

SPORTS

59th Smokey Bear golf tourney July 13-14

Overall, seniors champs returning

BY KEVIN BONESKE
Sports Editor

More than 100 golfers have signed up for the 59th annual Smokey Bear Golf Invitational taking place this Saturday and Sunday at the Falls Country Club, said tournament director Dave Cronin.

He said the 2012 overall champion, Casey Hill, and several other previous champions have signed up for the two-day men's invite for amateurs, along with last year's inaugural seniors champion, Bill Hughes.

Hill, who finished up playing four years of college golf last year at Bemidji State University and was also a state champion in high school while golfing for Virginia, won last year's Smokey Bear tournament with a 45-hole score of 177, five strokes ahead of runner-up Jeff Shermoen, a 2011 Falls High School graduate who has been playing college golf at Bellevue University in Nebraska.

It took a playoff hole before Hughes ended up winning the seniors title over Bob Mason, after both golfers tied at 188 for 45 holes. Hughes won the playoff after picking up a par on hole No. 9, while Mason recorded a bogey.

As was the case last year, Cronin said golfers 50 and older will be able to compete for the seniors title.

After the initial 18 holes on Saturday, he said the top-12 scores overall will

qualify to play 27 holes Sunday for the overall championship, while the top-12 golfers 50 and older will be able to play 27 holes for the seniors division championship.

Cronin said golfers 50 and older in the top-12 overall will have the option Sunday of playing for the overall or seniors title, but not both.

In the event there is a tie Saturday for the top-12 places, Cronin said a playoff will be held to determine who will play 27 holes on Sunday.

"I expect that top-12 group to be very competitive," he said.

Weather permitting, Cronin said players will begin to tee off at 8 a.m. on both days with the final nine holes for the top-12 overall and senior golfers beginning Sunday at approximately 2:30-3 p.m.

He said the remaining golfers not in the championship and senior flights will be placed in other flights, based on their scores Saturday, to play 18 holes Sunday.

Cronin said gift certificates from the Falls Country Club will be awarded to the golfers finishing in the top half of their flights on Sunday.

On Friday, prior to the Smokey Bear tournament, Cronin said the 18-hole Ross Memorial will be held to raise funds for Koochi-ching Hospice.

He said the Ross Memorial, which tees off at 1 p.m. Friday, is open to all players and also serves as a warmup for golfers in this weekend's Smokey Bear tournament.



FILE PHOTOS

From left, 2012 Smokey Bear Golf Invitational overall champion Casey Hill, seniors champion Bill Hughes and tournament director Dave Cronin pose for a picture following the conclusion of last year's two-day tournament at the Falls Country Club.



Bob Mason chips out of a sand trap on hole No. 9 during a playoff in last year's Smokey Bear Golf Invitational against Bill Hughes for the seniors title. Mason finished runner-up after recording a bogey.



Casey Hill, shown teeing off on hole No. 5 at the Falls Country Club during the final nine holes of last year's Smokey Bear Golf Invitational, recorded an eagle on the hole en route to winning the overall championship.

NIGHT LEAGUE PENALTY SHOT



STAFF PHOTO BY KEVIN BONESKE

At right, the White team's Jonathan Hampton shoots a penalty shot around goalie Wes Gunnerson in a Night League game Monday at Bronco Arena. The Night League is part of the Falls Summer Hockey Camps, which run through July 19.

BASEBALL

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At that plate, Humbert had a pair of hits, including a triple, and drove in two runs.

Jack Mellstrom and Kevin Kilbride each added two hits for the Falls, which ended up with 10 hits over five innings.

I. FALLS 10, GREENWAY 8

The Falls led early and

had reserves see playing time in game two, which went the full seven innings before the Falls defeated Greenway, 10-8.

"Game two, we managed to get some other guys in the lineup, even though that it was a game that counted (for tournament seeding), but we got everybody in the game," Walls said.

Mellstrom recorded the pitching victory working the first 5 2/3 innings, allowing five runs, one

earned, on five hits with five walks while striking out eight.

Wyatt Ulrich closed out the final 1 1/3 innings, giving up three runs, one earned, on three hits with two walks and a strikeout.

The Falls outit Greenway, 11-8. Both teams combined for 11 errors with five coming from the Falls and six being committed by Greenway.

The Falls hosts its final doubleheader Thursday

against Mesabi East starting at 4 p.m., prior to the Sub-District Tournament taking place July 20-21 at Ely.

Game one
I. Falls 10, Greenway 0
Greenway 0-0-0 0-0 — 0 0 3
I. Falls 5-2-3 0-X — 10 9 0
WP—Ben Humbert

Game two
I. Falls 10, Greenway 8
I. Falls 2-3-2 1-1-1 0 — 10
Greenway 1-0-1 0-2-1 3 — 8
WP—Jack Mellstrom

Falls Kart Club go-kart results

Go-kart racing took place last Thursday and Sunday at the Falls Kart Club/Rainy Lake Oil Raceway.

The July 4 feature results include the following classes:

Beginner — Brady Nicholson, Garrett Froemke, Gunnar Sears.

Junior 1 — Garrett Paull, Justin Besch, Jake Froemke, Raice Westover, Hunter Mai, Jordan Gamsby, Gunnar Sears, Brady Nicholson.

Junior 2 — Wyatt Boyum, AJ Kellar, Cameron Netlund, Jesse Esselink, Gina Boyum, Taylor Turcotte, Shane Nicholson.

Senior — Ashley Jonson, Tyler Jonson, Aaron Nelson, Wyatt Boyum, Dylan Lowes, Cole Turcotte.

Master — Chad Jonson, Blair Plourde, Darren Lowes, Kelly Steele, Brian Nelson, John Esselink, Cody Grasshorn, Rusty Mai.

Heavy — Dane Olson, Darren Lowes, Bill Norton, Mike Christianson, Jon Froemke.

The July 7 results in-

clude:

Beginner — Garrett Froemke, Gunnar Sears, Brady Nicholson.

Junior 1 — Tanner Williamson, Jake Froemke, Justin Besch, Garrett Paull, Brady Nicholson, Raice Westover.

Junior 2 — Wyatt Boyum, Jyllian Westover, Gina Boyum, AJ Kellar, Cameron Netlund, Shane Nicholson, Taylor Turcotte, Shania Mai.

Senior — Wyatt Boyum, Ashley Jonson, Tyler Jonson, Aaron Nelson, Cole Turcotte.

Master — Chad Jonson, Blair Plourde, Dane Olson, Jeff Wickstrom, Rusty Mai, Jon Froemke, Tom Netlund, Cody Grasshorn, Bill Norton.

Heavy — Dane Olson, Mike Christianson, Jon Froemke, Bill Norton.

Go-kart races at the Falls Kart Club/Rainy Lake Oil Raceway resume this Thursday evening. More information about the races is available online at: www.ifallskartclub.webs.com.

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Happy 24th Birthday on July 11

Brooke Wickstrom

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