

## Cops cop first Town Cup



Carl Robbins putts as teammate Pam Robbins, MRD's McKenzie provide gallery.

## Police Dept. team to police protection

Helping keep the peace during ownership of the first-ever Town Cup Golf Championship will be a breeze for the team that won it earlier this month.

Teammates Thomas Thompson and Dana Blalock, throwing a blanket over half of the 18-hole, two-player affair's par-three holes, posted the lowest score of any of the duos in the field to rank as inaugural Town Cup champions.

Both are also co-workers within the Town of Moore's Police Department. The Cup featured teams made up only of town employees, representing practically every department. In most cases, teammates came from same department played together. There were some cases where paired players, featuring both men and women, combined specialty areas.

"We were shooting for some around 40 players," summed up Charlie Roberts, director of golf at the host Moore's Municipal Golf Course that is also a town-owned facility. "We had a little over half that for our first one. Like everything else that's just getting going, we expect it to grow in the future. I think all of them had a great time. We hope they tell their co-workers, and we have a bigger field next year."

Town employees participating took a half-day vacation to compete.

Format for play was a two-player captain's choice, with each shot on a hole being taken from the best outcome of each previous shot. Under that procedure, scores under par are usually the norm instead of the exception. Such was the case for the first Town Cup, with three of the four winning teams bettering the course's par of 72 strokes.

Best of them all was the duo of police department cohorts Thompson and Blalock. Carding five birdies to shoot a four-under 32 on the front, the two lost just one stroke to par on the tougher back nine to wind up with a three-under tally of 69, winning overall and first-flight honors by a two-stroke margin.

As such, the pair is recognized as the official Town Cup champs.

Placing second in the first flight with a one-under score of 71 was the team of Freddie and Pat Rinehardt, representing the host golf course staff. They prevailed following an on-card playoff tiebreaking procedure.

In the second flight, it was golf course department representatives Harold Little and Gabe Davis emerging as winners with a score of 80.

That left the police pair of Garold Johnson and Adrian Burks to finish second, with a score of 82.

In addition to the team competition, various on-course events were also staged, marking both some of the best and not-so-best shots of the day.

In that former category, it was winning team member Blalock who landed the shots closest to the pins at both the par-three fifth and ninth holes, while Smith's bid at the 12th, and Aric Pope's shot at the 14th stood up as the best at those targets.

Thompson banded the longest drive that stayed in the fairway cut on the par-four sixth hole.

Little drained the day's longest putt on the targeted par-four third hole, while the Moore's Recreation Department's Wanda McKenzie, recreation superintendent, held the distinction of missing the shortest putt at the par-five finishing 18th. The shortest drive on record at the par-four 13th came off the club of golf course employee Jackie Rinehardt.

According to committee members Roberts, PGA pro Jeremy Elliott, Mike Furr of the purchasing department, and Brent Cornelison of the recreation department, plans are already underway regarding next year's Town Cup tournament. Players and organizers also extend a round of appreciation to event sponsors Cintas Uniforms, Lance Products, Sports Design of Concord, Belks, Moore's Municipal Golf Course, and Moore's Travel/Tourism.

During the season, Moore's will be playing host to at least a single meet, involving conference visitors from North Iredell, Statesville, Northwest Cabarrus and Kannapolis, tabbed to be held Sept. 25. It will be run on the team's home course that runs around the Moore's Intermediate School.

The first NPC championship meet will be held at Statesville's MacAnderson Park course Oct. 16. From there, the top teams and individuals will advance into state regional competition slated for later in October.

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## Volleyball openers set

Moore's head volleyball coach Nancy Dilks hopes last week's two preseason scrimmages helped give her players the much-needed experience that this year's unit lacks.

"We're not really a young team," revealed Dilks as she readied to take her club into its first full week of regular-season play with two matches within a three-day span, both at home, "but we do lack experience. That's what I'm hoping we got more than anything else out of the scrimmages. We faced a Kings Mountain team that has the capability of maybe winning a state championship, so it was a good test for us. That's what we need right now."

In addition to facing the Lady Mounties of Kings Mountain, a fellow 3A class member, Moore's also ventured into the state's private class ranks to engage in a scrimmage on hosting Charlotte Latin's turf to close out the week of preseason work.

"We're not blessed this year with any height to speak of," noted Dilks, whose ranks have been depleted by the graduating of six seniors off last year's squad that won more games than any since the second of the school's consecutive state championship teams in 1994. "We got a little spoiled the last couple of years because of what we had. We're going to have to compensate for that lack of height in other areas. The girls are working hard, and they're doing all that we're asking of them."

And there's a lot of knowledge among those doing the asking, again according to

Dilks. She herself is beginning her 26th season, all as Moore's head coach. During that time, the program has won the two state titles, piled p a number of conference championships and engaged in state postseason play on a nearly regular basis. The Lady Devils have also been the proving ground for a number of college-level players, some of whom might not have gone on into the higher level of education had it not been for their volleyball experience.

"We're proud of what our program has produced over the years," agreed Dilks, who has gathered in an excess of 350 career wins. "I can't take all the credit for that. We've got some dedicated coaches in assistants Jon (Symons) and Kara (Faulise), so the girls are in some quality hands."

While Symons is back for another year, it marks Faulise's debut back helping coach a program that she participated in for several years under Dilks' guidance. She is also one of the ones who followed up her high school career by carrying it over into the college ranks.

Moore's opens the regular season this week with home matches against Alexander Central and St. Stephens, the latter taking place tomorrow (Thursday) afternoon in the Senior High gym. They are part of an opening three-game homestand that draws to a close early next week against another former same-league foe in East Lincoln Monday afternoon.

In all three cases, junior varsity play will be held prior to the staging of varsity action.

## Vikings to receive early tests

Ranked early, South Iredell's boys soccer team will receive some early tests this week.

The Vikings of head coach Jeff Cummings, reigning champions of the now-deceased Western Foothills Conference during their final season as members of that 3A class league, head into this week the opening week of regular-season play with a pair of bouts on tap to test their number-four ranking in the season's first Sweet 16 poll.

The poll, released by the Charlotte Observer and which covers more than 100 schools, has South Iredell ranked fourth before two other 4A class members and a current private-class school.

No other Iredell County school is listed in the poll.

"The Vikes are coming off a stellar, 21-2-1 season that was one of their most successful since capturing the second of two state 3A class soccer championships in 1994. South Iredell also returns a number

of key players off that squad.

However, this season, the Vikings are now members of the state's largest 4A class, aligned within the six-member Central Piedmont Conference. Other schools in the CPC include South Rowan, Davie County, West Forsyth, R.J. Reynolds and North Davidson. No other league member is also a Sweet 16 resident.

During the first week of play, the Vikes will be quickly forced to live up to the expectations, another member of the Sweet 16 poll among the first two opponents.

South Iredell opens its season against Northwest Cabarrus, a team that received a number-six ranking in the same poll. It is a rematch between teams that met in last year's second round of the state playoffs, a contest won by Northwest Cabarrus in an upset by penalty kicks.

Also this week, the Vikes will take their first road trip when visiting Forbush tomorrow (Thursday) night.

## Baseball team sets tryouts

Area players will have the opportunity to this weekend to try and earn spots on a national baseball team that will engage in international tournaments.

One of two planned tryouts for the Coast to Coast Baseball Stars teams for players ages 11-18 will take place in North Carolina this weekend.

Sunday, at the University of North Carolina at Asheville, all prospective candidates should plan to attend the 1-3 p.m. tryout session.

Another practice schedule is set to be held at Spartanburg Methodist College Saturday, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

If selected, players will have the chance to choose which of three countries they would like to visit as they compete against some of the world's best youth teams, explore famous sites, and learn about different cultures.

Coast to Coast teams have scheduled appearances in tournaments being held in Australia, Puerto Rico and Europe.

Tours last 6-14 days and take place during winter, spring and summer-school breaks. The squads are led by top college coaches and pro scouts who provide a unique perspective on what it's like to play at the game's highest level.

"Competing internationally for the United States," assured Kevin Ritter, Coast to Coast's executive director, "is an amazing baseball and cultural experience unlike any other. Players return home with improved skills, more self-confidence, and a greater understanding for people of different backgrounds."

For more details, call 704-373-4455 or go online via the Web at [www.coasttocoastathletics.com](http://www.coasttocoastathletics.com).

## YMCA runners put brakes on traffic

Area highway traffic won't stand a chance this weekend.

Runners participating in the Moore's Family YMCA's annual 5K Power Run will help apply the brakes to those road travelers Saturday.

Perhaps a record number of runners could be expected to participate in the run that will take them along N.C. Highway 115, route them through countryside settings and point them along a closed-off lane of usually hectic-filled N.C. Highway 150 towards the finish line.

The run will start with those who haven't yet registered at the YMCA, off Plaza Drive. Competition, divided into a number of age and gender groups, will get underway around 8 a.m.

The course will begin along Highway 115 just

short of the Rinehardt Road connection. The run's route will include some winding through country settings before ending up on Highway 150.

To help with traffic terms, the Moore's Police Department will have officers on site along one lane of blocked-off along both Highway 115 and Rinehardt Road.

After the race, overall, gender and age division winners will all be recognized for their efforts from members of the race-organizing YMCA staff.

While early registration has been encouraged, those who still wish to run may still sign-up at the race-day site. However, those wishing to do are encouraged to arrive early, as racing is scheduled to begin promptly at 8 a.m.

## School Out Fun Day is scheduled

Anytime school's out during the week can be a fun day.

The Moore's Recreation Department wants it to be a Fun Day too.

Registration, which is required, is underway now for the MRD's School's Out Fun Day set for Aug. 17. There are no Moore's City School classes Friday.

Activities such as arts and craft and games will be held from 12:30-5:30

p.m. All will take place in the War Memorial gym. Youngsters ages 7-13 are eligible to participate. Cost is \$5 each.

More similar days are also scheduled to be held on other days when there are no scheduled classes. Fun Days are set for Oct. 5, Oct. 29, and the week of Oct. 8-12. Cost is \$5 for the single days, and \$25 for the week.

For more details, contact the MRD office, at 704-663-7026.

## MMFL tees off season with golf tournament Sat.

Still around a month away from its season, the Moore's Municipal Football League tees off play this weekend.

It does so with the hosting of its annual MMFL Golf Tournament.

Play in the attraction used as one of the most successful of all fundraisers for the youth football organization will be held Saturday at the Moore's Municipal Golf Course.

The 18-hole attraction, staged under a captain's choice format, features an 8 a.m. shotgun start. A full field of 20 teams is expected.

Under the familiar playing procedure, all four members of a team hit each shot on each hole from the best results of each previous shot. Under this playing routine, low scores are the rule instead of the exception.

Also, in order to enhance team performances, the option of purchasing mulligans, in essence extra shots, also will be available. Each player on a team may buy up to a maximum of two extra shots that can be used anywhere during play.

Members of the first, second, and third-place

team will be awarded with trophies.

In addition to the team competition, on-course events will be staged in the form of closest-to-the-pin and long drive contests. Those winners, too, will be recognized during the post-play awards presentation.

Cost of playing is \$45 per player, or \$180 per team. The fee covers all golf expenses plus food and beverage during play.

Proceeds realized from the tournament will go to boost the MMFL program that houses a total of six teams, three each at a pair of playing divisions.

Regular-season play in the youth league, associated with the Southland Football League, is scheduled to get underway in early September.

Though a full field is expected, those still wishing to play, serve as tournament sponsor or donate items to be used as prizes may still be able to do so by contacting either Preston Harris, at 704-663-6550, or Brent Cornelison, at 704-663-7026.

Tee times for teams will be available as of Friday morning by contacting the host MMGC pro shop, at 704-663-2539.

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