

# McDonald beats Love for PGA Juniors title

By Freddy Jones

Assistant Sports Editor

Dalton's Bill McDonald, playing in the 14-15 age division, shot a blistering final-round 68 Wednesday and then defeated Davis Love III of Sea Island on the first sudden-death hole to win the Georgia Section PGA Junior golf title at Riverside.

Easily winning his age division, a pair of eagles gave McDonald a 143 to put him in the clubhouse with the overall lead. However, four hours later, Love sank a birdie putt on the final hole to force the playoff.

And it appeared that Love, who won the 16-17 division, would take the overall title on the playoff hole when McDonald's 6-iron shot rolled off the green on the par-4 No. 1. But Love flew the green with a 9-iron, and his ball hit the cart path, landing close to the

ladies tee on No. 2.

The first day co-leader made a brilliant recovery shot but settled for a bogey. McDonald chipped within 2 feet of the pin on his third shot and won the tournament with a tap-in par.

"I thought I had lost it when I missed the green," McDonald said. "I should have hit a 7-iron. The wind was blowing before I hit, so I went to a 6-iron. By the time I hit the ball, the wind stopped."

**LOVE, WHO** had to shoot 2-under on the final nine holes to make it to the playoff, wasn't second guessing his club selection. "I was 140 yards away, and I hit a 9-iron. The ball just flew on me, and when it hit the cart path, it took off."

Please see PGA JUNIORS, 4C



WILLIAM BERRY/Macon News

*Macon's Scott Nystrom*

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# PGA Juniors

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McDonald carded eagles on No. 12 and 18 and added a birdie on No. 2 to turn in the best round of the tournament.

He chipped in with a sand wedge from 30 yards on No. 12. On 18, he hit a 3-iron 4 feet from the pin and made the putt. The lone birdie came when he hit a 1-iron 5 feet from the pin on the par-3 second hole.

In division play, McDonald was followed by Mark Love of Sea Island (151) and Scott Nystrom of Macon (153) in the 14-15 division. In 16-17, Davis Love beat Griffin's Steve Pitts (146) by three shots.

**CHRIS COOPER** of Tifton

shot a 145 to edge Ben Baggett of Bonaire by a single shot in the 12-13 division. In girls play, Marian McShane of Dunwoody fired a 152 to win the 16-17 division, and Terri Thompson of Savannah shot a 181 to win the 12-15 group.

## Boys 16-17

143 — Davis Love III (Sea Island); 146 — Steve Pitts (Griffin); 148 — Charlie Thomas (Douglasville); 150 — Billy Bulmer (Tifton); 151 — Jon Leonard Jr. (Warner Robins); Hugh Royer III (Columbus).

## 14-15

143 — Bill McDonald (Dalton); 151 — Mark Love (Sea Island); 153 — Scott Nystrom (Macon); 154 — Drew Pittman (Vidalia).

## 12-13

145 — Chris Cooper (Tifton); 146 — Ben Baggett (Bonaire); 148 — Paul Claxton (Vidalia); 150 — Carl Schuessler (Macon); Andy

Edwards (Athens).

## Girls 16-17

152 — Marian McShane (Dunwoody); 158 — Laura Mays (Augusta); 168 — Mary Beth Laughlin (Sea Island).

## 12-15

181 — Terri Thompson (Savannah); 184 — Marcie White (Warner Robins); 199 — Marie Boschelli (Warner Robins).

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