

Tee to Green

GOLF MAGAZINE

ISSUE NO. 221

25th
ANNIVERSARY

CALMING CARDINAL



Diamondhead Country Club's
Cardinal Course is a great one to
play along the Mississippi Gulf Coast



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Our e-newsletter has feature stories, tournament stories, tourney results, aces/double eagles and a local calendar of events in every issue.

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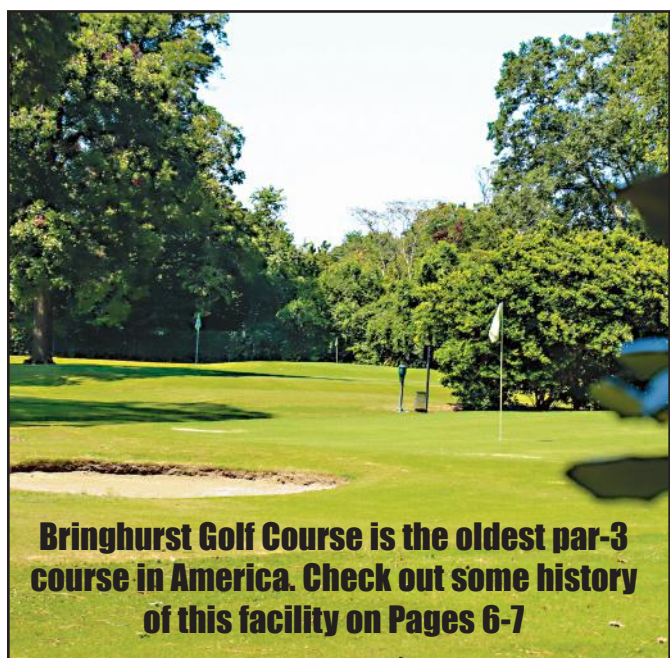
Tee to Green GOLF MAGAZINE

Covering golf news from Louisiana and Mississippi since 1995

Publisher: John Price (TTGmagazine@yahoo.com)



**Diamondhead Country Club's
Cardinal Course has new greens
See Page 4 for story**



**Bringhurst Golf Course is the oldest par-3
course in America. Check out some history
of this facility on Pages 6-7**

ALBATROSS CLUB

On Jan. 25, **Eddie Doiron III** recorded a double eagle on the seventh hole at LaTour Golf Club in Mathews, La. Eddie, 37, used his driver twice to complete the par-5 hole, which was playing 545 yards that day. His first shot went 276 yards and his second traveled 269 yards. This was the first albatross for Doiron, who resides in Houma, La.



See Page 9

On Jan. 31, **Bobby McGuffie** recorded his third lifetime double eagle at Castlewoods Golf and Country Club in Brandon, Miss. The latest for McGuffie, 31, was on No. 11 as he used a 7-wood from 240 yards out on his second shot of the par-5 hole.

On March 17, **Chuck Mendrop** recorded a double-eagle ace on the par-4 17th at Clear Creek Golf Course in Vicksburg, Miss. The 273-yard shot was with a driver.

Raymond Richard got in the albatross club on April 7 with a score of 2 on the par-5 third hole at LaTour Golf Club in Mathews, La. Richard, 67, resides in Raceland, La. and used a 4-hybrid on his second shot from 185 yards out. The hole was playing at 422 yards that day.

Austin Bollinger also got into the albatross club with an ace on the par-4 15th at LaTour Golf Club (Mathews, La.) on April 28. The 323-yard shot was with a driver. Bollinger, 23, resides in Houma, La.

Tony Gonzales joined the albatross club on May 9 when he aced the par-4 256-yard 16th at Copper Mill Golf Club (Zachary, La.) with his driver.

On May 21, **Mark Pickens** registered his second career albatross. The latest one was on No. 12 at Timber Truss Golf Course in Olive Branch, Miss. The 525-yard hole was completed with a 3-wood drive and a 221-yard second shot with a 4-hybrid.



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COVER STORY

Cardinal Course at Diamondhead CC upgrades its greens

By JOHN PRICE

In the midst of these unprecedented times we are living in, I recently found a calming four-hour block of time at one of our area's most popular facilities — Diamondhead Country Club.

Diamondhead is the Mississippi Gulf Coast's only 36-hole facility. The country club opened in 1971 and has always done a great job of keeping up with the ever-evolving times.

On this day in mid June, we played the Cardinal Course, which unveiled its new generation of Champion Greens in the fall of last year. The Cardinal used to have first generation Champion Greens, but with some issues of invasion on some of the greens, Diamondhead went with the newest generation of the popular Champion Greens. The new greens are better equipped to handle heat and drought situations.

The Cardinal is known for its wooded and gently rolling terrain. There are no parallel fairways on this course and features a nice set of four short par-3s that are not necessarily easy despite playing between 115-127 yards from the gold tees. Among the par-5s, the 15th is the longest hole on the course and perhaps the most beautiful as water comes into play on the first two shots (see picture at right). The memorable hole plays at 577 yards from the tips.

Designer Earl Stone, who also designed three other Mississippi courses, did an excellent job of mixing up the holes so they flow well on the par-72 course. The front nine features back-to-back par-4s on Nos. 5-6 and they are the toughest and third toughest holes of the course according to the men's handicap rating (fifth and seventh for the ladies). On the back nine's first three holes, all are par-4s but feature yardages from 290-318 from the popular gold tees making it a fun little stretch of holes.

Diamondhead Country Club opened 49 years ago with the Pines Course. A couple of years later came the Cardinal Course, which has two front-nine par-3s (Nos. 4 and 7) that seem to generate a lot of aces.

The Pines seems to gather attention from professional and collegiate events, but when you ask members and guests of Diamondhead, the courses are virtually a coin-flip when it comes to popularity. The Pine Course has Mini-Verde greens and overall with not as wide fairways as the Cardinal Course.

"Both courses at Diamondhead are extremely playable," said Hilary Domangue of Houma, La., who recently played the Cardinal Course for the first time since getting new greens.



No. 15 is a par-5 that can play up to 577 yards from the Blue Tees


Diamondhead
COUNTRY CLUB

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"My favorite hole on the front was No. 7 and on the back was No. 15 as you have to cross water on the first two shots."

Both courses are not only enjoyable, but durable and known for always being in great condition.

The Cardinal and Pine each play just under 6,800 yards from the tips (the gold tees referenced earlier in this article at Cardinal Course play at 5,507 yards). Both courses have multiple tee boxes for all types of players.

Diamondhead is located just north of I-10 at Exit 16.

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Bringhurst Golf Course features lots of history

Did you know that Alexandria, La. is the home of the oldest par-3 golf course in America?

Bringhurst Golf Course (nicknamed 'Mashie Golf Course' in its early days) was built in the 1920s, next to another piece of local history — the Alexandria Zoological Park.

After several years, the course fell into disrepair and the City of Alexandria planted rose gardens on all of the greens. In the late 1950s Francis Trotter, a local business owner, leased this 'rose garden' from the city and converted it back into a golf course. Francis eventually handed the reigns over to his son, Bugs Trotter. In the 1980s, the course was being threatened to, once again, shut down. The Trotters managed to keep the course alive until 2006, when Francis' grandson Jamie declined the lease and shut the course down for good.

For years the grounds were not managed, the clubhouse fell into disrepair, and the course was all but forgotten. All but forgotten, except by one man.

Scott Brame started playing at the Bringhurst Golf Course when he was 9 years old, back in 1937. Brame, a local business man, philanthropist, and past CEO of CLECO, knew of the necessity of Bringhurst Golf Course.

Mr. Brame once said: "I see the most appeal with this course being with two spectrums of age — the very young and senior citizens. They have the opportunity to come out for one hour and play golf. Four hours doesn't appeal to everybody."

Brame rallied a large portion of Alexandria with him in his efforts to restore the course, and even set up a fund called 'Friends of Bringhurst.' Through Scott Brame's help, Bringhurst re-opened (again) in 2008. Mr. Brame did not want the course to just be open, however. Scott and his sons operated the course and ran youth golf camps, workshops, and weekly, monthly, and yearly tournaments.

Bringhurst remains open today. It is open for play free of charge. Scott Brame passed away at 90 on the last day



of March 2019. For many people today when Bringhurst is mentioned, the Brame name is associated with it. While Bringhurst would not be open today if it wasn't for the Brame Family, that family is quick to point out that the facility would not be possible without the Trotter family, Jarrett Watson and the Friends of Bringhurst as well.

Scott Brame used to call Bringhurst Golf Course the best babysitter in Alexandria as so many children were raised playing golf there. There is even more history off the course as pro-shop/golf office was once a house and home to Don Scott. Don's grandson (Ted Scott) has now been PGA Tour Professional Bubba Watson's caddy for over 12 years. Teddy was with Watson during both of his Masters Tournament wins.

On July 23 of last year, the Alexandria City Council unanimously approved a resolution to place a memorial at Bringhurst Golf Course in honor of Scott Overton Brame.

"He fundamentally rebuilt the golf course," Councilman Chuck Fowler said. "It's a good thing to honor such a wonderful person."

The memorial will feature a plaque (seen at left) and six crepe myrtles, one representing each of Brame's children (Catherine, Grady, Scott, Ann, Michael and Jack). The memorial was placed on the approach to the sixth hole.

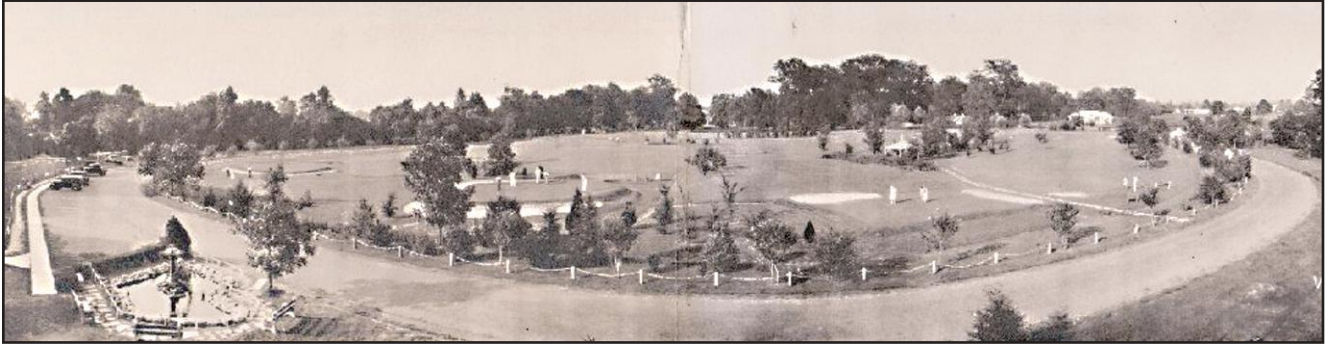


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Bringhurst Golf Course (Alexandria, La.) in the 1930s

"We wanted a spot where it wouldn't be in the way," explained Jack Brame, the youngest of the six children. "There is a bench there and you could sit on the bench and watch players on the course without worrying about getting hit."

Since re-opening in 2010, the course is part of the City of Alexandria Parks and Recreation Department.

A graduate of LSU, Brame started with CLECO in 1949 and retired with the company in 1993 with the only break in his career coming when he served in the Korean War.

In addition to his support of Bringhurst Golf Course, Brame had an extensive legacy of civic involvement.

It is a fitting tribute to have a plaque to mark his monumental involvement in keeping Bringhurst Golf Course open. Also fitting are the crepe myrtles that represents the Brame children's dedicate and work to Bringhurst.

Most of this story came from Nathan Parish, who is a Central Louisiana writer. He operates The Vault, which is a multi-media network that prides itself in providing the latest insights and entertainment created by locals for locals. You can find The Vault on Facebook (@thevaultmedia) or on its own website: <https://vault.news>

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THE PAR-3 MASTERS

Rupnarian, Poche each have a unique distinction

There have been many rounds by many players at Carter Plantation Golf Resort (opened in 2003) and The Wetlands Golf Course, which opened in 2006.

But there is only one person at each facility that has managed to ace all four par-3s there.

At Carter Plantation (Springfield, La.) that distinction belongs to Victor Rupnarian, who aced No. 3 on Feb. 8. Rupnarian, 65, is a member at Carter Plantation and had already recorded a hole-in-one on No. 12 (Sept. 2019), No. 5 (April 2019) and No. 17 (Feb. 2016). Rupnarian lives at Carter Plantation and started playing there in 2004, mainly because Gemstone Plantation (in nearby Franklinton, La.) had closed down. Now retired, all four of his lifetime aces are at Carter Plantation, where he plays an average of three times per week. Rupnarian has been playing golf for 33 years.

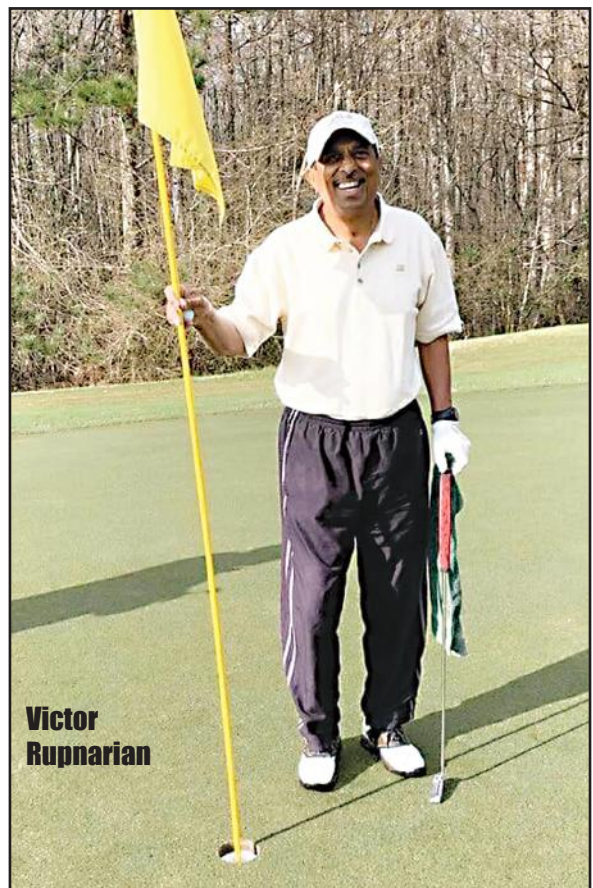
POCHE'S HOLE-IN-ONES AT THE WETLANDS

Richard Poche, 84, has seven lifetime aces, but what he accomplished in the fall of 2019 put him in rare company.

Poche aced Nos. 16 and 13 at The Wetlands Golf Course (Lafayette, La.) in September to become the first person to record a hole-in-one on all par-3 holes at the public course.

Poche's first ace came 14 years ago on No. 4 and then in Feb. 2019, he aced the eighth hole.

Poche is retired and plays at The Wetlands four or five times per week. His previous three aces were at the now-closed Acadian Hills Country Club, which was also in Lafayette.



**Victor
Rupnarian**

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ALBATROSS CLUB



Eddie Doiron III
(standing) after
his albatross
on Jan. 25 at
LaTour Golf Club
in Mathews, La.



Austin Bollinger



Bobby McGuffie



Mark Pickens recorded his second career albatross (also known as a double eagle) on May 21 at Timber Truss Golf Course in Olive Branch, Miss.

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Weekend Resort Double: \$140* per person

2 golfers sharing a room. Includes 18 hole round, range balls, shared cart and \$10 food credit.

Fairway Foursome: \$720* per night

4 golfers sharing a cabin on course. Includes golf for 4, 2 personal carts, shared cart, range balls and \$40 food credit.

* prices do not include tax.



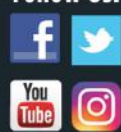
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ACES

JOSH ACREE

Feb. 29, D'arbonne Country Club (Farmerville, La.), No. 5

HAROLD ADAMS

May 13, LaTour Golf Club (Mathews, La.), No. 17 (146 yards)

GAYE ALEXANDER

April 18, Farm d'Allie Golf Club (Carencro, La.), No. 13 (90 yards)

BURKE ALFORD

Feb. 22, Squire Creek Country Club (Choudrant, La.), No. 16, during first round of Sam Burns LJGA Four Ball

CAMERON BAUBACH

Feb. 9, Mississippi State University Golf Course (Starkville, Miss.), No. 10 (113 yards)

ROSS BERTHELOT

March 10, The University Club (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 5

AARON BIRD

Feb. 25, Hebert Municipal Golf Course (Lafayette, La.), No. 2 (155 yards)

TYLER BLOCKER

April 28, Greenwood (Miss.) Country Club, No. 14 (201 yards)

GRACIE BLOOM

Jan. 18, The Oaks Golf Club (Pass Christian, Miss.), No. 7 (165 yards)

AUSTIN BOLLINGER

April 28, LaTour Golf Club (Mathews, La.), No. 15 (323 yards), shot was also an albatross

BRENT BOYD

April 16, The Country Club of Louisiana (Baton Rouge), No. 13 (155 yards)

EARL BRIDGES

May 22, Timberton Golf Club (Hattiesburg, Miss.), No. 4 (134)

EARL BRIDGES

April 6, Timberton Golf Club (Hattiesburg, Miss.), No. 6 (100 yards)

AARON BROOKS

March 6, The University Club (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 5

NEIL BUCKINGHAM

May 20, The Country Club of Louisiana (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 6 (143 yards)

KENNY BURNS

Jan. 10, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 13 (180 yards)

MIKE CHATELAIN

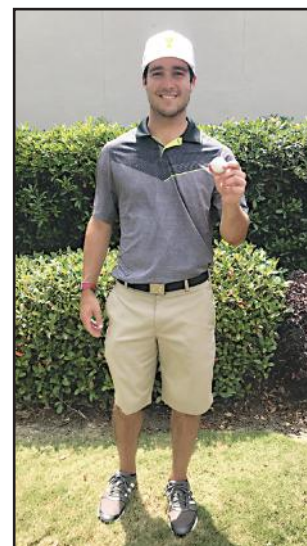
May 18, BREC's Santa Maria Golf Course (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 2 (158 yards)

REX COCHRAN JR.

Feb. 9, BREC's Beaver Creek Golf Course (Zachary, La.), No. 3 (118 yards)



**Cameron
Baubach**



Austin Bollinger

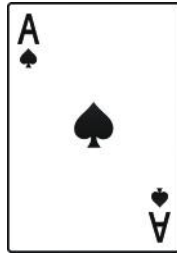
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ACES



Gracie Bloom



Gaye Alexander
PPPPPPPP



Josh Acree (center with golf ball) poses with a few of his friends on Feb. 11 at D'arbonne Country Club in Farmerville, La.

Tyler Blocker
>>>>>>



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ACES

ART COURVILLE

Feb. 29, The Wetlands Golf Course (Lafayette, La.), No. 13 (100 yards)

DEL COX

March 10, Clear Creek Golf Course (Vicksburg, Miss.), No. 2 (106 yards)

DAKOTA CUNNINGHAM

April 2, Cherokee Valley Golf Club (Olive Branch, Miss.), No. 16 (135 yards)

TODD DANIELS

Jan. 7, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 13 (180 yards)

STEVE DAY

Feb. 7, Windance Country Club (Gulfport, Miss.), No. 8 (161 yards)

GENE DEMEDICIS

March 26, Diamondhead (Miss.) Country Club, Pine No. 6 (120 yards)

BILL VAN DEVORT

March 22, Diamondhead (Miss.) Country Club, Pine No. 6 (108 yards)

KERRY DUBEA

May 19, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 3 (103 yards)

BILL EVANS

May 7, Diamondhead (Miss.) Country Club, Cardinal No. 4 (90 yards)

PATRICK FEATHERS

May 7, Bay Pointe Resort and Golf Club (Brandon, Miss.), No. 13 (155 yards)

NEIL FONTENOT

April 7, St. Mary Golf and Country Club (Berwick, La.), No. 3 (152 yards)

CARTER FORTIER

Jan. 25, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 3 (164 yards)

LILY GARNER

April 19, Reunion Golf and Country Club (Madison, Miss.), No. 6 (120 yards)

CONNOR GEE

May 9, Reunion Golf and Country Club (Madison, Miss.), No. 15 (152 yards)

FERDIE GENRE

Feb. 26, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 15 (119 yards)

BRUCE GILCREASE

Jan. 7, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 13 (158 yards)

SAM GODBER

May 10, The University Club (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 8 (130 yards)



Dakota Cunningham (right) poses with PGA Tour star Justin Rose



Patrick Feathers



Neil 'Trimmer' Fontenot



ACES




Lily Garner (left) and Aimee Garner (her mother)






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ACES

TONY GONZALES

May 9, Copper Mill Golf Club (Zachary, La.), No. 16 (256 yards), driver, shot was also an albatross



ED GRANTHAM

May 1, Deerfield Golf Club (Canton, Miss.), No. 12 (124 yards)

PEPPY GLAZE

Nov. 23, The Wetlands Golf Course (Lafayette, La.), No. 8 (113 yards)

KENDALL GRIFFIN

Feb. 12, The Country Club of Louisiana (Baton Rouge), No. 17

DAVE GUIDRY

April 10, Bayouside Golf Course (Napoleonville, La.), No. 3 (175 yards)



Ed Grantham

KELVIN HALL

Feb. 2, Castlewoods Golf and Country Club (Brandon, Miss.), No. 7 (163 yards)

REAGAN HILL

Feb. 23, Grand Bear Golf Club (Saucier, Miss.), No. 3

ROBERT HODGES

April 13, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 13 (172 yards)

ELBERT HOLLAND

May 4, Pine Creek Golf Club (Purvis, Miss.), No. 3 (125 yards)

JAMES JEAVONS

Jan. 10, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 13 (178 yards)

JEDD JOHNSON

Feb. 29, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 7 (150 yards)



Kendall Griffin

CHARLIE KEETON

April 9, Bay Pointe Resort and Golf Club (Brandon, Miss.), No. 6 (145 yards)

BOB KENNON

Jan. 5, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 3 (103 yards)

PETE LEA

May 21, Calvert Crossing Golf Club (Calhoun, La.), No. 2



Darrell Leblanc

DARRELL LEBLANC

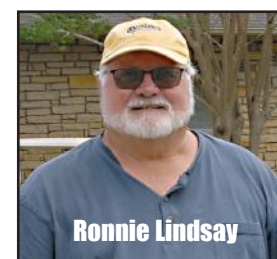
May 19, BREC's Webb Memorial Golf Course (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 3 (113 yards)

MICHAEL LEE

Feb. 21, Pelican Point Golf Club (Gonzales, La.), No. 17 (124 yards)

JAMIE LEE

May 20, Sunkist Country Club (Biloxi, Miss.), No. 14 (109 yards)



Ronnie Lindsay

RONNIE LINDSAY

April 15, Quail Hollow Golf Course at Percy Quin State Park (McComb, Miss.), No. 8 (113 yards)

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ACES



Reagan Hill



Pete Lea



Kelvin Hall



Elbert Holland

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ACES

CLIFF LUQUETTE

April 3, Pelican Point Golf Club (Gonzales, La.), No. 4 (144 yards)

SHARON MADDEN

March 8, BREC's Beaver Creek Golf Course (Zachary, La.), No. 15 (87 yards)

JIM MACLIN

March 28, Coahoma Country Club (Clarksdale, Miss.), No. 3 (166 yards)

LEROY McKEEVER

May 12, BREC's Dumas Memorial Golf Course (Baker, La.), No. 16 (118 yards)

DIANE McGOWAN

March 12, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 3

R.E. McKEY

Jan. 25, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 3 (103 yards)

HAROLD McKNIGHT

April 23, Pine Creek Golf Club (Purvis, Miss.), No. 15 (130 yards)

BILL MEARES

Jan. 24, The University Club (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 5

CHUCK MENDROP

March 17, Clear Creek Golf Course (Vicksburg, Miss.), No. 17 (273 yards), shot was also an albatross

SARAH MERAL

April 16, Money Hill Golf and Country Club (Abita Springs, La.), No. 8 (129 yards)

EDDIE MORGAN

March 23, Pine Creek Golf Club (Purvis, Miss.), No. 3 (133 yards)

FRANK MORROW

March 27, Diamondhead (Miss.) Country Club, Cardinal No. 13 (130 yards)

JOE MURRAY

March 30, Diamondhead (Miss.) Country Club, Cardinal No. 13 (105 yards)

KEVIN NAQUIN

April 5, LaTour Golf Club (Mathews, La.), No. 4 (162 yards)

ALVIN NORA

Jan. 25, LaTour Golf Club (Mathews, La.), No. 17 (128 yards)

BOBBY OLSON

May 14, Bayou Vista Golf Course (Gulfport, Miss.), No. 2 (124 yards)

CHAD PALEN

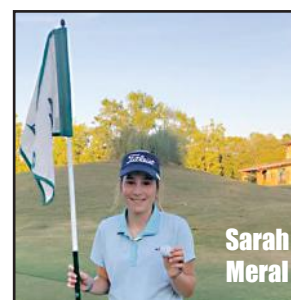
May 3, Royal Golf Club (Slidell, La.), No. 15 (156 yards)



Sharon Madden



Harold McKnight



Sarah Meral



Kevin Naquin >>>>

ACES

DOYLE PHILIPPE

Feb. 15, Pelican Point Golf Club (Gonzales, La.), No. 14 (124 yards)

RITA PORTER

May 2, Hernando (Miss.) Golf and Racquet Club, No. 3

KEN PROCTOR

March 13, Clear Creek Golf Course (Vicksburg, Miss.), No. 14

RANDY RAUDABAUGH

May 21, The University Club (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 13 (141 yards)

DANIEL REA

March 8, Windance Country Club (Gulfport, Miss.), No. 8 (151 yards)

RON RECH

Feb. 12, Diamondhead (Miss.) Country Club, Cardinal No. 4 (89 yards)

LUTHER REECE

Jan. 31, Quail Hollow Golf Course at Percy Quin State Park (McComb, Miss.), No. 15 (140 yards)

CHRIS REIN

Feb. 23, Grand Bear Golf Club (Saucier, Miss.), No. 7

BARRY ROBERT

March 7, The University Club (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 13

KEN ROMINGER

May 16, Bayou Vista Golf Course (Gulfport, Miss.), No. 11 (145 yards)

JAKE ROSS

May 2, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 7 (139 yards)

VICTOR RUPNARIAN

Feb. 8, Carter Plantation Golf Club (Springfield, La.), No. 3 (158 yards), fourth career ace (all at Carter Plantation)

N.J. SALAMONI

April 26, Pelican Point Golf Club (Gonzales, La.), No. 14 (135 yards)

CHRIS SALTER

March 13, Pelican Point Golf Club (Gonzales, La.), Lakes No. 2 (172 yards)

BRUCE SANDERS

Jan. 7, BREC's Beaver Creek Golf Course (Zachary, La.), No. 3 (110 yards)

DALE SAVOIE

March 13, The Atchafalaya Golf Course at Idlewild (Patterson, La.), No. 2 (178 yards)

JESS SAVOIE

May 9, LaTour Golf Club (Mathews, La.), No. 17



Ken Proctor (second from right)



ACES

FRANK SCHROEDER

April 26, The University Club (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 13 (145 yards)

LOREN SCOTT

Jan. 28, The Country Club of Louisiana (Baton Rouge), No. 17 (110 yards)

JIM SIEG

April 16, LaTour Golf Club (Mathews, La.), No. 8 (163 yards)

DANNY SIMONEAUX

May 29, BREC's Dumas Memorial Golf Course (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 3 (142 yards)

TIM SIMPSON

April 7, Cajun Pine Golf Club (Branch, La.), No. 2 (127 yards)

ALLEN SMITH

Jan. 22, The Country Club of Louisiana (Baton Rouge), No. 17 (147 yards)

PETE SMITH

Feb. 15, Lake Caroline Golf Club (Madison, Miss.), No. 13 (170 yards)

BUCK SPRUILL

Feb. 22, Greenwood (Miss.) Country Club, No. 11

GREG STACK

March 17, Diamondhead (Miss.) Country Club, Pine No. 2 (130 yards)

BUCK STEIN

April 17, Calvert Crossing Golf Club (Calhoun, La.), No. 5, wife is Jo Stein

JO STEIN

April 17, Calvert Crossing Golf Club (Calhoun, La.), No. 5, husband is Buck Stein

LARRY STEVENS

March 26, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 3 (106 yards)

MELVIN STILLMAN

April 5, Quail Hollow Golf Course at Percy Quin State Park (McComb, Miss.), No. 8 (128 yards)

CHIARA TAMBURLINI

Jan. 28, The Ole Miss Golf Course (Oxford, Miss.), No. 5 (150 yards)

JOYCE TEERLING

April 21, Diamondhead (Miss.) Country Club, Cardinal No. 13 (96 yards)

BRIAN TERHAAR

May 29, The University Club (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 8 (162 yards)

DOUG THOMPSON

April 9, The University Club (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 8 (162 yards)



Tim Simpson



Allen Smith



Buck
Spruill



Jo
Stein



Melvin
Stillman

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ACES

JAY TOLSON

March 28, Indian Hills Country Club (Opelousas, La.), No. 4 (135 yards)

STEVE TOPE

April 11, The University Club (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 5 (115 yards)

RICKY TOWNLEY

May 6, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 7 (121 yards)

LOUIS TURNAGE

May 22, Pine Creek Golf Club (Purvis, Miss.), No. 3 (133 yards)

DAN TURNER

March 26, Greystone Golf and Country Club (Denham Springs, La.), No. 7 (144 yards)

JIM TURNER

April 17, Calvert Crossing Golf Club (Calhoun, La.), No. 5

CHASE URBAN

May 20, Diamondhead (Miss.) Country Club, Pine No. 15

ALDEN VALENTE

March 17, Greenwood (Miss.) Country Club, No. 8 (100 yards)

TRACY VOGT

May 30, Pine Creek Golf Club (Purvis, Miss.), No. 15 (125 yards)

LOUIS VOORHIES

Feb. 3, BREC's Santa Maria Golf Course (Baton Rouge, La.), No. 11 (138 yards)

ALISHA WALDROP

April 26, Quail Hollow Golf Course (McComb, Miss.), No. 13 (92 yards)

ALLEN WALKER

April 3, Pelican Point Golf Club (Gonzales, La.), No. 17 (172 yards)

FRANK WALLACE

May 19, Bay Pointe Resort and Golf Club (Brandon, Miss.), No. 3

JERRY WEEKS

Feb. 23, Hattiesburg (Miss.) Country Club, No. 15 (148 yards), ninth lifetime ace

GERALD WHITE

April 19, LaTour Golf Club (Mathews, La.), No. 4 (130 yards)

WALKER WHITEHEAD

May 31, Northwood Country Club (Meridian, Miss.), No. 17

BRANDEN YORK

April 5, River Birch Golf Club (Amory, Miss.), No. 11



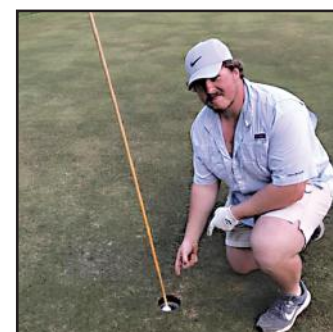
Jay Tolson



Louis Turnage



Chase Urban



Branden York

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ACES



Alden Valente (center)



Jerry Weeks picks up his ninth career ace out of the hole on Feb. 23 at Hattiesburg (Miss.) Country Club



Walker Whitehead



Tracy Vogt



Alisha Waldrop



Frank Wallace (left) and his son Weston

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Louisiana wins GSPGA Mackel Cup

The Gulf States PGA's Mackel Cup was held on Jan. 26-27 in New Orleans with Team Louisiana posting a five-point victory.



The event is named for the late Frank Mackel, who was known as The Godfather of Golf in New Orleans. It was played at Bayou Oaks at City Park South Course (New Orleans) and New Orleans Country Club. The Ryder-Cup Format event featured the Louisiana team of professionals achieving 27 points and the Mississippi professionals registering 22 points. Leading the way for Louisiana was Gavin Vegas, Clay Weems, Robert Flanagan, Wayne Fuselier and Emlyn Aubrey as the five players didn't lose a match in the event. Mississippi



was led by Joseph Hanko and Matt Brunetz as that duo went undefeated also. The first round of competition was four-ball matches at Bayou Oaks at City Park, but it was cut short to nine holes because of weather. Louisiana won that portion of the competition, 4-3. In Round 2 singles (also at Bayou Oaks), Louisiana won the front nine, 8.5-5.5. The back nine finished tied at 7-7. Louisiana won the 18-hole singles matches, 7.5-6.5.

INAUGURAL GULF STATES PGA SENIOR/JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

The team of Reed Hughes and Kyle Ramey earned the honor of being named the inaugural Gulf States PGA Senior/Junior Champions as the duo combined for an impressive 11-under-par 61 to take the victory.

The tourney was held at OakWing Golf Club (Alexandria, La.) on March 2. A total of 40 players (20 teams) took place in the event, which featured a PGA Professional 50 years of age and older and a PGA Professional less than 50 years old.

Finishing in second place was Leigh Brannan and Olly Thomson as the duo carded a 62.

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Eason, Porvasnik claim titles in Alexandria, La.

Just before the COVID-19 pandemic shut down the world of professional golf, Greg Eason (Kissimmee, Fla.) and Jessica Porvasnik (Hinckley, Ohio) posted wins at the APT and WAPT Coke Dr. Pepper Open at OakWing Golf Club and Links on the Bayou in Alexandria, La. on March 14.

Eason shot an opening round of 68 then followed up with rounds of 66, 63 and 68 for the one-shot victory over Germany's Maximilian Rottluff. Eason, who is from England, shot a 30 on the front nine with birdies on Nos. 1-3, 5, 7 and 9. His back nine produced birdies on 10, 12 and 14. Eason, who had only three bogeys in the entire 72-hole tournament, earned \$35,000 for his victory. Rottluff won \$14,000.

Jacob Bergeron (Slidell, La.) was the top local finisher as he finished with a 18-under-par 270, which was good for 10th. Grady Brame Jr. (Hammond, La.) was one shot back of Bergeron and finished tied for 11th.

This was the 17th year that OakWing Golf Club has hosted a professional tournament.

Porvasnik shot a final-round 65 (tied for best round in the tournament). Her one-shot victory was spurred on by birdies on Nos. 13-16, which was part of a back-nine 31. She won \$7,500 for the one-shot victory over Maddie McCrary (Wylie, Texas).

McCrary, who held the lead heading into the fourth and final round, earned \$3,800 for her finish. She shot 70 in the final round. Porvasnik was three shots behind McCrary when the pair made the turn. Mexico's Ana Ruiz was third at 276. Porvasnik started the tournament with back-to-back rounds of 69 and then shot 71 in the third round. Her final-round 65 allowed her to finish with a 14-under-par 274 final score. McCrary, who opened the event with a pair of 67s, carded a round of 71 in the third round en route to finishing at 275.

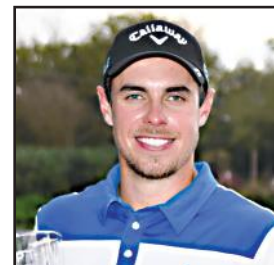
TACO BELL NATCHEZ CLASSIC RESCHEDULED FOR SEPT. 22-25

The WAPT was supposed to play the inaugural Taco Bell Natchez Classic on March 17-20, but a reschedule date of Sept. 22-25 has recently been announced.

The 72-hole event will be at Beau Pre' Country Club (Natchez, Miss.) and feature a \$35,000 purse (\$7,000 guaranteed for the winner). There is also a player shootout on Sunday, Sept. 20 and a Monday (Sept. 21) Pro-Am.

The first round of the tourney will be Tuesday with the cuts being made to 40% of field (60 maximum) after the third round on Thursday. Final-round action is slated for Friday. Beau Pre' CC will play at 6,442 yards for this event.

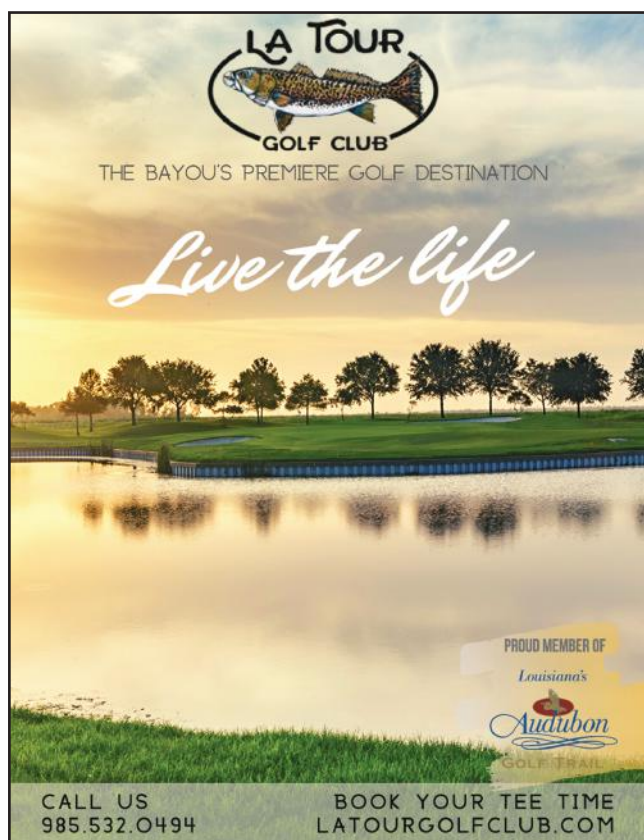
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Greg Eason



Jessica Porvasnik



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LeDuff awarded \$1,500 Batti Scholarship

McKenzie LeDuff has been awarded the Louisiana Golf Association's Dick and Linda Batti Scholarship.

The \$1,500 scholarship is awarded annually to a deserving female high school senior.

The LGA Batti Scholarship was established to assist young female golfers from Louisiana and help with their higher-education expenses.

The scholarship will be presented on July 7 at the LGA Girls' Junior Amateur Pre-Championship dinner at Links on the Bayou in Alexandria.

LeDuff (Lake Charles, La.) graduated from St. Louis Catholic High School and she will continue her education and golf career at Alabama State University this fall.

"I am so appreciative for this amazing opportunity from the LGA Batti Scholarship. Being the recipient of this year's scholarship is such a blessing," LeDuff said. "The LGA has given me amazing opportunities to travel around my state, meet new people and help me prepare for the next steps in my golf career. Without this organization, I wouldn't have been able to share such wonderful memories with my friends and family. This scholarship will help me achieve my dream of becoming a pediatric dentist."

Established in 1920, The Louisiana Golf Association is a non-profit, membership organization dedicated to fostering the enhancement and expansion of amateur golf through the development of member and information services, the promotion of opportunities for all who want to play, and the protection of the game's integrity and valued traditions. The LGA's membership is comprised of approximately 90 member clubs and 14,000 individual members.

The LGA is licensed by the United States Golf Association as the Allied Golf Association of record for the state of Louisiana.





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The Country Club also features our new addition to the Golden Nugget restaurant portfolio, Chart House. For more than 50 years, Chart House seafood restaurants have redefined the ideal dining experience, specializing in dazzling views, unique cuisines and exceptional service. Diners will enjoy signature Chart House menu items such as fresh fish specialties and slow-roasted prime rib, plus Sunday brunch, on a unique menu that features both traditional and local flavors.

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