

**Florida State Golf Association  
State Junior Championship  
Capri Isle Golf Club, Venice  
July 8-9, 1974**

**15-17 Division - Championship Flight**

|    |                 |            |
|----|-----------------|------------|
| 1  | Peter Wegman    | 71-71--142 |
| 2  | B.J. Jones      | 76-67--143 |
| 3  | Earl Gibson     | 75-71--146 |
| 4  | Larry Rinker    | 71-77--148 |
| 4  | John VanVranken | 75-73--148 |
| 4  | Dusty Rhodes    | 73-75--148 |
| 7  | George DeSear   | 71-78--149 |
| 7  | Art Greenfeder  | 73-76--149 |
| 7  | Ken Katalik     | 75-74--149 |
| 7  | Frank Strafacci | 76-73--149 |
| 11 | John Jones      | 75-76--151 |
| 11 | Roy Tillis      | 76-75--151 |
| 13 | Butch Girard    | 75-77--152 |
| 13 | Tom Fischer     | 72-80--152 |
| 15 | Steve Wiles     | 75-79--154 |
| 16 | Bret Cole       | 76-79--155 |
| 17 | Chuck Jeffries  | 76-82--158 |
| 18 | Craig Rhodes    | 76-83--159 |

**15-17 Division - First Flight**

|    |               |            |
|----|---------------|------------|
| 1  | Jeff Tanner   | 77-75--152 |
| 2  | Rod Sweet     | 78-76--154 |
| 2  | Jeff Johnston | 79-75--154 |
| 4  | Kevin Walsh   | 78-77--155 |
| 4  | Hal Arost     | 77-78--155 |
| 4  | Joel Loggins  | 79-76--155 |
| 7  | Randy Eastman | 77-79--156 |
| 7  | Sam Vaughn    | 79-77--156 |
| 9  | Jim Bachemin  | 81-77--158 |
| 10 | Joe Hodge     | 81-79--160 |
| 11 | Jim King      | 81-80--161 |
| 11 | Dan Vaughn    | 77-84--161 |
| 11 | Tony Wilds    | 77-84--161 |
| 14 | Kenny Davis   | 77-86--162 |
| 15 | Chris Tanner  | 79-85--164 |
| 16 | Frank Mebane  | 81-84--165 |
| 17 | Harry Britton | 80-86--166 |
| 18 | John DuPriest | 80-89--169 |

|               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| 18 Jim Turner | 81-88--169 |
| 20 Dan Smith  | 79-91--170 |

**15-17 Division - Second Flight**

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| 1 Brian Cosner     | 84-76--160  |
| 2 David Donato     | 84-79--163  |
| 3 Steve Staterboro | 84-80--164  |
| 3 Dale Smith       | 83-81--164  |
| 5 David Whalen     | 84-82--166  |
| 6 John Reger       | 82-85--167  |
| 7 Robert Noe       | 90-79--169  |
| 7 Chip Parks       | 88-81--169  |
| 9 Kevin Heinicka   | 86-84--170  |
| 9 Cory Walker      | 83-87--170  |
| 11 David Roschman  | 84-87--171  |
| 12 Rick Hall       | 90-82--172  |
| 13 Lee Bentley     | 88-85--173  |
| 13 Mark Nice       | 87-86--173  |
| 15 Frank Lombardy  | 87-89--176  |
| 16 Boyd Hendrick   | 84-94--178  |
| 17 Stanley Verrel  | 92-100--192 |
| Reid Sheftall      | 82-WD       |

**12-14 Division - Championship Flight**

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| 1 David Abell    | 67-73--140 |
| 2 Gary Tanner    | 74-73--147 |
| 3 Jim Gerber     | 74-81--155 |
| 4 Jim Vaughn     | 76-83--159 |
| 5 Steven Esrick  | 79-83--162 |
| 6 Toby Cauchos   | 77-86--163 |
| 7 Scott Miller   | 81-83--164 |
| 8 Andy Gibson    | 77-93--170 |
| 9 Barry Goodhart | 80-91--171 |
| 10 Kevin Janiga  | 81-90--171 |
| 11 Wayne Rimides | 81-90--171 |

**12-14 Division - First Flight**

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| 1 Cary Stallings    | 83-78--161 |
| 2 Richard Stallings | 86-81--167 |
| 3 Brian Heath       | 82-87--169 |
| 4 Lee Rinker        | 84-86--170 |
| 5 Peter DuPriest    | 86-88--174 |
| 6 Jerry Jordan      | 86-89--175 |
| 7 Joe Agostini      | 82-93--175 |
| 8 Bobby Dick        | 93-84--177 |
| 9 Buddy Conway      | 89-89--178 |



—Staff Phot by Jim Achenbach

## Leader David Abell Blasts From Sand

... as ball appears to be stuck to golf club

# 14-Year-Old Golfer Leads State Junior

By JIM ACHENBACH

Herald-Tribune Sports Writer

David Abell of Fort Pierce, 14 years old and still growing as they might say in basketball-rich Indiana, handcuffed par with a superb display of shotmaking and fired a five-under-par 67 Monday at Capri Isles Golf Club to lead the Florida State Junior Golf Championship.

Abell's performance put him in ideal position to break one of the tournament's best-kept records — that of being the youngest winner. The mark was set by Sarasota's Gary Koch, who captured the title at 15 and went on to win the championship three years in a row.

The 67 gave Abell a four-shot margin over Bradenton's George DeSear and two other golfers. The tournament ends with another 18-hole round today at Capri Isles, located in Venice.

The State Junior Championship, run by the Florida State Golf Association, hosts boys from the age of 12 through 17. Competition is divided into two age divisions, 12-14 and 15-17, although a golfer in the younger division is still eligible for the overall title.

Abell, who is six feet tall and weighs 140 pounds, will be 15 in September. He began playing golf when he was six and progressed fast enough to win the 12-14 age group title in this tournament the last two years.

His bogeyless round at Capri Isles featured 14 pars,

the par five 14th ended up five feet from the hole, and he made the putt for an eagle.

Abell hit every green in regulation, putting for 18 birdies or eagles during the round. He had played two practice rounds before the start of tournament, although he said the course was too wet to really learn much.

Bradenton's DeSear, 17, had never seen the course before Monday. He played the layout using a map prepared for him by Dr. Jack Colson, an avid golfer.

"If the map said to hit an iron off the tee on a par four hole, then I hit an iron," DeSear said. "I did exactly what he told me on every shot. If the map said I had

a 150-yard shot into a green, then I trusted it."

DeSear three-putted twice, including the final green. He also missed two birdie attempts under four feet. "I've got a good chance to win if I start making some putts," he said.

Sarasota favorites in the tournament didn't fare so well, as John Van Vranken shot a 75 and B. J. Jones and Earl Gibson each soared to 76. Gibson, recent winner of the nationally recognized Gasparilla Junior in Tampa, saw a double bogey seven on the second hole damage his hopes for another victory.

Gary Tanner, 14, shot a fine 74 to lead Sarasota players in the first round.

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### MONDAY'S SCORES

12-14 Division  
David Abell, 67; Gary Tanner, Jim Gerber, 74; Jim Vaughn, 76. Andy Gibson, Toby Cauchos, 77; Steven Esrick, 79; Barry Goodhart, 80; Kevin Janiga, Wayne Rimides, Scott Miller, 81.

15-17 Division  
Larry Rinker, George DeSear, Peter Wegman, 71; Tom Fischer, 72.

Art Greenfeder, Dusty Rhodes, 73; Ken Katalik, Steve Wiles, Earl Gibson, John Van Vranken, John Jones, Butch Girard, 75. B. J. Jones, Chuck Jeffries, Bret Cole, Craig Rhodes, Frank Strafacci, Roy Tillis, 76; Jeff Tanner, Hal Arost, Tony Wilds, Kenny Davis, Dan Vaughn, Randy Eastman, 77.

Rod Sweet, Kevin Walsh, 78; Dan Smith, Jeff Johnson, Chris Tanner, Joel Loggins, Sam Vaughn, 79; Harry Britton, John DuPriest, 80.

Jim Bachemin, Jim King, Frank Mebane, Jim Turner, Joe Hodge, 81; Reid Sheftall, John Reeger, 82; Dale Smith, Cory Walker, 83.

David Roschman, Steve Straterbro, David Donato, David Whalen, Boyd Hendrick, Brian Cosner, 84; Kevin Heinicka, 86.

Frank Lombardv, Mark Nico,

### TODAY'S PAIRINGS

12-14 Division  
10th Tee  
9:40 — Bobby Dick, Jerry Jordan, Richard Stallings, Peter DuPriest; 9:48 — Lee Rinker, Cary Stallings, Brian Heath, Joe Agostini; 9:56 — Scott Miller, Wayne Rimides, Kevin Janiga; 10:04 — Barry Goodhart, Steven Esrick, Andy Gibson, Toby Cauchos; 10:12 — Jim Vaughn, Gary Tanner, Jim Gerber, David Abell.

15-17 Division  
1st Tee  
9:00 — Joe Hodge, Jim Turner, Frank Mebane, Jim King; 9:08 — Jim Bachemin, John DuPriest, Harry Britton, Sam Vaughn; 9:16 — Joel Loggins, Chris Tanner, Jeff Johnston, Dan Smith; 9:24 — Kevin Walsh, Rod Sweet, Randy Eastman, Dan Vaughn.  
9:32 — Kenny Davis, Tony Wilds, Hal Arost, Jeff Tanner; 9:40 — Roy Tillis, Frank Strafacci, Craig Rhodes; 9:48 — B. J. Jones, Chuck Jeffries, Bret Cole; 9:56 — John Van Vranken, Earl Gibson, Ken Katalik, John Jones; 10:04 — Butch Girard, Steve Wiles, Art Greenfeder, Dusty Rhodes; 10:12 — Tom Fischer, Peter Wegman, Geo. DeSear, Larry Rinker.

10th Tee  
9:00 — Stanley Verrel, Robt. Noe, Rich Hall; 9:08 — Buddy Conway, Chip Parks, Lee Bentley, Mark Nice; 9:16 — Frank Lombardy, Kevin Heinicka, Boyd Hendrick, Brian Cosner; 9:24 — David Rosch-



## "FORE" THOUGHTS

BILL GARDEN

### Behavior Of Some Golfers In Championships Was Poor

There are two sides to every coin. In last Wednesday's column, we noted the fine comportment of the young players in the Florida State Junior Golf Championship being played at Capri Isles Golf Club in Venice. That was on Monday.

On Tuesday, I again followed the play with high expectations, but they turned to disappointment as I saw the other side of the coin. I feel impelled to criticize some of the actions noted during the final round.

**I cannot remember in tournament play having seen so many clubs thrown or pounded viciously on the ground, golf bags kicked, or balls swatted and thrown off greens after missed putts. A cardinal courtesy of standing behind the golfer about to hit was constantly violated.**

Some kids, (and I use the word advisedly), who were having a bad day and had fallen out of contention started dogging it — just going through the motions with half-hearted attempts at shotmaking. Many parents had taken the time and spent good money for travel and equipment to get these youngsters to the tournament. It's a small reward indeed when your young hopeful doesn't even try.

The game of golf, like the game of life, calls for courage. When the going gets tough, the strong get tougher.

Sure the course was wet and soggy from the recent intemperate rains, but everyone was facing the same problems. Some had disastrous holes but fought to regain the strokes instead of taking refuge in a comedic, "I don't give a darn attitude."

Sarasota's B. J. Jones and Earl Gibson started the final day nine, and eight strokes respectively, behind leader, and eventual winner, David Abell. Both responded with very fine rounds (Jones 67 and Gibson 71) to clinch third and fourth place in the tournament.

**That's what the game is all about. Golf (or any other competitive sport for that matter) is supposed to build character, to help us fight our way through life's uneven seas. Golf is also a gentleman's game. Some of the expletives that came from the lips of its young practitioners, tended to belie that thesis.**

If I was the parent of one of the competitors who quit out there, it would be a long while before I'd again make the effort and the sacrifice to get him to the action. There's a crying need for discipline in our country today. Webster defines discipline as "training which corrects, molds, strengthens or perfects."

If your children are participating in some of our organized junior sports programs today be it golf, little league baseball, football, hockey, tennis or what have you, take a closer look at what they are doing and learning. Make corrections where they are called for. And above all let them know that it's not a sin to lose as long as they gave it their best effort all the way.



## "FORE" THOUGHTS

BILL GARDEN

### The Rain Finally Yields --- And Junior Golfers Shine

There have been moments these past two weeks when one could seriously doubt we would ever play golf again. The torrential rain, beyond the magnitude of anything we've ever seen, has made quagmires out of our golf courses.

There was some doubt that the FSGA State Junior Championship Tournament for boys would be able to get under way last Monday morning at Capri Isles in Venice, but a reprieve from the weatherman on Sunday left the course just about playable.

A field of 78 boys, 60 in the 15-17 year division, and 18 in the 12-14 year group, teed off a few minutes prior to the 9 a.m., starting time with the sun shining brightly. Several local rules were observed to give relief from the soggy conditions that prevailed.

I chose to follow a foursome of 12-14-year-olds who started on No. 10 tee. The golfers were Cary Stallings of Sarasota, Kevin Janiga of Lake Placid, Buddy Conway of North Redington Beach and Toby Cauchois of Orlando. It is really heartwarming to watch these youngsters play. They rear back and fire with no inhibitions, seeming never to doubt their ability to make a shot. They are courteous, quite knowledgeable, and quick to offer a compliment to an opponent for a "super" shot, in the lexicon of today's youth.

Many parents who navigated their golfing sons here from all over the state slogged around the course to offer support. We had the pleasure of being with Jake Cauchois, an active committeeman in the staging of the annual Florida Citrus Open in Orlando, his wife and daughter as they followed 14-year-old Toby around the back side. Toby has a putter that was once Arnold Palmer's, and if Arnie could see the way this young fellow knocks them in from all over the greens, he'd probably want it back. The lad is a natural. His proud father told me he'd never had a lesson.

We kept an eye over our shoulder to watch the play of David Abell of Fort Pierce, one of the highly-regarded juniors in the state. Despite the heavy going, Abell turned the back side (he started on No. 10) in 34 strokes, a superb effort in the heavy going and wound up with a 67.

FSGA Executive Director Bill Carey was unable to be present on Monday morning due to a series of meetings, but tournament operations were in the very capable hands of his wife, Edna, assisted by Rolling Green professional Lew Smithers.

# 14-Year-Old Abell Fires 73 To Win Junior Crown

By JIM ACHENBACH  
Herald-Tribune Sports Writer

David Abell, the 14-year-old golfing whiz from Fort Pierce who has been winning everything in sight, picked another plum Tuesday as he scored a two-shot victory in the Florida State Junior Golf Championship at Capri Isles Golf Club.

Abell added a one-over-par 73 to his opening 67, giving him a 140 total. Peter Wegman of Plantation was second at 142, and Sarasota's B.J. Jones romped home with a 67 to take third with a 143 total.

Abell's victory made him the youngest player ever to win the championship, which hosts 12 to 17-year-old golfers from around the state. Sarasota's Gary Koch held the old record, winning the first of his three titles when he was 15.

In three years of competition in this event, Abell has never gone away without a winners' trophy. He captured the 12-14 age division honors his first two years, then played a "catch me if you can" game with the older competitors this year. His opening 67 gave him a four-shot bulge, and only Wegman and Jones made challenges the final day.

Wegman, 17, had to make a 40-foot birdie putt on the final green to tie Abell. He three-putted in a bold attempt to catch the youngster.

Jones, 16, had a remarkable round that included seven birdies. He had an outside chance to overhaul Abell after he notched his final birdie at the 16th, putting him six-under-par for the day, but he lost the opportunity when he bogeyed the 17th. On the final hole he missed a relatively easy eight-foot birdie attempt.

A senior at Sarasota High School, Jones was a member of last year's All-Area High School Golf Team, which is selected by the Herald-Tribune sports staff. He has played outstanding golf this summer, including a first round 66 in a recent Greater Sarasota Junior Golf Association tournament at Palma Sola Golf Club.

Other Sarasota area golfers, who generally scored worse than expected in the first round, came back strong and ended up as trophy winners.

Earl Gibson fired a 71 that gave him a 146 total, good for fourth place in the field. Gary Tanner, 14, made a very impressive fifth place showing with rounds of 74-73 — 147. John Van Vranken tied for sixth at 148.

In the 12-14 age group, brothers Richard Stallings and Cary Stallings finished 1-2 in the first flight competition. Cary totaled 83-78 — 161, and Richard had 86-81 — 167.

In first flight play among the 15-17 age group players, Jeff Tanner came out on top with 77-75 — 152. Bradenton's

Jeff Johnston was second with 79-75 — 154.

Abell, a sophomore at John Carroll High School in Fort Pierce, has already logged two years of high school competition. His school has a Class 1A rating, which allowed Abell to begin participation as an eighth grader.

In 36 holes at Capri Isles, Abell putted for 35 birdies or eagles. Only once did he miss a green in regulation, and only twice did he score bogeys.

"I thought when the tournament started I had a real good chance," Abell said. "I was sixth overall last year, and I've improved a lot since then."

Abell praised Jones as a fine player and said he got a little worried when Jones began to make so many birdies. Jones' 67 in the second round was somewhat more difficult than Abell's 67 in the first round because the tee placements were all farther back the second day.

Jones hit pinpoint iron shots all day, and all his seven birdies came on putts of less than 10 feet. Five of them were shorter than three feet.

"I was very positive before I started," Jones said. "I knew I'd play well. Of course I was disappointed I didn't catch him, but I'll be back next year."

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#### 15-17 Division

Championship flight: Peter Wegman, 71-71—142; B. J. Jones, 76-67—143; Earl Gibson, 75-71—146; John Van Vranken, 75-73—148; Dusty Rhodes, 73-75—148; Larry Rinker, 71-77—148; Frank Strafaci, 76-73—149; Ken Katalik, 75-74—149; Art Greenfeder, 73-76—149; George DeSear, 71-78—149; Roy Tillis, 76-75—151; John Jones, 75-75—151; Tom Fischer, 72-80—152; Butch Girard, 76-77—152; Steve Wiles, 75-79—154; Bret Cole, 76-79—155; Chuck Jeffries, 76-82—158; Craig Rhodes, 76-83—159.

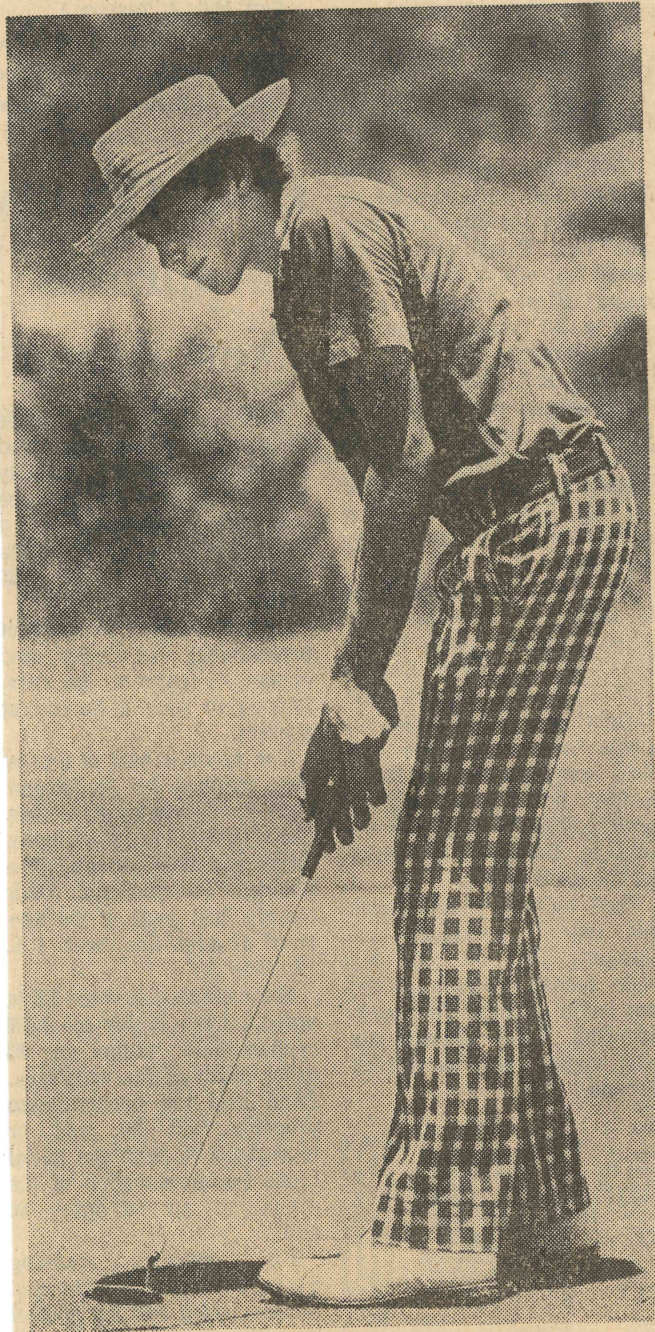
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—Staff Photo by Jim Achenbach

***Sarasota's B. J. Jones Eyes Putt***  
... his 67 earned third place honors in state event

# Fort Pierce's David Abell Youngest Junior King Ever

• Golf Scores . . . 6-C

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—Journal Staff Photo By Marcia Corbino

**John Van Vranken: A 100 Per Cent Effort**

**15-17 AGE GROUP**

**CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT — 139:** Tom Fischer, Plantation 69-70; 140: John Reger, Brandon 68-72; 141: Terry May, Longwood 71-70; 142: Jeff Hollis, Largo 72-70; 143: Joe Hodge, Tampa 72-71; Pat Peecher, Lauderhill 74-69; 144: David Abell, Ft. Pierce 70-74; 146: Steve Griggs, Winter Park 69-77; Larry Rinker, Stuart 73-73; 147: John Jones, Tampa 68-79; Jim Vaughn, Ft. Pierce 72-75.

**FIRST FLIGHT — 147:** Earl Gibson, Sarasota 75-72; 148: John DuPriest, Avon Park 75-73; Joe Loggins, Orlando 76-72; 149: Tom Ginther, Kissimmee 75-74; Steve Burton, Tampa 75-74.

**SECOND FLIGHT — 149:** Bill Geisler, Maitland 78-71; 151: Tom Cleaver, Tampa 78-73; 153: M. Blackburn, Seminole 79-74; 154: Scott Makar, Holmes Beach; Jeff Johnston, Bradenton 79-75.

**THIRD FLIGHT — 160:** Ron Rollins, Sarasota 82-78; 163: Gregg Smith, Winter Haven 82-81; 165: Bob Krullah, Beverly Hills 82-83; 166: R. Straughn, Winter Haven 86-80.

**12-14 AGE GROUP**

**CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT — 148:** Kevin Janiga, Lake Placid 74-74; 149: Billy Tuten, Palatka 73-76; 151: John Purcell, Lakeland 76-75; 153: Lee Rinker, Stuart 75-78; 156: D. Whitmore, Temple Terrace 80-76; 157: Butscher, Ocala 77-80; Pete DuPriest, Avon Park 80-77.

**FIRST FLIGHT — 161:** C. Stallings, Sarasota 81-80; 165: Dan Fischer, Temple Terrace 82-83; 168: Bill Bellflower, Wauchula 86-82.