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MARCH
 VOL 15
 No. 12

The *Stan Olenik's*
GOLF CLUB

Springing Forward!



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Ready To Repeat!

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THE RULES OF GOLF
And the Rules of Amateur Conduct
 2008 - 2009



New Rules!

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Frostbite Final!



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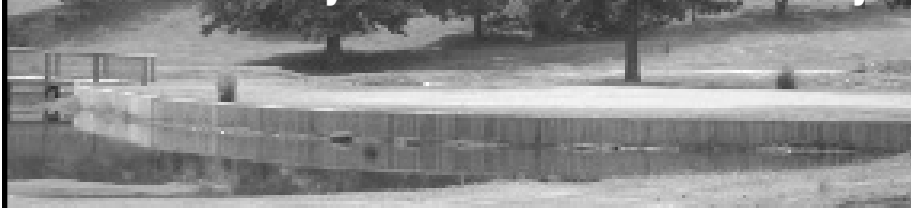
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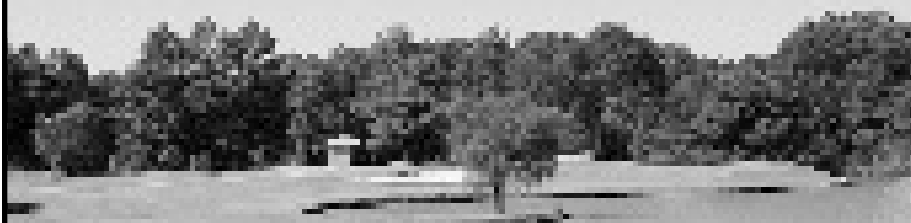
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167 S. Fairview Ave.
Spartanburg, SC 29302

Upstate golfers win two tourneys

Tucker, Gallman win individual titles for Spartans

USC Upstate golfers Tyler Tucker and Josh Gallman each posted individual wins and the Spartans won the team title at the BSC Classic in Birmingham.

The Gaffney golfer won his third individual championship of the season. He had previously won the Sea Trail Intercollegiate and the Stetson Invitational.

The Spartans' golfer sank a 35 foot birdie putt on his final hole to win the tournament by a shot. Gallman fired rounds of 69 and 72 for the win.

Gallman helped USC Upstate to a sixth place finish in the tournament held at Buies Creek, North Carolina.

Tucker won the championship in the tournament held in Birmingham. The winner posted a tournament total of 224 to claim the title and help the Spartans to their second team victory of the season.

This is the first year of NCAA Division I competition for the Spartans after finishing as the NCAA Division II runner-up last year.

USC Upstate is not eligible for NCAA Tournament play during the transition to Division I.



The team of Dave Ellington, Pat Morris and Joey Patterson won the Cobb's Glen Tough Day tournament.

Summersett golfers win at Cobb's Glen

The team of Dave Ellington, Pat Morris and Joey Patterson won the annual Tough Day Tournament at Cobb's Glen in Anderson.

The team shot rounds of 63 and 65 to claim a five shot victory in the tournament. The team completed the 36 hole tournament without carding a bogey on the difficult course set up.

The Tough Day tournament rules only allowed teams to post a high score of seven on any hole.

The team of Johnny Pope, Brian Kennedy and Gene Wetmore finished in second place.

Todd elected CGA Vice-President

Walter Todd of Laurens has been elected the Vice-President of the Carolinas Golf Association.

In addition to serving as an elected official of the organization, Todd is the defending CGA Mid-Am champion.

Spartanburg's Dan O'Connell has been elected the Treasurer of the association.

Steve Hinshaw of Pinehurst was elected the 51st president of the CGA.

BMW Pro-Am needs volunteers

Volunteer positions are still available for the BMW Charity Pro-Am in May. This year's tournament will be held at Thornblade Club, Carolina Country Club and Brights Creek Golf Club.

Volunteers receive a tournament cap and golf shirt as well as two passes to the tournament for their \$40 volunteer registration fee.

Volunteer registration forms can be obtained by contacting volunteer coordinator Marshall Bettendorf at (864) 423-2994 or by email at mbettendorf@sccharities.org. Registration deadline is April 25.

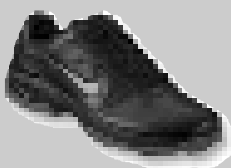
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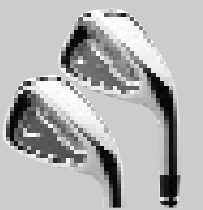
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Sorenstam joins the band

LPGA star to play in annual Monday after the Masters

The most successful LPGA Tour player will be part of the field at one of the most successful celebrity pro-am events.

LPGA Hall of Fame golfer Annika Sorenstam will be in the field for the annual Hootie & the Blowfish, Monday after the Masters Tournament.

"We are looking forward to the 2008 Monday After the Masters Tournament and having Annika participate," said Darius Rucker, lead singer of Hootie & the Blowfish.

The Monday After the Masters tournament will be held on Monday, April 14 at the Dye Club at Barefoot Resort & Golf in North Myrtle Beach.

This will be the fourteenth year of the fund raising tournament. The event has raised over \$3.5 million for the Hootie & the Blowfish Foundation. The Foundation has been a major contributor to the South Carolina Junior Golf Foundation as well as educational programs in South Carolina.

"I got to know Annika at the opening of her golf academy in Orlando and invited her to join us this year. She just won her first tournament of the year and as a member of my foursome, we will definitely be the team to beat," said Rucker.



LPGA star Annika Sorenstam will headline an all-star field at the annual Hootie & the Blowfish Monday After the Masters. Darius Rucker and the band members have hosted the event for the last six years at Myrtle Beach. The tournament will be held on April 14th. The last two tournaments have been sell-outs.

The celebrity field for the pro-am tournament is still being finalized. PGA Tour players Woody Austin, Jim Thorpe and Tommy "Two Gloves" Gainey have committed to play in the tournament.

Fan favorite John Daly will also return to play in the 18 hole event again this year.

"The Monday After the Masters Tournament has meant so much to the state of South Carolina and we are proud to help present an event that helps fund the state's junior golf and education programs and attracts national media attention to the Myrtle Beach area," said Bill Golden, vice president and director of marketing for Myrtle Beach Golf



Holiday, the tournament's host.

The last two tournaments sold out so organizers suggest fans get their ticket's in advance of the event.

Tickets are \$10 and are on sale now at Ticketmaster outlets

In recent years the tournament has featured stars from the NFL, as well as the world of music.

Celebrities are teamed with amateur golfers in a free form tournament that often does not resemble any regular program.

This will be the sixth year the tournament has been held at Myrtle Beach and is presented by Myrtle Beach Golf Holiday and Intel Corporation.

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USGA makes rule changes

Five new rules are now on the book for golfers in 2008

The Rules of Golf are not made to be broken, instead they are intended to help make the game the same no matter where a ball is teed-up.

The Rules of Golf are updated every four years and the Decisions on the Rules of Golf, a separate handbook to help understand the application of the rules, is updated every two years.

While there are a large number of golfers who enjoy reading the rule book and the decision guide the same way some might get into a mystery novel, most golfers just want to know how the changes affect their game.

"The key this year is making the definitions consistent and more understandable," said Andy Priest, the Carolina Golf Association Director of Tournament Operations.

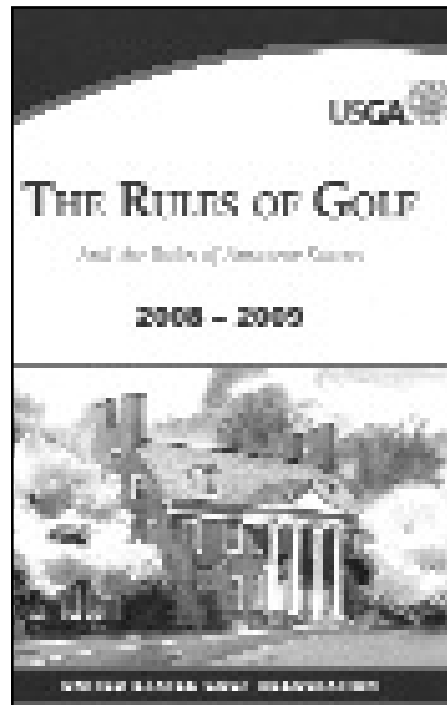
Priest spends at least a month every year holding rules seminars around both Carolinas to help golfers understand any rules changes or differing definitions.

The seminars are free and are attended by a wide range of golfers. Golf coaches, golf professionals, tournament managers, junior players and rules enthusiasts all are part of the audiences for the sessions.

Perhaps the biggest change is in a definition often used to determine rulings. Priest believes golfers who really want to understand the rules of the game should start by understanding the definitions.

"Whenever you have a rules question you always start with the definition. The definition leads you to the rule and helps you make the correct decision," he said.

The term "reasonable evidence" has been replaced by "known or virtually cer-



The USGA has made several rule changes that took effect in January. Golf's governing body also clarified some of their definitions to help golfers apply the rules.

tain" when determining whether a ball that has been lost may be treated as lost or in an obstruction.

The average golfer is often affected by rules governing lost golf balls or golf balls in hazards as often as any other rule in the book.

The change in language affects the rules for golf balls that may be treated as lost in an obstruction, an abnormal ground condition or a water hazard.

The USGA and the R&A work together to keep the rules uniform for golfers around the world.

Both organizations receive questions concerning the rules and their application over the year before issuing their list of changes or clarifications

This year there are five key rules changes that might be better defined as clarifications.

Rule 12-2, and 15-3 concerns identifying your ball and what happens when a wrong ball is played.

The adjustment in the rule now requires a player to identify their golf ball anywhere on the course, including bunkers and water hazards.

The penalty for playing a wrong ball is loss of hole in match play or two strokes in stroke play and you must correct the error.

Rule 24-1 governs movable obstructions. The rule has been amended to allow a flagstick, whether attended, removed, or held up, to be moved when a ball is in motion.

Rule 19-2 covers a golf ball that is in motion deflected or stopped by a player, partner, caddie or equipment.

This change reduces the penalty from the loss of hole in match play and two strokes in stroke play to a one-stroke penalty in both competitions.

Priest understands that not every golfer plays every round using every rule in the USGA rule book, but he thinks even when golfers are just out having fun, it never hurts to stick to the letter of the law.

For most golfers when rules are mentioned it is often considered punishment for a bad shot, but the correct application of the rules can often give golfers a break.

"The rules often help golfers by allowing them to understand their options on the course," said Priest.

A complete listing of all the rules changes for 2008 is available at the USGA web site. www.usga.org.

The updated rule book and the Decisions book can be purchased from the USGA on line at www.usgapub.com.

"The game is better when it is played by the rules and the rules are put in place to make sure everyone can enjoy the game," concluded Priest.

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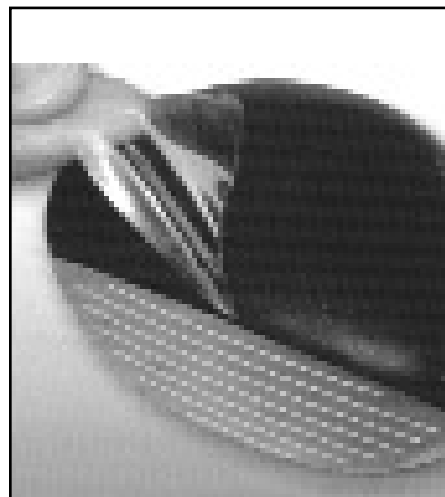
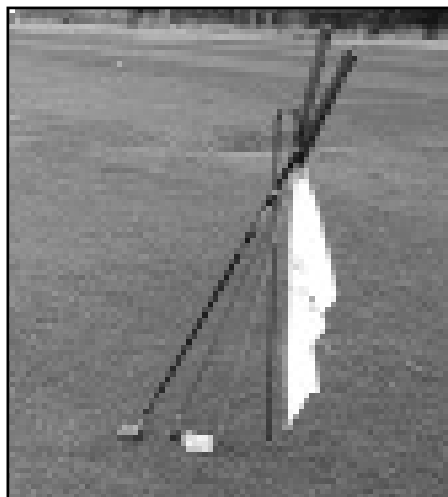
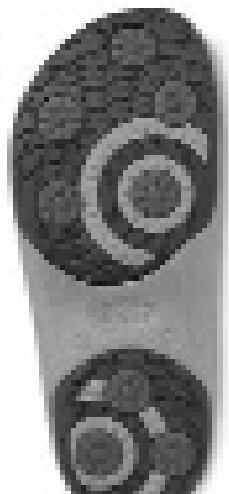
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Here are a few new utility items that can make a day at the course a little better (L-R) If you enjoy wearing your Crocs to the course now you can wear Crocs on the course. The company now has a golf shoe and has purchased Bite golf shoes. The Lean on Me club stand keeps your grips dry, holds a towel and even your cigar. It stands up and helps you remember your clubs when you are playing cart path only golf. The Swing Shield is a tape covering for your driver to prevent the top of the club from being scratched or dinged.

Odds and ends for your bag

New products are not limited to clubs this season

Adjustability got the most headlines at the PGA Show last month in Orlando but a number of utility items were introduced that may not help you drive your golf ball any straighter, but let you enjoy your round a little more.

After beating up your feet in golf shoes, Crocs have become the favored after round footwear for golfers.

Now you can wear your Crocs to the course and on the course. Crocs has introduced a golf shoe they claim is stable and comfortable.

With ventilation ports, turbo straps and circulation nubs, your feet may be so comfortable you might not mind walking after that errant shot.

A company in Clover, South Carolina has introduced the Lean On Me club stand that they say is designed to eliminate one of golf's little stresses.

The stand actually eliminates several little stresses. The club stand is easy to carry and is planted next to your ball to

hold the extra clubs you brought from the cart.

It has a place for a towel to be attached and the fancy models have a cigar holder.

The Lean On Me club stand keeps your grips dry and since it stands up is a reminder that you brought more than one club with you to your ball.

The price of the stand is small compared to the replacement cost of a wedge left behind on the course.

It also is an inexpensive and useful tee gift for tournaments or fund raising events.

Information is available at www.theoriginalleanonme.com

There may not be many things worse than scuffing up the top of a new metal-wood. The mark says two things about a golfer and neither is very flattering.

Venture Golf Tapes now offers SwingShield to eliminate the marks on the club and the shame that comes with them.

The polyethylene tape provides a temporary covering over your metal woods.

It is a great product for club testing but it might also be helpful to golfers who

sometimes hit a little under their tee ball.

The SwingShield does not add any weight to the club head and can be removed and replaced easily. Chances are if you are worried about dinging the top of your driver, you are not worried about club head speed being affected by the added protection.

The product is expected to be available in golf shops and on line at www.swingshield.com

The Chill Cooling Towel is the summer version of a handwarmer. The product claims to do the exact opposite of keeping things warm.

The disposable towel is supposed to refresh, invigorate and energize with the all natural way to cool down.

A 12 inch by 12 inch towel has a citrus scent and contains aloe. It also contains mild denatured alcohol which explains some of the cooling potential.

The towel can be used right out of the package but it is more effective after it has been refrigerated for a time.

The Chill Cooling Towel might be a companion for some of the other cooling items golfers occasionally carry in their cart coolers on a hot day.

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New look for Titleist irons

AP 1 and AP 2 bring Titleist back to mid-handicapper

Titleist has been a major force in golf for as long as anyone can remember. The brand has been the club golfers want to play to show that they are golfers.

However, something happened to Titleist clubs between the highly successful and playable DCI series and today.

New designs seemed to be more difficult for the average golfer to use and other companies simply did a better job filling the need of the mid to high handicap golfer.

Several years ago the situation was made worse when Titleist acquired Cobra. The product lines were stratified with the intent of moving average golfers to the Cobra brand and keeping highly skilled players with Titleist clubs.

However this year Titleist has introduced a pair of irons that may get them back into a portion of the market that has been well served by Callaway, Taylormade and several other companies.

"I think we recognized that people want to play our clubs, but we didn't have a club for some of those golfers," said Julian Taylor, the Titleist representative in the Upstate.

Local shop owners agree with Taylor and Titleist's assessment of their irons and are looking forward to helping golfers decide if the new products could help them play better.

"Titleist has not targeted the intermediate player for awhile so these new irons certainly will give them an opportunity to get looked at by those golfers," said Bobby Lovine of Nevada Bob's in Greenville.

The new irons are designated AP1 and AP2. The AP2 is more a pro line, low handicap golfers club. The AP1 has been



Titleist has introduced a pair of new irons that are intended to put Titleist clubs back in the hands of some mid-handicap golfers. While maintaining their position as a club for highly skilled players, Titleist has been considered too difficult for average players to use. The AP1 and AP2 are Titleist's new clubs for 2008.

in the bag of both Jay and Bill Haas since the end of last year.

The AP2, Advanced Performance, is the club that could be of interest to the majority of golfers.

The club is a dual cavity back iron that Titleist claims creates higher flight with more forgiveness. The company believes the skilled player can benefit from using the club and the "aspiring player" can also benefit.

The introduction of the new irons puts Titleist back in the "head to toe" competition that has become the battleground in the golf business.

Callaway offers clubs, balls, gloves, shoes and apparel. Taylormade and Nike do the same for players who want to use their products.

The Titleist Pro VI golf ball is the leading ball in golf by a large margin. Footjoy is the dominant brand for gloves and shoes as well as outerwear.

"Having a club that golfers want to play is an important part of being a complete golf company. These new irons are

going to help us get some of those golfers back who had drifted away," said Taylor.

Titleist has also introduced a pair of new golfballs in the DT line for golfers who may feel they don't have the game to get the maximum out of ProVI balls.

"Because the ball is so strong in the golf market, players are interested in what Titleist has to offer when it comes to clubs," said Steve Goforth of The Eagle Zone. "The new club is very attractive and has some good technology and should be easier to hit," he added.

The clubs will be priced competitively with similar irons. The AP 1 will be priced at \$699 while the AP 2 will be priced at \$999.

"We have already had a number of golfers coming in and asking about the club," said Keith Farrell of Golf Headquarters in Greenville. "It is always a good sign for a club when people are asking about it before we get it in the shop," he said.

The new irons from Titleist are expected to be available on April 1.

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The 2007 Dorman golf team (above-left) celebrated after winning the South Carolina AAAA championship at Furman. This year's team hopes to win a second straight championship. This year's team includes (l-r) Greg McCollough, Coach Lewis Terry, Sam Mervosh, Ryan Cisler, Thomas Justice, Jesse Danielewicz, Blake Kennedy, Will Ovendon, Clark Broughton, Chance White, Arran Setro, Clint Tolleson, Matt Rekers. The Cavaliers are led by Clint Tolleson (below-left) a future Gamecock golfer and Will Ovendon (below-right) a future Tiger golfer.

Cavaliers ready to repeat as champions

Dorman golfers set to defend their AAAA state title

Even before the 2007 Dorman Cavaliers started celebrating their AAAA South Carolina High School state championship, everyone was talking about a repeat in 2008.

The new high school season started this month and the Cavaliers picked up right where the left off last year.

Dorman won their first tournament of the season winning a sudden death play-off to take the victory at the Fort Dorchester Patriot Invitational.

The Cavaliers return three golfers who earned All-State honors last year and added a player who transferred to the school after finishing as the AA individual runner-up last year.

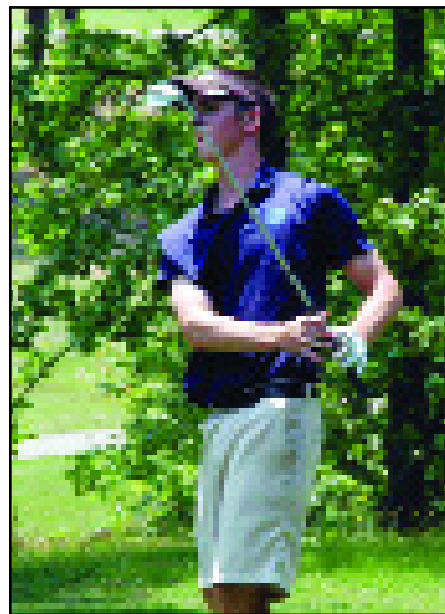
"We have a very good group of players who are determined to have another great year, but we also have some big challenges," said Lewis Terry, the Dorman golf coach. "There are a lot of good teams again this year and we will



have to play our best to have a chance to repeat," he said.

The results of the Outback Invitational in Aiken identified some of the challengers that will be taking aim at the Cavaliers.

Dorman finished tied for third behind Dutch Fork the team they beat for the AAAA title last year,



Teams from West Florence, Greenwood, South Aiken, Easley and Gaffney all expect to challenge Dorman for the state title at Furman.

The Cavaliers have a quiet confidence in their team and expect to be in a position to win a second title later this spring.

"The desire to win another title is the

pinnacle of high school golf," said Dorman senior Clint Tolleson. "You don't want to get there and then come back down, you want to stay there as long as you can and that is what we want to do here at Dorman," he added.

Tolleson is a future Gamecock golfer. His teammate Will Ovendon will be a Tiger golfer in a couple of years but right now both Dorman golfers want to win as many tournaments as they can for their school.

"We didn't really win any of the other big tournaments last year, like the Southern Cross. I think this year our goal is to try and win more tournaments than we won last year and another state championship," said Will Ovendon.

With three All-State players who are among the best in the state the competition for the remaining spots on the tournament team are hard to win. Qualifying events among the members of the Cavaliers team can be as demanding as any tournament against other schools.

"We have different players who play good at different times," said Brad Sill who earned All-State honors last year. "It

Dorman... Continued on Page 10

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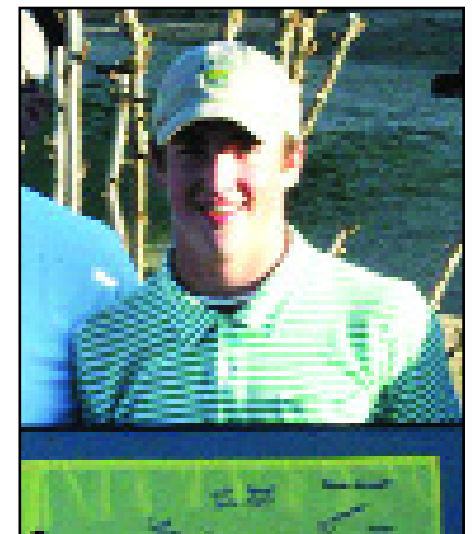
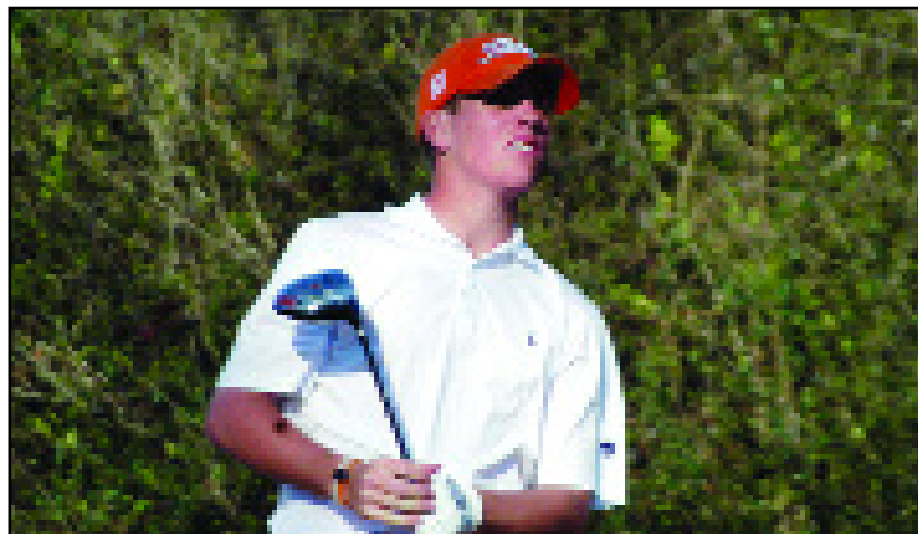
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The Anderson Sunshine House Junior Tournament featured many of the top junior golfers in South Carolina. Haley Stephens (left) of Riverside High School won the girls championship while Blake Kennedy of Dorman High School (right) won the boys 13-14 year old division title. Crawford Reeves of Eastside High School won the boys 15-18 year old championship. Reeves, a junior, is committed to playing college golf at Clemson.

Juniors shine in Anderson

Sunshine House Jr starts new season for young golfers

The sun has not always shined on the first big junior tournament in the Upstate. The annual Anderson Sunshine House Junior Golf tournament has had its share of battles with wind, rain and cold temperatures over the seven year history of the event.

However, this year many of the top junior golfers from South Carolina and a few from surrounding states opened the area junior season in near perfect weather conditions.

The scores in the tournament may have reflected the fact that many of the best juniors are just getting back on to the course after the winter.

Over 130 juniors competed in age group competition in the tournament to benefit the Anderson Sunshine House, a charity that provides temporary shelter to

homeless families with children.

This year's field included a large number of golfers who brought state championship, all state, amateur championships and college commitments to Cobb's Glen for the 36 hole event.

Eastside golfer Crawford Reeves began the final round trailing first round leader Jordan Walor of Wake Forest, North Carolina by two shots. Walor opened the tournament with a three-under par round of 69 that was the best round posted in either day of the tourna-

ment.

Reeves, the winner of The Blade and the CGA Junior Match-Play championship last year found the range with his wedge in the second round to post three straight birdies and take over the lead on the tenth hole.

"I started hitting a little 56 degree wedge really good. I hit it three times and got inside of five feet each time," said the future Clemson golfer.

Reeves ran off a string of three

Sunshine ... Continued on Page 12

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Dorman...Continued from Page 8

is difficult to qualify. We have 16 players on the team and anyone of them can qualify for the tournaments and play in the tournaments and do good for us," he said.

At the Fort Dorchester tournament it was not one of the Cavaliers All-State golfers that helped Dorman win the event.

Arran Setro made a tap in birdie putt in the playoff to give Dorman the victory. "Arran had his best finish for a high school event. He finished fourth in the tournament and Blake Kennedy was stellar in his debut for Dorman by shooting rounds of 75-75," said Dorman's coach.

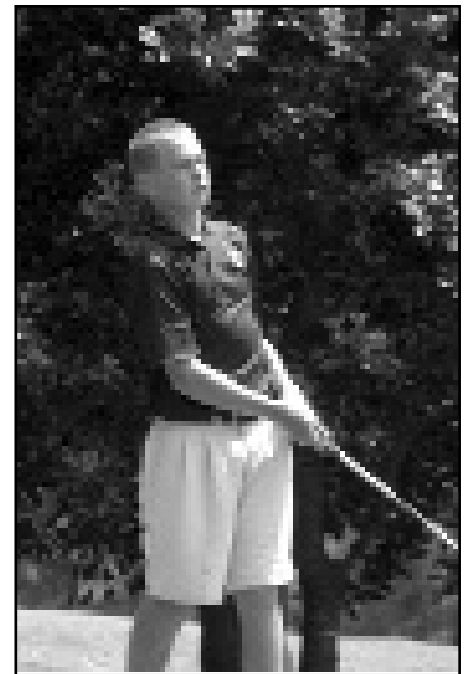
The addition of Kennedy to the Cavalier team gives Dorman another golfer capable of winning tournaments. Kennedy transferred to Dorman from Chapman where he helped the Panthers to a second place finish in the state AA tournament last year.

Kennedy helps make a strong team even better. "We had a good team at Chapman and finished second in the state but there is a big difference between AAAA golf and AA golf," he said.

Kennedy has already seen the difference is the number of good players on each team. "In AA you might have one or two good players on a team in AAAA everyone is a good player," said Kennedy.

The quality and depth of junior golf in South Carolina is considered among the best in the country. The active South Carolina Junior Golf program has helped develop the skill level of young golfers through summer tournaments that pay dividends for high school teams in the spring.

"We are a close team and I think that also helps us on the course," said Terry. "During the summer our golfers spend time together, they play in tournaments together and we see a lot of each other



Brad Sill earned All-State honors last year with his play in the state championship tournament. The Dorman golfer is part of the Cavalier team trying to repeat as South Carolina AAAA champions.

and that helps build our team," said the coach.

While the Cavaliers are considered the team to beat for the state championship, members of the team are not living on those expectations.

"I think we have to stay grounded all year and stay focused on what we need to do. We have the talent to win again but in golf you have to perform every day," said Tolleson. "We have the talent but it will have to play out," he said.

The Cavaliers will spend the next two months getting ready to defend their championship.

"I think everyone is looking at us as the team to beat, everyone wants to beat us. I think we are the best team and I think we will show it around tournament time," concluded Ovendon.

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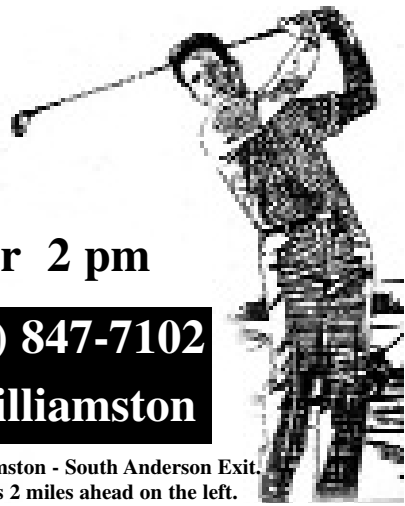
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Robbie and Nicky Biershenk were joined by Phillip Mollica as the three golfers teamed up to win the Frostbite Open at Boscobel. The three man team won the tournament on the second hole of a sudden-death playoff.

Frostbite playoff

Biershenks team up with Mollica to win at Boscobel

Robbie and Nicky Biershenk got a little help from a friend and picked up their third straight captain's choice victory.

The Biershenks along with Phillip Mollica of Anderson won the Frostbite Open at Boscobel in Pendleton.

The three golfer team won the title on the second hole of a sudden-death playoff.

"Phillip really played great and he made the difference for us," said Robbie Biershenk.

The winning team needed a team effort on the final hole of regulation just to earn a spot in the playoff.

Robbie Biershenk nailed a long drive, Mollica hit the team's second shot to within 12 feet of the pin. Nicky Biershenk sank the putt for an eagle and a spot in the playoff.

"Even when we made the eagle we thought we had missed the playoff by a shot," said Nicky Biershenk.

The team of Matt Davis, Josh Branyon and Jeff McCutchen also finished regulation play at 119 forcing the playoff.

The winning team rolled in a six foot putt in the playoff to claim the victory. The Biershenk brothers won the Holiday Open at Southern Oaks in December and The Blizzard tournament at Anderson Country Club in January.

"We left a few shots out there, but they really had this course set up very hard, it was like a tough day out there," said Robbie Biershenk.

"We just seem to be able to make the right shot at the right time and that is how we have been able to win these tournaments," added Nicky Biershenk.

Flight winners included, First - Benji McGaha, Chris Zorn, Timmy Bolding, Second - Dan Buschatz, Mark Solon, Sue Belair, Third - Rick Rogers, Dwayne Isbell, Mike Carney.

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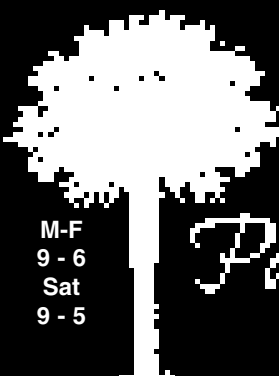
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Sunshine...

Continued from Page 9

straight birdies to open a lead. His length off the tee brought the par-5 holes into scoring range.

"I think I was able to hit driver and eight iron in so hitting good drives really set me up," he said.

Reeves had a chance to seal the win with a short birdie putt on his seventeenth hole, but the ball skipped past the hole.

On the final hole, with a four shot lead, Reeves used his driver once again but this time the result was not as it had been on previous holes.

"I had been hitting it so good I wanted to finish with it. I probably could have hit two four irons in and bogeyed the hole too," he laughed.

Reeves tee shot missed the fairway and found the woods. His second shot was short of the green and his approach just missed landing in a greenside trap.

The Thornblade golfer saved his bogey with a chip to within a foot of the hole and wrapped up his first win of the new season with a final round 72.

"Unfortunately, I made it a little more interesting than it had to be on the last hole," said Reeves. "I tried to guide that last drive down the fairway and just pushed it to the right," he recalled.

The bogey on the final hole still gave Reeves a three shot margin of victory over first round leader Walor who shot a second round 77.

A pair of Columbia golfers, Thomas Bradshaw and Colin Witiak finished third and fourth respectively.

Thomas Harper of Anderson finished fifth while Dewy Oxner of Greenville was sixth. Corbin Mills of Easley tied for ninth place in the tournament.

The win gets Reeves' new season off to a good start. "I played in the Junior Heritage but had not been hitting the ball solid until Friday and it carried over to



Crawford Reeves is presented his champions award by Sunshine House tournament director Tommy Harper and Wade May, the director of golf at Cobb's Glen in Anderson.

the weekend. These two days gave me a lot of confidence," said the winner.

Reeves will play on the Eastside team for the high school season and has several AJGA events on his schedule as well.

The girls championship was won by Haley Stephens of Riverside. Stephens shot rounds of 79 and 77 for a 156 total and a four shot victory.

Stephens thought she might have given the tournament away when she made a quad on the thirteenth hole in the final round.

"I really played that hole bad," she said. "I bombed the ball over the green and then had four putts. I made a couple of other bogeys coming in and just did not play very well," she said.

Stephens was able to finish ahead of Taylor Weaver of Spartanburg and Maureen Dunnagan of Lexington.

"I'm happy to win but I want to play a lot better and I'm going to have to play a lot better," she said.

Stephens, like Reeves, played in the Junior Heritage last month at Hilton Head. "I didn't play well but I learned a lot. I have a lot of work to do before the start of some of the other tournaments I want to play in this year," she said.

Stephens will play on the Riverside boys golf team this spring and is sched-

uled to play in several AJGA events.

Blake Kennedy of Dorman High School won the boys 13-14 year old age group title.

Kennedy shot rounds of 75 and 73 for a 148 total and a five shot win in the Boys 13-14 year old age group.

"I hit the driver pretty well and I kept the ball in play on all but one hole," said the golfer from Moore. "It is always nice to start off the year with a win," he said.

Kennedy's score was the third best score in the entire field.

An early spring season victory is what Kennedy was hoping for at the Anderson tournament. "I definitely was looking forward to playing in this one to get back into the tournament mode," he said.

Kennedy knows getting his game in shape for the high school season and junior tournaments this spring and summer means more than just working on his swing.

"The big thing for me this year is to keep my head straight. I need to keep my mind on the game and always think positive," he said. "Last year I had problems with getting negative, so this year my goal is to be positive all year," he said.

Julian Taylor of Greenville finished as the runner-up in the division.



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All whipped up

Orange Whip aid developed by Easley golf pro

A good idea can pop up at almost any time. Jimmy Hackenberg had the light come on for a golf training aid while sitting on a driving range at a PGA Tour event.

Hackenberg was a caddy and after hours of watching some of the best players in the world hit shot after shot his idea for a training aid started to take shape.

"Watching all the pros hit drive after drive I realized that the swing was an athletic rhythm in balance," he said.

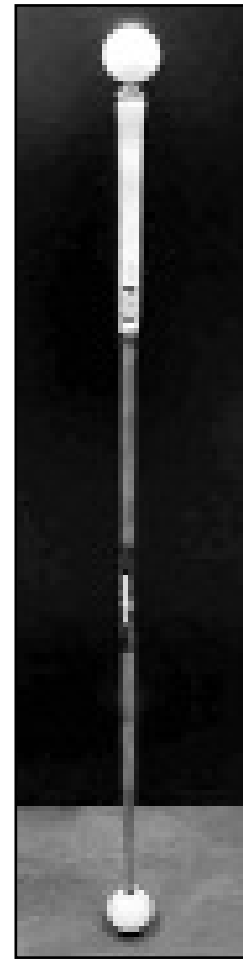
Average golfers often struggle with their weight shift or getting all of their body into a swing. Hackenberg believed he could help create a product that would be useful for golfers of all skill levels to develop the same kind of rhythm and balance that comes so natural to professionals.

The Orange Whip is a club like training aid that allows golfers to develop the feel of a swing without the pressure of hitting a golf ball.

"Most of my students would focus on hitting the ball and not developing the swing they needed. I developed the Orange Whip to enhance that learning process," he said.

The training aid has a very flexible shaft with a weighted orange ball, like a pool cue ball, on one end and another ball on top of the grip to counterbalance the weight.

Golfers use the Orange Whip as if it were a golf club. The player starts swinging the club back and forth like a golf swing. Hackenberg suggests that users start with a short swing and eventually work into a full swing to let the momentum of the Orange Whip build up.



"Just swinging back and forth helps golfers develop rhythm and balance in their golf swing. Using the Orange Whip also helps develop core muscles and improve strength," he said.

The club like device is not to be used for hitting golf balls and improves on other swing motion training aids.

"Some aids you can cheat and hit shots or swing and you lose the effectiveness of the device. The Orange Whip encourages a

golfer to swing the club with momentum to promote balance and consistency," said Hackenberg.

While Hackenberg has lived in New England and other parts of the country, he has moved to the Upstate to be close to family working in the area.

The new training aid is being assembled in Easley and is only available on the internet.

The Orange Whip sells for \$99.00. The web site also contains video to better show how the training aid can be used.

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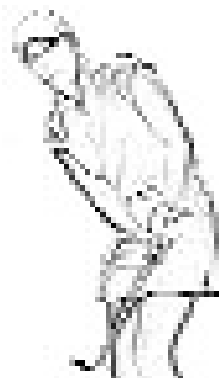
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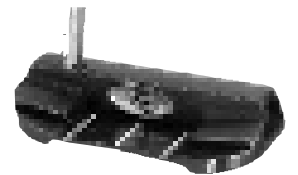
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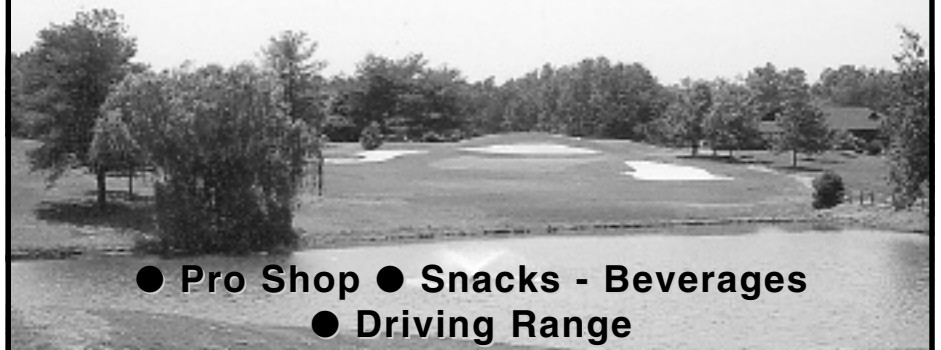


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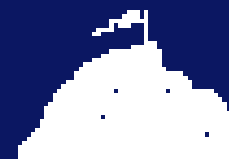
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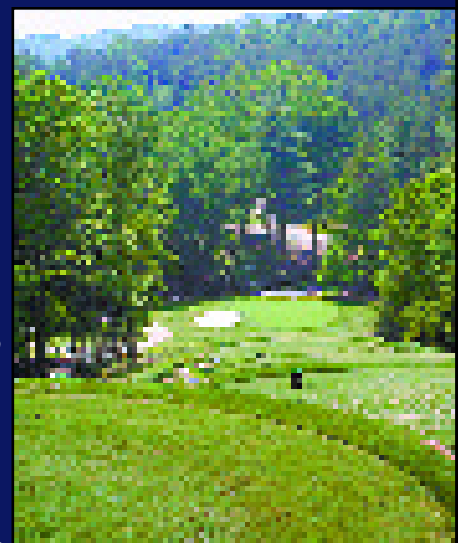
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Area Tournaments

Tough day and two man tournament this month

Southern Oaks and Summersett will bridge the winter golf season and help area amateurs get ready for the spring season with a pair of tournaments this month.

Anderson County golfers will get their season started with the annual four-man team competition at Saluda Valley and Anderson Country Club.

SCHEDULE REMINDER

If your club would like to have tournaments listed in our schedule section each month please forward the information to golfclub@charter.net.

Information needed to list your event is the date, entry eligibility, format, entry fee and registration contact.

www.carolinagolfinfo.com will soon have the Upstate Amateur schedule available on line.

Tough Day (March 22)

Southern Oaks will hold its annual tough day tournament. The tournament allows area golfers to test their skills against difficult pin placements and long fairways.

The event is open to all Upstate Amateurs. Entry information is available by calling the Southern Oaks Pro Shop at (864)859-6698.

Anderson County 4-Man (March 29-30) First round will be played at Saluda Valley and the second round at the Anderson Country Club.

The tournament is open to Anderson County resident golfers who have an established handicap at an Anderson County golf club.

Registration information will be available at all Anderson area courses next month.

Texas Two-Man (April 19-20) The unique team tournament will be held at

Pickens Country Club. The tournament allows the teams to pick their best tee shot and then play their own ball through the hole.

Information and registration for the tournament can be obtained by calling Pickens at (864) 878-6083.

Summersett 2-Man (March 29-30) Upstate amateurs could use this two-man captain's choice event as a warm up for the J.P Traynham in April.

The tournament is open to all area golfers. Seniors (over 55) play from the white tees in the event.

Entry information is available by calling the Summersett golf shop at (864) 834-4781

Greenville Co Two-Man (April 12-13) Tiger Woods may not be the only winner on Masters weekend. This year the Greenville County Two-Man tournament returns to Fox Run.

Entry information is available at www.upstategolfclub.com.

Furman Invitational (April 19-20) The spring tournament is open to Upstate amateur golfers. This year the Invitational is being played before the Furman course is scheduled to be closed for renovations.

Entry information for the tournament is available by calling the Furman Pro Shop at (864) 294-9090.

Ladies Spring Fling (April 23) The Spartanburg and Cherokee Counties Ladies Spring Fling at Woodfin Ridge benefits the Cancer Association.

Entry fee is \$75 per player and individual and team entries are available.

Call Glaydeane Lee at (864) 582-0771 to register.

J.P Traynham Memorial (April 26-27) The oldest open amateur event in the Upstate will be played at Summersett.

The tournament features a senior division. The event is open to all amateur golfers.

Information is available by calling (864) 834-4781.



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(\$5 surcharge plus cart fee at "sister" clubs \$5 charge per nine walking at "sister" clubs

- 7 day advanced tee times
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- Participation in club events at each facility (Limited to non-majors at sister facilities)

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- Initiation Fee \$600.00
- Family Dues - \$110.00/month
- Senior/Junior Dues - \$100.00/month
- ** Seniors - Over 55 * Juniors - Under 30



Hgwy 8 - Country Club Rd.
Pickens
(864) 878-6083



Anderson Country Club
1607 Market St.
Anderson
(864) 225-8291



Highway 76 Pendleton
(864) 646-3991
Woodhaven Golf Club Pendleton (864) 646-9511



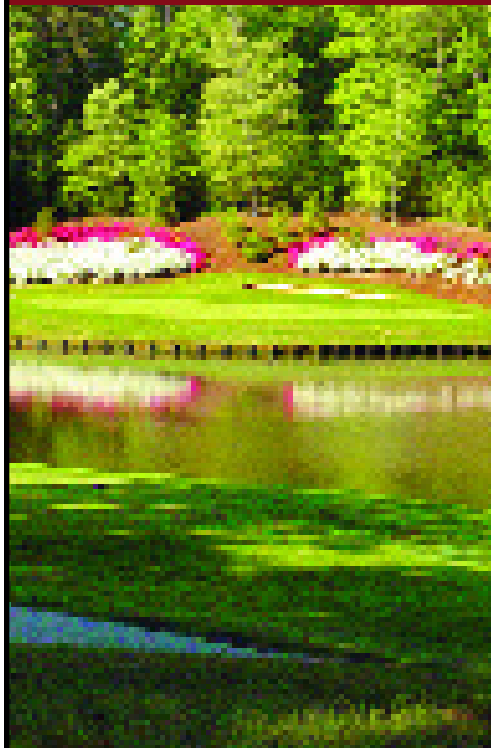
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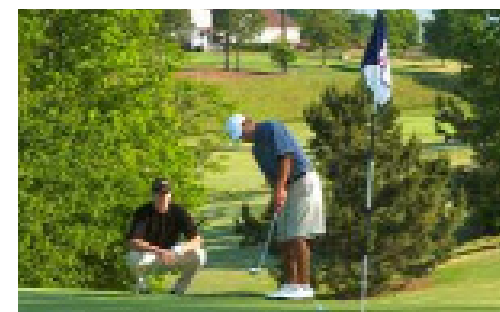
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