LOCALS

Chanticleer ranked top

Ratings include 10 from area

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In the 40 years since it opened, the Chanticleer Course at Greenville Country Club has been at the top of the game, a crown jewel in a region rich in golf gems.

Chanticleer again was ranked one of the state's top courses by the South Carolina Golf Course Ratings Panel.

At No. 5, Chanticleer is the highest of 10 Upstate courses in the rankings. The others are Clinton's Musgrove Mill; four Cliffs communities' courses; two that host the BMW Charity Pro-Am, Thornblade Club and Country Club of Spartanburg; The Reserve at Lake Keowee, and Chanticleer's companion Riverside Course. The Cliff's at Keowee Spring debuted at No. 31.

The best courses are ranked in even-numbered years by a panel composed of golf enthusiasts representing a range of occupations, handicaps and backgrounds, according to a release.

Public courses are rated alone in odd-numbered years.

Greg Hobbs, Chanticleer general manager, said the advantage of receiving the ranking is a point of pride. For 30 years, Chanticleer was among Golf Digest's top 100

Upstate course

courses.

"I think it's the kind of thing the members want to hear about their club," he said. "When you have new individuals coming into the area, it's always nice if they've already heard about your club before they get here."

Architect Rees Jones, son of course designer Robert Trent Jones, periodically tweaks the course, and last year he refashioned the approach to No. 18 to put a premium on shot-making.

"We certainly enjoy a high rating," Hobbs said, "but we certainly don't go out of our way to try to get there."

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