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Turley, LeCroy shine in youth events

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Courtesy photo

Erin Turley

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By Brant Lockier/Special to The Star

Oxford's Erin Turley finished fifth in the girls 10-11 division of the Drive, Chip and Putt competition in Loudon, Tenn., on Thursday. She is just 9 years old and fared quite well against the older girls. She was second in the putting division.

"It was fun," the perfectly delightful Turley said. "I had a good time. The greens were really fast compared to Cider Ridge where I practice. I placed fifth and I will keep practicing so that I can hopefully come back next year and win. Some of the older girls will move up next year and I will have a better chance."

Her dad, Benji Turley, got her into golf.

"My dad got me some clubs when I was younger and I would practice putting like I was on TV," she said. "This week, the driving was the most fun part for me, and I was able to keep my drives in the fairway."

Speaking of bright young golfers, Donoho ninth grader Jacob LeCroy is gaining valuable experience on his current West Coast Tour. He had qualified for a couple of national junior tournaments and played this past week at Torrey Pines in San Diego.

He settled down after an opening-round 87 to shoot 82 and 78 on the second and third days of the IMG Academy Junior World Championship.

He missed the cut for the Friday final round, but plays again this upcoming week. He will be playing in the Veritas World Junior at Tuskin Ranch Golf Club in Los Angeles.

LeCroy has a steady sweet golf swing and just keeps plodding along playing with the best people he can play with and just soaks up the knowledge and shoots around 74 to 76 and keeps getting better and better.

"There was lot of wind and the course played from 7,100 to 7,300 yards, but Jacob is feeling good about things," Lewis LeCroy said. "He hit (Friday) for about three hours. Torrey Pines was a big plus for him, and he learned a lot. I was very proud of him and he never gave up and shot his best round on the last day."

Sunny King tourney

Well, the Sunny King Charity Classic played itself out last week, and the storylines were many. Charity was the big winner, as always, as about \$102,000 was raised for charities in our area.

It was also great to see the father-son combo of Ott and Dalton Chandler win the Sunny King two-man scramble. They are an absolute blast to follow in a round of golf, and to see a father-son combination that can play such good golf is amazing.

Dalton, 20, can destroy a golf ball and has unlimited potential. If he keeps the ball in the fairway, he is hard to beat. Ott has seen it all and can figure out a way to get the ball in the hole better than most.

Holes-in-one

There were two this week as Jonathan Bennett used a seven-iron to ace a 165-yard hole at Cider Ridge. Wayne Parker, Henry King and Henry Donald were witnesses.

Ty Cole aced the 78-yard par-3 with a 7-iron at Cider Ridge. Both were reported earlier in The Star this week, but worth a second mention in this column.

Cane Creek dogfights

On July 28, the CCGA travels to Carrollton, Ga., for a dogfight at Oak Mountain Golf Club. The deadline to enter is Friday. David Martin, Bill Turner and Geni Preece were flight winners in a July 11 dogfight. Bill Fincher and Bo Savage were flight winners Tuesday.

Danny Waddell and Amos Kirkpatrick won flights in the Friday dogfight.

Equipment news

DST Golf has developed one of the top training aids, with 74 players on the European and PGA Tours using it. The DST Compressor club incorporates cutting edge bent shaft technology to help you develop a better swing. Butch Harmon uses it with Dustin Johnson and Jimmy Walker. Check out Google to take a look at it and see if it can help your swing.

Course news

The Anniston Country Club (256-237-8412): There will be a summer camp Tuesday through Thursday for juniors, which includes three hours of golf, lunch and swimming pool time in the afternoon.

On Aug. 8, the William Devo Junior Club Championship will be held.

Anniston Municipal, "The Hill" (256-231-7631): A round of golf, if you walk, is only \$10 for all day during the week and \$12 on weekends. Add \$14 for 18 holes if you want a cart. There is a scramble every Thursday at 5 p.m.

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