

Trio of titles at State Four-Ball

Gene Byrd and Jack Pittman took home the title of champions at the Bill Cass Super Senior Four-Ball at Canebrake Country Club. They shot 68 in the final round to finish with a 12-under-par 201. Two teams, who are former Bill Cass Super Senior Four-Ball Champions, Ken Hogue/Jerry Stubblefield and John Huntwork/Bob Eakman tied for runner up at 10-under. Chris Wilson and George Hinman rounded out the top four with a 206.

Eddie Brown and David Ray shot 65 on Sunday to finish at 16-under par, and one shot ahead of Ricky Sims/Robert Willis and Greg Brooking/Bubba Kaiser to claim the Bill Cass Senior Four-Ball trophy.

Brooking and Kaiser fired 64 on Sunday to move up the leader to a tie for runner-up with Sims/Willis. Sims and Willis also shot 65 on Sunday. Charlie Fulmar and Craig Stevenson shot 63 to win the Senior First Flight at 10-under par. Their great play also earned them fourth place over all in the Bill Cass Senior Four-Ball.

Justin Elliott and Matt Wofford started the final round with a one-stroke lead over Scott Rhodes and Gabe Baldwin. Elliott and Wofford came out of gate strong with two birdies to take an early lead. Their 64 on Sunday spurred them to 20-under-par 193. Michael Hammett and Michael Dowst made a run on Sunday with a 65 to finish nine strokes back at 11-under-par 202. Three teams are tied for third place at 10-under par. The morning wave of players played in calmer conditions as the winds picked up in the afternoon. Elliott and Wofford won the HG Weddington State Four-Ball Trophy. The traveling trophy will be proudly displayed at Canebrake Country Club. A big thank you to Canebrake Country Club for hosting one of our state championships.



RHODES WINS DEERFIELD INVITATIONAL

Home course knowledge proves beneficial for Scott Rhodes in shooting 7-under-par 65 on Sunday of the Deerfield Invitational to win by five strokes over David Allen and Robert Willis. Allen and Willis tied for runner up at 142. Rounding out the top five were Brian Gates (145), Duke Simmons (146) and Lane Pippin (146).

ELLIS WINS PATRICK FARMS INVITATIONAL

Alan Ellis of Greenwood shot rounds of 69 and 70 to win the Patrick Farms Invitational's Regular Championship Flight by one stroke over Lane Pippin and Clark Richardson on April 9-10.

Pippin, who is from Ocean Springs, shot rounds of 71 and 69. Clark Richardson of Southhaven shot rounds of 68 and 72.

In the Senior Championship Flight, Charlie Keeton (Brandon) was the winner, followed Ricky Sims (Canton) and Ronnie Posey (Bailey). Bill Barlett of Brandon won the Super Senior Flight, while Richard Fairchild of Madison won the Senior First Flight.

Other winners in the regular division were Zach Longrear (first flight), Blake Hatfield (second flight) and George Follett (third flight).

CONTINUED from PAGE 26

to visit the PGA Tour's winner's circle five times. He was the Tour's Rookie of the Year in 1959 and a member of the 1971 Ryder Cup Team that also included Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, and Lee Trevino. A model of consistency, he played in 432 Tour events, making the cut 402 times and finishing in the Top Ten 95 times.

He coached the golf team at Vanderbilt University from 1992-97 and was Director of Golf there until 2002. One of the golfers Rudolph influenced was current Tour player Brandt Snedeker. Snedeker fired a 64 on Sunday of this year's The Heritage in Hilton

Head and bested Luke Donald in a playoff to win that title only days after Rudolph's passing. After Rudolph's death Snedeker said, "He was instrumental in helping me become a better golfer, but more importantly, a better person."

Rudolph was an ambassador for the game, standing for integrity, character, poise, and kindness. He will obviously be missed by family and friends, but also by the game.

Carr McCalla is the Executive Director of the Louisiana Golf Association. He can be reached by phone (337.265.3938) or e-mail (cmccalla@lgagolf.org).