

# Impact of Katrina far-reaching

By CARR MCCALLA

The events of the past month have forced us all to put things in perspective. Our game certainly takes a back seat during times like these. I can't help but think, however, that the qualities that originally drew us to the game of golf are the very ones that we all need to draw upon now as things look hopeless for so many. Perseverance, compassion, determination, and strength to overcome challenge. These are the qualities that we need to exhibit as the rebuilding process begins. Please continue to keep the millions impacted by this terrible natural disaster in your thoughts and prayers. We'll discuss later in this column what we hope to do for our LGA member clubs that were impacted by the storm as they begin to rebuild.

## 2005 FOUR-BALL POSTPONED

The 2005 LGA Four-Ball Championship scheduled for The University Club of Baton Rouge has been postponed indefinitely due to Hurricane Katrina. In the aftermath of the storm, hotels and motels across the state were filled to capacity. That, coupled with a sense that conducting the event so soon after the tragedy of the storm would simply not be appropriate, made a decision to postpone the event a relatively easy one for our leadership to make. If the LGA decides to re-schedule the event, probable dates will be the week-end of Oct. 29-30 or Nov. 5-6, in south-central Louisiana. Please check our website ([www.LGAgolf.org](http://www.LGAgolf.org)) over the course of the next few weeks for a final decision. If we are unable to locate lodging for our participants, it is likely the event will have to be cancelled. We appreciate everyone's patience as we work through this challenge.

## INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR 4-BALL INVITATIONAL

On a more positive note, we are pleased to report that Baton Rouge's Andrew Loupe and Covington's Thomas Galloway finished in a tie for 15th place in the inaugural International Junior 4-Ball Invitational at the The Club at Savannah Harbor in Savannah, Ga. Loupe, the 2005 LGA Junior Amateur Champion, and Galloway, the 2004 Champion, represented the LGA in this event that attracted teams from all over the United States and Canada. Virginia's team of Joe Monte and Sam Beach took home the title, shooting 11-under par 133 for 36 holes.

## LGA NET AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

In an event that was shortened to 18 holes due to the onset of Hurricane Katrina, Al Wyche of Plain Dealing won the sixth annual LGA Net Amateur Championship at Pelican Point Golf Club's Links Course. Wyche shot a net score of 5-under par 67 to best Baton Rouge's Randy Indovina (runner-up for the second year in a row) by two shots at the course located just east of Baton Rouge in Gonzales. Wyche captured his first LGA Championship against the largest field ever to participate in this Championship. Wyche, who carries a 7.5 USGA Handicap Index (course handicap of 8) at Oakland Plantation Country Club in Plain Dealing, shot a gross score of 75. Indovina, whose home course is Briarwood Country Club in Baton Rouge, plays to a 10.8 Index (course handicap of 12) and shot a gross score of 79. Tom Pollock (19.0 Index/20 course handicap) of LSU Golf Course, Paul Tyrney (22.0 Index/24 course handicap) of Abita Springs Golf and Country Club, and Madison Mulkey (4.5 Index/5 course handicap) of Pelican Point Golf Club (Lakes) tied for third place with net scores of 2-under par 70. Calvert

Crossing Golf Club of Calhoun took home the Net Club Team Championship, shooting a Net score of even-par 216. Calvert Crossing's team members were Troy Littlefield (Net/71), Todd Perry (Net/72), Jerry LeBus (Net/73), and Tommy Parker (Net/86). The best three scores of the four team members were totaled to determine the Club Team score.

Calvert Crossing bested Pelican Point-Lakes by five shots and Pine Shadows Golf Club of Lake Charles by 11 shots in taking home a beautiful crystal trophy signifying the 2005 Championship.



## LOUISIANANS AT USGA MID-AM, SENIOR AM, AND STATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Due to Hurricane Katrina, Covington's Tommy Brennan was forced to withdraw from both the U.S. Mid-Amateur and State Team Championships. Taking his spot at the Honors Course in Chattanooga at the Mid-Am was West Monroe's Scott Sills. Mark Fair of Mandeville also participated. Neither Sills nor Fair made match-play but represented the state well at the prestigious event.

## SANCHEZ, HOLLOWAY PLAY IN U.S. SENIOR AMATEUR

Baton Rouge's Gayle Sanchez and Monroe's Roy Holloway carried our flag at the U.S. Senior Amateur at The Farm Golf Club in Rocky Face, Ga. While Holloway wasn't able to get past stroke play qualifying, Sanchez made the match play draw of 64 players and went on to win three matches before losing in the quarterfinals to Houston's Mike Rice 3 and 1. Sanchez beat Memphis' Jimmy Wittenberg in 19 holes in the first round, Shawn McLoughlin of Bethel, Connecticut, 3 and 2, in the second round, and Martin West of Rockville, Maryland, in 20 holes, in the third round.

## THREESOME REPRESENTS LOUISIANA

On Sept. 27-29, Jeff Calloway of Baker, Robby McWilliams of Bossier City, and Billy Gabbert of Sulphur represented Louisiana in the USGA State Team Championship at Berkeley Hall, just west of Hilton Head Island. We're excited to report that Assistant Executive Director Michael Walder also represented the LGA as a rules official at this National Championship. Congratulations to Mike for being selected to help conduct this event. We'll report on their experiences there in next month's column.

## HOW CAN WE (YOU) HELP?

Has your club/course just replaced equipment (dining room furniture, computers, and the like)....does it have supplies or materials that it can spare? We are attempting to help our LGA member clubs that are in desperate need of these kinds of items to begin the re-building process from Hurricane Katrina by putting them in touch with clubs/courses that may have the ability to help meet their needs. If your club or course has the potential to help please let us know. The LGA is attempting to act as a clearinghouse to put clubs that have items that can help in touch with those that have need. As you know, we have evacuees all across the state. If you have need for additional staff, let us know. We are also trying to help displaced employees at impacted clubs that have lost their jobs, either temporarily or permanently, to find jobs while at the same time helping clubs that may have staffing needs. If you have other ideas that might be helpful for our clubs in need please don't hesitate to give us a call at (337) 265-3938.