

Martha Burk targets 7th annual Veggy Open
Event starts at noon August 6 – evening August 10th

First it was the Masters, now she is going after the most prestigious golf tournament in the world. Yes, you guessed it, the guys only Veggy Open. She has accosted the executive council and now plans to protest this year's event. Thus, we are throwing Martha a curve ball, staying at the Flamingo Hilton instead of the Trop and only golfing Thursday and Friday.

Last year, 10 of the finest took part in a variety of activities. Scooter, Freck, Gil Dexter, Narke, Redneck, Roar, Rhino, Eldee and T Wally had an awesome time. Shows, roller coasters, gaming, poolside euchre, golfing etc. This year, 2 additional events are set for Saturday. The 4-mile fun run and bungee jumping.

There are some dormant members we hope to revitalize this year. WIU's finest, including K Codo, Smithers, Derf, Griggy and Travy, as well as Wheeling's finest, Vinny "Spunky" Azzano. Lets get back on track with friends from the past.

Golfing will be Thursday at Badlands and Friday will be the official Veggy Open at Dragon Ridge. After golf on Friday, lunch will be at Gloria's place in Henderson. Can anyone challenge 3-time Open champ Scooter? He thinks #4 is right around the corner.

Golfing reservations and Hawaiian shirt size need to be in before May 31st. We were the talk of the town last year with our happening golf shirts.

Looking forward to seeing you at Scooters pre-Veggy family party at his place on Saturday, August 2nd.

Although our immediate families are the most important to us, getting together with friends near and far, is also important in keeping relationships strong.

"Life is precious, spend time with friends while you can."

7th annual Veggy Open most competitive yet

Scootery, Ronny, Vinny, Frecky, Gilly, Rednecky, Derfy, Dexxy, Griggy, Travy, and Wally rocked Veggy for 5 solid days.

We came in with high hopes on Wednesday and left with empty pockets by Sunday. The Flamingo has been blackballed from all future Veggy events. Community and individual gaming was not good for most. The only time we actually got money back was when we visited the friendly ATM machine. However, after several trips there, it even stopped giving us money back.

We ate well and drew quite the attention with every member, except Spunky, wearing our 2003 blue flower Veggy Open shirts. Those waitresses were on the ball as they asked, "are all you guys together?" before they seated us for dinner.

The Thursday qualifying round of golf at Badlands resulted in a few surprises. 3- time champion Scooter fell out of the top 4 grouping as Vinny, Ronny and Freck joined Redneck in the fearsome foursome group. We were all tucked in by the 9:00 pm curfew Thursday evening, getting a good night sleep before the big event.

The competition for the 7th annual Veggy Open was brutal. As the fearsome foursome was leading the way, Scooter was falling back, but his partner Travy was having one of his finest rounds. Griggy, Dexter, Derfy and T Wally were pretty much out of it after the 1st hole. Gil couldn't take the pressure and had to withdraw from the event. Going into the 18th hole, it was between, Western Illinois or Southern Illinois for the championship. Yes, a Leatherneck did prevail. Congratulations to 2- time champion Redneck for shooting a 92 on a tough Dragon Ridge course. Travy, even with a disastrous 10, shot 93 and Vinny was right there with a 94. Vinny is definitely the most improved player and should concentrate on golf instead of craps. Lunch at Gloria's was the best lasagna yet. It was nice to have Mr. and Mrs. Reif join us again.

We were able to watch the Bears, play some euchre at the pool and seemed to get some more sleep compared to previous years. Gil,

Scooter and T Wally spent some quality time one morning at the pool. One cold one lead to several others as we reminisced about old times. Scooter lead us to the most happening Casino, Bourbon Street one night. What an exciting time we had there. We did visit the Trop and had a good time at our old stomping ground. Sunday night, Gil and T Wally broke the bank at community paigow. As usual, a good time was had by all. We hope to have Narke burger and the Roar man back next year. It appears we might do the Palms next. The executive council is always open for suggestions. Mark your calendars for upcoming events. October 3-5 WIU homecoming, Super bowl ski trip in Lake Tahoe, and the 8th annual Veggy Open takes place August 4-8, 2004.

It was great to have 11 of the finest together for a few days of good memories, good times. As always, I look forward to the next get together. Finally, Go Cubbies, bring Chicago a championship!

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