

Vail Daily

Prize golf balls fell from the sky

Golf Balls From Heaven raises money for kids' golf programs

Daily Staff Report Vail, CO Colorado September 15, 2007

EDWARDS — Sunday morning brought the sunshine and families out to support the Youth Foundation's First Tee 3rd Annual Golf Balls from Heaven charity ball drop at Freedom Park in Miller Ranch.

Wind grounded the balloon that was supposed to shower the park with 1,000 golf balls, so a replacement helicopter was brought in.

Individuals and businesses had purchased numbered golf and the ones that landed in a series of golf holes earned their owners' prizes, including jewelry from the Golden Bear, a ski pass and restaurant gift certificates. The grand prize winner was Pentii Tofferi of the Cordillera Golf Club.

Franklin and David Reilly watch a helicopter full of golf balls take off on its mission to shower the field.

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After the ball drop, the helicopter gave kids and their families a flight around the valley. Then there was the First Tee Golf Classic at the Sonnenalp Golf Course.

The event raises money for The First Tee of Eagle County, which gives kids of all backgrounds a chance to learn golf. The local organizations has served more than 600 kids in its after-school program and the First Tee Sports and Fitness for Life Camp.

For more information on the Youth Foundation's First Tee program, visit www.theyouthfoundation.org or call (970)763-7000.



A helicopter drop golf balls on Freedom Park in Edwards during the Youth Foundation's First Tee 3rd Annual Golf Balls from Heaven charity ball drop.
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The First Tee Golf Classic men's 1st place low gross winners — top Row: Susie Davis, Dave Kolquist, Susan Milhoan; bottom row: Mike Stepanek, Jeff Boyer, Scott Webster and Mike Thompson
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