

# Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame

## 2017 Nomination Form

### NOMINEE'S NAME

BALDWIN ROBERT BOBBY M  
Last Name First Name Nickname (if applicable) Middle Initial

### NOMINEE'S DATE OF BIRTH

1946 July 31  
Year Month Day

### RESIDENCE

Years Kentucky Resident (minimum 5 years required) 44 years

15 French Ave Winchester KY 40391  
Address City State Zip

### STATUS

- ☐ Amateur  
☒ Professional  
☐ Deceased (please provide date of death \_\_\_\_\_)

### KEY AREAS (check all that are applicable)

- ☐ Playing Achievements  
☒ Contribution/Promotion of the Game  
☒ Contribution to Junior Golf  
☒ Teaching of the game  
☐ Golf Course Architecture  
☐ Turf Grass Research  
☒ Golf Course Management/Maintenance  
☐ National Recognition

### SUPPORTING MATERIALS

#### Required

- ✓ One page type written biography of nominee
- ✓ Two (2) Letters of Nomination

#### Suggested

- ✓ Newspaper articles
- ✓ Photographs

TYLER FIELDS  
352 Albany Road  
Lexington, KY 40503  
(859) 749-8863  
tfields11@gmail.com

Golf House Kentucky  
ATTN: Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame  
1116 Elmore Just Drive  
Louisville, KY 40245  
csaner@kygolf.org

**Re: Candidacy of Robert M. Baldwin for Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame**

Dear Members of the Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame Nominating Committee:

First off, please let me thank you for the important function you all serve in preserving the history of the game of golf in our Commonwealth. Kentucky has a wonderful legacy of fantastic players, professionals, junior golf leaders, and other contributors to our history in golf, and you all do a tremendous job of properly recognizing and honoring those persons.

To that end, I write to provide continued support for the candidacy of Bobby Baldwin for the Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame. The Hall is rife with distinguished club professionals such as Frank Atkins, Gene Hilen, Jim Osborne, and Bobby's own mentor, Gordon Leishman. Bobby's lifetime of service to the game of golf, and to the memberships he's served first as an assistant at Idle Hour Country Club, then later as Head Professional at Stoner Creek Country Club, and for the last 42 years, the Winchester Country Club, support his inclusion in this exclusive fraternity.

When I say "lifetime of service" to the game, I do not use that term lightly. In fact, I may even be understating the extent of Bobby's service. I have never seen a person in any profession give more of their time, talent, or energy to their craft than Bobby has done, day in, day out, for at least the 28 years I've known him. Taking nothing away from other PGA Professionals, who by their very nature are a hardworking group, but Bobby is unequivocally the hardest working professional I've ever seen. He takes it on upon himself to open and close the golf shop 7 days a week, 364 days a year. (The shop is closed on Christmas Day, but Bobby throws a Christmas Eve party in the shop that's a treasured tradition to the membership!) Bobby opens the shop roughly at dawn and closes it roughly at dusk, although many times you will see Bobby's pickup truck alone in the parking lot well past dark in the summers. He might make an exception for a family event here or there, but I would estimate at least 350 days out of the year, Bobby is the first man in and the last man out. In terms of hours, Bobby's "lifetime" in this game is equivalent to multiple lifetimes for others.

He's an inspiring presence to many who have worked for him, some who have gone on to be accomplished PGA professionals in their own right, but others who have just picked up the wonderful traits he exhibits and applied them to their own professions. No task is too small or beneath Bobby. On any given night, you'll find Bobby cleaning members' clubs and placing

them in the bag room, washing carts, picking the driving range by hand, or simply taking out the trash or vacuuming the floors. There's truly nothing he would ask of his employees that he would not do himself. He's the face of the club, greeting members and guests alike with warmth and accommodation. He's a wonderful promoter of the game to juniors, conducting annual clinics and giving lessons to young players, many of whom have gone on to success in high school, collegiate, and amateur golf. He even serves as the Club's Superintendent, and with a true skeleton crew, he always keeps the course in great shape. You'll even see Bobby on a tractor mowing the course, from time to time.

Bobby is a true servant of the membership, putting on numerous events for members all year long, and always treating every event with extraordinary level of professionalism. Every year, Bobby pours an inordinate amount of hours into the Club's flagship event- the Memorial Day Match Play Championship, which recently completed its 82<sup>nd</sup> edition. Bobby spends the entire week organizing the event, putting together match-play brackets, and making sure the course is in the best possible condition. Then, during the event, Bobby is there on the first tee, giving every player, from the high handicap flights to the final group in the Championship flight, a first tee announcement as if they were playing in the US Open. In every aspect of his job, Bobby bends over backwards to give people a wonderful experience in the game he loves, and he's done so with unwavering energy for well over 40 years.

The Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame is rightfully reserved for the best of the best, the indispensable persons in the history of Kentucky golf who have truly distinguished themselves in one aspect or another. As the Hall recognizes club professionals, I know there's a place for a man who has diligently and tirelessly served his membership for the better part of a half-century, and has provided exceptional leadership not just as a golf professional, but as a human being. Bobby Baldwin truly exemplifies the best of what it means to be a PGA professional, and I could not more enthusiastically support his inclusion in the Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame.

Thank you, again, for your time in serving the game of golf in Kentucky, and for your consideration of this letter as you select the next members of the Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame. If I can be of any further service, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Tyler Fields

Tyler Fields

## Robert M. Baldwin

A native of Bourbon County, Kentucky, Robert M. Baldwin is now in his 42<sup>nd</sup> year of leadership at the Winchester Country Club, where he serves as the Director of Golf/Superintendent. Robert arrived at Winchester in 1975 after a two-year stint as the Head Professional at Stoner Creek Country Club in Paris, and began his professional career under the guidance of the late Gordon Leishman as an Assistant Professional at Idle Hour Country Club in Lexington.

A member of the Kentucky Section *Quarter Century Club*, Robert holds the honor of having been named the 2011 Kentucky Section PGA Professional of the Year. In addition, he was the 2007 recipient of the Kentucky Section President's Award.

Though not lengthy in tenure, Robert's playing career in many ways mirrored his career as a professional. An undersized player, his tenacity and stubbornness helped land him a spot on the men's golf team at the University of Kentucky, where he played under Coach Humsey Yessum from 1964-68. After four years of dedicated pursuit, his career at Kentucky culminated with an individual berth to the 1968 NCAA Division I Men's Golf Championships in Las Cruces, New Mexico, becoming the first Wildcat since Johnny Owens to advance to college golf's biggest stage.

His postgraduate life has been spent giving back to the game by serving those who play. He has served as a willing and gracious host to many state and local tournaments, including the Winchester Memorial Invitational, Kentucky's longest-running match play tournament. Last month's Invitational marked the 82<sup>nd</sup> version of the annual event, with more than half of those coming under Robert's direction. In addition to a regular slate of annual member events, he has also offered up WCC as a host site for KHSAA Boys and Girls Regional Tournaments, various state youth events, and the Kentucky PGA Senior Section Stroke Play Championships, among others.

Over the years, he has managed to provide his membership and their guests with unparalleled service coupled with a quality golf course on which to test their skills, oftentimes doing so with a combined professional shop and course maintenance staff that could be counted on one hand. During difficult economic times, Robert's lean approach has served the members of his small club very well, and his attention to detail and selfless methodology have helped to keep the club afloat financially when the odds may have suggested otherwise. Impressively, he has done it both from the role of both the Director of Golf and the Course Superintendent, a dual position that becomes more of a rarity with each passing year.

Perhaps his most lasting achievement, however, is the impact that he has made on those who have worked on his staffs over the course of four-plus decades. His mentorship and uncanny ability to lead by example is matched by few, and there is no doubt that the service-based attitude he displays daily has been instilled in each of those who have been fortunate enough to bear witness to it throughout the years. Under his leadership, he has mentored aspiring professionals who have moved on to some of the highest-profile jobs in the state and region, as well as others who have moved into leadership roles at clubs similar to his at Winchester, where a variety of different challenges face them daily.

While it is evident that his pupils continue to leave their positive marks on the golf profession, widening the lens shows that his fingerprints are apparent throughout all other sectors of life, as well. Whether contributing as lawyers or farmers, insurance agents or tournament directors, electricians or otherwise, the men and women who have learned from Robert over the years have carried into their careers a plethora of traits that are reflections of his servant leadership.

Robert has been married to his bride, the former Anne Willmott, for 39 years. They have two sons, Rob (Laura) and John (Lauren) and two grandchildren, Olivia and Reeve.



## THE CAMARGO CLUB

8605 SHAWNEE RUN ROAD

CINCINNATI, OHIO 45243

Dear Mr. Riddle,

June 25, 2017

It is with great pleasure to write this nomination for Robert M. "Bobby" Baldwin, PGA for the next class in the Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame.

With the ever-changing world in golf, Bobby has remained part of the "old school", which has been a great asset not only for the Winchester Country Club, but the state of Kentucky and the golf business in general. His work ethic, family and career enhancing values are what has made him last the test of time and change over close to 50 years in the golf business.

Bobby was an accomplished collegiate golfer, at the University of Kentucky from 1964-68, and capped his collegiate career of by representing UK in the 1968 NCAA Finals at Las Cruces, New Mexico as an individual. An outstanding student/athlete, he contemplated going to law school, but felt the game and business golf was his calling.

In 1968, Bobby began "cutting his teeth" under Gordon Leishman, PGA (KGHF '98) at Idle Hour Country Club in Lexington. After 5 years of tutelage, he accepted the Head Professional job at Stoner Creek Country Club in Paris, Kentucky, and after 2 years, he was picked for the Head Professional job at Winchester Country Club in 1975, which he remains as the Director of Golf to this day.

With the new position at Winchester, he was also given the responsibility of the title of Superintendent, which he quickly became certified as a GCSAA Superintendent all while managing the Professional Shop and golf operation. With this position, he has drastically improved the golf course, with the addition of a tree management program, the rebuilding of all bunkers, the purchase of 40 more acres, the addition of a modern irrigation system and the complete resurfacing of the fairways in 2007 with Riviera Bermuda grass.

Over the years, the "WCC" was the place to work as a young person interested in the golf business. Whether it was the Greens/Grounds side of the operation, or the Golf Professional side. Through the years, Bobby has produced 15(+) young men, that have gone on to membership in the PGA of America or the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

Because of these accomplishments, which is only a fraction of what he has truly done, I would strongly recommend Robert M. "Bobby" Baldwin for membership in the Kentucky Golf Hall of Fame, class of 2017.

Best regards,

Tom Cecil, PGA

Praise is given to those that have earned it.

*Robert Baldwin deserves "Praise" for the contributions made to advance and promote the Game. I have been lucky not only know Robert, but to have worked under His guidance. Robert has been in the "Business" for almost 50 years. Robert would never "Toot" his Own whistle so I will add a few highlights on His behalf.*

*Fresh out of UK (Golf Team), Robert started His quest to become a PGA Professional. First position I know of, Idle Hour CC. At Idle Hour under Gordon Leishman, Robert, had tremendous responsibility. Gordon was often away, as a "National PGA Officer". This was a task. Mr. Leishman expected, "Perfection, Accountability, and Service" for not only His interest, ...but for the Members, too. Robert*



*was ready and able to handle the task. At Idle Hour, Robert set examples of "Dedication" to meet every demand a customer might have. Robert also had tutelage responsibilities of two "Apprentice Pros" Joe Buck and Myself. Joe became the "youngest PGA Member" in Kentucky, and a "Sales Rep". I feel that Roberts "Core Values", are passed down to everybody that around Him. Robert influence is a "BIG" part of My ability, to "Manage". Many have worked, with and under Robert, have excelled in the Golf Business, or outside the industry. Robert's "Loyalty" is priceless. As the Professional/ Superintendent, of Winchester CC, Robert, has saved a Club, by sacrificing personal time and income to keep its valued tradition alive.*

*PGA/Superintendent/Manager, is a "Title" that Robert has held since 1975. A "Title" that*

*He felt could add credible job possibilities to aspiring young professionals. Robert went on to promoted this idea to the "National PGA Office" as a "Master Professional" thesis. I shared Roberts, disappointment ,when they chose not to pursue the issue. A clear mistake on "National's" behalf. Robert, wanted to add job opportunities and expand the PGA's position. To promote golf, properly to markets that are too small to finance a Professional and Superintendent, individually. This idea should be pursued now, to keep credibility of the PGA.*

*In closing, my, regards' as to Robert M. Baldwin's, nomination to the "Hall of Fame" is deserved. Robert's sacrifice's should be rewarded. Robert would be the "Example" of ALL the "Characteristics" Kentucky wants to*



*"Praise" and show America, what We are About  
in Our quest to promote the Game.*

**Al Chrouser Jr.**



**THE WINNER** — Bill Carr (second from right) presents the championship trophy of the inaugural Lexington Classic to the winning team following a playoff at Lakeside yesterday. The winners, who shot a 10-under-par 61, are (from left) Bob Baldwin, Mike Lennox, Rick Antolovich and (far right, kneeling) Dick Baldwin. (Staff Photo By John C. Wyatt).

# Lennox Tops Course Mark, Baldwin Team Wins Classic

By JOHN A. MCGILL

First, a word about Mike Lennox.

Lennox, a Cynthiana native, shattered the Lakeside course record yesterday with an eight-under-par 63 that boosted his team—headed by Idle Hour assistant pro Bob Baldwin and including Rick Antolovich and Dick Baldwin—to a tie for low score in the inaugural Lexington Classic.

Now, a word about Antolovich.

Also from Cynthiana, Antolovich dropped in a two-foot birdie putt on the first hole of a playoff to give the team the championship.

That putt broke a 10-under-par 61 deadlock between Baldwin's team and a group comprised of Stearns pro Rex Bible, Jim Burgess, Jeff Hickman and Rich Hickman.

"Today's my 26th birthday," noted a smiling Bob Baldwin, "and these guys gave me a heck of a present."

Baldwin himself had three birdies, as did brother Dick, and Antolovich had two during the competition that was played under a best ball format.

But it was Lennox, the local area's top qualifier for the State Amateur in June, who made the big difference.

"It was fantastic, just fantastic," said Bob Baldwin of the eight-birdie round by Lennox. "If he had a five-iron, he knocked it stiff. If he used a wedge, he'd knock it within two feet of the cup."

Lennox had birdie putts of 20, 8, 8, 7, 6, 4 and 1 feet.

When Lennox was failing to get a birdie, somebody else usually was picking one up. Both Bob Baldwin and Antolovich birdied the third hole, Dick Baldwin and Antolovich birdied the seventh, and they picked up their other birds on holes that Lennox also conquered.

Bible, meanwhile, led his team with a four-under-par 67, which was good enough for a tie for first place in the pro's

individual competition. Alan White of the Owensboro County Club also shot 67. Spring Valley's Dan McQueen had a 68.

The Bible group, starting play on the 11th hole, opened with an eagle when Jeff Hickman dropped in a 30-footer.

"That really pumped us up," said Bible, who came back on the very next hole with a birdie.

Burgess dropped in an eight-footer for a birdie on the 14th, and both he and Rich Hickman had 10-foot birdie putts on the 15th. Bible birdied the 18th and, moving to the front nine, followed with a birdie on the third hole after an eagle chip shot stopped at the lip of the cup. He also birdied the fifth, Jeff Hickman birdied the

seventh, and Bible capped it off with a 30-foot birdie putt on the ninth.

The tournament drew a field of 26 teams and 14 of them bettered four under par.

The best finish of a local group, following the Baldwin team's victory was that of Steve Lackey, pro at Tates Creek, who teamed with Wally Rose, Bill Hoppman and Dave Bunnell. They finished with four other teams at six-under 65.

White's team of Madison Nicholas, Charles Wool and Jim Sandridge was a stroke off the pace with a 62.

Next at 64 were South Park Golf Club pro Bill Sullivan and teammates Palmer Straub, Ron Ubelhart and Bob Ferriell at

## The Classic Finish

Team finish in the Lexington Classic (pro listed first):

61 — Bob Baldwin (Idle Hour CC, Lexington), Mike Lennox, Rick Antolovich, Dick Baldwin; Rex Bible (Stearns GC, Stearns), Jim Burgess, Jeff Hickman, Rich Hickman.

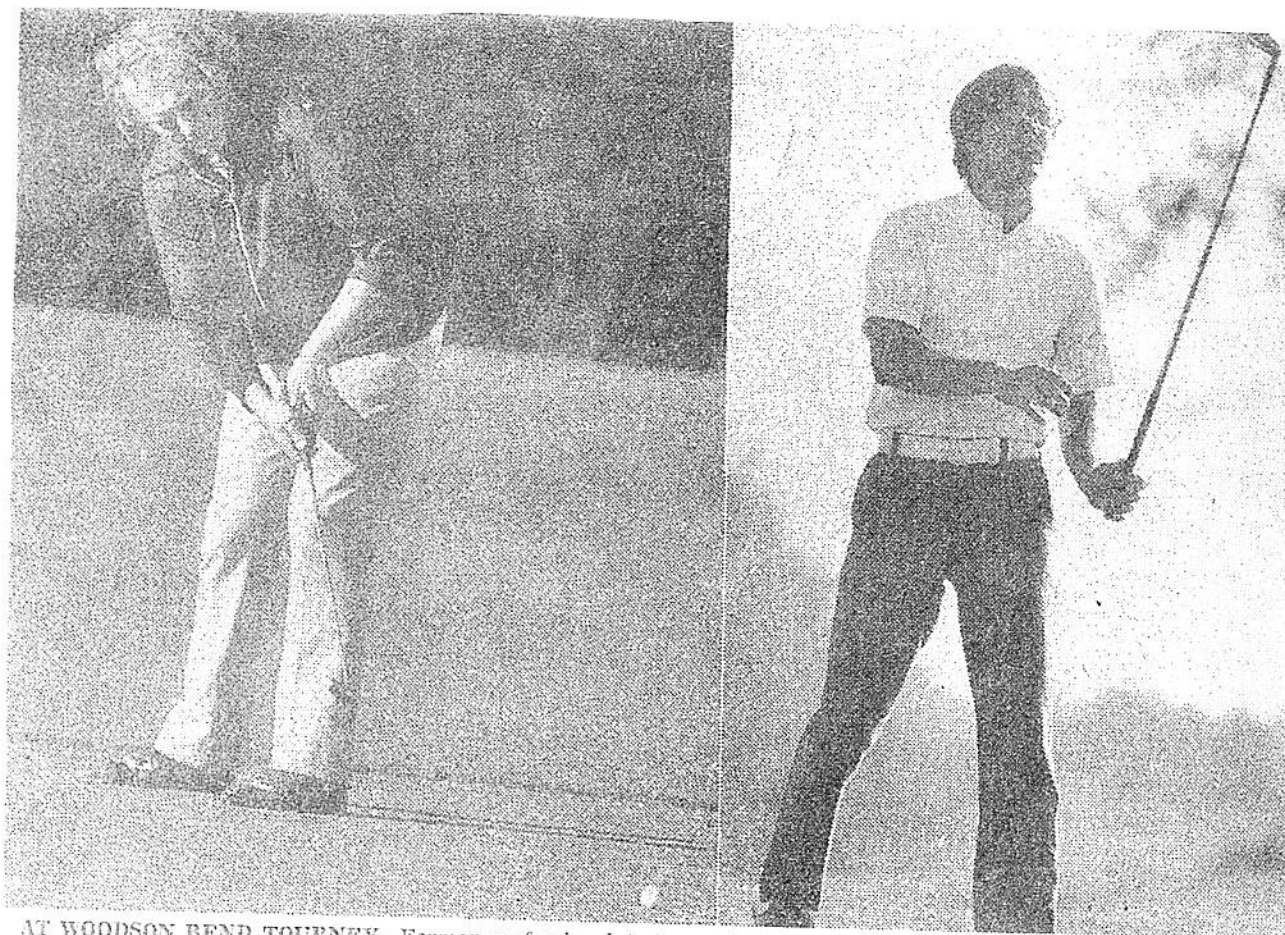
62 — Alan White (Owensboro CC, Owensboro), Madison Nicholas, Charles Wool, Jim Sandridge.

64 — Bill Sullivan (South Park CC, Louisville), Palmer Straub, Ron Ubelhart, Bob Ferriell.

65 — Steve Lackey (Tates Creek GC, Lexington), Wally Rose, Bill Hoppman, Dave Bunnell; George Cliff (Lindsey GC, Ft. Knox), Ernie Sanlea, J.C. Moss, John Cushing; Carl Owen (Chenoweth GC, Louisville), Don Brantley, Walt Arkenberg, Walt Damon; Clint Wright (Green Valley CC, LaGrange), Bob Hood, Jim Griffin, J.B. Price, Joe Lally team (Seneca GC, Louisville).

66 — Walt Conway (Frankfort CC, Frankfort), Tom Aiken, Clay Snedegar, John Rogers; Jack Freeman team (Bellefonte CC, Ashland); Ken Hall team (Big Elm CC, Lexington); Gene Hilen (Mt. Sterling CC, Mt. Sterling), Whit Criswell, John Brock, Bill Scholl; Luther

(Continued On Page 6)



**AT WOODSON BEND TOURNEY**—Former professional football star Paul Hornung (left) watches a putt head for the hole during Monday's Woodson Bend-Boy Scout Pro Am at Greenbrier. Meanwhile, Idle Hour assistant pro Bobby Baldwin

follows the flight of a shot. Baldwin won \$200 as part of the four-man team that won the best ball division and also earned \$100 for being half of the best two-man team and added \$15 for firing a 78. (Staff Photos by David P.



# Par Will Win State PGA, Claims Woodson Champ

By JOHN A. MCGILL

The state Professional Golfers Association tournament got under way today at Greenbrier and Eddie Tyree had a pretty good idea what it would take to win the 54-hole test.

"Par will win it. Definitely," Tyree said Monday. "This course is awfully tough and it's playing a lot longer now than it did in the summer."

Tyree himself shot an even-par 72 Monday at Greenbrier and grabbed the rich first prize in the inaugural Woodson Bend-Boy Scout Pro Am Golf Tournament.

"I'll take three more of those," he said of his round in forecasting what it would require to

Though Tyree was the only one to reach par, his start was hardly a glimpse of things to come. He topped his opening tee shot.

"I'd been playing bad lately," said Tyree, "and when I messed up that shot, I just thought, 'Here I go again.'"

The victory earned \$1,200 for the Iroquois Golf Club pro from Louisville, who won the state PGA in 1964, 65 and 68 but had no major wins since his triumph in the Governor's Open in 1970.

"He was due to pick up a check," grinned Jim O'Hern, the state's current PGA golfer of the year point leader who finished third with a 74. "And if I couldn't win, I couldn't be

This triumph, coming on the eve of the state PGA tournament which will be held the next three days at Greenbrier, did not count in the PGA standings.

Bill Pulliam of the Longview Golf Club in Georgetown had a 73 to win second place prize money of \$800. O'Hern pocketed \$400 for his 74. Ashland's Al Atkins and Louisville's Gene Fawbush each had a 75 and each earned \$150.

Tyree had three bogeys and three birdies in his round. Topped shots hurt him twice, on the 10th and 18th holes. He topped two balls on the 10th but managed a bogey six and then topped his drive on the 18th for another bogey to spoil sub-par round. The

other bogey came on the 5th hole where he three-putted.

Two 15-foot putts back-to-back on the third and fourth holes and a five-foot putt on the ninth provided Tyree with his birds.

The best finish by a Lexington pro was Gordon Leishman's 76, good for a \$45 check.

Leishman's assistant at Idle Hour Country Club, Bob Baldwin, again profited in the four-man best ball division. Baldwin, whose team won the Lexington Classic (a best ball team competition) this past summer, saw his team finish with a blistering 59. That performance earned \$200 for Baldwin and a set of woods for each of his partners: Max Rein, Robert Clarkson and William H. King.

Baldwin and Rein had the best two-man finish, too, with a 65. For that, Baldwin earned another \$100 while Rein picked up a pair of golf shoes.

It was clearly a day for the pros. The best amateur score was 76, accomplished by four men. They were Lexington's Jim Halfhill, State Amateur champion Bill Musselman of Louisville, Bob Mayhugh, an Russell Huffman.

Rein and Tom Grissom had the best low net scores among amateurs with 68's.

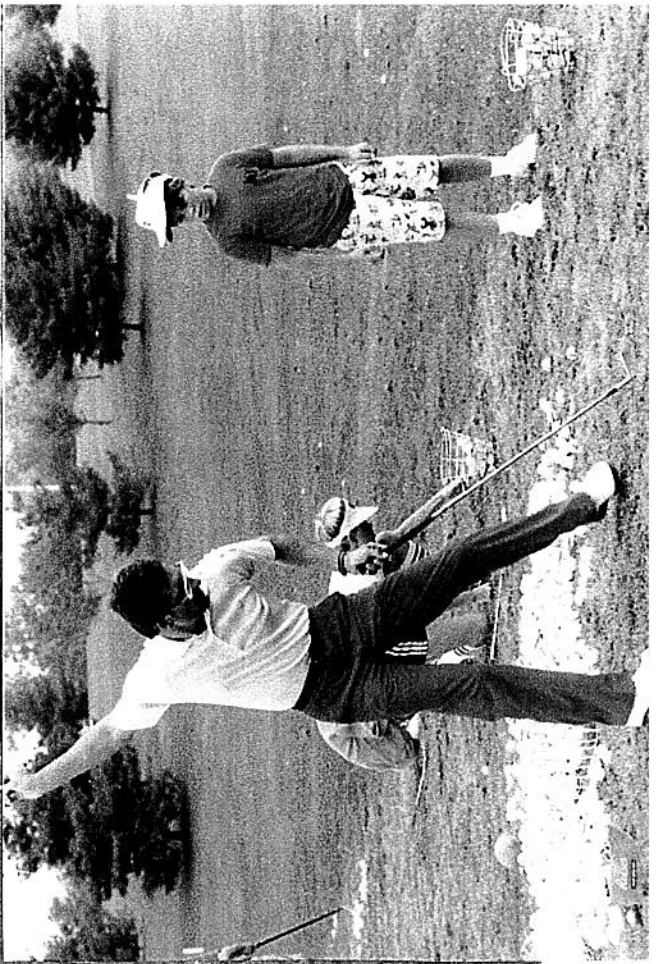
The tournament, held for the first time, was underwritten by Woodson Bend, a resort on Lake Cumberland. Each foursome included a sponsor who donated \$100 to the Blue Grass Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

## Professional Finish

Eddie Tyree, Louisville (\$1,200)	72
Bill Pulliam, Georgetown (\$800)	73
Jim O'Hern, Louisville (\$400)	74
Al Atkins, Ashland (\$150)	75
Gene Fawbush, Louisville (\$150)	75
Joe Lally Jr., Louisville (\$45)	76
Gordon Leishman, Lexington (\$45)	76
Mac Demling, Louisville (\$45)	76
George Engle, Middlesboro (\$45)	76
Bud Burkley, Louisville (\$45)	76
Brown Cullen, Louisville (\$25)	77
Dave Baron, Louisville (\$25)	77
Jack Ridge, Danville (\$25)	77
George Bernardin, Maysville (\$25)	77
Charles Vitilloe, Lexington (\$25)	77
Luther Minor, Harlan (\$15)	78
Carl Owen, Louisville (\$15)	78
Jack Freeman, Lexington (\$15)	78
Bob Baldwin, Lexington (\$15)	78
Steve Lackey, Lexington (\$15)	78
Alan White, Owensboro	79
Pete Doh, Frankfort	80
Dan McQueen, Lexington	80
Jim Osborne, Louisville	80
Ron Hacker, Versailles	80
Spud Rawlings, Ft. Knox	80
Bob Nelson, London	80
George Cliff, Ft. Knox	81
Larry Smith, Lexington	81
Bumey Massie, Lexington	82



**IT CAN'T BE THAT BAD!** — As Bobby Baldwin (right), assistant pro at Idle Hour Country Club, talks, it appears that Bob Clarkson is a little discouraged with what's going on. That may seem to be the case, but it wasn't. Baldwin, Clarkson and teammates William H. King and Max Rein combined for a 13-under-par 59 to win the four-man team best ball division of the Woodson Bend-Boy Scout Pro Am Golf Tournament at Greenbrier yesterday. (Staff Photo by David Per-





clark county

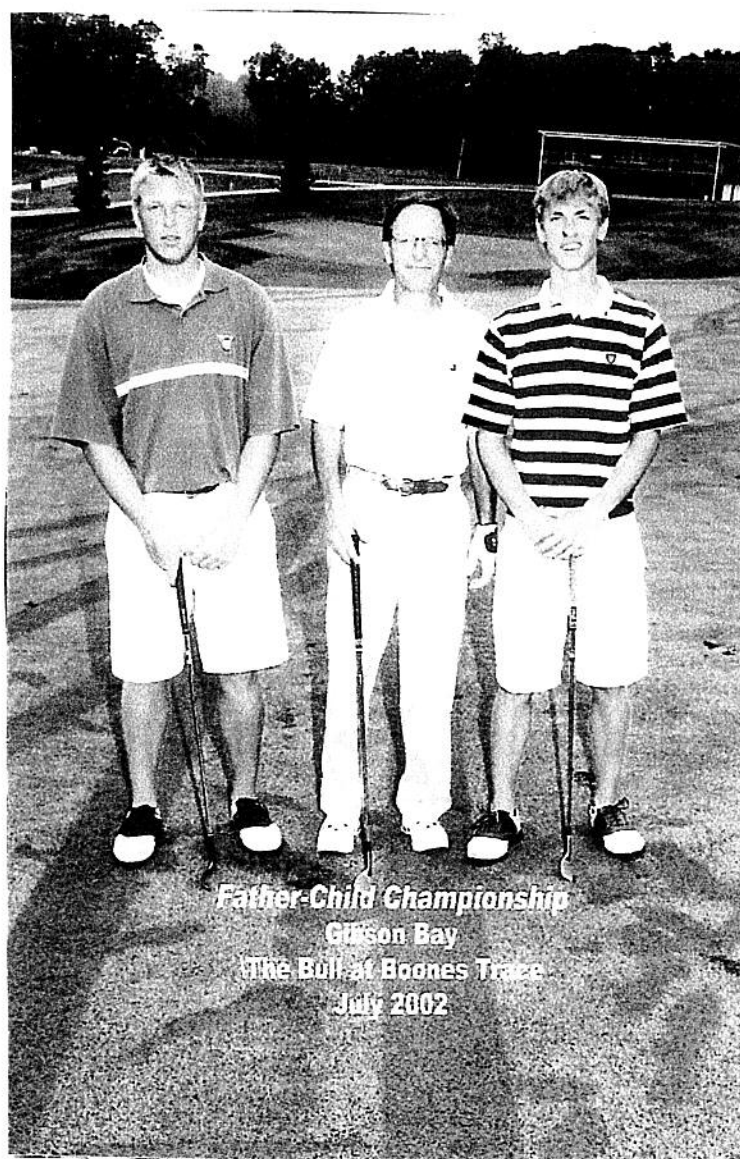
# profiles



Robert M. Baldwin, golf professional and superintendant of the Winchester Country Club, has been in Clark County for a year. A native of Lexington, Baldwin became interested in golf while living in California, but decided against a pro tour career because of the great number of golfers on the tour. Attending the University of Kentucky as a pre-law student on a golf scholarship, Baldwin received his apprenticeship at the Idle Hour Country Club in Lexington. Previous to his work in Winchester, Baldwin held a similar post at the Stoner Creek Country Club in Paris. Unmarried, in his spare time he enjoys playing tennis and basketball.



**Amateur Team** (bottom row, l. to r.) Scott Beard, Nick Pearl, Danny Miller, Harcourt Kemp, Ted Schulz, Steve Rogers, John Owens, Jimmy Brown, Rob McNamara, and Pat Stephens.  
**Professionals** (top row, l. to r.) Larry Gilbert, John Phillips, Gene Fawbush, Honorary Captain Al Atkins, Jack Freeman, Phil Krick, Clay Atcheson, Jeff McGill, John McGuire, Jack Barber and Bobbu Baldwin





(Sun photo by Jeff Kerr)

Some of the unsung heroes who have been working hard for the last couple of months to get the Winchester Country Club course in shape for the 47th annual Memorial Weekend Tournament include,

kneeling, from left, Robert Farnsworth and Ken Phillips and standing, from left, Ernest Whisman and WCC pro Bobby Baldwin. Not pictured is Grover Wright of the grounds crew.

## Heart association scramble Monday



(Sun photo by Jeff Kerr)

Don McMurry, left, and Winchester Country Club golf professional Bobby Baldwin check the entries for Monday's American Heart Association golf scramble at the club on Boone Avenue. The scramble will be an A-B-C-D format and persons may form their own teams, providing the handicaps fall within the tournament guidelines. The event will begin with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. and an awards ceremony will be held



12-The Winchester Sun, Tuesday, May 27, 1980

# sports

Dan Manley, editor



## *Memorial champion*

Winchester's Mike McCann, right, displays the championship and medalist trophies from the 44th Annual Memorial Tournament at the Winchester Country Club Monday after receiving the awards from Bobby Baldwin, the WCC

club professional. McCann defeated defending champion Harold Epperson, 4 and 3, in the championship match. McCann had won medalist honors with a 69.

(Sun photo by Dan Manley)

• MEMORIAL RECAP

# Barr enjoys ride in event

By BOBBY BALDWIN  
Special to The Sun

Cale Barr enjoyed the ride while ascending to the top spot in Kentucky golf last year. Now that he's there, he's learning that staying there could become a grind.

The 2005 Kentucky Golf Association Player of the Year and reigning Kentucky Open champion withstood three fiercely competitive matches to capture the 70th Winchester Memorial Golf Championship Monday at the Winchester Country Club.

Barr, the Versailles native who just completed his redshirt junior year at the University of Kentucky, used a solid performance to clip 2004 champion Josh McCracken 3&2 in round one.

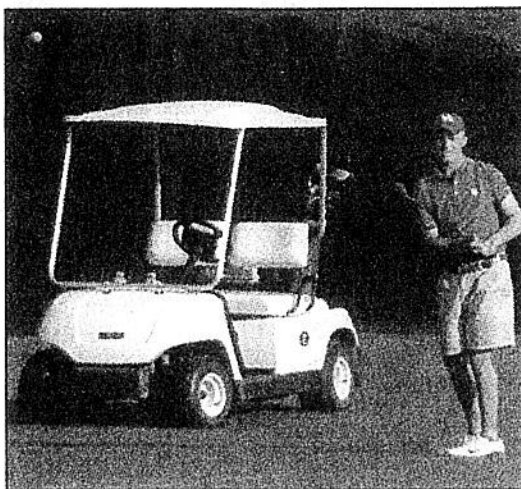
From that point forward, he got everyone's best shot, and needed an extra gear just to survive.

To his credit he had it.

Winchester's Will Meurer was the 2&1 victim in round two despite his four-under-par score at match's end.

Brian Holley of Winchester appeared to be in the driver's seat past the halfway point of his semifinal match, but was victimized by an untimely lost ball on the final hole of regulation play and eventually lost on the 20th hole.

The nip and tuck championship match against Louisville's Robbie Crockett also



(Photo submitted)

**Cale Barr connects on a chip shot on his approach to the green during the finals of the Memorial Tournament on Monday at the Winchester Country Club. Barr held off Robbie Crockett to win the title.**

went extra holes. Barr's birdie-birdie finish in overtime proved to be the difference.

Winchester's Rick Smith claimed his second Senior Championship trophy with a victory over Lexington's Doug Logan.

• Other local flight winners were: Paxton Mahan (First Consolation); Rex Smith (Second); Mark Rogers (Third); Ryan Richardson (Fourth Consolation); Mike Caudill (Fifth); Robert Palmer (Sixth Consolation); Kenny Davis (Seventh); Willie Palmer (Seventh Consolation); and Danny Muncie (Eighth Consolation).

A total of 160 players competed in the three day match play event.



## Memorial winners

(Photo submitted)

Winners from the annual Memorial Golf Tournament held over the weekend at the Winchester Country Club were: Robbie Crockett, runner-up; Cale Barr, champion; Doug Logan, senior runner-up and Rick Smith, senior champion. Pictured with the winners is WCC pro Bobby Baldwin.



## WINCHESTER WINNERS



Winchester Country Club golf professional Bobby Baldwin, center, winning team in Monday's Clark County Chapter of the University Association's annual golf scramble. from left are Dale Sorrell, John Keaton and Kevin May. The team shot a gross 58 and net 57 on the par 36 course. Don Coleman and Linda Palmer won the long-drive contests and Don Coleman won the closest-to-the-pin contests. The annual tournament is one of the club's activities during the year, including its scholarship fund.



(Sun photo by Jeff Kerr)

Cox of Berea, center, won his second Winchester Country Club Memorial Tournament championship this weekend and captured medalist honors as well with a 67 during qualifying at the club on Boone Avenue. Jerry Abney, right, of Irvine was the runnerup for the second time. The men presented their trophies by WCC golf professional Bobby Baldwin, left. Cox won his first memorial title in 1993.

## Have a ball

(Sun photo by James Mann)

From left, Billy Todd of Southwind Golf Course, Brenda Lytle of Sportland Golf Course and Bobby Baldwin of the Winchester Country Club show the basketballs autographed by Kentucky coach Tubby Smith which will be given away as prizes during a month-long fund-raiser at each course for the Children's Miracle Network of the University of Kentucky Chandler Medical Center. For each dollar donated, golfers have the chance to register for the basketballs. Drawing for the basketballs will be held May 29.





(Sun photo by Jeff Kerr)

Tom Cecil, right, shows Winchester Country Club golf professional Bobby Baldwin where his next job will be. Cecil has joined the Professional Golf Association (PGA) apprentice professional program and will become an assistant pro at the Fishers Island Club golf course on Long Island in New York.

# On course

## Love of game, old layouts led Cecil to New York job

By JEFF KERR  
Sun Sports Editor

Tom Cecil has only been playing golf for 12 years but starting Monday he'll be right smack in the middle of the cradle of the game in the United States.

Cecil, the son of Jerry and Marion Cecil of Winchester, has entered the Professional Golf Association (PGA) apprentice professional program and will become an assistant golf professional at the Fishers Island Club golf course in New York.

Cecil, 25, is a native of Durham, N.C., where he was born when his father was attending graduate school at Duke University.

Like many Army brats, he grew up all over the country — and out of it.

He's lived in Durham, West Point, New York; Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; the Panama Canal Zone, Washington, D.C., and Winchester.

The Cecils moved to Winchester in 1984 and Tom took up the game of golf the next year.

He graduated from George Rogers Clark High School in 1991 and attended the University of Mississippi for three years. All that time, however, he's worked at the Winchester Country Club, through high school and his summer vacations.

"He's been here off and on since he was in high school," WCC golf professional Bobby Baldwin said Thursday. "He's been in the shop some and on the course a lot. In fact, about the

only thing he hasn't done out here is be a life-guard or a cook."

"He's had a well-rounded education here, so to speak," Baldwin added. "We basically threw him to the wolves and he's handled everything extremely well."

Cecil says he's been thinking about a job as a golf professional for about four or five years.

"It's something that's not behind a desk," he said Thursday. "Every day is different and you get to work with all different kinds of people, from the groundskeepers to the members to salesmen."

His big break, Baldwin said, came when he passed the PGA Player Ability Test.

That qualified him to enter the PGA apprentice program, the first step in becoming a club professional. And his first job as an apprentice came sight unseen, in a manner of speaking.

"I sent out about 25-30 resumes," he said. "Most of them were in the northeast because I knew I wanted a split season. The pro called me in January, interviewed me over the phone and offered me the job."

The Fishers Island Club golf course is located on Fishers Island, an exclusive resort community located at the eastern end of Long Island Sound, about five miles off the coast of New London Connecticut and about 100 miles from New York City.

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# .Cecil

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"The club itself is real exclusive," Cecil said. "It's ranked 14th in the Top 100 courses in America. And it's a true links course. The ocean comes into play on 14 of the 18 holes."

A proof of Fishers Island exclusivity can be found in the greens fees, which are \$100 per round. Cart rental is \$15 per person. The course is only open from May to October but last season 12,000 rounds were played there.

The island itself is about six miles in length and one mile in width. It is primarily a summer vacation resort with approximately 500 homes located there. There are two grocery stores, one bar and one restaurant. The island is reached by a ferry from Groton, Conn.

The eastern end of the island was developed by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmstead, who also developed Central Park in New York City and designed the grounds of the Capitol in Washington.

Sounds like kind of a tony place, but Baldwin says Cecil will be able to handle it.

"He knows how to handle people," Baldwin said. "And he can handle himself in a lot of different social circles. I feel like he can blend in very well."

For Cecil, the job is also an opportunity for him to indulge in his favorite hobby, golf history.

"Four of the five USGA (United States Golf Association) founding courses are within 100 miles of there," he said. "St. Andrews, Newport, Brookline and Shinnecock Hills. The other is the Chicago Golf Club."

"I like the old architecture courses," he added. "Not like the new ones which are made for television, but the straightforward, enduring classical golf courses."

His goal, he said, is to become a PGA club professional at a private club, hopefully somewhere in the northeast United States.

"It's a great part of the country because it's got so much history there," he said. "And the golf is more traditional. A lot of clubs up there still use caddies instead of golf carts."

He'll spend May through October at Fishers Island, then travel to Naples, Fla. for the winter and a job already lined up for him.

Tonight his family and friends will fete him at a going-away party at the country club, then Saturday morning he'll point his car north and head for Fishers Island.

"It's time for Tom to further his career and his education," Baldwin said. "But one thing about it is he's not afraid to branch out. A lot of people would have sat around and waited for something like this to come along but he actually went out and sought it himself."