## Tee to Green GOLF MAGAZINE

**ISSUE #232** 

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## Tee to Green **GOLF MAGAZINE**

**Coverage area:** Louisiana and Mississippi

**Publisher:** John Price (TTGmagazine@yahoo.com)







Social media: TTGgolfmagazine



## **DOUBLE EAGLES**

#### CAN LE

Date: Oct. 2

Course: BREC's Santa Maria Golf Course (Baton Rouge, La.)

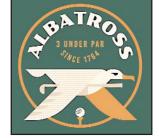
Hole: No. 18 (Par-5)

Distance of second shot: 205 yards

Club used: 5-wood

Witnesses: Phil Frazier, Terry Ledet and Mike Roussell





#### **DAVID MOREL**

Date: Nov. 10

**Course:** BREC's Webb Memorial Golf Course (Baton Rouge, La.)

Hole: No. 7 (Par-5 playing 417 yards) Distance of second shot: 175 yards

Club used: 5-iron









#### KARL HEBERT

Date: Nov. 28

**Course:** The Island Golf Course (Plaquemine, La.)

Hole: No. 12 (Par-5)

**Distance of second shot:** 175 yards

Club used: 6-iron

Witnesses: Dean Hebert, Grant Gauthreaux, Glen Cloutre and Clint English





Do you have an ace or double eagle you want published? Send the info to TTGmagazine@yahoo.com

#### **COVER STORY**



# TUNICA NATIONAL IS A MUST-PLAY COURSE

Despite being one of the longest courses in Mississippi, Tunica National Golf and Tennis Club is a challenging but fair course. The tract, which opened in 2004, was designed by 10-time PGA Tour winner Mark McCumber.

When you find yourself in Northwest Mississippi or planning a trip to this part of the state, putting this facility on your list is a must.

There is lots of water and sand bunkers, but the two-time PGA Tour major winner didn't make the course diabolically tough. There is no doubt he could have, but enjoyability seems to be one of the things McCumber was going for at this resort course, which has lots of healthy landing areas.

Tunica National is open to the public and also features large greens, many of which you can run your ball up from the fairway.

Opinions vary, but the 9-hole stretch of holes from the fifth to the 13th is a fantastic mix of holes.

Starting with the par-4 fifth — which can play as short as 274 yards (white tees) and as long as 353 yards (black tees) — is a dog-leg left with water on the. There are a few sand bunkers on the right of the fairway and more sand short and right of the green. It's a clever hole where risk-reward comes into play as an accurate drive can give you an easy wedge into the green. The sixth is a long par-4 (480 yards from the tips and 348 yards from the green tees). It is one of two holes that



runs along Highway 61. The next three holes (Nos. 7-9) feature a mixture of a par-5, par-3 and par-4. The final hole of the front nine is very similar to the fifth hole, but water is on the right side, but not a factor on the second shot.

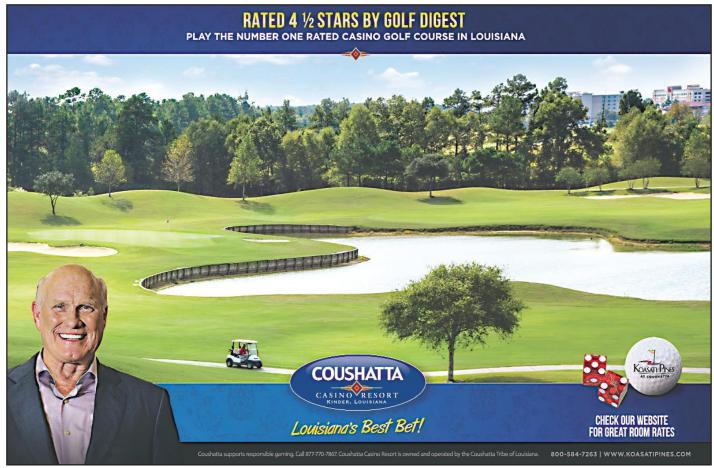
The next four holes are a 4-3-4-3 as far as pars go. The par-3s (Nos. II and I3) are the two shortest on the course. The I3th is the other hole alongside Hwy. 61. The final two holes require work and paying attention as they are both long par-4s with water coming into play. The final hole requires an accurate drive and a carry over a creek, which can be a tall task for some.

Overall, the amenities are second to none. There is a great practice facility and the multi-functional clubhouse has a fully-stocked pro shop, bar-and-grill, conference/meeting rooms and a handful of indoor tennis courts.

In addition, Tunica National recently joined The Mississippi Golf Trail.

The course itself can play as long as 7,204 yards from the tips or as short as 5,180 yards from the white tees. There are five sets of tees. For more information or to make your tee time, log onto www.tunicanational.com.





#### **PATRICK RIVET**

Jan. 2, BREC's Santa Maria Golf Course (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 17 (110 yards)





#### **BOB NEAL**

Jan. 6, The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.), Cardinal No. 4 (138 yards)





#### RICHARD COX

Jan. 7, Bay Pointe Country Club (Brandon, Miss.), No. 6 (113 yards)





#### Patrick Rivet

#### **NICHOLAS ERWIN**

Jan. 13, BREC's Santa Maria Golf Course (Baton Rouge, La.), No.11 (114 yards)

#### **WAYNE SILVA**

Jan. 19, The University Club (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 5 (168 yards)



Jan. 19, Pine Creek Golf Club (Purvis, Miss.), No. 15 (92 yards)



#### RONN UTERREINER

Jan. 30, The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.), Cardinal No. 13 (96 yards)





**Bob Neal** 



w.senioramateurgolftour.net

#### **TOURNAMENTS**

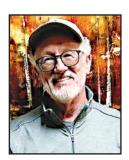
March 23: Sunkist Country Club (Biloxi) April 13: Windance Country Club (Gulfport) May 11: The Bridges Golf Club (Bay St. Louis) May 25: The Oaks Golf Club (Pass Christian)

June 15-16: Shell Landing Golf Club (Gautier), SUMMER MAJOR July 14: The Refuge Golf Course (Flowood)

Aug. 24: Timberton Golf Club (Hattiesburg) Sept. 14-15: The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.), SEASON-ENDING MAJOR THE CLUB Oct. 23-24: Golfweek Amateur Tour National Championship







**Richard Cox** 

#### NOTES

- Tournament entry fees include green fee, cart fee, range balls and prize pool.
- Membership in this tour is open to players that are 50 and above (as of Oct. 1, 2024). In all tournaments there are separate flights according to skill level to keep competition fair. As a member, you can participate in any Golfweek Amateur Senior Tour event in the United States throughout the year. The annual membership fee includes a curated selection of tour merchandise. We play gross stroke play tournaments conforming to USGA rules.
- Golfers are placed in a flight according to handicap. Majors feature double points for end-of-the-year competitions. Contact Tour Director Jason Boykin with any questions about the Senior Mississippi Tour.

He can be reached at 601.765.9716 or at mississippi@amateurgolftour.net



Ronn Uterreiner







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#### **RONNIE AUSTIN**

Dec. 8, The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.), Pine No. 2 (135 yards)



#### STEVE BEGLEY

Dec. 9, The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.), Cardinal No. 4



#### JERRY MARTIN

Dec. 12, Pine Creek Golf Club (Purvis, Miss.), No. 15 (90 yards)



#### **BENNIE BROWN**

Dec. 13, Bay Breeze Golf Course (Keesler AFB in Biloxi, Miss.), No. 3 (157 yards)



#### FRANK MANGUNO SR.

Dec. 16, The Island Golf Course (Plaguemine, La.), No. 8 (149 yards)



#### **BOBBY GROS**

Dec. 17, The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.), Cardinal No. 7 (128 yards)



#### SHIRLEY BICKHAM

Dec. 19, The Island Golf Course (Plaquemine, La.), No. 13 (122 yards)



#### **GEORGES ANTOUN**

Dec. 30, Les Vieux Chenes Golf Course (Youngsville, La.), No. 7 (135 yards)



#### **KODY DODGE**

Dec. 21, Jay and Lionel Hebert Golf Course (Lafayette, La.), No. 6 (153 yards)



#### Dec. 22, The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.), Cardinal No. 13 (125 yards)

**BOBBY COTIO** 

CLARENCE BREHM

Dec. 23, The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.), Cardinal No. 13 (125 yards)



#### **GARRY COLOMB**

Dec. 30, Les Vieux Chenes Golf Course (Youngsville, La.), No. 3 (121 yards)





**Bobby Gros** 



**Clarence Brehm** 



**Bobby Cotio** 





**Ronnie Austin** 



Steve Begley



**Jerry Martin** 





#### **TOURNAMENTS**

April 6: Tamahka Trails Golf Club (Marksville) April 27: Greystone Country Club (Denham Springs) May 18: LaTour Golf Club (Mathews)





June 8-9: Dancing Rabbit Golf Club (Choctaw, Miss.), SUMMER MAJOR June 22: The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.)

July 13: National Golf Club of Louisiana (Westlake)

July 27: The Wetlands Golf Course (Lafayette) Aug. 10: The Island Golf Course (Plaquemine) Aug. 24: Koasati Pines at Coushatta (Kinder)



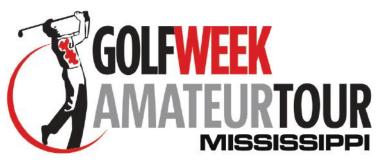




Sept. 14-15: BREC's Beaver Creek Golf Course (Zachary), SEASON-ENDING MAJOR Oct. 18-20: Golfweek Amateur Tour National Championship (Hilton Head, S.C.)

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- Contact Tour Director J.P. Tassin with any questions about the Louisiana South Tour. He can be reached at 985.273.1725 or at lasouth@amateurgolftour.net



#### TOURNAMENTS

April 6: The Oaks Golf Club (Pass Christian) April 21: Grand Bear Golf Club (Saucier) April 27: The Bridges Golf Club (Bay St. Louis)







May 4: Quail Hollow Golf Course at Percy Quin State Park (McComb)

May 18: Windance Country Club (Gulfport) June 8-9: Dancing Rabbit Golf Club (Choctaw), SUMMER MAJOR Dancing Rabbi

June 29: Patrick Farms Golf Club (Pearl)

July 13: The Refuge Golf Course (Flowood) Aug. 3-4: Craft Farms Golf Resort (Gulf Shores, Ala.), DOUBLE POINTS Aug. 24: Timberton Golf Club (Hattiesburg, Miss.)

Sept. 14-15: The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.), SEASON-ENDING MAJOR Oct. 18-20: Golfweek Amateur Tour National Championship (Hilton Head, S.C.)

#### NOTES

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#### **GERRY O'QUIN**

Nov. 3, The University Club (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 16 (140 yards)

#### PATRICK DESTEFANO

Nov. 6, The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.), Pine Course No. 6 (110 yards)



#### CHARLIE MARQUETTE

Nov. 8, BREC's Webb Memorial Golf Course (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 3 (115 yards)



#### JOHN STRICKLAND

Nov. 9, Okatoma Golf Club (Collins, Miss.), No. 11 (101 yards)



#### KAREN DOUGHERTY

Nov. 9, The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.), Cardinal No. 7 (115 yards)



#### BRIAN BLACKMON

Nov. 11, Pine Creek Golf Club (Purvis, Miss.), No. 15 (128 yards)



#### **BRANDON DUFRENE**

Nov. 16, Timberlane Golf and Recreation (Gretna, La.), No. 17 (180 yards)



#### DARRELL STEELE

Nov. 16, Wolf Hollow Golf Club (Wesson, Miss.), No. 8



#### **KEITH WEST**

Nov. 17, Castlewoods Golf and Country Club (Brandon, Miss.), No. 12 (200 yards)



#### **JEFF FURRIE**

Nov. 18, Sunkist Country Club (Biloxi, Miss.), No. 14 (104 yards)



#### JAY HOILFIELD

Nov. 18, Dixie Golf Club (Laurel, Miss.), No. 8



#### MAGGIE DRESSLER

Nov. 19, Koasati Pines Golf Course at Coushatta (Kinder, La.), No. 3 (119 yards)



#### **ERIC BODOIN**

Nov. 19, Les Vieux Chenes Golf Course (Youngsville, La.), No. 12 (169 yards)



MADISON AUCOIN Nov. 19, Jay and Lionel Hebert Golf Course (Lafayette, La.), No. 12 (109 yards)

Bob Morgan



Nov. 20, Bay Pointe Country Club (Brandon, Miss.), No. 17 BAY POINTE



#### MO SENECA

Nov. 29, St. Mary Golf and Country Club (Berwick, La.), No. 5 (152 yards)





Brandon Dufrene





Madison Aucoin







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#### MIKE LEMMI

Oct. 3, BREC's Beaver Creek Golf Course (Zachary, La.), No. 15 (105 yards)





#### **BOBBY SASSONE**

Oct. 4, Quail Hollow Golf Course at Percy Quin State Park (McComb, Miss.), No. 13 (131 yards)



#### PAUL BERARD

Oct. 6, Jay and Lionel Hebert Golf Course (Lafayette, La.), No. 15 (144 yards)

#### STEPHEN SMITH

Oct. 6, The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.), Pine No. 6 (110 yards)



#### **ROY LANDRY**

Oct. 7, BREC's Beaver Creek Golf Course (Zachary, La.), No. 15 (125 yards)





#### **BOBBY THOMPSON**

Oct. 8, Okatoma Golf Club (Collins, Miss.), No. 17 (137 yards)





#### Bobby Sassone (right) and **Gary Gifford**

**Paul Berard** 

#### JAMES GOSEY

Oct. 10, The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.), Cardinal No. 4 (103 yards)



#### RYAN ALFORD

Oct. 11, Squire Creek Country Club (Choudrant, La.), No. 12 (180 yards)



#### ROBERT BLAKE

Oct. 12, Mississippi State University Golf Course (Starkville), No. 8



#### FRANK COLUMBUS

Oct. 12, Okatoma Golf Club (Collins, Miss.), No. 11 (101 yards)

#### CHAD DIAMOND

Oct. 12, Canebrake Country Club (Hattiesburg, Miss.), No. 12



Oct. 12, Canebrake Country Club (Hattiesburg, Miss.), No. 4



#### **ROBERT GRAVES**

Oct. 13, Okatoma Golf Club (Collins, Miss.), No. 11 (103 yards)



#### **NICK BLADY**

Oct. 15, Jay and Lionel Hebert Golf Course (Lafayette, La.), No. 6 (135 yards)

#### **GORDON E. NELSON**

Oct. 16, BREC's Santa Maria Golf Course (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 17 (125 yards)

#### PAULINE TROXCLAIR

Oct. 16, Royal Golf Club (Slidell, La.), No. 17 Royal



#### **JAN AGUDA**

Oct. 19, The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.), Cardinal No. 13 (96 yards)





#### **BILLY MYAND**

Oct. 24, The Island Golf Course (Plaquemines, La.), No. 13 (116 yards)



#### **MICHAEL MENDES DE GOUVEIA**

Oct. 25, BREC's Santa Maria Golf Course (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 11



#### **ALEX LEE**

Oct. 27, The Club at Diamondhead (Miss.), Cardinal No. 4 (144 yards)



#### WILL KING

Oct 28, BREC's Santa Maria Golf Course (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 11



#### STEVE THOMPSON

Oct. 29, The University Club (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 16 (150 yards)



#### **DALE WHITE**

Oct. 29, Natchez (Miss.) Golf Club, No. 9



#### **MACK GRIFFITH**

Oct. 29, Jay and Lionel Hebert Golf Course (Lafayette, La.), No. 16 (135 yards)



**Mack Griffith** 



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**Nick Blady** 

## GIRL POWER!

#### **Livingston Parish duo accomplishes eye-opening feats**



#### **EVELYNN ARTIETA**

This 14-year-old product of Walker High School earned a trip to Augusta (Ga.) National Golf Club for the National Finals of the Drive, Chip and Putt Championships.



The last local female to represent

our area was Karstyn Altese (Diamondhead, Miss.) in 2021. She finished second in the National Finals at ANGC in the 10-11 division.

Artieta finished first in the Regional Qualifier Sept. 17 at Champions Golf Club in Houston. She scored 45 points in driving, 27 points in chipping and 60 points in putting. She will compete against nine others for the National Title on April 7, which is one day before official festivities start for The Masters.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 15** 



#### **SOPHIA MACIAS**

The list of accomplishments seems to grow almost monthly for this junior golfer, who attends Episcopal High School in Baton Rouge, La.

On Sept. 10, she made history as the first female competitor to win the Overall Club Championship at Greystone Golf and Country Club in Denham Springs, La.



Macias, who resides in Denham Springs, shot rounds of 70 and 74 from the championship tees (7,100 yards) to claim the four-stroke victory. The 144 total was also a club-championship record.

"We couldn't be more proud of Sophia's incredible win at the Greystone Golf and Country Club Championship," said her father James Macias. "This victory is a testament to her unwavering dedication and

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 15** 

#### **MACIAS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14**

relentless pursuit of excellence in golf. She went out there and handled her challenge, which is great because it sheds light on her. She's going through a college recruiting process. It's been fun to watch her get the victory. We are very proud of her even taking up the challenge, much less winning."

Since that quote late last year, Sophia has verbally committed to Tulane University in New Orleans.

During the summer, she got a chance to play in the Steph Curry Underrated Golf Tour. Macias was the only female player from Louisiana on the tour. The unique opportunity not only enhanced her skills, but also earned her a coveted exemption to compete on the tour for the next two years.



Closer to home, this wasn't the first time Sophia has played in the Greystone Golf and Country Club Championship, but it was the first time playing in this annual competition from over 7,100 yards. The 2022 competition was from under 5,000 yards, but after that victory, the younger Macias starting thinking about competition for the Overall Championship.

"It started off as an idea like, 'Hey, wouldn't it be fun if we all played with the tips'," Sophia said. "I spent a lot of time working out, getting stronger, working on speed, and training my body to match my game. I've worked on the mental side of things. My mental game has been a struggle, and that's a big thing with all golfers. It's learning how to be okay with bad shots. They happen. Moving on and growing from them. I wasn't hitting it perfectly (at the club championship), but I was learning how to recover and move on from bad shots."

Sophia has played golf since she was seven and joined Greystone six years ago. Her father credits the club for helping elevate her game to another level. Macias has been the Baton Rouge High School Women's Golf Metro Champion and Player of the Year for three years straight. She is also the reigning four-time BREC Women's Baton Rouge Amateur Champion. In addition to numerous junior-tour titles, Sophia also won the TaylorMade Junior Open Texas Championship last fall.



#### **ARTIETA CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14**

The Drive, Chip and Putt National Finals will be televised by The Golf Channel.

"I'm so excited to represent my region," Evelynn said to the local Baton Rouge CBS Affiliate station WAFB in a recent interview. "I've always wanted to go and watch The Masters. I've driven through Augusta before, but now I get to go there and play there."

Victories like this recent regional-qualifying one have not come easy for Artieta, a high-school freshman.

"At first I was like not playing well, so I kept coming in third or fourth and being beaten by a lot of strokes by more experienced girls. I was like oh my gosh, I'm never going to get there," Evelynn recalled. "I started practicing and putting in the work

and then I caught up to everyone and started winning some tournaments."

Parents Emily and Corey are extremely proud of their daughter's accomplishments.

"It is an opportunity that she earned herself. We didn't have anything to do with it. I don't swing the club and her mom doesn't. We just take her to practice. She had to do it all on her own, so we're extremely proud of her," Corey Artieta said.

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