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One Dollar

Pipes takes FSGA Seniors at Indian Creek

BY LARRY BUSH

MIAMI BEACH

Pursie Pipes might have more than the usual aches and pains of golfers his age, but he didn't need any excuses when he captured the Florida State GA's Seniors Championship at the exclusive Indian Creek CC.

Pipes, 65, lost the middle three fingers of his left hand in an oil-drilling accident in 1940, but it apparently has had little effect on his golf over the years. His victory here on May 1

was the 170th in a career heretofore unheralded in Florida.

A MEMBER at Indian Creek but a winter resident of Boca West in Boca Raton, Pipes shot 73-72—145 over the 6300-yard course, 1-over par for the route. He won by four strokes over veteran senior campaigner Ed Tutwiler of Boca Raton, who had 74-75—149.

It was the first time in the history of Indian Creek, built on an island in Biscayne Bay in

the late 1920s, that a tournament had been scheduled involving non-members. The event drew 122 starters, only two of whom broke 150, Pipes and Tutwiler.

"I strained my back on the 13th hole today (Sunday) and didn't play too well coming in," said Pipes, a native of Bristow, Okla., but now a resident of Mount Vernon, Ill. "But I've always been able to hit the ball a long way."

PIPES THREE-PUTTED the 15th and also

bogeyed the 16th, allowing Tutwiler to pull within two strokes. But Pursie had birdied the 14th from three feet and did the same at No. 17, from the same distance, as Tutwiler bogeyed to establish the final margin.

"I had birdied the 15th and parred the 16th, but I hit a bad drive at the 17th," said Tutwiler, runner-up in the U.S. Amateur in 1964 and a perennial challenger in the U.S. Senior Amateur in recent years. He operates a

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PIPES TAKES STATE SENIOR

Pursie Pipes, beating out veteran Ed Tutwiler, scored a convincing victory in the State Seniors Championship at Indian Creek Country Club in Miami Beach.

Pipes, one of the most interesting individuals in Florida golf, finished with a 145 total, 1-over-par. Tutwiler had a 149 score, while no other player in the 122-man field was able to break 150.

Coming down the stretch at exclusive Indian Creek, Pipes — a member at the club — gave Tutwiler a chance by taking consecutive bogeys at 15 and 16. He reasserted himself, however, with a birdie at 17.

"I strained my back on the 13th hole and didn't play too well coming in,"

said Pipes, who has lived in Mount Vernon, Ill., for years. He now spends the winter months in Florida.

Tutwiler pulled within two strokes after Pipes bogeyed the 17th and Pipes came up with his birdie.

Pipes, 65, lost the middle three fingers of his left hand in a oil-drilling accident in 1940. Regardless, he has won — by his own count — 170 amateur tournaments.

Pipes, who has been in the oil and gas drilling business for years, began playing golf as a caddy when he was nine. He says he has never had a formal lesson.

Flight winners in the State Seniors were Norton Harris, first; Ken Young, second; Lynn Lee, third; John Vogler,

fourth; and Tom Miller, fifth.

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT: 145 - Pursie Pipes, Boca Raton; 149 - Ed Tutwiler, Boca Raton; 153 - Richard Stackhouse, Boynton Beach, Carl Gustafson, Cape Coral; 154 - L.M. Brown, St. Pete, John Miller, Naples; 155 - Bernie Powers, Winter Park, Joe Vergara, Ft. Myers; 156 - Henry Russell, Surfside, Jim Roberts, Casselberry, Earl Morris, Naples, Jack Deutsch, Clearwater, Tom Draper, Boca Raton; 157 - Hank Phillips, Tampa; 160 - Roy Chenderlin, Oldsmar; 161 - Earle Paxson, Ormond Beach, Jim Hamilton, Orlando.

