

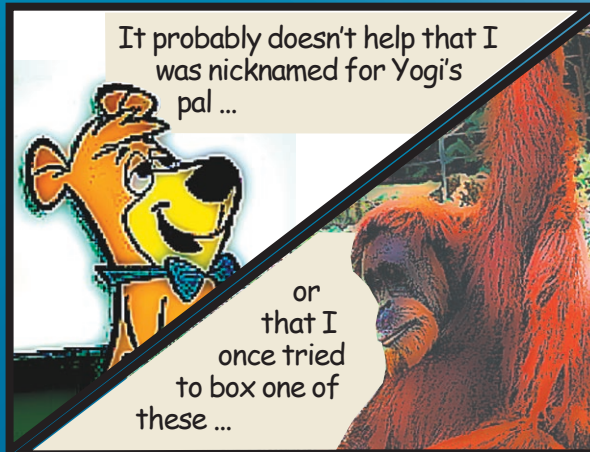


# Astounding stories of the ... **Verizon** **HERITAGE** **2008**

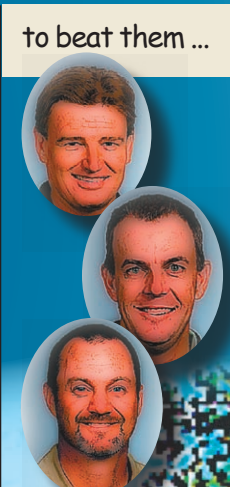
Our defending champ in ...  
**More than a cartoon**



When you're a pro golfer, folks expect you to act a certain way or dress a certain way. And if you don't, people can get the notion that you're kind of odd. Take me, Boo Weekley, for example.



But then I came here ...



Now, folks take my golf game a little more seriously ... even if they still think I put the 'country' in 'country club.' That's OK because as much as I like golf, I can't wait to retire and spend all day doing what I love best ...



Turn to 5D for more of Boo's story.

For a list of The Island Packet's other exciting golf tales, see 2D • Today's tee times 4D

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# VERIZON HERITAGE

## BOO

Continued from 6D

"They don't treat me no different, except my banker," Boo said. "I still walk in the same little, old dive there at the house. Call it the Kwik Burger. I still walk in there and order up the same thing, fried chicken or chicken and dumplings, whatever, and just sit there and talk."

...  
 Boo Weekley didn't know why his daddy wanted him to stand still, or why Tom Weekley asked his 11-year-old son to hand him the shotgun. But he knew his daddy was serious, so he did what he said with a customary, "Yes sir," and Tom blew away the rattlesnake that was about to bite his little boy.

"I remember thinking he was gonna shoot me because I'd been a bad kid or something," Boo said in a Golfworld article last year. "I didn't know that snake was curled up and ready to go."

...  
 His daddy shooting that snake wasn't the only time Boo Weekley's family saved his life, or at least his life as he knows it.

Without the guidance of his parents, Boo figures there's a good chance he would've turned out like too many of his high school classmates. He might be in jail by now, or worse.

"A lot of people I grew up with," Boo said, "unfortunately they found a lot more trouble than I did in life."

Now it's Karyn's turn to keep Boo in line. The couple met when Karyn was working at Stonebrook Golf Club in nearby Pace, Fla., and immediately hit it off.

"I thought he was crazy," Karyn Weekley said of the first time she met Boo. "And if I had known half the stuff about him then that I do now, I probably would have really ran the other way."

It's a good thing for Boo she didn't. A few years ago, he was about to give up on golf, go get a day job and a regular paycheck. But Karyn wouldn't have it. She didn't think Boo would be happy in a 9-to-5, so she talked him into giving it one more shot.

"I'm sure it's something that crosses a lot of pro golfers' mind, or really any professional athlete," Karyn said. "They just think, 'Is it worth it?' But he didn't quit, thank goodness."

It's easy to say thank goodness now. When Boo was struggling to make a living playing golf, he had to play as many tournaments as possible, leaving Karyn at home with Parker. Since his win at Harbour Town, Boo has more freedom to skip a tournament or two and help Karyn with Parker, something he'll probably have to do more of in the near future. The couple's second son is due July 4.

"Since last year, he's been coming home a lot more," Karyn said. "I think he would like being home all the time."

"I don't know if I would, though," she added with a laugh.

...  
 It was the last day of a mini-tour event in Alabama, and Boo had a share of the lead. The other guy hooked one toward the water, and Boo started hollering for the ball to get down and stay dry.

Well, the other fella didn't take that too kindly, and in a flash they were on the ground "rolling around, throwing punches."

"Two things happened within the next 30 minutes," Boo told Golf Digest. "I got back on my feet before he did, and I won the tournament."

...  
 By all accounts, Boo Weekley's a pretty easy fella to get along with. Karyn Weekley says "he pretty much doesn't meet a stranger." But he doesn't have any patience for folks who cross him, a hard lesson he learned between stints on the PGA Tour, when he lost a lot of friends as quickly as he gained them.

"I ain't saying that there's a lot of bad people, but people want to use you," Boo said. "Once you get your recognition, they

After two miraculous chip-ins to save par on the final two holes of the Heritage, Weekley slipped into the winner's jacket.



Jonathan Dyer • The Island Packet

want to tag along and get in with the rest of what's going on. But all they're going to do is they'll step on you sooner or later. That's what I learned the first time around. I let some people in that I thought were good friends, and one thing led to another and I got stepped on and burnt."

So Boo's pretty careful about who he calls his friends these days, and he's loyal to those he lets in. He has surrounded himself with people he knows well: Joe Pyland, an old high school teammate and Iraq war veteran, is on his bag; Jimmy Johnston, a friend from his mini-tour days, is his agent.

Patsy Weekley and longtime friend Toggy Pace take care of the rest, serving in whatever capacity they're needed from financial advisers to confidants and everything in between.

"I used to take care of all his business," said Toggy, who was Boo's de facto agent when he was on the Nationwide Tour. "So I was a damn psychiatrist, a pimp, just a jack-of-all-trades. ... Mostly what I do now is I'm the hunting coordinator. I schedule all the hunting trips around the country for me and Boo to go on."

When Boo won at Harbour Town, none of his family members were present. Everyone had taken time off from work and planned to go to New Orleans the following week for the Zurich Classic. So Boo celebrated with his friends. Brandt Snedeker was hanging around the media center waiting for Boo to finish his post-tournament press conference, and when the last question was an-

swered, they were off. "We were supposed to go play a pro-am for Joe Durant up in Pensacola, but it got rained out," Snedeker recalled. "So we went and got a case of beer and hopped on a plane and went to ... I can't remember where he ended up dropping us off. But we had a good time."

...  
 "I don't know if y'all might've heard about an accident I had with some bullets in my bag at the airport," Boo said with a straight face at Verizon Heritage media day in February.

The bullets, which went to his .308-caliber Browning rifle, were sitting on the truck seat, left over from a last-minute hunting trip before Boo and his family headed off to Hawaii for the season-opening Mercedes-Benz Championship. His carry-on bag was sitting on the floorboard.

"Somehow, them bullets rolled off in that bag," Boo said. "And I show up down there at Pensacola airport."

Next thing he knows, security guards are everywhere, dogs are sniffing all around him, and they're asking him to take his pants down.

"It was kind of embarrassing," Boo said. "It goes to show you got to be careful around them people."

...  
 It wouldn't hurt Boo's feelings if he never had to get on an airplane again, and it has nothing to do with the "red flag" status he has to deal with since "them bullets rolled off in that bag." Flying makes him tense. He needs a couple days to unwind before he can swing a golf club worth a darn.

Boo would much rather get around in his truck — a four-wheel drive Ford F-150 — and for that matter, he would rather not have to play golf for a living. One of these days, when he has enough money in the bank, Boo will be able to hunt and fish whenever he wants. He won't get on anymore planes, and golf will become a game again, rather than a job.

"I know exactly what it's going to cost me to live," Boo said. "And then I can say, 'I'm done.' ... I want to watch my children grow up."

Golf never was his first love, anyway. He didn't start playing until he was 13, and only then, he says, because he had torn up about every part of his body playing one contact sport or another.

"I kind of ran out of other sports, playing basketball, football, baseball, I got to where I had hurt myself playing all those other sports, so I had to find a sport where you can't hurt yourself," Weekley said. "I figured golf was the last option."

Patsy Weekley recalls Boo's soccer coaches calling him "Thunderfoot" for his booming kicks, and he still wonders aloud from time to time whether he could've made it to the big leagues. A left-handed pitcher and switch-hitting outfielder, Patsy still has some of the orange T-balls Boo knocked out of the park when he was a young 'un.

"Boo always loved baseball," Toggy Pace said. "He used to pitch us batting practice, but I'd hit his (stuff) up out of the park, so he didn't like pitching

me batting practice no more." Boo tried playing baseball and golf at Milton High School, but the seasons were simultaneous, so he eventually had to pick one or the other. His buddies thought he had lost it when he picked the gentleman's game over America's pastime.

Maybe they don't think he's so crazy now. "Back then we all thought golf was a bunch of sissies," Toggy said. "I still call him a sissy. But he's a sissy who's got more than I got."

...  
 In his 17 years at Harbour Town Golf Links, John Farrell had never seen a scene like this. The final round of the Verizon Heritage was wrapping up, already a day late, but the players who had finished their rounds weren't rushing off to catch flights like they usually do. They were gathered around the television in the locker room, pulling for Boo Weekley.

Farrell, Harbour Town's head professional, pulled aside PGA Tour tournament director Slugger White and asked what was going on.

"This is Boo," Farrell recalls White saying. "This is one we all love. This is one of the good guys."

...  
 Such scenes might not be so rare on the PGA Tour if guys like Boo Weekley weren't so scarce, says Woody Austin, a kindred spirit who is equally endearing to fans because of his candor. Austin figures the golf world could use a few more fellas like him and Boo, guys who "don't have the golf pedigree." "It's important to remember

that because you play golf does not make you a better person than other people; you just play golf better," Austin said. "Guys like Boo and me, we realize that golf is great, but there's other things that are involved in life."

So, yeah, calling Boo Weekley a breath of fresh air for the PGA Tour is like saying it was a bit breezy at last year's Heritage, when 45-mph gusts blew billows of sand out of bunkers, snapped tree limbs and forced tournament officials to evacuate the sponsors skyboxes for safety concerns.

When the wind died down enough to play golf again, it was a country boy named Boo Weekley who emerged from the pack in fittingly unconventional fashion. He flew the green at the par-3 17th, then flubbed a chip from the edge of the marsh, leaving him in a precarious position to make par.

He flopped it up and in.

But Boo nearly blew it again at the par-4 18th. His approach shot missed the green, and his ensuing chip skidded across the green and narrowly avoided a disastrous end in the marsh along the Calibogue Sound.

His next chip didn't look too good, either. Boo says it was a good foot outside the cup in the last foot when that wind kicked up and started pushing it toward the hole.

"It looked like it was just driving itself in there," Boo said, his hands on an imaginary steering wheel for demonstration purposes.

When it dropped in, the reaction at Harbour Town's signature 18th hole was more mild than usual, a result of a meager crowd on a blustery Monday afternoon. But the joy in the locker room and back home in Milton made up for it.

"I was ecstatic to see Boo win there, and he couldn't have done it in anymore of Boo fashion," Slocum said. "I've never been more nervous in my life."

And with that, Boo Weekley had a fancy new jacket and an invitation to the Masters, and his buddies had a new favorite Boo story.

"Truthfully, the best story was when he chipped in both times and won the golf tournament, how he reacted — that's him, and that was awesome to see," Bubba Watson said. "Just to see it all come together at Hilton Head was unbelievable. It was good to see that with everything he's been through in his life, everything he grew up wanting to do came true."

"That's probably my best Boo story."



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## VERIZON HERITAGE

### TOURNAMENT AT A GLANCE

**What:** 40th Annual Verizon Heritage.  
**When:** April 17-20.  
**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:** Boo Weekley.  
**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, Peter Lonard, Aaron Baddeley.

**Total prize money:** \$5.5 million.  
**Winner's share:** \$990,000.  
**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.  
**Tournament director:** Steve Wilmot.  
**Harbour Town head professional:** John Farrell.  
**Harbour Town superintendent:** Gary Snyder.

## A look inside this section ...

### COMING TO THE TOURNAMENT?

We'll tell you what to bring, what to leave at home, where to park and when to show up if you want to follow a particular golfer. **4D**



### FROM THE COVER

Not even in a comic book would you expect to read some of the tales about the defending Verizon Heritage champion. But Boo Weekley proves the truth can be stranger than fiction. Read more about the golfer whose outlook on life is almost cartoonishly laid-back ... and whose skills are nothing to laugh at. **5D**

### DOES TRAHAN HAVE HIS GAME FACE BACK?

Former Harbour Town Golf Links director of instruction Don Trahan finally saw in his son what seemed to be missing since his amateur days — killer instinct. But after his victory earlier this year in the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, Trahan seems to have newfound tenacity ... and putting touch. **12D**



### HARBOUR TOWN, HOLE BY HOLE

Stats and playing tips on one of the PGA Tour's most unique venues. **14D, 15D**

### WHAT OUR COLUMNISTS HAVE TO SAY



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**JAMES McMAHON**  
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Which golfers stand the best chance of taking home a tartan jacket this weekend? Sports editor Jeff Kidd gives you his "Ten Who Can Win" **13D**

The real mayor of Hilton Head? It could be Harbour Town architect Pete Dye, arguably the most influential non-resident in area history. **16D**

Tournament director Steve Wilmot and media director Arnie Burdick have seen plenty during their tenures with the Verizon Heritage **22D**

### TOP 40 COUNTDOWN

Our weeklong look at the 40 Biggest Headlines in Heritage History is topped off today with stories 10-1. **23D**



### ALSO ...

All-time top finishers..... **11D**  
 Junior Heritage results..... **19D**  
 Drug testing on the PGA Tour ..... **20D**  
 PGA Tour statistics ..... **20D**  
 People you should know ..... **22D**

## This week at islandpacket.com

The Sports Thing Podcast comes to you this week in video form. Log on to [heritage.islandpacket.com](http://heritage.islandpacket.com) for video highlights and commentary. A new episode posted daily. Also, check David Lauderdale's blog for regular updates.



# Heritage gets considerable television play

From staff reports

Hilton Head Island and the Verizon Heritage will be given prime television exposure throughout the United States and around the world when this year's PGA Tour event is broadcast live for 12 hours over four days.

Six additional hours of taped coverage will air on The Golf Channel.

The first two rounds will appear on The Golf Channel from 3-6 p.m., with replays of the rounds appearing on The Golf Channel from 8:30-11:30 p.m. CBS will broadcast Saturday and Sunday's rounds from 3-6 p.m.

The CBS broadcast team for this year's event will include host Jim Nantz and former Heritage champion Nick Faldo.

The Englishman won on Hilton Head Island in 1984, scoring Harbour Town with four rounds in the 60s for his first PGA Tour victory.

### THE HERITAGE ON TV

**Today, 3-6 p.m. Golf Channel**  
**Friday, 3-6 p.m. Golf Channel**  
**Saturday, 3-6 p.m. CBS**  
**Sunday, 3-6 p.m. CBS**

Ian Baker-Finch, Gary McCord and Peter Oosterhuis will join the CBS broadcast of the Heritage as tower announcers, while David Feherty and Peter Kostis will walk the course.

Should play spill over to Monday, as it did a year ago, CBS or The Golf Channel will televise coverage of the Heritage using the CBS team. Play on Monday would be scheduled to start as soon as weather permits.

The Heritage will also be broadcast throughout the world via the PGA Tour's international partners, such as CCBS Asia, Golf Channel China, Sky Networks New Zealand, The Golf Channel Canada, CNBC Europe, Videoland Taiwan, Czech TV, i-Cable, and Supersport South Africa.

Live scoring updates, along with several other features, will be available at [www.pgatour.com](http://www.pgatour.com). The PGA Tour Network XM Channel 146 will feature exclusive play-by-play national radio coverage of the Heritage.

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### 1 MARSH WREN • \$1,750,000 furnished



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### 22 BATTERY ROAD • \$1,449,000



Southern elegance abounds from this beautiful home built in 2000. 7-8 minutes to the beach. 3 BR's + office and bonus room which is plumbed for another bathroom can make this a 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath home. Charming Carolina room, fireplace & 3-car garage. This home has all the elegance and charm for the most discriminating buyer!! Please call Carol for EZ appointment.

### 2 BATTERY ROAD • \$799,000 furnished



Walk to the ocean. Beautifully remodeled vacation/primary home. 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath. The den could easily be a 4th bedroom and a loft. Extra large corner lot with specimen trees. This could be a great short term rental property. Large deck, vaulted ceilings with skylights and a 2-car garage. Please call Carol for EZ appointment.

### FAIRWAY ONE VILLA • \$859,000



Spacious mint condition, 3 bedroom right across from Sea Pines Beach. Spectacular view of Ocean Course Golf Course and extra-wide lagoon. Light and bright with high ceilings and plenty of glass. Excellent rental. Best buy in its price category for this very sought after location by the beach.

### HERITAGE VILLA • \$599,900 furnished



Awesome views overlooking famous Harbour Town Golf Links. Extensive remodeling and beautiful furnishings rank this on top of Sea Pines Resort Properties as "Deluxe". Shows like a model. Walk to amenities of Harbour Town. On-site pool. A rare opportunity at this price!

### 49 OTTER ROAD • \$549,000



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### 21 WILDWOOD ROAD • \$439,900



Probably the best deal in all of Sea Pines for this charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Private view of green belt in rear and prime open space across the street. Large Carolina Room, fireplace and community pool and tennis. Won't last at this price!!!

### HARBOUR TOWN AREA • \$499,000 furnished



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VERIZON HERITAGE

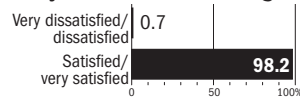
# Tourney has big impact on economy

From staff reports  
A crowd of roughly 135,000 people will come to Hilton Head Island this week for the Verizon Heritage golf tournament. And they will spend plenty of money to bolster the local economy while here. The island's annual PGA Tour stop generates \$52 million in income for Beaufort County businesses and \$84 million in sales, according to the latest economic impact of the tournament. That study was done by Clemson University during the 2005 tournament. Another study is expected in 2010, said Steve Wilmot, the tournament's director.

## Island a draw too

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

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



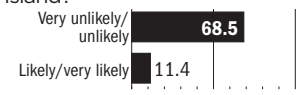
Overall, how satisfied are you with your visit to Hilton Head?



How important is the Heritage's location on Hilton Head in your decision to attend the tournament?



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



Source: Clemson University The Island Packet

The 2005 results represent a 139 percent increase in income and a 43 percent increase in sales over 1999.

The 2005 study found that 70.6 percent of tournament visitors are from outside 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.

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

## A TOURNEY BY ANY OTHER NAME ...

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

**Verizon Heritage Classic (2006-present):** "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. Though the tournament was never officially played under this name, the logo appeared on much of the signage and apparel during tournament week because officials didn't have time to make up new materi-



als 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 his study and named the PGA Tour event he founded the "Heritage Classic."

# Fraser's Heritage gamble paid off

From staff reports  
The Verizon Heritage may have started in 1969, but its history dates more than 200 years.

After commissioning research on the game's American origins, Sea Pines Company founder Charles Fraser said he discovered that golf was played in South Carolina and Georgia in 1744 or earlier. That means golf would have come to the area before the New York-New Jersey area, another contender for the "first in the U.S." title.

Records showed that golf clubs and balls were shipped to Charleston in 1744 from Edinburgh, Scotland.

"It was the birthplace of golf in this country," contended Fraser, who died in a boating accident in 2002.

Private golf clubs were formed and eventually a public club, the South Carolina Golf Club, was formed in 1786.

Fraser, knowing the history of golf in the area, was all for having a tournament on Hilton Head Island and particularly in Sea Pines Plantation.

John Gettys Smith, then Sea Pines' vice president for public relations, advertising and community development, said when the plantation's third course — Harbour Town Golf Links — was being built, it was intended to host a golf tournament.

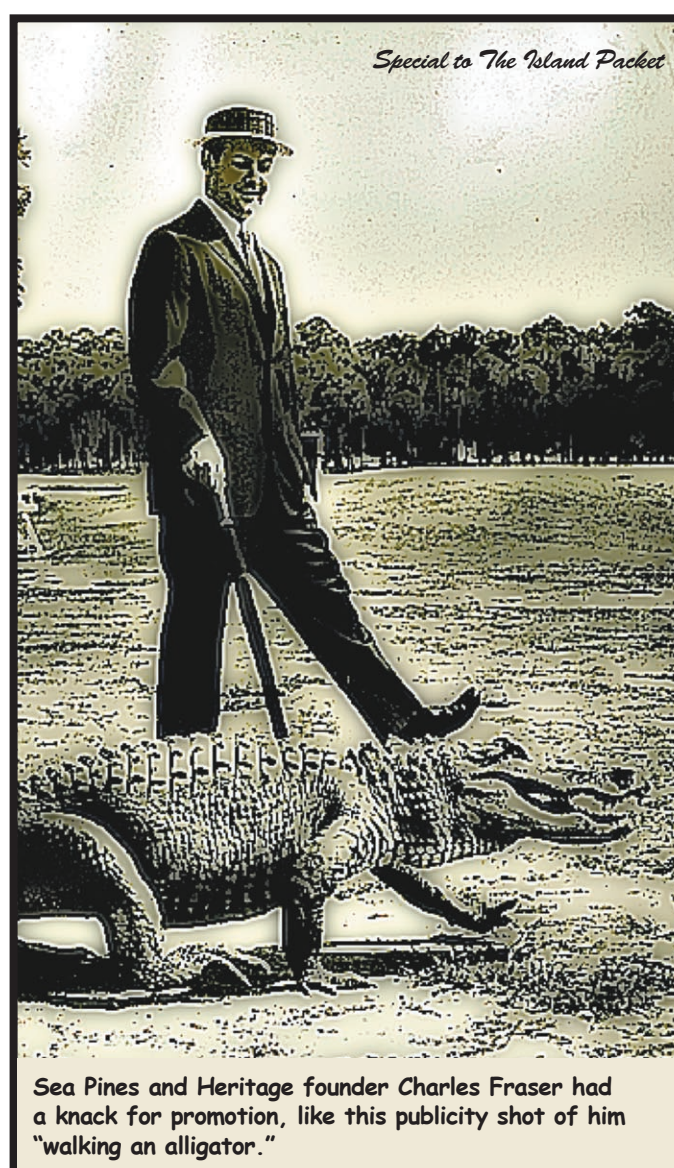
So Smith and Donald O'Quinn, the vice president for golf operations, got together with Sea Pines resident Bill Dyer, who had previously directed smaller golf tournaments, to discuss putting a tournament together.

"We met and said it seems like the right time," Smith said. "We then had a good long meeting with Charles and told him about our conversation. He said, 'Let's do it,' which actually means, 'You do it,' so I did it."

Smith was the tournament chairman for the first five years, while Fraser served as honorary chairman and O'Quinn vice chairman.

In 1969, it wasn't as hard to find a date on the PGA Tour as it is now. Tournament organizers chose Thanksgiving week, patterning it after the traditional Scottish tournaments.

Because none of the organizers had ever run a major tourna-



ment before, they needed help. They called upon Charles Price, a longtime golf writer, to move here from New York and act as a consultant.

"I think the only people who played the course before the tournament were Pete, Jack and Gary Player, who came here as a guest. They thought it was fantastic. It was built in about a year."

The Thanksgiving date was after the PGA Tour season had ended and at first Fraser wasn't sure who would want to play in a tournament here. "We had a good field," he said. "Arnold Palmer was coming, although he hadn't won anything

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"He thought I had lost my mind when I first approached him," Smith said. "He said he had hardly heard of the place. He said he'd be moving to the sticks and the swamps and all that. But we talked and he agreed to come down and he fell in love with the place."

"Because of his reputation — he probably knew more about golf than anybody — he served as a consultant and calmed the fears of the volunteers."

At the time, there were only 400 houses in Sea Pines. Harbour Town Golf Links was not even completely finished.

"Pete Dye and Jack Nicklaus, who was a consultant, did a masterful job," Smith said of the course. "They finished it just in time."

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## Lighthouse directs golfers, not ships

Erected as a navigational tool for the inland waterway called the Calibogue Sound — and for golfers teeing off on the 18th hole at famed Harbour Town Golf Links — the candy-striped lighthouse at the Harbour Town Yacht Basin has become a symbol of the Verizon Heritage and all of Hilton Head Island.

Although never used as an official lighthouse by the U.S. government, at the time of its construction in 1969-70, it was the first lighthouse built on the Atlantic coast in more than 150 years. From the concrete base to the roof peak, it stands 93 feet.

The lighthouse design has a hexagonal motif, which is apparent by looking from atop the structure. The foundation is an 8-foot hexagon supported by the soil below. The mainframe of the structure also is hexagonal.

In February, 1993, the lighthouse received a unique facelift — NewTech Inc. of Hilton Head worked with HEK Platforms & Hoist Inc. of Acworth, Ga., using a new platform lift. The lifts is made in Holland and used regularly in Europe, but the Harbour Town Lighthouse was one of the first structures in the United States to use this innovation. The platform is a free-standing, 70-foot-high structure that can support 4,1870 pounds and can extend to heights of 300 feet. The platform provided a safe and easy environment from which to repaint the famous lighthouse.

Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

File • The Island Packet

## Harbour Town holds position of esteem in national course ratings

From staff reports  
Harbour Town Golf Links is not only a favorite of PGA Tour professionals; it continues to rate well in various golf publications.

Last month, the Pete Dye/Jack Nicklaus design ranked 33rd in Golfweek's annual list of the 100 best modern designs (courses built in 1960 or later). In 2007, it ranked 40th in Golf Magazine's top 100 course in the United States and 70th on Golf Magazine list of the world's best courses.

Other publications have concurred. The course is 93rd on Golf Digest's biannual list of America's 100 greatest courses. Harbour Town was the sec-

ond-highest ranked South Carolina course on Golfweek's list, trailing only Kiawah Island's Ocean Course, another Pete Dye design. However, a panel of in-state judges — the S.C. Golf Course Ratings Panel — picked Harbour Town the state's top design for the fourth consecutive year.

Sea Pines Resort, to which Harbour Town Golf Links belongs, ranked No. 39 on Golf Digest's list of the nation's top golf resorts. It also is a top-15 resort in the Travel & Leisure Family Magazine and a top-50 resort by Conde Nast Traveler.

Golf Magazine lists the par-3 17th, par-4 18th and par-5 15th among the world's 500 best.

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Photo courtesy of The Sea Pines Resort.



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VERIZON HERITAGE

# O'Hair has enjoyed one hot spring

By JUSTIN JARRETT

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843-706-8120

Sean O'Hair was prepared for a pretty ho-hum spring. That all changed with one Sunday surge.

Since coming from four shots back to win the PODS Championship at Innsbrook last month, things have turned around dramatically for the 25-year-old. He leapt into the top 30 in the World Golf Rankings after earning his second PGA Tour victory and his first since winning the John Deere Classic in 2005, when he was the PGA Tour's rookie of the year.

"It's nice," O'Hair said. "I think it's a little bit sweeter this time than it was the first time. Obviously, it's special winning for the first time, but you kind of think it's going to happen every year, and it just doesn't work that way."

The win also earned him a spot in the World Golf Championships-CA Championship at Doral and his second trip to the Masters last week, where he tied for 14th and ensured a return trip for 2009.

"This is what you work hard for, but there's nothing wrong appreciating it when it happens," said O'Hair, a former Junior Heritage champion. "This isn't the peak of where I want to end up. Obviously, I want to achieve a lot more, but I definitely need to kind of enjoy it."

Enjoyment is something O'Hair admits he hasn't allowed himself on the golf course the past couple of years. He says he put too much pressure on himself to win again, and was hard on himself when it didn't happen. Even last year, when he had five top-10 finishes and finished 38th on the money list, O'Hair focused too much on his shortcomings.

But not anymore. "Last year was probably my most consistent year, but in a way it felt like a failure that I didn't win," O'Hair said. "Each year, a goal of mine is to win at least once, so I definitely feel that it's a relief that my hard work has paid off and that I think I'm working on the right things and my mind is in the right place."



SEAN O'HAIR

Height: 6-2 Weight: 165  
Birthdate: July 11, 1982  
Birthplace: Lubbock, Texas  
Resides: West Chester, Pa.  
Special interests: Football, basketball, racing  
Turned professional: 1999  
Best Heritage finish: 7th, 2007 — 69-66-69-72-276  
PGA Tour victories: 2



ZACH JOHNSON

Height: 5-11  
Weight: 160  
Birthdate: Feb. 24, 1976  
Birthplace: Iowa City, Iowa  
Resides: Lake Mary, Fla.  
Special interests: Movies, all sports, skiing  
College: Drake  
Turned professional: 1998

Best Heritage finish: 6th, 2007 — 70-68-66-71-275  
PGA Tour victories: 3  
Rank on 2007 money list: 8th  
Major championships: 1, 1997 Masters  
International teams: Presidents Cup, 2007; Ryder Cup, 2006.  
Notes: Recorded two victories in 2007, both in the state of Georgia, including his first major title at the Masters. ... Earned a berth on the Presidents Cup team and finished with a 2-2-0 record. ... Has finished

in the top 40 on the money list in all four seasons on tour, including three visits to the Tour Championship. ... Earned a career-best \$3,922,338 thanks in part to two wins and a runner-up finish. ... Teamed with two-time Heritage champion Stewart Cink in the 2006 Algarve World Cup in Portugal, finishing T17. ... Was the Nationwide Tour player of the year in 2003 and set the circuit's all-time, single-season money record (surpassed by Troy Matteson in 2005) by becoming the first player in Tour history to top the

\$400,000 mark in earnings. ... Father is a chiropractor. ... Huge Iowa Hawkeye football and basketball fan. ... The gallery at BellSouth Classic at first PGA Tour victory in 2004 included a group of about 10 men from Iowa who gave him financial support early in his career. Some were seeing him play as a pro for the first time. "It started out as a business, but it ended up as a business family," Johnson said of his relationship with them. "It's unbelievable having them here."

# Johnson managed to contend after Masters win

And then, the Midwest's newest hero found solace at Harbour Town Golf Links, where he finished sixth, his best performance in three Heritage starts.

By JUSTIN JARRETT

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Nobody would have blamed Zach Johnson if he skipped last year's Verizon Heritage ... except maybe Zach Johnson.

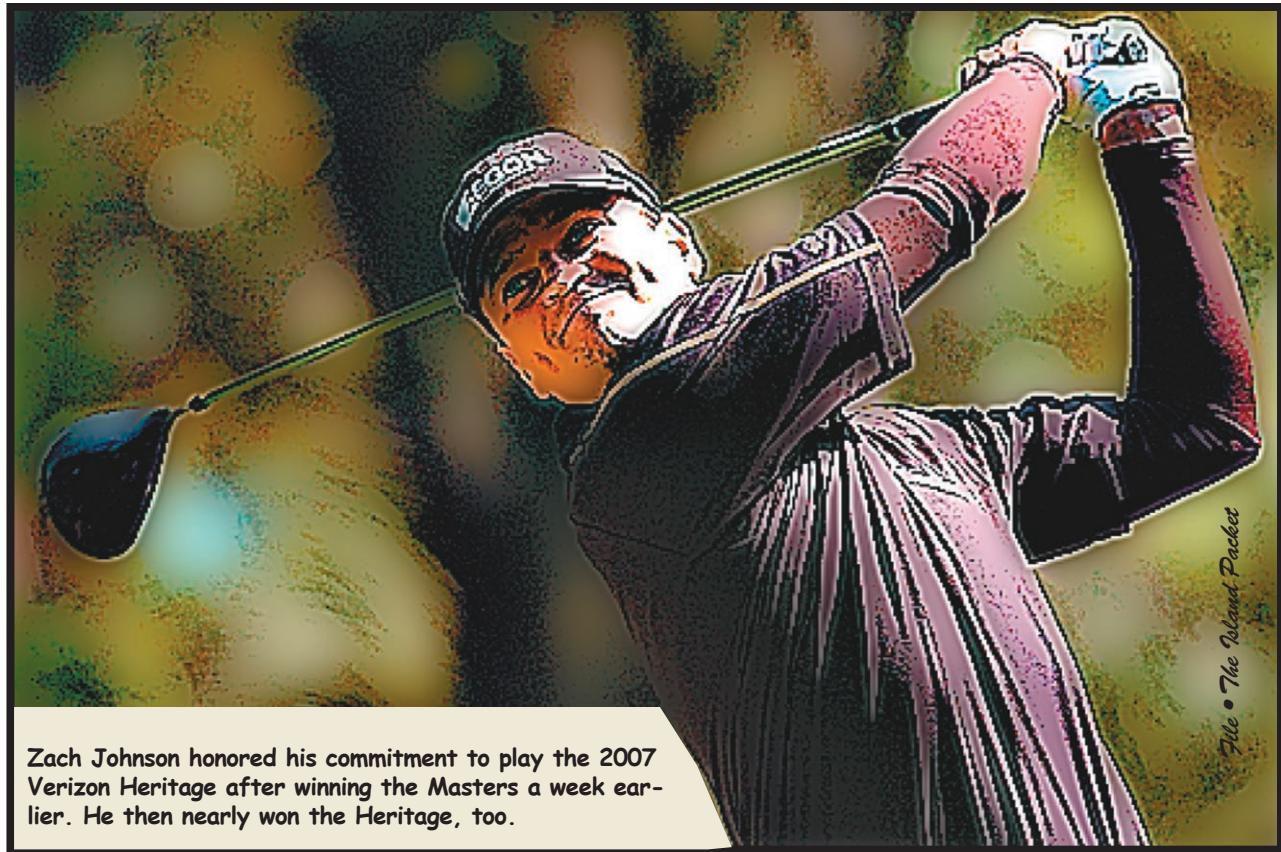
After a whirlwind week that included his first major championship at the Masters and his first late-night television appearance in New York, getting back on the golf course was the perfect escape for the "normal guy" from Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

"Getting down to Hilton Head and getting inside the ropes ... was the best thing for me," Johnson said. "It could not have been better. I felt like I was back in an area that I felt comfortable with and that I had experienced before."

And Johnson had success at Harbour Town Golf Links, finishing sixth, his best showing in three Verizon Heritage starts.

Johnson hasn't slowed since. He won the AT&T Classic just more than a month later and finished eighth on the money list with \$3.9 million. He hasn't cracked the top 10 this year, but he hasn't missed a cut, either, and thinks his game is in better shape than ever.

"I'm certainly feeding off it," said Johnson, who tied for 20th in his Masters title



Zach Johnson honored his commitment to play the 2007 Verizon Heritage after winning the Masters a week earlier. He then nearly won the Heritage, too.

defense last week. "I think my game has gotten better since then in a lot of areas. There's certainly some things that I would like to get back to that I had that week, but there's a lot of facets that have improved. I'm excited."

Of course, it would take something special to match the excitement of last season, when he went from being a solid but relatively unknown pro to a house-

hold name even among casual golf fans. That kind of goes with the territory of holding off Tiger Woods to win at Augusta National and etching one's name into golf history.

"I guess one of the more encouraging things about Augusta last year is the fact that I have won the Masters in the Tiger era," Johnson said. "Because it is the Tiger era."

Johnson was disappointed after his closing round of 77 on Sunday, which came a day after shooting a 4-under-par 68 at Augusta National got him back into contention.

"It's meant a lot, having that green jacket on my back," he said. "It's one of those things you don't want to give up. But, you know, that's why we play it every year."

# Self-effacing Austin becomes crowd favorite

By JUSTIN JARRETT

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If Woody Austin can do anything about it, he'll be on the U.S. Ryder Cup team this fall. Just don't expect to see him sporting scuba gear.

"That was a once-in-a-lifetime deal," Austin said. "I won't even be talked into something like that again by my caddy. That was a once-in-a-lifetime deal."

The 44-year-old made a big ... umm ... splash at the Presidents Cup last October, when his "Aquaman" antics kept the crowd entertained and his golf game helped the United States retain the cup.

Austin fell in love with match play that week, and he's determined to earn a spot on this year's U.S. team.

"I want to make that Ryder Cup team," Austin said. "I had so much fun at that President's Cup, I want to be on that Ryder Cup team. That's first and foremost, and if I accomplish that, then everything else is going to

WOODY AUSTIN

Height: 6-0 Weight: 175  
Birthdate: Jan. 27, 1964  
Birthplace: Tampa, Fla.  
Resides: Derby, Kan.  
Turned professional: 1986  
College: University of Miami  
Best Heritage finish: 2nd, 2003 — 68-70-65-68-271

PGA Tour victories: 3  
Rank on 2007 Tour money list: 15th  
Major championships: 0  
National teams: Presidents Cup, 2007.  
Notes: Had the best season of his career, with a victory, a runner-up in the PGA Championship, a spot on The Presidents Cup team, a 17th-place finish in the FedExCup and his most earnings in one season.

fall into place."

Austin again proved his match play chops at the WGC Accenture Match Play Championship, where he made the quarterfinals before bowing to Henrik Stenson. He also finished in the top 20 at the season-opening Mercedes-Benz Championship and the Arnold Palmer Invitational last month, but Austin says he isn't happy with his play so far this season. He attributes some of his early-season struggles to living in Derby, Kan., where cold weather makes golf difficult in January and February.

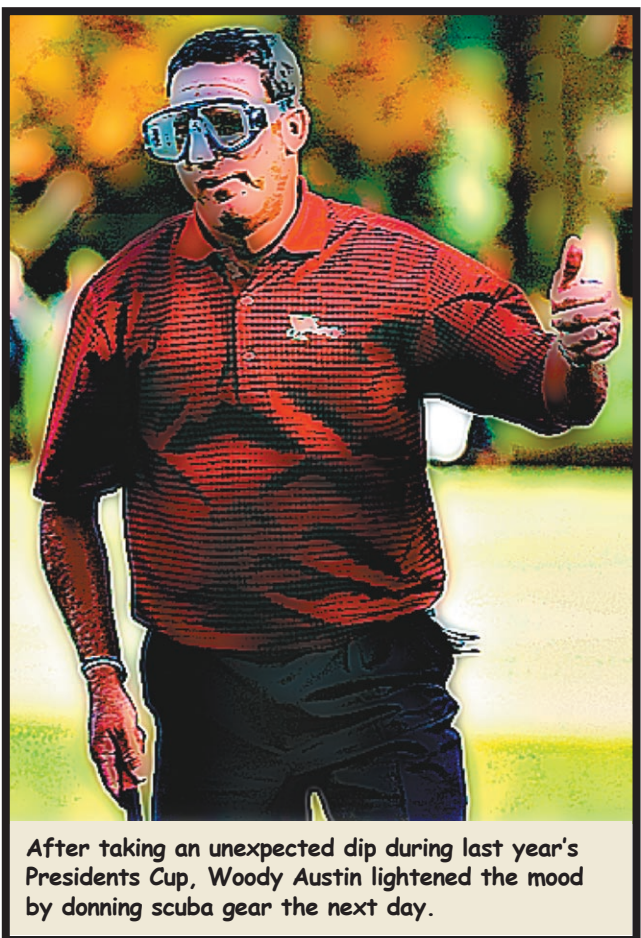
"The biggest thing for me is I just need some more preparation," Austin said. "It's a struggle early in the year for me to

get to practice at home, so the only time I get to practice is when I'm at the tournament. And that's not really good to come to the tournament to practice. That's been the hardest part."

For now, Austin is keeping his goals simple.

"Pretty much the same goal as always, I just want to find my game this time of year," Austin said.

Harbour Town Golf Links could be just the place to find it. Austin's streak of five consecutive cuts made here was snapped last year, but he has a history of Heritage success, including a runner-up finish in 2003, when he lost in a playoff to Davis Love III.



After taking an unexpected dip during last year's Presidents Cup, Woody Austin lightened the mood by donning scuba gear the next day.

## HERITAGE TOP-FIVE FINISHERS

The top five finishers in the preceding 39 Verizon Heritages are as follows:

1969	1. Arnold Palmer	68-71-70-74-283
	2. Bert Yancey	76-69-72-74-286
	3. Rich Crawford	71-69-72-74-286
	4. Doug Ford	74-68-75-70-287
	5. Homero Blancas	74-69-69-76-288
1970	1. Hale Irwin	74-70-70-66-280
	2. a. Larry Wadkins	63-74-69-68-284
	b. Bob Murphy	75-71-70-70-285
	3. Billy Maxwell	72-73-70-71-286
	4. Arnold Palmer	73-70-72-71-286
1971	1. Hale Irwin	68-73-68-70-279
	2. Bob Lunn	71-68-71-70-280
	3. Jack Nicklaus	71-69-71-70-281
	4. Tom Kite	71-69-71-70-281
	5. Arnold Palmer	69-74-69-74-286
1972	1. Johnny Miller	71-65-75-70-281
	2. Tom Weiskopf	71-73-72-66-282
	3. Lon Hinkle	68-72-72-71-283
	4. Tom Kite	70-69-77-67-283
	5. a-Ben Crenshaw	73-72-71-67-283
1973	1. Hale Irwin	69-66-65-72-277
	2. Grier Jones	70-68-71-68-277
	3. Jerry Heard	69-71-67-70-277
	4. Jim Mahaffey	67-73-72-68-280
	5. Gary Player	69-72-68-72-281
1974	1. Johnny Miller	67-67-72-70-276
	2. Gibby Gilbert	71-71-68-69-279
	3. Rich Crawford	4-70-66-70-280
	4. Tom Kite	73-68-71-69-281
	5. Leo Thompson	71-74-67-70-282
1975	1. Jack Nicklaus	66-63-74-68-271
	2. Tom Weiskopf	70-65-68-71-274
	3. Charles Coody	71-69-74-65-279
	4. John Mahaffey	70-70-70-70-280
	5. Bruce Crampton	69-70-71-71-281
	6. Tom Kite	69-68-69-75-281
1976	1. Hubert Green	68-67-66-73-274
	2. Jerry McGee	71-69-71-68-279
	3. Hale Irwin	69-67-77-67-280
	4. Bob Murphy	68-70-69-73-280
	5. Don January	67-72-74-67-280
1977	1. Graham Marsh	65-72-67-69-273
	2. Tom Watson	67-67-66-74-274
	3. Ben Crenshaw	66-74-68-68-276
	4. Ray Floyd	72-76-66-72-277
	5. Gene Littler	72-70-70-65-277
1978	1. Hubert Green	70-70-70-67-277
	2. Hale Irwin	69-68-73-70-280
	3. Orville Moody	73-70-67-71-281
	4. Larry Nelson	69-68-68-76-281
	5. Mac McLendon	73-72-68-69-282
	6. Larry Marsh	72-71-69-70-282
	7. Alan Tapie	71-69-72-70-282
	8. Craig Stadler	70-70-67-68-282
1979	1. Tom Watson	65-65-69-71-270
	2. Ed Sneed	69-69-71-66-275
	3. Mike Morley	69-68-72-70-279
	4. Tom Kite	69-68-71-71-279
	5. Bill Rogers	69-68-72-71-280
	6. Ray Floyd	72-68-69-71-280
1980	1. x-Doug Tewell	69-66-72-73-280
	2. Steve Jones	66-66-72-72-280
	3. Fuzzy Zoeller	70-74-70-68-282
	4. Lon Hinkle	68-69-70-70-282
	5. John Mahaffey	68-69-70-75-282
	6. Gary Player	70-71-69-72-282
1981	1. Bill Rogers	71-69-68-70-278
	2. Bruce Devlin	70-71-71-67-279
	3. Craig Stadler	71-70-71-67-279
	4. Hale Irwin	68-70-73-68-279
	5. Gil Morgan	67-72-72-68-279
1982	1. x-Tom Watson	69-68-72-71-280
	2. Frank Conner	69-66-69-73-280
	3. A. Weibring	67-69-71-69-282
	4. Bobby Clampett	70-71-72-70-283
1983	1. Fuzzy Zoeller	67-72-65-71-275
	2. Jim Nelford	68-68-70-71-277
	3. Mac O'Grady	69-65-73-73-279
	4. Bob Eastwood	67-67-71-74-279
	5. Hale Irwin	70-66-71-73-280
	6. Mark McCumber	70-69-68-73-280
	7. Craig Stadler	70-71-67-72-280
	8. Tom Kite	75-68-67-70-280
	9. Calvin Peete	72-68-70-70-280
	10. David Graham	70-69-69-72-280
1984	1. Nick Faldo	66-67-68-69-270
	2. Tom Kite	68-67-70-66-271
	3. Gil Morgan	64-73-71-66-274
	4. Ronnie Black	69-67-71-67-274
	5. Don Pohl	69-67-69-71-276
1985	1. x-Bernhard Langer	68-66-69-70-273
	2. Bobby Wadkins	65-68-72-68-273
	3. Hal Sutton	72-67-68-67-274
	4. Tim Rnith	70-71-66-67-274
	5. Mike Smith	73-67-68-67-275
1986	1. Fuzzy Zoeller	68-68-69-71-276
	2. Roger Maltbie	67-67-69-69-277
	3. Greg Norman	70-68-69-70-277
	4. Chip Beck	70-67-70-70-277
	5. Jay Haas	71-70-66-71-278
1987	1. Davis Love III	70-67-67-67-271
	2. Steve Jones	67-66-67-72-272
	3. Mark Wiebe	69-67-70-67-273
	4. Gene Sauers	69-67-64-73-273
	5. Howard Twitty	66-69-72-67-274
	6. Mark Calcavecchia	66-73-67-68-274
	7. Bob Murphy	69-70-66-69-274
1988	1. Greg Norman	65-69-71-66-271
	2. Gil Morgan	71-64-69-68-272
	3. David Frost	69-64-69-70-272
	4. Fred Couples	68-65-68-73-274
	5. David Ogriin	67-69-71-69-276
	6. Paul Azinger	65-70-73-68-276
1989	1. Payne Stewart	65-67-67-69-268
	2. Kenny Perry	65-67-70-71-273
	3. Bernhard Langer	71-72-69-65-274
	4. Larry Wadkins	69-70-67-71-277
	5. Lanny Wadkins	72-69-70-67-278
	6. Craig Stadler	70-70-70-68-278
	7. Kenny Knox	69-70-67-72-278
1990	1. x-Payne Stewart	70-69-66-71-276
	2. Larry Mize	71-69-70-66-276
	3. Steve Jones	68-73-66-69-276
	4. Steve Pate	67-69-73-68-277
	5. Greg Norman	70-70-67-70-277
1991	1. Davis Love III	65-68-68-70-271
	2. Ian Baker-Finch	75-64-65-69-273
	3. Lanny Wadkins	68-68-70-68-274
	4. Payne Stewart	68-68-70-69-275
	5. Hale Irwin	70-70-66-69-275
	6. Mark O'Meara	68-69-68-70-275
1992	1. Davis Love III	67-67-67-68-269
	2. Chip Beck	69-65-71-68-273
	3. Nick Price	71-71-66-66-274
	4. Russ Cochran	70-69-70-66-275
	5. Fuzzy Zoeller	73-67-67-68-275
1993	1. David Edwards	68-66-70-69-273
	2. David Frost	67-67-70-71-275
	3. Don Pooley	67-70-70-70-277
	4. Fuzzy Zoeller	70-69-68-70-277
	5. Ian Baker-Finch	68-70-69-70-277
	6. Mark McCumber	68-68-70-71-277
	7. Paul Azinger	68-66-73-277
1994	1. Hale Irwin	68-65-65-68-266
	2. Greg Norman	66-66-67-68-268
	3. Loren Roberts	69-70-68-62-269
	4. David Edwards	70-71-65-64-270
	5. David Frost	70-61-72-67-270
	6. Nolan Henke	69-69-66-66-270
1995	1. x-Bob Tway	67-69-72-67-275
	2. Nolan Henke	66-72-70-67-275
	3. David Frost	71-68-66-70-275
1996	1. x-Davis Love III	67-68-66-65-266
	2. Glen Day	67-67-72-67-273
	3. Phil Mickelson	67-71-65-73-276
	4. Payne Stewart	69-71-64-72-276
	5. Fulton Allem	68-71-68-70-277
1997	1. x-Glen Day	70-68-70-66-274
	2. Jeff Sluman	72-67-68-67-274
	3. Phil Mickelson	68-64-72-70-274
	4. Chris Perry	69-66-68-72-275
	5. Nolan Henke	71-70-65-70-276
	6. John Huston	68-67-69-72-276
	7. Corey Pavin	70-69-68-69-276
2000	1. Stewart Cink	71-68-66-65-270
	2. Tom Lehman	70-70-67-65-273
	3. Vijay Singh	70-70-71-64-275
	4. Edward Fryatt	67-74-65-69-275
	5. Dan Forsman	66-71-68-70-275
	6. Larry Mize	73-67-65-70-275
	7. Ernie Els	68-67-66-74-275
2001	1. x-Jose Caceres	68-70-64-71-273

VERIZON HERITAGE

# When father knows best

Furyk and Trahan are the sons of golf professionals who continue to teach them the game.

By JUSTIN JARRETT

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Now that he's a father himself, Jim Furyk has a deeper appreciation for his unconventional situation.

Furyk is a rare breed on the PGA Tour in that his father, Mike, is the only swing coach he's ever had, an arrangement that has served him well throughout his career, but more so in recent years.

"Early on, it was wonderful and difficult all at once," Furyk said. "Now it's wonderful."

The world's eighth-ranked player, the younger Furyk has 13 PGA Tour victories, including the 2003 U.S. Open. Still, Furyk concedes it wasn't always easy learning the game from his father.

"It definitely caused some arguments and some tough times early, but it was always wonderful, because I got to spend a lot of time with my dad and do something that he loved," Furyk said. "Now, I get to spend a lot of time with my father, and even though it's in a business-like sense because it's my job, I'm still there with my dad, and that's something most kids don't get the opportunity to do."

It's an opportunity that isn't lost on D.J. Trahan, who also has stuck with his dad, Don, as swing coach while ascending to the PGA Tour. Trahan has become the public face for his father's unorthodox but highly researched mechanics, and the son's success has lent immeasurable credibility to the method the "Swing Surgeon" has developed.

"What I taught him was quite unique compared to what everybody else was teaching, and it never let him down, so why would he leave?" Don Trahan said. "Why would he not have faith? It has taken him to No. 1 at every level, and he's starting to really rise up."

D.J. Trahan was Golfweek's top-ranked amateur while starring at Clemson University, and he's off to his best start in four seasons on the PGA Tour, having earned more than \$1 million already this year.

He gives much of the credit to dear, old dad, who had a club in his son's hands almost as soon as he could hold one but never pushed too hard.

"For me it's always been fun," D.J. Trahan said after earning



D.J. Trahan's father, Don, is the only swing coach the former Hilton Head Island resident has ever known.

his second PGA Tour victory in February at the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic. "He's been my coach. He's been my teacher. He's been the one who got me started in the game. But I think a lot of parents, maybe especially nowadays with the heavy focus on athletics and athletes in general, maybe ride their kids too hard. And I was so fortunate and so blessed because my father was never that way."

Perhaps just as important is the fact D.J. Trahan never pushed back too hard. Furyk said one of the biggest challenges he and his father faced in the early years of his career was the natural tendency of a son to rebel against his father's instruction. Furyk admits he "probably wasn't as good as a pupil as I would have been with another instructor."

"As a son, you would respect your teachers in school or an instructor in golf, and you wouldn't say anything out of line because you would respect the authority," Furyk said. "But when it's your parents, no kid wants to do everything they're told and wants to always take instruction the proper way."

In many cases, that dynamic could undo the delicate pupil-teacher relationship between father and son. But Don Trahan said the key is for the father to have coaching ability on par with the son's playing prowess. Both Don Trahan and Mike Furyk were club professionals while their sons were growing up, which helped them keep pace with their pupils.

"Most dads don't have the skills that I have, as a player and never mind as a teacher," Don Trahan said. "The one thing I tell a lot of people is maybe you can teach a kid from 5 to 7 or 8 to 10, but at some point, if his talent is starting to outdistance your abilities as a player or teacher, you've got to hand him over to somebody who is better."

Luckily for the Trahans and the Furyks, that's a scenario they never had to face.

# Dad: Trahan has eye of Tiger again

In picking up his second career PGA Tour victory this February, the former Hilton Head Islander showed a ferocity not on display since his college days at Clemson, his father said.

By JUSTIN JARRETT

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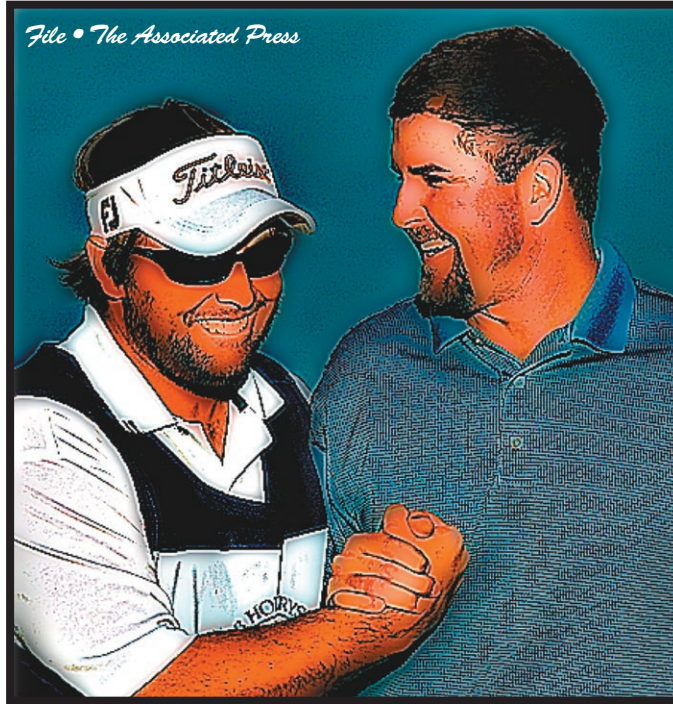
Somewhere between the ninth and 11th holes at The Classic Club, it came back.

And Don Trahan saw it — the look his son, D.J., had lost somewhere between his days as the nation's top amateur golfer and his fourth year on the PGA Tour. The look Don Trahan felt his son needed to recapture to move up in the cutthroat world of professional golf.

"When he was in junior golf, he was pretty fiery and feisty, really an aggressive player, and he's mellowed out the last three or four years," said Don Trahan, the former director of instruction at Harbour Town Golf Links. "I've been on him about it, I said, 'Deej, you're too mellow, man. You're a mellow mushroom. I'd like to see you get your fire back.' And he didn't want to do it. ... I said, 'Deej, this is war out there, man. You've got to get your fire back.' He kind of fought it and fought it, and then all of a sudden ..."

All of a sudden, there it was. And there was D.J., hunting down and catching Justin Leonard, a veteran with 11 PGA Tour victories, including a British Open and Verizon Heritage title. There was D.J., blowing a two-time Ryder Cup player off the course on the back nine to win the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic by three shots. There was D.J., looking like the golfer who once was the top-ranked amateur and one of the best college players in the nation.

"I keep telling people, you've never really seen D.J.," Don Tra-



D.J. Trahan (right) celebrates his Bob Hope victory this past February with caddie and former Hilton Head Island High School golf teammate Todd Sunderland.

"I keep telling people, you've never really seen D.J."

Don Trahan, on his son

han said. "He's never really been in the zone since he's been out here. The putting and that were the missing ingredients, and I think it's all together now."

Ah, yes, the putting. The flat stick has been the bane of Trahan's career. He ranked 171st on the tour in putting last year, down from 108th in 2006. But earlier this year at The Classic Club, where Leonard said it can become "a putting contest," D.J. was the best putter in the field.

"Pardon me for smiling like that," D.J. said when it was pointed out that he ranked first in putting that week, "but I've never heard anybody tell me

that before."

When nothing else helped solve the problem, Don Trahan, who is also his son's swing coach, introduced D.J. to Jack Moore. Moore has been working with D.J. for nearly two years, and for the entire time he has encouraged his pupil to switch from his cross-handed grip. D.J. finally obliged.

"Jack's been trying for two years now to get him to switch from cross-handed to right-hand low," Don Trahan said. "He finally did it at Bob Hope and finished No. 1 in putting."

And earned his second PGA Tour victory in the process.

"Hopefully I can use this as a stepping stone to take my game to where I feel like it can be," said D.J., who grew up playing Harbour Town and attended Hilton Head Island High School until his family moved to the Upstate after his sophomore year.



D.J. TRAHAN

Height: 6-3  
Weight: 185  
Birthdate: Dec. 18, 1980  
Birthplace: Atlanta  
Resides: Mt. Pleasant  
Special interests: Fishing, boating  
Turned professional: 2003  
College: Clemson  
Best Heritage finish: T27, 2006 — 71-69-71-70—281  
PGA Tour victories: 2  
Rank on 2007 money list: 87th  
Major championships: 0  
National teams: None  
Notes: Joined Charles Howell III and J.B. Holmes as the only American golfers under age 30 with multiple PGA Tour victories when he won the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic in February. ... Won the U.S. Public Links Championship in 2000, which qualified him for the next year's Masters. ... Picked up his first career victory at the 2006 Southern Farm Bureau Classic, defeating Joe Durant on the third playoff hole.

At the very least, D.J. is reaching the potential he knew he had when he was winning prestigious amateur and collegiate tournaments and awards. It hasn't come as soon as he would have liked, but he made it back to the Masters this year, where he missed the cut, and he will surpass his best single-season earnings on tour the next time he makes a cut.

Perhaps most important, D.J. has that look again, so his dad says his boy is back.

"I think people are going to start seeing D.J. closer to where he was in college and when he was a top amateur," Don Trahan said. "You're going to start seeing him up there, playing much more consistent golf and contending a lot more often, if not winning."

## LOOKING OUT FOR NO. 1

By JEFF KIDD

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You couldn't call D.J. Trahan's professional golf career a disappointment — after all, with his February victory in the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, he became just one of three Americans under age 30 with two or more PGA Tour victories.

But it hasn't necessarily been a direct line to success for Golfweek Magazine's former top-ranked amateur. He missed the cut in 45 of 91 PGA Tour events entering the 2008 season and has finished no higher than 87th on the money list.

Trahan turned pro in 2003, just after leading Clemson University to an NCAA title. Before that, he won the 2000 U.S. Public Links Championship and finished 2002 as the top-ranked amateur in Golfweek's Sagarin ratings.

A comparison of recent golfers who ended the year ranked No. 1 in Golfweek's amateur poll:

Golfer	PGA Tour seasons*	Wins	Cut % on tour**
2001 Bubba Dickerson	2	0	.462
202nd-place finish on '07 money list relegated him to Nationwide Tour			
2002 D.J. Trahan	4	2	.494
May have solved putting woes that have held him back			
2003 Casey Wittenberg	0	0	.474
Former teen sensation, pro bust showing signs of life on Nationwide Tour			
2004 Ryan Moore	4	0	.613
Solid career despite injury setbacks and no victories			
2005 Brian Harman	0	0	.0
Savannah native is junior at University of Georgia			
2006 Webb Simpson	0	0	.0
Wake Forest senior on the Ben Hogan Award watch list			
2007 Colt Knost	0	0	1.000
Flamed out in Q-School, failing to win any exempt status in 2008			

\* Full seasons only, unless exempt in 2008, \*\* Entering 2008

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Wm. J. Byrne, BIC

# Looking for the next Harbour Town hero



**JEFF KIDD**  
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843-706-8121

I'd like to tell you this page of predictions is mandatory reading for anyone seeking clues about what might transpire at Harbour Town Golf Links this weekend.

But, the fact is, I'm downright awful at this.

I didn't see Boo Weekley coming. Or Aaron Baddeley before him. Or Peter Lonard before him.

You'd have to go back to The Island Packet's 2004 Verizon Heritage special section, when Stewart Cink was included in the "10 Who Can Win," before you'd actually read the name of that season's winner.

So if you want to turn the page, I understand.

And if you're one of PGA Tour stars who didn't crack the top 10 — I'm thinking of guys like Jonathan Byrd, Lucas Glover, Kevin Na, Stephen Ames, Zach Johnson — I wouldn't take much offense. In fact, it's probably a good sign.

That said, I'll take another crack at it. To the right are my predictions (with apologies to Sean O'Hair.) Below are the picks of several area club professionals.

## PROS PICKS

Area golf professionals tell The Island Packet who will win the Verizon Heritage this year.

Pro	Club	Pick
Rob Anderson	Belfair GC	Jonathan Byrd
Chris Cuneo	Berkeley Hall	Jim Furyk
Bryan Haught	Callawassie Island Club	Jonathan Byrd
Mike Fries	Chechessee Creek	Peter Lonard
Jeff Spencer	Colleton River	Jim Furyk
Bill Layman	Crescent Point	Davis Love III
Burrell Williams	Dolphin Head	Stewart Cink
Brent Carlson	Eagle's Pointe	Davis Love III
Mike Nickolas	Executive Golf Club	Chris DiMarco
Mike Guy	PD Fazio Course	Ernie Els
Scott Sickich	Island West	Stewart Cink
Fred Denton	Haig Point	Jim Furyk
John Farrell	Harbour Town GL	Charles Howell III
Jeff Picus	CC of Hilton Head	Davis Love III
Shannon Archer	Hilton Head National	Ernie Els
Steve Oh	PD Arthur Hills	Ernie Els
Ben Cheval	Long Cove Club	Aaron Baddeley
Charlie Kent	May River Club	Fred Funk
Scott Schoiack	Moss Creek	Jim Furyk
Paul Schell	Old Carolina	Ernie Els
Bill Sampson	Old Tabby Links	Ernie Els
Derek E. Gall	Old South	Jim Furyk
Jim Corbin	Pinecrest	Jim Furyk
John Self	Port Royal	Ernie Els
John Richardson	Sea Pines	Boo Weekley
Matt Edlin	Sun City Hidden Cypress	Ernie Els

## KIDD'S 10 WHO CAN WIN

### WOODY AUSTIN

**Best Heritage finish:** 2, 2003.

**Pertinent stat:** 9th in greens in regulation this season.

**Super power:** Long memory. Showed he still remembers how to win in 2007 by claiming the Stanford St. Jude Championship.

**Arch enemy:** He's a self-professed head case, although he seems to react better to his mistakes than he once did.

**Hero-Meter:** 3



### FRED FUNK

**Best Heritage finish:** 6, 2004.

**Pertinent stat:** 2nd in driving accuracy in 2007.

**Super power:** Sense of urgency. Competed well last year, and goal to finish near top of PGA Tour and Champions Tour money lists make his finish this week very important.

**Arch enemy:** Fatigue. Contended last year ... but faded, too, as rounds of 72-75 dropped him to a tie for 22nd.

**Hero-Meter:** 3



### DAVIS LOVE III

**Best Heritage finish:** Won, 1987, 1991, 1992, 1998, 2003.

**Pertinent stat:** See previous line.

**Super power:** Harbour Town seems to turn him into Superman.

**Arch enemy:** An ankle injury suffered late last year is another in a line of injuries that have plagued him the past few years. Let's hope he's over this one.

**Hero-Meter:** 3



### ERNIE ELS

**Best Heritage finish:** 2, 2007.

**Pertinent stat:** 2nd on PGA Tour in scoring average in 2007.

**Super power:** Patience. If ever someone was owed a Heritage title, it's Els — he has seven top 10s in nine Heritage starts but no tartan jackets.

**Arch enemy:** Decision-making. Always seems to give away shots down the stretch at Harbour Town.

**Hero-Meter:** 3



### STEPHEN LEANEY

**Best Heritage finish:** 3, 2007.

**Pertinent stat:** T12 in 2006, and he's gotten better with each subsequent Heritage start.

**Super power:** Special vision. Seems to have an eye for Harbour Town, where in 2007 he recorded his best career finish.

**Arch enemy:** Driving. He isn't terribly long or terribly accurate off the tee.

**Hero-Meter:** 3



### STEWART CINK

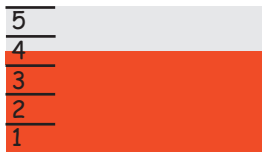
**Best Heritage finish:** Won, 2000, 2004.

**Pertinent stat:** Among top 20 in greens in regulation this season.

**Super power:** Iron game. He's striking the ball well and has contended several times this season.

**Arch enemy:** The final round. A season ago, was among the tour's best in scoring average ... until the final round, when his scores spike.

**Hero-Meter:** 3.5



### BOO WEEKLEY

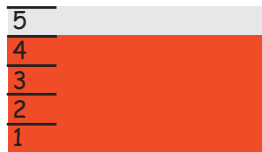
**Best Heritage finish:** Won, 2007.

**Pertinent stat:** Ranks in the top 25 of accuracy and greens in regulation in four of past six seasons.

**Super power:** Magic wedges. Won in his only Heritage appearance, thanks to par-saving chips on the 71st and 72nd holes.

**Arch enemy:** The flat stick. Good thing he can chip. And he comes to Harbour Town from tricky Augusta greens.

**Hero-Meter:** 4



### JIM FURYK

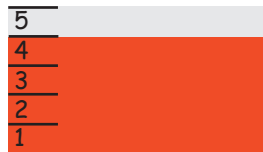
**Best Heritage finish:** 2, 2006.

**Pertinent stat:** Top 10 in driving accuracy and greens in regulation in four of past six seasons.

**Super power:** Persistence. Although he missed the cut last season, he always seems to contend at Harbour Town.

**Arch enemy:** Putting. His statistical averages have taken a dip the past two seasons.

**Hero-Meter:** 4



### JUSTIN LEONARD

**Best Heritage finish:** Won, 2002.

**Pertinent stat:** Texas Open victory in October was his first on the PGA Tour in more than two seasons.

**Super power:** Perseverance. Long slump appears over.

**Arch enemy:** Feng shui? Is something about Harbour Town out of order? Despite accuracy and 2002 victory, his Heritage results have been unimpressive.

**Hero-Meter:** 4.5



### SEAN O'HAIR

**Best Heritage finish:** 7, 2007.

**Pertinent stat:** None of his PGA Tour stats are terribly impressive ... but his overall play sure has been.

**Super power:** Rising confidence. Former Junior Heritage champion is playing like a champion.

**Arch enemy:** Those darn fairways and greens. He's doesn't rank high in either driving accuracy or greens in regulation.

**Hero-Meter:** 5



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# VERIZON HERITAGE

## TODAY'S TEE TIMES

Tee times for today's first round of the Verizon Heritage PGA Tour event at Harbour Town Golf Links.

### First tee, morning

- 7:20 a.m.:** Brandt Jobe, Nick O'Hern, Ken Duke.
- 7:30 a.m.:** Robert Gamez, Tom Pernice Jr., Niclas Fasth.
- 7:40 a.m.:** Lee Janzen, Patrick Sheehan, Anthony Kim.
- 7:50 a.m.:** Dean Wilson, Rod Pampling, Robert Allenby.
- 8 a.m.:** Fred Funk, John Rollins, Jeff Maggert.
- 8:10 a.m.:** Eric Axley, Ben Curtis, Corey Pavin.
- 8:20 a.m.:** Daniel Chopra, Justin Leonard, Chris DiMarco.
- 8:30 a.m.:** Vaughn Taylor, Frank Lickliter II, Paul Azinger.
- 8:40 a.m.:** Cameron Beckman, Tim Clark, Briny Baird.
- 8:50 a.m.:** Tim Petrovic, Jose Coceres, John Riegger.
- 9 a.m.:** Chris Stroud, Dustin Johnson, Jon Mills.

### 10th tee, morning

- 7:20 a.m.:** J.P. Hayes, Matt Kuchar, Ryan Moore.
- 7:30 a.m.:** Justin Rose, Nathan Green, Cliff Kresge.
- 7:40 a.m.:** Rocco Mediate, Mathew Goggin, Jeff Quinney.
- 7:50 a.m.:** Stephen Ames, George McNeill, Brian Bateman.
- 8 a.m.:** J.B. Holmes, D.J. Trahan, Tom Lehman.
- 8:10 a.m.:** Bart Bryant, Stewart Cink, Todd Hamilton.
- 8:20 a.m.:** Chad Campbell, Will Mackenzie, Tim Herron.
- 8:30 a.m.:** Mark Brooks, Camilo Villegas, Shane Bertsch.
- 8:40 a.m.:** Mark Hensby, J.L. Lewis, Craig Barlow.
- 8:50 a.m.:** Roland Thatcher, Kevin Streelman, Curt Sanders.
- 9 a.m.:** James Driscoll, Y.E.

Yang, Chez Reavie.

### First tee, afternoon

- Noon:** Jay Williamson, Stephen Leaney, John Mallingier.
- 12:10 p.m.:** Billy Andrade, Bo Van Pelt, Brian Davis.
- 12:20 p.m.:** Mathias Gronberg, Richard Sterne, Nick Dougherty.
- 12:30 p.m.:** Ernie Els, Brand Snedeker, Jason Bohn.
- 12:40 p.m.:** Jonathan Byrd, Zach Johnson, David Toms.
- 12:50 p.m.:** Greg Kraft, Jim Furyk, Davis Love III.
- 1 p.m.:** Aaron Baddeley, John Senden, Heath Slocum.
- 1:10 p.m.:** Lucas Glover, Jerry Kelly, Billy Mayfair.
- 1:20 p.m.:** Ryuji Imada, Michael Allen, Ryan Armour.
- 1:30 p.m.:** Parker McLachlin, Jason Day, Marc Turnesa.
- 1:40 p.m.:** Matt Jones, Jin Pak, Rickie Fowler.

### 10th tee, afternoon

- Noon:** Bob Estes, Jesper Parnevik, Robert Garrigus.
- 12:10 p.m.:** Glen Day, Charles Warren, Kevin Na.
- 12:20 p.m.:** Dudley Hart, Brett Quigley, Nicholas Thompson.
- 12:30 p.m.:** Sean O'Hair, Woody Austin, Joe Durant.
- 12:40 p.m.:** Boo Weekley, Mark Calcavecchia, Mark Wilson.
- 12:50 p.m.:** Brian Gay, Steve Flesch, Carl Pettersson.
- 1 p.m.:** Scott Verplan, Charles Howell III, Ben Crane.
- 1:10 p.m.:** Jason Gore, Fredrik Jacobson, Bill Haas.
- 1:20 p.m.:** Peter Lonard, Bob Tway, Tim Wilkinson.
- 1:30 p.m.:** Michael Letzig, Tommy Gainey, Jonathan Moore.
- 1:40 p.m.:** Nick Flanagan, Kyle Thompson, Brad Adamonis.

## PARKING

As you reach Hilton Head Island on U.S. 278, take the Cross Island Parkway to Sea Pines Resort (a \$1.25 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 to their lot. Please note the lot number so you can take the appropriate shuttle back at the conclusion of play. Buses taking spectators back from the tournament site to the parking lots will stop running one hour after play.

## HANDICAP PARKING

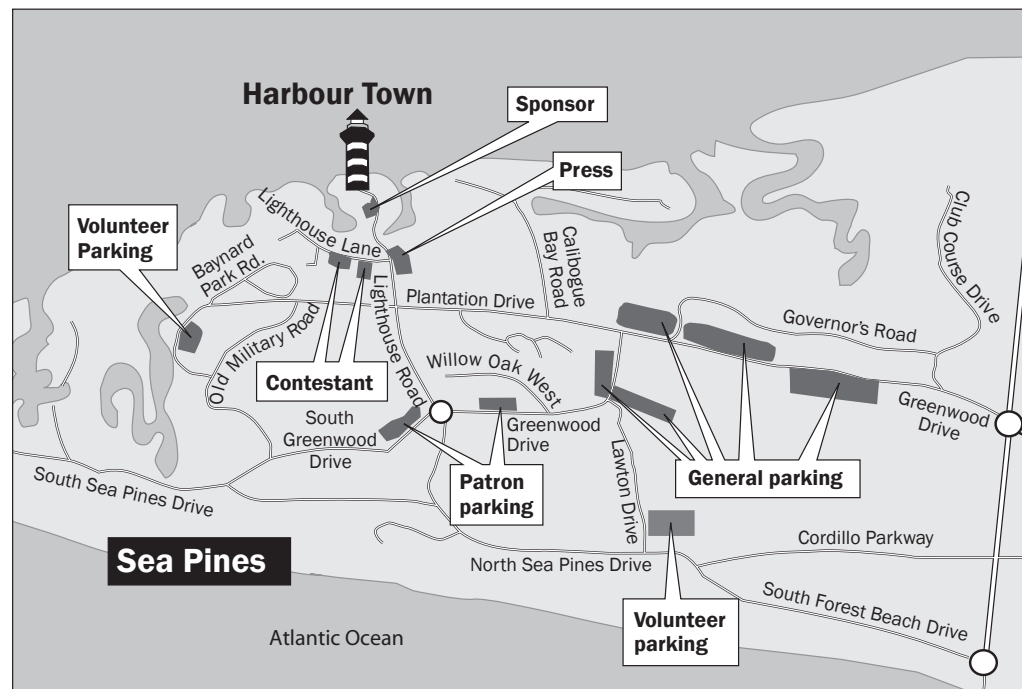
Handicap parking passes will be issued by Sea Pines Security, located on Greenwood Drive in the Community Services Associates building, one mile inside the main gate. To reach the security office, call 671-7170.

## 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 photo 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.

## GATE HOURS

The ticket office next to the



clubhouse at Harbour Town Golf Links will be open from 7 a.m. through the end of play each day.

## AUTOGRAPHS

A player may not sign autographs after the start of his round and until the round has been completed. Designated autograph areas are located behind the 9th and 18th holes, although their use is optional to players. Objects larger than 8 1/2 inches by 11 inches will not be signed.

## PROHIBITED ITEMS

Include but are not limited to cell phones, beepers, radios, signs or banners, coolers.

## FOR YOUR PROTECTION

Drink fluids to avoid dehydration. Wear sunscreen. Wear soft-soled shoes but no spiked golf shoes. Remain behind gallery ropes. Follow marshals' directions.

If a siren sounds indicating bad weather approaching, seek shelter immediately.

## SCHEDULE

- TODAY**  
**All day:** First round, Harbour Town Golf Links.
- FRIDAY**  
**All day:** Second round, Harbour Town Golf Links.
- SATURDAY**  
**All day:** Third round, Harbour Town Golf Links.  
**Noon-2 p.m.:** Tartan Day judging in the tent by the clubhouse. Fans are encouraged to wear their best Heritage garb.
- SUNDAY**  
**7:30 a.m.:** Church service, 18th green.  
**8:30 a.m.:** Start of final round, Harbour Town Golf Links.  
**After play:** Closing ceremonies, 18th green.

## CONCESSION STANDS

Are located near the second green, the eighth green, the 10th fairway, the 13th green, the 15th green, the 17th green

and the 18th green. Concessions also are available at the Heritage Pavilion near the clubhouse, and the Michelob 19th hole is located behind the 18th hole, near the Harbour Town Yacht Basin.

## EXPO AREAS

- Heritage Expo Village: The interactive spectator exhibit area is located between holes one and nine. Spectators are welcome to walk through and learn more about the exhibitor's products.
- Liberty Oak: This expo area is similar to the Heritage Expo Village and is located in the marina next to the Harbour Town lighthouse.
- Golf Village Fan Zone: This new addition to the Liberty Oak area is free to the public and provides a chance for spectators to test their skill in golf simulators and on the putting green. Recreational watercraft and golf equipment will be displayed.

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# HARBOUR TOWN GOLF LINKS

## FRONT NINE

**Hole No. 1**  
Yardage: 410  
Par: 4  
Handicap: 13  
Diff.: .110  
**Key:** Drive it straight. Easy starting hole can be made difficult by clipping a branch along the narrow chute from the tee box.



**Hole No. 2**  
Yardage: 502  
Par: 5  
Handicap: 9  
Diff.: -.548  
**Key:** Stay on the tee box. There's no hope of reaching an otherwise accessible green in two shots from the right side of the fairway because a tree hidden from view from the tee box can come into play.




**Hole No. 3**  
Yardage: 437  
Par: 4  
Handicap: 15  
Diff.: .173  
**Key:** Drive to the middle of the fairway makes for a straight-forward approach to a green guarded on the left by a bunker and on the right by a large tree.



**Hole No. 4**  
Yardage: 200  
Par: 3  
Handicap: 11  
Diff.: .138  
**Key:** Classic risk-reward hole, particularly when the pin is cut on the front left of the green. Go for that pin only at your own peril. There's plenty of bail out available to the right.



**Hole No. 5**  
Yardage: 530  
Par: 5  
Handicap: 3  
Diff.: -.475  
**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. The green is well-guarded and cants left to right.



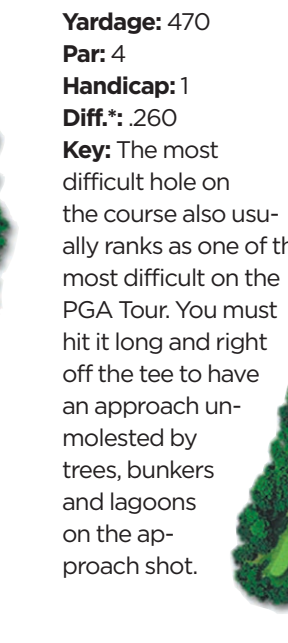
**Hole No. 6**  
Yardage: 419  
Par: 4  
Handicap: 5  
Diff.: .115  
**Key:** Carry the fairway bunker to the right for the best angle to an open green. Big hitters can play more safely to the left. The green tilts heavily from back to front.




**Hole No. 7**  
Yardage: 195  
Par: 3  
Handicap: 17  
Diff.: .115  
**Key:** Sand surrounds this hole, but the real key is avoiding tree branches that will deflect wayward shots. Lots of tee boxes give officials plenty of options, but the far right box has been all but abandoned during recent Heritage play.



**Hole No. 8**  
Yardage: 470  
Par: 4  
Handicap: 1  
Diff.: .260  
**Key:** The most difficult hole on the course also usually ranks as one of the most difficult on the PGA Tour. You must hit it long and right off the tee to have an approach un-molested by trees, bunkers and lagoons on the approach shot.



**Hole No. 9**  
Yardage: 322  
Par: 4  
Handicap: 7  
Diff.: .008  
**Key:** Position your short hole on this short hole to the side of the fairway opposite the side of the green to which the pin is cut. The approach requires precision to avoid a bunker in front and a pot bunker in the rear.



\* Diff. indicates the differential between par and the tournament scoring average during the 2007 Heritage.

## 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

## LAY OF THE LAND AT HARBOUR TOWN



- First aid
- Information
- Rest rooms
- Scoreboards
- Ticket trailer
- Bleachers
- Observation point

**WEB EXTRAS**  
Visit The Island Packet's Web site for a virtual tour of Harbour Town Golf Links, narrated by head professional John Farrell. [islandpacket.com](http://islandpacket.com)

# Places to go, things to see at the Verizon Heritage

## A spectator's guide to viewing Hilton Head's PGA Tour extravaganza

From staff reports

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

Admittedly, there are those who claim 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 arrive in Sea Pines Resort, they'll be able to park in one of several general parking lots off Greenwood Drive, Plantation Drive and near Lawton Stables. Shuttles will serve 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 (see course map at left.) The bleachers are also 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.

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 and also are published in The Island Packet each day, so it is easy to find out when a favorite golfer will begin his

round each day of the tournament. Large maps and scoreboards around the golf course 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 also can 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.

## Quick facts

- Architect:** Pete Dye, with Jack Nicklaus
- Course restoration:** Pete Dye, 2000
- Average green size:** 2,400 square feet
- Average tee 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
- Head PGA professional:** John Farrell

Images courtesy of HoleView

## BACK NINE

**Hole No. 10**  
Yardage: 444  
Par: 4  
Handicap: 10  
Diff.: .082  
**Key:** The landing area appears wide, but only a shot to the left or middle affords a straight-on approach to a well-guarded green.



**Hole No. 11**  
Yardage: 436  
Par: 4  
Handicap: 8  
Diff.: .145  
**Key:** A straight drive is essential to avoid trees and water lurking on both sides of the fairway. A well-bunkered green becomes even more difficult to hit from the right side of the fairway, from which a tree near the front right of the green will have to be negotiated.



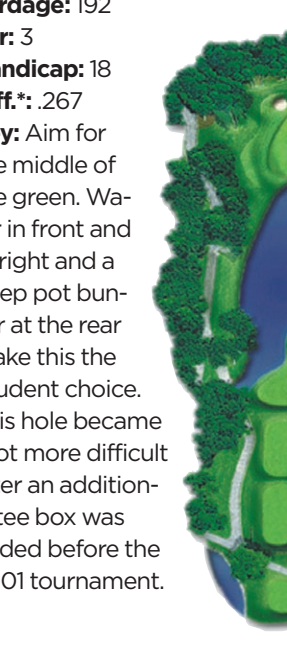
**Hole No. 12**  
Yardage: 430  
Par: 4  
Handicap: 8  
Diff.: .048  
**Key:** Reaching the dogleg from the tee box is imperative to par ... but the challenge doesn't end there. Bunkers and a severe dip bisect the green and make your target landing area about half the size it appears from the fairway.



**Hole No. 13**  
Yardage: 373  
Par: 4  
Handicap: 12  
Diff.: .037  
**Key:** The drive must be to the right side of the fairway to avoid overhanging trees on the approach. The hole is short but demands precision.



**Hole No. 14**  
Yardage: 192  
Par: 3  
Handicap: 18  
Diff.: .267  
**Key:** Aim for the middle of the green. Water in front and a deep pot bunker at the rear make this the prudent choice. This hole became a lot more difficult after an additional tee box was added before the 2001 tournament.



**Hole No. 15**  
Yardage: 571  
Par: 5  
Handicap: 6  
Diff.: -.110  
**Key:** Stay to the middle of the fairway. Bunkers, water and waste areas around to swallow all but the best-placed shots. This green used to be next to impossible to hit in two, but in recent seasons, PGA Tour golfers have reached more often.




**Hole No. 16**  
Yardage: 395  
Par: 4  
Handicap: 16  
Diff.: .005  
**Key:** Stay off the beach. The fairway dogleg is well guarded, and the former waste area along the left of the fairway was converted to a conventional bunker before the 2006 Heritage, making a tee shot there more perilous.



**Hole No. 17**  
Yardage: 185  
Par: 3  
Handicap: 14  
Diff.: .160  
**Key:** Gauge the wind. It can mean a three-club difference off the tee when in blows in your face or at your back and can make alignment difficult when it quarters.



**Hole No. 18**  
Yardage: 452  
Par: 4  
Handicap: 2  
Diff.: .255  
**Key:** Aim your tee shot for the famed light-house to perfectly position your shot on the widest fairway on the PGA Tour. The approach still will be long and tricky, with the green tucked close to the water and bunkers guarding the front and back.



# VERIZON HERITAGE



"Architecture has kind of gone by the wayside, and length and green space have taken its place. That's why Harbour Town is so special, because you're playing it the same way they were playing it when the place was built."

Jerry Kelly, PGA Tour golfer, on Harbour Town Golf Links

## Harbour Town dynamite comes in small package

By JEFF KIDD and JUSTIN JARRETT  
jkidd@islandpacket.com  
jjarrett@islandpacket.com

Many pros will tell you Harbour Town Golf Links is one of their favorite stops on the PGA Tour.

And the numbers will tell you Pete Dye's 1969 masterpiece is a rarity in professional golf — and getting rarer with each passing year.

Of the 55 golf courses that played host to a PGA Tour event in 2007, Harbour Town, site of the Verizon Heritage, is one of just 12 that measured less than 7,000 yards from the championship tees. This season, it will be one of nine. Shorter courses are becoming an endangered species in an era of equipment advances and more physically fit golfers. The venues at which PGA Tour events are played are either being lengthened or moved to longer courses.

"Architecture has kind of gone by the wayside, and length and green space have taken its place," said Jerry Kelly, who will play in his 11th Heritage starting today and who was the 54-hole leader in 2007. "That's why Harbour Town is so special, because you're playing it the same way they were playing it when the place was built."

Well, almost. Harbour Town retains its essential character, although it has evolved a bit — the course has undergone several minor renovations and one comprehensive restoration following the 2000 Heritage, stretching its yardage from about 6,650 when it opened on Thanksgiving weekend 1969 to the 6,973 yards it will play this week.

Three under-7,000 courses from a season ago are not on the schedule in 2008. Bermuda Dunes was not used for this year's Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, though it will return to the tournament's four-course rotation in 2009. Next week's EDS Byron Nelson Classic has jettisoned the shorter of its two tracks, the Cottonwood Valley Course, as all action shifts to the redesigned TPC Four Seasons Resort Las Colinas layout. Also out this year is Westchester Golf Club, which will be replaced by Ridgewood Country Club for the Barclays, the first event of the FedEx Cup Playoffs. PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem has said he wants sites for the playoffs to be rotated but that Westchester, which had played host to a PGA Tour event since 1967, will be used for the Barclays at least once more by 2012.

Harbour Town's future seems more secure — the venue is under contract through 2010, and with several Sea Pines Resort officials serving on or working closely with the Heritage Classic Foundation board, it seems unlikely the tournament will move any time soon.

It seems even less likely the tour pros would want it to.

"It's just a great track," said Brandt Snedeker, playing in his third Heritage. "It's hard to find golf courses like that anymore where length is not an issue at all. But it still plays long, it still has tough holes, it's always going to be a tough golf course."

Indeed, despite its relatively short stature, Harbour Town stands tall among the toughest layouts in professional golf. It ranked as the 19th most difficult course on the PGA Tour last season and had three of the PGA Tour's 50 toughest holes.

"It doesn't have to be 7,500 yards, and it doesn't have to have 6-inch rough, but it's still a test," said former U.S. Open champion Jim Furyk. "It tests

### MEASURE OF GREATNESS

Courses measuring less than 7,000 yards that played host to PGA Tour events in 2007, with yardage, par, architect and year opened.

**Bob Hope Chrysler Classic (two of three courses):** Arnold Palmer Private Course at PGA West, 6,930, par 72 (Palmer, 1987); Bermuda Dunes Country Club, 6,962, par 72 (William F. Bell, 1957).

**AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am (all three courses used):** Pebble Beach Golf Links, 6,816, par 72 (Douglas Grant and Jack Neville, 1919); Spyglass Hill, 6,862, par 72 (Robert Trent Jones Sr., 1967); Poppy Hills Golf Club, 6,833, par 72 (Robert Trent Jones Jr., 1986).

**Verizon Heritage:** Harbour Town Golf Links, 6,973, par 71 (Pete Dye, 1969).

**EDS Byron Nelson Championship (one of two courses used):** Cottonwood Valley Course, 6,871, par 70 (Jay Morrish, 1996).

**Travelers Championship:** TPC River Highlands, 6,820, par 70 (J. Moss and Maurice Kearney, 1928; redesign Pete Dye and Bobby Weed, 1998).

**U.S. Bank Championship in Milwaukee:** Brown Deer Park Golf Courses 6,759, par 70 (George Hanson, 1929, redesign Andy North and Roger Packard, 1993).

**The Barclays:** Westchester Country Club, 6,839, par 71 (Walter Travis, 1922).

**Valero Texas Open:** LaCantera Golf Course, 6,881, par 70 (Tom Weiskopf and Jay Morrish, 1994).

Eight tournaments use a total of 11 courses measuring less than 7,000 yards. Of them, seven courses play to a par of more than 70.

Course	Par	Avg.	Diff.
Pebble Beach	72	73.397	1.397
Spyglass Hills	72	72.995	.995
Harbour Town	71	71.794	.794
Poppy Hills	72	72.099	.099
Westchester CC	71	70.900	-.100
PGA West Palmer	72	70.302	-1.698
Bermuda Dunes	72	69.935	-2.065

Statistics from pgatour.com

a lot of aspects of your game. You have to hit the ball very accurately. You have to hit shots right to left and left to right. You can't hit the same shot over and over again, and you can't stand on your heels and just hit a high bomb. You have to really work the ball around there."

Kelly attributes Harbour Town's shot demands to Dye's ingenious use of wind and trees.

"It's a great theater; it's got great history behind it," Kelly said. "It's one of Pete Dye's best courses that he's ever done. To be able to use trees the way he did — not just tree-lined, but tree-obscured — that's kind of the difference-maker, right there."

To some, the trees create a sense of claustrophobia that diminishes the enjoyment of players and fans.

"It's not that it's not a good test of golf," noted swing instructor Hank Haney said in an interview with The Island Packet earlier this year. "But it is so narrow, and I think there are a lot of pros who don't want to go somewhere and hit 1-iron off the tee all week long. How much fun is that? And I don't think a lot of fans want to watch the game's longest hitters hit iron off every tee."

According to conventional wisdom, this is why Haney's star pupil and the world's top-ranked player, Tiger Woods, has made only one Harbour Town appearance in 11 full seasons as a professional. (Woods gave a good accounting of himself with a tie for 18th in 1999.)

But even some who don't play the course particularly well have made a permanent home for the Heritage on their schedules.

Columbia native Charles Warren ranks Harbour Town among his favorites, even though he has finished no better than a tie for 44th in his first four Heritage starts.

"Liking a golf course and playing it well are two totally different things that don't have any bearing on each other," Warren said. "The guys that only like the golf courses they play well on don't have much

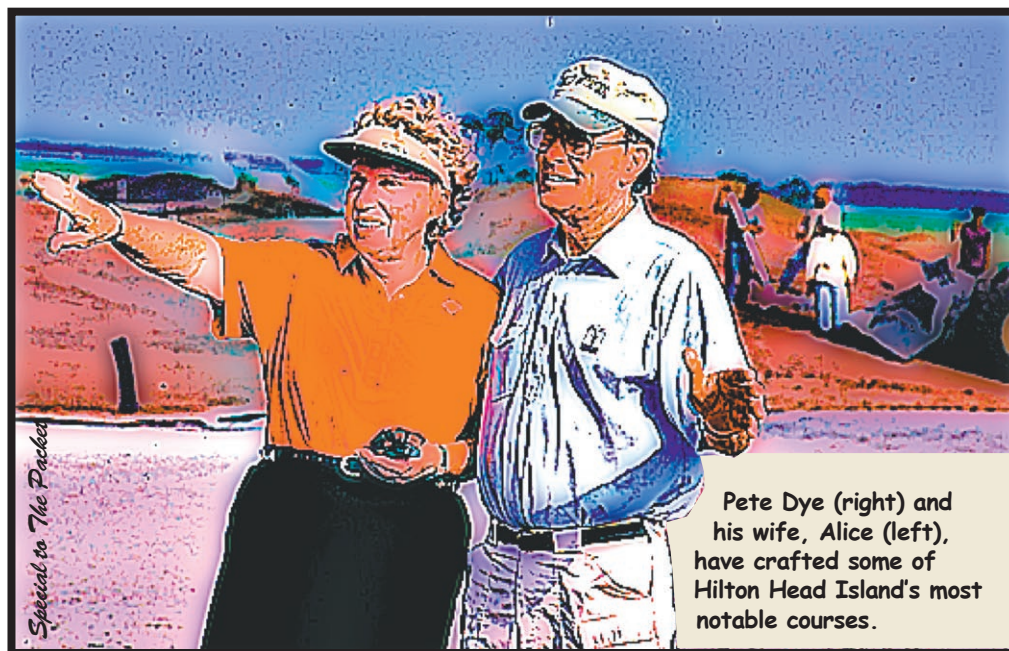
credibility as far as what golf courses they like."

Sean O'Hair likes the place plenty, too. He won the PODS Championship in March, earning him a spot in the World Golf Championship event at Doral and a spot in last week's Masters. That allowed him to trim some of the less prestigious events from his schedule, but he still will make his start this week at Harbour Town, which he ranks among his favorite courses on the PGA Tour.

"There aren't a lot of courses like it on the PGA Tour these days," he said.

And what is true today will be even more so tomorrow as fewer courses are built on the Harbour Town model, according to Kelly.

"I don't think there are too many architects around today who have the ability, or besides having the ability, have the (guts) to actually put a tree right in front of the green and say, 'OK boys, hit around it.' If you put it over here, you're going to have a clear shot, but if you put it over here, you're go-



Pete Dye (right) and his wife, Alice (left), have crafted some of Hilton Head Island's most notable courses.

## Dye set out to create unique course, helped create unique island, too

Nobody ever accused Robert Frost of being a golf writer.

But he certainly addressed the unusual way golf changed the course of our local economy, lifestyle and history. The most famous lines in his poem "The Road Not Taken" tell exactly what happened when a swampy Hilton Head Island forest was carved into the Harbour Town Golf Links.

*Two roads diverged in a wood, and I —  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.*

In our case, the person who took the road less traveled was a former life-insurance peddler named Pete Dye. He was aided by Jack Nicklaus, a young touring pro with minimal design experience. And he was turned loose by Charles Fraser, the dreaming Sea Pines developer who knew so little about golf that Dye said Fraser was out pulling up red hazard stakes on the brand new course because he thought they were ugly.

Few had heard of Dye when he built the Harbour Town course in 1969. His microscopic greens, bone-thin fairways and long waste bunkers broke sharply against the grain. Dye deliberately chose not to lay up in the safety of the norms of the day — long tees, sprawling fairways, sugar-bowl sand traps and greens that could hold a three-bedroom brick ranch house.

Real golf writers noticed immediately, and it wasn't all poetic. Furman Bisher of The Atlanta Journal called it "purgatory with 18 holes." He wrote: "When Dye says rough, he means rough. When you are in trouble here, you



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may be in need of last rites."

Dan Jenkins wrote in Sports Illustrated: "What Dye and Nicklaus have rendered at Hilton Head is a sort of Pine Valley in a swamp, a St. Andrews with Spanish moss, a Pebble Beach with chitlins."

As the \$5.5 million Verizon Heritage brings the PGA Tour to Harbour Town for the 40th time this week, we can look back and see how taking the road less traveled made all the difference — not just to the tournament, but to the island upon which it is played.

Since Harbour Town's opening, which coincided with the first Heritage, the Lowcountry has prospered, with the course that dared to be different and its nationally-televised tournament always cited among the first reasons. Harbour Town remains a favorite of the world's best golfers, and hordes of sun-burned chili-dippers from every state in the union. The Heritage Classic Foundation, which sponsors the tournament, has given almost \$17 million to charity since 1987, and the tournament pumps millions into the local economy each spring. Along the way, the community gained a reputation as a mecca for quality golf, pulling in retirees and second-home buyers who plunk down big bucks for lots along the 30-some courses in southern Beaufort County.

Dye's name is linked to six of them.

At 82, the soft-spoken Midwesterner is still at it, and still taking the road less traveled. But he's not nearly as lonely. He's a household name in a golf world that now promotes course designers like they were rock stars. Dye is considered one of the best of the last half century. He says eight majors have been played over the 80 courses he and his wife, Alice O'Neal Dye, have built virtually by hand since 1959.

Arnold Palmer won the first Heritage after a no-name competitor's ball lost a battle with the wind and plugged in the left bunker on No. 17 — and the story of both Dye and Hilton Head sailed in a new direction.

"It made us both," Dye said.

**'I SORT OF FIBBED'**  
You'd think it was all part of a carefully laid plan.

Not exactly. Dye says the signature hole, the windy sweep down the shores of Calibogue Sound to the 18th hole, happened by accident. He says he got a letter from the governor giving him permission to use the dirt being dug nearby to create the Harbour Town Yacht Basin. It ended up forming the 17th green and 18th fairway.

"I asked him if I could build a par-3 out there," Dye recalls. The original course sketch by George Cobb had the 18th running along the 10th fairway to the clubhouse. The par-3 idea died as more and more dirt kept coming out of the marina, spilling into the marsh and forming the odd-shaped fairway — the widest on the PGA Tour — that has framed a billion photographs of the Harbour Town Light-house.

The 13th hole — the one

Please see DYE on 17D

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VERIZON HERITAGE

# Weekley admits: 'I kind of act like a cartoon character'

Defending Heritage champ finds a golf game to match the larger-than-life tales about him

By JUSTIN JARRETT  
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The tales seem more suited for a member of the Blue Collar Comedy Tour than the PGA Tour, and the guy who spawns them is more likely to be mistaken for Larry the Cable Guy than Larry Mize.

Heck, in another life, Boo Weekley might've been traveling the country telling jokes for a living. Goodness knows he would find a more receptive audience than he has at home.

"I don't listen to half the stuff he says," his wife Karyn Weekley says with a laugh. "But you have to understand we have a 6-year-old who acts just like him, so I hear it continuously, 24 hours a day, whether it's from Boo or from Parker."

She might be the only one who tires of hearing Boo's twangy voice telling tales that seem ripped from a twisted Mark Twain novel.

If there's anything Boo Weekley can do better than he can strike a golf ball, it's telling a story. When Boo gets going, people listen. And they laugh. Boy, do they laugh.

When play was suspended on Sunday at last year's Verizon Heritage, the practice green might as well have been a campfire on the Florida Panhandle's Blackwater River, where Boo grew up hunting and fishing. A handful of players and caddies gathered around Boo, who kept them in stitches in between spits of Copenhagen juice.

A funny thing happened the next day. With Ernie Els breathing down his neck, and Harbour Town's signature swirling winds gusting harder

than usual, Boo Weekley's golf game did a little catching up to his legend.

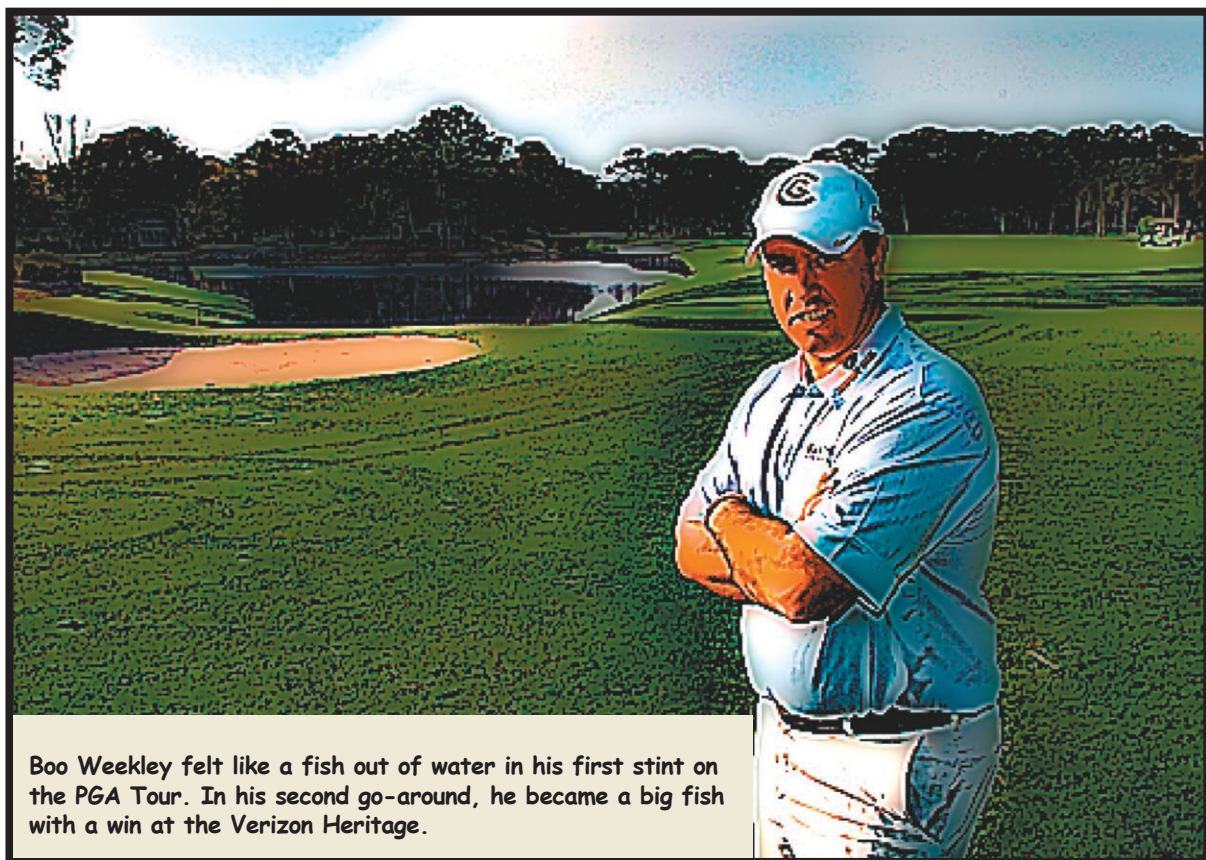
And about that legend ... The character of Boo — who is aptly named after a cartoon, Yogi Bear's sidekick, Boo Boo — appeared on the national scene in 2002, when he first qualified for the PGA Tour. Rising from the midst of so many homogenous personalities, there was Boo, a country boy from the Florida Panhandle who preferred to wear camouflage pants and tennis shoes on the golf course and would rather be holding a fishing rod than a golf club.

And, oh, the stories he told. Boo didn't hesitate to let reporters in on his off-course exploits, like the time he got punched out by an orangutan at the county fair or his days roping the alligators that got after the cows at his granddaddy's place on the Blackwater River. The guy wears his heart on his camouflage sleeve and his life story includes a list of Jeff Foxworthy punch lines longer than one of his pal Bubba Watson's booming drives.

So prolific is Boo's yarn-spinning that Karyn Weekley is hard-pressed to think of a single anecdote that no one else knows about Boo. "You know how he stands on every issue," his mother, Patsy, said. "I always say with him and his dad that there's no filterization between their brain and their tongue. If they think it, they say it."

Even as Boo's game failed — he made only five cuts in 24 starts and lost his tour card in 2002 — the legend of Boo grew.

"They started that in '02," Boo said. "It was kind of like, in a way, the media kind of got me — I reckon — so



Boo Weekley felt like a fish out of water in his first stint on the PGA Tour. In his second go-around, he became a big fish with a win at the Verizon Heritage.

Jonathan Dyer • The Island Packet

blowed up into this cartoon character that I never could really get out of it and let people see who I really was.

"But at the same time, I kind of act like a cartoon character, you know, and that's who I really am. So it's a damned if you do and a damned if you don't."

*Talk about your easy money. All 16-year-old Boo Weekley had to do was whip this orangutan, and he and his teenage buddies could turn their \$5 into \$50.*

*He realizes now he should have thought twice when the guy in the truck asked him to sign a waiver.*

*"I got in the ring. The orangutan didn't look like much," Boo told Golf Digest last December. "... My strategy was to fake with my right hand, and when the orangutan tried to block the punch, I'd throw my left."*

*The next thing Boo remembers is waking up bleeding in the back of a friend's truck. So much for easy money.*

That doggone orangutan was the only thing that wiped the smile off Boo Weekley's face in the afterglow of his improbable victory at the Verizon Heritage last April. Boo grinned his big, country grin through all the questions about his rocky ride through the mini-tour circuit, about his brief stint at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, about his heartbreak-

ing three-putt a month earlier on the 72nd hole at the Honda Classic, and most of all about those back-to-back chip-ins that earned him a fancy new tartan jacket.

But that damn ape stopped him dead in his tracks.

"No sir," Boo said when asked if the story Nick Faldo relayed on The Golf Channel was true. "No sir."

He came clean later. "It's very true," Boo said with a sheepish grin. "I just don't want to get in no trouble with them animal rights people."

That's the thing about Boo. You could sit around and make up stories till the cows come home, but they'll pale in comparison to the truth.

Whoever it was that first said, "Truth is stranger than fiction" or, "You can't make this stuff up" must've known Boo Weekley. And if they didn't, they should have.

"If I even told the public half of the stuff, they wouldn't believe me anyway," Patsy Weekley said.

Sometimes his friends and family just shake their head and take it in stride.

"I do that every day," said fellow PGA Tour player Heath Slocum, who graduated from Milton High School in the same class as Boo. "Just when I'll see him and he gives me this goofy wave from across the green or anything, I

just shake my head and go, 'All right.'

"But it's been like that from day one. He's the guy that when we were playing high school matches, he's two or three holes over and he's yelling at the top of his lungs at me across the golf course. I would just shake my head, and the guys in high school are like, 'Who's that guy?' And I'm like, 'You'll see in a minute. You'll see when he posts a score and in a week's time, you'll know exactly who he is.'"

But it's difficult to pinpoint exactly who Boo Weekley is. Most of his closest friends and family members struggle to describe him.

He likes to have fun, they all agree, and he's a lovable guy. They search for adjectives, but eventually arrive at a conclusion resembling, "He is who he is."

"There's probably not one word that you could use to describe him," Patsy Weekley said.

One thing he's not, those who know him best insist, is phony.

"I get asked a lot, is this really him?" Slocum said. "As far as I can tell, it really is. Unless he's hiding something that he's been hiding for a long time, Boo's just a lovable guy that has a lot of fun, he's a big personality, and he is who he is. He doesn't really change. He is truly a character."

Please see WEEKLEY on 6D

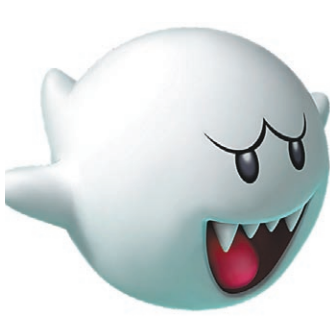
## OTHER FAMOUS 'BOOS'

By winning the 2007 Verizon Heritage, Boo Weekley joined an elite list of other well-known "Boos."



### BOO BOO

The cartoon character from which Weekley derived his nickname. Was the cartoon sidekick of Yogi Borer. Boo Boo was the voice of reason, roaming Jellystone Park and trying to talk Yogi out of his shenanigans, usually to no avail.



### BOOS

A group of spectral beings resembling Halloween ghosts that appear in the Super Mario series of video games. Many Boos are intensely shy and cover their faces with their arms and cower when directly looked at.



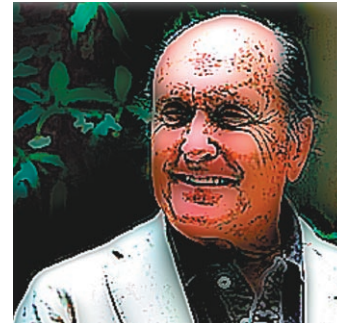
### BOO CAPERS

A former Hilton Head Island High School standout football player and Island Packet Area Wrestler of the Year. He went on to play fullback at South Carolina State.



### BOO & GOTTI

Boo is one half of the Chicago hip hop duo that has worked as both a solo act and as collaborators for such genre luminaries as R. Kelly and Ja Rule.



### BOO RADLEY

The misunderstood recluse in Harper Lee's novel "To Kill a Mockingbird." He is portrayed in the movie version by actor Robert Duval, who made his motion picture debut in the 1962 film.



### THE BOO RADLEYS

The 1990s alternative rock group took its name from the "To Kill a Mockingbird" character. Was associated with the Brit pop movement.

Sources: en.wikipedia.org, starpulse.com, vhl.com.

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VERIZON HERITAGE

DYE

Continued from 16D

with the heart-shaped green on top of cypress boards in a sea of sand — was built by Alice while Dye was fussing around with his ornery pot bunker on No. 14.

And when the first group came through for the first Heritage round on Nov. 27, 1969 — the first tour event on a Dye course — the great designer was still stamping down the sand on “Alice’s hole.”

He remembers the head of the PGA Tour telling him, “Be sure the sand is in the bunkers two months before the tournament. That was in February. We didn’t even have grass yet. I sort of fibbed.”

Alice — who like her husband is an accomplished amateur golfer — ordered the cypress boards for No. 13, not the railroad ties used everywhere else.

“I thought it was a mistake,” Dye said. “But you know all those railroad ties rotted but the cypress planks are still there.”

Just ask a few of the golfers who’ve banged off them enough times to ruin a round ... or lose a tournament.

Dye says today that he was so displeased that no golfers hit into his famous waste bunker on No. 16 on the first round of the Heritage that he went out that evening and cut down a yellow pine so the pros were more tempted to hit through and land in his trap.

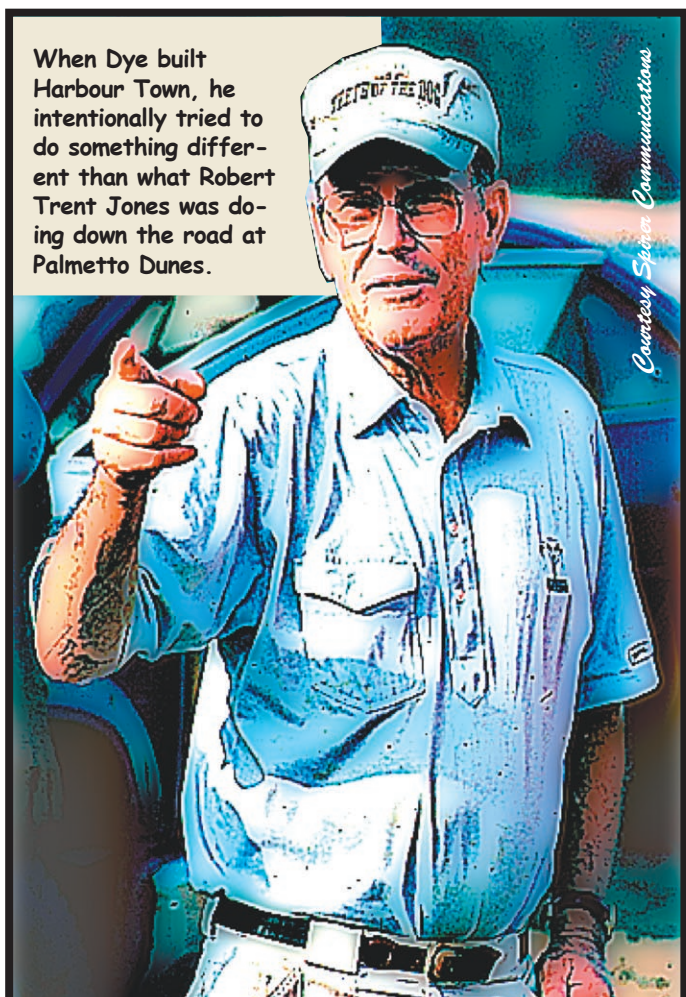
‘A LITTLE IDEA’

One thing that was clearly no accident was Dye’s drive to be different. He says he meant no disrespect to other designers, but he knew this was the way to establish his own identity.

He’d been around golf all his life. His father sculpted a course in his spare time in their hometown of Urbana, Ohio. He was influenced by what he saw in Scotland. And by the time he turned his hobby of course design into a career and built the Golf Club in New Albany, Ohio, he impressed young Nicklaus enough for him to tell Fraser to call Dye.

It’s typical that Dye spreads the credit for Harbour Town, which he says is a success be-

When Dye built Harbour Town, he intentionally tried to do something different than what Robert Trent Jones was doing down the road at Palmetto Dunes.



Courtesy: Sea Pines Communications

Par-3 17th follows familiar Dye convention

By JEFF KIDD  
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Were Pete Dye not well into his fifth decade of creating some of golf’s most notable courses, he might well find a second career as a fiction novelist. Consider his knack for building suspense, laying obstacles in front of a protagonist and leaving outcomes unsettled until the very end.

Or, just consider one of his common design elements.

It’s no coincidence Dye frequently uses difficult par-3s as a 17th hole, and Harbour Town Golf Links, site of this week’s Verizon Heritage, is no exception. Let’s compare his landmark Hilton Head Island design with three others that have played host to top-shelf professional competition.

• **Harbour Town Golf Links** — This beautiful hole can play more difficult than its 14 handicap suggests. The green is a deep-but-narrow ribbon surrounded on the left by water and sand and on the right by deep bunkers. To the rear is a steep bank — the only thing separating the hole from the marsh and Calibogue Sound behind it — and chipping from there is difficult because the green runs away toward the front. But the deadliest hazard here is the wind — it can blow from all compass points and make two

to three clubs’ difference in selection when it is in the golfer’s face or to his back.

• **Memorable moment:** Boo Weekley, the 2007 champion, chipped in for par in the final round after he flubbed his first pitch attempt from behind the green. But for sheer drama, Bob Tway’s shot here in 1995 might have been even better — he chipped in for birdie from 50 feet right and short of the pin to go to 9-under. He later won a three-man playoff against Nolan Henke and David Frost, his first victory in five years.

• **TPC Sawgrass** — Known simply as the “Island Green,” it’s the shortest of these grand par-3s — a mere pitching wedge for most pros — but undulations divide the green into thirds and make the effective putting surface much smaller. The hole sits in a hollow, and what feels like calm on the tee box can be a mad, shot-altering swirl above the treetops. Case in point: In May 2007, a record 50 balls landed in the water during one round.

• **Memorable moment:** Tway suffered a different fate at the 2005 Players Championship, when he took a 12 on the hole during the third round, going from four off the pace to 13 off the lead. Tway’s score is the highest score on the hole during a Players Championship.

• **Whistling Straits** — Nicknamed “Pinched Nerve,” this is the Straits Course’s signature hole. Like the other three par-3s at Whistling Straits, Dye routed No. 17 along bluff overlooking Lake Michigan, and this one is dominated by an 80-foot dune line. A tabletop green

is partially obscured from the tee box by mounds on the left with a steep drop-off to water and on the right by a dune line and bunkers.

• **Memorable moment:** Phil Mickelson, with a chance to win his second major championship of 2004, bogeys the 17th on the final day of the 2004 PGA Championship and eventually fell back to sixth.

• **PGA West Stadium Course** — The course, generally considered one of the most difficult Dye has ever constructed, has played host to several PGA Tour events, including the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, PGA Tour Qualifying School and the Skins Game. As at TPC, this is another island green — though it’s longer, at 147 yards, and also surrounded by rip-rap — which accounts for the hole’s nickname, Alcatraz.

• **Memorable moment:** During the 1988 Skins Game, Lee Trevino hit arguably the most famous shot in the event’s history here — a hole-in-one on No. 17.

Below is a comparison of four great par-3 17th holes designed by Pete Dye, with yardage from the rear and forward tees, handicap and stroke average during the most recent PGA Tour play and tournament hosted.

Course	Rear tee	Red tee	Hand.	Stroke avg.
Harbour Town	185	130	14	3.160
Verizon Heritage				
TPC Sawgrass	137	84	13	4.409
The Players Championship				
Whistling Straits	223	126	8	N/A
2004 PGA Championship				
PGA W. Stadium	147	85	14	N/A
1987 Bob Hope Chrysler Classic				

cause “it created its own identity and has kept it. It’s kept its identity over the years.”

Between Pete and Alice Dye, Nicklaus, Cobb and Price came a short, shot-maker’s course that rewards good shots, penalizes bad ones, makes you work around the greens and demands accuracy.

When the first pros to play it came off grumbling that it was unfair, Dye was quoted by Ron Coffman in Golf World magazine saying, “The problem is that you have to think on this course, and some of these guys haven’t had to think all year.”

But what was Fraser thinking by betting the farm on a course Dye called “radical?”

“He didn’t know,” Dye says today. “He had no idea what was going on.”

Cary Corbett, the Sea Pines director of sports and golf operations who’s been there since 1977, says Fraser trusted Nicklaus and Nicklaus trusted Dye.

Did Dye know what he was doing?

“I had a little idea,” he said.

Actually, he had the full history of golf in his mind. He knew he was veering from current trend, but sticking to the ancient game he knows in-

side and out. He knew that the grand old courses in America — like Oakmont and Oakland Hills — were on the best land (“the ground was a golf course before they started”) and that after World War II, the land for golf courses tended toward the swamps and the dumps.

Dye’s minimalist, less intrusive assault on the grounds of Sea Pines, where he says the elevation doesn’t change two feet from one end of the property to the other, fit right in with Fraser’s approach to development. They tried as much as possible to leave things alone.

When asked what makes the course work, Dye immediately cites the prize of the Lowcountry.

“The live oak trees,” he says. “And you get the image of the golf professional there. Some say it’s their favorite course because it still is different.”

SIXTY

Dye’s influence on the Lowcountry didn’t end with Harbour Town.

He built the private Long Cove Club course on Hilton Head in 1981.

Bob Patton, head golf professional, says that just as Har-

bour Town helped establish Sea Pines nationally, Long Cove helped set the bar for the private golf communities that define the community.

“In that respect, Pete’s genius impacted Hilton Head,” Patton said. “A large part of the success of Long Cove is the quality of the golf course.”

Dye went on to build a course in Colleton River Plantation on the mainland and at Hampton Hall in Bluffton’s burgeoning Buckwalter tract. He also redesigned Port Royal’s Robbers Row and so thoroughly overhauled Sea Pines’ Sea Marsh Course that they went and renamed it “Heron Point by Pete Dye.”

He and Alice typically move in during construction. One of their dogs, Sunday, is buried by the maintenance shed at Long Cove Club.

Dye gives Alice equal credit for the acclaim he now enjoys.

“She’s the one I listen to,” he says of the woman he married in a snowstorm on Groundhog

Day in 1950. “She’s the one who gives me hell.”

They don’t design courses the way most people do.

“I built Harbour Town,” he says. “There wasn’t a contractor. I was there every day, working with Donald O’Quinn. You have to be there to build it. You have to be there to see that everybody comes to work and everything gets ordered and everything gets done.”

He’s known as a tireless worker, maybe a bit crotchety sometimes. He doesn’t use many drawings, and here’s what he says about a computer: “I don’t even know what that is.” He sculpts and re-sculpts on the ground, as he goes.

Dye views business meetings like a three-putt. If he comes, he’s always got Sixty with him. That’s his German shepherd.

“Actually, it’s Sixty-three,” he says. He’s on his fourth shepherd. The first one was named Sixty because Dye paid

a lady \$20 for it, then \$20 more for a collar and \$20 more for a leash. He names them all Sixty.

Dye says in his book, “Bury Me In A Pot Bunker”: “Donald Ross once wrote, ‘My work will tell my story,’ and that is how I hope to be remembered. My designs reflect a traditionalist philosophy about the game, and we must never forget that golf is played best when done so in the purest form.”

Fraser, who died five years ago and is buried beneath the Liberty Oak at Harbour Town, spent more time worrying about the history of golf than the fade shot it would take to get around an overhanging limb. Like Dye, he took the road less traveled.

“I run further behind than anyone on earth,” Dye said last week when he remembered he was supposed to write something for Fraser’s induction next month into the S.C. Business Hall of Fame.

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VERIZON HERITAGE



Ernie Els won on the PGA Tour for the first time since 2004 at this season's Honda Classic.

# Els' Heritage history punctuated by close calls, narrow defeats

By JUSTIN JARRETT

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The guy went into this year with 44 international victories, for crying out loud, not to mention 15 on the PGA Tour. So how in the world had the golf world arrived at the consensus that Ernie Els was in a slump?

Well, because The Big Easy has been pretty hard on himself in recent years.

"It's been quite a ride, especially over here," Els said after winning the Honda Classic to end a drought of more than three years between PGA Tour victories. "I've won scarce tournaments around the world here and there, but obviously to win over here, it's been really my goal."

That goal could have — perhaps, should have — been checked off at last year's Verizon Heritage, where he went into the final round one shot behind Jerry Kelly. But Boo Weekley chipped in for par on the final two holes, and Els had another tartan jacket snatched from his grasp.

As he is prone to do, Els shrugged it off with little more than a hint of mild annoyance. But after coming from three shots back to edge Luke Donald by a shot at the Honda Classic, Els admitted he had been itching for a win.

"We play out here to win," Els said. "I guess we get addicted to that feeling, you know, and when you don't get your rush, so to speak, you miss it. I definitely missed winning over here."

In fairness, Els did win six times overseas between PGA Tour triumphs, but he also had his share of recent misfortunes across the pond. He dunked two in the water on the 72nd hole at the Alfred Dunhill Championship in his native South Africa in December, taking triple bogey on the final hole to lose by a shot to John Bickerton. And there was an unfortunate splashdown on the 72nd hole at the Dubai Desert Classic earlier this year, allowing Tiger Woods (who else?) to win.

But for all that has gone wrong in recent years, it's still good to be The Big Easy. Els still holds the No. 3 spot in the



ERNIE ELS

Height: 6-3 Weight: 210  
Birthdate: Oct. 17, 1969  
Birthplace: Johannesburg, South Africa  
Resides: Wentworth, England  
Special interests: Movies, reading, sports  
Turned professional: 1989  
Best Heritage finish: 2nd, 2007 — 65-65-71-70—271  
PGA Tour victories: 16  
Rank on 2007 money list: 20th  
Major championships: 3, 1994 U.S. Open, 1997 U.S. Open, 2002 British Open  
International teams: Presidents Cup 1996, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2007  
Notes: One of the world's true global golfers, with more than 50 worldwide career victories, ended his search for first PGA Tour win since 2004 when he won the Honda Classic in March. ... Played in three of four PGA Tour Playoffs for the FedExCup events and finished 19th in the standings. ... Ranks sixth in career PGA Tour earnings. ... 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-Europeans 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. ... Finished second to Phil Mickelson at the Masters and finished third for third at Harbour Town Golf Links the next week.

World Golf Rankings, making him the highest-ranked player in this week's Heritage field, and he has his hand in all sorts of global endeavors from designing golf courses to making world-class wines.

Els concedes that getting back to No. 1 in the world is a tough goal to achieve in the "Tiger Era," but it's not an insurmountable one if he can reach his primary goal. He wants to finish off the career Grand Slam by adding Masters and PGA Championship titles to his U.S. Open and British Open crowns.

"I'm 38 right now, and I can quite easily go and enjoy my kids and go build golf courses and stuff," Els said. "But I really still want to achieve a lot in the game, and I still want to win a lot."

# Steady Furyk seeks 'spectacular' again

One of the PGA Tour's consistent ball-strikers hasn't won in a while but has been close.

By JUSTIN JARRETT

jjarrett@islandpacket.com  
843-706-8120

Entering this season having made 65 of 73 cuts over the previous three seasons, and with at least one PGA Tour victory in 11 of the past 13 years, Jim Furyk has been the picture of consistency.

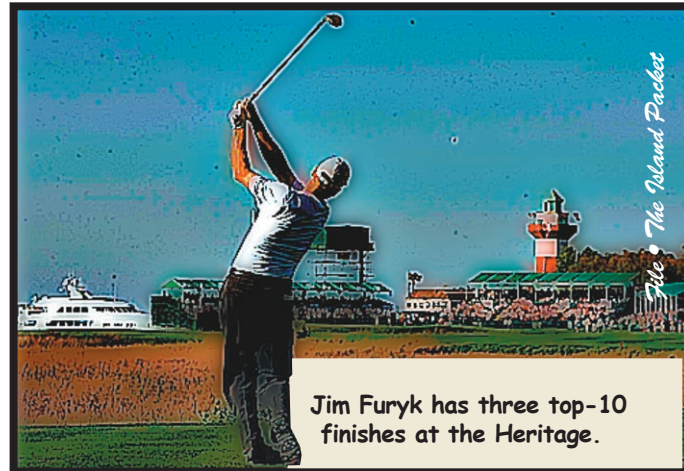
But might the world's ninth-ranked player be on the cusp of something even more impressive?

"Time will tell," Furyk said.

The 37-year-old native of western Pennsylvania seems to be just an eyelash away from regaining the form that took him to No. 2 in the world during the 2006 season, when he earned a career-high \$7.2 million and had 13 top-10 finishes.

And if he can get his putter working better, he might just get there.

"I haven't been playing as well as I would like, but I haven't been playing terrible," Furyk said. "I putted poorly on the west coast, and that had a lot to



Jim Furyk has three top-10 finishes at the Heritage.

do with it. My short game hasn't been where it should be, and most importantly, I didn't putt well. And if you don't putt well, you don't play well."

Furyk hasn't had to worry about that much during his career. He has earned at least \$4 million in four of the last five seasons, only coming up short of that mark in 2004, when he played only 14 events because of arthroscopic surgery on his injured left wrist.

Last year, he finished seventh on the money list and had eight top-10 finishes, including the Canadian Open title and runner-up finishes at the U.S. Open

and the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial.

Furyk has been equally consistent in the Verizon Heritage, finishing 15th or better for four consecutive years, including back-to-back runner-up performances in 2005 and 2006, before missing the cut by one shot last year.

"I kind of backed into second three years ago, but two years ago I had a really good chance going down the stretch with Aaron (Baddeley) and didn't get it done," Furyk said.

Time will tell if this is his year to add a tartan jacket to his closet.



JIM FURYK

Height: 6-2 Weight: 185  
Birthdate: May 12, 1970  
Birthplace: West Chester, Pa.  
Resides: Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.  
Special interests: All sports  
Turned professional: 1992  
Best Heritage finish: T2, 2005 — 71-68-71-69—279; 2, 2006 — 64-67-68-71—270.  
PGA Tour victories: 13  
Rank on 2007 money list: 7th  
Major championships: 1  
National teams: Ryder Cup, 1997, 1999, 2002, 2004, 2006; Presidents Cup, 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2007  
Notes: Competed in all four PGA Tour playoff events for the FedExCup events and finished 11th on the season-long points list. Captured his 13th career PGA Tour title at the Canadian Open, where he also won in 2006. ... Exceeded \$4 million in earnings for the third consecutive season and earned a spot on his fifth Presidents Cup team. ... Possesses one of the PGA Tour's more unorthodox swings, taught to him by his father, Mike, who has been his only swing instructor.

# Love looking to conjure that old Harbour Town magic

By JUSTIN JARRETT

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843-706-8120

Forgive Davis Love III if he doesn't agree with his wife, Robin, on this one.

"She said she actually likes it better when I'm hurt," Love said. "She said, 'You won a lot of tournaments when you were hurt.'"

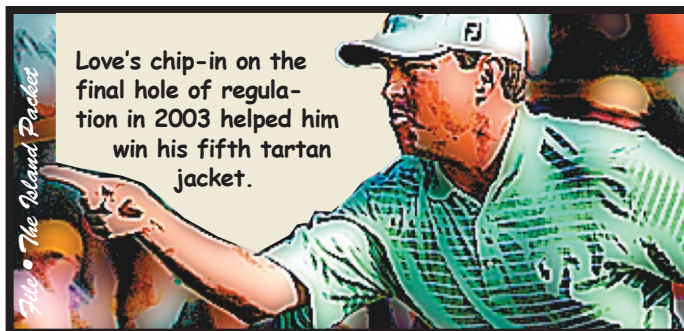
Although Love can't quite concur that he prefers being injured, he admits his better half sort of has a point. Many of his 19 PGA Tour victories — five of which came at Harbour Town Golf Links — have come while he was battling nagging injuries.

"I've always been working through something," Love said, estimating only half-jokingly that he hasn't been 100 percent since 1990, the year he earned his second PGA Tour victory. "You've just got to get through it, and it's not easy."

Love has grown accustomed to returning from injuries, but the most recent return might be the most challenging. He stepped in a hole while playing golf at home in Sea Island, Ga., and tore several tendons in his left ankle. The injury ended his 2007 season and left the early part of this season in limbo, but Love returned sooner than he anticipated and tied for 24th in his first tournament back, the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am in early February, more than a month before his doctor's projection.

Several players have told Love it took them a year or more to come back from similar injuries, so he's trying to keep that in perspective while working his way back to full strength.

"I keep reminding myself



Love's chip-in on the final hole of regulation in 2003 helped him win his fifth tartan jacket.

that I've got to be patient, and patience is sometimes very hard for us," Love said. "I want immediate results. I wanted to win at Pebble, and I was really actually pretty close to having a chance to win that. If I'm out here, I want to play to win."

He has good reason to want another victory now, more than ever. With his next PGA Tour win — his 20th — Love would earn a lifetime exemption and probably solidify his status as a future World Golf Hall of Fame member. Love hasn't won since 2006 and has only one victory since 2003, his best year on the PGA Tour with more than \$6

million in earnings and four victories, including the Heritage.

The next win hasn't come as soon as Love hoped — he wanted to earn a spot in the Masters — but he said he's getting stronger every week. And most important, he is on the golf course: It's impossible to win a tournament at home.

"It's easy to get back to hitting the ball well on the range," Love said. "But you can't really prepare for PGA Tour golf at home. You need to come out and play and get back inside the ropes and compete. These courses are hard. It's just not that hard at home, no matter



DAVID LOVE III

Height: 6-3 Weight: 175  
Birthdate: April 13, 1964  
Birthplace: Charlotte, N.C.  
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: 19  
Rank on 2007 money list: 96th  
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

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# VERIZON HERITAGE

## WEEKLEY

Continued from 5D

...

"Is Boo Weekley really THIS stupid?"

That's the question posed in a message board thread at [activegolf.com](http://activegolf.com) a day after Boo confessed he didn't know any better than to concede an 8-inch putt to Martin Kaymer at the World Golf Championships-Accenture Match Play Championships in February.

By the end of the post, which also recalls Boo's marking the wrong score on Sergio Garcia's scorecard twice in a span of a month, the poster posing the question has decided Boo must be "pulling our legs with all of this."

A silly notion to those who know him best.

"He is what he is," Patsy Weekley said. "He don't put on for nobody."

...

Patsy Weekley "gets a kick" out of going online to read the things perfect strangers write about her son on message boards, even if a good number of them make her grit her teeth in anger.

The one that really ate at her was the woman from New York who said if Boo would rather be hunting and fishing than playing golf, then he ought to give up his spot on the PGA Tour for someone who really wants to be there.

"I keep thinking I'm going to get on there and respond, and then I just think, 'Why?'" Patsy said. "If that's the way you perceive him, then obviously you don't really know him, and it doesn't matter."

If it's possible for one man to be a stereotype and an anti-stereotype all at once, Boo fits the bill. From the twang in his voice to the dip of Copenhagen in his lip, Boo Weekley is everything a backwoods redneck is supposed to be and everything a professional golfer isn't.

Boo didn't take well to college — he didn't even last a year at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural. He has a learning disability that makes reading difficult, Weekley said, and his country drawl causes folks to jump to conclusions about his intelligence.

But his buddies say he's no dummy. "Boo's one of the smarter guys you'll ever meet in your life," said Brandt Snedeker, who developed a close friendship with Boo when they played together on the Nationwide Tour. "He likes to play that dumb redneck role to a 'T' and he's not ... I always give him a hard time about it and make sure he knows he can't fool me like that."

Whether it's an act or not, Boo's apparent ignorance of golf history — "I



### BOO WEEKLEY

Height: 6-0  
Weight: 210  
Birthdate: July 23, 1973  
Birthplace: Milton, Fla.  
Resides: Jay, Fla.  
Special interests: Hunting, fishing  
Turned professional: 1997  
Best Heritage finish: 1st, 2007 — 67-69-66-68—270  
PGA Tour victories: 1  
Rank on 2007 money list: 33rd  
Major championships: 0  
International teams: None

**Notes:** Considers Ben Hogan his golf hero. ... After returning to the PGA Tour for the second time in 2007, posted first career top-10 in 30th career start at the Mayakoba Golf Classic. Finished sixth, three shots behind champion Fred Funk. One week later, finished T-2 at The Honda Classic after losing in a four-man playoff. Three-putted the 72nd hole while holding a one-stroke lead, missing a 3-foot putt to fall into a four-way tie with Mark Wilson, Jose Coceres and Camilo Villegas. ... Won the Heritage five weeks later and didn't need a clutch putt to do it — he chipped in for par on the 17th and 18th holes to preserve his lead. ... Studied turfgrass science in college. ... Sponsored by the outdoors apparel company Mossy Oak, which specializes in camouflage apparel.

think Justin Leonard made a putt or something," is how Boo summed up his knowledge of the Ryder Cup — always draws a laugh, even if that's not what he's going for.

"It ain't that you act dumb," Boo said. "You just kind of stand out of the way. You don't answer nothing until you really know the answers."

For the most part, that means answering the questions about himself with refreshing candor, and leaving the golf questions to the experts. But here's one he can handle: Does the PGA Tour need more players like Boo?

"I think they do," Boo said. "I think they need to go out and hire a couple of them."

...

Patsy Weekley always screamed when her son would sneak up from behind while she was washing dishes, and you never knew who would find the plastic spider under their covers when Boo was a kid.

Some things never change. "Boo's always a practical joker," longtime friend Toggy Pace said. "He always loves to get you. But he hates to get got."

After being scared by the rubber snake in Boo's golf bag one too many times, Toggy decided to get even. On a hunting trip in Alabama last December, Toggy rounded up an old mounted deer head and planted it out in the woods, carefully placing it so it looked legitimate from Boo's tree stand.

"To make a long story short, he shot the deer decoy. I talked him into it," Toggy said. "He talked bad to me for about 20 minutes."

But it was worth it. "He's got me so many times," Toggy said. "He's kind of hard to get, but it's rewarding when you do get him."

...

Boo Weekley has never taken life too seriously, least of all on the golf course.

Even after he turned pro in 1997 and took his game to the mini tours, golf was not Boo's top priority. His fishing rods and hunting rifles were always in the truck, just waiting to turn a missed cut into an opportunity for fun.

Perhaps that is why it took him five

years to make the PGA Tour ... and why his first venture into the big-time was an unmitigated disaster.

"I literally felt like a minnow in a pond full of bass," Boo said. "It just didn't feel right. I'd been on four airplanes in my whole life, and all of a sudden I'm flying all over the world. "... I wasn't ready as a person, as a golfer, mentally, everything you could think of, I wasn't ready."

He made only five cuts in 24 starts and finished 200th on the money list.

Things didn't get much better on the Nationwide Tour. He scratched out a modest living for the next three years, finishing in the top 10 four times, but never winning.

Something had to give. Boo Weekley had to get serious about something. So he put up the fishing rods and the guns and started to focus on golf.

In 2006, he made 19 cuts in 24 starts on the Nationwide Tour, finished in the top 10 nine times and ended the year seventh on the money list, good enough to qualify for the PGA Tour ... again.

"The one thing that I think Boo has realized is he has the game," Karyn Weekley said. "A lot of it was confidence, and he has the confidence now. He knows he can play."

In his first year back on tour, Boo finished 23rd on the money list and 17th in the FedEx Cup standings, and he soared into the top 50 in the World Golf Rankings.

It appears he's here to stay. "I can't speak for Boo, but from the outside, it looks like when he decided he wanted to do this for a living, he did it," longtime friend and fellow PGA Tour player Heath Slocum said. "It just took him a little longer to figure out this was what he wanted to do."

...

Boo was safe from the layoffs. He had three years under his belt as a hydroblaster at the Monsanto chemical plant, so he could've kept right on spraying the inside of those "hell hot" tanks for \$7.50 an hour.

But this other guy on the crew, he only had a year at the plant, so he was going to lose his job. This other guy, he had a wife and four kids at home. Boo had a pick-up truck and a bunch of

drinking buddies.

So Boo went in and volunteered to take the layoff and let the other guy keep his job, which comes as no surprise to his friends.

"His heart is made of gold, and he would give the shirt off his back for anybody," said Brandt Snedeker, a fellow 2006 Nationwide Tour graduate. "He's a great guy."

...

Boo admitted last year he "never was too good at math" when asked if he knew where he stood in the FedEx Cup standings, but it doesn't take a math whiz to figure out it would've taken a helluva long time working at the Monsanto plant to earn the \$2.9 million he made playing golf last year.

But neither does it take a genius to realize how difficult it was to get there, and how easily Boo could be back where he started.

"I think I bought me a couple shot-guns," Boo said when asked if he treated himself to anything special after winning the Verizon Heritage and its \$972,000 payday. "Money ain't got nothing to do with who a person is. And I don't see why a person should change just because you've got something now."

Boo, Karyn and 6-year-old son Parker still live in the same mobile home from the Nationwide Tour days. The trailer sits on a little piece of land out in the country between Milton and Jay, two small towns in the Florida Panhandle.

Any day now the Weekleys should be moving into a new house they're building "about 15 feet right out the front door," but that's about as far as they plan to move. Karyn's parents are in Jay, and Boo's parents still live on Tanglewood Golf and Country Club in Milton, where Boo and Heath Slocum used to play football in the sixth fairway every time it rained.

To the rest of the world, Boo is something of a celebrity, one might even say he's a cult hero of sorts. But in the Florida Panhandle, he's just Tom and Patsy Weekley's boy, a kid who carved himself a nice living playing golf.

Please see BOO on 8D

## BOO OR FALSE

Read each of the following anecdotes about Boo Weekley and decide which are "Boo" and which are false.

### QUESTIONS

1. Must wear clothes made of natural fibers because synthetics make him break out in a rash.
2. Got his nickname as a youngster because of his fondness for the cartoon character "Boo Boo Bear," Yogi Bear's sidekick.
3. Once worked for a Monsanto chemical plant near his hometown, wearing a hazard suit and spraying out large tanks.
4. On his way to play last year's World Cup in China, he was detained at the airport after security guards discovered in his carry-on luggage two rifle shells left there from a recent hunting trip.
5. Weekley's caddie, Joe Pyland, is an Iraq war veteran who used to attend Weekley's Milton High School.
6. Pyland was detained in Hong Kong during a stop-over as he was flying to the World Cup because he lacked the proper work visa to enter mainland China.
7. Though Weekley's high school teammates included fellow PGA Tour pro Heath Slocum, Milton High School never advanced to the Florida state tournament.
8. At a state fair, he once was knocked out cold after a boxing match with a chimpanzee.
9. Weekley lives in a mobile home.
10. The 2007 Verizon Heritage would not have been Weekley's first PGA Tour victory had he done better than a three-putt on the final hole of the Honda Classic five weeks earlier.

### ANSWERS

1. **False.** Actually, it's the other way around — Weekley once wore rain gear on the golf course because he is allergic to cotton, which gives him a rash resembling ringworm.
2. **Boo.**
3. **Boo.**
4. **False.** Weekley played in the World Cup, and he was detained by airport security for having rifle shells from a recent hunting trip in his carry-on luggage. However, he was traveling to the season-opening Mercedes Championship when the airport incident occurred.
5. **Boo.**
6. **Boo.**
7. **Boo.**
8. **False.** It's all true, except it was an orangutan that knocked out Weekley.
9. **Boo.** However, the living arrangement is temporary. He is building a new home in Jay, Fla.
10. **Boo.**

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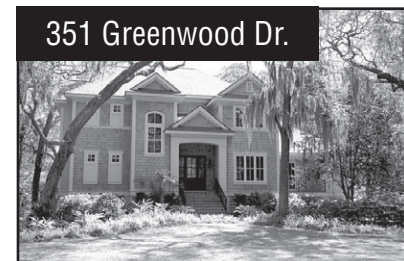
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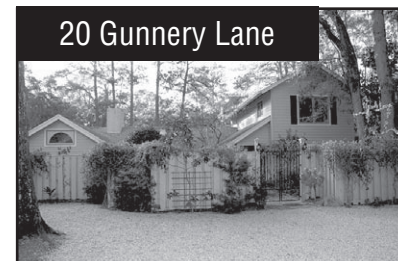
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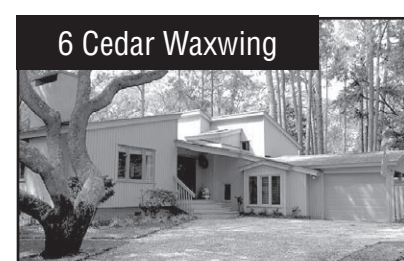
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**23 Old Military**  
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# Yun, Zamora join impressive list of Junior Heritage winners

By ZACH VAN HART  
The Island Packet

When playing in the Verizon Junior Heritage, it's taxing trying to keep the names of previous winners out of your mind. Andrew Yun had to withstand the urge for two extra holes.

"It's not something you think about until you get the job done," he said.

Yun got the job done, winning on the second playoff hole at Harbour Town Golf Links against Julian Suri on Feb. 3 to claim his first Junior Heritage title. He was joined by girls winner Marta Silva Zamora, who fired a 4-over-par 75 on the final round but won anyway by two strokes to become the first student from the Hilton Head Island-based Hank Haney International Junior Golf Association student to win the event.

Yun fired a 3-over 74 on his final round.

Each season, the Junior Heritage draws one of the best fields in junior golf — it ranked as the fourth toughest for both boys and girls in 2007 — and although this year's field was less hefty than usual, it still attracted 31 of the top 100 boys and 26 of the top 100 girls in the Golfweek junior rankings.

Stout fields have produced an impressive list of past champions. Current PGA Tour star Charles Howell is one of only two boys to win consecutive titles, and other past champions include Sean O'Hair and David Gossett.

The girls' champions roll is equally impressive, including future LPGA players Beth Bauer, Candie Kung, Aree Song, Paula Creamer and 2007 LPGA rookie of the year Angela Park.

The Junior Heritage started as a local high school tournament in the mid-1980s and crowned its first individual champion in 1989, when Hans Albertson took the boys title with a 36-hole score of 144.

Past champions of the Junior Heritage

BOYS	
Year	Player
1989	Hans Albertson
1990	Brian Brown
1992	Justin Roof
1993	M. Henderson
1994	Charles Howell
1996	Charles Howell
1997	David Gossett
1998	Sean O'Hair
1999	Martin Catalioto
2000	Ty Tryon
2001	Jay Reynolds
2002	Luke List
2003	Sean Moore
2004	Toby Ragland
2005	Kyle Stanley
2006	Spencer Cole
2007	Spencer Cole
2008	Andrew Yun

GIRLS	
Year	Player
1990	Kacie Myers
1992	Abby Pearson
1993	Ann Pohira
1994	Kathryn Cussick
1996	Beth Bauer
1997	Cimmie Shahan
1998	V. Nirapathpongorn
1999	Candie Kung
2000	Aree Song
2001	Paula Creamer
2002	Brittany Lang
2003	Paula Creamer
2004	Jennie Lee
2005	Angela Park
2006	Isabelle Lendl
2007	Mina Harigae
2008	M. Silva Zamora



Andrew Yun and Marta Silva Zamora (inset) captured Junior Heritage titles in February.

Vicki Goetze had the low score for the girls, a 148, though an official girls champion wasn't crowned until 1990.

That history and Yun's recent play made his victory particularly sweet. The 16-year-old entered the event ranked 61st in Golfweek's junior ratings, and the Chandler, Ariz., resident endured a self-described terrible 2007.

"To win any tournament is a big deal, especially one like the Verizon Junior Heritage," Yun said. "It came after such a bad slump. It's like I was reborn again."

The high school junior is currently choosing where he wants to attend and play in college. What's for certain is his invitation to the mid-July Player's Amateur on the exemption offered to Junior Heritage boys winners.

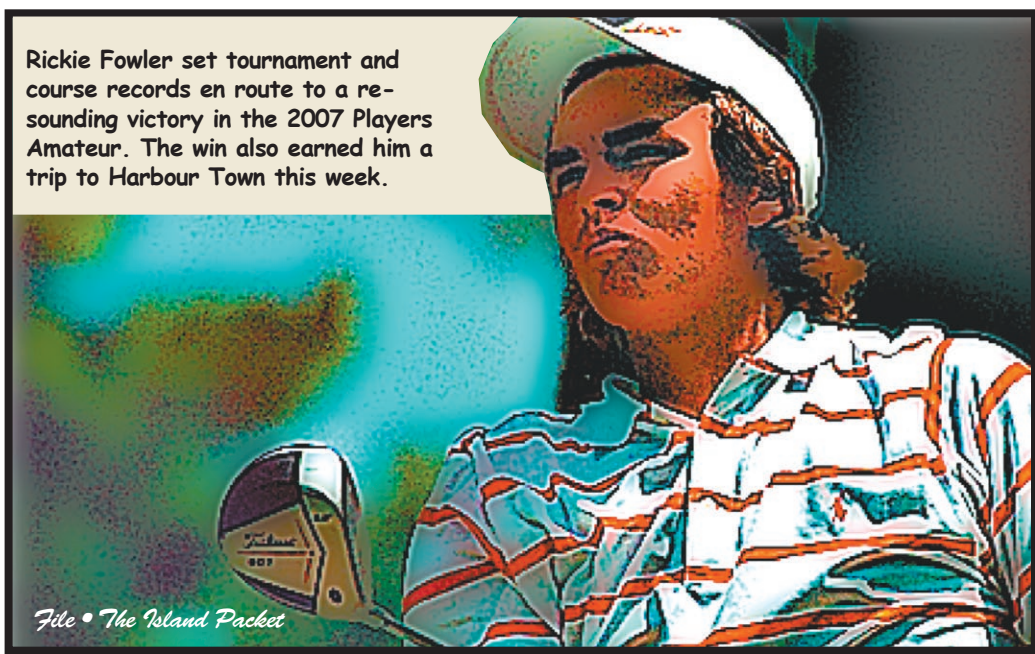
Coincidentally, Yun and Suri also tied here last year, finishing

in seventh place. This time, their gridlock forced them to return to the par-4 No. 1 for the tournament's first playoff since 2005. After both parred, they moved to the 332-yard ninth, the course's shortest par-4 but one with a narrow fairway and a bunker protecting the entire front of the green.

Suri's tee shot landed inches from a tree trunk in brush right of the fairway, his path to the green completely obstructed. Suri needed two strokes to punch out to the fairway and carded a double bogey. Yun eventually sank a 2-foot bogey putt for the win.

Silva etched her name in the Junior Heritage history books during the first round when she tied the girls single-round record of 67, equaling the feat of Creamer, the only two-time winner on the girls side.

The 18-year-old Spaniard, in her first year at IJGA, wore pink during that record-tying round — just like Creamer — and held on during a rocky final round. After spending the week before the Junior Heritage visiting schools, soon after her tournament victory Silva selected the University of Georgia.



Rickie Fowler set tournament and course records en route to a resounding victory in the 2007 Players Amateur. The win also earned him a trip to Harbour Town this week.

## Fowler won at Belfair, hasn't stopped dominating amateurs

By JUSTIN JARRETT  
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When Rickie Fowler last passed through the Lowcountry, he was in the midst of a sensational summer that included victories at the Sunnehanna Amateur and the Players Amateur and ended with him being the youngest member of the U.S. Walker Cup team.

When he returned this week, Fowler did so as the top-ranked college golfer in the nation and a slam dunk favorite to win the Phil Mickelson Award, which goes to the nation's top freshman.

"It wasn't too hard to transition into college golf, just because I played at such a high level through the summer playing the top amateur tournaments," Fowler said. "I was already used to playing against a lot of the top college golfers, so I felt right at home when I came in and knew I could do well after having a great summer."

Since beginning his college

### PLAYERS AMATEUR WINNERS

Winners of the Players Amateur, held each summer at Belfair Golf Club. (Note: Tournament winners since 2002 have received an exemption into the Heritage. Aron Price was the first to actually use the exemption. \* — Denotes now a

- PGA Tour member.)
- 2007: Rickie Fowler
- 2006: Jonathan Moore
- 2005: Brian Harman
- 2004: Aron Price
- 2003: Camilo Villegas\*
- 2002: Bill Haas\*
- 2001: Michael Sims
- 2000: Ben Curtis\*

career at Oklahoma State University last fall, Fowler hasn't placed lower than eighth in any of the seven tournaments he has played, including his first collegiate victory at the Olympia Fields Fighting Illini Invitational, where his second-round 63 matched the course record held by Vijay Singh. He also has two runner-up finishes and two fourth-place showings.

Perhaps Fowler's immediate success at the collegiate level shouldn't come as a surprise to those who closely followed last year's Players Amateur. The shaggy-haired kid from Murrieta, Calif., scorched Belfair's

West Course for a tournament-record 24-under-par total and matched the course record of 9-under-par 63.

Fowler will face a tougher test this week at the Verizon Heritage, where no amateur has made the 36-hole cut since Bert Atkinson in 1992. That fact gives Fowler something to shoot for.

"As long as I play well, I feel like I'll have a good chance to make the cut," Fowler said. "That's something I want to do. I want to get four rounds of playing. That would be a lot better than showing up for a quick two and turning around and going back to school."

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# VERIZON HERITAGE

## FIELD TRACKER

A look at the top 30 golfers on the PGA Tour money list, in the FedEx Cup points race and the Official World Golf Rankings. Players in this week's Verizon Heritage listed in bold.

### Money

1. Tiger Woods	\$4,425,000
2. Phil Mickelson	\$2,488,830
3. Geoff Ogilvy	\$2,147,400
4. Vijay Singh	\$2,092,417
5. Stewart Cink	\$1,945,462
6. K.J. Choi	\$1,801,432
7. Justin Leonard	\$1,642,369
8. J.B. Holmes	\$1,536,195
9. Trevor Immelman	\$1,518,676

10. Steve Stricker	\$1,518,039
11. Andres Romero	\$1,501,099
12. Sean O'Hair	\$1,430,500
13. Daniel Chopra	\$1,299,459
14. Ryuji Imada	\$1,233,047
15. Steve Lowery	\$1,151,288
16. Brandt Snedeker	\$1,119,525
17. Luke Donald	\$1,118,600
18. Padraig Harrington	\$1,105,897
19. Rory Sabbatini	\$1,090,480
20. Johnson Wagner	\$1,085,569
21. D.J. Trahan	\$1,079,388
22. Stuart Appleby	\$1,067,235
23. Ernie Els	\$1,066,000
24. Jim Furyk	\$1,031,180
25. Chad Campbell	\$1,020,886
26. Bart Bryant	\$990,442
27. Jeff Quinney	\$972,394
28. Steve Marino	\$895,883
29. Peter Lonard	\$879,201
30. Robert Allenby	\$844,971

### FedEx points

1. Tiger Woods	17,745
2. Phil Mickelson	10,081
3. Vijay Singh	8,302
4. Geoff Ogilvy	8,182
5. K.J. Choi	7,876
6. Stewart Cink	7,746
7. Steve Stricker	6,677
8. Justin Leonard	6,552
9. Sean O'Hair	6,476

10. J.B. Holmes	6,210
11. Andres Romero	5,789
12. Ryuji Imada	5,581
13. Trevor Immelman	5,432
14. Daniel Chopra	5,168
15. D.J. Trahan	5,062
16. Rory Sabbatini	4,891
17. Steve Lowery	4,831
18. Johnson Wagner	4,815
19. Luke Donald	4,696
20. Ernie Els	4,636
21. Stuart Appleby	4,476
22. Chad Campbell	4,475
23. Bart Bryant	4,372
24. Brandt Snedeker	4,351
25. Padraig Harrington	4,287
26. Padraig Harrington	4,287
27. Jim Furyk	4,015
28. Steve Marino	3,999
29. Robert Allenby	3,605
30. Peter Lonard	3,518

### World ranking

1. Tiger Woods	22.36
2. Phil Mickelson	9.75
3. Ernie Els	6.36
4. Steve Stricker	5.94
5. Geoff Ogilvy	5.82
6. K.J. Choi	5.58
7. Justin Rose	5.57
8. Vijay Singh	5.55
9. Jim Furyk	5.53

10. Adam Scott	5.46
11. Padraig Harrington	5.26
12. Rory Sabbatini	5.21
13. Henrik Stenson	4.91
14. Stewart Cink	4.86
15. Trevor Immelman	4.61
16. Sergio Garcia	4.06
17. Luke Donald	4.04
18. Angel Cabrera	3.87
19. Lee Westwood	3.76
20. Zach Johnson	3.61
21. Aaron Baddeley	3.54
22. Andres Romero	3.36
23. Nicklas Fasth	3.08
24. Sean O'Hair	2.98
25. Scott Verplank	2.94
26. Stuart Appleby	2.94
27. Ian Poulter	2.93
28. Retief Goosen	2.88
29. Stephen Ames	2.81
30. Martin Kaymer	2.80

## FACTS & FIGURES

### Heritage records

**BEST 9-HOLE SCORES**  
**Front:** 28: Craig Barlow ('03).  
**Back:** 29: Steve Flesch ('01), Chris Perry ('00); Brad Faxon ('97), Jeff Maggert ('06).  
**BEST 18-HOLE SCORE (ANY ROUND)**  
**61:** David Frost ('94) (Second).  
**BEST 36-HOLE SCORES**  
**128:** Jack Nicklaus ('75); Phil Mickelson ('02).  
**BEST 54-HOLE SCORES**  
**197:** Justin Leonard ('02).  
**BEST 72-HOLE SCORES**  
**265:** Loren Roberts ('96).  
**266:** Davis Love III ('98); Hale Irwin ('94).  
**HIGHEST SCORE BY A WINNER**  
**283:** Arnold Palmer ('69).  
**BIGGEST 36-HOLE LEAD**  
**6:** Darren Clarke ('05); Jack Nicklaus ('75); Johnny Miller ('74).  
**BIGGEST 54-HOLE LEAD**  
**8:** Tom Watson ('79).  
**BEST RECOVERY**  
**After 18:** 6 back, Davis Love III ('87).  
**After 36:** 6 back, Bob Goalby ('70); Fuzzy Zoeller ('83); Glen Day ('99).  
**After 54:** 9 back, Stewart Cink ('04).  
**LOW START BY WINNER**  
**62:** Peter Lonard ('05).  
**HIGH START BY WINNER**  
**74:** Bob Goalby ('70).  
**LOW FINISH BY WINNER**  
**64:** Stewart Cink ('04).  
**HIGH FINISH BY WINNER**  
**74:** Arnold Palmer ('69).  
**LARGEST MARGIN OF VICTORY**  
**7:** Davis Love III ('98).  
**LOWEST ROUNDS**  
**First:** 62, Davis Love III ('02); Peter Lonard ('05).  
**Second:** 61, David Frost ('94).  
**Third:** 62, Gil Morgan ('95).  
**Fourth:** 62, Loren Roberts ('94).  
**HOLES IN ONE**  
**Jerry Kelly ('07);** Blaine McCallister 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).  
**LOW 36-HOLE CUT**  
**142 (even par):** 1996, 2001, '02, '03, '06.  
**HIGH 36-HOLE CUT**  
**152:** 1971 (10 over).  
**LOWEST NUMBER MAKING CUT**  
**70:** 1986, '76, '73.  
**HIGHEST NUMBER MAKING CUT**  
**84:** 1998 (at 144).  
**MOST CUTS MADE**  
**24:** Hale Irwin.  
**MOST CONSECUTIVE CUTS MADE**  
**15:** Chip Beck, Peter Jacobsen.  
**MOST YEARS PLAYED**  
**30:** Jay Haas.  
**MOST CONSECUTIVE YEARS PLAYED**  
**30:** Jay Haas.  
**LONGEST CURRENT CONSECUTIVE APPEARANCES STREAK**  
**22:** Davis Love III.  
**LAST MONDAY FINISH**  
**2007**  
**LAST BACK-TO-BACK WINNER**  
**Davis Love III 1991-92**  
**FIRST-TRY WINNERS**  
**Arnold Palmer ('69);** Bob Goalby ('70); Stewart Cink ('00), Joe Coceres ('01), Peter Lonard ('05), Boo Weekley ('07).  
**MOST YEARS BETWEEN WINS**  
**21:** Hale Irwin ('73 and '94).  
**OLDEST WINNER**  
**Hale Irwin, 1994, 48 years, 10 months, 14 days.**  
**YOUNGEST WINNER**  
**Davis Love III, 1987, 23 years, 6 days.**  
**DEFENDING CHAMPIONS WHO MISSED CUT**  
**Davis Love III ('88 and '93);** Greg Norman ('89); Nick Faldo ('85); Tom Watson ('85).  
**MOST WINS**  
**Davis Love III, 5**  
**BEST FINISH BY AMATEUR**  
**284:** Lanny Wadkins, 1970, second place.  
**283:** Ben Crenshaw, 1972, third place.  
**FEWEST PUTTS, 72 HOLES**  
**92:** David Frost ('05) set PGA Tour record, breaking record of 93 putts set by Kerry Knox in 1989 Heritage Classic.  
**FEWEST PUTTS, 18 HOLES**  
**18:** Kenny Knox, 1989, tied PGA Tour record, in first round.  
**SUDDEN DEATH PLAYOFFS**  
**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.  
**CAREER SCORING AVERAGE**  
**(at least two career appearances)**  

Player	years	average
Aaron Baddeley	2	68.67
Brad Elder	2	69.25
Ernie Els	8	69.47
Tom Lehman	12	69.54
Stewart Cink	7	69.62
Davis Love III	21	69.65
Mike Sposato	2	69.75
Carlos Franco	3	69.83
Payne Stewart	12	69.95
Phil Mickelson	7	70.07

**CAREER HERITAGE MONEY LEADERS**  

Player	Dollars
Davis Love III	2,518,088
Stewart Cink	1,635,644
Jim Furyk	1,089,072
Billy Mayfair	964,878
Aaron Baddeley	954,000
Peter Lonard	947,660

Jose Coceres..... 900,490  
 Justin Leonard ..... 785,208  
 Glen Day ..... 777,063  
 Ernie Els ..... 772,446  
**TOP 10 FINISHES**  
**11:** Davis Love III  
**10:** Tom Kite  
**9:** Hale Irwin  
**8:** Craig Stadler  
**7:** Gil Morgan, Tom Watson  
**6:** Ernie Els, Bob Murphy, Hal Sutton, Lanny Wadkins  
**Heritage champions**  
 Past champions of the Verizon Heritage, played at Harbour Town Golf Links, and their winning totals.  
**HERITAGE CLASSIC**  
**1969:** Arnold Palmer (283)  
**1970:** Bob Goalby (280)  
**SEA PINES HERITAGE CLASSIC**  
**1971:** Hale Irwin (279)  
**1972:** Johnny Miller (281)\*  
**1973:** Hale Irwin (272)  
**1974:** Johnny Miller (276)  
**1975:** Jack Nicklaus (271)  
**1976:** Hubert Green (274)  
**1977:** Graham Marsh (273)  
**1978:** Hubert Green (277)  
**1979:** Tom Watson (270)  
**1980:** Doug Tewell\*\* (280)  
**1981:** Bill Rogers (278)  
**1982:** Tom Watson\*\* (280)  
**1983:** Fuzzy Zoeller (275)  
**1984:** Nick Faldo (270)  
**1985:** Bernhard Langer\*\* (273)  
**1986:** Fuzzy Zoeller (276)  
**MCI HERITAGE CLASSIC**  
**1987:** Davis Love III (271)  
**1988:** Greg Norman (271)  
**1989:** Payne Stewart (268)  
**1990:** Payne Stewart\*\* (276)  
**1991:** Davis Love III (271)  
**1992:** Davis Love III (269)  
**1993:** David Edwards (273)  
**1994:** Hale Irwin (266)  
**MCI CLASSIC**  
**1995:** Bob Tway\*\* (275)  
**1996:** Loren Roberts (265)  
**1997:** Nick Price (269)  
**1998:** Davis Love III (266)  
**1999:** Glen Day\*\* (274)  
**2000:** Stewart Cink (270)  
**WORLD COM CLASSIC — THE HERITAGE OF GOLF**  
**2001:** Jose Coceres\*\* (273)  
**2002:** Justin Leonard (270)  
**MCI HERITAGE**  
**2003:** Davis Love III\*\* (271)  
**2004:** Stewart Cink\*\* (274)  
**2005:** Peter Lonard (277)  
**VERIZON HERITAGE**  
**2006:** Aaron Baddeley  
**2007:** Boo Weekley  
 \* First two rounds split between the Sea Pines Ocean Course and Harbour Town Golf Links  
 \*\* Won in playoff  
**PGA Tour statistics**  
**SCORING AVERAGE**  
 1. Tiger Woods, 67.73, 2. Luke Donald, 69.40, 3. Bart Bryant, 69.55, 4. Phil Mickelson, 69.59, 5. Padraig Harrington, 69.78, 6. Steve Marino, 69.79, 7. John Merrick, 69.86, 8. Vijay Singh, 69.88, 9. Ben Crane, 69.91, 10. Stuart Appleby, 69.98.  
**DRIVING DISTANCE**  
 1. Bubba Watson, 310.6, 2. J.B. Holmes, 306.5, 3. Dustin Johnson, 305.2, 4. Brett Wetterich, 301.6, 5. Robert Garrigus, 301.3, 6. Anthony Kim, 301.2, 7. Fred Couples, 300.2, 8. Tag Ridings, 299.2, 9. Jason Gore, 297.9, 10. Adam Scott, 296.3.  
**DRIVING ACCURACY PERCENTAGE**  
 1. Olin Browne, 78.78%, 2. Larry Mize, 78.35%, 3. Scott Verplank, 78.02%, 4. Fred Funk, 77.34%, 5. Joe Durant, 76.92%, 6. Robert Gomez, 75.91%, 7. Billy Mayfair, 75.85%, 8. Corey Pavin, 75.69%, 9. Paul Goydos, 75.27%, 10. Bart Bryant, 75.06%.  
**GREENS IN REGULATION PCT.**  
 1. Tiger Woods, 73.26%, 2. Joe Durant, 72.41%, 3. Brett Wetterich, 71.16%, 4. Charley Hoffman, 71.03%, 5. Robert Allenby, 70.94%, 6. K.J. Choi, 70.74%, 7. Stewart Cink, 70.67%, 8. Vijay Singh, 70.59%, 9. Woody Austin, 70.20%, 10. John Senden, 70.03%.  
**TOTAL DRIVING**  
 1. Jason Bohm, 64, 2. Charley Hoffman, 69, 3. Mathew Goggin, 75, 4. Joe Durant, 79, 5. J.J. Henry, 80, 6. Charles Warren, 85, 7. Sergio Garcia, 87, 8. Boo Weekley, 94, 9. (tie), Trevor Immelman and Nicholas Thompson, 103.  
**PUTTING AVERAGE**  
 1. Marco Dawson, 1.696, 2. Padraig Harrington, 1.706, 3. (tie), Aaron Baddeley and Jeff Quinney, 1.712, 5. Nathan Green, 1.721, 6. Parker McLachlin, 1.725, 7. Luke Donald, 1.727, 8. (tie), Justin Leonard, Daniel Chopra and John Mallingier, 1.732.  
**BIRDIE AVERAGE**  
 1. Padraig Harrington, 4.40, 2. Tiger Woods, 4.31, 3. Adam Scott, 4.07, 4. Justin Leonard, 4.03, 5. (tie), Aaron Baddeley, Rory Sabbatini and Jeff Quinney, 4.00, 8. Chad Campbell, 3.97, 9. (tie), Marco Dawson and Tommy Gainey, 3.95.  
**EAGLES (HOLES PER)**  
 1. Nick Watney, 82.3, 2. Adam Scott, 84.0, 3. Charles Warren, 93.6, 4. Tiger Woods, 96.0, 5. Matt Jones, 97.7, 6. Daniel Chopra, 111.0, 7. (tie), Stewart Cink, Matthias Gronberg and Rod Pamplung, 112.5, 10. Rory Sabbatini, 117.0.  
**SAND SAVE PERCENTAGE**  
 1. Nick O'Hern, 70.59%, 2. Camilo Villegas, 69.05%, 3. Justin Rose, 68.18%, 4. Rod Pamplung, 66.67%, 5. Lee Janzen, 65.00%, 6. Fredrik Jacobson, 64.71%, 7. Stewart Cink, 64.10%, 8. Kevin Na, 63.89%, 9. K.J. Choi, 63.83%, 10, 2 tied with 63.64%.  
**ALL-AROUND RANKING**  
 1. Adam Scott, 275, 2. Chad Campbell, 301, 3. Stewart Cink, 336, 4. Tiger Woods, 345, 5. Phil Mickelson, 365, 6. Justin Leonard, 383, 7. Bart Bryant, 389, 8. John Senden, 391, 9. Steve Stricker, 399, 10. Pat Perez, 410.

# Some pros question need for drug testing

## PGA Tour's new program goes into effect this summer

From staff and wire reports  
 Last season, the rules governing the FedEx Cup caused confusion and mild controversy on the PGA Tour. This year, the confusion — and a lot more controversy — is about the cup golf pros will be ... ahem ... urinating into this summer.

The PGA Tour announced Nov. 12 that it would implement an anti-doping policy this season, and July 8 is the target date for implementation.

Golfers will be tested for 10 categories of substances, including steroids, human growth hormone, narcotics and beta blockers. Penalties could range from a one-year suspension for a first offense to a lifetime ban for a third offense.

PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem said the tour can test players without notice anytime, anywhere. Testing at a PGA Tour event can occur before or after practice or competition. There was no limit to how many times a year a player can be tested. The National Center for Drug Free Sport, which does drug testing for the NCAA, will conduct the tour's program.

The PGA Tour is following the trend of other sports that recently began testing for performance-enhancing and recreational drugs, most notably Major League Baseball but also including the LPGA and other pro golf circuits around the globe.

"I guess it's the way of the world now," said Brandt Snedeker, who is in his second full season on the PGA Tour. "I'm not really excited about it, and I don't think anybody out here is excited about it, but you've got to do what you've got to do."

That's more or less the feeling of PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem, who acknowledged "this is so counterintuitive to everything golf is about" upon announcing the policy in November.

Testing has its champions, including Tiger Woods, the world's top-ranked golfer. What testing will turn up is anybody's guess.

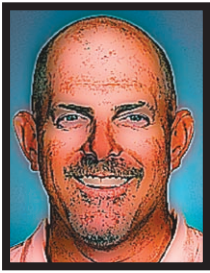
World Golf Hall of Fame member Gary Player stoked a controversy at last year's British Open when he told reporters that two current pro players admitted to him that they had tried performance-enhancing drugs.

A few weeks later, Alessandro Pissilli was suspended by the Italian professional tour after he tested positive for the banned diuretic Finasteride. Pissilli claimed he had been taking the drug for some time to combat a prostate problem. Finasteride also is used to treat hair loss but can also mask steroid use, according to several published reports.

Still, many golfers remain unconvinced golf has a problem with performance-enhancers.

"I think it's B.S.," PGA Tour golfer Sean O'Hair said. "There's nobody out here taking 'roids. It can't benefit you in golf, and it never will. ... I think the tour is doing what they have to do, and that's fine, but I don't see it going anywhere."

The PGA Tour conducted mandatory meetings before January's Buick Invitational to explain the policy to players on hand. More than 100 attended, as Finchem was joined by two staff attorneys and three outside advisors. One of them was a top expert on the World Anti-Doping Agency list,



"He's going to have a hard time getting off my property without a bullet in his (behind)." PGA Tour pro Frank Lickliter, on what would happen if someone came to his house to give him a drug test



"I really don't think we have a problem out here." PGA Tour pro Brandt Snedeker

which the tour used as a guide for its policy and procedures.

Some, such as Charles Howell III, worried that tests will detect substances golfers aren't even aware they're taking.

"The only thing disconcerting is that you're totally responsible for what you take," Charles Howell III said in an Associated Press story. "You might take a product, and there's nothing on the label that's illegal, yet you don't know if there's cross-contamination."

Tour veteran Frank Lickliter doesn't understand why the tour adopted WADA guidelines for golf, noting that a popular nasal inhaler is among the prohibited drugs.

"If I use Vick's nasal spray three times, they can kick me off the tour forever," Lickliter told the Associated Press. "Now, do you think Vick's nasal spray is helping me compete out here? Half the stuff they're testing for doesn't help golfers. These so-called experts are not experts in golf."

Snedeker is concerned that drug testing, ostensibly designed to reassure the public the sport is clean, could opposite effect.

"What's going to happen with the way the policy is set up is somebody is going to test positive for something that isn't necessarily performance-enhancing, and it's going to be an accident," Snedeker said. "When that comes out, it's going to make us look like we're a dirty sport or like we've got a problem, and we don't."

Snedeker also wondered if a full-blown testing program was the best way to start.

"I think there are a lot of other

ways they could have done it that would have been a lot less invasive, a lot more cost-effective and been easier on the players, easier on everybody involved," he said. "I think the most important thing was to find out first if we have a problem before we implement this huge policy that's going to change the PGA Tour as we know it."

Ryder Cup captain Paul Azinger was indignant that a "collector" would accompany him into the restroom to watch him drop his pants and lift his shirt to make sure he didn't have a urine sample taped to his side. And when it was mentioned testers could show up unannounced at player's house, Lickliter suggested in so many words that the drug official bring a warrant.

"He's going to have a hard time getting off my property without a bullet in his (behind)," Lickliter said in an Associated Press article.

What bothered many players was golf losing a heritage of honor that has guided the game for two centuries: It is the only major sport in which players call penalties on themselves.

"It's kind of more of a gentleman's game," Snedeker said. "I really don't think we have a problem out here."

Former Clemson golfer and PGA Tour veteran Charles Warren hopes that's exactly what testing proves, even if he's not happy about having to submit to it.

"I think you won't see hardly anybody intentionally test positive for anything that they're trying to gain an advantage by using," he predicted.

## 2007 RECAP

### ROUND 1

Leader: Jerry Kelly (-8)



Followers: Ernie Els (-6), Jose Coceres (-5), Stephen Leaney (-5), Fred Funk (-4), Stewart Cink (-4).  
**What happened:** Fresh off a fifth-place finish at the preceding week's Masters, Kelly took advantage of an early tee time to shoot a 63. Only a bogey at the eighth hole (Kelly started on the back nine) kept him from matching the opening-round record of 62.

### ROUND 2

Leader: Ernie Els (-12)



Followers: Jerry Kelly (-9), Fred Funk (-8), Stephen Leaney (-8), Sean O'Hair (-7), Kevin Na (-7).  
**What happened:** The three-time major championship winner made five birdies and no bogeys on the front nine at Harbour Town (his second nine) to card his second consecutive 65, which tied for the day's best round.

### ROUND 3

Leader: Jerry Kelly (-13)



Followers: Ernie Els (-12), Kevin Na (-12), Boo Weekley (-11), Zach Johnson (-9), Stephen Leaney (-9).  
**What happened:** Masters champion Zach Johnson and little-known Nationwide Tour graduate Boo Weekley pulled into contention with 66s, but the day belonged to Kelly, who regained the lead with a 67, fueled by a hole-in-one on the

### ROUND 4

Leader: Boo Weekley (-14)



Followers: Ernie Els (-13), Stephen Leaney (-12), Vaughn Taylor (-10), Kevin Na (-10), Zach Johnson (-9).  
**What happened:** Wretched weather — wind blew sand out of bunkers and kept balls from coming to rest on the greens — forced postponement of the first hole. When play resumed Monday under only slightly better conditions, Weekley fired a 68 with the help of chip-in par saves on Nos. 17 and 18, then avoided a playoff when Els nearly holed out from the 18th fairway.

## SCORING SUMMARY

<b>First</b>	Boo Weekley, \$972,000	67-69-66-68=270	-14
<b>Second</b>	Ernie Els, \$583,200	65-65-71-70=271	-13
<b>Third</b>	Stephen Leaney, \$367,200	66-68-70-68=272	-12
<b>T-Fourth</b>	Vaughn Taylor, \$237,600	71-66-67-70=274	-10
<b>Sixth</b>	Zach Johnson, \$194,400	70-68-66-71=275	-9
<b>Seventh</b>	Sean O'Hair, \$180,900	69-66-69-72=276	-8
<b>T-Eighth</b>	Carl Pettersson, \$162,000	71-68-67-71=277	-7
<b>T-Ninth</b>	Jerry Kelly, \$162,000	63-70-67-77=277	-7
<b>10th</b>	Bo Van Pelt, \$124,200		

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VERIZON HERITAGE

# Burdick, Wilmot have witnessed lots during long tournament runs



**JAMES McMAHON**  
jcmahon@golfersguide.com

From the moment Arnold Palmer ended a 14-month victory drought at the first-ever Verizon Heritage, Hilton Head Island and its signature PGA Tour event have been intertwined. Now 40 years later, both Hilton Head and the Heritage are all grown up, resembling only slightly what they were four decades ago.

Sure, the event has had more names than Prince (or the artist formerly known as) but no matter the name, the logo or title sponsor, the Heritage was, is and hopefully forever will be the identity of this region.

Tournament director Steve Wilmot has been around for 22 of the previous 39 Heritages, and if you want stories, he's got them. For the past 20 years, Arnie Burdick has helped hundreds of local, regional and national journalists tell the event's stories as the tournament information director. Together, these two Heritage veterans have 42 years sweat equity and know all too well how deep the ties bind between the Heritage and southern Beaufort County.

"Obviously we're a different kind of community than, say, a Jacksonville or a Charlotte, but yet we've been able to sustain this tournament through the years," Wilmot said. "The community here has always supported us. I wouldn't want to imagine Hilton Head without the Heritage."

As the game of golf has grown in popularity and globalization, so too has the spotlight it provides the region and the state every April. Once shown for only a couple hours each Saturday and Sunday, the Heritage (like most other PGA Tour events) now basks in the glow of more than 12 hours of television coverage from Thursday to Sunday, enjoys even more coverage on XM Satellite Radio and benefits from the explosion of Internet coverage the PGA Tour enjoys.

"The PGA Tour is a global product," Burdick said. "Hilton Head and even the entire state has benefited from that. There are so many different ways now for the average fan to keep up with the golf tournament."

Nowhere has the increased exposure manifested itself more than in the purse golfers are playing for today on the PGA Tour. Indeed, if you want to talk change, look no further than the pocket variety players earn today versus years gone



Steve Wilmot's Heritage tenure began the same year his good friend, Davis Love III, won the first of his five tartan jackets.

by. When Palmer claimed that 1969 Heritage title, the total purse was \$100,000, and his personal take was a tidy \$20,000, or roughly the same amount a golfer will earn for finishing somewhere in the mid-30s in this year's event.

For the 16th straight year, the Heritage purse has increased, this time to a staggering \$5.5 million, \$990,000 of which will go to the winner. To be sure, this ain't your daddy's Heritage, and the PGA Tour's demand that purses continue to rise has put increased pressure on Wilmot and his staff, especially considering the current economy.

"We're already working on 2009 sponsorships," Wilmot said of the work involved in securing the financial support an event like the Heritage requires.

As the purses they pursue grow and the attention they get while doing it expands, both Wilmot and Burdick agree there has been a change among golfers as well. Once the most popular stop following the round, the clubhouse grill has been replaced by the fitness trailer. Likewise, the candy bars and soft drinks waiting for players on tee boxes have been traded for bottled water and energy bars.

"It starts with Tiger, but today's players are much more serious, they take better care of themselves," Burdick said. "When I get (to the tournament) at 6 a.m. the trailer is full because guys are hitting the machines before they even hit balls."

Those players, both past and present have provided Wilmot with some of his fondest Heritage memories during his two decades-plus on Hilton Head, and it doesn't take long for names like Davis Love III and Payne Stewart to come up.

"I remember going out with Payne a couple of nights and what a great person he was," Wilmot said. "My first tournament here was also Davis' first tournament. He's become a good friend of mine, and I feel like we've kind of grown up in this business together."

"He has, of course, made a little more money than I have."

While the past four decades have brought undeniable

change, there are certain constants that have helped maintain the Heritage as one of the most popular events on tour. Unlike other tournaments that have bounced around venues more than John Daly has marriages, the Heritage has always been hitched to the famed Harbour Town Golf Links. The Pete Dye-Jack Nicklaus collaboration has always been unique to the PGA Tour, and Wilmot acknowledges the Sea Pines layout has helped make the Heritage one of the most unique and respected tournaments on the slate.

"It's not like a lot of golf courses out there on tour, it really is a true shot-maker's course," Wilmot said. "It's great to hear players talk about how much they enjoy playing the golf course."

Like its home in Sea Pines, the Heritage has long enjoyed its post-Masters spot on the PGA Tour schedule. While other events situated either the week before or the week after one of golf's four majors, the Heritage has managed strong fields, especially among international players and has often enjoyed strong television ratings with interest in the tour sparked by play at Augusta the previous week.

"Roughly 25 percent of our field is made up of top international players," Burdick said. "You can really see the talent that comes to this tournament and our fans are treated to some of the better golf on tour."

In fact, it's been a 40-year treat that continues to get tastier every year, and with any luck at all, will continue to remain on Hilton Head's spring menu for another 40

FOLKS YOU NEED TO KNOW

**CARY CORBITT**

**Job title:** Director of sports for Sea Pines, liaison between Sea Pines Resort and the tournament office and an advisory member of the Heritage Classic Foundation board.

**Hometown:** McCormick, S.C. **Golf handicap:** Class A PGA member, however, I play only about twice a month.

**Previous job:** Before his promotion to director of sports, Corbitt was the head professional at Harbour Town Golf Links.

**Fun fact:** Corbitt is the only member of the Heritage Classic Foundation board who has actually played in the tournament. Earning one of the berths set aside for Carolinas PGA club pros in 1984, Corbitt shot 92-81 and missed the cut.

**The best thing about Heritage week is:** The beauty. It's spring, there's excitement. Everything is wonderful.

**If you weren't at the tournament during Heritage week, you would be:** I have been working with the event for so many years, I can't imagine.



**would be:** Somewhere with my wife Jane and my children, Megan, Thomas and Charlie.

**SIMON FRASER**

**Job title:** Chairman, Heritage Classic Foundation.

**Hometown:** Hilton Head Island (moved from Hinesville, Ga., in 1965 at age 12.)

**Golf handicap:** 12, prior to double hip replacement surgery in December.

**Other job:** Real estate attorney with the firm of Fraser & Allen.

**Fun fact:** Is the nephew of Sea Pines and Heritage founder Charles Fraser and the son of Joe Fraser, whom he succeeded as the Heritage Classic Foundation chairman before the 2007 tournament.

**The best thing about Heritage week is:** The competition, seeing friends, meeting new people, going to parties.

**If you weren't at the tournament during Heritage week, you would be:** Working, unfortunately.



**GARY T. SNYDER**

**Job title:** Golf course superintendent at Harbour Town Golf Links.

**Hometown:** Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

**Golf handicap:** 18. **Previous jobs:** Golf course superintendent at Haig Point (1986-98) and Moss Creek (1980-86.)

**Fun fact:** Even before coming to Harbour Town, Snyder was no stranger to preparing a golf course for a top-shelf professional event. During part of his tenure at Moss Creek, the course played host to an LPGA event.

**The best thing about Heritage week is:** We get to display one of the premier golf courses on national television, and it's all about golf.

**If you weren't at the tournament on Heritage week, you would be:** In the mountains of North Carolina.



**STAN SMITH**

**Job title:** Heritage Classic Foundation trustee chair of the player relations committee.

**Other employment jobs:**

Chairman of Stan Smith Events, co-owner of Smith Stearns Tennis Academy.

**Hometown:** Hilton Head Island now, originally Pasadena, Calif.

**Golf handicap:** 4.

**Fun fact:** The Verizon Heritage might not be a regular stop for Tiger Woods, the world's No. 1 golfer, but it has long been home to Smith, the former top-ranked men's tennis player. Smith began his relationship with Sea Pines not long after winning the 1971 U.S. Open. He was ranked No. 1 then, as he was the next year when he won Wimbledon.

Though his playing schedule has diminished greatly since those days, he still plays in several senior events and is in his 37th season as Sea Pines' official touring professional.

**The best thing about Heritage week is:** Great competition, the wonderful atmosphere and money raised for charity.

**If you weren't at the tournament on Heritage week, you would be:** Watching on television, as I have over the years when I was on the pro tennis tour.



**STEVE WILMOT**

**Job title:** Heritage tournament director.

**Hometown:** Moorestown, N.J.

**Golf handicap:** 16.

**Previous jobs:** Before he was the tournament director, Wilmot served under Mike Stearns as assistant tournament director. Before that, 23 years ago, he worked for the Carolinas PGA Section and also is a former front-office employee in the now-defunct USFL.

**Fun fact:** Before Wilmot came to South Carolina, he worked as Santa Claus at Cherry Hill Mall in a south New Jersey. "It was either be the Easter Bunny or come down here," Wilmot quips.

**The best thing about Heritage week is:** EVERYTHING. I love all the work involved in making a successful tournament.

**If you weren't at the tournament during Heritage week, you would be:** With my family. I do not see much of them from February to the end of April.



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# 40 great years of Heritage golf ... 40 great years of Heritage moments ...

AS WE COUNT DOWN THE BIGGEST HEADLINES IN THE EVENT'S HISTORY ...

HERE'S A LITTLE HINT ...

## ARNIE WINS AGAIN

**O**K, I've managed to kill the suspense. If you look at the headline above, the photo below or the list to the right, you won't have to read to the final paragraphs of this story to know what The Island Packet has deemed the biggest headline in Verizon Heritage history.

Hope you enjoy the list, just the same. Hilton Head Island's annual PGA Tour stop has been such an important part of this community's fabric — and has been around about a year longer than this newspaper — that it seemed most appropriate to pick "The 40 Biggest Headlines in Heritage History" to mark the tournament's 40th playing this year.

We consulted written histories, other golf writers and tournament officials to compile the list and began counting it down, 10 at a time, in Monday's newspaper. What you see here is the finale — headlines 10-1, as well as a list of all 40 stories.

How impressive is Heritage history? Consider that the tournament's champions roll call includes major championship winners Tom Watson, Hubert Green, Fuzzy Zoeller and Bill Rogers, none of whom made this list.

In fact, we could have come up with another list of 40 to include such stories as the effects of Sept. 11 on tournament security, the first major renovation of Harbour Town or the departure after the 2006 tournament of Joe Fraser and Angus Cotton, who had long, distinguished tenures as Heritage Classic Foundation board members.

Who knows? Maybe in 10 years  
Please see HEADLINES on 24D

Arnold Palmer poses in front of the Harbour Town lighthouse during the early 1970s. Palmer out-dueled Bert Yancey and Richard Crawford to win the first Heritage, played on Thanksgiving weekend, 1969. One of the biggest headlines of that year remains the biggest headline in tournament history.



JEFF KIDD  
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Image special to The Island Packet

THE TOP 40

A list of the top 40 headlines in Heritage history, as selected by Island Packet sports editor Jeff Kidd, in consultation with other writers and tournament officials:

1. "Palmer wins first Heritage"
2. "Heritage Classic Foundation takes over tournament in 1987, averts financial disaster"
3. "Norman dedicates victory to cancer-stricken teen"
4. "Langer becomes first to win Masters, Heritage in consecutive weeks"
5. "Love makes miraculous chip to win record fifth Heritage"
6. "Stewart becomes first to win back-to-back Heritage titles"
7. "Heritage makes its first television appearance"
8. "Irwin becomes oldest Heritage winner, record 21 years after his last victory at Harbour Town"
9. "Wilmot becomes tournament director"
10. "Cink wins controversial play-off, comes from nine back to win second Heritage title"
11. "Harbour Town Golf Links completed in the nick of time"
12. "Nicklaus finally wins on course he helped design"
13. "Jenkins' Sports Illustrated article helps put Heritage, Harbour Town, Hilton Head on map"
14. "Jones' gaffe helps make Love youngest Heritage winner"
15. "Heritage date moved to week after Masters"
16. "Faldo first to card four rounds in the 60s"
17. "Price dedicates Heritage victory to his former caddy"
18. "Clarke suffers monumental collapse in final round"
19. "Weekley's two chip-ins secure victory at Heritage delayed by weather"
20. "Norman appears at Heritage week after monumental Masters collapse"
21. "Dye gives Harbour Town massive facelift"
22. "Roberts sets tournament scoring record"
23. "Tway returns to winners circle in stirring fashion"
24. "Marsh becomes the Heritage's first international winner"
25. "A Tiger tours Harbour Town"
26. "Goalby gets first tartan jacket"
27. "Frost sets single-round scoring record"
28. "Love becomes first golfer with four Heritage titles"
29. "MCI returns as tournament sponsor"
30. "Leonard captures improbable victory"
31. "Putting records fall as Knox blisters Harbour Town greens"
32. "Els' club selection at No. 16 costs him Heritage title"
33. "Family Circle Cup leaves Hilton Head Island"
34. "Jay Haas meets Jan"
35. "Irwin wins his first PGA Tour title"
36. "Coceres outduels Mayfair in five-hole, two-day playoff"
37. "Kite's Heritage career ends with disqualification"
38. "Miller's second Heritage title part of outstanding season"
39. "Fraser hosts Masters champ Nicklaus at Sea Pines"
40. "Nabisco, Stewart come to Harbour Town Golf Links"

## Verizon Heritage purse continues 16-year record of growth

From staff reports  
The purse for the Verizon Heritage has increased for the 16th consecutive season, to \$5.5 million. This year's winner will receive a \$990,000 check.

Here are other facts about the purse:  
**It's lonely (but lucrative) at the top:** Last season's winner, Boo Weekley, received \$972,000, which is \$18,000 less than this year's champion will receive. The difference is enough to buy a Aqua & Cognac diamond cluster bracelet on e-Bay or a fully loaded Ford Focus.

**A rising tide:** The total increase in prize money is \$100,000.

**But it's a neap tide:** This marks the third consecutive season the purse has risen by \$100,000. It rose by the same amount between the 1995 and 1996 tournaments, but the interim was marked by a period of wild

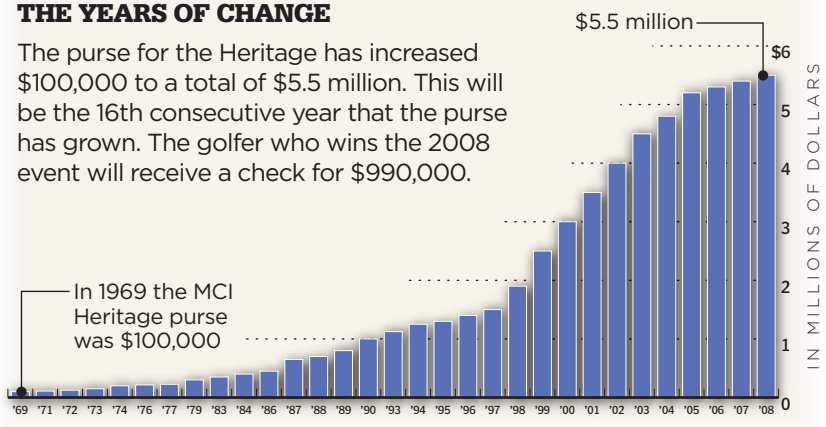
growth. In the eight years between 1996 and 2006, the purse rose by at least \$300,000 and by an average of \$462,000 per year. The purse has more than tripled since 1997, when Steve Wilmot was promoted from assistant tournament director to tournament director.

**Back in the old days:** The total purse for the Heritage in its first season, 1969, was \$100,000. Last season, 14 Heritage golfers earned that much in prize money. This year's winner's check will exceed the total prize money for the first six Heritages combined and will exceed the total purse for each of the first 21 seasons.

**The pecking order:** Of the 48 official events on the PGA Tour this season, 17 have purses smaller than the Heritage and five also will offer \$5.5 million. Of the 17 smaller purses, six are Fall Series events that will be held after the FedEx Cup is decided.

THE YEARS OF CHANGE

The purse for the Heritage has increased \$100,000 to a total of \$5.5 million. This will be the 16th consecutive year that the purse has grown. The golfer who wins the 2008 event will receive a check for \$990,000.



# VERIZON HERITAGE

## HEADLINES

Continued from 23D

when we do the 50 Biggest Headlines in Heritage History

10. **"Cink wins controversial playoff, comes from nine back to win second Heritage title":** Stewart Cink came from nine shots back in the final round to win the 2004 Heritage, the biggest comeback on the PGA Tour since Paul Lawrie's victory from 10 down in the 1999 British Open.

But that's not what Cink's win will be remembered for. Cink also became just the eighth golfer to win the Heritage more than once.

His win won't be remembered for that, either.

Golf fans might recall that Cink and Ted Purdy battled in a five-hole playoff, matching the longest in the tournament's history, but what they'll definitely remember is the shot Cink hit on the par-4 16th to clinch his victory and the controversy that followed it.

After driving into a fairway waste bunker, Cink hit a wedge shot to within feet of the pin to set up the winning birdie and secure his second tartan jacket.

However, after the closing ceremonies, Cink was whisked away to a CBS television production truck to watch replays of his bunker shot. The legitimacy of Cink's win was in question after several fans watching on television called the tournament office because they suspected the golfer of illegally removing debris from behind his ball, illegally marking the line of his shot or illegally grounding his club in a hazard.

Cink's victory stood when tournament rules official Sluiger White determined he wasn't guilty of the first offense. And although Cink did indeed ground his club and remove loose impediments from around his ball before hitting the bunker shot, both of those actions are allowable in any of Harbour Town's "waste" areas.

Although waste areas are still a prominent feature of Harbour Town Golf Links, two years after Cink's victory, Sea Pines converted the bunker on No. 16 to a hazard, filling it with softer sand like any other greenside or fairway trap. The rules governing the hole changed in accordance, and the tournament and Harbour Town officials hoped it would bring an end to any similar controversies.

9. **"Wilmot becomes tournament director":** The Heritage wasn't in the greatest of shape when Steve Wilmot arrived. The Sea Pines Co. was in bankruptcy, and the tournament's future on the island was in jeopardy. The event was on more solid footing 10 years later, when Wilmot succeeded his former boss, Mike Stevens, as tournament director in 1997.

What he learned in those formative years would prove valuable as he shepherded the tournament through other crises, the most notable in 2002-03, when the accounting scandal and subsequent bankruptcy of title sponsor WorldCom threatened the tournament's finances. Wilmot's tenure also has spanned the advent of the Tiger Woods era, new security procedures in the wake of Sept. 11 the FedEx Cup and, now, drug testing on the PGA Tour.

Through it all, growth has been a constant under Wilmot's direction. The Heritage purse has increased each of the past 16 seasons, the Heritage Classic Foundation has doled out more than \$15 million annually the past few years and the tournament's television, venue, title sponsor and PGA Tour contracts are secure through 2010. The Heritage also has expanded its influence, taking over the Players Amateur event conducted each summer at Belfair and adding sponsorship of an AJGA event to complement a junior portfolio that already includes the prominent Junior Heritage.

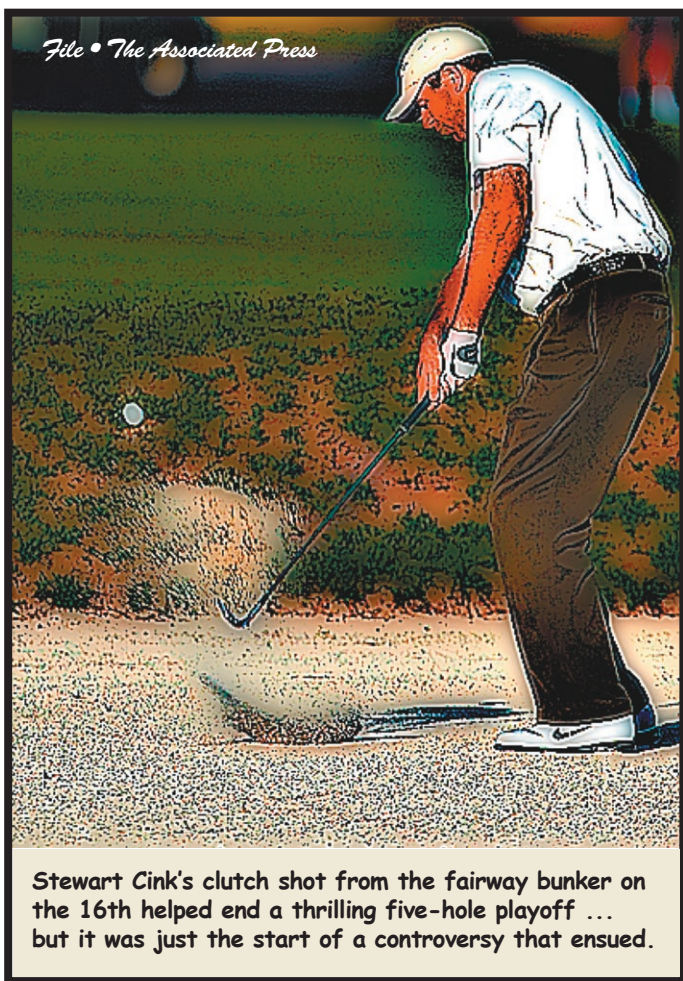
8. **"Irwin becomes oldest Heritage winner, record 21 years after his last victory at Harbour Town":**

A full 21 years after his last title at Harbour Town, the 48-year-old Irwin amazingly accomplished the feat again in 1994, marking his third Heritage victory. At the time, that made him just the second player with three Heritage titles, joining Davis Love III. He remains the tournament's oldest winner, with a performance that presaged his decade of dominance on the Champions Tour.

And Irwin didn't just squeak by — he shot two 65s and two 68s to set what was then a tournament scoring record of 18 under par. He defeated runner-up Greg Norman by two shots and earned a \$225,000 paycheck, \$100,000 more than the total amount of the purse in his second Heritage win in 1973.

7. **"Heritage makes its first television appearance":** In its early years, some doubted the Heritage could survive as an autumn event, competing with the World Series, the NFL and college football for sports fans' attention. Though the event did well in its burgeoning years, there's no doubt its long-term future was secured by national television exposure that came for the first time in 1974, the year the tournament moved from September to March and was picked up for broadcast by NBC.

Not only did a national audience see young superstar Johnny Miller



File • The Associated Press  
**Stewart Cink's clutch shot from the fairway bunker on the 16th helped end a thrilling five-hole playoff ... but it was just the start of a controversy that ensued.**

win his second Heritage title, coverage made the image of the Harbour Town lighthouse a familiar icon to golf fans across the country and Hilton Head Island a recognizable resort destination.

6. **"Stewart becomes first to win back-to-back Heritage titles":** It was inarguably the most dominant stretch of golf by a professional golfer at Harbour Town Golf Links — Payne Stewart, who eschewed the course for five years because of what he deemed to be poor conditioning, returned to the Heritage in 1989 only because the course it is played upon would host the season-ending Nabisco Championships later in the year.

The golfer in the tam o' shanter and knickers broke the tournament scoring record and won in his return in 1989. Stewart won again in 1990 and between those victories dropped a playoff to Tom Kite to finish second in the Nabisco. For good measure, he tied for fourth in the 1991 Heritage.

5. **"Love makes miraculous chip to win record fifth Heritage":** Davis Love III was as inconspicuous on the final-round leaderboard of the 2003 Heritage as a four-time past champion could be. He hadn't led after any of the first three rounds — though he was one off the pace after an opening 66 — and seemed out of contention when his approach on the par-4 18th hole, the 72nd of the tournament, landed well right of the green.

But from 66 feet away, Love chipped in for birdie, setting off a wild celebration and setting up a

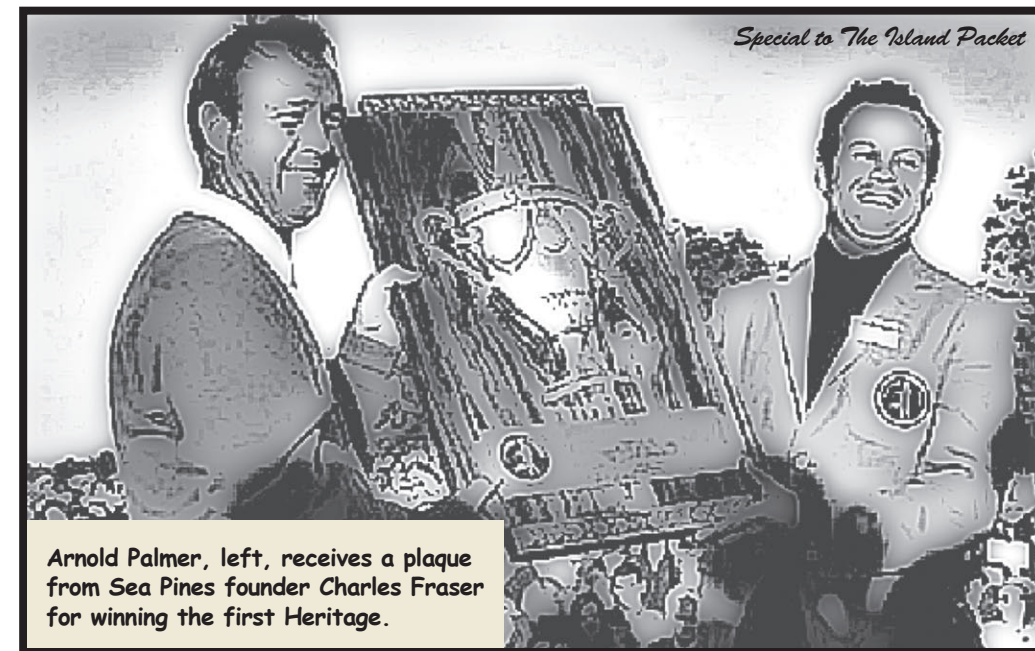
playoff with Woody Austin. Love shot a 4-under-par 67 on a day in which, at one point, there was an eight-way tie for first.

An hour after his miraculous shot, Love and Austin arrived back at the 18th hole for the third time that day, and Love pulled off another near-miracle — his 6-iron approach hit the flag stick and stopped within feet of the hole. He made an easy birdie, and Austin missed a 19-footer to extend the playoff.

4. **"Langer becomes first to win Masters, Heritage in consecutive weeks":** As former Island Packet sports editor Terry Bunton wrote in his 1989 history of the Heritage, Bernhard Langer arrived in Sea Pines in April 1985 as so many island tourists do — seeking a little rest and relaxation. Just a week earlier, Langer had become the first German national to win on the PGA Tour, and he did it on golf's grandest stage — the Masters.

The press had been relentless in the days after Langer's win at Augusta National, but he found refuge on the golf course, shooting rounds of 68-66-69-70 in his first Heritage appearance since tying for 59th in his 1982 debut.

Langer three-putted just once en route to a green jacket and didn't three-putt at all in slipping into a tartan jacket. However, he hit a few squirrely shots and needed a 5-footer for par on the 72nd hole to force a playoff with Bobby Wadkins, who closed with a 68. On the first extra hole, Wadkins pushed his 8-iron approach into the bunker on the par-4 16th,



Special to The Island Packet  
**Arnold Palmer, left, receives a plaque from Sea Pines founder Charles Fraser for winning the first Heritage.**

and he suffered a bogey to make Langer the first golfer — and thus far the only one — to win the Masters in Heritage in consecutive weeks.

3. **"Norman dedicates victory to cancer-stricken teen":** Seventeen-year-old Jamie Hutton was scheduled for a bone marrow transplant the day after the 1988 Heritage, but before the leukemia-stricken boy went to the hospital, he came to Harbour Town Golf Links hoping to see his favorite golfer, Greg Norman, and perhaps even meet his idol.

He did more than that. The Thursday's Child group, similar to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, sponsored a trip for Hutton and his family from their home in Wisconsin and also arranged for the teenager to meet Norman on the Saturday of the tournament.

The two enjoyed an instant rapport, and although the Huttons had planned to leave town Sunday on a commercial flight, Norman chartered a jet for them so that they could stay long enough to watch the final round.

Trailing by four shots going into the final 18, Norman shot a 66, and that was enough to edge David Frost and Gil Morgan by a single shot. Norman presented the winner's trophy to Hutton, who wore the tartan blazer of tournament committee member Paula Bethea to the closing ceremonies.

2. **"Heritage Classic Foundation takes over tournament in 1987, averts financial disaster":** In 1986, Hilton Head Holdings, the parent company of the Sea Pines Co. and seven other subsidiaries, filed for bankruptcy and threatened to take the Heritage down with them.

The bankruptcy involved Sea Pines, Shipyard Plantation, Wexford Plantation, Port Royal Plantation and Indigo Run. More than \$100 million was owed to about 2,000 creditors, many of them local companies. What's more, Harbour Town Golf Links had fallen into disrepair, and the PGA Tour considered pulling the tournament

from the circuit's smallest market.

That's when a group of community leaders, including former South Carolina governor John West; Joe Fraser, the brother of Sea Pines founder Charles Fraser; and Sea Pines executive John Curry, formed the Heritage Classic Foundation, a charitable organization that would take over administration of the tournament and shore up its financial future.

The foundation soon secured a \$1 million line of credit and a title sponsor in long distance company MCI.

Today, the non-profit organization collects the revenue from sponsorships and ticket and concession sales and distributes it throughout the year to organizations that have submitted grant requests. It has distributed more than \$15 million since its inception.

1. **"Palmer wins first Heritage":** John Gettys Smith could barely stand to watch.

With the first Heritage Classic approaching a nail-biting finish on Thanksgiving weekend, 1969, Arnold Palmer threaten to cough up his third-round lead on the tournament's final day, as lesser names Richard Crawford and Bert Yancey gained ground.

So Smith, the Heritage's first tournament chairman, stood nervously beside a mucky hole that would become Harbour Town's Yacht Basin, kicking dirt clods into the water as Palmer's group played its way up the final fairway a few hundred yards away.

Just then, Charles Fraser, Sea Pines' developer, came strolling past. Fraser had commissioned a study on American golf's South Carolina roots, but Smith said the man who founded the Heritage wasn't as well-versed in the modern game.

"He asked me, 'Is something wrong?'" Smith recalled. "I said, 'Do you have any idea that if he wins what a super story it will be ... and what will happen if he loses and the winner is not a superstar?'"

"He just said, 'Oh,' and wandered away."

Braving the suspense, Smith made his way to the 18th green for a closer look and watched Palmer sink a putt to secure the championship.

"Palmer made a putt to take the first Heritage crown and saved us," Smith said.

Looking back 39 years, it might seem hyperbole for Smith to declare Palmer the tournament's savior.

After all, the Heritage now is entrenched in a plum spot on the PGA Tour schedule. It sports a champions list that includes Jack Nicklaus, Hale Irwin, Johnny Miller, Tom Watson, Nick Faldo and Greg Norman. And it is played on one of the nation's most renowned courses, which is situated on one of the nation's most renowned resort destinations.

But there's no doubt Palmer's victory underpinned many of the fawning tributes paid to the PGA Tour's newest event in national publications.

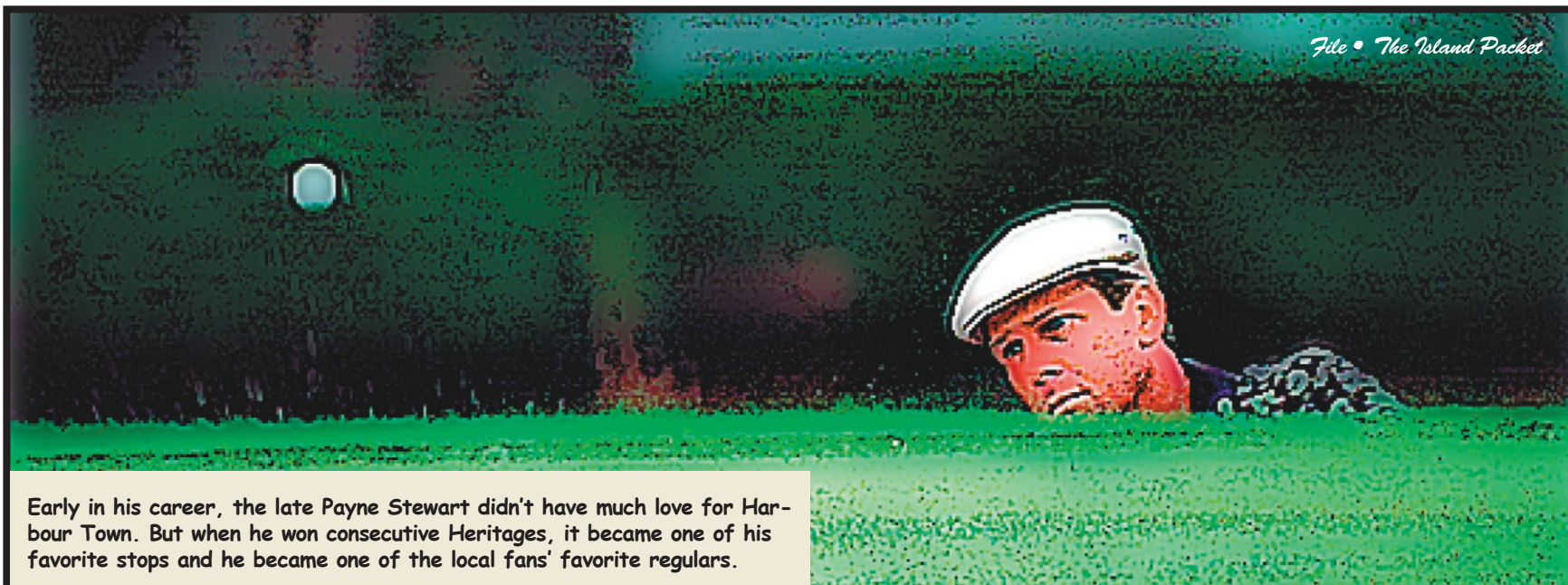
And Palmer's victory was big news for another reason.

The obituary for Palmer's career was written before he arrived at Sea Pines in 1969. Smith recalled that the November 1969 issue of one national golf publication featured a cover story on the King entitled "The End of an Era." Indeed, after averaging four victories a season over a 13-year period, Palmer had gone 14 months without a win, at the time the longest drought of his career.

So when Palmer led the Heritage wire-to-wire, it became worldwide news. (Palmer also won the Danny Thomas Diplomat Classic the next week and capped his year by being named the Associated Press Athlete of the Decade, the first professional golfer to win the award.)

In other words, Harbour Town was ground-zero for one of the biggest "feel-good" stories of the year.

And despite all the compelling tournament events that would follow, it's hard to beat the thrills of your first big headline.



File • The Island Packet  
**Early in his career, the late Payne Stewart didn't have much love for Harbour Town. But when he won consecutive Heritages, it became one of his favorite stops and he became one of the local fans' favorite regulars.**

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