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Bronson Eagles win *Fundraising event nets thousands*



Levy County Animal Services Director David registers for the tournament.

Story and Photos

By Jeff M. Hardison © Aug. 4, 2018 at 1:48 p.m.

LEVY COUNTY -- The Bronson Eagles Football Program scored a big win Saturday (Aug. 4) thanks to a charitable fundraising golf tournament held at Chiefland Golf and Country Club.

https://youtu.be/5VBlujnY_Ts

In this video, Stoney Smith is seen making a putt that does not quite reach the hole. His comment is that here he sees that he may have made the same incorrect action to bring the results he sought.

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Jimmy Jones (sitting at right) registers a golfer early Saturday morning (Aug. 4) in Chiefland.



The first three Eagles football players noticed Saturday near the doughnut disbursement area are (from left) Josia Lang (#15), Louis Montero (#9) and Eddie Goodman (#18).

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Bronson High School Head Varsity Football Coach Seth Stebbins is seen with some of the BHS varsity football players at the golf course. The coach is with Josia Lang (#15), Louis Montero (#9), Eddie Goodman (#18), Braden Dean (#71), Levi Warmack (#2), Dallas Baker (#58) and George Konstantis (#7).

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Bronson High School Head Varsity Football Coach Seth Stebbins stands with some BHS Eagles gear. (Yes, the clock is correct. This is T-minus 12 minutes before the shotgun start of the tournament.)

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One of the foursomes playing Saturday was (from left) Brody Dean, Fred Franklin, Jason Hunt (who is a Bronson Town Council member) and John Henry Williams III.



County Commissioner Rock Meeks (left) is a golfer, and he is seen here before the tournament with Mickey Beauchamp of Bronson, who is not a golfer.



Golfers prepare to start their tournament.

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Berlon Weeks (at right in photo) gives a thumbs up before receiving the assignment of the hole for his foursome to start play on Saturday. Weeks and Jimmy Jones were the very first BHS Golf Team in 1989.



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Kyle Stebbins completes a card required for participation in the tournament.



Mark Darling smacks the golf ball as he makes his first swing from a tee at one of the 18 holes at Chiefland Golf and Country Club. The ball in the photo appears as if it is two balls, one on top of the other, but that is how fast the golf ball was moving – to cause this illusion in a still photograph.



John Miller drives the golf ball with a club that is moving so fast it all but disappears within the one-sixtieth of one-second of reflecting light to be captured in this photo.

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Stoney Smith takes a moment to reflect on where to putt the ball on this hole.



Jon Bischoff makes a putt. Other members of the Bischoff foursome were Stoney Smith, Shannon Smith and Larry Scroggin.

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Three leaders of the Bronson High School Eagles Football Team Booster Club who were at the event and helping were (from left) Vice President Lisa Shipp, Treasurer Tonya Godkin and Secretary Caryl OSteen.



While his son Jimmy Jones III is playing with the foursome Stegall's Eagles, Jimmy Jones holds his grandson 7-month-old Tate Barber Jones as Tate's Mom Cassidy Jones also grants the photo opportunity request.

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This set of past future and present Bronson Eagles is comprised of (from left) Jimmy Jones, Tate Barber Jones, Bronson High School Principal Tim McCarthy, Assistant Football Coach Micah Herron and Brian Simpkins. Simpkins is the chief griller at football games, where he has served many diners from that concession stand over the years.

The event brought in about \$9,000.

Jimmy Jones, who with Berlon Weeks was the first Bronson High School Golf Team in 1989, headed the fundraiser with the Bronson Eagles Quarterback Club.

The first golf competition BHS ever entered, he said, was in Ocala and Bronson won in 1989.

The Classic Bronson Golf Tournament on Saturday was about golf, but it was also about helping raise money to protect the BHS Eagles Football Team from head injuries. New helmets cost \$360 each, Jones said.

It was serendipitous that Weeks was among the many men and women playing golf that day to help the BHS Eagles. While there was a very powerful Bronson contingent of players, other ladies and gentlemen who are known for helping high school football programs were playing as well.

Two of the men who were noticed in one foursome are enthusiasts who help young people in sporting activities.

Stoney Smith of Fanning Springs has been an avid supporter of the Chiefland High School Indians Football Team for a very long time, and Shannon Smith is known for his participation as a coach as well as a devotee of the athletic program at Trenton High School in Gilchrist County.

Another foursome playing in this fundraiser includes players who are relatively familiar with Chiefland Golf and Country Club.

Club Manager Tim Hart called out to the golfers at the start of the tournament,

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reminding them that this is a charity tournament with closest to the pin of each team's shots as being the one to go with, and that mulligans were for sale.

Manager Hart was joined on his four-member team by Chiefland Golf and Country Club Superintendent Brian Schaffer, Donna Schaffer and Doug Isbell.

Not only were there many golfers from nearby playing, but other players came from farther away.

A foursome of golfers found their way from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. As the crow flies, this university is about 130 miles to the east. Taking I-75 south to Wildwood and then Florida's Turnpike, it's about 180 miles.

And with that addition of these players, not only are golf and football involved a sports for this tournament, but these guys are baseball-oriented.

Embry-Riddle Head Baseball Coach Randy Stegall might be pleased to know this group of four golfers call themselves "Stegall's Eagles."

Those four college level of baseball players and golfers are Jimmy Jones III, Jake Malone, Cody Bogart and Garrett Burnett.

Bronson Principal Tim McCarthy, who begins his tour of duty this school year, was on the golf course as well -- riding in a golf cart with an Eagles Assistant Football Coach -- Micah Herron.

BHS Eagles Head Varsity Football Coach Seth Stebbins was present as well to enjoy the fun of the day in Chiefland. His son Kyle Stebbins was part of a foursome playing golf in the tournament too.

Coach Stebbins is ready for the high school football season at Bronson.

"I'm excited," Coach Stebbins said. "We're all excited."

When asked for the team's goal for winning this season, he said "The point is to win 10," meaning that he and the players want to see a 10-0 regular season tally of wins to losses.

"Our motto," Stebbins said, "our mantra, is -- compete. Whether it's in the weight room, or in the classroom or on the field."

The coach acknowledged that the concept of good sportsmanship is part of his coaching curriculum.

"Our big thing is class and intensity," Stebbins said.