

Golf club head covers are locally made

Merchandise offered at Greater Hickory Classic

HICKORY — Fifty-seven years ago, Mike Schmidt's grandmother hand-knit a set of covers for her grandson's golf clubs. For every single round of golf Schmidt has played these last 57 years, his grandmother's covers have been right there.

"And they are still in great condition!" said Schmidt, own-

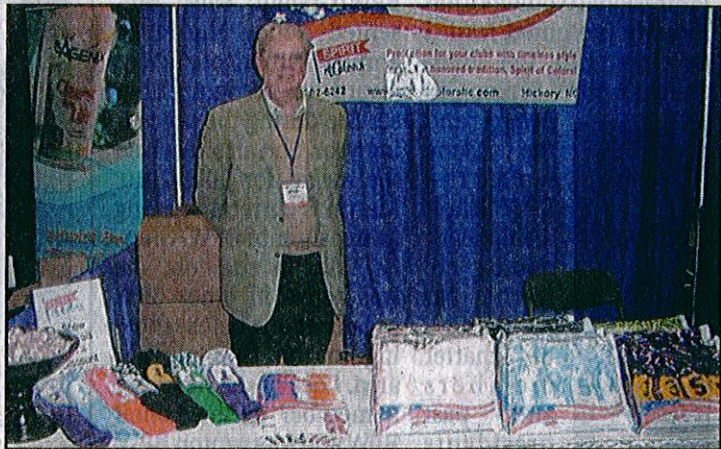
er of Spirit of Colors, LLC.

"I have been asked countless times over the years where I got them."

Today, Spirit of Colors produces and sells a wide range of knitted covers. This year, for the first time, Spirit of Colors has a booth at the Greater Hickory Classic at Rock Barn. The covers are produced in a wide variety of colors, or can be ordered in any combination of over 40 different colors.

"The color combinations

See **COVERS**, Page 5B



Mike Schmidt is shown with Spirit of Colors merchandise.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Covers

From Page 1B

are almost endless, so anyone should be able to design their own covers that best capture their particular pride," Schmidt said.

When Schmidt moved to Hickory a few years ago, he was involved in residential development, but soon found that the economy would no longer support his business. While looking for other avenues for work,

someone asked him about his golf covers and suggested, "That's what you need to get into."

Starting from scratch, Schmidt set about identifying area suppliers for yarns, knitting, dyeing, packaging and distribution to produce and distribute his brand of head covers to buyers all over the country.

"I knew right away that this was the place where I could successfully reproduce the colorful, knitted golf club head cover that I have enjoyed for so many years," he said.

Schmidt was soon introduced to Rodney Sigmon and Dan St. Louis at the Manufacturing Solutions Center, and things began to develop.

"They take their experience and give me some great direction. I couldn't be happier," Schmidt said.

With their help, Schmidt has identified local materials, manufacturers and distributors and every step of the process now happens within 20 miles of his home in Hickory.

Schmidt also has high praise for Hickory.

"Everyone here has opened their hearts to me. I couldn't have moved to a nicer place. Hickory's craftsmen inspired me to create a quality product, Spirit of Colors Wood Covers. All made right here in the USA and to the same high standards of my grandmother's original head covers. They're built to last and I'd put them up against anybody out there."

Schmidt said Spirit of Colors really exemplifies two things: spirit and love of country and an individual's spirit or team pride with a certain school, univer-

sity, business, corporate event or cause.

One of the most popular color combinations for the head covers is pink and white. For each set of pink and white head covers that are sold, Spirit of Colors makes a contribution to cancer research.

The Spirit of Colors booth at the Greater Hickory Classic at Rock Barn is across from the leaderboard.

On the Net:

www.spiritofcolorslc.com