



**Got Tiger?**

- Ernie Els is playing Harbour Town this year, but he, Tiger Woods, Vijay Singh and Phil Mickelson have been seldom seen around here in recent years. But tournament officials say the event's prestige is intact.

— Page 11-D

# 10 Who can WIN

**Fighting chance**

- Sports editor Jeff Kidd tells you which 10 golfers have the best chance of winning this year's Verizon Heritage ... and why.

— Page 14-D



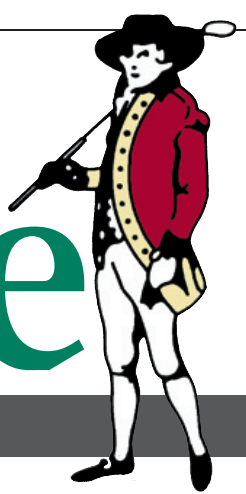
**No. 16 gets stripped**

- A fairway bunker on Harbour Town's 16th hole — a source of controversy during the 2004 Heritage — gets a new sand filling and will be played under a new set of rules.

— Page 22-D

# The Verizon Heritage

THE ISLAND PACKET • SECTION D • APRIL 13, 2006



# Mr. Nice Guy

Peter Lonard captured his first PGA Tour tournament title at the 2005 Verizon Heritage. But winning hasn't changed this bloke.



STORY BY JEFF KIDD • The Island Packet

**OK,** perhaps a final-round 75 in the 2005 Verizon Heritage wasn't the most awe-inspiring clincher for Peter Lonard's first PGA Tour victory.

And perhaps in the aftermath of his final-round meltdown, Irishman Darren Clarke got more sympathy than Lonard did kudos.

Looking back, perhaps it wasn't the best way for Lonard to be introduced to an American audience. So let's try again.

Meet Peter Lonard.

A guy who fought back from a debilitating disease to become one of Australia's top golfers. A guy who couldn't tell you how much he makes in endorsement money because it's all being socked away for retirement. A guy who still feels awkward having a shoe-shine boy service his cleats in PGA Tour locker rooms. A guy whose reaction to the biggest victory of his career was to open his bar tab and let everyone else spend some of his earnings.

Meet Peter Lonard ... a pretty good bloke.



File/The Associated Press

That tells everyone — your competitors and, perhaps more importantly, yourself — that you belong out here, that you're in the club.

Unless you're Peter Lonard.

He says he didn't need a tartan jacket to tell him he was talented enough for the PGA Tour. No, what makes Lonard uneasy is the trappings of the American tour — courtesy cars, valet

parking, shoe shines in the locker room.

"When you're used to doing all those things for yourself, it feels a little strange," Lonard said.

Lonard said since arriving in the United States four years ago, he's made more money hawking a golf ball than he did with all his other endorsements combined in his European Tour days. Nonetheless, "I can't say I live more comfortably

or spend more money," said Lonard, who sends all his endorsement money to his financial adviser to be squirreled away in a retirement fund.

So what's the most immediate benefit Lonard enjoys as a result of his Heritage victory?

"Just a few less people calling me 'Justin,'" Lonard quipped, noting that because of the similarity of their last names, he sometimes is mistaken for another Heritage champion, Justin Leonard.

Actually, Lonard admits to a few other advantages.

The 38-year-old native of Sydney, Australia, has been something of a workaholic throughout his career, playing events on the European and Australasian tours, even while playing a full slate on the PGA Tour. This season, though, he vows to pare back his 40-tournament-a-year schedule and won't play in Europe.

But that doesn't necessarily mean less travel.

Lonard took two weeks off following his Heritage victory last season. But according to a PGA Tour media official, when the tour pulled up its Hilton Head Island stakes and set up camp in Houston the next week, Lonard turned up there, too, figuring he could best help his sponsors cash in on his success by making a few appearances.

In early March, Lonard returned to Hilton Head for the Heritage's media day. He wasn't the first defending champion to do so — Stewart Cink and Jose Coceres also paid visits — but he was the first to stick around for a round of golf with a duffing band of writers and talking heads.

And if Lonard came across as a bit vanilla during the 2005 Heritage, he was the life of the party at media day.

Please see **CHAMPION**, Page 8-D

• Complete spectator guide, with parking map of Sea Pines — Page 2-D

• A recap of last year's tournament, plus a list of Heritage tournament records — Page 5-D

**3 WSAV On Your Side**

**Log on and stay linked!**

- Check out The Island Packet's Web site for tournament video and audio clips and links to video clips from WSAV.

[www.islandpacket.com](http://www.islandpacket.com)

• Harbour Town Golf Links was one tough hombre last season, ranking as the fourth toughest track on the PGA Tour — Page 23-D

• Former Hilton Head resident D.J. Trahan hopes to change his luck on his old home course — Page 28-D

## Spectator guide

### SCHEDULE

#### Thursday

- **First round** — all day
- **Tartan Club cocktail party** — Harbour Town Conference Center, 6:30 p.m.

#### Friday

- **Second round** — all day

#### Saturday

- **Third round** — all day

#### Sunday

- **Final round** — all day
- **Closing ceremonies** — conclusion of play

### PARKING

As you reach Hilton Head Island, take the Cross Island Parkway to Sea Pines Resort (a \$1 toll is required), or continue down William Hilton Parkway. Traffic will flow through the main gate of Sea Pines Resort on the south end of the island. Once inside the main gate, security personnel will direct you to the first available parking lot. Those with color-coded and numbered parking passes should follow the directional signs. Please note the lot number you park in so you can take the appropriate shuttle back at the conclusion of play. Handicap parking passes will be issued by Sea Pines Security, located on Greenwood Drive in the CSA building, one mile inside the main gate. To reach the security office, call 671-7170.

### WILL CALL

Will call is designed for last-minute sales, pick up and redistribution of tournament badges, which can be dropped off at the ticket office adjacent to the clubhouse or at will call in the Sea Pines Welcome Center parking lot on Greenwood Drive. A picture ID will be required to receive tickets. Will call will be open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday through Saturday and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

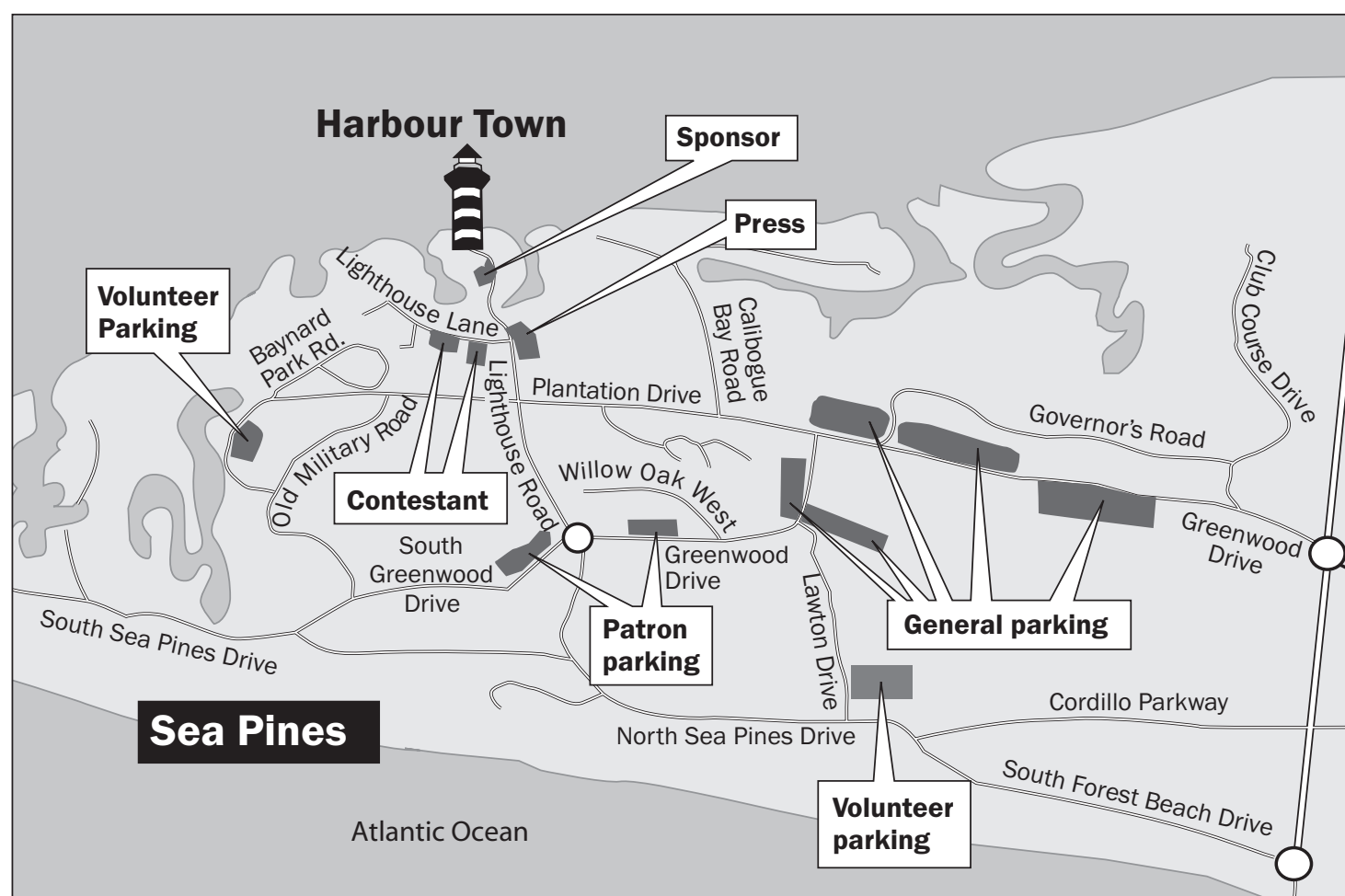
### ADMISSION GATE HOURS

The ticket office next to the clubhouse at Harbour Town Golf Links will be open from 7 a.m. until the end of play Thursday through Sunday.

### TICKETS

- **Clubhouse badge** — admission to grounds, club-

## Heritage parking



File/The Island Packet

house and Heritage pavilion.

- **Grounds badge** — admission to course grounds. Practice-round badges will not be honored during actual tournament play Thursday through Sunday.

### AUTOGRAPH POLICY

A player may not sign autographs after the start of his round and until the round has been completed, except at his option during suspension of play. Designated autograph areas are located near player scoring at the 9th and 18th greens, although their use is optional to the players. Autograph items will be limited to a size of 8.5 inches by 11 inches. Clipboards will not be allowed.

### PROHIBITED ITEMS

The following are prohibited on the golf course and can be checked at the ticket office: Cameras; cell phones; radios or other portable music devices; beepers (unless vibrating); signs or banners; coolers; backpacks, packages, bags or purses larger than 6 inches by 6 inches; firearms; chair carry bags. Also, chairs left overnight on the course will be removed by the maintenance staff.

### FOR YOUR PROTECTION

- Drink fluids to avoid dehydration.
- Wear headgear and suntan lotion or sun block for protection from the sun.
- Wear soft-soled shoes but no spiked golf shoes.
- First-aid stations are

located between holes 1 and 9.

- Stay behind gallery ropes and obey marshals' commands.
- Remain still through each shot, and do not move until all players in a group have holed out.
- Display badge at all times.

• Kneel or sit if you are in the front row of bleachers or next to gallery ropes.

- Dispose of trash properly.
- If a siren sounds indicating bad weather approaching, seek shelter immediately. Leaderboards also will notify spectators of weather warnings.

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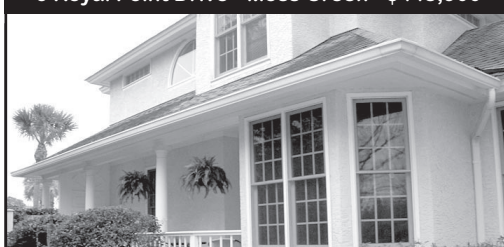
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6 Royal Point Drive • Moss Creek • \$448,900



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521 Queen's Grant • Palmetto Dunes • \$469,000



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## VERIZON HERITAGE

## Viewing strategy key to seeing Heritage action at Harbour Town

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The annual Verizon Heritage provides a unique opportunity to see first-hand the personalities, excitement and drama of the PGA Tour.

Some believe the best way to watch the event is at home in front of a television set. At times, that method does have its advantages. With a little advance planning, however, the on-site spectator can get as close to the action as the television cameras and see a whole lot more.

After fans are inside Sea Pines, they'll be able to park in one of several general parking lots off Greenwood Drive, Plantation Drive and near Lawton Stables. Designated shuttle buses will be serving each parking lot to take fans to Harbour Town Golf Links. All parking and shuttle-busing is free.

Once they reach the course, fans will find spectator bleachers set up around holes 13, 15, 16 and 18. The bleachers also are close to concession stands so spectators can stay in one spot for a long time and not worry about starving.

Another method of watching play is to sit by any other hole on the course and watch the field pass through. In this case, it is advisable to take along something to sit on, such as a folded blanket or a collapsible chair.

**One of the most popular viewing spots at Harbour Town is the spectator mounds surrounding the ninth green, located directly in front of the clubhouse. If you plan to sit there, arrive early, no matter which day you attend the tournament — the area fills up quickly.**

Yet another popular method is to follow a specific golfer around at least part of the course. Daily pairings sheets, which include starting times, are available to the public, so it is easy to find out when a favorite golfer will begin his round each day of the tournament. Daily pairings also are published in The Island Packet.

Also, there are large maps and scoreboards set up around the golf course that indicate where individual golfers are playing, so if you miss someone's tee time on the first hole, it is relatively easy to catch up with him as he plays the course.

One of the most popular viewing spots at Harbour Town is the spectator mounds surrounding the ninth green, located directly in front of the clubhouse. If you plan to sit there, arrive early, no matter which day you attend the tournament — the area fills up quickly.

Two holes at Harbour Town, Nos. 8 and 11, are routinely listed among the most difficult

on the PGA Tour. These are both good spots for watching the Heritage field. Spectators can witness some great moments at either one, on any day of the tournament.

If you prefer not to walk or sit all day, a good way to watch the proceedings at the Heritage is to follow a golfer with an early tee time part of the way around the course, then stay at one particular hole and watch the remainder of the field play through.

You can also use the opposite approach — stay by one hole for a period of time until a favorite player comes through and then follow that player around the rest of the course.

On Saturday and Sunday, unless you arrive very early, don't plan to sit in the bleachers on any of the final holes. They will be packed, and if you should have to leave your seat for any reason, it will probably be occupied when you return. Sit by some other hole or walk around the course during play.



File/The Associated Press

The gallery gathers around the 18th green during an early Heritage tournament at Harbour Town Golf Links. If you're serious about watching the action, arrive at the course with a plan.

## Proper etiquette allows you, fellow patrons to enjoy show

FROM STAFF REPORTS

You'll enjoy this year's Verizon Heritage all the more if you and your fellow spectators follow a few basic rules of gallery etiquette.

The "courtesies of the course" are more than mere niceties and the last thing a spectator wants to do is make a spectacle of himself.

Here are a few basic rules of etiquette golf fans should remember:

- The cardinal rule of golf matches is to be quiet and motionless while a player is preparing for a stroke. If a player overshoots a green, move away promptly and give him plenty of room.

- Spectators are required to wear admission badges at all times while on the course.

- Do not attempt to talk to a player or ask

for his autograph until after he has left the 18th green. Tournament play requires intense concentration, even when the player is not actually preparing to hit the ball.

- Adhere to the tournament marshals' instructions. When a marshal calls, "Stand please," stop where you are. If the call is "fore please," a golf ball is headed in your direction, so watch out.

- Spectators must remain behind the guide ropes at all times. They may cross fairways only at the direction of the marshals at designated crossovers. Never walk across greens or sand traps.

- Viewers in the front of a gallery should kneel or sit so that people in the rear also can watch the play.

- Galleries should be formed away from

private residences that line the fairways. You wouldn't want a bunch of strangers walking through your azaleas, would you?

Also, the following items are prohibited on the golf course and may be checked at the ticket office adjacent to the clubhouse before entering:

- Pets;
- Radios;
- Signs or banners;
- Cell phones;
- Beepers, unless vibrating;
- Bicycles.

Also, only authorized press photographers — those with official credentials — are permitted to bring camera equipment on the course during the tournament.

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# VERIZON HERITAGE

# A TOURNAMENT by yet another name

## Heritage gets new moniker after title sponsor sold

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

HILTON HEAD ISLAND'S ANNUAL PGA TOUR STOP WILL OPERATE UNDER ITS FOURTH NAME IN FIVE YEARS THIS SEASON AND HAS CHANGED ITS LOGO AFTER A SWITCH OF TITLE SPONSORS.

THE HERITAGE CLASSIC FOUNDATION, THE NONPROFIT GROUP THAT RUNS THE EVENT, AND VERIZON, WHICH PURCHASED PREVIOUS TITLE SPONSOR MCI, UNVEILED THE NEW LOGO AND THE "VERIZON HERITAGE" MONIKER IN JANUARY.

The new logo resembles the previous one, which depicted a waist-up version of the "Gentleman Golfer" alongside the tournament name, "MCI Heritage." The new emblem incorporates the Verizon company logo with a full-length depiction of the Gentleman Golfer, which also is part of the Heritage Classic Foundation's logo.

Wilmot said Verizon first pitched a logo that did not include the Gentleman Golfer, "but when all is said and done, the tournament still belongs to the Heritage Classic Foundation, and we felt like we couldn't strip away that identity."

Verizon has committed about \$40 million in sponsorship money to the tournament over the next five years, Wilmot said. That deal was negotiated with telecommunications company MCI, which was purchased by Verizon for \$8.5 billion on Jan. 6. Although the MCI name remains in use as a Verizon subsidiary, the new parent company wanted its name attached to the tournament, Wilmot said.

Reflecting changes in the tournament's sponsorship, the Heritage has gone by eight different names since its inception in 1969. Here is a rundown of the names under which the tournament has operated:

- 

• **Verizon Heritage Classic (today)** — "Verizon" replaces "MCI" in the tournament name. The new logo incorporates the Verizon company emblem with a full-length depiction of the "Gentleman Golfer," affectionately called "Willie" by the tournament staff.
- 

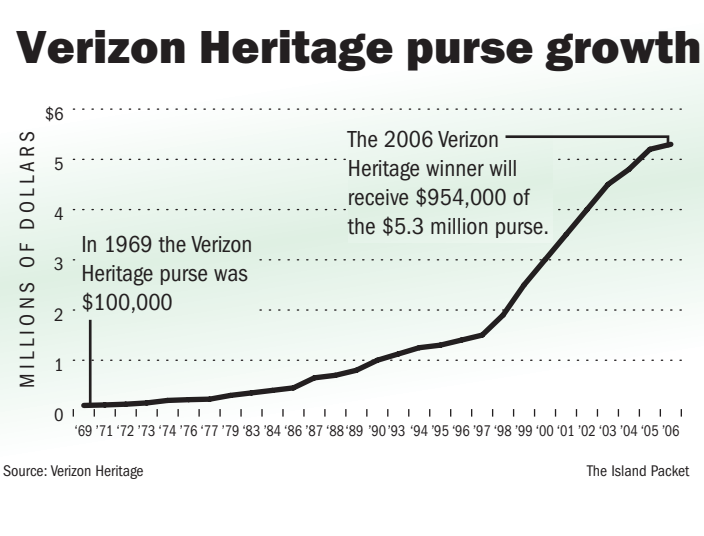
• **MCI Heritage (spring 2003 to Feb. 2, 2006)** — When WorldCom declared bankruptcy in the wake of an accounting scandal in the summer of 2002, the Heritage Classic Foundation dropped the besmirched telecommunications company as its title sponsor. WorldCom reorganized under the banner of its former subsidiary, MCI, and the company returned as title sponsor on the day before the start of the 2003 event.
- 

• **The Heritage (summer 2002 through spring 2003)** — After WorldCom filed for bankruptcy, this name and logo were used while the Heritage Classic Foundation searched for a new title sponsor. The tournament was never officially played under this name, but the logo appeared on much of the signage and apparel during tournament week because officials didn't have time to make up new materials for MCI.
- 

• **The WorldCom Classic — The Heritage of Golf (2001-2002)** — The longest and most typographically awkward of the tournament's monikers, the name change followed WorldCom's purchase of long distance company MCI.
- **The MCI Classic (1995-2000)** — Though the tournament was still often referred to as the "Heritage," it wasn't part of the official title for this five-year period.
- **MCI Heritage Classic (1987-1994)** — The second-longest used name was adopted after MCI agreed to serve as title sponsor, rescuing the tournament from a financial crisis that threatened to see the event relocated or eliminated.
- **Sea Pines Heritage Classic (1971-1986)** — The longest-running name was adopted as a marketing tool to publicize the surrounding plantation, which was developed by tournament founder Charles Fraser.
- **Heritage Classic (1969-1970)** — Fraser commissioned a study to show that golf's genesis in the United States took place in nearby Charleston, not in the Northeast as historians previously had asserted. Fraser played off the findings of this study and named the PGA Tour event he founded the "Heritage Classic."

**Verizon Heritage purse up \$100,000 to \$5.3 million**

It's the 14th consecutive increase, but the smallest in nearly a decade. From 1997 through 2005, the purse rose by an average of \$335,000 a year.

# Wilmot glad he hopped to Heritage

## Director's job beat Easter Bunny gig

BY JUSTIN JARRETT  
THE ISLAND PACKET

Either way, Steve Wilmot would have been a busy man this week. But it's safe to say the Verizon Heritage tournament director made the right decision 20 years ago.

"I was playing Santa Claus at the biggest mall in South Jersey," Wilmot said. "It was either be the Easter Bunny or come down here."

So Wilmot gave up his gig at Cherry Hill Mall and moved to Myrtle Beach to take a crack at carving a living in golf. He wound up running tournaments for the Carolinas PGA section, during which time he became acquainted with former tournament director Mike Stevens and Sea Pines' director of sports Cary Corbitt, who convinced Wilmot to move a bit farther south.

What ensued has become one of the longest running jokes in these parts.

"I always tell people I came (to do this) for 10 months, 20 years ago," Wilmot quipped Feb. 27 during his 20th Heritage media day, and his 10th as tournament director.

When he arrived, the Sea Pines Company was in bad shape financially, and the tournament was in jeopardy. Wilmot helped turn the situation around — Sea Pines was restructured and a separate nonprofit entity, the Heritage Classic Foundation, was created to run the tournament.

The move is still paying off for Wilmot. After 10 years as assistant tournament director under Stevens, Wilmot took the reins in 1997, and the tournament has seen unprecedented growth under his guidance.

In 1999, a sponsorship survey conducted by the Chicago firm IEG revealed that the Heritage Classic Foundation was short-changing itself on sponsorship dollars. Based on a concurrent Clemson University study analyzing the tournament's economic impact, IEG's report told the foundation to up the ante.

"They found that we had undervalued our sponsorships, and one of the first things I did as tournament director was basically doubled the value of the sponsorships," Wilmot said. "And you know what? Nobody balked."

The Heritage continues to reap the rewards.

The tournament's purse has grown for 14 consecutive years, up



Harmony Motter/The Island Packet

After bouncing around jobs with the USFL, the Carolinas PGA and even as a shopping mall Easter Bunny, Wilmot has carved out a niche in 20 years with the Verizon Heritage.

from \$5.2 million to \$5.3 million this year with a record \$954,000 going to the champion. And the purse has more than tripled during Wilmot's tenure as tournament director, up from \$1.5 million in 1997.

As a result of the rapid growth, the Heritage Classic Foundation doled out more than \$1.5 million in charitable grants in 2005, bringing the total to nearly \$13 million in donations since 1987.

About the only hiccup the tournament has experienced in recent years has been its ever-evolving name, a consequence of corporate overhauls within the title sponsor organization. This keeps Wilmot's closet in limbo as he constantly swaps out clothing with the old logo for duds with the new one. It also supplies him with a joke that's sure to get a laugh ... in the right company, anyway.

"I don't know how many people can say they've had 20 different business cards with the same phone number on all of them," he says. "But we've said before if this is our biggest problem, it's not a bad problem when you know there are some events out on tour that are going away."

Wilmot isn't averse to change. He says he's constantly working to find new ways to market the event and keep the growth curve going upward. Each year brings new lessons, and even after 20 years of putting on the same show, Wilmot

says he's not even close to having everything figured out.

"The day I stop learning is the day I need to get out of the business," Wilmot often says. "And

I plan on being in the business for a long time."

Contact Justin Jarrett at 706-8120 or [jjarrett@islandpacket.com](mailto:jjarrett@islandpacket.com). To comment on this story, please visit

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## 2005 Heritage recap

Results from the 2005 Heritage, played at Harbour Town Golf Links; Yardage: 6,973; Par: 71.

1. Peter Lonard, \$936,000	62-74-66-75	—	277	-7
T2. Jim Furyk, \$343,200	71-68-71-69	—	279	-5
T2. Billy Andrade, \$343,200	72-69-70-68	—	279	-5
T2. Davis Love III, \$343,200	69-70-69-71	—	279	-5
T2. Darren Clarke, \$343,200	65-65-73-76	—	279	-5
T6. Thomas Levet, \$174,200	64-74-73-69	—	280	-4
T6. Stephen Ames, \$174,200	71-69-69-71	—	280	-4
T6. Rod Pampling, \$174,200	70-69-68-73	—	280	-4
9. Nick O'Hern, \$150,800	68-71-73-69	—	281	-3
T10. S. Verplank, \$130,000	73-70-70-69	—	282	-2
T10. Michael Allen, \$130,000	71-70-71-70	—	282	-2
T10. Matt Kuchar, \$130,000	72-68-71-71	—	282	-2
T13. Pat Perez, \$97,500	72-70-71-70	—	283	-1
T13. Bart Bryant, \$97,500	72-68-70-73	—	283	-1
T13. Loren Roberts, \$97,500	71-70-68-74	—	283	-1
T13. Jose Maria Olazabal, \$97,500	69-71-69-74	—	283	-1
T17. Jimmy Walker, \$83,200	68-71-71-74	—	284	E
T18. Dudley Hart, \$70,200	71-69-74-71	—	285	+1
T18. Fred Funk, \$70,200	72-74-69-70	—	285	+1
T18. Greg Owen, \$70,200	70-72-72-71	—	285	+1
T18. Nick Price, \$70,200	69-71-72-73	—	285	+1
T22. Todd Hamilton, \$54,080	71-69-76-71	—	287	+3
T22. Bob Estes, \$54,080	69-74-72-72	—	287	+3
T22. Bob Tway, \$54,080	72-70-72-73	—	287	+3
T25. Jonathan Kaye, \$38,851.43	70-74-74-70	—	288	+4
T25. Peter Jacobsen, \$38,851.43	74-70-74-70	—	288	+4
T25. Brian Davis, \$38,851.43	71-76-70-71	—	288	+4
T25. C. Beckman, \$38,851.43	68-71-77-72	—	288	+4
T25. Corey Pavin, \$38,851.43	73-73-70-72	—	288	+4
T25. Daniel Chopra, \$38,851.43	73-73-69-73	—	288	+4
T25. Brad Faxon, \$38,851.42	72-75-67-74	—	288	+4
T32. B. Bateman, \$28,773.34	69-73-77-70	—	289	+5
T32. Pat Sheehan, \$28,773.34	66-70-80-73	—	289	+5
T32. Geoff Ogilvie, \$28,773.33	71-69-76-73	—	289	+5
T32. W. Austin, \$28,773.33	69-70-76-74	—	289	+5
T32. Brandt Jobe, \$28,773.33	69-73-70-77	—	289	+5
T32. Joey Snyder III, \$28,773.33	74-67-69-79	—	289	+5
T38. Steve Allan, \$21,840	71-72-75-72	—	290	+6
T38. Steve Jones, \$21,840	71-72-75-72	—	290	+6
T38. Steve Jones, \$21,840	71-72-75-72	—	290	+6
T38. Steve Jones, \$21,840	71-72-75-72	—	290	+6
T38. Steve Jones, \$21,840	71-72-75-72	—	290	+6
T38. Steve Jones, \$21,840	71-72-75-72	—	290	+6
T38. Steve Jones, \$21,840	71-72-75-72	—	290	+6
T38. Steve Jones, \$21,840	71-72-75-72	—	290	+6
T38. Steve Jones, \$21,840	71-72-75-72	—	290	+6
T38. Steve Jones, \$21,840	71-72-75-72	—	290	+6

### Round by round

#### Round 1

**Peter Lonard**  
Peter Lonard flirted with a 59 and finished with a two-stroke lead in the opening round of the Heritage. The 9-under 62 was one shot off David Frost's 1994 tournament record. That put him two strokes ahead of Frenchman Thomas Levet, who birdied six of his last eight holes.

#### Round 2

**Darren Clarke**  
Darren Clarke's second straight 65 gave him a six-stroke lead and left him at 12-under 130, his career-best for 36 holes and one shot off the tournament record set by Jack Nicklaus in 1975 and tied by Phil Mickelson in 2002. Peter Lonard ballooned to a 74 on Friday and was tied for second with Patrick Sheehan, who had a second-round 70.

#### Round 3

**Peter Lonard**  
Lonard regained the lead, shooting a 5-under 66 to take a one-stroke advantage over Clarke, with five-time Harbour Town champion Davis Love III lurking close behind. Lonard, the 37-year-old Australian seeking his first PGA Tour victory, had an 11-under 202 total. Clarke shot a 73 to drop to second, Rod Pampling (68) was third at 6 under, and Love (69) followed at 5 under.



#### Round 4

**Peter Lonard**  
Clarke handed Lonard his first PGA Tour title, collapsing with a startling run of bogeys and double bogeys. Lonard dropped four shots behind Clarke after the Irishman's birdie at the par-5 fifth hole. But Clarke made bogey or worse on seven of the next 13 holes, including a double bogey 6 on the 18th, where he pulled his approach shot into the marsh that runs along the left side of the hole. Lonard played the final 10 holes in 4-over but still won by two strokes.

T44. Vaughn Taylor, \$17,160	71-75-74-71	—	291	+7
T44. Craig Stadler, \$17,160	76-70-75-70	—	291	+7
T44. Jay Williamson, \$17,160	70-75-71-75	—	291	+7
T47. Joey Senden, \$12,731.34	71-73-77-71	—	292	+8
T47. Jerry Kelly, \$12,731.34	71-76-73-72	—	292	+8
T47. Ben Crane, \$12,731.34	71-76-73-72	—	292	+8
T47. Stewart Cink, \$12,731.34	71-73-75-73	—	292	+8
T47. Paul Azinger, \$12,731.33	73-69-77-73	—	292	+8
T47. Jesper Parnevik, \$12,731.33	70-77-72-73	—	292	+8
T47. Jeff Sluman, \$12,731.33	73-73-73-73	—	292	+8
T47. Zach Johnson, \$12,731.33	72-73-73-74	—	292	+8
T47. Tim Clark, \$12,731.33	72-73-73-74	—	292	+8
T47. Lucas Glover, \$12,731.33	73-73-72-74	—	292	+8
T47. Justin Rose, \$12,731.33	73-73-72-74	—	292	+8
T47. Brandt Snedeker, \$12,731.33	71-73-70-78	—	292	+8
T60. Joe Ogilvie, \$11,388	71-75-77-70	—	293	+9
T60. Ted Purdy, \$11,388	73-74-76-70	—	293	+9

T60. Robert Damron, \$11,388	70-73-78-72	—	293	+9
T60. Marco Dawson, \$11,388	68-78-74-73	—	293	+9
64. David Edwards, \$11,128	73-71-77-73	—	294	+10
T65. Kent Jones, \$10,972	75-71-76-73	—	295	+11
T65. Mark Calcavecchia, \$10,972	72-74-72-77	—	295	+11
T67. John Rollins, \$10,764	74-72-77-73	—	296	+12
T67. Jay Haas, \$10,764	72-72-74-78	—	296	+12
69. Tommy Armour III, \$10,608	74-71-77-75	—	297	+13
70. Rocco Mediate, \$10,504	72-72-79-75	—	298	+14
T71. Franklin Langham, \$10,348	77-69-75-78	—	299	+15
T71. Graeme McDowell, \$10,348	75-71-75-78	—	299	+15
73. Ian Poulter, \$10,192	72-73-81-74	—	300	+16
74. Doug Tewell, \$10,088	72-74-79-76	—	301	+17
75. Lee Westwood, \$9,984	73-72-78-79	—	302	+18
76. Andre Stolz, \$9,880	70-77-78-78	—	303	+19

John Cook	73-75	—	148	+6
Glen Hnatik	74-74	—	148	+6
Carl Pettersson	73-75	—	148	+6
Lee Janzen	73-75	—	148	+6
Craig Perks	74-74	—	148	+6
Mark Brooks	74-74	—	148	+6
Frank Lickliter II	71-77	—	148	+6
Ryan Palmer	73-75	—	148	+6
Steve Flesch	72-76	—	148	+6
Briny Baird	74-74	—	148	+6
Scott Simpson	70-78	—	148	+6
Jason Bohn	71-78	—	149	+7
Chris Smith	73-76	—	149	+7
Tim O'Neal	76-73	—	149	+7
Skip Kendall	76-73	—	149	+7
Andrew Magee	73-76	—	149	+7
Fredrik Jacobson	73-77	—	150	+8
Ian Leggatt	74-76	—	150	+8

Mark Hensby	72-78	—	150	+8
Bernhard Langer	75-75	—	150	+8
Tim Petrovic	76-74	—	150	+8
Len Mattiace	73-77	—	150	+8
Fulton Allem	77-73	—	150	+8
Arron Oberholser	76-74	—	150	+8
Heath Stocum	74-77	—	151	+9
Tag Ridings	70-81	—	151	+9
Tom Pernice Jr.	74-77	—	151	+9
Glen Day	78-73	—	151	+9
Brett Wetterich	74-77	—	151	+9
Robert Gomez	77-75	—	152	+10
Tom Byrum	73-79	—	152	+10
Nick Watney	78-74	—	152	+10
Jonathan Byrd	78-74	—	152	+10
Neal Lancaster	75-78	—	153	+11
Ben Curtis	76-77	—	153	+11
John Huston	77-76	—	153	+11
J.J. Henry	73-80	—	153	+11
Bob Boyd	75-78	—	153	+11
Aron Price	77-76	—	153	+11
Joey Sindelar	73-81	—	154	+12
Matt Gogel	72-82	—	154	+12
Paul Goydos	75-79	—	154	+12
Jose Coceres	74-80	—	154	+12
Brian Gay	76-78	—	154	+12
D.J. Trahan	77-77	—	154	+12
Joe Durant	73-82	—	155	+13
Charles Warren	74-82	—	156	+14
Bill Haas	78-78	—	156	+14
D.A. Points	75-81	—	156	+14
Kelly Mitchum	81-76	—	157	+15
Tom Iredell	83-75	—	158	+16
Kevin Stadler	83-76	—	159	+17
Steve Lowery	78-84	—	162	+20

## Verizon Heritage records

<b>BEST 9-HOLE SCORES</b>
<b>Front:</b> 28 — Craig Barlow ('03).
<b>Back:</b> 29 — Steve Flesch ('01), Chris Perry ('00); Brad Faxon ('97).
<b>BEST 18-HOLE SCORE (ANY ROUND)</b>
61 — David Frost ('94) (second).
<b>BEST 36-HOLE SCORES</b>
129 — Jack Nicklaus ('75); Phil Mickelson ('02)
<b>BEST 54-HOLE SCORES</b>
197 — Justin Leonard ('02).
<b>BEST 72-HOLE SCORES</b>
265 — Loren Roberts ('96).
266 — Davis Love III ('98); Hale Irwin ('94).
<b>HIGHEST SCORE BY A WINNER</b>
283 — Arnold Palmer ('69).
<b>BIGGEST 36-HOLE LEAD</b>
6 — Darren Clarke ('05); Jack Nicklaus ('75); Johnny Miller ('74).

<b>BIGGEST 54-HOLE LEAD</b>
8 — Tom Watson ('79).
<b>BEST RECOVERY</b>
<b>After 18</b> — 6 back, Davis Love III ('87).
<b>After 36</b> — 6 back, Bob Goalby ('70); Fuzzy Zoeller ('83); Glen Day ('99).
<b>After 54</b> — 9 back, Stewart Cink ('04).
<b>LOW START BY WINNER</b>
62 — Peter Lonard ('05).
<b>HIGH START BY WINNER</b>
74 — Bob Goalby ('70).
<b>LOW FINISH BY WINNER</b>
64 — Stewart Cink ('04).
<b>HIGH FINISH BY WINNER</b>
74 — Arnold Palmer ('69).
<b>LARGEST MARGIN OF VICTORY</b>
7 — Davis Love III ('98).
<b>LOWEST ROUNDS</b>
<b>First</b> — 62, Davis Love III ('02); Peter Lonard ('05).
<b>Second</b> — 61, David Frost ('94).
<b>Third</b> — 62, Gil Morgan ('95).

<b>Fourth</b> — 62, Loren Roberts ('94).
<b>HOLE IN ONE</b>
Blaine McCaister and Jeff Sluman ('96); Gil Morgan ('95); David Edwards ('94); Bob Gilder ('92); Greg Norman ('00); Tom Kite ('81); Lanny Wadkins and Bob Wynn ('79); Johnny Miller ('74); Richard Crawford ('71).
<b>LOW 36-HOLE CUT</b>
142 (even par) — 1996, 2001, '02, '03.
<b>HIGH 36-HOLE CUT</b>
152 — 1971 (10 over).
<b>LOWEST NUMBER MAKING CUT</b>
70 — 1986, '76, '73.
<b>HIGHEST NUMBER MAKING CUT</b>
84 — 1998 (at 144).
<b>MOST CUTS MADE</b>
24 — Hale Irwin.
<b>MOST CONSECUTIVE CUTS MADE</b>
15 — Chip Beck, Peter Jacobsen.

<b>MOST YEARS PLAYED</b>
29 — Jay Haas.
<b>MOST CONSECUTIVE YEARS PLAYED</b>
29 — Jay Haas.
<b>LAST MONDAY FINISH</b>
1980 (full round), 2001 (playoff)
<b>LAST BACK-TO-BACK WINNER</b>
Davis Love III 1991-92
<b>FIRST-TRY WINNERS</b>
Arnold Palmer ('69); Bob Goalby ('70); Stewart Cink ('00), Jose Coceres ('01), Peter Lonard ('05).
<b>MOST YEARS BETWEEN WINS</b>
21 — Hale Irwin ('73 and '94).
<b>OLDEST WINNER</b>
Hale Irwin, 1994, 48 years, 10 months, 14 days.
<b>YOUNGEST WINNER</b>
Davis Love III, 1987, 23 years, 6 days.
<b>DEFENDING CHAMPIONS WHO MISSED CUT</b>
Davis Love III ('88 and '93); Greg Norman ('89); Nick Faldo ('85); Tom Watson ('83).

<b>BEST FINISH BY AMATEUR</b>
284 — Lanny Wadkins, 1970, second place.
283 — Ben Crenshaw, 1972, third place.
<b>FEWEST PUTTS, 72 HOLES</b>
92 — David Frost ('05) set PGA Tour record, breaking record of 93 putts set by Kenny Knox in 1989 Heritage Classic.
<b>FEWEST PUTTS, 18 HOLES</b>
18 — Kenny Knox, 1989, tied PGA Tour record, in first round.
<b>FEWEST PUTTS, 9 HOLES</b>
8 — Kenny Knox ('89), John Inman ('94).
<b>SUDDEN DEATH PLAYOFFS</b>
2004 — Stewart Cink defeated Ted Purdy.
2003 — Davis Love III defeated Woody Austin.
2001 — Jose Coceres defeated Billy Mayfair.
1999 — Glen Day defeated Payne Stewart and Jeff Sluman.
1995 — Bob Tway defeated

Nolan Henke and David Frost.
1990 — Payne Stewart defeated Larry Mize, Steve Jones.
1985 — Bernhard Langer defeated Bobby Wadkins.
1982 — Tom Watson defeated Frank Conner.
1980 — Doug Tewell defeated Jerry Pate.
<b>LONGEST PLAYOFF</b>
5 holes — 2004, 2001.
<b>HIGHEST SCORING AVERAGE</b>
73.246 — 2005.
<b>LOWEST SCORING AVERAGE</b>
70.621 — 2003.
<b>CAREER SCORING AVERAGE</b> (at least two career appearances)
<b>Player years average</b>
Brad Elder 2 69.25
Stewart Cink 6 69.50
Tom Lehman 12 69.54
Ernie Els 7 69.61
Davis Love III 20 69.65
Mike Sposa 2 69.75
Carlos Franco 3 69.83
Payne Stewart 12 69.95

Phil Mickelson 7 70.07
Chad Campbell 9 70.17
<b>CAREER HERITAGE MONEY LEADERS</b>
<b>Player Dollars</b>
Davis Love III 2,504,074
Stewart Cink 1,601,106
Peter Lonard 936,000
Glen Day 777,063
Justin Leonard 771,195
Jose Coceres 752,080
Payne Stewart 730,603
Nick Price 700,539
Woody Austin 663,437
Tom Lehman 661,054
Billy Mayfair 657,478
Ernie Els 601,521
Scott Verplank 585,854
David Frost 574,131
Billy Andrade 553,878
Loren Roberts 546,743
Bernhard Langer 545,728
Jeff Sluman 540,764
Ted Purdy 529,788
Jim Furyk 516,672
Bob Tway 503,967

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# Born of necessity, foundation now serves others' needs

BY TIM DONNELLY  
THE ISLAND PACKET

When the sun is shining during Verizon Heritage week, local charities often benefit more from the ideal conditions than the competing golfers. That's because the refreshments many groups sell alongside the course are more than just golf snacks.

They're big fundraising bucks. "Last year, we had cold weather," said Ed Dowaschinski, vice president of administration and finance for the Heritage Classic Foundation, the group that runs the tour-

nament. "If you have hot weather, maybe they buy more beverages. We make more money on beer than we do on a hot dog."

The foundation began in 1987 as a way to keep the tournament afloat amid troubled finances. A year earlier, the Sea Pines Company, which ran the tournament at the time, filed for bankruptcy protection and the PGA Tour considered whether to keep the tournament in the circuit's smallest media market. But the foundation arose to establish a line of credit to keep the tournament going until MCI came on as the event's title sponsor.

Though its beginnings were purely pragmatic, it has evolved into one of the largest charitable groups in the area, doling out almost \$13 million in donations over the past 20 years.

In 2005 alone, the organization gave away \$1.5 million in scholarships and donations to dozens of charity groups. It was an increase from 2004, when the foundation gave away \$1.4 million.

With the tournament expected to sell out this year for the first time since 2002, foundations officials are hoping to have more than \$1.7 million to give to charities after

the last putt falls, Dowaschinski said. But that amount could change based on several factors, including the Birdies for Charity contest and the weather, which may hurt the various clubs and school groups that set up concession stands at the tournament and keep whatever profit they make.

"It really comes down to how well you do at the tournament," he said.

The foundation is the nonprofit entity that runs the tournament and collects revenue from sponsorships, ticket and concession sales. The money gets distributed throughout the year to various

organizations that submit grant requests.

Those organizations include The Deep Well Project, which received \$10,000 in 2005, and the Arts Center of Coastal Carolina, which got \$17,896. The first contributions are usually reserved for groups that help during the tournament, such as students who help clean up or direct traffic.

The foundation committee meets in October to consider the grant requests and distribute the money.

Contact Tim Donnelly at 706-8145 or tdonnelly@islandpacket.com. To comment on this story, please go to islandpacket.com

John Farrell has spent 15 years at Harbour Town Golf Links. Though his duties never end, the weeks surrounding the Heritage are among the most taxing of the year for Farrell and his staff.



Jay Karr/The Island Packet

## Superintendent knows how to grow

### Snyder aims to keep course in top shape all year

BY KATHLYN CLORE  
THE ISLAND PACKET

Sayings about watching grass grow conjure images of lackadaisical lounging — which is the exact opposite of what Harbour Town Golf Links course superintendent Gary T. Snyder does every day.

Snyder does watch the grass grow, though. He calculates when it should start and stop growing. He knows which of the five different types of grass used on the 6,973-yard course belong where and when to seed them. And how much, and with which tools ... and, and, and.

Snyder and his staff of 17 work about 40-50 hours each of 50 weeks out of the year. The other two — the week prior the Verizon Heritage and the week of the tournament — their hours nearly double. So too, though, does the staff itself: a variety of local superintendents and equipment operators volunteer during the Heritage, swelling Snyder's staff to about 40.

Snyder said he is on the course from about 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. during tournament week. Months prior to it, though, he meets with the PGA Tour's agronomist to determine mowing heights and green speeds. The Poatrivialis used on the greens can be cut below an eighth of an inch, allowing for greens speeds up to between 10½ and 11 on the Stimpmeter.

"He comes in around January and we go over the golf course and we look at things and we sit down and look as far as the materials and supplies we're going to need, the equipment we're going to need and also the mowing heights of what we'll be cutting the grass on the fairways, rough, tees and greens," Snyder said.

The tour critiques each of its events during tournament week. One of its suggestions after the 2005 Heritage regarded the waste bunker that sits in the dogleg of the 16th fairway. The Tour recommended it be turned into a sand bunker, from which players will not be allowed to play through to the green as they could from a waste bunker.

"We adhered to what the recommendation was and accomplished that," Snyder said. "That's going to be the topic as far as the commentary on 16. Whether that makes it more difficult, we'll see."

But bits of the No. 16 waste bunker remain — Snyder's team removed the top layer of ground limestone and distributed it in other waste areas around the course. After doing "extensive" drainage in that area, Snyder said, about 500 tons of sand, consistent with what's used elsewhere on the course, was tossed out from a conveyor belt into the bunker.

While Snyder and his staff work to peak the golf course during Heritage week, one of their foremost concerns is keeping the public golf course for the 35,000-40,000 rounds played there each year.

"You take that guy coming from

**"You take that guy coming from up North to play golf. He wants to play on green grass, he doesn't want to play on dormant Bermuda. That's just the nature of the business."**

— Harbour Town superintendent Gary Snyder

up North to play golf. He wants to play on green grass, he doesn't want to play on dormant Bermuda. That's just the nature of the business," Snyder said.

One reason Harbour Town stays green is because of overseeding, a process of alternating types of grasses grown on the course throughout the year.

"We're probably one of the few golf courses here that overseeds wall-to-wall," Snyder said.

Snyder keeps up on what's going on at other courses in the area when he and a group of other superintendents gather weekly to play. Snyder and his staff also play Harbour Town weekly. He said about 75 percent of the staff plays golf.

Contact Kathlyn Clore at 706-8123 or kclore@islandpacket.com. To comment on this story go to islandpacket.com.



Jay Karr/The Island Packet

Harbour Town superintendent Gary Snyder keeps in close touch with PGA Tour agronomists as he prepares the course for each year's Verizon Heritage.

## It's a lot of labor, but Farrell still loves Heritage

### Head pro in 15th year at Harbour Town

BY KATHLYN CLORE  
THE ISLAND PACKET

He lives on Hilton Head Island with his family, spends hours at the golf course every day, volunteers often and is always happy for a chance to do it all again tomorrow. No, he's not retired.

John Farrell is in his 15th year as head professional at Harbour Town Golf Links, site of the Verizon Heritage. Ask him to choose a favorite Verizon Heritage week though, and he'll let you know each is like a child — you might appreciate each of your children for a different trait, but you love them all equally.

"There's not one that I enjoyed more than the other," he said.

"There are some that have been particularly successful for one reason or the other; maybe because of TV ratings or story line or successful retail sales. Those are things that I look for; we all look for. But the day after the last putt I start looking forward to the next one. It's that much fun to be involved with."

Farrell knew what he was saying about children — he's the seventh of nine. Growing up, his family belonged to a Pittsfield, Mass., golf club and his dad made sure his children respected the game.

"He instilled in us that golf is not a right, it's a privilege," Farrell said.

As one of two PGA advisors serving the Hilton Head Island Junior Golf Association, Farrell works to imbue that kind of respect for the etiquette and history of golf in the next generation of players through various grow-the-game initiatives — starting with his own three children.

Assistant golf professional Rob Smyser said Farrell helps his entire staff get involved in giving back. Smyser is the chairman of the HHIJGA after serving as tournament director last year.

"We don't have a single guy on our staff that's not doing some kind of giving back on his own time," Farrell said. "We insist on that."

**"We don't have a single guy on our staff that's not doing some kind of giving back on his own time. We insist on that."**

— Harbour Town head professional John Farrell

Smyser has worked at Harbour Town since Feb. 2005, after graduating from Methodist College in Fayetteville, N.C. While a student there, he interned at three editions of the Heritage, so the 2006 tournament will be his fifth. Ben Hoover, another assistant, was also hired after interning at the Heritage.

Assistant professionals and between 40-50 college interns help Farrell manage and coordinate retail sales operations as well as driving range and locker room operations during Heritage week.

The unifying factor on Farrell's staff is a passion for the game.

"People think you play golf all day long in this job," he said. "We love to play and that's probably the reason we got into the game, but it's a year-round job. It's not like you can turn it off. If you're not passionate about it, you won't be successful."

Farrell said he knew early on he wanted to make his living in the golf business. He came to the island in 1984 because at the time, it hosted PGA Tour, LPGA and senior tour events. It's a decision he says he's never regretted — even the Monday after the Heritage concludes.

"The week of the tournament is easier," he said. "The week after we've got to pack up tents, truck trailers and scaffolding. And we're open for play. We've got the full fatigue factor, the staff is tired. But I don't have to force anybody to come in. They're happy to be a part of it."

Contact Kathlyn Clore at 706-8123 or kclore@islandpacket.com. To comment on this story go to islandpacket.com.

## Heritage at a glance

- **What:** 38th Annual Verizon Heritage.
- **When:** April 13-16, 2006.
- **Where:** Harbour Town Golf Links.
- **Par:** 36-35-71.
- **Yardage:** 3,495-3,478-6,973.
- **Format:** 72 holes of stroke play.
- **Course designer:** Pete Dye with Jack Nicklaus.
- **Course features:** Narrow, tight fairways; abundant water and sand hazards; small greens; winds through pines, palms and oak forests; fronts on Calibogue Sound with view of the marsh and Harbour Town Yacht Basin.

- **Defending champion:** Peter Lonard.
- **Past champions:** Arnold Palmer, Bob Goalby, Hale Irwin, Johnny Miller, Jack Nicklaus, Hubert Green, Graham Marsh, Tom Watson, Doug Tewell, Bill Rogers, Fuzzy Zoeller, Nick Faldo, Bernhard Langer, Davis Love III, Greg Norman, Payne Stewart, David Edwards, Bob Tway, Loren Roberts, Nick Price, Glen Day, Stewart Cink, Jose Coceres, Justin Leonard.
- **Total prize money:** \$5.3 million.
- **Winner's share:** \$954,000.
- **Playoff:** If necessary, a sudden-death playoff will be conducted, starting at the

- 18th hole.
- **Field:** 132 invited players. After 36 holes, field cut to low 70 and ties.
- **TV:** First and second rounds shown live on USA from 4-6 p.m. Third and fourth rounds shown live on CBS from 3-6 p.m.
- **Tournament director:** Steve Wilmut.
- **Harbour Town head professional:** John Farrell.
- **Harbour Town superintendent:** Gary Snyder.

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## DIVOTS



LONARD

- **Height:** 6-0.
- **Weight:** 225.
- **Birth date:** July 17, 1967.
- **Birthplace:** Sydney, Australia.
- **Resides:** Orlando, Fla.
- **Special interests:** Cars.
- **Turned professional:** 1989.
- **Best Heritage finish:** 1, 2005 — 62-74-66-75—277.
- **PGA Tour victories:** 1.
- **Rank on 2005 Tour money list:** 34th.
- **Major championships:** 0.
- **National teams:** Presidents Cup, 2003, 2005.
- **Notes:** Heritage marked the first PGA Tour victory for a man who has eight international victories to his credit, including the 2004 Australian Open and 2004 Australian PGA. ... In his first appearance at the season-opening Mercedes Championships this past January, finished 10th. ... Had a career year, with \$1,897,998 in earnings on the strength of a victory and three top-10s in 2005. ... Harbour Town win came in his 99th career PGA Tour start. After using a long putter over the previous five years, he pulled out a short putter at the start of the week. Switch came due to some bad putting in events leading up to MCI Heritage, especially after missing the cut at the Masters. Opened with a career-best 9-under 62, which included 11 birdies between bogeys on Nos. 1 and 18.

## Champion

Continued from Page 1-D

He joked that he wanted to play Harbour Town again because he got so smashed after winning the Heritage, he didn't remember the course. Well, actually there might have been an element of truth to that — Lonard said he passed some time that evening in the Quarterdeck bar and restaurant in Harbour Town and had to return the next morning because he forgot to pick up his credit card from the bartender who was holding it for his tab.

In the wake of his victory, Lonard ducked in the tournament office and invited the staff to his post-tournament celebration, where drinks and dinner would be on the new champ. The place was so busy, not everyone could make it ... so when Lonard came back for media day, he entertained the Heritage staff again.

In fact, save a drive from the airport from tournament director Steve Wilmot, Lonard made the entire media day trip on his own dime.

Wilmot was so impressed, he made phone calls to the PGA Tour and Lonard's main sponsor, Taylor Made-Adidas, to let them know what a class act the Aussie had been.

"He is like a lot of our players, especially our younger players, who understand they're the show and that they're the reason people come to these tournaments," said PGA Tour senior vice president Henry Hughes. "But he also understands he's the beneficiary of what people like Steve and the sponsors do. ... We've all gotten to know Peter over the past few years, and I don't know anybody who isn't impressed."

That includes Wilmot's son, Charlie, who through the years has become so enamored of Davis Love III that he once dressed up as the five-time Heritage champion for Halloween. Charlie accompanied his father to the airport to pick up Lonard for media day, and before the ride home was over, Charlie leaned over to his dad and whispered in his ear:

"Don't tell Davis, but he's my new favorite."

### A 'healthy' attitude

If Lonard seems none too attached to the accouterments of professional athletics, it's because he knows how quickly they can be snatched away.

"When I first started, I was 20 and going to Europe," Lonard said, "and you might complain about the travel or this or that, but then when it's all taken away, you figure, 'Hey, that was pretty good.' It makes you see things in a different light."

Lonard's perception-altering experience came in the early 1990s, just a few years after turning professional. He suffered Ross River Fever, a mosquito-carried virus that caused chronic fatigue that kept him sidelined nearly 18 months. The disease caused damage to his eyes, and then developed conjunctivitis from the contact lens he used to correct his vision.

His touring career temporarily derailed, Lonard took a job as a club pro at Oatlands Golf and Country Club, a position he held from 1994-97 before playing his way back onto the Australasian and European tours. All the while, he suffered from another symptom of the Ross River Fever — weight gain. He began to feel as stuffed and bloated as the sausages he served in the grill room.

"Yes, I did get fat," said Lonard, who packed on about 80 pounds during the ordeal. "I took a job selling candy bars and sausage rolls in the pro shop. It convinced me that work was overrated."

A devotee of weight training long before it came into vogue on the PGA Tour, Lonard eventually pounded his body out of round again. Today, he looks like something out of a Charles Atlas advertisement in the old comic books, wide shoulders and sculpted biceps festooning a 6-foot, 225-pound frame.

Success in his return to touring golf was almost immediate. In 1996-97, he won the Ericsson Australian Masters and topped the Australasian Order of Merit. He went nearly three years before his next victory but used laser surgery to correct his eye problem while recovering from a broken bone in his left wrist in 2000.

Since then, he's won seven more times on the Australasian Tour, nearly pulling off the circuit's grand slam in 2002-03 with victories in the Australian PGA Championship, Australian MasterCard masters and the Australian Open.

He earned his PGA Tour card at the 2001 Qualifying School and finished 41st on the money list in his rookie season. He has posted eight top-10s and 30 top-25s and had qualified for 11 major championships and eight World Golf Championships entering the 2005 season.



File/The Island Packet

Peter Lonard hits from a bunker on the 17th hole at Harbour Town Golf Links during the final round of last season's Heritage. Lonard shot a 75 on the final day — the highest ever by a Heritage winner.

### "I don't know what the other guys on tour would say about me as a player, but I feel like I never give up."

— Peter Lonard

Only a victory eluded Lonard, and it would come in an almost unimaginable fashion.

**Big topper on circus of oddities**  
The 2005 Heritage was a circus of oddities and anomalies:

- The field didn't contain a single golfer ranked in the top 10 of the official World Golf Rankings.

- The weather was unseasonably cold for the first three rounds, and the wind blew from uncustomary compass points.

- The 36-hole cut was the highest on the PGA Tour to that point and the highest at the Heritage since 1986.

- Ted Purdy, the previous year's runner-up, left Hilton Head after the second round thinking he had missed the cut. When he checked phone messages while sitting in a plane at the Atlanta airport, he discovered he was still in the field. He spent all night driving back and played the third round in a knit shirt he bought from a drugstore at 1:30 a.m. and with clubs borrowed from pal Mark Hensby, who did miss the cut.

- Tom Kite, 52, was disqualified for signing an incorrect scorecard after the second round.

- A day later, Alex Cejka was tossed for using a non-conforming golf ball.

The biggest curiosity of them all, though, might have been the winner's score line.

Lonard's performance set two, disparate Heritage records — his 9-under-par 62 was the lowest opening-round score ever by an eventual champion, and his closing 75 was the highest by a winner.

One reason for Lonard's erratic play was his putting. After tinkering with several putters, strokes and grips (Lonard was 190th on the PGA Tour in putting average in 2004 and was 119th the season before), he put a new short putter in his bag for the Heritage.

It worked well in the first round, when he used just 24 putts; not so well in the second when he needed 31 to negotiate some of the smallest greens on the PGA Tour; and like a charm again in the third round, when he rebounded from a 3-over 74 the previous day with a 5-under 66 that gave him a one-shot lead over Clarke entering the final round.

But Lonard's game was back to its old tricks on Sunday, when Clarke looked as though he would turn the tournament into a runaway.

The Irishman's game had been as erratic as Lonard's throughout the week, too. He led after two rounds, and his 36-hole score of 12-under 140 was just a shot off the tournament record. But Clarke cooled in the third round, when he shot a 2-over 73 that allowed Lonard to pass him again.

The third-round score seemed an aberration, though, when Clarke birdied four of the first five holes. In fact, Lonard bogeyed the first hole, and Clarke wrested away the lead less than 20 minutes into the final

round. He was up four shots with 13 holes to play.

Nonetheless, Lonard didn't feel as though he had thrown away the tournament.

"I don't know what the other guys on tour would say about me as a player," he said, "but I feel like I never give up. If I play bad, I'll stay there until the end and lick my wounds later."

That proved a good attitude, for as quickly as Clarke ran away from the field, he sprinted back to it. He made a bogey at 6, another at 7, a double bogey at 8. He mustered one last birdie, at No. 12, but followed with a double bogey. In all, Clarke surrendered six strokes to par in his final six holes, a skein that culminated with a double bogey at No. 18, where Clarke pulled his 8-iron approach into the salt marsh and never located it.

Moments later, a stunned Clarke appeared in the press tent and told the assembly, "I can't believe what I've just done."

Oddly, though, until that final approach, the tournament seemed destined for the fifth playoff in seven years. That's because Lonard seemed to drop nearly every break Clarke handed him.

Lonard missed a 4-footer to save par on the first hole, three-putted from seven feet on the par-5 second hole and missed an 11-foot birdie on No. 15 that would have put him back in the lead. Lonard made his final birdie on the par-4 8th, where Clarke made double after hitting a shot in a pond that runs along the left side of the fairway and green. After that three-shot swing, Lonard played the final 10 holes in 4-over par ...

Yet, still captured his first PGA Tour victory.

After years of gunning for this win, fighting Ross River Fever and eye problems and slinging candy bars and sausages along the way, Lonard discovers ... all it takes to win a PGA Tour event is a 75 on Sunday.

"It probably affected other people's perception of it, but I look at it as a four-round tournament," Lonard said. "A hundred and sixty guys had a chance to beat my score, and they didn't. That's good enough for me."

### Slow to make haste

Eventually, that will probably be good enough for everyone else, too, Love said.

Five of Love's 18 PGA Tour victories have come at Harbour Town, and many will remember that he garnered his first in 1987.

What some might forget is how Love won his first PGA Tour event — he closed with a 4-under 67 at Harbour Town but still seemed destined for second place until future U.S. Open champion Steve Jones pushed his tee shot on the 72nd hole out of bounds. He suffered a double bogey and slipped from the lead into second.

"(Jones) hit all over the place all day and it finally caught up with him on the last hole," Love recalled. "Sometimes you win by blowing guys away, and sometimes you win

by being at the right place at the right time. If you're going to win five, you're going to have at least one of each.

"At the time, I felt bad for Steve, but I know those things happen."

Lonard's countryman, Rod Pampling, took the same tack earlier this season. He won the Bay Hill Invitational when leader Greg Owen three-putted from seven feet on the 71st hole, then suffered a bogey on the 72nd hole when his 11-foot putt to save par and force a playoff spun out of the cup.

"I suppose there are parallels to it, but it's like anything," said Pampling, whose Bay Hill win was his second on tour. "... At the end of the day, it's 72 holes, and whoever wins, they deserve to win."

If Lonard is disappointed by any aspect of his first victory, it's not the manner in which it came but his inability to seize its momentum.

He took two weeks off after the Heritage, then missed the cut in his next two events. He tied for third at the Colonial in late May, but he has posted just one other top-10 finish since. He missed the cut in three of his next six events, and although he closed the season by making weekend play in each of his final eight events, his average finish was 40th.

"I'm kind of back to square one, really," Lonard said. He said he hasn't played poorly but hasn't "played well enough to be in contention, either. I've got to tighten up the bits and pieces of my game."

He admits the most difficult adjustment is finding ways to motivate himself.

"I had been trying to win over here for four or five years, and after I did, it's like, 'Where do I go now?'" Lonard said. "That was the thing pushing you to get out there and practice and work hard for all this time. You have to stop and find new motivation."

It also didn't help that soon after the Heritage, pain in Lonard's knee became increasingly difficult to endure. In December, he had arthroscopic surgery to correct the problem and spent several weeks rehabilitating the knee.

"It wasn't a big deal — they just went in and cleaned up the meniscus a little — but I didn't want to get back out and play a full schedule until I knew the knee was right," Lonard said.

He played the season-opening, winners-only Mercedes Championships in January, finishing 10th, and played the Sony Open the next week. He took most of the next month off but has finished no better than a tie for 33rd in five events since.

This week, he'll try to conjure up some year-old magic. But if the game still sputters, and if the perception of his victory at Harbour Town remains that it was a bit of a fluke, Lonard figures there are worse fates.

"I love doing this," Lonard said. "Even to have the opportunity, like Hilton Head last year, to have it come down to the last hole and have to hit that last shot into 18. ... To put yourself in position to hit that shot is good enough. If it all got taken away, I could go back tomorrow to a little shack with a dog and be just as happy."

Contact Jeff Kidd at 706-8121 or [jkidd@islandpacket.com](mailto:jkidd@islandpacket.com). To comment on this story, please go to [islandpacket.com](http://islandpacket.com).

## On top Down Under

Native Australians who have won event on the PGA Tour in recent seasons.

### 2004

- **Stuart Appleby** — Mercedes Championships.
- **Craig Parry** — Ford Championship.
- **Adam Scott (2)** — The Players Championship, Booz Allen Classic.
- **Mark Hensby** — John Deere Classic.
- **Rod Pampling** — The International.
- **Andre Stolz** — Michelin Championship.

### 2005

- **Stuart Appleby** — Mercedes Championships.
- **Geoff Ogilvy** — Chrysler Classic of Tucson.
- **Adam Scott** — Nissan Open\*.
- **Peter Lonard** — MCI Heritage.
- **Stuart Appleby** — Mercedes Championships.
- **Geoff Ogilvy** — WGC Accenture Match Play Championship.
- **Stuart Appleby** — Mercedes Championships.
- **Geoff Ogilvy** — WGC-Accenture Match Play Championship.
- **Rod Pampling** — Bay Hill Invitational.

\* — Rain-shortened event not recognized as official victory.

## High finishes

A list of the highest final-round scores posted by Heritage winners.

Golfer/Year	Final-round score	Victory margin
Peter Lonard/2005	75	2
Arnold Palmer/1969	74	3
Hubert Green/1976	73	5
Doug Tewell/1980	73	Playoff
Justin Leonard/2002	73	1
Hale Irwin/1973	72	5

## International incidents

A list of foreign-born winners of the Heritage.

- **1977** — Graham Marsh (Australia)
- **1984** — Nick Faldo (England)
- **1985** — Bernhard Langer (Germany)
- **1988** — Greg Norman (Australia)
- **1997** — Nick Price (South Africa)
- **2001** — Jose Coceres (Argentina)
- **2005** — Peter Lonard (Australia)

## At first sight

A list of golfers who won their first PGA Tour event at the Heritage.

- **1971** — Hale Irwin
- **1977** — Graham Marsh
- **1980** — Doug Tewell
- **1984** — Nick Faldo
- **1987** — Davis Love III
- **1999** — Glen Day
- **2001** — Jose Coceres
- **2002** — Peter Lonard

## Repeating a dubious history

• **1971, JACK NICKLAUS** — Nicklaus, who helped Pete Dye in the design of Harbour Town Golf Links just a few years earlier, played in the next-to-last group and had a chance to apply the pressure to leader Hale Irwin, who at that point had not yet won a PGA Tour event. Nicklaus, figuring he needed a birdie on the par-3 17th hole, took dead aim at the pin. However, the wind shifted as he took his swing, and he flew the green. He made bogey from the marsh, and Irwin hung on with a 70.

• **1975, TOM WEISKOPF** — Nicklaus was up by as many as six shots in the third round, but by the end of 54 holes, Tom Weiskopf had erased it all. Then, early in the final round, Weiskopf took the lead when Nicklaus hit a fat 4-iron into the water on the par-3 4th hole for a bogey. Weiskopf birdied the par-5 fifth hole to go up two shots, but Nicklaus birdied No. 6 and Weiskopf bogeyed No. 8 to fall back into a tie.

Nicklaus took the lead for good with a birdie at No. 15 and sealed a three-shot victory with a birdie on the par-3 17th.

• **1977, TOM WATSON** — As in the 2005 tournament, an Aussie benefited from a collapse to pick up his first PGA Tour victory. Graham Marsh trailed Watson by four shots entering the final round, but they were even by the turn, and Watson never led again after the 14th, where his tee shot to the par-3 hole landed in the water. Watson set a 74 and Marsh's 69 was good for a one-stroke victory.

• **1978, LARRY NELSON** — Nelson had never held a 54-hole lead before, and it showed. He shot a 76, and that allowed Hubert Green to leap-frog four other players for the victory by shooting a 67.

• **1987, STEVE JONES** — The tournament is mostly

remembered as Davis Love III's first PGA Tour victory, but there was another golfer that day searching for his first win, too. Jones needed only a par at the 18th hole to seal his victory and instead cut a 3-wood tee shot out of bounds. He took a double bogey, and Love took the first of his five tartan jackets.

• **1995, MARK MCCUMBER** — The final round began with a tightly bunched leaderboard — 26 golfers were with three shots of 54-hole leaders McCumber, David Edwards, David Frost and Gene Sauers. McCumber came to the final hole needing a birdie for an outright win and a par to make a playoff with Frost, Nolan Henke and eventual champion Bob Tway. Instead, McCumber flew his approach over the green, chipped up to five feet, then quickly played his par putt. Too quickly, as it turned out. McCumber's putt broke left as it approached the cup, and he

settled for a share of fourth.

• **2000, ERNIE ELS** — The South African looked to be cruising to a Heritage title, building a two-shot lead at 12-under after 54 holes. He got his total to 14-under through seven holes of the final round, despite an odd par at the par-5 fifth hole, where each of his first three shots landed in a bunker. That was the first sign of what would become an ugly finish — four bogeys on the back nine rendered Els an afterthought as Stewart Cink charged to a two-shot win over Tom Lehman and Els tied for third, five shots back.

• **2001, VIJAY SINGH** — For the second consecutive year, one of the world's top-ranked golfers suffered an inexplicable final-round breakdown. Singh had shot rounds of 65-68-67 and was up two shots over Billy Mayfair and playing partner Jose Coceres to start the final round. Two holes into his round, Singh's lead

was gone. He needed an up-and-down par on No. 1 to hold the line, then made a bogey on one of the easiest holes on the course, the par-5 second, where he missed a 4-foot putt to save par. Singh's fate was sealed at the par-4 eighth, where he pulled his approach shot into the water and suffered a double bogey. Coceres went on to beat Mayfair in a five-hole playoff that was halted by darkness completed on a Monday.

• **2004, TED PURDY** — Purdy, looking for his first PGA Tour victory, had shot three rounds in the 60s and led by four shots entering the final round. But he coughed up a 2-over 73 on Sunday and lost in a playoff to Stewart Cink, who came from nine shots back to win. Purdy missed makeable birdie putts down the stretch — a 10-footer on the final hole of regulation and a 15-footer on the first extra hole.

# VERIZON HERITAGE

## Clemson study confirms Heritage packs big economic punch

BY PETER HULL  
THE ISLAND PACKET

Visitors to the Verizon Heritage golf tournament on Hilton Head Island are staying longer and spending more money, generating income of \$52 million for Beaufort County businesses and \$84 million in sales, according to the latest economic impact study of the tournament.

The island's annual PGA Tour stop generates almost \$1.3 million in local and state taxes, the study states. The preliminary findings released last December are part of an economic impact study conducted by Clemson University during last year's Heritage.

In 1999, a similar study put revenue from sales at \$51 million and net income at \$20 million. Adjusted for inflation that represents \$61 million and \$24 million today, respectively.

The 2005 results represent an 139 percent increase in income and a 43 percent increase in sales over 1999. Economists have yet to determine why income from the tourna-

ment increased at a much higher rate than sales.

The Clemson researchers attributed the growth, in part, to an improving economy that has led to tournament spectators staying longer on the island and spending more money while they're here. It's income Beaufort County would not see if the tournament moved elsewhere, economists say.

The tournament draws a crowd of about 135,000 for the week, according to tournament officials. During the opening ceremony and practice rounds from Monday to Wednesday, about 10,000 people attend daily. The crowd is limited to 25,000 people daily during tournament play Thursday through Sunday.

The \$48,000 survey, expanded from 23 questions in 1999 to

37 this time around, included questions about how visitors heard of the event, how many times someone has come to the tournament, and how much money will be spent on lodging, golf, food and shopping. The survey also asked about satisfaction with accommodations, parking and Hilton Head as a destination.

The study found that 70.6 percent of tournament visitors are from out-

side Beaufort County with most, 48.5 percent, attending the event for at least four days and staying on the island for eight days, two days longer than in 1999. A four-day tournament visitor spends \$435 a day, the study found, up from \$237 in 1999.

Corporate sponsors spend \$1.4 million during tournament week, the report states, including \$520,000 on catering, \$452,000 on accommo-

dations and \$60,000 on golf.

The crowds swell area hotels and restaurants, spending a total of \$63.92 million on Hilton Head alone.

Since 1999, the average room rate at island hotels has increased 7 percent from \$124.69 to \$133.37, said Susan Thomas, vice president of the Visitor and Convention Bureau at the Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce.

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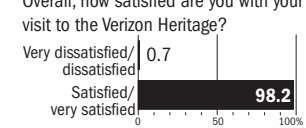
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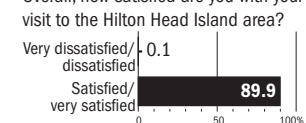
### Island a draw too

A 2005 survey found that while respondents were pleased with the Verizon Heritage golf tournament, 90 percent said their decision to attend the tournament was because of its location on the island.

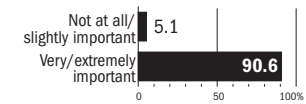
Overall, how satisfied are you with your visit to the Verizon Heritage?



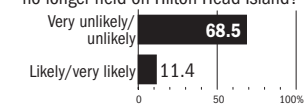
Overall, how satisfied are you with your visit to the Hilton Head Island area?



How important is the Verizon Heritage being located on Hilton Head Island in your decision to attend the tournament?



How likely would you be able to attend the Verizon Heritage if the event was no longer held on Hilton Head Island?



Source: Clemson University The Island Packet



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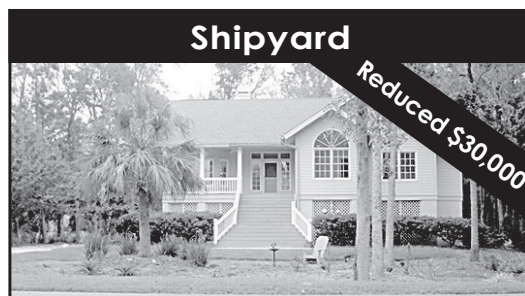
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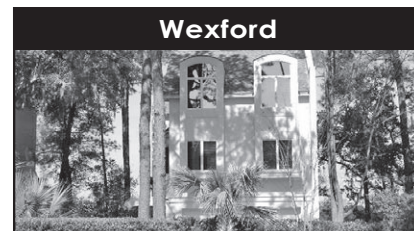
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# Harbour Town Golf Links



## Harbour Town scorecard

Hole	Yards	Par	Handicap	Diff.*	Hole	Yards	Par	Handicap	Diff.*
1	410	4	13	.165	10	444	4	10	.066
2	502	5	9	-.394	11	436	4	4	.209
3	437	4	15	.182	12	430	4	8	.068
4	200	3	11	.170	13	373	4	12	.046
5	530	5	3	-.255	14	192	3	18	.496
6	419	4	5	.197	15	571	5	6	.114
7	195	3	17	.238	16	395	4	16	.095
8	470	4	1	.406	17	185	3	14	.112
9	332	4	7	.054	18	452	4	2	.275
Out	3,495	36			In	3,478	35		
					Total	6,973	71		

\*Cumulative rating from 2004 tournament reflects field's average performance in relation to par

## Tee information

Tee	Yardage	Par	Rating	Slope
Heritage	6,973	71	75.2	146
Championship	6,603	71	72.9	139
White	6,116	71	70.0	126
Green	5,019	71	69.0	117

## Grassing

Area	Grass	Height of cut (inches)
Tees	TifSport	7/16 to 3/8
Fairways	419 Bermuda	7/16 to 3/8
Greens	Tifeagle	9/64 to 1/8
Rough	419 Bermuda	2 to 2 1/2

## Quick facts

- Architect — Pete Dye, with Jack Nicklaus consulting
- Average tee size — 2,400 square feet
- Average green size — 4,000 square feet
- Rounds per year — more than 40,000
- Acres of fairway — 31
- Acres of rough — 40
- Sand bunkers — 45
- Water hazards — 12
- Tournament Stimpmeter — 10 to 10.5 feet
- Soil conditions — sandy loam and clay
- Superintendent — Gary Snyder
- Course restoration — Pete Dye, 2000
- PGA professional — John Farrell

### Hole No. 1



**410-yard par-4, 13 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** Drive it straight. Easy starting hole can be made difficult by clipping a branch along a narrow chute from the tee box.

### Hole No. 2



**502-yard par-5, 9 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** Stay left. There's no hope of reaching in two if your drive parks behind the tree line on the right.

### Hole No. 3



**437-yard par-4, 15 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** Drive to middle of fairway makes for straightforward approach to a green guarded on left by a bunker and on right by a large tree.

### Hole No. 4



**200-yard par-3, 11 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** Classic risk-reward hole. Go for a pin cut to the front left only at great peril.

### Hole No. 5



**530-yard par-5, 3 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** If you want to hit the green in two, you've got to keep it left but avoid a fairway bunker that swallows wayward drives.

### Hole No. 6



**419-yard par-4, 5 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** Carry fairway bunker to right for best angle to an open green.

### Hole No. 7



**195-yard par-3, 17 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** Sand surrounds this hole, but real key is avoiding tree branches that will deflect any off-line shot.

### Hole No. 8



**470-yard par-4, 1 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** Rated the toughest hole on the course, you must hit it long and right to avoid trees, bunkers and lagoons on approach.

### Hole No. 9



**332-yard par-4, 7 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** Drive is short but deceptive — a middle to right tee shot gives the best angle to the green.

### Hole No. 10



**444-yard par-4, 10 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** Landing area looks wide, but only a shot to the left or middle affords a nice angle for the approach.

### Hole No. 11



**436-yard par-4, 4 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** Straight drive is essential to avoid trees and water lurking on both sides of fairway.

### Hole No. 12



**430-yard par-4, 8 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** Reaching dogleg from tee box is imperative to any chance at par.

### Hole No. 13



**373-yard par-4, 12 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** Drive must be on right side of fairway for a clear shot at green.

### Hole No. 14



**192-yard par-3, 18 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** Aim for the middle of the green. With small green, water in front and at right and deep pot bunker at back, it's the prudent choice.

### Hole No. 15



**571-yard par-5, 6 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** Stay to the middle of the fairway. Bunkers, water and waste areas abound to swallow all but the best-placed shots.

### Hole No. 16



**395-yard par-4, hdcp. 16**  
 • **Key:** Stay off the beach. The fairway dogleg is well guarded, and the former waste area there has been converted to a conventional bunker.

### Hole No. 17



**185-yard par-3, hdcp. 14.**  
 • **Key:** Gauge the wind. It can mean a three-club difference off tee.

### Hole No. 18



**452-yard par-4, 2 hdcp.**  
 • **Key:** Direct your tee shot toward the lighthouse.

## THE VERIZON HERITAGE

## Have you seen these golfers?

• Not if you've attended the Verizon Heritage in recent years. Tiger Woods, Vijay Singh, Phil Mickelson and Ernie Els — golf's 'Big Four' — have made just three Harbour Town appearances between them since 2002. But fear not, tournament officials say: A decline in the number of top-ranked players the past two years is an aberration, not a sign the event's prestige is slipping.

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

THE 2005 VERIZON HERITAGE WAS CAUSE FOR PAUSE, STEVE WILMOT ADMITS.

BUT WHAT WAS BY AT LEAST ONE MEASURE THE WEAKEST FIELD TO VISIT HARBOUR TOWN GOLF LINKS IN AT LEAST THREE SEASONS WAS A ONE-YEAR ABERRATION, THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR SAID, NOT A SIGN THAT SHIFTING PARADIGMS, RISING PURSES AND EVER-INCREASING FOCUS ON MAJOR CHAMPIONSHIPS HAVE STRIPPED THE TOURNAMENT OF ITS ABILITY TO LURE BIG-NAME PLAYERS.

"WOULD I LIKE TO HAVE TIGER HERE EVERY YEAR, AND WOULD I HAVE LIKED TO HAVE SEEN VIJAY OR ERNIE OR PHIL LAST YEAR?" WILMOT ASKED RHETORICALLY. "OF COURSE I WOULD HAVE. WE KNOW THE FANS LIKE TO SEE THE BIGGEST STARS. BUT I THINK WE ALSO HAVE STRONG SUPPORT FROM A COMMUNITY THAT KNOWS GOLF WELL, WHO KNOW SOME OF THESE YOUNG GUYS LIKE LUCAS GLOVER, NICK O'HEARN."

For the first time since Tiger Woods' first full professional season in 1997, the tournament failed to attract at least one of the heralded "Big Four" — Woods, Vijay Singh, Ernie Els and Phil Mickelson, ranked 1-4, respectively, entering the 2005 Heritage. Then, on the eve of the tournament, 2006 U.S. Ryder Cup captain Tom Lehman and young Australian star Aaron Baddeley, among the tournament's first commitments, announced they had changed their minds and would skip Harbour Town.

The tournament was shorn of star power in more ways than one — the sun seemed to back out, too, as the first three rounds were played in windy and unseasonably chilly weather that kept patrons bundled and scoring stifled. The 5-over-par cut was the highest on the PGA Tour to that point and the highest at the Heritage since 1986. Harbour Town, which ranked as the 18th most difficult course on the PGA Tour the season before, jumped to fourth in 2005, ahead of two majors, the Players Championship and both stroke-play events in the World Golf Championship series.

Tougher scoring conditions aren't necessarily cause for alarm — in fact, some golf fans prefer them. But there's little argument Sunday's final round was jaw-dropping mostly for the wrong reasons.

Early in the day, Irishman Darren Clarke, ranked 17th in the world, passed third-round leader Peter Lonard, ranked 46th, and built a four-stroke lead through four holes. But when CBS' television cameras flicked on, Clarke's game flicked off, and Lonard "rallied" with four bogeys and no birdies over the final 10 holes. The enduring image of the tournament was of Clarke plodding through the pluff mud, searching the marsh along the 18th hole for an errant approach shot he would never recover. So, instead of the fifth Heritage playoff in seven years — which would have been the result if Clarke had made par instead of double bogey — the tournament ended with Lonard capturing his first PGA Tour victory ... with a round of 4-over-par 75.

That day, only five golfers broke 70; moreover, the only harm that came to two golfers who were a combined 9-over was that Clarke fell back into a tie for second with Davis Love III and Jim Furyk.

Other stats vital stats of the week:

- The tournament didn't sell out in advance, and tickets were available at the walk-up booth throughout the week;
- Island hotels reported a slight increase in the occupancy rate over the previous year, but off-island hotels reported a dip;
- CBS' third-round broadcast of the Heritage earned a 1.8 Nielsen rating, up from 1.7 in 2004, but the final round dropped four-tenths of a point to 2.2, a loss of approximately 400,000 viewers. (Each point represents 1 million viewers.) Nielsen television ratings for the event failed to crack that week's top 20.

"(Former title sponsor) MCI is going to have some concerns," tournament director Steve Wilmot conceded shortly after last year's event. "They're great business people, and they just helped us raise the purse (by \$400,000, to \$5.2 million.) Naturally, they're going to ask, 'Did it help us?' The Heritage Foundation will have the same questions."

Please see **FIELD**, Page 12-D



## MISSING



Tiger Woods

- **Heritage appearances:** One
- **Last seen:** 1999
- **Best Heritage finish:** T-18th
- **Chances of resurfacing:** As

long as the Heritage is the week after the Masters, nada. Woods gears his game for the majors, and when they're over, he's preparing for the next one. It doesn't help that Harbour Town's narrow fairways don't suit Tiger's game well.

## MISSING



Ernie Els

- **Heritage appearances:** Seven
- **Last seen:** 2004
- **Best Heritage finish:** T-3, twice
- **Chances of resurfacing:** Certain.

Els, who has professed his love for Harbour Town and the Heritage, was among the first commitments to this year's tournament. He missed last year because of an overseas playing commitment.



## MISSING



Vijay Singh

- **Heritage appearances:** Nine
- **Last seen:** 2001
- **Best Heritage finish:** T-3, twice
- **Chances of resurfacing:** 50-50.

Singh plays more events than any star on tour and was a Heritage regular from 1993 to 2001. He posted three top-five finishes over that span, including ties for third in his last two Harbour Town starts.



## MISSING



Phil Mickelson

- **Heritage appearances:** Seven
- **Last seen:** 2002
- **Best Heritage finish:** Third
- **Chances of resurfacing:** Slim.

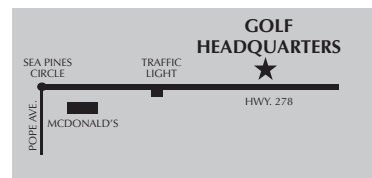
Like Singh and Els, Mickelson's most recent appearances at Harbour Town have been his best. But like Woods, Mickelson has argued for a shorter PGA Tour season and these days seems less inclined to play the week after a major.

Photo illustration by Jeff Kidd and Harmony Motter/The Island Packet



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# Wilmot: Fed Ex Cup can only enhance Heritage field

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

Benign or boon — the PGA Tour hasn't ironed out details for the Fed Ex Cup points race it plans to implement next season, but tournament and tour officials say the new system should benefit the Verizon Heritage, if it has any effect at all.

"We're trying to accomplish many different things with the Fed Ex Cup — a season that ends before football is fully engaged, making the opportunities to play regular tour events more important and attractive," said Henry Hughes, the PGA Tour's senior vice president and chief of operations.

The Heritage will keep its position on the PGA Tour schedule — the week

**"We're trying to accomplish many different things with the Fed Ex Cup — a season that ends before football is fully engaged, making the opportunities to play regular tour events more important and attractive."**

— PGA Tour senior vice president Henry Hughes

following the Masters — and thus will become one of a reduced number of tournaments in which pros can qualify for a four-week series that culminates with the Tour Championship in September. While the number of sanctioned tournaments won't necessarily be reduced, several will be held after the Tour Championship, which is now held in November.

That means the best players likely will have a greater incentive to play tournaments offering Fed Ex Cup points, according to Heritage tournament director Steve Wilmot, who also conceded his event might be too early in the season to feel much impact at all.

"I'm not sure it will affect us much," said Wilmot, whose event failed to lure a

top-10 player in 2005, "but I think if there is any effect, it will be a positive one."

There has been speculation that invitational tournaments such as the Heritage might be worth more points than most other non-major, open tournaments under the points system. PGA Tour Commissioner Tim Finchem said he doesn't expect details of the Fed Ex Cup points system to be decided until July.

Whatever emerges, "for the first time in golf, we will have playoffs, four straight weeks of all the top players playing head to head," Finchem said during his annual address to the media during March's Players Championship.

Finchem also suggested a potential downside to the Fed Ex Cup series would

be that European Tour players would be less likely to play in autumn events, since they would essentially be locked out of the end-of-year seeded tournaments. The fall events' loss could mean a gain for spring events such as the Heritage, which already enjoys a strong contingent of Europeans who hang around the United States to play tournaments on either side of the Masters.

Another possible boon for the Heritage and tournaments like it — Finchem said the points system probably will be cumulative, not based upon an average of points earned per event. That will mean a greater incentive for pros to play more tournaments. Contact Jeff Kidd at 706-8121 or [jkidd@islandpacket.com](mailto:jkidd@islandpacket.com). To comment on this story, please go to [islandpacket.com](http://islandpacket.com).

## Field

Continued from Page 11-D

### A steady hand

Wilmot's association with the tournament stretches 20 years, to a time when the Sea Pines Company's impending bankruptcy threatened the Heritage's existence. As assistant tournament director, then tournament director, Wilmot has seen the tournament through financial crisis, years in which pros shied away from a poorly conditioned Harbour Town and the uncertainty of two title sponsorship changes. In typical fashion, he met the aftermath of 2005's tournament with calm optimism.

"We've had tough times before, but I've always believed in the quality of our product, the quality of the golf course," Wilmot said. "(The Heritage Foundation) did some soul-searching and considered a lot of options, including some pretty drastic ones."

"But in the end, I felt like we shouldn't panic. I really felt that if it was a trend, then we'd probably need to do something fairly drastic. But as you can tell, things are starting to fall into place, and it's not really by doing anything different."

Whether 2005 constituted a trend or an aberration, Wilmot's optimism was rewarded this year.

Former British Open winner and 2002 Heritage champ Justin Leonard skipped the 2005 event (his wife had given birth to the couple's second child two weeks before) but was among the first commitments in 2006. Another early commitment was South African Ernie Els, who in 2005 traveled to China for a tournament in mid-April and missed the Heritage for just the second time in six years. With the Big Easy back in the fold, the Heritage had commitments from three top-10 players by mid-March.

Best of all, Wilmot announced two weeks before the tournament that he expects a sellout for the first time in four years.

"We go from a situation like we had last year to a situation where it looks like we'll have one of our strongest fields ever," Wilmot said about a month before this year's Heritage.

That's a promising sign after last season's field included just eight of the top 30 golfers in the Official World Golf Rankings. The Heritage included no golfer ranked in the top 10 and just one golfer ranked in the top 10 on the season money list to that point. It was part of a three-year slide — 2004's tournament featured just three of the top 10 and 11 of the top 30; in 2003, only three top-10 golfers and 13 of the top 30 participated.

This season the breakdown is:

	Top 30	Top 10
World rankings	12	2
Money list	15	3

### By any measuring stick?

Despite the dearth of star power at the 2005 Heritage, Wilmot defends the quality of the field and the golf it produced.

"We actually had a very good field last year — in fact, one of the best we've ever had in terms of quality, top-to-bottom," he said.

Exhibit "A" in Wilmot's case: Lonard flirted with a 59 and wound up with a 62 in the first round, which became the lowest first-round score ever by a Heritage winner. Frenchman Thomas Levet was just two shots off the pace after a 64. Irishman Darren Clarke opened with consecutive rounds of 65, just one off the event's 36-hole scoring record held by Mickelson and Jack Nicklaus.

Exhibit "B": The Heritage included only seven golfers from the most recent graduating classes of the Nationwide Tour and Qualifying School pool, one of the lowest exemption categories in the tournament's pecking order. Just a year earlier, the tournament went 20-deep into that pool. In other words, what the Heritage lacked in top-shelf talent, it atoned for with mid-level stars on the ascent — golfers such as Nick O'Hearn, Geoff Ogilvy, Lucas Glover and Zach Johnson.

But by other measures, last year's field was weaker than others of recent vintage.

For example, the Golf Rank Index, a service unrelated to the Official World Golf Rankings that produces its own player rankings and rates tournaments by strength of field, showed the 2005 Heritage in a second year of decline, slipping from the 18th-strongest field among 48 PGA Tour events in 2003 to 19th in 2004 to 29th in 2005.

And as long as perception is the reality of a tour dependent upon sponsorship money — and thus viable only as long as it can deliver an audience — another set of numbers loom at least as important as the GIR or Official World Golf Rankings.

"We've seen the purses increase a lot because of guys like Tiger and Vijay and Phil, and that's been good for the game and good for guys like me," said Chris Riley, who will make his seventh Heritage appearance this week. "But there also seems to be a concentration of star power. I know guys like me don't sell a lot of tickets or attract a lot of TV viewers."

Riley isn't chopped liver — he's a PGA Tour winner and a member of the 2004 U.S. Ryder Cup team — but



The Associated Press

It became one of the enduring images of the 2005 Heritage — Peter Lonard (left) trying to help Darren Clarke find his errant approach shot to the 18th green during the final round of last year's Heritage. Clarke was one of the biggest names in a field that included just nine golfers ranked in the top 30 of the Official World Golf Rankings, but he blew a four-shot lead with 13 holes to play, and Lonard won his first PGA Tour event despite shooting a 75.

his point has merit: For all the talk about today's PGA Tour having more quality golfers than ever before, fan interest centers mostly around a small group of stars. Television ratings tend to bear that out.

Compare the viewerships of the 2004 and 2005 Ford Championship at Doral, for example. In both tournaments, a single stroke — or less — separated the winner from the second-place finisher, but the Nielsen ratings for the 2005 event, in which Woods nipped Mickelson by a single stroke, were up 84 percent from a year earlier, when lesser-known Craig Parry won a playoff with Scott Verplank by holing out a 6-iron from 176 yards on the first extra hole.

Comparable golf, incomparable audiences.

In fact, last year's overnight rating for the final round at Doral was the event's highest since 1996, when the tournament was won by Greg Norman, the game's biggest draw before the dawning of the Woods era.

There even is a pecking order in the drawing power of the Big Four.

Consider: Woods' victory in the 2005 Masters drew a 10.3 rating with a 21 share. That was up 41 percent from a year earlier (7.3 with an 18,) when Mickelson won his first career major. It was also the highest for the Masters since Woods' last victory at Augusta in 2001 (12.9 with a 27 share), when he became the first golfer to hold all four major titles at the same time.

What does this mean for a tournament in which Woods has appeared only once and where Mickelson, Els and Singh have combined for just six appearances since 2000? And, if this means trouble, what can the tournament do about it?

The answers depend upon who you ask. If you query Wilmot, the response to both is along the lines of "probably not much."

### A history of winners

The Heritage quickly grew in stature after its genesis in 1969. After only 18 playings — and only three years after moving from a March date to the week after the Masters — the event was listed among the 10 most prestigious on the PGA Tour in Golf Magazine's 1986 yearbook. The rankings, compiled from surveys sent to 65 touring professionals, included the four major championships and the limited-field World Series of Golf, now known as the WGC Bridgestone Invitational. Many factors likely contributed to that esteem, not the least of which was the champions roll. Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Tom Watson, Nick Faldo, Greg Norman, Payne Stewart and Nick Price — hall of famers all — won the event at least once.

But since Price's victory in 1997, no champion's career trajectory suggests the World Golf Hall of Fame is an inevitable destination. (The closest contender for enshrinement is Love, who captured two of his record five Heritage titles over that span.)

Interestingly, the year Price won, Tom Lehman tied for fourth and ascended to the top spot in the Official World Golf Rankings, a position he held just one week. Lehman played each of the next six Heritages but hadn't returned to Harbour Town since 2003. The four other golfers who have been ranked No. 1 since then have combined for 10 appearances (out of a possible 32), and none actually played the Heritage while atop the rankings.

Nonetheless, many golfers say that does not indicate the tournament's prestige is on the wane.

"This is a good field year after year," said hall of famer Tom Kite, who last season made his first Heritage appearance since 1999 and 22nd overall. "With this being the week after the Masters, not too many tournaments could survive. That says how much people like to play this course."

As Love sees it, there is nothing peculiar about the Heritage's position.

"There's a good tradition of guys that play here," Love said. "We have this question every week except five or six times — why are the top two guys or four guys or 10 guys missing? People want to see Vijay, Tiger and Ernie every week, but that doesn't happen."

Which is one reason Wilmot was concerned — but not alarmed — by last year's tournament.

"There are a lot of tournaments in the same boat we're in," Wilmot said. "And we're all in a situation where you can lose a couple of good golfers in any particular year. It doesn't mean it's a trend."

Wilmot said many sponsors seemed concerned about what transpired last year, but there were few tangible results of that concern a year later. Title sponsor Verizon is signed through 2010; the tournament approximately doubled the number of slots sold in Wednesday's fishing pro-am, a new event started last season; and most of the handful of companies who have dropped sponsorship this year plan to return in 2007, passing on this year's event only because the final round falls on Easter.

"We're solidly committed to this tournament," said Ron McMurtrie, a Verizon group president who also worked with the tournament for 15 years while at MCI, the telecommunications company purchased by Verizon earlier this year.

"Do we want to see a good field here? Of course," added McMurtrie, who also has been a member of the Heritage Classic Foundation board for three years. "But this tournament to us is not just about units of advertising, though that's certainly in the equation. This tournament is important to us as a venue to entertain clients, to associate our name with Hilton Head. We get a lot of benefits from sponsoring this tournament aside from TV exposure."

And, like Wilmot, McMurtrie saw more exception than rule in 2005.

"One year doesn't make a trend," McMurtrie said. "There were a lot of anomalies last year."

### A tournament of oddities

Perhaps the greatest anomaly of 2005 was the weather.

Unseasonable conditions wrecked scoring at the Heritage, which was one of several early-season events stung by less-than-favorable weather.

Leading up to the Heritage, nine of 15 events were interrupted by foul weather at least once. Two tournaments ended on Mondays, including the Nissan Open, where Adam Scott's victory was not recognized as an official win because rain allowed completion of only 36 holes.

The constant rain delays made for chaotic travel and fatigue, according to 1997 Heritage champion Nick Price.

"It's just timing, and timing is everything," Price said on the eve of the 2005 tournament. "I think the weather skunked the tournament this year."

## What Cink thinks: Heritage timing right

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

The Verizon Heritage is held at the right place at the right time ... at least as far as two-time champion Stewart Cink is concerned.

"I love Hilton Head," the 2000 and 2004 champion said. "I'll always come here."

Cink, who at No. 11 in the Official World Rankings was the highest-rated golfer in the field when the 2005 Heritage commenced, said the purse is seldom a consideration when established pros map out their schedules.

"It's different for everybody," Cink said, "but I think the golf course is a big factor, probably the No. 1 factor. Second, is the area you stay. I love Hilton Head. I love Denver, too. I've never had a great finish there, but I'll play there because I love being in the area."

Cink said he likes to establish a pattern of playing three to four events in a row, then taking two or three off.

And he doesn't shy away from playing the week after a major championship.

"All of my wins have come after majors, although an asterisk comes with the first one because it came after the British Open and I didn't play the British Open," Cink said.

Actually, Cink established a trend of strong play following a major even before that — after qualifying for his first U.S. Open in 1996, where he tied for 16th, he won the next week on the Nationwide Tour.

The next season, Cink was a PGA Tour member, and he broke into the winner's circle at that season's Canon Greater Hartford Open, although he didn't qualify for the previous week's British Open.

Cink's 2000 Heritage victory came a week after finishing tied for 28th at the Masters, and he tied for 17th at Augusta National the week before his 2004 Heritage win. Later that season, a month's worth of hot play leading up to a 17th-place finish at the PGA Championship made him one of Hal Sutton's two captain's picks for the Ryder Cup, a decision Cink immediately vindicated by winning the NEC Invitational.

## 'Big Four' come with no guarantees

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

When champion Peter Lonard and runner-up Darren Clarke combined for a 9-under-par total in last year's Heritage, they might have left some fans wondering what might have happened had the tournament attracted even one of the world's top-10 players.

The answer might have been: The same thing.

Not even the presence of multiple golfers ranked in the top 10 of the Official World Golf Rankings guarantees a star-studded leaderboard, and it's worth noting that at least two members of golf's "Big Four" hardly fared better than Lonard when they had a third-round lead at the Heritage.

In last year's Funai Classic at Walt Disney World, for example, both Tiger Woods and Vijay Singh missed the cut. In this year's Bay Hill Invitational, where Woods, Singh and Ernie Els competed, only Singh managed to finish within 10 shots of winner Rod Pamplung — and Singh was never in serious contention after opening with rounds of 71.

As for the Big Four's Heritage track record:

- Woods broke 70 just once in four rounds in his lone appearance, in 1999.
- Phil Mickelson tied Jack Nicklaus' 36-hole scoring record in his last Harbour Town start, in 2002, but he followed with rounds of 72 and 71 and finished third.

- Els was the 54-hole leader in 2000 but shot a 74 to finish tied for third. Three years later, his out-of-bounds tee shot on the 16th hole short-circuited a final-round rally and led to another tie for third.

- Singh also held a 54-hole lead, in 2001, but he shot a 74 in the final round — his first over-par round of the season — and tied for third.

Please see **ODDITIES**, Page 13-D

**"We've seen the purses increase a lot because of guys like Tiger and Vijay and Phil, and that's been good for the game and good for guys like me. But there also seems to be a concentration of star power. I know guys like me don't sell a lot of tickets or attract a lot of TV viewers."**

— PGA Tour golfer Chris Riley

## Oddities

Continued from Page 12-D

The first tournament after the season's first major championship, the Masters, made for a logical break in the schedule, Price argued.

And that date, even in a more typical season, might not be the garden spot it once was.

Wilmot said the tournament has spurned offers from the PGA Tour to move the Heritage to other dates because it still offers several advantages. Among them, Harbour Town is usually in peak condition in mid-April, golf fans' interest is piqued by the season's first major the week prior and the tournament enjoys a long and friendly relationship with CBS, which has broadcast rights to both events.

The tournament also continues to attract plenty of top European Tour stars who want to play at least one additional week in the United States after the Masters. But it's less clear if PGA Tour regulars like playing the week after a major championship.

Last season, three of the four tournaments following a major championship fell in the bottom half of the GRI rankings. (The one that did not, the NEC Invitational, is a limited-field World Golf Championship.) Though the Heritage strength-of-field rating was the highest of those three events, it was only one of seven on the PGA Tour not played opposite a major championship, WGC event or Presidents Cup that failed to draw at least one member of the Big Four. Further, a Masters winner has not played in the Heritage since Singh in 2000.

Woods, who has made just one career Heritage appearance, probably did more to usher in that new paradigm than anyone else. He's made it clear he's chasing Nicklaus' record for career major championships, not Sam Snead's record for career PGA Tour titles.

And though he's won six money titles, earnings seem to be less of a concern nowadays ... and not only for Woods.

The weakest Heritage field in at least three years came the same year the purse was raised \$400,000 to \$5.2 million, more than twice what was at stake in 1999. Els skipped the tournament

## Money winners still active

Conventional wisdom is big-name golfers seldom compete at the same tournaments these days because they make so much money, they play fewer events overall than their counterparts in the "old days."

But that's not necessarily the case. Jack Nicklaus, for example, won eight money titles, all between 1965 and 1976. He never won a title in a season in which he played more than 25 events and won five titles when playing fewer than 20. By comparison, only two of Tiger Woods' six money titles have come in seasons he's played fewer than 20 tournaments.

Tom Watson played 20 events when he won his last title in 1984 and never played more than 24 in a season in which he won the title. By comparison, Vijay Singh played 27 and 29 events, respectively, when he won in 2003 and 2004.

Other interesting notes: The money winners between the years 1998 and 2005 played an average of 22.1 events; the money winners in the preceding eight years played an average of just 20 events. The top 10 money winners in 2005 played an average of 23.4 events; the top 10 money leaders in 1997 played an average of 22.6 events.

— Jeff Kidd

for a chance to play in China at the Johnny Walker Classic, where the purse was a paltry \$2.35 million.

Media speculated Els was offered an appearance fee to play in China, as he was for another European PGA event in Qatar last season. Such offerings are not allowed on the PGA Tour, as commissioner Tim Finchem reiterated last season after management company IMG appeared to offer up several of its clients — for a fee — for Monday outings conducted by tournament sponsors near tour events.

But even guaranteed money doesn't guarantee participation.

Earlier this season, Mickelson, Goosen and Woods skipped the Mercedes Championships, where each member of a field limited to the previous year's winners is guaranteed a cut of the \$5.4 million purse. Mickelson also skipped 2005's season-ending Tour Championship, where the rich also get richer — the top 30 on the earnings list qualify for a guaranteed cut of the \$6.5 million purse.

"For me, scheduling is about the golf course and how I've played in the past," said Jay Haas, who will be playing in his 30th consecutive Heritage, more than anyone else. "I think most of the guys, they don't look at the purse, they look at the golf course and maybe where it falls on the schedule."

With almost every tournament

offering huge money — none of which is available if you play poorly and miss the cut — it makes sense that players today are less attracted by the "prestige" of an event and more inclined to construct schedules around events played on courses that suit their games.

And that could be a mixed blessing for the Heritage.

On the one hand, Harbour Town is consistently ranked among the finest in the country — "It's a great course, and it's so unlike most of the other courses we play on tour," said 2005 Players Championship winner Fred Funk, who has appeared in 15 Heritages. "We look forward to playing it every year."

On the other hand, part of the uniqueness is the small greens and narrow fairways that require more precision than distance off the tee — which might also explain why Woods has made just one appearance here, though he finished a respectable 18th.

Wilmot recalls a conversation with Scott McCarron, who tied for 56th in 1999 and missed the cut in 2000, his second and final Heritage appearance.

"He told me he loved the way he was treated at the tournament, loved Hilton Head Island," Wilmot said. "He even said he liked the golf course. But (he) didn't like the way he played it. It just didn't set up well for his game, so he hasn't been back."



The Associated Press

Justin Leonard, the 2002 Heritage champion, skipped last year's tournament because his wife gave birth to the couple's second child two weeks earlier. Leonard returns this week to make his 10th Heritage start.

## Setting the agenda

Want to complicate the business of guessing which golfers will develop an affinity for Harbour Town and which will not? Try Leonard on for size.

Despite a game that seems suited for Harbour Town, the 1997 British Open champion finished no higher than tied for 30th and missed the cut in his previous two starts ... before winning the tournament in 2002.

Leonard had made six Heritage starts in seven seasons but considered striking the event from his calendar before his 2002 victory. The only reason he came back?

His wife, Amanda, loved Hilton Head Island.

Leonard tied for 47th in his title defense and tied for 39th in 2004 before skipping the 2005 event.

Leonard's continued presence, despite checkered results, is evidence the Heritage can continue to attract top golfers and reveals a bit of the bait, Wilmot said.

"We have a great golf course and a great community to sell," Wilmot said. "The players just love coming here."

Indeed, many tour pros rave about the laid-back atmosphere in Sea Pines and call it a perfect destination after a week in an Augusta pressure cooker.

"We kind of feel like we have an event that sells itself," Wilmot said. "So far, we haven't felt the need to do

a lot of extravagant things to attract players, which is good because the bottom line is that we're a charity, and anything we have to spend on that means less money we can put back into the community.

"For some events to be giving away gifts, putting Dom Perignon in their lockers, flying their wives to the Biltmore Estate or taking them on trips to Charleston is going to be an extreme, but some have to do it. We don't because we don't know how much of a difference it really makes."

That's not to say the tournament takes creature comforts or players' entertainment for granted. Among the recent improvements was an upgrade to the players locker room and the addition of a Wednesday fishing pro-am, which Wilmot said was a hit with players and sponsors alike.

The tournament also is extending its reach into junior and amateur golf, and Wilmot hopes to forge long-term relationships with the next generation of star golfers.

The Heritage has long run a junior tournament, which has ranked among the five strongest in junior golf several years running and which has been won by future PGA Tour players such as David Gossett, Ty Tryon and Charles Howell III.

Four years ago, the Heritage also

established ties with the Players Amateur and eventually took most of the day-to-day operations of an event started by former Walker Cup players Duke Delcher and Tom McKnight, who is now a member of the Champions Tour.

The Heritage reserves one of its exemptions for the Players Amateur winner (University of Georgia freshman and Savannah native Brian Harman will use that exemption to make his second Heritage start this week.) Among the Players Amateur's past champions are PGA Tour rookies Bill Haas and Camilo Villegas, who tied for second in two of his first six starts this season and was third at the Players Championship. Another recent Players Am participant is J.B. Holmes, also a PGA Tour rookie, who won in his fourth career start in February's FBR Open.

Whether those players go on to star professionally or make regular visits to Harbour Town remains to be seen — Haas appeared here last season, and Villegas and Holmes make their Heritage debut today.

"It can't hurt, can it?" Wilmot said. "The joke has kind of become that I lose 20 pounds during the Heritage and gain 15 during the Players Am. I still do a lot of the same work for both tournaments, but I get to spend a lot more time with the players at Belfair. I can sit down and have breakfast with a kid like Brian Harman and reach out to him and hopefully form a relationship."

"Who knows, there might be a day when I need to call on one of those guys for a favor, a day when I'm going to ask one of those guys to play the Heritage."

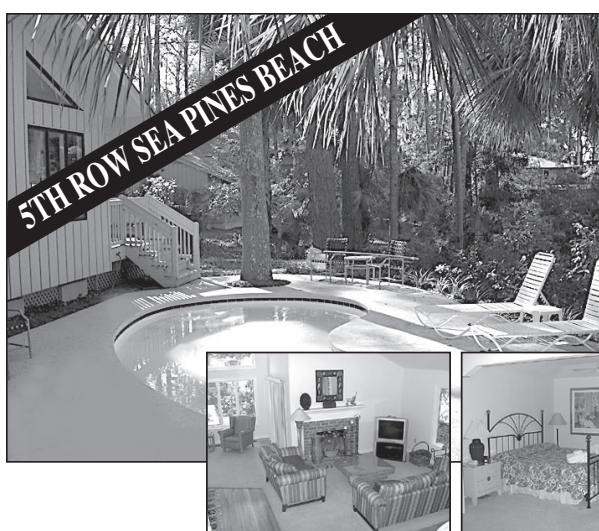
Even if you consider 2005 a bust, Darren Clarke said things should turn around for the Heritage long before Wilmot has to call in chits with younger players.

"The guys obviously just wanted to have a rest" after the bad weather in 2005, Clarke said. "I'm sure they'll be back again. The tournament is too good a tournament to keep on missing."

Contact Jeff Kidd at 706-8121 or [jkidd@islandpacket.com](mailto:jkidd@islandpacket.com). To comment on this story, please go to [islandpacket.com](http://islandpacket.com).

# TERRY BISHOP TEAM

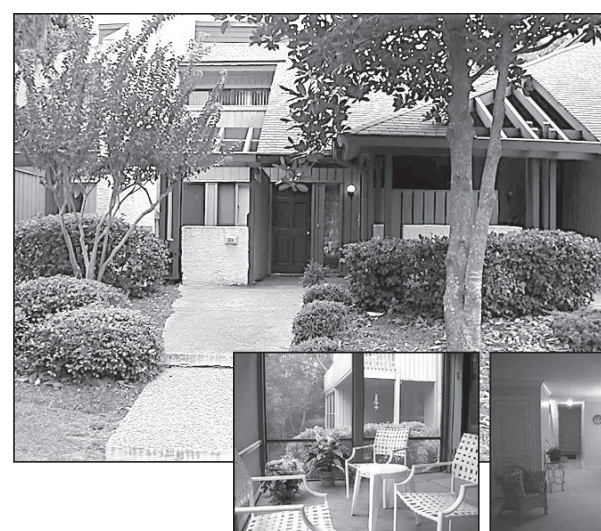
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# Targeting 10 who can win

A look at the top contenders in this year's Heritage field, as determined by Island Packet sports editor Jeff Kidd.

**10. Rod Pampling**  
**• Best Heritage finish:** Tie for sixth last year, when he posted a 4-under-par total.  
**• 2006 season so far:** Picked up his second PGA Tour victory with a win at the Bay Hill Invitational, his second top-10 finish of the year.



PAMPLING

**• Why he can win:** Since missing the cut in his first two Harbour Town appearances, Pampling has twice been in serious contention, including last year, when he might have been a surprise winner had he not shot his first over-par round of the tournament on Sunday. Already a winner in 2006, it might appear Pampling backed into a victory at the Bay Hill Invitational when Greg Owen made a mess of the greens in the final two holes. But Pampling never gave up, putting the memory of an out-of-bounds drive on No. 13 out of his head and putting the pressure on Owen with a perfect drive on No. 18.

**9. Stewart Cink**  
**• Best Heritage finish:** Won twice, in 2000 and 2004.



CINK

**• 2006 season so far:** Got off to a mediocre start, notching a pair of top-15s in his first five starts before missing the cut in consecutive weeks at the Bay Hill Invitational and the Players Championship.  
**• Why he can win:** Cink has proven himself with a pair of victories at Harbour Town, and despite a slow start to the season, he's coming off a career-best 10th-place finish at the Masters.

**8. Peter Lonard**  
**• Best Heritage finish:** The defending champion picked up his first PGA Tour victory at Harbour Town a year ago.  
**• 2006 season so far:** Mediocre since a 10th-place finish in the season-opening Mercedes Championships. Since then, he

## Pros picks

Area club pros try to predict who will win this year's Verizon Heritage

Pro	Club	Pick
Kirk Ridgely	Bear Creek	Davis Love III
Dave Blankenship	Belfair	Ernie Els
Jim White	Callawassie Island	Fred Funk
Franklin Newell	Chechessee Creek	Fred Funk
Jerry Dacus	Dolphin Head	Ernie Els
Brent Carlson	Eagles Pointe	Davis Love III
Neil Ryan	Golden Bear	Ernie Els
Joe Pearson	Haig Point	Davis Love III
John Farrell	Harbour Town	Billy Andrade
Rob Fenske	HH National	Ernie Els
Lance Bunting	Indigo Run	Davis Love III
David Powell	Island West	Ernie Els
Bob Patton	Long Cove	Darren Clarke
Charlie Kent	May River	Jim Furyk
Hale Kelly	Melrose	Chris DiMarco
Scott Hunter	Moss Creek	Jim Furyk
Bill Sampson	Old Tabby Links	Davis Love III
Ken McNerney	Oyster Reef	Chris DiMarco
Steve Barfoot	Palmetto Hall	Ernie Els
Jim Corbin	Pinecrest	Jim Furyk
John Richardson	Sea Pines	Davis Love III
Brian Moll	Shipyard	Peter Lonard
Chuck Park	Spanish Wells	Geoff Ogilvy
Bob Pfeffer	Sun City	Jim Furyk
Bob Fulton	Wexford	Jim Furyk

**The breakdown:** Davis Love III, 24%; Ernie Els, 24%; Jim Furyk, 20%; Chris DiMarco, 8%; Fred Funk 8%; Geoff Ogilvy, 4%; Billy Andrade, 4%; Peter Lonard, 4%; Carren Clarke, 4%.

**GOT YOUR OWN OPINION ABOUT WHO WILL WIN THIS YEAR'S HERITAGE?** Visit us online at [www.islandpacket.com](http://www.islandpacket.com) to vote in our fan poll.

hasn't cracked the top 30.

**• Why he can win:** Because he's already done it once at Harbour Town. Lonard isn't playing particularly well so far this year, but he was stone cold entering the 2005 Heritage, missing five of 10 cuts and failing to make the weekend at Augusta before his breakthrough win at Harbour Town.



LONARD

**7. Geoff Ogilvy**  
**• Best Heritage finish:** Tied for third in 2003.  
**• 2006 season so far:** Picked up the biggest victory of his career in February's World Match Play Championship and tied for 16th at the Masters.  
**• Why he can win:** Ogilvy seems

to be coming into his own after winning the WGC Match Play event and finishing second the next week in the Honda Classic. He followed up his career-best 2003 Harbour Town finish with a tie for 11th the next season.



OGILVY

**6. Chad Campbell**  
**• Best Heritage finish:** Tied for 18th in 2003, when he opened with consecutive rounds of 4-under 67.  
**• 2006 season so far:** Inconsistent, but impressive when he's good. Campbell won the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic in January, tied for second at the Sony Open and advanced to the "Elite Eight" at the World Match Play Championship, a

good run-up to his third-place finish at Augusta last week, where he was the 36-hole leader.

**• Why he can win:** Actually, maybe this should say "Why hasn't he won here yet?" He's among the game's best iron players. Driving accuracy and putting seem to be his biggest problems, but the latter shouldn't bother him much at Harbour Town, where the greens are relatively flat and small. If he's dialed in on his approaches, as he is perfectly capable of doing, he'll contend.



CAMPBELL

**5. Lucas Glover**  
**• Best Heritage finish:** Tied for 16th in 2004, nearly missing the cut but posting a 5-under-par 66 in the third round.

**• 2006 season so far:** Three top-six finishes in the first three months, coupled with his first PGA Tour victory at the Funai Classic last year have suddenly thrust the South Carolina native into the hunt for this year's U.S. Ryder Cup team.

**• Why he can win:** Glover has shown no real flaw in his swing this year — he's well within the top 100 on the PGA Tour in driving distance, driving accuracy, greens in regulation, putting ... you name it. Glover has posted just one round in the 60s in three Heritage appearances and has broken par at Harbour Town Golf Links just one other time. But that was before his first PGA Tour victory and the confidence it has inspired.



GLOVER

**4. Darren Clarke**  
**• Best Heritage finish:** Tied for second last year, when he blew a four-shot lead with 13 holes to play.

**• 2006 season so far:** He's played sporadically as his wife battles cancer. But he's done well when he finds his way to the course — his results include a third-place finish at the



CLARKE

Bay Hill Invitational.

**• Why he can win:** He came so doggone close a year ago. Throw out a stretch of 13 bad holes to end the tournament, and we might have been talking about one of the most dominant performances in Harbour Town history — certainly one of the best among Heritages played in brutal scoring conditions. He also tied for 11th in 2004, so it's no fluke. Plus, his wardrobe screams for a plaid jacket.

**3. Davis Love III**  
**• Best Heritage finish:** Has won five times, most recently in 2003.

**• 2006 season so far:** Odd. Very odd. Missed three cuts in his first eight events but has three top-25s, including a second-place finish in the World Match Play Championships, where he advanced to the final for the second time in three years. The biggest curiosity, though, came at the Players Championship, where he shared the first-round lead with Jim Furyk but missed the cut by shooting an 83 the next day.

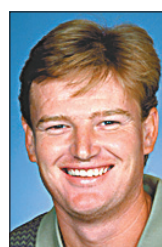
**• Why he can win:** Do we really have to discuss this?



LOVE

**2. Ernie Els**  
**• Best Heritage finish:** Twice tied for third, including 2000, when he was the 54-hole leader but slumped to a 74 in the final round.

**• 2006 season so far:** Trying to rebound from knee surgery that wiped out the second half of his season in 2005, Els hasn't returned to his old, dominant self, but he's showing signs of life. He was in contention in the final round at the Players Championship after shaving five strokes from par over the first 11 holes. But he dropped four shots in a four hole stretch, culminated at the par-3 17th at TPC



ELS

at Sawgrass, where his 8-iron flew the island green. Augusta brought a little more frustration — he closed with a 4-over-par 76 and was never a factor in the final round of the Masters.

**• Why he can win:** He's ready to. And Harbour Town suits his game. The Big Easy is ready to return to the winner's circle.

**1. Jim Furyk**  
**• Best Heritage finish:** Tied for second last year and was one of the few contenders to post a sub-par round on Sunday, when he shot a 69.

**• 2006 season so far:** Three top-10s and seven of eight cuts have made for a promising start. He made the cut on the number at last week's Masters, then posted the best third round of any golfer, a 4-under 68.

**• Why he can win:** Furyk's Harbour Town performance is better than Justin Leonard's before his 2002 breakthrough, but there are parallels. Like Leonard, Furyk is accurate off the tee — perfect for Harbour Town's narrow fairways — and accurate with his irons — perfect for Harbour Town's tiny greens. For good measure, Furyk is an above-average to great putter. But until he shot a final-round 69 last year, he had never been in serious contention at the Heritage. Leonard, by comparison, had finished no better than a tie for 30th and had missed two consecutive cuts at Harbour Town before his victory. That said, Furyk has three top-15 finishes at Harbour Town and since 1997 has played better with each subsequent appearance. So, since he tied for second last year, that seems to leave just two options — a solo second or a tartan jacket.



FURYK

**FIVE WHO COULD THRIVE**  
**• The best of the rest, in ascending order:** Greg Owen, Bart Bryant, Nick O'Hern, Billy Andrade, Camilo Villegas.

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# Chasing plaid: Winner's jacket has unique history

## FROM STAFF REPORTS

There is, of course, the purse.

The golfers who remain in the field for Sunday's final round of the Verizon Heritage will divvy up \$5.3 million.

And there's the two-year exemption on the PGA Tour that goes to the winner.

But the Heritage offers yet another inducement — a tartan jacket that goes to the winner, something few other golf tournaments offer.

The green jacket that goes to the Masters champion, and the plaid blazer awarded to the winner of the Colonial might be older, but the Heritage's prize is steeped in history and tradition, too.

The Heritage pattern is fashioned after the red Royal Stuart tartan. Every year, after the final putt is made, the tournament winner dons the distinct blazer for a brief period of time before it is whisked away.

Here are a few other facts about the plaid blazer.

- The jacket was first awarded to Bob Goalby, who won the second tournament in 1970. Arnold Palmer, who won the first Heritage in 1969, didn't receive a jacket because a design wasn't chosen at the time. The first tournament director, Bill Dyer, originally ordered gold Palm Beach jackets for the winner, but that color was quickly nixed.

- Up until 1987, when the Heritage Classic Foundation took over administration of the tournament, only the winner wore

the tartan coat, and everyone else associated with the tournament wore red blazers. These days, trustees of the foundation also are allowed to wear them, along with a few other others. Among those with their own plaid jackets are Pete Dye, designer of the Harbour Town Golf Links; the tournament's chairman of volunteers (this year it's Paul Leimbeck). Tournament director Steve Wilmot keeps a jacket in his closet.

- When the Heritage was held in November, the tartan jacket was made of wool. But that fabric proved too uncomfortable when the tournament moved to the spring, so in 1983, a lighter blend of fabric was used.

- The tartan was accredited by the Scottish Tartan Society on July 12, 1995, and its name was changed from Hilton Champion to Heritage Plaid on Sept. 5, 2000, according to a certificate in the Heritage Classic Foundation's office. However, the Tartan Society's Web site says the name changed from Hilton Champion to Hilton Plaid. Whatever the case, the tartan pattern can only be used by the Heritage Classic Foundation.

- If a player wins the tournament more than once, he always gets another jacket, which is presented to him during the opening ceremonies. So, Davis Love III owns five plaid jackets.

- Unlike Augusta National's jackets, which are stored on site and not allowed to leave the course grounds, no Heritage

tartans are kept on hand or stored from year to year. Each jacket is made exclusively for the winner or for officials from the title sponsor. Occasionally there may be a couple of extra jackets, but it's not a regular practice. So as the winner makes his way to the 18th green, a jacket that may fit is rounded up from the available pool. The jacket Stewart Cink wore in 2004, for example, was slightly short in the sleeves. Cink is 6-foot-4.

- The fabric to make the jackets is ordered by the bolt from Kinloch Anderson in Scotland. The company sends two bolts at a time, meaning fabric only has to be ordered every few years. If only one jacket was needed every year, it would probably take about 10 years to run through two bolts of cloth. The pieces of the jacket are assembled from the fabric at The Acorn, a tailor in Sea Pines Center. Those pieces are then sent to a small tailoring operation in Atlanta, which puts it together. The entire process is done by hand. There is about a six-week wait for the jacket to return to Hilton Head Island, where the Acorn's Dennis Jaworski applies the finishing touches, including embroidering the winner's name in the collar.

- The cost of making each jacket is about \$600.

- The buttons on the jacket are plain gold. At one point, a manufacturer made a button with the Heritage man seen on the emblem, but it was never used.



File/The Island Packet

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# Carlin: Cold knees belie warm heart

If I've said it once, I've said it a hundred times — you've got to admire a man willing to wear a skirt to work, particularly when he greets and meets hundreds of people a day.

In John Carlin's case, his workplace attire is a kilt, actually, and though Carlin hasn't been around Harbour Town Golf Links quite as long as the lighthouse, he is nearly as iconic.

Carlin has been the welcoming committee at Harbour Town since 1991, greeting people at the bag drop and seeing them off on the first tee. Weather permitting, you'll find him donning the tartan skirt more common in the Scottish Highlands than the Lowcountry.

Harbour Town head professional John Farrell came up with the idea of having his starter wear a kilt years ago, playing off the garb that is seen commonly during the Verizon Heritage, and Carlin has had no qualms about the somewhat different look. "It keeps me in a job," Carlin said, "because nobody else wants to wear that thing. Which is good. I wear it, and I've got a job."

Golfers playing a world-class PGA Tour stop for the first time typically can be a bit nervous upon arrival, but Carlin can put even the most anxious at ease. He'll ask them where they're from and strike up a conversation from there, often posing for pictures before offering up his vast course knowledge.

He is glib yet utterly sincere, with an infectious, positive demeanor. Ask him how he's doing and Carlin will often reply, "Pair of W's. Wonderful, wonderful."

His cheerfulness has even gained Carlin the nickname: OB-OP (Old buddy, old pal), and when any of the numerous former Harbour Town golf professionals, now all over the country, will call to check in with Farrell, their first question is often, "How's OB-OP?"

"John is one of those employees and individuals who, when you're very lucky, you get to have part of your team," Farrell said. "The way he treats people at our first tee, the way he greets people and welcomes people — he's got a gift."

"When he asks you how you're doing, he wants to know the answer. He's very genuine. He's one of those guys who just makes people feel welcome."

Farrell has lost track of the number of times he's looked out of his office window and seen Carlin picking up broken tees and cigarette butts, or gathering range balls, long after he has clocked out for the day. When Farrell used to ask him what he was doing, Carlin would say, "The other guys were busy doing something else. I saw that it wasn't done, so I stayed."

"He never complains, never has a cross word with anyone, he's never fatigued," Farrell said. "He goes above and beyond on everything, and there's no job that he's above. He's willing to do whatever is needed."

With a motor that is constantly running, Carlin wakes up every morning at 5 a.m., to walk his 5-year-old golden retriever, Ojo, around their Sea Pines Club Course neighborhood, arriving at Harbour Town at least one hour before the first tee time of the day. On his days off, Carlin says he has walked Ojo



File/The Island Packet

John Carlin is a familiar face as a greeter at Harbour Town Golf Links. He has no qualms about his attire, the traditional kilt seen often during Heritage week — "It keeps me in a job," he said.

up to five hours in one day — three in the morning and two at night — all throughout Sea Pines, and has lost 20 pounds in the process.

Several nights a week, you can catch Carlin and Ojo behind the checkout counter at Roller's Triangle Liquors on Matthews Drive. The rest of the time, Carlin is typically enjoying his favorite pastime ... you guessed it ... playing golf.

A native of New Jersey, Carlin was drafted in 1968, and as a member of the U.S. Army drill team while stationed in Washington, D.C., he performed many ceremonial events such as burials at Arlington Ceremony, and White House arrivals and departures.

But by the mid-1970s, Carlin decided to seek a warmer climate where he could play golf year-round. His brother's father-in-law lived on Hilton Head Island and suggested Carlin try it out. He was immediately smitten, and moved in 1975 at the age of 28.

"I liked it better than the other places I visited because the golf was accessible," Carlin said. "At that particular time it was a very small community and everybody knew

each other, and you could play golf. I worked for Sea Pines, and I played those courses more than anybody."

Indeed, Carlin has worn many hats during his three decades on Hilton Head, from the Sea Pines welcome center, to its tennis courts, to behind the bar at the old Hilton Head Inn, and later at the Harbour Town Grill.

Now he finds himself wearing a skirt and making sure every golfer's experience at Harbour Town is a memorable one.

"He's like family to the Harbour Town Golf Links members, Sea Pines members and the staff here," said Farrell. "If anybody ever needed anything and they wanted somebody who would be there for them at the drop of a hat, that's John Carlin. He is the true definition of a friend to everybody who comes through here."

Carlin gets a kick out of surprising golfers at the end of their round by saying, "Hey, thanks for playing Harbour Town."

"People typically look at me funny and say, 'Hey, thanks for letting us play,'" he said. "That shows you how happy they are."

# Kiawah, Sea Pines working together

BY PETER HULL  
THE ISLAND PACKET

If the sale a year ago of Sea Pines Associates to Virginia-based businessman William H. Goodwin achieved anything, it brought two of the state's most well-known golf courses under one ownership.

Sea Pines' Harbour Town Golf Links, home to this week's Verizon Heritage PGA Tour event, and Kiawah Island Golf Resort near Charleston, which will be the site of a PGA Championship, are both owned by privately held The Riverstone Group following Goodwin's \$23-million purchase of the Sea Pines company last March.

That relationship is beginning to show. A year later, the two courses, which for years have competed for the same golfers, now offer golf packages to play and stay at both resorts.

"We still have a competitive spirit here," said Michael Vegis, golf publicist for the Kiawah resort, "but (the resorts) are two of the top draws in South Carolina. Since they are under the same shingle, as it were, it made sense to package them together."

But Goodwin's not the first man to link Sea Pines and Kiawah. The late Charles Fraser, the developer who turned Hilton Head Island into a resort destination, was an early developer on Kiawah. Fraser died in a 2002 boating accident in the West Indies.

Sea Pines and Kiawah celebrate 50th and 30th anniversaries, respectively, this year.

The packages, dubbed the "Best of the Lowcountry," include a stay at the Harbour Town Inn at Sea Pines, with one round at the resort's Harbour Town Golf Links and another at either Sea Pines' Ocean Course or Sea Marsh Course.

Golfers also play two rounds on Kiawah, including one on the resort's Ocean Course, site of the 1991 Ryder Cup, 2007 Senior PGA Championship and 2012 PGA Championship.

The resorts' owner Goodwin — an avid golfer who has participated in the Heritage pro-am for nearly two decades — also has been a developer at Colleton River Plantation, an exclusive private community in greater Bluffton and home to courses designed by Jack Nicklaus and Pete Dye.

Shortly after buying Sea Pines, Goodwin bought Harbour Town's famed red-and-white-striped lighthouse and other properties for an undisclosed amount. The deal brought the landmark back into the company's fold for the first time since 1985.

Contact Peter Hull at 706-8137 or phull@islandpacket.com. To comment on this story, please go to Islandpacket.com.



GOODWIN



Brad King

When queried about his philosophy on life, Carlin wastes little time: "Try to enjoy things as best you can and do the best you can. Go with the flow. Don't get too excited or bent out of shape about something. Try to keep the stress as low as possible."

"When somebody asks you how you are doing, you always have to say, 'I am excellent. I am fabulous,' even if you're not, because they want to hear something upbeat. The best thing they can do is have a good time. Get out there and enjoy the day."

Music to the ears of any golfer. Contact golf columnist Brad King at king@bradkingcommunications.com. To comment on this story, please go to islandpacket.com.

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# PGA Tour grew from informal circuit

## FROM STAFF REPORTS

The precise start of the PGA Tour defies documentation.

This much is known for sure: Professionals competed against each other from the earliest days of the game in this country; the first United States Open, held in 1895 at Newport, R.I., attracted a field of 10 professionals and one amateur.

A second professional tournament, the Western Open, was first held in 1899 and continues to be held each summer.

However, it would be stretching history to say the PGA Tour started with the Western Open in 1899. There was not a "tour" at that time. Tournaments continued to spring up across the country during the first decade of the 20th century, but they lacked continuity.

American-born professionals were rapidly improving and, in 1911, John McDermott became the first home-bred to win the U.S. Open.

In 1913, a commercially-backed "tour" by Englishmen Harry Vardon and Ted Ray helped to popularize the game in the United States, as the pair attracted record crowds everywhere they played.

That September, a 20-year-old local boy, Francis Ouimet, defeated both of the visitors in a playoff for the U.S. Open Championship at Brookline, Mass., and his victory became a golf benchmark. Suddenly, golf became page one news and a game for everyone. (Incidentally, Ouimet's grandnephew, Justin, was a standout golfer at Hilton Head Preparatory School.)

The forerunner of today's PGA Tour is traced to the early 1920s when, in the winter, tournaments were held on the West Coast, Texas and Florida. Golfers then played their way into the East and up to Pinehurst in the spring.

## Key events in PGA Tour history

A brief chronology of key events in the history of the PGA Tour.

- **1895** — Horace Rawlins wins the first U.S. Open, played at Newport Golf Club in Rhode Island.
- **1899** — The inaugural Western Open is won by Willie Smith.
- **1900** — Harry Vardon's tour of the U.S. generates much interest in the game.
- **1913** — Francis Ouimet captures the U.S. Open at Midlothian Country Club in a three-man playoff that includes Vardon.
- **1916** — PGA of

America formed.

- **1926** — Los Angeles Open offers \$10,000 purse.
- **1927** — First Ryder Cup matches held. U.S. wins.
- **1930** — Bob Harlow named manager of PGA Tournament Bureau and broaches idea of year-round tournament circuit. Annual purse rises from \$77,000 to \$130,000 in his first year on job.
- **1931** — Golf Ball and Golf Club Manufacturers Association puts up \$5,000 to support sponsors during 1931-32 winter campaign.
- **1932** — "Playing

Pros" organization formed, pre-dating by 36 years the current PGA Tour organization.

- **1933** — Hershey Chocolate Company becomes first corporate sponsor, with Hershey Open.
- **1934** — Group of players meet to discuss possibility of year-round tournament circuit.
- **1954** — USGA televises U.S. Open for national audience.
- **1961** — "Caucasians Only" clause stricken from PGA of America constitution.
- **1968** — Association of Professional Golfers,

an autonomous playing pros organization, forms in a breakaway from PGA. In a compromise, Tournament Players Division of PGA formed under aegis of 10-man policy board.

- **1969** — Joe Dey becomes first commissioner of the Tournament Players Division.
- **1974** — Deane Beman succeeds Dey as commissioner.
- **1978** — First Legends of Golf Tournament played at Onion Creek CC in Austin, Texas.
- **1979** — PGA Tour headquarters moves from Washington, D.C., to

Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

- **1980** — Senior PGA Tour, now Champions Tour, organized.
- **1983** — All-exempt tour put in place, all but eliminating Monday qualifying.
- **1990** — Ben Hogan Tour, now the Nationwide Tour, is started.
- **1994** — Tim Finchem succeeds Beman as commissioner.
- **1996** — Golf's five world governing bodies join to create International Federation of PGA Tours.

Those tournaments gave the boys some activity in the off-season because most were busy at their clubs in the summer. The summer was when the golf associations held regional and national title events, according to Johnny Farrell, one of the most active players of the '20s and '30s and the U.S. Open Champion in 1928.

Resorts, hotels and chambers of commerce realized the publicity value that professional golf brought to their facilities, and more tournaments sprang up. Walter Hagen, Gene Sarazen and Bobby Jones became folk heroes, and the tour was taking shape.

By the 1930s, the tour was growing, and with the PGA of America providing leadership, it attracted throngs despite the financially-depressed years at the beginning of the decade.

One statistic from those days stands out now with economic poignancy — Paul Runyan was the leading money winner of 1934 with \$6,767.

Late in the decade, the name of Sam Snead started to appear in headlines with regularity. Then, as the 1940s started, Ben Hogan, Byron Nelson and a host of others gained fame.

After World War II, the tour became more structured than ever before and continued to grow in popularity until it exploded as the 1950s were turning into the 1960s.

About this time, television began playing a dual role. Telecasts of tour events inspired millions to try the game and, at the same time, the TV rights fees sent purses rolling upward.

But the late 1960s also was a tumultuous time for touring professionals. At the time, the PGA Tour as we know it today was still a division of the PGA of America. Friction often arose within the organization, and because the touring

professionals were outnumbered by the club pros, they had little leverage in dictating the PGA's policies.

The two groups were at loggerheads about the time plans for the first Heritage were announced. The tour players bolted to form the American Professional Golfers Association, and the Heritage was the first tournament to sign a contract with the new group, largely because the PGA had been granted a restraining order that prevented the APGA from signing contracts with any existing tournaments.

But when the order was lifted, the APGA made agreements with 28 tournaments, and 13 additional sponsors were on line waiting for new tournament dates. The tour players had the leverage they sought.

The PGA decided to renew

talks with the tour players, and Joe Dey, a former USGA executive director, stepped in to become the first commissioner of the PGA Tour, which gained autonomy from its former parent.

Dey served from early 1969 through Feb. 28, 1974, and was succeeded by Deane R. Beman, who took office on March 1, 1974.

During Beman's tenure, the value of tournament purses rose at an unprecedented rate. PGA Tour assets grew from \$730,000 in 1974 to more than \$200 million in 1993. During that time, total revenues increased from \$3.9 million to \$229 million.

Beman retired in 1994 to resume his playing career on the Senior PGA Tour. He was succeeded on June 1, 1994, by Tim Finchem, who had been deputy commissioner since 1989.

## Did you know

• Heritage champions have combined to win 67 major championships, and only seven ex-champions have failed to win at least one major.

• Since the Heritage first teed off in 1969, the only golfers who have won a major and haven't played at Harbour Town are Ian Woosnam and Paul Lawrie.

• Since 1969, all American Ryder Cup golfers have participated in the Heritage at least once.

• Heritage champions have combined for 386 PGA Tour victories (prior to the start of play in 2006).

• Davis Love III (1991-92) and Payne Stewart (1989-90) are the only defending Heritage champions to repeat.

• Davis Love III is the tournament's only five-time winner. Hale Irwin has three Heritage titles, while six other golfers have won two each — Johnny Miller, Hubert Green, Tom Watson, Fuzzy Zoeller, Payne Stewart and Stewart Cink.

• The Heritage purse is seven times greater than it was in 1988, and this year's \$5.3 million in prize money is greater than the combined payouts for the tournament's first 19 years.

• In 1961, there were 49 PGA Tour events with a total combined purse of \$1,790,320, far less than this year's Heritage purse of \$5.3 million.

• The first national television broadcast of the tournament was on NBC in 1974, when the tournament was played in March. However, coverage of Saturday's third round was curtailed to just a half hour of live action because the NCAA Tournament semifinal game between North Carolina State and UCLA went to overtime. The Wolfpack beat the Bruins, ending UCLA's run of seven consecutive NCAA championships.

• The 1974 event was the third Heritage in a 17-month span. The tournament was played in November in 1972, in September in 1973 and in March in 1974.

• Darren Clarke had a six-shot lead after six holes of the 2005 tournament, only to close with rounds of 73 and 76 and lose to Peter Lonard. He became the first player to blow a six-shot lead at the halfway point of a PGA Tour event since Nick Price in the 1984 Canadian Open. Price also closed with rounds of 73 and 76 and lost to another Australian — Greg Norman.

• The dates for the 2007 Heritage are April 9-15. The tournament is under contract with title sponsor Verizon and the PGA Tour through 2010.

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Heritage



# Players Am champ has big plans for 2nd Heritage

BY JUSTIN JARRETT  
THE ISLAND PACKET

Without question, Hilton Head Island has been kind to Brian Harman. The Savannah native and University of Georgia freshman is hoping for a bit more of that generosity when he tees it up today for his second start in the Verizon Heritage.

Harman, who earned an automatic exemption when he won the Players Amateur at Belfair Golf Club last July, missed the cut in his first Heritage start in 2004, and he's stuck in a scoring slump in which he's failed to match or break par since shooting a 3-under 69 in the second round of the Puerto Rico Classic on Feb. 27. But that hasn't stopped him from thinking big about his chances at Harbour Town Golf Links.

"I think you have to set your goals high," said Harman, who will have best friend and former high school teammate, Justin Smith, on his bag. "If I go out there and say I just want to make the cut, that's all I'll ever do. If I go out there and try to make a top 10 or try to win, I might do a little better than that."

Harman has had success at Harbour Town — most recently placing second in the 2005 Junior Heritage — so he's not concerned about the first-round 81 he posted in the 2004 Heritage, which led him to miss the 36-hole cut by 13 shots at 13-over 155.

"I really like the golf course. It's a ball-striker's haven, that's for sure," Harman said. "I don't know what happened that day. I just sort of let it get away from me."

"I'm not afraid to play in any situation or anything, I just played bad. I might have put a little too much pressure on myself. I'm just going to try to be a little more relaxed and go out there and do what I know how to do."

He proved he can play under pressure when he bounced back from that lackluster first round for a second-round 76 and later in the year made the cut at the Buick Championship, where he finished in a tie for 71st at 4-over. He played both tournaments on exemption and on the heels of his title in the 2003 U.S. Junior Amateur.

The 2004 Buick Championship was Harman's most recent PGA Tour start, as he turned down an exemption to last year's Buick because it conflicted with the U.S. Amateur, where he reached the third round of match play.

Harman, whose 17-under-par 271 in the Players Amateur tied Ben Curtis' tournament scoring record and gave him a record six-shot victory, is part of an impressive group of up-and-coming players who are Players Amateur alums. The short list includes two players in the top 15 on the PGA Tour's money list — 2003 champion Camilo Villegas and last year's 18-hole leader, J.B. Holmes — as well as 2003 British Open champion Curtis, PGA Tour rookies Bill Haas and Nicholas Thompson and a handful of Nationwide Tour players.

Heritage tournament director Steve Wilmot said the tournament's affiliation with the Players Amateur — both events fall under the umbrella of the Heritage Classic



The Associated Press

Savannah native Brian Harman punched his second ticket to the Verizon Heritage this past summer, when he won the Players Amateur at Belfair.

Foundation — already has been a boon for the Heritage, a trend he expects to continue for the foreseeable future.

"We're very tickled about this whole Players Am deal — these are all guys making names for themselves," Wilmot said. "It's so great for us, because we're getting to know all those guys. Without question, it's one of the biggest assets that the foundation has right now."

Harman is the second Players Amateur champion to accept the Heritage exemption, following 2004 champion Aron Price, who missed last year's Heritage cut by six shots. Previous winners Haas, who accepted a sponsors exemption to this year's Heritage, and Villegas, a PGA Tour rookie who makes his Heritage debut today, declined the invitation because their college squads had their conference tournaments the same weekend. Harman avoided that conflict because the Southeastern Conference Championships are set for April 21-23 at Sea Island, Ga.

"If there was no conflict, I was definitely going to take it," Harman said. "It's usually during the SEC Championships, and if that had been the case, my loyalty lies with my team. I would have played in the SEC tournament for sure, but we got lucky that it's in between two tournaments. It was perfect."

Despite an impressive beginning, Harman's freshman season with the top-ranked Bulldogs has been a bit of a disappointment. On the last weekend in September, he won his first collegiate event by posting three rounds in the 60s to finish at 11-under 205 and lead Georgia to a 15-shot victory in the Ping/Golfweek Fall Preview at Crosswater Club in Sunriver, Ore., the same course on which the NCAA Championships will be played May 31 through June 3.

But 2006 hasn't been as good to Harman. He tied for eighth at the Puerto Rico Classic the last weekend in February, but he hasn't broken par in a competitive round since and tied for 44th at consecutive tournaments in March. He hopes the familiar confines of Harbour Town help him change his luck.

"I went out and won the first tournament I played, and I was looking forward to having a big year, but I've just been kind of struggling," Harman said. "Back home at the qualifiers, I'm playing great. It's just the timing. It's definitely there right now. I've just got to figure out how to string it together and play good at a tournament. I just keep throwing away shots. It's out there. I'll find it."

# Heritage helped create area's reputation as golf destination

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

The Verizon Heritage began in 1969 as a risky venture by Sea Pines president and developer Charles Fraser.

Since then, tournament organizers on and near Hilton Head Island have deemed golf a venture worth the risk. For as the Heritage grew into one of the most venerable events on the PGA Tour, Beaufort County became an alluring venue for big-time events.

"There was nothing down there then. Hell, you'd step on alligators," the late golf writer Charles Price once said. Price worked as an adviser to Fraser and Sea Pines during the first few years of the Heritage. He had his doubts as to whether Fraser's vision of creating a PGA Tour stop to rouse interest in his development would actually work.

But... "Golf put Hilton Head Island on the map. Some people said it was tennis, or it was this or that, but it was golf. It made the island just as it made Pinehurst," Price said.

The Heritage also played a role in helping Savannah land the Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf, a Champions Tour event that moved to its new home on Hutchinson Island from St. Augustine, Fla., in 2003. For the fourth consecutive season, it will be played the week after the Heritage.

The Heritage Foundation had hoped to run a new senior tour event in Savannah. Although the PGA Tour decided to move an existing tournament there instead, Tim Iley, executive director of the Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf, said the Heritage has lent valuable advice and support.

The Heritage remains the only major professional tournament on Hilton Head Island, but for much of its 35-year run, it has not been the only game in town.

The Champions Tour held an event at Shipyard Plantation in the 1980s, before the original Sea Pines Company brought the Senior International Golf Championship to Harbour Town for a brief stint that ended with Sea Pines' financial woes.

Those troubles also put the Heritage itself in jeopardy. But despite its brief period of insolvency, which



File/The Island Packet

Nancy Lopez tees off during an LPGA event that used to be held at Moss Creek, before sponsorship issues caused the event to fold. Once the Heritage arrived on Hilton Head Island, other big-time events came to the area, too.

ended when the Heritage Classic Foundation was established in the late 1980s as a charitable organization to run the PGA Tour event, the tournament has been a golf magnet for southern Beaufort County.

The PGA Tour held the 1989 Nabisco Championships (now the Tour Championship) at Harbour Town in 1989, two years after the Senior PGA Tour's Hilton Head Seniors International departed.

In 1991, the Amoco Centel Open, for pros between the ages of 40 and 50, attracted such notables as Tom Kite, Johnny Miller, Fuzzy Zoeller and six other major championship winners. It was played at Hilton Head National.

Southern Beaufort County also was an annual whistle stop on the LPGA tour. Moss Creek, located just before the bridge connecting Hilton Head to the mainland, played host to the CPC International from 1976 to 1983 and again in 1985. The event was discontinued after problems securing a sponsor and a change in the club's ownership.

And Colleton River's Jack Nicklaus Course played host to the Wendy's Three Tour Challenge in 1993.

The S.C. Golf Association has held the South Carolina Amateur

in southern Beaufort County in 2001 and 2002, events won by former island resident and current PGA Tour player D.J. Trahan. And the Carolinas Golf Association staged the 2004 Carolinas Amateur at Chechessee Creek Club and the 2005 Carolinas Open at Old Tabby Links on Spring Island.

College, amateur and junior golf also have strong presences. The Palmetto Dunes Collegiate Invitational once brought a top crop of college golfers, including Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson, to Palmetto Dunes and Palmetto Hall until it was discontinued in 2001.

Long Cove Club, another Pete Dye creation, played host to the 2003 U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur and the 1991 U.S. Men's Mid-Amateur and the 2005 American Junior Golf Association's Rolex Championship.

The Players Amateur started in 2000 and sports one of the strongest fields in amateur golf. Past champions of the Belfair event include Ben Curtis, the 2003 British Open winner, Bill Haas and Camilo Villegas.

This past September, Berkeley Hall, which features two Tom Fazio-designed courses, became the first club to play host to both the men's and women's USGA State Team Championships in the same year.

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# VERIZON HERITAGE

## South Carolinian, daughter of tennis great win Jr. Heritage

BY KATHLYN CLORE  
THE ISLAND PACKET

Unlike the crystal lighthouses Spencer Cole and Isabelle Lendl won at the Junior Heritage presented by Verizon, par proved entirely unbreakable at the 16th edition of the esteemed junior tournament.

None of the 57 boys or 33 girls in the field finished in the red on a blustery Super Bowl weekend, during which players said conditions made club selection difficult.

Lendl and Cole, both students from the David Leadbetter Golf Academy, were among more than 33 top-ranked juniors who first played Sea Pines Golf Resort's Ocean Course before Sunday's final round at Harbour Town Golf Links.

Both said they were especially pleased to win given the traditional strength of the field.

"It's one of the strongest of the year," Lendl said.

Lendl, the daughter of Ivan Lendl, a 2001 inductee to the International Tennis Hall of Fame, reeled off six consecutive pars over her final nine holes of the first round en route to a 76-70-146 finish. Her consistent play helped set up a four-shot swing over three holes as first-round leader Sydney Burlison struggled. Lendl, 14, eventually beat Burlison by three strokes. This isn't the first Junior Heritage Lendl has played; she tied for fifth last year. Burlison was third.

Lendl also was in the area last July for the Rolex Tournament of Champions at Long Cove Club, although she did not make the cut.

Burlison, a 16-year-old California native, fired a first-round 68 Saturday at the Ocean Course, which tournament director John Richardson said is the second lowest round in tournament history. She made seven birdies and three bogies to get to 3 under.

Greer native Spencer Cole, who won the boys division, protected his share of the first-round lead with a 39-37-76 for a two-day total of 147, 5-over par. Hudson Swafford, who also shot a first-round 71, was just a shot behind Cole going into the final nine, but played the back 6 over, including a



File photos/The Island Packet

**ABOVE:** Isabelle Lendl, daughter of tennis Hall of Famer Ivan Lendl and a student at the David Leadbetter Academy in Florida, won the girls title in February's Junior Heritage by three strokes over Sydney Burlison. **LEFT:** Spencer Cole of Greer lines up a putt during the final round of the Junior Heritage. He won by shooting a 71 in the final round.

triple bogey on No. 15.

The 17-year-old Cole called the last three holes at Harbour Town the hardest he's ever played.

The first 15 holes are surrounded by tall trees, providing shelter from the sharp winds, he said. That wasn't the

case on the course's signature finishing holes.

"It was swirling around, whatever wind there was, so it was hard to judge," he said regarding club selection. "The last couple holes I just kind of guessed, it was just kind of all feel. I

### Champions roll

Past champions of the Junior Heritage

BOYS		
Year	Player	Scores
1989	Hans Albertson	71-73-144
1990	Brian Brown	75-69-144
1992	Justin Roof	72-67-139
1993	M. Henderson	69-74-143
1994	Charles Howell	70-71-141
1996	Charles Howell	64-74-138
1997	David Gossett	70-68-138
1998	Sean O'Hair	68-71-139
1999	Martin Catalioto	69-72-141
2000	Ty Tryon	65-33-98
2001	Jay Reynolds	70-72-142
2002	Luke List	74-66-140
2003	Sean Moore	68-74-142
2004	Toby Ragland	70-74-144
2005	Kyle Stanley	68-69-137
2006	Spencer Cole	71-76-147

GIRLS		
Year	Player	Scores
1990	Kacie Myers	82-81-163
1992	Abby Pearson	76-74-150
1993	Ann Pohira	75-76-151
1994	Kathryn Cussick	77-74-151
1996	Beth Bauer	72-71-143
1997	Cimmie Shahan	69-73-142
1998	V. Nirapathpongorn	70-73-143
1999	Candie Kung	72-72-144
2000	Aree Song	69-36-105
2001	Paula Creamer	70-72-142
2002	Brittany Lang	72-70-142
2003	Paula Creamer	67-74-141
2004	Jennie Lee	72-77-149
2005	Angela Park	69-74-143
2006	Isabelle Lendl	70-76-146

## Club pros earn way into Heritage

### Florence CC's Behr makes PGA Tour debut

BY KATHLYN CLORE  
THE ISLAND PACKET

Richard Weston of Pawleys Island has decided to chase the dream. He's in the process of selling a retail golf shop he owns in Murrells Inlet to free up time to play the Sunbelt Senior Tour ... and who knows what else.

Hopefully that transaction will transpire in less dramatic fashion than the way Weston qualified for the Verizon Heritage.

He and Steve Behr, the head golf professional at Florence Country Club, find themselves playing a PGA Tour event by way of the Carolinas PGA Section Qualifying, a one-round event at Wexford Golf Club played March 13. The two bested 57 other Carolinas PGA Class A professionals.



BEHR

Weston qualified for the Heritage on his first try, but had to win a three-man playoff against Char Cormier and Michael Smith for the second of two berths at stake.

In less dramatic fashion, Behr finished early and hung around the scoreboard to see if his even-par 72 would hold up. It turned out to be good enough for medalist honors and a spot in Hilton Head Island's annual PGA Tour stop.

It will be the third PGA Tour event for Weston and the first for Behr. Both have played Nationwide Tour events; neither has managed to break from the ranks of Friday trunk slammers.

It was the first time in several years that at least one local Class A club professional has not advanced to the Heritage. Neither of last year's qualifiers — former Melrose Club director of golf and PGA Tour player Bob Boyd and Tom Iredell of Hilton Head Island — returned for this year's qualifying. Cormier, who lives on Fripp Island, was the local golfer who came closest to qualifying.

Behr, who has been at Florence Country Club since 1996, said he last tried to qualify for the Heritage six years ago, when he shot 73 to miss by two strokes.

His roller-coaster round kicked off with a bogey at No. 2, which he followed with an 8-foot birdie putt at No. 3. He made a second bogey on No. 7, but bounced back on No. 9 to make the turn at even par.

He birdied consecutive par-4s on the back: No. 14 with a 25-foot putt and the 404-yard 16th. Sandwiched in there was a double bogey on the 553-yard par-5, unreachable in two because of a water hazard running in front of the green.

"I laid my ball up, and it was in the front end of a divot," he said. "I hit it a little heavy and duffed it into the water. ... I should've done better than I did."

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# What would you know about it? Take the Heritage QUIZ



Think you might be an authority on Hilton Head Island's annual PGA Tour stop? Take The Island Packet's Verizon Heritage quiz and find out.

**Par for the course**

(one point for each correct answer)

1. In what year was the Heritage first played?
2. Who won that first tournament?
3. What golfer has won the most Heritage titles?
4. In what year was the Heritage moved to the week after The Masters?
5. Who holds the 72-hole scoring record for the Heritage?
6. What article of clothing is awarded to the Heritage winner?

**Going for birdie**

(two points for each correct answer)

7. What seven names has the regular PGA Tour event at Harbour Town Golf Links operated under?
8. Who is credited with designing Harbour Town Golf Links?
9. What course besides Harbour Town Golf Links has played host to the Heritage?
10. What other PGA Tour event has been played at Harbour Town Golf Links?

11. What golfer won that other PGA Tour event?
12. What golfer signed an incorrect scorecard and was disqualified for the first time in 705 career PGA Tour starts after the second round of the 2005 Heritage?

**Verizon virtuoso**

(three points for each correct answer)

13. What golfer has played in the most Heritages without winning?
14. Who holds the record for the best finish by an amateur at the Heritage?
15. Who did the original routing plan for Harbour Town Golf Links?
16. Who is the only Masters champion to win a Heritage title the week after capturing a green jacket?
17. Two sudden-death Heritage playoffs have gone as long as five holes. Who won those playoffs?
18. What color was the famed lighthouse overlooking the 18th hole at Harbour Town Golf Links during the inaugural event?

- ANSWERS**  
One point each
1. 1969.
  2. Arnold Palmer.
  3. Davis Love III, with five. His most recent victory came in 2003.
  4. 1983.
  5. Loren Roberts, who finished with a 19-under 265 in 1996.
  6. A tartan jacket.
- Two points each
7. The Heritage Classic; The Sea Pines Heritage Classic; The MCI Heritage Classic; The MCI Classic — The Heritage of Golf; The WorldCom Classic — The Heritage of Golf; the MCI Heritage; and the Verizon Heritage.
  8. Pete Dye, with Jack Nicklaus as a consultant.
  9. The first two rounds of the 1972 Heritage were played on the Sea Pines Ocean Course.
  10. The Nabisco Championship, now called the Tour Championship, was played at Harbour Town in 1989.
  11. Tom Kite.
  12. Tom Kite.
- Three points each
13. Jay Haas, who has played in 29 Heritages. Haas, in fact, has played in more events at Harbour Town than any PGA Tour golfer, Heritage winner or otherwise.
  14. Lanny Wadkins, who finished second to Bob Goalby in 1970.
  15. George Cobb, most famous for designing the par-3 course at Augusta National. He also designed Sea Pines' Marsh and Ocean courses before doing Harbour Town's original routing.
  16. Bernhard Langer, in 1985.
  17. Jose Coceres in 2001 and Stewart Cink in 2004.
  18. Steel gray. The lighthouse, which now sports a red and cream candy-stripe paint job, was still under construction during the first Heritage and was hardly more than a metal skeleton.
- How do you rank? — 0-6 points, back to the practice range for you; 7-15 points, you're ready to tee it up; 17-25 points, you've got a little game; 26-35 points, you're a Heritage contender; 36 points, you've got a closet full of tartan.

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# New filling in 16th bunker should take teeth out of controversy

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

More sand, less confusion — that's the plan for a fairway bunker on Harbour Town Golf Links' 16th hole, a source of intrigue and controversy during the 2004 Verizon Heritage.

The site of Hilton Head Island's annual PGA Tour stop has been noted for one of its unique design features — crushed lime waste areas created by architect Pete Dye. One of the largest on the course — a depression that sits in the bend of the 16th hole's dogleg left — was stripped and replaced with a sand bunker this December, according to Sea Pines director of sports Cary Corbitt.

That means Heritage golfers who hit into the bunker will not be free to ground their clubs or remove loose impediments from behind their golf balls.

The history of Harbour Town's waste areas, and the rules governing them, have evoked debate, most recently and most famously during a playoff in the 2004 Heritage.

On the fifth extra hole, Stewart Cink hit his tee shot into the waste area on 16. As television cameras zoomed in, Cink removed small bits of debris from behind his ball, then grounded his club before sticking a wedge shot within 6 feet of the pin on the par-4.

Cink made the birdie putt to capture his third PGA Tour victory and deny Ted Purdy his first.

But as Cink was feted in the post-round awards ceremony, PGA Tour officials, prompted by calls from television viewers suspecting the golfer had violated a rule, reviewed CBS footage of Cink's bunker shot.

Cink's victory was upheld — he was allowed to remove debris and ground his club

because the Rules of Golf do not distinguish waste bunkers from any other areas "through the green," in golf parlance — but the incident set off a debate as to whether the waste area on 16 should be treated as a hazard.

The renovation should end that debate — although the shape and contour of the bunker wasn't changed during the \$60,000 project, the sand filling means it will be treated like any other fairway bunker.

The renovation was prompted primarily on the recommendation of the PGA Tour, Corbitt said.

Purdy's only question: What took so long to make the change?

"I was really upset that they didn't change it last year," Purdy said. "If there was that much controversy, why not make the change immediately."

One reason could be the expense involved.

Corbitt said the change — which included removal of the crushed lime and installation of drainage tiles — was "pretty straightforward" and executed without consulting a golf course designer. However, the new material requires two to three man hours of additional maintenance each day, Corbitt said.

"It's going to be a little more maintenance-intensive now, and there will be a little more cost associated with that," he said.

Corbitt said Sea Pines also expects a slightly slower pace of play for members and resort guests as a result of the change.

The change is part of Sea Pines' ongoing commitment to maintain and improve its three resort golf courses, Corbitt added. Late last summer, improvements were made to the drainage system on Harbour Town's second and

eighth holes. Sea Pines also plans a renovation of its Sea Marsh Course, which will begin in September.

Purdy said he doesn't think the pros' strategy for Harbour Town's 16th hole will change much now that the bunker is filled with sand.

"You didn't want to hit it in there when it was a waste area," Purdy said. "I don't think it really changes the hole. You just call it a different thing. That's not a good thing to be there."

The 16th hole at Harbour Town included a vast waste area that extended down the left side of the fairway. Under old course rules, the area was not treated as a regular bunker and because the Rules of Golf don't distinguish separate rules for waste areas, golfers were allowed to ground their clubs or remove loose impediments before making their shots. The crushed lime used to fill this bunker was replaced with sand this past winter, and the bunker now will be played as a regular fairway sand trap.



# Two-time champ fine with change

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

A two-time winner of the Verizon Heritage suggests a new name for the par-4 16th at Harbour Town Golf Links, now that the crushed lime that once filled its fairway bunker has been replaced with sand.

How does "The Cink Hole" sound?

"If they changed them because of me, that means I'll live in infamy there," quipped Stewart Cink, who won the Heritage in 2000 and 2004, the latter victory coming in a playoff ... and amid controversy about the title-clinching shot he hit from a fairway bunker on the 16th hole.

The bunker in question sits in the bend of a dogleg left. At various points in its history, it has been filled crushed lime or crushed shell and has been played as a "waste area," in which golfers were allowed to ground their clubs and remove loose impediments from around their golf balls.

Cink said that was all he was doing on the fifth hole of a playoff



File/The Associated Press

Stewart Cink hits what proved to be a controversial lob-wedge shot from a waste area on the 16th hole during a playoff for the 2004 Heritage. The waste area was converted to a fairway bunker earlier this year.

with Ted Purdy in 2004 — removing loose impediments — as CBS' television cameras zeroed in. Cink then hit a 67-yard wedge shot to within feet of the pin. He went on to make birdie and win the tournament. Rules officials reviewed footage of the shot and determined

Cink was within the rules. This past winter, the filling of the bunker was converted from lime to sand, and the bunker will now be played as a regular fairway hazard. Sea Pines' director of sports Cary Corbitt said the change was urged by the PGA Tour.

Cink said he probably couldn't pull off his 2004 shot from sand.

"If they take out the shells and put sand in there, then you definitely don't want to be in there," Cink said. "The year I won, in the playoff, I had 67 yards off the hard shell, and off the hard shell, it's not that hard. Out of sand? Different story. I couldn't have hit that shot from 67 yards out of sand."

Cink wasn't the only professional who said converting the bunker will make playing the hole more difficult.

"It's a pretty easy shot out of there when you can ground your club," said 1996 champion Loren Roberts, who will play his 20th Heritage this year. "When you can't ground your club, it's a little tougher, and that tree that's out there on the left side of the green really determines what you can play there. If you hit in the trap and you don't hit it far, then you've got a tough shot to negotiate around that tree."

The change might also accentuate danger on the opposite side of the fairway — if players are less

inclined to flirt with the bunker on the left, out-of-bounds markers straight ahead of the teeing area might come into play more often.

Coincidentally, the day Cink won in a playoff, Ernie Els' opportunity to capture his first Heritage title was snuffed at 16, where he drove into the out-of-bounds area.

Cink said the subject of his 2004 shot at No. 16 seldom comes up any more — "only when I talk to (the media)," he said — and he's not sure how much the new bunker material and the new rules governing it will eliminate confusion. After all, similar waste areas still dot the course.

"They give you a rules sheet before every round," Cink said. "They pretty much spell it out. ... I think if it was a response to confusion, they (should) have converted everything."

Contact Jeff Kidd at 706-8121 or [jkidd@islandpacket.com](mailto:jkidd@islandpacket.com). To comment on this story, please visit [www.islandpacket.com](http://www.islandpacket.com).

# New driving range net should keep fans safe

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

No one walking behind Harbour Town Golf Links' driving range during last year's Verizon Heritage was conked by an errant golf ball, but neither tournament officials nor the course's owner were willing to wait for that to happen before protecting spectators.

Last October, netting that separates the end of the range from Plantation Drive — a major artery for foot traffic during tournament week — was heightened about 20 feet, and the new barrier extends about 100 feet — taller than the 90-foot, candy-striped lighthouse that frames the 18th green.

Sea Pines and the Heritage Classic Foundation, which runs the annual PGA Tour event at Harbour Town, split the cost of the \$130,000 project, according to Sea Pines director of sports Cary Corbitt.

"Hopefully, we won't have to increase it ever again," Corbitt said. "Because of the

**"Hopefully, we won't have to increase it ever again. Because of the length of the range and the height of the net, I cannot imagine that someone is going to be able to hit it over that thing."**

— Sea Pines director of sports Cary Corbitt

length of the range and the height of the net, I cannot imagine that someone is going to be able to hit it over that thing."

There was no net at all separating the range from the street when head professional John Farrell arrived in 1991. As golf club and ball technology improved and longer-hitting professionals began to populate the tour, netting was added to prevent balls from hitting spectators or bounding off the pavement into the volunteer tent and EMS and concession areas set up between the end of the range and the eighth green during Heritage week.

"Last year, a couple of players were flying

balls all the way to the eighth green, so it became pretty dangerous," Farrell said.

A 60-foot net was first installed in 1998. It was raised 20 feet in 2001.

The range measures about 250 yards from the middle of the teeing area to the base of the net. By Corbitt's estimation, pros were carrying balls more than 320 yards in the air to clear the screen. The new netting will require a carry of more than 340 yards to clear, Corbitt said.

Though the course itself has been renovated and lengthened several times — most recently between the 2000 and 2001 tournaments — there is little possibility of

expanding the practice area. The range is bounded on the left by the ninth fairway and on the right by the 10th tee box and residential property. A chipping green and spectator bleachers are located behind the range, with the clubhouse and a convention center behind them.

At last year's Heritage, signs were posted along Plantation Drive warning patrons to beware of flying golf balls. When wind blew down-range early in the week, organizers also placed notes on players' lockers asking them to be careful when hitting drivers on the practice range.

"It's kind of like telling a carpenter that you don't want him to use his (air) gun, you need him to use his hammer for a while," said tournament director Steve Wilmot. "Sometimes, some of the players look at you cross-eyed like, 'Why is this our problem?' But they complied without too much complaint."

Please see **RANGE**, Page 23-D

## DIVOTS

- **Height:** 6-4.
- **Weight:** 205.
- **Birth date:** May 21, 1973.
- **Birthplace:** Huntsville, Ala.
- **Resides:** Duluth, Ga., plays out of East Lake GC.
- **Special interests:** Family, boating, water sports, hiking, barbecue.
- **Turned professional:** 1995.
- **Best Heritage finish:** First, 2000 — 71-68-66-65 — 270, 2004 — 72-69-69-64 — 274.
- **PGA Tour victories:** 4.
- **Rank on 2005 Tour money list:** 43rd.
- **Major championships:** None.
- **International teams:** Ryder Cup 2002, 2004; President's Cup 2000.
- **Notes:** Career season in 2004 included multiple victories for the first time. Jumped to 10th on the official World Golf Ranking at the Tour Championship and led the tour in putting average. ... Same year, set two course records in one day during U.S. Open sectional qualifying on in Columbus, Ohio, carding rounds of 62-61. He bogeyed the first hole of the day, then recorded 22 birdies and won by nine strokes. .... Played on victorious U.S. Presidents Cup squad in 2005 and fashioned five top-10s en route to top-50 finish on PGA Tour money list. ... Finished T5 at Mercedes Championships, three strokes behind champion Stuart Appleby. ... One week later, held a share of 18-hole lead after opening with a 4-under par 66 at the Sony Open in Hawaii. Fashioned a 5-under-par 65 in the final round to finish T5, three strokes behind winner Vijay Singh. ... College teammate of David Duval, Charlie Rymer, Tom Shaw Jr. and Jimmy Johnston at Georgia Tech, where he was a three-time all-American for Puggy Blackmon, now the head golf coach at USC.



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## VERIZON HERITAGE

## Harbour Town showed its teeth in 2005 Heritage

Hole No. 14 2nd most difficult on tour; No. 15 ranks as toughest par-5 of season

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

For all those golf clubs concerned that equipment advances and a generation of long-hitting professionals will render their courses obsolete, Ted Purdy has a solution that's more simple and less expensive than stretching holes to lengths that would make Gumbo scream.

"Make the greens a little smaller and plant a tree," the 2004 Verizon Heritage runner-up suggested. "That's what makes Harbour Town so great."

Last week's Masters was contested on an Augusta National course that has been significantly lengthened at least three times since long-hitting Tiger Woods scorched the field with a tournament record 18-under-par total in 1997. By comparison, although Harbour Town underwent a restoration before the 2001 Verizon Heritage, it remains one of 13 PGA Tour golf courses measuring less than 7,000 yards.

And it also remains an able defender of par.

In fact, Harbour Town ranked as the fourth most difficult course on the PGA Tour last season, putting the Heritage ahead of the Masters, the British Open, The Players Championship and both stroke-play events in the World Golf Championship series. The 5-over-par cut was the highest on the PGA Tour to that point in the season.

Granted, last year's scoring was wind-aided — unseasonable weather brought strong gusts from uncustomary directions — but even in 2004, Harbour Town ranked as the 15th most difficult course on tour.

"People keep adding length, but that shows you don't have to add a lot of length," said 1995 champion Bob Tway. "If you have a little wind whistling through the trees, that takes care of a lot."

That's particularly true of three holes that were among the most difficult on the tour last season.

The 192-yard 14th was the most difficult par-3 on tour and second only to the par-4 17th hole at St. Andrews' Old Course, site of the British Open, in scoring in relation to par among all holes. No. 8, which rates as the No. 1 handicap hole at Harbour Town, tied for the 15th most difficult hole on tour and was 12th among par-4s. No. 15 was the most difficult par-5 on the PGA Tour.

No. 14's rating punches a small hole in Purdy's theory, though — a new tee box was constructed during the 2000-01 restoration, making it one of the few holes to be



The Associated Press

Kevin Na got bit hard by the par-3, 14th hole at Harbour Town Golf Links in the first round of the 2005 Heritage. Na took a 10 on the hole, which proved to be the most difficult par-3 on the PGA Tour last season.

significantly lengthened, though it remains less than 200 yards.

"What makes 14 the hardest par-3 is that they moved the tees so far back," said 1996 champion Loren Roberts, who normally hits 5-iron from the rear tee box but resorted to a 3-iron last season because the hole played into the wind. "I don't know if that hole is designed to be played at that length. From back there, the only way to avoid the water is to go left, and it's not an easy up-and-down from there. ... All I know is that if you get a little weather there, a little wind, that's a very tough green to hit from that distance."

You don't have to convince Kevin Na of that.

The 22-year-old coughed up a 10 on that hole in last year's first round, one of 64 scores of double bogey or worse there during last year's Heritage.

"I Tin-Cupped it," Na said, a reference to the movie in which Kevin Costner's character lost the U.S. Open by obstinately splashing 3-wood approaches into a pond instead of laying up. "I hit it in the water and re-teeed because I wanted to hit it again. It's a tough little hole, and that's why that course is so tough — it's tight with a lot of water."

"If you don't know where your ball is going, you can make an 'X' on any hole."

The next hole at Harbour Town didn't rank among the PGA Tour's toughest 50 ... then again, neither did any other par-5, which on today's PGA Tour are usually considered must-birdie holes. Last season, though, No. 15 yielded no eagles, only 82 birdies and forced 104 scores of bogey or worse.

No. 15 measures 571 yards from the tips — stout, to be sure, but not so long as to be unreachable to

## The long and short of it

PGA Tour courses measuring less than 7,000 yards and their rank by difficulty in 2005.

Course	Yardage	Diff.
<b>Verizon Heritage</b>		
Harbour Town Golf Links	6,973	4
<b>Buick Invitational</b>		
Torrey Pines North*	6,874	49
<b>Bob Hope Chrysler Classic</b>		
PGA West**	6,930	42
Bermuda Dunes**	6,962	54
<b>AT&amp;T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am</b>		
Pebble Beach ***	6,737	34
Spyglass Hill***	6,862	25
Poppy Hills***	6,833	32
<b>EDS Byron Nelson Classic</b>		
Cottonwood Valley****	6,861	29
<b>Barclays Classic</b>		
Westchester CC	6,839	5
<b>B.C. Open</b>		
En-Joie	6,974	50
<b>U.S. Bank Championship</b>		
Brown Deer Park	6,759	38
<b>Buick Championship</b>		
TPC at River Highlands	6,820	24
<b>Valero Texas Open</b>		
Resort at LaCantera	6,974	35

\* One of two courses that plays host to the Buick Invitational.

\*\* One of four courses that plays host to the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic.

\*\*\* One of three courses that plays host to the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

\*\*\*\* One of two courses that plays host to the EDS Byron Nelson Classic

many PGA Tour pros. Instead, the difficulty of 15 lies in the angles architect Pete Dye created. A lone pine guarding the front left of the green blocks any direct approach — particularly from a low-trajectory mid or long iron — and forces golfers to attack from the right side of the fairway.

"It's a pretty tough layup shot there," Roberts explained. "If you lay back, you're looking at trying to get a longer iron to get it around that little bushy tree ... but you've got to make sure you get it up there far enough because nothing aggravates you more than to lay it up for a wedge or 9-iron, then get up there and see you don't have a shot."

Two-time Heritage champion Stewart Cink simply tries to remove all temptation to hit the green in two shots — in the yardage book he brings to Harbour Town each year, he has scribbled on the diagram of 15 "never a two-shot hole."

Granted, the notation is written in pencil. Might that mean Cink is holding out for another equipment revolution that will make No. 15 reachable in two?

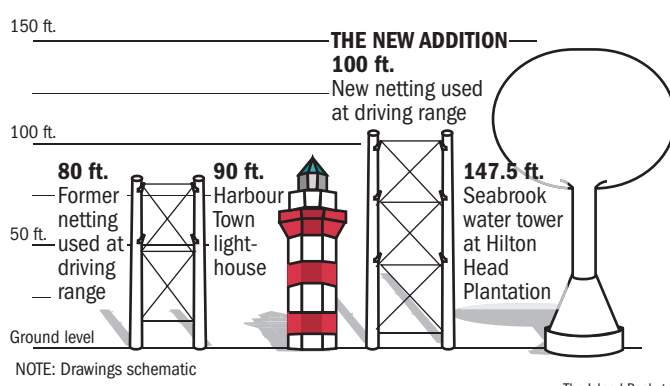
Naah.

"It's been there for a long time already, and I don't anticipate it changing," Cink said.

Contact Jeff Kidd at 706-8121 or [jkidd@islandpacket.com](mailto:jkidd@islandpacket.com). To comment on this story, please visit [www.islandpacket.com](http://www.islandpacket.com).

## Netting change

Earlier this year, Harbour Town made some improvements to the practice range netting. To keep long drives and errant golf balls in check, officials bumped the catch area up 20 feet. Below are some size comparisons around the area.



## Range

Continued from Page 22-D

Nonetheless, Corbitt and Wilmot said they are loathe to make such requests because they want players to feel free to hit a full complement of shots as they prepare for the tournament.

Errant golf balls usually are only a problem during tournament week, Corbitt said, noting that the range remained open while the new screen was installed.

"The majority of everyday golfers aren't hitting it where they'll put (construction crews) in jeopardy," Corbitt said.

Sea Pines considered replacing the screen with netting that could be installed and removed during the tournament — a set-up similar to the one used during

Masters week at Augusta National, which also sports a short range bounded by a street — but "that was too cost-prohibitive," Corbitt said. Also considered, according to Wilmot, was placing netting above Plantation Drive or using a more elaborate system that would have called for the removal of trees.

Instead, Sea Pines and the tournament opted for less intrusive measures. The old wooden poles were replaced with aluminum standards that were given a bronzing coat to make them less conspicuous.

"It's done so well, that it blends in beautifully," Farrell said. Contact Jeff Kidd at 706-8121 or [jkidd@islandpacket.com](mailto:jkidd@islandpacket.com). To comment on this story, please go to [islandpacket.com](http://islandpacket.com).



File/The Island Packet

Workers replace the poles that hold up the net at the end of Harbour Town Golf Links' driving range in this photo, taken in December. Metal poles replaced the old, wooden ones but were specially painted to blend into their surroundings.

**"People keep adding length, but that shows you don't have to add a lot of length. If you have a little wind whistling through the trees, that takes care of a lot."**

— 1995 Heritage champion Bob Tway on the difficulty of Harbour Town Golf Links

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Davis Love III gets some help trying on his tartan jacket after winning the 2003 Heritage. File/The Island Packet

# New workout regime has Love feeling young again

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

So, Davis Love III, when was the last time you entered a season feeling as good as you do now? "Uh, '86."

OK, Love admits it might not have been that long since he felt truly healthy — he was a PGA Tour rookie and turned 22 in 1986. And even if he doesn't feel exactly like a kid again, at least he seems clear of the back and neck problems that have dogged him the past several years and likely contributed to a winless skein that stretches to his 2003 victory at The International.

"It's been a long time, since the early 90s probably, since I've felt this good and like I've had a plan to get to feeling good," Love said. "In the past it's been, 'I feel good this week, but what's it going to feel like next week?' Now, I think I'll feel good as long as I stick with this game plan."

That game plan involves a workout routine crafted by Love's new fitness guru Randy Myers, whose golf clients also include the PGA Tour's Jonathan Byrd and Futures Tour player May Wood. Since he began working with Myers in February 2005, Love said he seldom goes more than three consecutive days without going through his lifting, stretching and balance exercises.

"If a kid in high school or college came to me and asked, 'What do I do to get better that you didn't do?' I'd tell him I missed out on a lot of the fitness wave that's so obvious out here now," Love said. "The majority of players are doing it, but when I first got out, no one was."

Over time, Love said he began altering his swing to accommodate nagging injuries. The new routine helps Love execute the swing moves taught to him by coach Jack Lumpkin.

"My trainer has me on a program that I like, and I can see results," Love said. "That's the big thing. If you went out and hit drivers every day and never got any better at it, you'd lose interest. I can see results, and I'm excited about it and am getting better and better."

The regimen hasn't been enough to propel Love back into victory lane, but he made the finals of February's WGC World Match Play Championship and believes the showing is a harbinger.

"I'm feeling better, hitting better, and my golf swing is right on

**"If you went out and hit drivers every day and never got any better at it, you'd lose interest. I can see results, and I'm excited about it."**

— Davis Love III

track," Love said. "I'm doing the things that I have to do to play better, and I'm excited about the year."

Good year or bad, Love has turned the Verizon Heritage into an annuity. The event's only five-time winner, Love also became the only golfer with 11 top-10 finishes when he tied for second a year ago. He is the event's all-time leading money winner, with nearly \$1 million more than second-place Stewart Cink, and he's eighth in career scoring average at Harbour Town Golf Links.

Love could use another good finish this week, inasmuch as he has gone winless in six of his last eight seasons. With 18 career victories, Love is just two short of earning lifetime membership on the PGA Tour, a number that also might sway voters who consider him a borderline candidate for the World Golf Hall of Fame.

The primary knock on Love — who has played six Ryder Cups, six Presidents Cups and 13 Tour Championships — is that he hasn't won enough big tournaments. His lone major is the 1997 PGA Championship. He also has won two Players Championships and has twice advanced to the final of the World Match Play.

Love nearly ended his victory drought and added a second PGA Championship last season at Baltusrol, where he entered the final round tied with Phil Mickelson. He fell out of contention when he bogeyed four of the first five holes in the final round.

Nonetheless, "I felt like last year was a big building block for me, getting back to playing a full schedule," Love said. "I only withdrew from one tournament and made the Presidents Cup team and made it through the full year working out and getting stronger. Then, I was gung ho for this year."

Contact Jeff Kidd at 706-8121 or [jkidd@islandpacket.com](mailto:jkidd@islandpacket.com). To comment on this story, please visit [www.islandpacket.com](http://www.islandpacket.com).

## DIVOTS

**• Height:** 6-3.  
**• Weight:** 175.  
**• Birth date:** April 13, 1964.  
**• Birthplace:** Charlotte.  
**• Resides:** Sea Island, Ga.; plays out of Sea Island CC.  
**• Special interests:** Fishing, reading novels, hunting, golf course architecture.  
**• Turned professional:** 1985.  
**• College:** North Carolina.  
**• Best Heritage finish:** First, five times, 1987 — 70-67-67-67; 1991 — 65-68-68-70; 1992 — 67-67-67-68; 1998 — 67-68-66-65; 2003 — 66-69-69-67.  
**• PGA Tour victories:** 18.  
**• Rank on 2005 Tour money list:** 13th.  
**• Major championships:** 1, 1997 PGA Championship.  
**• National teams:** Ryder Cup, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2002, 2004; Presidents Cup, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2005.  
**• Notes:** Surpassed \$2 million in earnings for the seventh consecutive season on the strength of nine top-10s, including two seconds that brought career runner-up total to 28. Is active leader under the age of 50 in that category. ... Won a career-high four times in 2003 and surpassed the \$6 million mark in single-season earnings for the first time in his career. Led the tour money list for 14 weeks overall and finished third. ... Slipped a bit in 2004, finishing 10th on the money list and going winless for the first time since 2002. ... Nonetheless, he surpassed the \$2 million mark in earnings for the sixth straight season and went over \$3 million for the second straight year with eight top-10 finishes and 11 top-25s. ... Earned first career major in 1997 PGA Championship at Winged Foot. ... Returned to the winner's circle in 2001 after a two-year drought that began after his 1998 victory Harbour Town.



LOVE

# Els trying to nurse his game back to health

## South African returns to Heritage after skipping '05

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

If the Verizon Heritage suffered from the lack of superstar-caliber players in 2005 field, Ernie Els can help nurse the field back to health this season.

In fact, they can heal together.

Looking to rebound from a knee injury that wiped out the final four months of his 2005 campaign, Els is back at Harbour Town Golf Links after skipping the Heritage to play a tournament in China last year.

None of the players ranked in the top 10 of the Official World Golf Rankings played the Heritage last season, but No. 5 Els was among the first to commit this season and is the highest-ranked player in this week's field.

The South African had played in four of the past six Heritages and will make his seventh career start at Harbour Town today. He has five top-10 finishes here, including ties for third in 2000, when he was the 54-hole leader, and 2004.

Another strong finish from Els this week would lend star power to the Heritage leaderboard and, almost literally, help the three-time major championship winner get his legs back underneath him again.

"I'm feeling good and getting better all the time. I'm working on a few things to get my swing where I want it to be," Els said.

"I played OK in Africa, and Dubai," he added, but progress on the American tour has come more slowly. He finished tied for 23rd at the Nissan Open and was eliminated by Bernhard Langer in the first round of the WGC Match Play Championship. He posted just one top 10 in his first four starts, but showed signs his game might be turning around when he tied for eighth at The Players Championship by carding four rounds of par or better. XXXXXXXXXXXX FINISHES AT PLAYERS AND MASTERS XXXXXXXXXXXX

Els won three PGA Tour events in 2004, was second at the Masters and British Open and finished in the top 10 of all four major championships. That built expectations for 2005, but the blockbuster season never materialized. He had five top-10 finishes in 11 starts but finished no higher than a tie for 15th in the season's first three majors.

And he didn't get to play the fourth.

Els was injured in a boating accident while vacationing the week after the British Open. Thrown from an inner tube as he was being towed by a speedboat, Els tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee when he collided with someone else in the water.

Two surgeries and three months of physical therapy ensued, and Els said he doesn't think his doctors ever told him just how bad the injury was.

"They told my wife. They tried to keep it away from me and keep me very positive, but it was badly messed up," Els said. "But I was



Ernie Els looks on in disbelief as he discovers his tee shot on the 16th hole in the final round of the 2004 Heritage is out of bounds and has cost him a chance at his first Heritage title. File/The Island Packet

always positive, right from the start."

Els didn't pick up a club for 10 weeks. He passed that time rehabilitating the knee and spending time with his family. He rarely watched golf, though he said he did see the Monday finish at the PGA Championship and much of the Presidents Cup.

"I guess subconsciously, I knew I was out, and I was going to be out for a long time," he said. "I think I just wanted to shut myself off, not watch it or read about it or anything like that. Concentrate on other things in life."

There's a school of thought that the layoff might be good for him — Els has a reputation for globe-trotting. Between the Masters and the U.S. Open, his travels took him from Augusta, to his home in suburban London, to tournaments in Shanghai and Beijing, back to London, then to Dallas for the Byron Nelson Championship. Then, he went to Monte Carlo to watch the Monaco Grand Prix, back to London for the European PGA, then back to the United States for three consecutive tournaments, ending with the U.S. Open.

In all, that was seven tournaments in nine weeks on three different continents.

Overseas tournaments and last year's injury have limited him to an average of 17 PGA Tour events over the past six seasons and have occasionally forced him to make choices between American events and overseas tournaments on other tours. The Heritage hasn't been the only loser in that regard.

For example, Els played in each Ford Championship at Doral between 1995 and 2002 and won the event four years ago. But a shift in the European Tour schedule sent Doral opposite that circuit's Dubai Desert Classic, where Els had a contract with tournament organizers that pays at least \$1 million a year.

Els, though, feels a calling to be this generation's Gary Player, spreading the game on a global basis.

"I've always done it, and I will keep doing it," Els said. "A couple of putts here and there could have been better two years ago, and that's basically that. If I could just make a couple more putts, there wouldn't be this argument."

Knight Ridder Tribune News Service contributed to this report.

## DIVOTS

**• Height:** 6-3.  
**• Weight:** 210.  
**• Birth date:** Oct. 17, 1969.  
**• Birthplace:** Johannesburg, South Africa.  
**• Resides:** Wentworth, England.  
**• Special interests:** Movies, reading, sports.  
**• Turned professional:** 1989  
**• Best Heritage finish:** T-3rd, 2000 — 68-67-66-74—275, 2004 — 69-70-68-69.  
**• PGA Tour victories:** 15.  
**• Rank on 2005 Tour money list:** 47th.  
**• Major championships:** 3, 1994 U.S. Open, 1997 U.S. Open, 2002 British Open.  
**• International teams:** Presidents Cup 1996, 1998, 2000, 2003.  
**• Notes:** Started playing golf at age 9. ... An accomplished junior tennis player, Els turned his full attention to golf at age 14. ... In 1998, received a lifetime membership to the European Tour. Other non-European players so honored are Bob Charles, Arnold Palmer and Gary Player. ... Won three times in 2004 and was in the top 10 in all four majors, including near-misses at the Masters and British Open. ... Holed a 30-foot birdie putt on the third playoff hole to beat Harrison Frazer for his 13th career win at the Sony Open. ... Finished second to Phil Mickelson at the Masters and finished tied for third at Harbour Town Golf Links the next week.



ELS

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Lucas Glover lines up a putt during the second round of the 2005 Heritage. The South Carolina native and Clemson graduate finds his star on the ascent in early 2006, after winning his first PGA Tour event late last season and vaulting up the Ryder Cup points standings.

# Glover deals with life changes as he embraces stardom

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

The ball trickled toward the 18th hole at Walt Disney World Resort. And when it dropped, so did Lucas Glover's jaw.

The native South Carolinian and Clemson University alum picked up his first PGA Tour victory at the 2005 Funai Classic with a stunning bunker shot, and the win thrust him into the Tour Championship and onto golf's main stage.

"A couple of veterans told me a long time ago, 'When you win, you're not going to expect it,'" said Glover, 26. "You're not going to be playing your best, you're not going to be doing this right, doing that right. Boom, it's just going to hit you in the face."

"That's exactly what happened." Glover made a 40-foot birdie putt from the fringe on No. 17 in the final round of the Funai. Then, needing a par to salvage any hope of forcing a playoff, he holed out a 100-foot bunker shot for birdie on the 18th hole.

Television cameras captured Glover's stunned-to-jubilant expressions, and runner-up Tom Pernice called him "a young guy and kind of naive" before playfully dubbing him a "redneck."

Glover wears the tag proudly, believing his reputation as a laid-back good ole boy causes opponents to underestimate him.

If that's still possible. Since his victory, Glover also has been tagged as one of the game's brightest young stars and fielded more autograph and interview requests than ever before.

"Playing well you get that, so that's good," Glover said. "You just deal with it and have to manage your time a little better. I'm still learning to do it and the best way to go about it."

This season, he has posted three top-six finishes and led the Bay Hill Invitational after 36 holes before a



Lucas Glover, left, receives his degree from Clemson University during a graduation ceremony this past December. Glover turned professional in 2001, then finished his degree in communication studies. Glover, who won his first PGA Tour event last October, also was married over the off-season.

The Associated Press

final-round 77 dropped him into a tie for 17th. He is near the top of the PGA Tour money list and the points standings for this year's U.S. Ryder Cup team — quite a quick journey for a golfer who had to birdie the final hole of the 2004 Qualifying School just to earn his PGA Tour card for last season.

Glover has passed a number of personal milestones, as well, since his Q-School experience. This past off-season, he got married and finished his degree in communication studies. In February, he mourned the passing of longtime coach Dick Harmon, who died of a heart attack at age 58.

"I think about him every day, every shot, but I've been playing well in the few weeks after, so I think I'll be all right," Glover said.

Glover first met the Houston-based instructor when he was 9, after his grandfather approached fellow Thornblade Club member and PGA Tour player Jay Haas about giving his grandson lessons. Haas instead

recommended Harmon, the son of former Masters winner Claude Harmon and one of four brothers who became renowned golf instructors.

At that time, Harmon, whose pupils included Fred Couples, Craig Stadler and Lanny Wadkins, deemed Glover too young to take on as a student, but Glover returned a few years later. That was the start of a close relationship that continued until Harmon's death.

"His relationship with Dick was unbelievable," said Dick's brother, Butch Harmon. "Dick was like a second father to him. He was as broken up about it as we were because he was like family. What I told him was that I know I can never be Dick, if I can ever do anything for you, I'll do it. He's a great kid."

Glover said he hasn't decided who will become his new swing coach, but for the time being, Harmon's three brothers will each work with Glover. Billy Harmon will carry Glover's bag when he plays the Shell

Degree, marriage, death of coach come in span of months

## DIVOTS

• **Height:** 6-2.  
• **Weight:** 188.  
• **Birth date:** Nov. 12, 1979.  
• **Birthplace:** Greenville.  
• **Resides:** Greenville.  
• **Special interests:** Music, fishing.



GLOVER

• **Turned professional:** 2001.  
• **College:** Clemson.  
• **Best Heritage finish:** T-16, 2004 — 73-70-66-72—281.  
• **PGA Tour victories:** 1.  
• **Rank on 2005 Tour money list:** 30th.

• **Major championships:** 0.  
• **National teams:** None.  
• **Notes:** Second-year player captured his first Tour win and a third-place finish. Earned more than \$2 million, almost quadrupling the \$557,474 he earned during his rookie season. ... Captured his first PGA Tour victory at the Funai Classic at Walt Disney World Resort with birdies on the last two holes, making a 40-foot putt from the fringe on No. 17 and a 100-foot bunker shot on the last hole to win. Had four no-putt greens on the final nine. He became the third Funai Classic winner in the last four years to make this his first Tour victory. He earned \$792,000 and moved to 28th on the money list, enough to get him into the season-ending Tour Championship for the first time. ... After finishing outside the top 115 on the PGA Tour money list in 2004, improved his status for 2005 with a tie for 26th in Qualifying School. On the 108th and final hole, he stuck his approach shot to within two feet and converted the birdie putt to clinch his card.

Houston Open next week.

"He's in good hands with us. He's going to get Dick in spirit and a whole lot of B.S. from the three of us," Harmon said, cracking a smile.

So far so good. Glover traveled to Houston after Harmon's Feb. 10 death and remained there with the family for about a week. He returned to the PGA Tour for the WGC World Match Play Championship, where he split a pair of matches, then tied for fifth at the Ford Championship at Doral a week later.

Glover made his first Masters appearance last week and arrives for his fourth career Heritage appearance. His best finish at Harbour Town is a tie for 16th in 2004.

"I'm looking forward to it — get down there, chill out and play some golf," Glover said. "As a South Carolinian, that tournament has always been special for me."

KRT News Service contributed to this report. Contact Jeff Kidd at 706-8121 or [jkidd@islandpacket.com](mailto:jkidd@islandpacket.com). To comment on this story, please go to [islandpacket.com](http://islandpacket.com).

# Roberts excited about PGA Tour starts after hot Champions start

Heritage record-holder won first 3 senior events

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

Loren Roberts spent 23 seasons on the PGA Tour.

And never did he strike the ball as well or experience the kind of success he had during the first five weeks of the 2006 Champions Tour season.

"You guys know the kind of career I've had," Roberts told reporters earlier this season at The Players Championship. "I've been a nice player, but that's it. I'm thankful I've won some nice tournaments, but I can't relate that to any other stretch I've had out here. Maybe '94 when I played well in all the majors, but that's about it."

That's a bit modest. Roberts has eight PGA Tour victories and has played on two Presidents Cup teams and one Ryder Cup team. He also won the Verizon Heritage in 1996, setting the tournament scoring record with a 19-under-par total.

But he's right about one thing — he's never had a run like the one he experienced in January and February. In fact, no one else has, either.

Roberts, who turned 50 last June, streaked to the top of the Champions Tour money list by becoming the first player ever to win the first three events of the circuit's season. He went on to finish in the top five in each of his first five tournaments.

"That's the best I've hit the ball in my career, in terms of pure ball-striking," Roberts said, who maintained his PGA Tour card this season by finishing 93rd on the 2005 money list.

In fact, he nearly picked up his ninth career win in securing that status.

In the final full-field event of the season, the Southern Farm Bureau Classic, he tied for second, two shots behind Heath Slocum. The golfers were tied entering the par-4 17th, where Roberts drove into a hazard and made bogey, while Slocum made birdie.

Nonetheless, Roberts jumped 33 spots on the money list.

That finish wasn't the only harbinger of his hot 2006 start. He made just six Champions Tour starts last season and still managed to finish 16th on the money list and edged Dana Quigley in a two-hole playoff at the Jeld-Wen Tradition for his first senior victory.

**"That's the best I've hit the ball in my career, in terms of pure ball-striking"**

— Loren Roberts, on his run of three straight wins on the Champions Tour

## DIVOTS

• **Height:** 6-2.  
• **Weight:** 190.  
• **Birth date:** June 24, 1955.  
• **Birthplace:** San Luis Obispo, Calif.  
• **Resides:** Germantown, Tenn.



ROBERTS

• **Special interests:** Clubmaking, hunting, all sports.  
• **Turned professional:** 1975.  
• **Best Heritage finish:** 1, 1996 — 66-69-63-67—265.  
• **PGA Tour victories:** 8.  
• **Rank on 2005 Tour money list:** 93rd.

• **Major championships:** 0.  
• **National teams:** Presidents Cup, 1994, 2000; Ryder Cup, 1995.

• **Notes:** Holds the Heritage scoring record of 19-under-par 265, set in 1996. ... Joined the Champions Tour last July and had an immediate impact, finishing 16th on the money list in just six starts. ... Won the 2003 Texas Valero Open for his eighth career title and first since the 2000 Greater Milwaukee Open.

"I finished the season really well," Roberts said, "and I spent a lot of time working in the off-season. We had kind of an unusually warm winter where I live in Memphis, so I was able to get outside and practice some. I love to play golf, so when I'm home, I like to go to the club and play and practice and work on my game."

Roberts said he will play six to eight PGA Tour events this season. (He missed the cut in his first outing, at the Players Championship in March.) Even if he cannot maintain exempt status on the PGA Tour for next season, he's likely to remain a fixture at the Heritage, where his victory earned him automatic entry into the invitational field. The stop is all the more convenient since the Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf Champions Tour event is played the next week in nearby Savannah.

"I love the island," Roberts said. "It's a great atmosphere, and I think if you ask just about everybody on tour, that golf course would be on their top five."

Contact Jeff Kidd at 706-8121 or [jkidd@islandpacket.com](mailto:jkidd@islandpacket.com). To comment on this story, please visit [www.islandpacket.com](http://www.islandpacket.com).

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# VERIZON HERITAGE

## Senior tour calls as Price ponders next few years

Demands of longer courses steal some of former Heritage champ's love for competition

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

Nick Price isn't sure what to expect when he turns 50 next January and becomes eligible for the Champions Tour.

But the World Golf Hall of Fame member suspects this much: The golf has to be more fun for him than it is on the PGA Tour these days.

"(From) what I've heard from my compatriots who are already out there, they really enjoy it," said Price, who led the 1997 Verizon Heritage wire to wire and became the 11th golfer in tournament history to shoot all four rounds in the 60s. "If I go out there and enjoy it, I'll go out there and play a lot. My competitive spirit has taken a bit of a knock the last two years because for people who play the way I play the game, it's almost passing us by, which is kind of sad."

"I don't think this game has ever, ever been a game of strength, and suddenly, it's become a game of strength."

The former world No. 1 and winner of three major championships has fallen precipitously in the past two seasons. After finishing 20th on the PGA Tour money list in 2003, he has finished 103rd and 125th, respectively. Price has made 23 of 31 cuts in that span but hasn't cracked the top five and has only 10 top 25 finishes.

Never a long hitter, even when he was on top of the game, Price has finished no better than 143rd in driving distance since 2001, when he averaged 274.5 yards per drive. He averages 284 yards per drive this season, but nearly 10 extra yards off the tee haven't helped him keep pace with younger players or make serious runs at tournament titles.

"You know, they say guys are hitting it longer these days because they're in better shape and working out, but that's B.S.," Price said. "It's all about the equipment. The equipment is allowing them to hit it and swing at it harder. There were times when we were younger that if you went and worked out and you got a little bulky, you couldn't swing the next day. The drivers have given the stronger players such an advantage."

With the Champions Tour beckoning, Price has suggested he won't necessarily make it a priority to maintain full exempt status on the PGA Tour next season.

"For me, if you stand back, I felt like the game has passed me by. I'm treading water out there," he said. "I'll play my required number this year, and I'm kind of looking forward to a change and going out

**"My competitive spirit has taken a bit of a knock the last two years because for people who play the way I play the game, it's almost passing us by, which is kind of sad."**

— Nick Price

### DIVOTS

**• Height:** 6-0.  
**• Weight:** 190.  
**• Birth date:** Jan. 28, 1957.  
**• Birthplace:** Durban, South Africa.  
**• Resides:** Hobe Sound, Fla.



PRICE

**• Special interests:** Water skiing, tennis, fishing.  
**• Turned professional:** 1977.  
**• Best Heritage finish:** 1, 1997 — 65-69-69-66—269.  
**• PGA Tour victories:** 18.  
**• Rank on 2005 Tour money list:** 125th.  
**• Major championships:** 3.  
**• National teams:** Presidents Cup, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2003.

**• Notes:** Was the world's top-ranked golfer and won two major championships in 1994 — the British Open and the PGA Championship. ... Born in South Africa, he moved to Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) at an early age. ... Was the first recipient, in 2002, of the ASAP Sports/Jim Murray Award, given to a professional athlete for his cooperation, quotability and accommodation to the media. After a decade of collaborating with a variety of architects, formed his own golf design company, Nick Price Golf Course Design, and currently has projects ongoing in South Africa, Mexico and the Dominican Republic.

there next year and playing with guys I grew up with. It's not too often you're a rookie at 50."

In the meantime, Price said he looks forward to venues such as Harbour Town Golf Links, where he doesn't have to overpower the course to be successful. In fact, even once on the Champions Tour full time, Price said he will continue to play the Heritage, where he has an automatic exemption into the invitational field because he is a past champion.

"I'll still play the events that I really like out here, the courses I feel I can still compete on," Price said. "It depends on how I'm playing, as well. If I'm playing really well and I get an invite or I qualify, I'll play as long as I don't feel like I'm going to make an idiot out of myself."

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The Associated Press

Fred Funk signs autographs this March before making his title defense at the Players Championship. His victory at TPC in 2005 extended his PGA Tour exempt status through 2010, meaning he'll be able to play both the Champions and regular tours after he turns 50 this summer.

## Cake, candles and exemptions

Funk's 50th birthday will come with plenty of playing options

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

### DIVOTS

**• Height:** 5-8.  
**• Weight:** 165.  
**• Birth date:** June 14, 1956.  
**• Birthplace:** Takoma Park, Md.  
**• Resides:** Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.



FUNK

**• Turned professional:** 1981.  
**• College:** University of Maryland.  
**• Best Heritage finish:** 6th, 2004 — 69-69-69-70—277.  
**• PGA Tour victories:** 7.  
**• Rank on 2005 Tour money list:** 11th.  
**• Major championships:** 0.  
**• National teams:** Presidents Cup 2003, 2005; Ryder Cup 2004.

**• Notes:** Earned a career-best \$2,830,046 in 2005 and won in back-to-back seasons for the first time since the 1995-96 seasons. ... Became the oldest winner of The Players Championship at 48 years, nine months and 14 days by defeating Tom Lehman, Scott Verplank and Luke Donald by a stroke on the third Monday finish in the past six years for

Fred Funk has exempt status on the PGA Tour through 2010. He's just not sure what he'll do with it.

Funk, whose seven career victories include the 2005 Players Championship, will be eligible for the Champions Tour when he turns 50 on June 14.

"I'm probably going to cherry-pick a little bit next year but probably focus more on the Champions Tour. I'll just see how I'm playing," Funk said. "I'm really torn between the two right now. I don't know what I'm going to do, really. My wife doesn't want me to go."

Funk plans to debut on the Champions Tour at the Prairie Dunes Senior Open and to play the Senior Players Championship the next week. He also plans to get reacquainted with an old PGA Tour haunt at the AT&T Championships, which will be played in October at Oak Hills Country Club in San Antonio, Texas.

But he settles in on the senior circuit, he'd also like another crack at the Ryder Cup.

Funk played for the U.S. team for the first time in 2004, and he said his standing for the 2006 team will likely dictate his playing schedule this summer.

"I don't know if I'll be playing the British Seniors," said Funk, who tied for 16th in his title defense at TPC at

**"When I wake up, I can't move in the morning."**

— Fred Funk, joking about how he feels as he approaches age 50

Sawgrass. "I might go to Milwaukee instead because if I can get some points running — its' such a volatile system right now, if you can have a good week you can really move up in the points."

"If I play well enough to gain some points by that time, then I'll go to Milwaukee instead."

Simply being in contention for Ryder Cup play at age 49 — in an era of big-hitting young pros, no less — is amazing to Funk, who ranked 197th by averaging 279.9 yards per drive in 2005.

"When I wake up, I can't move in the morning," Funk quipped. "No,

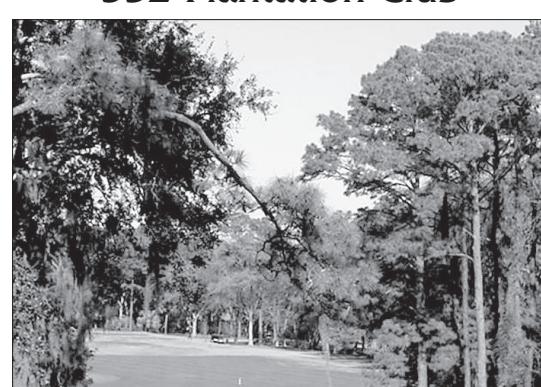
really. I really can't believe I'm actually almost 50. Probably a lot of people feel that way when they get up there. I remember when I was first out on tour and saw guys in their 40s and I thought, 'Man, those guys are like dinosaurs out here.' And now I'm one of the dinosaurs. Yeah, it's hard to comprehend that ...

"But I've tried to stay mentally and physically tough for the duration, and it's tougher to do."

Contact Jeff Kidd at 706-8121 or [jkidd@islandpacket.com](mailto:jkidd@islandpacket.com). To comment on this story, please visit [www.islandpacket.com](http://www.islandpacket.com).

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## VERIZON HERITAGE

## Course architecture profitable sideline for pros

## FROM STAFF REPORTS

If you ever walked into a clubhouse after a round of golf and sketched your idea for a hole on a cocktail napkin, don't worry. You're probably pretty normal.

As for ever playing that hole, you're probably not that lucky. Professional golfers are.

Touring pros are prime attractions for club owners who want an identity that sets them apart, says local architect Clyde Johnston who has designed courses with professional golfers Fuzzy Zoeller and John Daly.

"Like any other business, it's about money," Johnston said. "I think the popularity of the players helps real estate values more than anything."

Player-architects are nothing new. Old Tom Morris, winner of four British Opens in the 1860s, also was the famed keeper of the greens at the Old Course at St. Andrews when people in his position were in charge of both maintenance and creation.

But in the early 20th century, golf course architecture became a career unto itself, and the top designers were seldom the top players of their day.

In the second half of the century, that began to change, and the Verizon Heritage and the course it is played on have much to do with that change.

Pete Dye, then a relative unknown, was hired to create Harbour Town Golf Links in consultation with Jack Nicklaus. Although Dye did most of the designing, he never minimized Nicklaus' contribution to Harbour Town, and the first stories about Harbour Town's creation often mentioned Nicklaus first — proving Johnston's point about the value of a recognizable name.

Nicklaus went on to form his own design firm, as did Arnold Palmer, the Heritage's first champion. Now, several active touring pros also hang design shingles.

There are 22 courses designed by current or former PGA Tour

members in Beaufort County alone, including Nicklaus' Colleton River course, Davis Love III's Eagles Point and Zoeller's Island West, which he created with Johnston. One of Nicklaus' newest creations is his design at Palmetto Bluff in Bluffton.

"We're talking about design everywhere we go," said Love, the five-time Heritage champion, who owns Love Enterprise and Associates on St. Simons Island, Ga. "We get exposed to so many different courses out here. It's great exposure for us. I don't know enough to say I'm an architect, but I know what I like and what works."

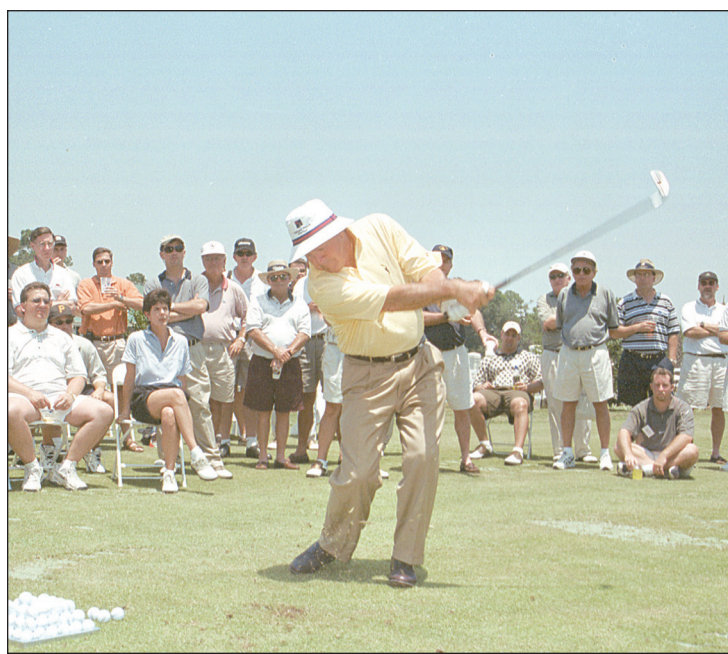
The amount of participation in the design process varies with each player and often corresponds with how active one is on tour. And though the players usually do not have extensive backgrounds in landscape design or engineering, their names alone are hot commodities — even if their design skills are not.

## Big name, big bucks

The American Society of Golf Course Architects says non-playing architects collect fees in a range of \$100,000 to \$150,000 per course, but Johnston estimated that high-profile PGA Tour players can make as much as seven times more, even if they don't own their own design firm. Often, compensation depends on the number of site visits made during construction, usually between four and six.

Johnston earned a degree in landscape architecture and spent 13 years learning the trade as an apprentice before starting his own company. The ASGCA says it takes from 10-15 years for an architect to establish a solid reputation. But players like Daly, who needed explanations from Johnston about simple design principles when the two collaborated on Wicked Stick in Myrtle Beach, sometimes jump right in and walk away with the glory.

"You hear about some architects out there who have had bad experiences with tour players," said Johnston.



File/The Island Packet

Arnold Palmer, winner of the first Heritage, hits a shot on the driving range during a demonstration at Crescent Pointe in greater Bluffton, one of three courses he has designed or redesigned in Beaufort County.

"Some players want to take all the credit when they did very little."

Ben Wright, a former CBS commentator and golf journalist who also has consulted on design projects, recalls a course opening several years ago in which a tour player, who he would not name, had spent so little time on site at one upstate track that he had to be directed to the first tee before he could hit the ceremonial first shot.

"How can you possibly expect a guy who has done nothing but play golf to do the engineering and shaping and build greens to USGA specification?" Wright said. "But he likes the idea of having his name on the course."

Players also like the idea that their visions can become reality. But criticism isn't far behind those who forget golf demographics.

Some of Nicklaus' early work, for example, has been criticized as being too hard for medium- to high-handicappers.

Others, like Zoeller and Greg Norman, both former Heritage champions, consider mid- and high-handicap players, as well as the scratch golfer.

"Some club owners or designers may want the best this, the best that. If a course has Zoeller's name, he wants the course for the average golfer and not just the latest and greatest or one of the top 100 courses," Johnston said. "He wants it to be a fun, family experience."

Norman, whose design at Oldfield is just more than five years old, knows what is best for him is not best for anyone else.

"I think the weakness with some

## Par for the course

Current or former PGA Tour players who have designed golf courses in Beaufort County. (\*Denotes has played in Heritage.)

**Jack Nicklaus\***

- Harbour Town Golf Links (with Pete Dye)
- Colleton River Plantation Nicklaus Course
- Daufuskie Island Club's Melrose Course
- Indigo Run
- Palmetto Bluff

**Arnold Palmer\***

- Sea Pines Club Course (with Frank Duane)
- Crescent Pointe
- Spring Island's Old Tabby Links

**Ben Crenshaw\***

- Chechessee Creek

**Bruce Devlin\***

- Secession Golf Club

**George Fazio**

- Palmetto Dunes Fazio Course

**Davis Love III\***

- Eagles Pointe
- Fripp Island's Ocean Creek

**Mark McCumber\***

- Okatie Creek at Sun City
- Hilton Head National
- Sea Pines Ocean Course (redesign)

**Greg Norman\***

- Oldfield

**Gary Player\***

- Dolphin Head (with Ron Kirby)
- Hilton Head National
- Lady's Island Country Club (redesign)

**Tom Weiskopf\***

- Bloody Point

**Fuzzy Zoeller\***

- Island West (with Clyde Johnston)

architects is that they play the aerial game. There's 25 millions golfers in America and 24,999,000 of them probably can't hit the ball 300 yards through the air, then hit a 7-iron 185 yards, stick it on a green and have about 15 feet of green to work with," Norman said. "Your eye tells you whether you're right or wrong. A golf ball I hit is not going to tell me whether it's right or wrong for everyone else."

## More than just a game

Johnston says you have to study the game and the history of golf course design before you can create courses that reflect today's game. Scotsman Donald Ross, who studied under Morris, was a pioneer in the profession at the turn of the century, and people like Robert Trent Jones Sr. spent years studying agrostology, agronomy and hydraulic engineering to turn design into a true profession.

Nonetheless, Johnston says he is impressed with the work of many former tour players, including Ben Crenshaw. Love says Fazio and

Jones often recommend him for jobs they are unwilling or unable to take on. And Nicklaus — one of the most prolific of designers — was GolfWorld's architect of the year in 1993, about the time his design at Colleton River Plantation in greater Bluffton was named Golf Digest's best new course in America.

He said he still uses the lessons he learned more than three decades ago during Harbour Town's construction.

"One thing that I learned from Pete is that golf is more approachable when it's played from downhill," said Nicklaus, who said he made 23 site visits while Harbour Town was being built, far fewer than he typically makes for the courses he designs today. "You don't have much downhill in the Lowcountry, but still, you want to be able to see (from the tee) what you can do. I think it's easier to pick up elevation walking from the green to the tee than it is walking from the tee to the green."

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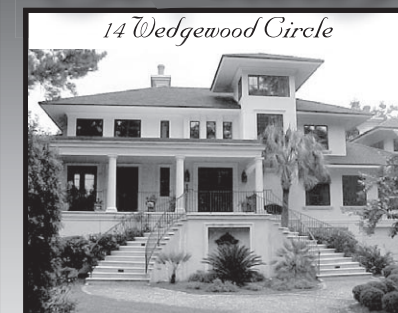
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Rod Pamplung, shown in action during the third round of the 2005 Heritage, picked up his second career PGA Tour victory at this year's Bay Hill Invitational.



File/The Island Packet

## Pamplung captures second tour win in stunning fashion

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

Rod Pamplung has tripped a time or two on his way to the winner's circle.

So he commiserated as he celebrated his second career PGA Tour victory in March's Bay Hill Invitational.

"It's unfortunate what happened to Greg (Owen), but that's golf. It's 72 holes," Pamplung said.

Pamplung took a four-shot lead into the final round at Bay Hill but was caught by Owen after hitting his tee shot on the 13th hole out of bounds and suffering a double bogey. Owen was up a shot heading to the par-4 17th and had a chance to lock away the tournament with a 3 1/2-foot par putt after Pamplung made bogey.

Instead, Owen three-putted from that distance, knotting the score for the final hole.

Pamplung made par on the 18th, and Owen suffered more indignity on the green when his 12-foot bid to save par appeared headed for the bottom of the cup but instead spun out.

"Under the heat of it all, it's hard to keep it all level," Pamplung said. "Each shot kind of changed — one up, then a couple down — and it just happened so quickly. You didn't have time to think about what's going on. You never want to see anyone do what Greg did out there. It's a cruel game, and to have it happen on the second-to-last hole, that's where it hurts a lot more."

"But you know, I had to get up on the next tee and hit a good tee shot and keep the pressure on him."

Before Pamplung played his first season on the Nationwide Tour in 2000, he was best known in this country for leading after the first round of the previous year's British Open at Carnoustie, only to shoot an 86 in the second round and become the first first-round leader to miss the cut.

Pamplung brought just one professional victory with him to America — he won the 1999 Canon Challenge on the Australian tour, which qualified him for the British Open in question. He played well in his second year on the Nationwide Tour, making 21 of 26 cuts and earning a promotion to the PGA Tour by finishing fourth on the money list. But oddly, he led the Nationwide in top-10 finishes but didn't win. His \$306,573 set a circuit record for earnings without a victory.

After two solid seasons on the PGA Tour, including his first \$1 million campaign in 2003, Pamplung finally broke through with a victory at The International in 2004, when he made a 21-foot eagle putt from the fringe of the 71st hole to collect five points in the tournament's modified Stableford scoring format.

"I guess I was pretty fortunate in that I didn't have to wait too long for the next victory," Pamplung said. "It's nice to win a stroke play event, and it being Arnold (Palmer's) tournament is nice. Winning a legend's tourna-

## DIVOTS

**• Height:** 5-10.  
**• Weight:** 175.  
**• Birth date:** Sept. 23, 1969.  
**• Birthplace:** Redcliffe, Queensland, Australia.  
**• Resides:** Flower Mound, Texas; Brisbane, Australia.  
**• Special interests:** Sports.  
**• Turned professional:** 1994.  
**• College:** None.  
**• Best Heritage finish:** T6, 2005 — 70-69-68-73—280.  
**• PGA Tour victories:** 1.  
**• Rank on 2005 Tour money list:** 48th.  
**• Major championships:** 0.  
**• National teams:** None.  
**• Notes:** Briefly called Hilton Head Island his home in 2001. ... In 2005, made 21 cuts in 26 starts and recorded a career-best six top-10s. Posted first career major championship top-10 with T5 in first start at the Masters. Along with Mark Hensby, led contingent of eight Aussies playing in Augusta. ... Made 22 cuts in 26 PGA Tour starts in 2004, earning a career-high \$1.7 million. Started the season as the 111th-ranked player in the World Golf Ranking and moved up to 65th by season's end. ... Recorded his first PGA Tour victory at The International. Curled in a 21-foot eagle putt from the fringe on the par-5 71st hole, collecting five points in the event's modified Stableford format. ... Was one of six Australians to win on tour in 2004. ... Earned a promotion from the Nationwide Tour after 2001, when he finished in the top 10 nine times but did not win. He earned \$306,573, setting a record for Nationwide earnings without a victory.



PAMPLUNG

ment looks nice on the resume."

He'd like to make a habit of such results and won't discount his chances this week — he tied for sixth at the Verizon Heritage a year ago and has finished no lower than a tie for 16th in his past three starts at Harbour Town Golf Links.

He's fond of the tournament for another reason, too — he received a sponsor's exemption to the 2001 tournament, before he had exempt status on the PGA Tour.

"It's a great run right now for golf, for guys who like to hit shots, and that's what I like to do," Pamplung said of the run from Bay Hill through the Heritage. "... Those are the courses I've always loved playing. The last few years I have played well at Hilton Head. It suits my eye, I like staying on the island and it's one of those tournaments that gave me my start early in my career."

Contact Jeff Kidd at 706-8121 or [jkidd@islandpacket.com](mailto:jkidd@islandpacket.com). To comment on this story, please visit [www.islandpacket.com](http://www.islandpacket.com).

His 2006 season plagued by bad breaks and missed cuts, former islander D.J. Trahan returns to Harbour Town, where he hopes to get his ...



File/The Island Packet

Former Hilton Head Islander D.J. Trahan, right, and his caddie, former Hilton Head High School teammate Todd Sunderland, wait to hit a shot at the 2005 Heritage, where Trahan missed the cut.

# Mojo Workin'

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

If D.J. Trahan can't force his golf ball into the hole, perhaps he can turn his game around by force of will.

"I'm ready for a turnaround," Trahan said before the Players Championship, describing his slow start in 2006. "I had a horrible start to the year. It's been slightly depressing, as it would be for anybody making two of eight cuts. ... But I've been working on my swing, working on some things, and I think things are getting ready to turn around."

"As a matter of fact, I know some good things are going to come. I'm tired of thinking they're going to come, I know it's going to happen."

Trahan's father, Don, is the former director of instruction at Harbour Town Golf Links, and he played the course frequently before his family moved to the upstate following his sophomore year of high school. Trahan said he looks forward to playing the Verizon Heritage each year, in part because he likes the familiar surroundings, but his familiarity with Harbour Town hasn't yielded a paycheck yet — he missed the cut in each of his two previous appearances.

His struggles at Harbour Town aren't as surprising to Trahan as they might be to the casual observer expecting him to torch his former home course. Yes, he knows the nooks and crannies of Pete Dye's creation, but he seldom played the course under tournament conditions.

"It's a whole different world out here," Trahan said. "You see some of these guys who get sponsors exemptions and don't play so well. It's a whole different deal out here. There's a lot of pressure, and the golf courses are a whole lot more difficult."

Trahan, a PGA Tour rookie in 2005, finished 103rd on the money list to retain exempt status for this season. He made just 14 of 28 cuts but showed flashes of the game that made him the nation's top-ranked amateur and the 2000 U.S. Public Links Championship before graduating from Clemson. He posted three top-10s, including a ninth-place finish at the Wachovia Championship, where he was two off the lead through 36 holes.

"Everybody would like to go out there and win the first time they put themselves in contention," Trahan said. "The reality is, that



File/The Island Packet

D.J. Trahan hits from the fairway during the second round of the 2005 Heritage. He shot a 77 and missed the cut in his second tournament appearance.

doesn't happen, and when you get close, you've got to be positive and learn some things. What I've learned is that you've got to remain positive and be patient."

This season has certainly tested Trahan's patience. He has made just two of 10 cuts and has broken 70 only four times in 28 rounds.

Trahan says he and his father, who doubles as his swing coach, have work to do on his swing — he ranks outside the top 100 in driving accuracy, greens in regulation, putting average, sand save percentage and scoring average.

As discouraging as that might sound, Trahan said the line separating guys struggling to keep their PGA Tour cards and players who contend on a regular basis is

wafer-thin. A good break here and there will help him break through that barrier, Trahan added.

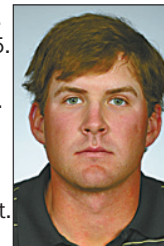
"A lot of people call it mojo — you're getting good breaks, you're getting bad breaks," Trahan said. "Well, I've been getting nothing but bad breaks all year. You know, I'll hit a drive down the left side of the fairway, it kicks into the rough, terrible lie, can't go for the green. Making bogeys like that when you don't feel like you're hitting it all that bad, when it starts backing up on you like that it's hard to stay positive."

"But that's exactly what I'm going to do."

Contact Jeff Kidd at 706-8121 or [jkidd@islandpacket.com](mailto:jkidd@islandpacket.com). To comment on this story, please go to [islandpacket.com](http://islandpacket.com).

## DIVOTS

**• Height:** 6-3.  
**• Weight:** 185.  
**• Birth date:** Dec. 18, 1980.  
**• Birthplace:** Atlanta.  
**• Resides:** Mount Pleasant.  
**• Special interests:** Fishing, boating.



TRAHAN

**• Turned professional:** 2003.  
**• College:** Clemson.  
**• Best Heritage finish:** MC — 78-72, 2004.

**• PGA Tour victories:** 0.  
**• Rank on 2005 Tour money list:** 103rd.

**• Major championships:** 0.  
**• National teams:** None.

**• Notes:** Trahan's full name is Donald Roland Trahan Jr. ... Rookie season included three top-10s and \$806,304 in earnings. ... Posted first career top-10 in 18th start of career with a T9 at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans. ... Former Hilton Head Island resident and son of former Harbour Town director of instruction Don Trahan. ... Qualified for PGA Tour in 2004 Qualifying School, his second attempt to earn his card. Spent the 2004 season on the Nationwide Tour, where he finished 26th on the money list. ... Wrapped up the final full-field event of the season with his first Nationwide win at the Miccosukee Championship. Entered the final round four shots behind 54-hole leader Nick Watney but shot a 6-under-par 65, which catapulted him to a two-shot victory. ... Won the U.S. Public Links Championship in 2000, which qualified him for the next year's Masters. ... Was the nation's top-ranked amateur. ... Led Clemson to an NCAA title in 2003 before turning pro. Former Clemson teammates Jonathan Byrd, Lucas Glover and Charles Warren also are on the PGA Tour this year. ... Won S.C. Amateur in 2001 at Colleton River's Dye Course, then defended his title on another Dye creation, Long Cove, in 2002.

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Hilton Head Island



# Tway's son joins him in Harbour Town victory circle

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

Like a number of PGA Tour golfers nearing age 50, Bob Tway can reflect fondly upon the notable achievements in his career and look forward to a second one, too.

But in Tway's case, it's not necessarily a stint on the Champions Tour that fills him with anticipation — his 17-year-old son, Kevin, won the 2005 U.S. Junior Amateur title and is ranked fourth in Golfweek's poll of the top male golfers in the high school class of 2007.

For the elder Tway — PGA Champion, eight-time PGA Tour winner and proud papa — picking his biggest thrill in golf is easy.

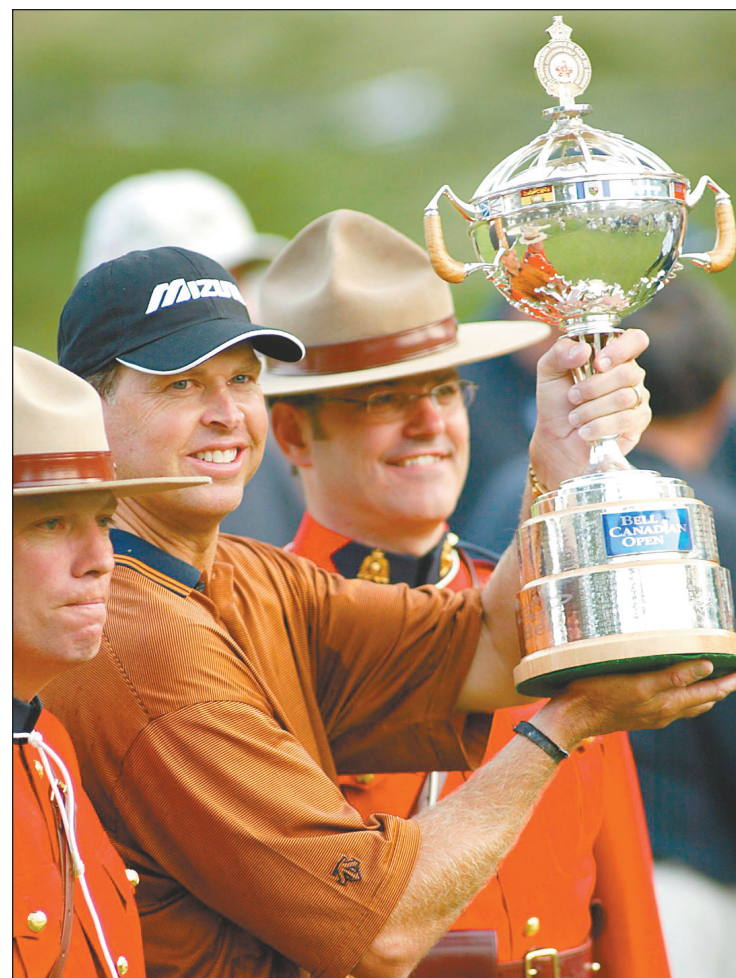
"I know it sounds funny to say it, but Kevin's (U.S. Junior Amateur victory) was the highlight of my golf career," Bob said. "Being there was really something."

The younger Tway celebrated his 17th birthday by defeating Brad Johnson 5 and 3 in the first 36-hole final at the U.S. Junior Am. He said he intends to follow in his father's footsteps by attending Oklahoma State after graduation, and he's already emulated his father in one sense — he has a victory at Harbour Town Golf Links.

Bob hadn't won in five seasons and had finished 109th or worse on the money list in the preceding three seasons before winning the 1995 Heritage. This past December, Kevin rung up a victory on the same track, in an International Junior Golf Tour event that concluded at Harbour Town after the first round was played at Sea Pines Ocean Course.

The younger Tway has made two other recent appearances on Hilton Head Island — he finished 27th at the American Junior Golf Association's Rolex Tournament of Champions at Long Cove a few weeks before the U.S. Junior Am and tied for sixth in February's Verizon Junior Heritage.

Kevin wasn't at Harbour Town when his father won the Heritage in 1995, a tearful victory that Bob described as "better than any other win I've had because I was down so



File/The Associated Press

Bob Tway holds aloft the winner's trophy from the Canadian Open, which he won in 2003. Tway won the 1995 Heritage at Harbour Town Golf Links, where his son, Kevin, also wrapped up an IJGT victory this past winter.

low." Nonetheless, Kevin already is developing a fondness for the place.

"It's just in good condition, always," he said. "It's really long, it's tight. Just fun to play."

Dad serves as his primary swing instructor.

"He obviously knows a lot, so I just listen to him," Kevin said.

And Bob is more than happy to lend advice.

"I think it's just because of all the experiences I've gone through out here in 20-plus years," Bob said. "I don't have all the answers, obviously, but I can tell him what I've learned that I think is important."

Kevin said he hasn't thought

about what he might do beyond college, but his father believes his son's acquaintance with the life of a PGA Tour pro will be an advantage if he decides to play professionally.

"He traveled quite a bit with me until he started school and traveled in the summer," Bob said. "But once he got a little older and started playing tournaments, once he got to be about 9, he just stayed home. He didn't travel much with me after that ..."

"But I think just being around the game at that level, seeing what I've been through, kind of knowing what to expect — yeah, I think that will put him ahead of the game."



File/The Associated Press

Ted Purdy pulls a club from the bag of friend Mark Hensby during the third round of the 2005 Heritage. Purdy finished the first two rounds in 5-over-par and thought he had missed the cut. He found out later he had qualified for weekend play and had to race back to Hilton Head Island from the Atlanta airport in time for his third-round tee time. He borrowed clubs, pants and shoes from Hensby.

# Seldom a boring time when Purdy comes to island

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

Seldom smooth, never boring — that "Purdy" much sums up the Verizon Heritage for the tournament's 2004 runner-up.

"It's always something there, isn't it?" said Ted Purdy, who should expect the unexpected this week if his third appearance at Harbour Town Golf Links is anything like his first two.

Last year, Purdy thought he had missed the cut after opening with rounds of 73 and 74. Most years, that 5-over total would have sent him packing for the weekend, and indeed, Purdy packed ... and drove to Atlanta to catch a flight home to Arizona.

But difficult scoring conditions made for the highest cut line on the PGA Tour to that point in the season, and the cut fell at 5-over. Purdy would be able to play Harbour Town over the weekend ... if he could return before his Saturday tee time.

Purdy was sitting on a plane on the tarmac at the Atlanta airport when he checked a cell phone message from his father. "Congratulations for making the cut," his dad said.

So Purdy, his wife and 20-month-old son jumped off the plane just before the gate swung shut. As their luggage flew off in the opposite direction, the Purdys made a late-night beeline to Hilton Head Island. Purdy bought a golf shirt at a Walgreens drugstore, borrowed pants and clubs from friend Mark Hensby, who did miss the cut, then shot a round of 76. Purdy closed with a 1-under 70 on Sunday and finished tied for 59th.

If 2005 was comical, the 2004

Heritage was downright heart-breaking for the 1996 University of Arizona graduate.

Purdy, seeking what would have been his first PGA Tour victory, was the 54-hole leader at 12-under, but he slipped to a 2-over 73 in the final round and into a playoff with Stewart Cink, who charged from nine shots back at the start of the day. Cink won his second Heritage with a birdie on the fifth extra hole, after hitting a 67-yard shot from a waste bunker to within a few feet.

The legality of Cink's approach shot, captured by television cameras as he removed debris from behind his ball, was reviewed by rules officials and eventually upheld.

Purdy didn't see the shot on television until later that night ... and has disputed the ruling ever since.

The anguish of coming so close to his first victory — and losing in such fashion — has been blunted a bit since Purdy's last trip to Harbour Town, though. He won the EDS Byron Nelson Championship last May, in his 82nd PGA Tour start. Unlike his balky final-round play at Harbour Town more than a year earlier, Purdy was steady at the TPC at Las Colinas — he didn't make a bogey over the final 27 holes and came from two off the pace in the final round to pass Sean O'Hair.

The victory vaulted him to a career-best 24th-place finish on the money list.

"There is a secret to winning," Purdy said. "... Let it go and get out of your own way."

Purdy said he kept an even keel through the final round at the Byron Nelson and despite starting the final round two shots back, he played his approach shots conservatively, to the middle of the green.

## DIVOTS

**• Height:** 5-10.  
**• Weight:** 175.  
**• Birth date:** Aug. 15, 1973.  
**• Birthplace:** Phoenix, Ariz.  
**• Resides:** Phoenix, Ariz.  
**• Special interests:** Stock market, skiing.  
**• Turned professional:** 1996.  
**• College:** Arizona.  
**• Best Heritage finish:** 2, 2004 — 69-67-65-73—274.  
**• PGA Tour victories:** 0.  
**• Rank on 2005 Tour money list:** 24th.  
**• Major championships:** 0.  
**• National teams:** None.  
**• Notes:** Had a career year, earning more than \$2 million in prize money and his first Tour title. ... Collected his first PGA Tour title at the EDS Byron Nelson Championship in just his 82nd career start. Did not post a bogey over the last 27 holes. Trained by two strokes entering the final round, but closed with a 5-under 65 and won by one shot over 54-hole leader Sean O'Hair. Collected a career-best check for \$1,116,000 and surpassed the \$1 million mark for the second consecutive season. ... Runner-up finish at Harbour Town in 2004 was the first top-10 of his career in 41 starts.



PURDY

"I was putting so well, and I made a lot of 12- to 15-footers," Purdy said. "I shot the easiest 65 I ever shot in my life."

The victory secured Purdy's exempt status through 2007, but he said it didn't take a victory to feel as if he belonged on the PGA Tour.

"It's real gratifying because my whole life, I'd been working toward winning, and when you do, it's an amazing feeling," Purdy said. "I don't think the self-perception changes that much. It's just hard to get on top. Tiger (Woods) does it every week, but for us humans out here, we don't get it very often, so it's fun when it happens."



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# Sportswriter played key role in getting Heritage off ground

When contemplating the history of Harbour Town Golf Links and the tournament that made the golf course famous, a few people spring immediately to mind.

For those well versed in Heritage lore, the names trickle off the tongue: Charles Fraser, Pete Dye, Jack Nicklaus and Arnold Palmer.

But there was another person whose contributions, it could be argued, were as conspicuous as any of the above.

If Fraser demonstrated visionary genius in 1968 when he hired Dye to design Harbour Town and asked Nicklaus to serve as his consultant, he made an equally astute hire the following year when he brought Charles Price on board to help organize and promote the inaugural Heritage Classic.

Price, along with Herbert Warren Wind and Dan Jenkins, was among the preeminent golf writers of the second half of the 20th century. In 1959, Price founded Golf Magazine and served as its first editor. He later was a contributing editor for Golf Digest.

Price stood just 5-foot-9 and weighed about 140 pounds. Despite his small stature, he possessed a beautiful golf swing and actually competed on tour, as an amateur, in 1947 and 1948. Unfortunately, his relative lack of strength kept him, literally, far behind his professional peers, and Price never made a cut. One evening in a hotel bar, Clayton Heafner, who was 6-2 and 220 pounds, took Price aside and said to him, "You know, Charley, to make it on the Tour you have to drive the ball like a truck driver and putt like a hairdresser. The problem with you is that you drive the ball like a hairdresser and putt like a truck driver."

Nevertheless, Price's playing experience helped him add richness to his prose. The great British columnist, Peter Dobereiner, described himself as "a dust-bin collector next to Charley Price." Jerry Tarde, the longtime editor of Golf Digest, once said, "For sheer elegance, the style of Charles Price belonged on a Paris runway in an earlier time. He believed in never using a metaphor or analogy that wasn't at least 50 years old."

"I want my stuff read for generations," Price said. "The latest Spielberg flick might not be around so long."

Price authored and co-authored 15 books, including a golf instructional book with Bobby



File/The Island Packet

Charles Price's involvement with the early Heritages gave founder Charles Fraser, left, clout with big-name golfers such as Jack Nicklaus, right.

Jones, and he also penned, "A Golf Story: Bobby Jones, Augusta National and the Masters Tournament."

Through their work together, he and Jones grew very close, and Jones would write his friend often during a two-decade period.

When Price founded Golf Magazine, Jones wrote: "I am delighted to know that you are projecting a first-class magazine devoted entirely to golf. With the growth of the game already evidenced in the past decade or so and prospective for the future, I think you have reason to hope for good success. Certainly, a golf magazine of high quality should do much for the game."

In one of the last letters Jones wrote to Price, dated July 29, 1969, two years before Jones' death, he told Price, "I am pleased that you are happily situated at Hilton Head — I have heard so many extravagant praises of this place from the numerous friends I have who visit there. It sort of makes my mouth water."

Indeed, Price had recently moved to Hilton Head to work on a coffee table book about golf, and when he heard that Sea Pines was planning to stage a satellite tournament with a \$40,000 purse on the Ocean Course, he went to Fraser and suggested upping the ante to \$100,000, making it a full-fledged PGA tournament and playing the event on Harbour Town, which was just starting construction.

Through his longtime involvement in the game, Price was on a first-name basis with not only the top players in the game, but also the most important administrators, agents and writers. He knew that with Nicklaus helping Dye on the course design, he would likely play in the tournament, and he told Fraser he could

get Arnold Palmer to play as well.

"Who else can we get?" Fraser asked.

"With those two, we don't need anyone else," Price replied.

With that, Price was hired to help promote the tournament and in the fall of 1969, as Heritage organizers were scrambling madly to get the golf course completed and the inaugural event off the ground, Price invited his friend, legendary Atlanta Journal columnist Furman Bisher, to visit Hilton Head. Bisher subsequently wrote a series of columns about Harbour Town.

At Price's suggestion, Dan Jenkins, then a senior editor at Sports Illustrated, came to Hilton Head on Saturday of the first Heritage to cover what would become Palmer's historic triumph.

In his tournament story, Jenkins wrote: "Harbour Town is some golf course, folks, just about the best new course that anyone has built in ages, a brutally narrow, abruptly twisting tangle of brooding pines, oaks, palmettos and magnolias with tiny greens guarded by wriggling bunkers and fierce marshes. ... They have used great imagination and given us nothing short of a work of art."

Needless to say, you can't beat publicity like that. Harbour Town became an instant classic, and the Heritage leapt onto the golfing map.

Price would spend the last years of his life moving back and forth from Hilton Head to Pinehurst, N.C., where he died in 1994. He is remembered as one of golf's all-time great historians, yet for those of us on Hilton Head, his short-lived stint as a tournament promoter should never be forgotten.

Contact Brad King at [king@bradkingcommunications.com](mailto:king@bradkingcommunications.com).

# Furyk glad to put injuries, questions far behind him

BY JEFF KIDD  
THE ISLAND PACKET

The pain in Jim Furyk's left wrist is gone.

And after a successful 2005 campaign that included a tie for second at the Verizon Heritage and a victory at the Cialis Western Open, so is the ringing in his ears.

"More than anything, I said it when I won, I didn't have to answer questions about how my health was anymore," said Furyk, whose surgery to repair cartilage damage wiped out much of his 2004 season. "I honestly have not gotten one question from the media since I won in Chicago."

In last July's Western Open, Furyk shared the first- and third-round leads but fell four strokes behind Ben Curtis through three holes of the final round. He fought back with five birdies over the remaining holes and finished with a 2-under-par 69 to beat Tiger Woods by two shots.

The victory was the 10th of Furyk's career and first since the 2003 Buick Open. It also was part of a campaign in which Furyk finished fourth on the PGA Tour money list and notched a career-high four runner-up finishes.

"I probably wasted some time not having the surgery right away," said Furyk, who skipped the 2004 Heritage while trying to rest his wrist before eventually opting for arthroscopic surgery. "I was trying to go with not having the surgery and seeing if that worked. ... I'm actually a lot healthier now than I probably was through '01, '02 and '03. I'm probably better off with my left wrist than I was then."

Furyk's start in 2005 seems to bear that out. He is among the PGA Tour's leaders in driving accuracy, is 15th on the PGA Tour money list

## DIVOTS

• **Height:** 6-2.  
• **Weight:** 185.  
• **Birth date:** May 12, 1970.  
• **Birthplace:** West Chester, Pa.  
• **Resides:** Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.  
• **Special interests:** All sports.



FURYK

• **Turned professional:** 1992.  
• **Best Heritage finish:** T2, 2005 — 71-68-71-69—279.  
• **PGA Tour victories:** 10.  
• **Rank on 2005 Tour money list:** 4th.  
• **Major championships:** 1.  
• **National teams:** Ryder Cup, 1997, 1999, 2002, 2004; Presidents Cup, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005.  
• **Notes:** In 2005, finished in the top five on the PGA Tour money list for the third time in his 12-year career in a season that included his 10th PGA Tour win and a career-high four runner-up finishes. ... In July, picked up his first win since the 2003 Buick Open and since his wrist surgery in early 2004 at the Cialis Western Open.

and posted the low third round at last week's Masters. He also led the Players Championship after each of the first two rounds and eventually tied for third.

He returns to Harbour Town this week where he has a history of success — three top-15 finishes in his past three starts.

Contact Jeff Kidd at 706-8121 or [jkidd@islandpacket.com](mailto:jkidd@islandpacket.com). To comment on this story, please visit [www.islandpacket.com](http://www.islandpacket.com).

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# Washing AWAY?

## Sea Pines planning measures to prevent erosion of 18th green

BY TIM DONNELLY  
THE ISLAND PACKET

Course management is hoping to act quickly to stop the rapid erosion of the 18th hole at Harbour Town Golf Links, the famed green that stands as a symbol of Hilton Head Island and its signature golf event.

Erosion along the Calibogue Sound has been eating away at the course's edges at the rate of 13 feet a year, a recent study by a coastal engineering firm found. Although the side of the green is protected by a bulkhead, engineers warned the erosion will creep up through the marsh and near the sand trap to eat up the green.

"It's a critical situation for them," said Chris Creed, a coastal engineer with Jacksonville, Fla.-based Olsen Associates, said earlier this year. "It's at a point where they need to do something or the green will be jeopardized."

Sea Pines officials have tried temporary measures to address the problem in the past few years but plan to meet with various regulatory agencies next week to determine a plan of action for stopping the erosion.

Engineers came up with several recommendations for fixing the problem in the report, from pumping sand on the shoreline to erecting erosion-preventing structures, Creed said. But Mike Lawrence, president of Sea Pines Associates, said they are looking for a permanent solution that will stop the waves from tearing away at the edge of the green,

### Dumping ground becomes one of golf's most renowned holes

In a recent Golf Digest ranking of American's best golf holes, Harbour Town's signature 18th, with the candy-striped lighthouse as a backdrop, rated 28th among the country's par-4s. (The hole also was included in The Island Packet's readership poll, "The Best 18 Holes in Beaufort County," which can be viewed at www.islandpacket.com.)

But interestingly, one of the most recognizable holes in all of golf almost wasn't.

Although Sea Pines developer and Heritage founder Charles Fraser built the lighthouse to be a recognizable symbol, the original routing for the course wouldn't have used Harbour Town and the lighthouse as a backdrop for the hole. Architect George Cobb, who did the original course routing, planned for an 18th hole that ran parallel to the 10th, with the green

stationed near the clubhouse. Pete Dye and Jack Nicklaus, who worked off Cobb's routing when they designed Harbour Town, planned to follow that path, and Dye had reserved the small amount of land where 18 was eventually built for the par-3 17th.

However, as work progressed, the company responsible for building the Harbour Town Yacht Basin had nowhere to put the sediment it dredged and began depositing it along the coastline bordering the proposed 17th hole. According to Dye's autobiography, "Bury Me in a Pot Bunker," dikes were built to keep the sand in place, but they kept breaking. Soon, the sand had flowed out toward the Calibogue Sound, giving Dye enough workable land for a fairway. So, he re-located the 17th hole, re-routed the 18th and built what would become one of golf's most famous finishing holes.

— Jeff Kidd

which gets national attention every spring during the television broadcast of the Verizon Heritage golf tournament. An image immortalized in many paintings and photographs portrays golfers taking to the 18th green with water splashing at the edges of the course and the famous lighthouse in the background.

"The idea is to stop the erosion and restore the marsh," Lawrence said. "If we don't do something pretty soon, we're going to lose the green too."

Engineers and Sea Pines officials

said the course is not in any immediate danger of collapsing into the water, and this year's Heritage will not be affected. The soonest construction at the course could take place would be this summer, said Cary Corbitt, Sea Pines' director of sports. But any work will require a litany of permits that could take months or even years to obtain, Creed said.

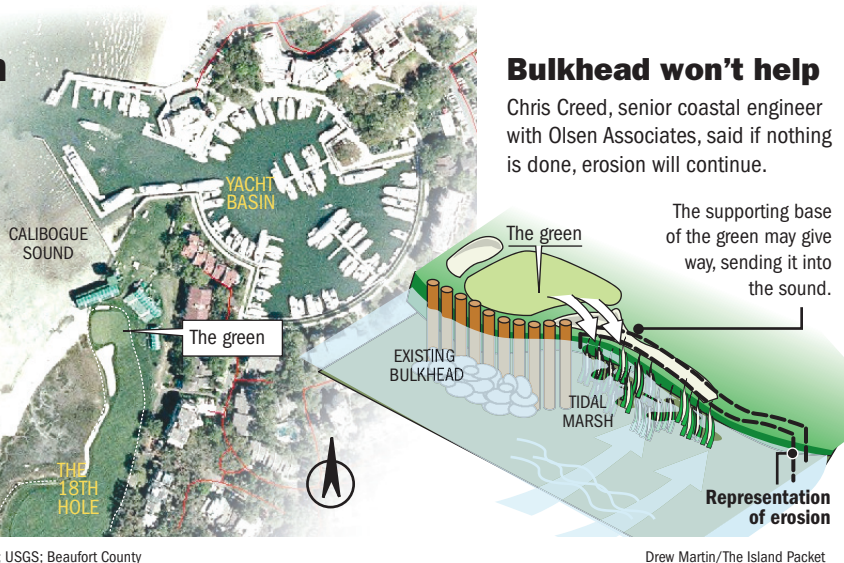
Work on the site will be done from the water side, meaning no machinery will be placed on the course itself, Lawrence and Corbitt said.

### The erosion

The 18th hole at Harbour Town Golf Links in Sea Pines may be lost to the Calibogue Sound if the shoreline isn't stabilized. Sea Pines has constructed a bulkhead of timber and boulders to protect the 18th, but is searching for a permanent fix.

NOTE: Image from 2004. Graphic not to scale

Sources: Sea Pines; Olsen Associates; USGS; Beaufort County



### Bulkhead won't help

Chris Creed, senior coastal engineer with Olsen Associates, said if nothing is done, erosion will continue.

The supporting base of the green may give way, sending it into the sound.

Drew Martin/The Island Packet

## PGA Tour vital statistics

### MONEY LEADERS

Through April 9		Tm	Money
1.	Phil Mickelson	9	\$3,123,827
2.	Tiger Woods	7	\$2,485,083
3.	Geoff Ogilvy	9	\$2,292,459
4.	Rory Sabbatini	10	\$2,253,710
5.	David Toms	9	\$2,136,250
6.	Chad Campbell	10	\$2,097,497
7.	Stephen Ames	9	\$1,881,178
8.	Vijay Singh	9	\$1,840,219
9.	Retief Goosen	6	\$1,754,723
10.	Jose Maria Olazabal	9	\$1,703,245
11.	Luke Donald	8	\$1,557,403
12.	Arron Oberholser	9	\$1,501,522
13.	Stuart Appleby	8	\$1,432,902
14.	Rod Pamplung	8	\$1,286,639
15.	Jim Furyk	9	\$1,256,249
16.	Camilo Villegas	9	\$1,246,931
17.	Zach Johnson	9	\$1,234,001
18.	Scott Verplank	8	\$1,175,434
19.	Tim Clark	9	\$1,168,098
20.	J.B. Holmes	9	\$1,155,244
21.	Davis Love III	10	\$1,029,318
22.	Mike Weir	9	\$961,400
23.	Tom Lehman	9	\$911,156
24.	Lucas Glover	10	\$909,374
25.	Greg Owen	9	\$867,667
26.	Carl Pettersson	10	\$855,345
27.	Adam Scott	6	\$768,373
28.	Billy Mayfair	11	\$737,204
29.	John Rollins	8	\$719,936
30.	Nathan Green	8	\$714,851
31.	Jesper Parnevik	9	\$708,728
32.	Tom Pernice, Jr.	10	\$707,959
33.	Fred Couples	7	\$703,074
34.	Jonathan Byrd	8	\$676,012
35.	Pat Perez	10	\$658,157
36.	Sergio Garcia	7	\$656,575
37.	Craig Barlow	9	\$654,242
38.	Kirk Triplett	7	\$641,801
39.	J.L. Henry	10	\$634,505
40.	Bo Van Pelt	10	\$608,461
41.	Jerry Kelly	9	\$593,961
42.	Darren Clarke	5	\$576,200
43.	Vaughn Taylor	9	\$549,112
44.	Dean Wilson	12	\$536,255
45.	Stewart Cink	9	\$524,292
46.	Ryan Palmer	9	\$522,959
47.	David Howell	5	\$518,520
48.	Ernie Els	6	\$508,276
49.	Robert Allenby	7	\$490,064
50.	Lee Westwood	6	\$482,920
51.	Fredrik Jacobson	10	\$478,901
52.	Daniel Chopra	11	\$468,618
53.	Bubba Watson	8	\$450,145
54.	Justin Leonard	9	\$445,750
55.	Shane Bertsch	10	\$431,979
56.	Charles Warren	9	\$431,298
57.	Padraig Harrington	6	\$416,760
58.	Fred Funk	10	\$407,733
59.	Ted Purdy	10	\$407,181
60.	K.J. Choi	8	\$401,616
61.	Nathan Green	11	\$399,133
62.	Steve Lowery	10	\$373,006
63.	Justin Rose	9	\$360,925
64.	Ryuji Imada	10	\$359,019
65.	Henrik Bjornstad	8	\$347,551
66.	Brandt Jobe	9	\$342,020
67.	Dudley Hart	9	\$334,811
68.	Olin Browne	9	\$331,372
69.	Bart Bryant	8	\$330,729
70.	Rich Beem	9	\$325,282
71.	Brian Davis	9	\$325,263
72.	Carlos Franco	10	\$323,774
73.	Bernhard Langer	9	\$321,532
74.	Chris DiMarco	7	\$317,888
75.	Charley Hoffman	7	\$306,787
76.	John Senden	8	\$304,555
77.	Richard S. Johnson	8	\$299,296
78.	Todd Fischer	11	\$298,873
79.	Briny Baird	8	\$294,613
80.	Doug Barron	8	\$286,362
81.	Arjun Atwal	10	\$282,636
82.	Nick Watney	9	\$281,183
83.	Heath Slocum	10	\$279,876
84.	John Huston	8	\$277,308
85.	Joe Ogilvie	11	\$276,191
86.	Mark Calcavecchia	9	\$276,113
87.	Brad Faxon	6	\$264,662
88.	Mark Wilson	9	\$262,164
89.	Jeff Sluman	9	\$261,598
90.	Jonathan Kaye	9	\$256,335
91.	Peter Lonard	7	\$249,900
92.	Kenny Perry	6	\$242,488
93.	David Branshaw	8	\$242,324
94.	Duffy Waldorf	10	\$240,950
95.	Tag Ridings	10	\$237,841
96.	Brian Gay	6	\$232,250
97.	Ben Crane	10	\$230,020
98.	Steve Flesch	8	\$229,686
99.	Trevor Immelman	8	\$223,019
100.	Jeff Maggert	6	\$221,776
101.	Jeff Gove	10	\$221,234
102.	Jason Gore	9	\$218,655
103.	Tim Petrovic	9	\$218,482
104.	Harrison Frazar	12	\$209,762
105.	Sean O'Hair	8	\$207,982
106.	Jerry Smith	7	\$204,413
107.	Frank Lickliter II	8	\$193,165
108.	Ben Curtis	11	\$189,556
109.	Wes Short, Jr.	7	\$188,806
110.	Mathew Goggin	8	\$180,002
111.	D.A. Points	8	\$177,255
112.	Joey Sindelar	4	\$176,000
113.	Nick O'Hern	6	\$172,286
114.	Bob Estes	6	\$171,554
115.	Mathias Gronberg	9	\$165,866
116.	Tim Herron	9	\$165,782
117.	Troy Matteson	9	\$162,776
118.	Robert Gamez	8	\$160,475
119.	Paul Azinger	10	\$154,356
120.	Shigeki Maruyama	10	\$154,277
121.	Charles Howell III	8	\$151,767
122.	Bubba Dickerson	6	\$150,839
123.	John Cook	10	\$139,979
124.	Steve Jones	9	\$139,101
125.	Kent Jones	9	\$139,101

### PGA TOUR STATISTICS

PGA TOUR STATISTICS	
<b>Scoring Average</b>	
1.	Phil Mickelson, 69.07. 2. Vijay Singh, 69.29. 3. (tie), David Toms and Tiger Woods, 69.62. 5. Retief Goosen, 69.70. 6. (tie), Arron Oberholser and Rory Sabbatini, 69.78. 8. (tie), Jose Maria Olazabal and Jim Furyk, 69.94. 10. Luke Donald, 70.04.
<b>Driving Distance</b>	
1.	Bubba Watson, 319.3. 2. J.B. Holmes, 312.7. 3. Tag Ridings, 308.6. 4. Camilo Villegas, 308.5. 5. Robert Garrigus, 307.1. 6. John Daly, 306.2. 7. Brett Wetterich, 305.8. 8. Hank Kuehne, 303.0. 9. (tie), Fred Couples and Jimmy Walker, 302.7.
<b>Driving Accuracy Percentage</b>	
1.	Fred Funk, 78.9%. 2. Jim Furyk, 75.9%. 3. Joe Durant, 74.3%. 4. Bart Bryant, 73.7%. 5. Paul Goydos, 73.2%. 6. Scott Verplank, 72.9%. 7. (tie), Olin Browne and Heath Slocum, 72.0%. 9. Brian Davis, 71.3%. 10. Kirk Triplett, 70.4%.
<b>Greens in Regulation Pct.</b>	
1.	Phil Mickelson, 72.9%. 2. Jeff Gove, 72.8%. 3. Kenny Perry, 72.2%. 4. Mark Wilson, 72.0%. 5. Brett Wetterich, 71.5%. 6. Vijay Singh, 71.4%. 7. John Senden, 71.3%. 8. Tiger Woods, 71.2%. 9. Briny Baird, 70.3%. 10. Bubba Watson, 70.2%.
<b>Total Driving</b>	
1.	Robert Allenby, 55. 2. Joe Durant, 71. 3. Greg Owen, 73. 4. Charles Warren, 77. 5. Padraig Harrington, 82. 6. Hunter Mahan, 98. 7. Ian Leggatt, 99. 8. Bubba Dickerson, 102. 9. Phil Mickelson, 105. 10. David Branshaw, 108.
<b>Putting Average</b>	
1.	Nathan Green, 1.698. 2. Phil Mickelson, 1.702. 3. Scott Verplank, 1.703. 4. David Toms, 1.708. 5. (tie), Tommy Armour III and Todd Fischer, 1.709. 7. Fredrik Jacobson, 1.710. 8. (tie), John Cook and Lee Janzen, 1.713. 10. Daniel Chopra, 1.714.
<b>Birdie Average</b>	
1.	Phil Mickelson, 5.15. 2. (tie), Tiger Woods and Brett Wetterich, 4.50. 4. David Toms, 4.46. 5. Lucas Glover, 4.42. 6. Mark Wilson, 4.36. 7. Rory Sabbatini, 4.33. 8. Briny Baird, 4.31. 9. Ryan Palmer, 4.29. 10. Daniel Chopra, 4.28.
<b>Eagles (Holes per)</b>	
1.	John Rollins, 62.0. 2. (tie), Fred Couples and John Senden, 64.3. 4. Camilo Villegas, 66.0. 5. Justin Leonard, 69.4. 6. Brett Wetterich, 72.0. 7. J.B. Holmes, 74.6. 8. Kris Cox, 75.6. 9. Billy Mayfair, 78.0. 10. Will MacKenzie, 79.2.
<b>Sand Save Percentage</b>	
1.	Michael Allen, 71.0%. 2. Phil Mickelson, 64.7%. 3. K.J. Choi, 64.5%. 4. Aaron Baddeley, 62.2%. 5. Mark Wilson, 62.1%. 6. (tie), Stuart Appleby and David Howell, 60.9%. 8. Tim Petrovic, 60.4%. 9. Brent Geiberger, 60.0%. 10. 2 tied with 59.3%.
<b>All-Around Ranking</b>	
1.	David Toms, 257. 2. Vijay Singh, 285. 3. Jose Maria Olazabal, 307. 4. Phil Mickelson, 325. 5. Mark Wilson, 371. 6. Lucas Glover, 376. 7. Bo Van Pelt, 387. 8. Henrik Bjornstad, 393. 9. John Rollins, 397. 10. David Howell, 398.

### HERITAGE FIELD

The field for the Verizon Heritage, to be played today through Sunday at Harbour Town Golf Links, listed

alphabetically by exempt status.

- **Former winners of the Heritage:** Stewart Cink, Jose Coceres, Glen Day, David Edwards, Nick Faldo, Bernhard Langer, Justin Leonard, Peter Lonard, Davis Love III, Nick Price, Loren Roberts, Bob Tway.
- **Winner of U.S. Open or PGA Championship:** Paul Azinger, Mark Brooks, John Daly, Ernie Els, Jim Furyk, Lee Janzen, Steve Jones, Shaun Micheel, Corey Pavin, Jeff Sluman.
- **Winner of the Players Championship (last 10 years):** Fred Funk, Craig Perks.
- **Winner of the British Open (last 10 years):** Ben Curtis, Todd Hamilton.
- **Winner of the Tour Championship:** Bart Bryant, Chad Campbell.
- **Winner of World Golf Championships event:** Darren Clarke, Geoff Ogilvy.
- **Winner of prior year's U.S. Amateur:** Edoardo Molinari.
- **Member of last named U.S. Ryder Cup team:** Chris DiMarco, Chris Riley, Jay Haas.
- **Member of last named European Ryder Cup team:** Thomas Levett, Ian Poulter.
- **Member of last named U.S. Presidents Cup team:** Scott Verplank.
- **Member of last named international Presidents Cup team:** Tim Clark, Nick O'Hern, Trevor Immelman.
- **Sponsors exemptions, qualified picks:** Bill Haas, Nick Watney.
- **Sponsors exemptions, members not otherwise exempt:** Peter Jacobsen, Duffy Waldorf.
- **Sponsors exemptions, unrestricted:** Notah Begay III, Brian Harman, Frank Lickliter II, Craig Stadler.
- **PGA Carolinas PGA Section player of the year:** Larry George.
- **Two members of Carolinas PGA Section (through qualifying tournament):** Stephen Behr, Rich Weston.
- **Top 125 on prior year's official money list, in order of ranking:** Sean O'Hair, Ben Crane, Billy Mayfair, Ted Purdy, Mark Calcavecchia, Lucas Glover, Carl Pettersson, Vaughn Taylor, Jose Maria Olazabal, Tim Petrovic, Brad Faxon, Rod Pamplung, Tom Pernice Jr., Heath Slocum, Bo Van Pelt, Jonathan Kaye, Justin Rose, Greg Owen, Jerry Kelly, Ryan Palmer, Jeff Brehaut, Pat Perez, Robert Allenby, Woody Austin, Billy Andrade, Robert Gamez, Kevin Na, Joey Sindelar, Dudley Hart, Joe Durant, J.L. Lewis, Wes Short Jr., Charles Warren, Aaron Baddeley, Harrison Frazar, Brett Quigley, Arjun Atwal, Steve Lowery, Daniel Chopra, Tag Ridings, Bob Estes, Jason Gore, Steve Flesch, John Senden, Brian Davis, John Rollins, James Driscoll, Dean Wilson, D.J. Trahan, Hank Kuehne, Stephen Leaney, Jeff Maggert, Robert Dameron, Jesper Parnevik, Doug Barron, Jonathan Byrd, Rocco Mediate, Brian Gay, Richard S. Johnson, Hideki Tanaka, Patrick Sheehan, Todd Fischer, John Huston, Ryuji Imada, Tommy Armour III, Kent Jones, Jay Williamson, Ian Leggatt.
- **Top 125 (non-member):** Graeme McDowell.
- **Current tournament winners:** Brent Geiberger, J.B. Holmes.
- **Top 50 World Rankings:** Paul McGinley.
- **Top 20 players on current money list:** Camilo Villegas.
- **Money leaders, five players not otherwise exempt:** Nathan Green, Shane Bertsch, Henrik Bjornstad, Charley Hoffman, Briny Baird.
- **Major medical exemptions:** Chris Perry, Paul Stankowski, Phil Tataranghi.

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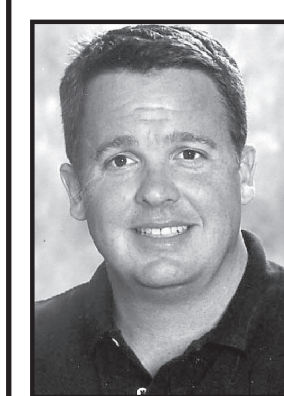
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 David Justini	 Denny Key	 Naomi Kimball	 Roni Kincaid	 Dan Liese	 Nada Lindstrom	 Tracy Lott	 Dianne McClusky	 John McMahon	 Tammy Moody	 Jennie Moore	 Nolan Moore	 Gary Mullinix
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 Lois Saunders	 Angie Sesti	 Doreen Shaw	 Ruth Sheak	 Debbie Sullivan	 Kathy Taggart	 Mike Thorpe	 Joe Yocius	 Dave Anderson <i>Anderson Team</i>	 Nancy Art <i>Desjean Group</i>	 Kristen Arnold <i>Team Kimball</i>	 Bonnie Bachman <i>Desjean Group</i>	 Inaki Balzola <i>McMahon Group</i>
 Sheree Binder <i>Gravelle-Bolton Team</i>	 Susie Boehm <i>Dan Liese Team</i>	 Robbie Carroll <i>Desjean Group</i>	 Chuck Chasar <i>Dan Liese Team</i>	 Corinne Clancy <i>Clancy Group</i>	 Monique Curtis <i>Lois Saunders Team</i>	 David D'Arcy <i>Low Country Joe Team</i>	 John Dwyer <i>Team Dwyer</i>	 Linda Evans <i>Roberts Team</i>	 Kathy Ewell <i>Team Fanning</i>	 Tony Faulkner <i>Desjean Group</i>	 Erin Fisher <i>Doreen Shaw Team</i>	 Amy Habbick <i>Platinum Team</i>
 David Hamby <i>Desjean Group</i>	 Joe Hanley <i>Sullivan Group</i>	 Garrett Harrison <i>Team Harrison</i>	 Sandy Hills <i>Hillis Group</i>	 Chris Hughes <i>Platinum Team</i>	 Ellen Jolley <i>Becky Herman Team</i>	 Doug Kimball <i>Team Kimball</i>	 Michael Kuss <i>Team Heffner</i>	 Jimmy Lee <i>Lois Saunders Team</i>	 Bill Libertoff <i>Desjean Group</i>	 Nan Lloyd <i>Lois Saunders Team</i>	 Trey Long <i>Gravelle-Bolton Team</i>	 Wendy Lusik <i>Team Kimball</i>
 Ivy Martinez <i>Angie Sesti Team</i>	 Randy McGarvey <i>Desjean Group</i>	 Nathan Mitchall <i>Lois Saunders Team</i>	 Bubba Moore <i>Team Moore</i>	 Linda Mullinix <i>Team Mullinix</i>	 Bob Oppenheimer <i>Pautler Team</i>	 Tony Osborne <i>Osborne Team</i>	 Barry Paddington <i>Desjean Group</i>	 Ron Perry <i>A-Team</i>	 Harriet Pollitzer <i>Team Fanning</i>	 Christian Powers <i>Platinum Team</i>	 Don Powers <i>Platinum Team</i>	 Michael Powers <i>Platinum Team</i>
 Jim Rimmel <i>Team Fanning</i>	 Jerry Roberts <i>Rely on Roberts</i>	 Eric Ruhliln <i>Desjean Group</i>	 Guy Ruley <i>Team Fanning</i>	 Phil Schrader <i>A-Team</i>	 Stacy Schulz <i>Sheak &amp; Schulz</i>	 Tom Simpson <i>Desjean Group</i>	 Lin Socie <i>A-Team</i>	 Lavon Stevens <i>Terry Grant Team</i>	 Bruce Strupp <i>Dan Liese Team</i>	 Lawrence Taylor <i>Platinum Team</i>	 Cowanda Tolbert <i>Angie Sesti Team</i>	



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