

St. John's School Electronic Newsletter June

Golf Tournament.

By: Phil Droege

Dawn broke gloriously over Argyle Country club on May 19th, the rescheduled date for the Ann Nalls Memorial golf tournament. At this early hour there was one lone golfer out on the driving range hitting ball after ball into the morning mist. Charlie Hathway was determined not to have a repeat of last year where he set the course record for highest score (208) for an 18-hole round. Over the past year he purchased all the latest equipment, spent hours practicing and read innumerable self help books. Even with this preparation he felt he needed something more to put him over the edge, so he hired a personal golf coach. Sister Kathleen was also up early on this Monday morning stationing herself five yards behind the practice tee repeating over and over, "Charlie, you have to keep your head down" and "Maybe you shouldn't swear so much".

The moment of truth came on the first tee. Would all the preparation pay off? A hush fell over the crowd as Charlie teed up his ball. A gasp went up from the crowd when he pulled out his driver. After the other golfers positioned themselves in less precarious positions, Charlie addressed the ball, started his textbook backswing, and then came through the ball. On contact the ball went screaming dead right off the tee, shattering the plate glass window of the clubhouse. Silence fell over the gallery and Sister Kathleen was heard muttering to herself, "I can only do so much. I am not a miracle worker. I should have listened to my Lutheran mother and become a nurse." These thoughts quickly passed and she went up and gave Charlie a hug and said, "Charlie Hathway, St. John's is special because you are here." This gave Charlie the will to go on and after writing a check to cover the damages and apologizing to the waiter who needed stitches, Charlie chipped out of a butter dish on his way to a very respectable round of 192.

While there was plenty of drama and excitement on the course that day, there was an equal amount off the course as well. First off the entire tournament committee, along with a host of volunteers, did a wonderful job of pulling this tournament together in spite of the weather, which had postponed the tournament from the week before. Secondly a great round of thanks to all of the participants who played golf, bid on the auction items and behaved themselves throughout the day. Lastly, and most importantly, the tournament raised approximately \$9000 for the parish. This was just one of the countless donations of time, money and prayer by the members of the St. John's Community that helped not only reduce the parish debt, but also helped the SJE School Endowment fund reach the \$1 million mark.