They fought for every shot in this tournament and we finished in the top three. We lost two great seniors but we have some good



JV players coming along," she said.

The Bulldog's MK Talledo, who was the top finisher in the Upper State qualifying tournament after shooting a 63, finished in a tie for sixth place with Emily Dunlap from Mauldin and Mia Gray from Carolina Forest.

Oceanside and Castle win AAA titles

Oceanside Collegiate Academy won their second straight AAA championship.

The Mount Pleasant school dominated the tournament winning the title by 58 shots over Bishop England.

St. Joseph's from Greenville was third with Gilbert in fourth and May River in fifth place.

The first year golf team from Chesnee tied with Chapman for sixth place.

Jensen Castle from Gray Collegiate's Academy was the AAA medalist. Anna Grace Brock from Emerald was second after shooting a 146 total.

Kennedy Gooding from Gilbert, Sydney Roberts from Chesnee and Jalen Castle from Grays all tied for third place.

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Greenville continued its dominance in the Cyder Cup winning this year's match with Spartanburg 22 1/2 to 9 1/2. Greenville Captain Terry Willis accepts the Cup from Spartanburg Captain Todd Whitehead. In addition to being a fun event for golfers the match has become an important fund raiser for the Upstate First Tee. Young golfers enjoy a special mural painted for the program by Cary Lee Hudson. The Spartanburg County Foundation presented a check for \$7,500 to the program for a girls program.

Everyone wins at The Cyder Cup

Greenville wins the Cup, Upstate First Tee kids get much needed support

Greenville won another Cyder Cup, but it is the kids in the Upstate First Tee program who are the big winners.

The match between top golfers from Greenville and Spartanburg has matured into an important fund raising event for the First Tee.

"The golfers in the Cyder Cup do a great job raising money for The First Tee and it allows us to expand our programs to teach golf and the core values that come from the game to more kids," said Michael Pius, the Executive Director of the Upstate program.

Greenville jumped out to an early lead in the first round, added it to it in the second round and wrapped up

the Cup with seven more points in the singles matches.

Greenville won the Cup 22 1/2 to 9 1/2.

Recently the First Tee moved into new headquarters in the Carolina Indoor Golf location on Pleasantburg Dr. n Greenville.

"It is a great location and Brad Bylenga has been a supporter of the First Tee. Some of our kids got to play Pebble Beach on the simulator and then watch the tournament from Pebble Beach on TV. We hope to partner with him on more events in the future," said Pius.

This past fall the First Tee grew from 160 kids to almost 300 in just one part of the year. Pius expects as Cherokee Valley joins the group of Upstate courses offering First Tee programs to grow the numbers even more.

"Our job is now to match the growth in the program with growth in funding. We received a great gift of \$7,500 from the Spartanburg County Foundation to help grow our girl's golf program," said the director.

Pius is quick to give credit to the work of the Upstate staff. Program Director Matt Sharkey and Anna Leis Dibert have provided the foundation growth in the spring.

As the holidays approach and golf slows down, The First Tee is offering a chance for golfers to play and support the program,.

The Core Values Cup is a team event that will be played at three Upstate clubs in November and December. Teams of three golfers will be matched up with a First Tee golfer. The winning teams will battle in the Spring for the Cup.

"We are going to have a tournament in each of the three counties we serve (Spartanburg, Greenville, Cherokee). The tournaments will let the players meet some of the kids in the program and see how they are growing from their support," he said.

Information about the Core Values Cup is available at www.thefirstteeupstate.org under the events tab.

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Clemson's two freshmen golfers have made the lineup for several events and are producing results. Zack Gordon (left) from Gaffney and Jacob Bridgeman (right) from Inman have both helped the Tigers to 11th in the national polls. Clemson photos.



Clemson...continued from page 9

state high school championship.

The Tiger golfer from Gaffney has played in three events and had the most success winning a pair of matches in the Nicklaus tournament.

"I wanted out team to experience match play on this level. I think we can make the final eight this year and the NCAA Championship is decided using a match play format," said the coach.

Junior William Nottingham has played in four of the five tournaments this year and has given Clemson several top-25 finishes.

Kyle Cottam, another junior contributed a match play win over an Ohio State golfer at the Nicklaus tournament to help the Tigers advance.

Colby Patton was in the lineup when the Tigers finished fourth at the Nike Intercollegiate at the Colonial Country Club in Fort Worth.

While Penley reserves his right as the coach to make some final decisions about which players play in tournaments, with the

quality of his players he is happy to accept the results of each event's qualifying.

"They play 36 holes and it is great competition to see who gets to go to the next tournament," he said.

While the five starters will be in the team lineup, Penley has some chances for other players to be in upcoming tournaments.

"I can take another player to one or two tournaments in the spring and all of our golfers are going to play in our tournament, so they will have a chance to be in action as individuals," said the coach.

The Tigers wrap up the fall portion of their season in Hawaii early in November at the Ka'anapali Classic.

The spring season begins in Puerto Rico then to the Palmetto Club in Aiken.

The Tigers play in the Hyatt Collegiate at Sawgrass in Jacksonville before finishing the regular season in their own tournament at the Cliffs at Keowee Falls.

Amateur Events

Cherokee 5-Man scramble set for November 17th

A different kind of scramble tournament is set for this month at Cherokee Valley.

The Five-Man Scramble teams can include a pro with four amateurs or can be made up of all amateurs.

No handicaps will be used so it will be a straight battle to see which team is best.

Greer Two-Man Open, Greer Country Club, November 10-11th. The tournament is open to all golfers and will be flighted after the first round.

Registration and entry information is available by calling the Greer Golf Shop at 864-877-9279.

Chanticleer National Four-Ball, Greenville Country Club, November 10-11th. The tournament is a 36 hole four-ball scratch tournament and is a true invitational

Golfers can fill out an application for an invitation. Applications are available on line at the Greenville Country club website, www.gccsc.com.

Fall Five Man Scramble, Saturday, November 17th, Cherokee Valley Golf Course and Club. Scramble teams may include one pro and four amateurs or all amateurs. The tournament is a scratch event.

Golfers will compete for up to \$7,000 in prize money from a full field with a \$2,500 first place prize.

The prize money is awarded to the team captain for distribution.

Entry fee is \$500 per team and includes, carts, range, soft drinks, food and prizes.

The field is limited to the first 27 teams.

Entry information is available at the Cherokee Valley golf shop or by calling 864-895-6758.

Santa Claus Open, Carolina Springs,

December 1st. The tournament format is a four person step aside captain's choice event.

Entry Fee includes golf, range balls, breakfast buffet and prizes. Golfers will have an opportunity to win a Christmas ham.

A portion of the entry fee will be used to provide support for local children and families in need this Christmas.

Entry Fee is \$30 for Carolina Springs members and \$50 for non members.

Southern Oaks Holiday Open, December 8-9th. The tournament is open to all golfers and is a two-man event.

Entry information will be available in the future from the Southern Oaks Golf Shop.

Christmas Captains Choice, Village Greens, Friday, Dec 14, Noon shotgun. The tournament is open to all golfers.

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Zeir Fleming, Cherokee Valley, #9, Par-4, 287yds. Driver. Witnessed by Aaron Howard, Mark Shannon, Tim Huggins.

Mary Spangler, Carolina Springs, #5, 90yds. Witnessed by Jim Spangler.

Steve Trojan, Walker Course, #12, 145yds. 7-iron. Witnessed by Michael Braunsweiger, Glenn Looper, Tom Macau.

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The USC Upstate men's team won their first tournament since 2014 when they finished on top of the field at the Camden Collegiate. The Upstate women's team won two events taking the top spot at the Gardner Webb Shoot-out and the Blue Hose Match Play tournament. The women's team is enjoying their highest national ranking.

Upstate teams up their games

Men and women each earn tourney championships

The Upstate Spartans have brought home three trophies in the last month and they don't think those will be the last ones added to their campus trophy case this year.

The Upstate women claimed back to back titles with a victory at the Gardner-Webb Shoot-out and the Blue Hose Match Play.

The Spartan men's team was led by individual runner-up Jordan Warnock as USC Upstate won the Camden Collegiate Invitational.

It was the first team win for the Spartans since the 2014 season.

"These are the same five guys we had last year," said Upstate coach Todd Lawton. "Our five players are getting better and doing the work they need to do," he added.

Lawton was especially excited to see how his team reacted when it was in the hunt for a win.

"Our guys were talking about winning the tournament. We hadn't had that in the last three of four years. They didn't need any encouragement from me they were ready," said the coach.

Upstate finished with an 859 total for the 54 hole event to edge Furman by one shot for the team title.

Warnock delivered a pair of birdies on the final two holes to lift Upstate from a tie with Furman to the championship.



Jordan Warnock came within a shot of winning the individual championship at Camden. Pan Paksanont won the Gardner Webb Shoot-out for her second individual title at Upstate.



The Spartans shot the lowest round of the day, 289, to move up from fourth place and secure the win.

Senior Matt Carter carded the best final round for the Spartans. His 3-under par 67 earned him a share of 3rd place in the individual standings.

The Upstate women's team has improved in each tournament going from a 12th place finish in the first event of the season to the pair of wins and an individual championship.

Junior Pan Paksanont finished at even par to record her second college win at the Gardner-Webb tournament.

"It was a great win for Pan. She played head to head for 36 holes with the girl who was in second place and had to make some clutch putts in the last few holes to win" said Lawton.

Anna Chanthaphaeng and Kathryn Elliott tied for fourth to help the Spartans

get the win.

The Spartans second win came in the Blue Hose Match Play at the Patriot in Ninety Six.

Upstate defeated The Citadel in the first round and topped Radford in the second round to earn a trip to the finals.

Brooke Hutto, Bream Pabsimma and Chanthaphaeng all won their matches to give Upstate a 3-2 victory.

The win was the third for the women's team in the last two years.

"We have some strong players and our national ranking has improved. We look at the teams we compete against in the conference this year and we are playing as well as any of them," said the coach.

Upstate changed conferences and is now a member of the Big South with Presbyterian, Gardner-Webb, Charleston Southern, Winthrop, High Point, Campbell among others.

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A Gift With A "Click"

Our Goal, Promoting Health, Happiness and Wellness by Teaching Life Long Golf Skills to People of All Ages. This Open Letter to You is Part of our Goal.

Simple Enough has a suggestion. We are always looking for the perfect gift. A gift that fits the occasion and one that leaves behind a lot of remembrance as it is being used.

Here is a suggestion. Purchase a golf membership for your important person. There is nothing more pleasing to a golfer than the click of a golf ball against the club face of a well hit shot.

A membership allows this person to hit all the golf balls they wish, and at the same time receive the discounts and extra privileges of being a member.

And, it is healthy! This gift reminds the recipient of the thoughtfulness of the giver - every shot, every day!

Call Haas Family Golf (864) 288-0001 and discuss the thoughtful opportunity to really make a difference in the relaxation and health of this special person in your life.

Thanks for your time, Happy Thanksgiving!

Annual Golf Memberships
Family - \$660 - \$1.45/day Single - \$528 - \$1.82/day
Senior - \$308 - \$0.85/day Military - \$308 - \$0.85/day
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Check Your Clubs Lie, OK!



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