



ROBERT SEAY/Macon News Photo

Junior PGA champion Billy Bulmer watches his drive on the 15th hole Wednesday

Bulmer's 71 claims PGA

By Freddy Jones

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WARNER ROBINS — Tifton's Billy Bulmer went 17 holes Wednesday before taking the lead in the Georgia Section PGA Junior Championship at Warner Robins International. But when he finally wrestled it away from Dalton's Bill McDonald on the 18th green, it gave him the state title.

Down two shots with only four holes to play, Bulmer birdied three of the final four holes to beat McDonald, the tournament's defending champion.

Bulmer finished with a 71-141 total for two days, two shots better than McDonald's 74-143. Jay Nichols of Savannah, who shared the first-round lead with McDonald, was third after soaring to a 76 in the final round.

"After the double-bogey on 14, I thought it might be over," Bulmer admitted. "But I decided I wasn't going to give up."

Tied at 14, Bulmer's second shot to the par-4 green was long and landed into a hazard. He took a drop and double-bogeyed the hole. Meanwhile, McDonald hit the green in two and two-putted for par and the two-shot swing.

Bulmer immediately cut the lead in half on the next hole, placing his second shot 8 feet from the cup and making the birdie putt. He almost left the hole with the lead, but a brilliant shot by McDonald saved par.

McDonald had overshot the green by 20 yards, and his ball landed at the base of a small tree. But he calmly chipped to within a foot of the hole and saved par with a tap-in putt.

"There was nothing I could do about that shot," Bulmer said. "I just tried to concentrate on my birdie putt."

Bulmer then went to No. 16 and tied McDonald again with another birdie, this one a tap-in. "I was really going then," he said. "I felt I could win it."

Both parred No. 17, but Bulmer put the pressure on McDonald on the par-5 18th when he hit the green in two, and McDonald's second shot was short. McDonald then chipped short and two-putted for bogey while Bulmer sank a tricky 3-footer for birdie.

Tripp Davis of Decatur won the 14-15 age division with a

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Bulmer

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73-145, four shots better than Pat Mallard of Waycross who finished with a 74-149. Chris Cupit of Alpharetta shot a 77-149 to win the 12-13 division.

In girls' play, Terri Thompson of Savannah shot 83-173 to win the 12-15 division, and Shelly Reynolds of Decatur shot 88-182 to win the 16-17 division.

16-17 Boys

141 — Billy Bulmer (Tifton); 143 — Bill McDonald (Dalton); 145 — Jay Nichols (Savannah); 149 — Chris Mohr (Thomson), Tony Williamson (Thomson); 150 — John Sperandio (Warner Robins).

14-15 Boys

145 — Tripp Davis (Decatur); 149 — Pat Mallard (Waycross); 150 — Peter Brennan (Savannah); 151 — David Schreyer (Peachtree City).

12-13 Boys

149 — Chris Cupit (Alpharetta); 151 — Brian Millican (Dalton); 153 — Tray Dykes (Columbus); 154 — Martin Pinckney (Warner Robins).

16-17 Girls

182 — Shelly Reynolds (Decatur); 183 — Beth Kurtz (Marietta); 196 — Marie Boschelli (Warner Robins).

12-15 Girls

173 — Terri Thompson (Savannah); 199 — Kelly Pittman (Vidalia).

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