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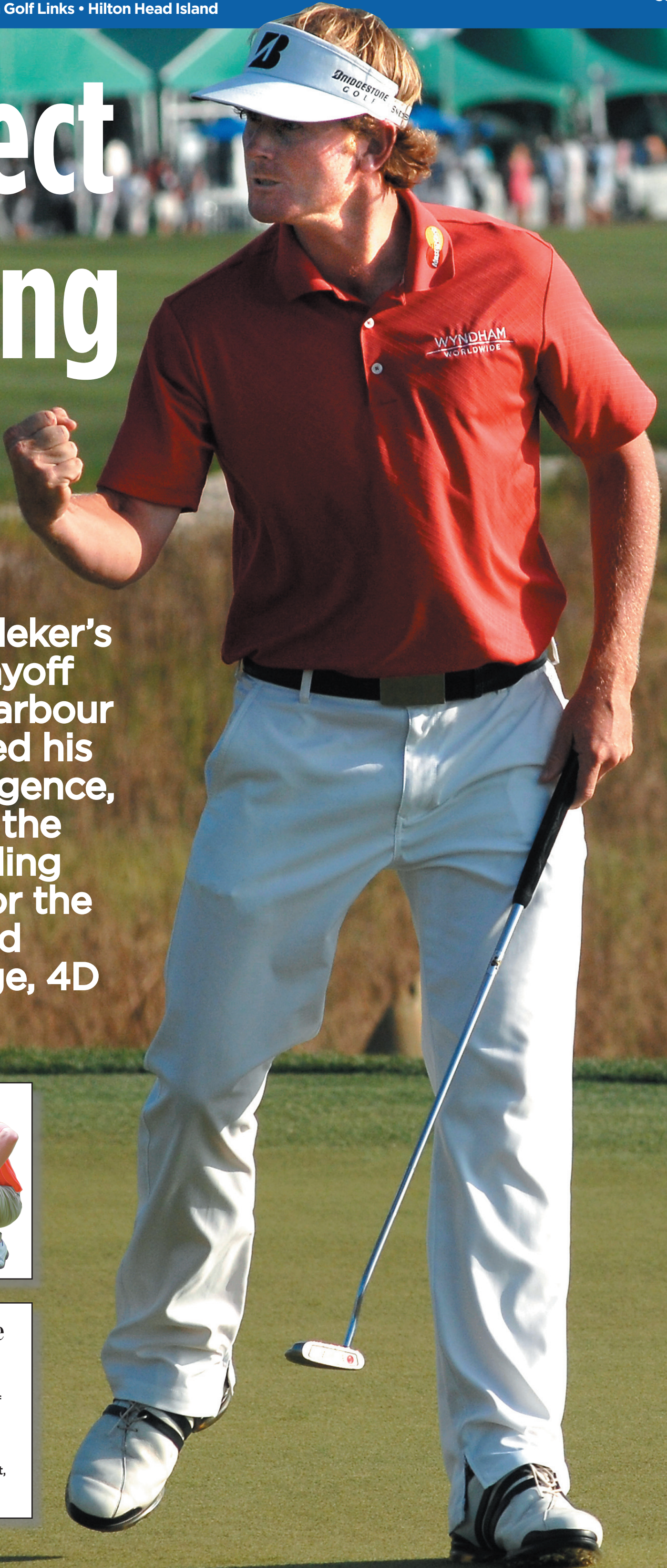


Section D

April 12-15, 2012 • Harbour Town Golf Links • Hilton Head Island

Perfect pairing

A year ago, Brandt Snedeker's rally to a playoff victory at Harbour Town sparked his career resurgence, making him the ideal defending champion for the reinvigorated RBC Heritage, 4D



Palmetto Roots

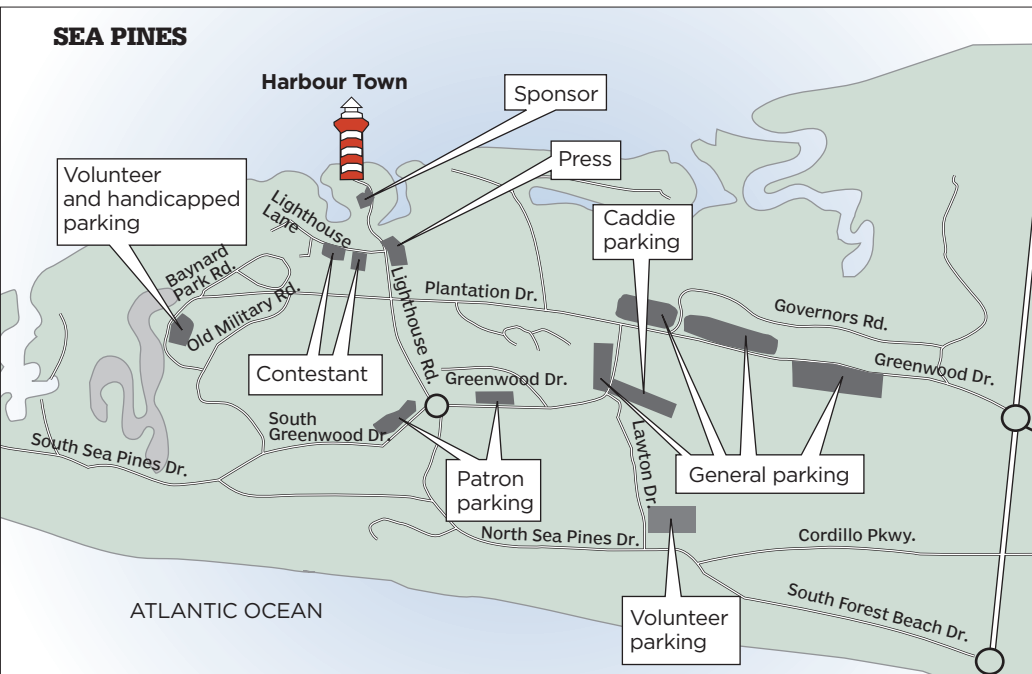
Eleven golfers in the RBC Heritage field have ties to South Carolina, 11D



Course Guide

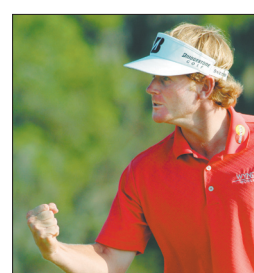
A hole-by-hole tour of Pete Dye's famous Harbour Town Golf Links layout, 12-13D





HERITAGE 2012

Your guide to the 44th Heritage golf tournament

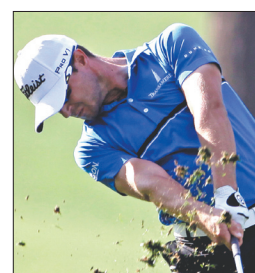


ON THE COVER

Thanks to good health, a new family and a focused work ethic, Brandt Snedeker is playing the best golf of his career a year after rallying to win the Heritage in a playoff with Luke Donald. **4D**

LEARNING EXPERIENCE

In just his second season on the PGA Tour, Berkeley Hall resident Kyle Stanley has used an early-season collapse as motivation as he moves into the top ranks of the PGA Tour. **6D**



ARNIE THE AMBASSADOR

Nearly 30 years after taking what was supposed to be a temporary job with the Heritage, 92-year-old tournament information director Arnie Burdick is still plugging away. **8D**

10 WHO CAN WIN

Who will don tartan in 2012? See sports editor Mike McCombs' look at this year's contenders to learn which players are likely to be near the top of the leaderboard on Sunday. **21D**



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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 along 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 on Greenwood Drive in the Community Services Associates building, one mile inside the main gate. To reach the security office, call 671-7170.

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Mobile devices must be in silent mode. Calls are permitted only in designated areas, no video recording is permitted at any time, and no photography is permitted during official competition rounds.

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.

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.

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. Their use is optional to players.

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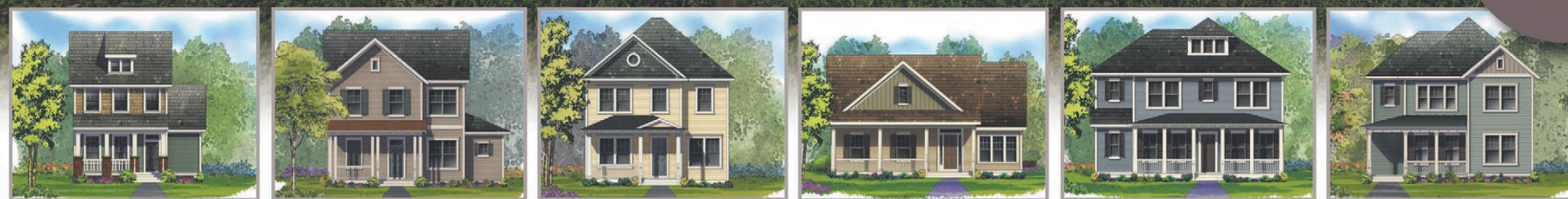
They are located near the second green, the eighth green, the 10th fairway, the 13th green, the 15th green, the 17th green and the 18th green. Concessions also are available at the Heritage Pavilion near the clubhouse.



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PLAYING HIS BEST

New family, good health, 2 wins in past year make outlook bright for defending champion Brandt Snedeker

By **STEPHEN FASTENAU**
 sfastenau@beaufortgazette.com
 843-706-8182

Brandt Snedeker knows comebacks.

There was a time he struggled to finish practice or workouts without pain in his hips, the result of a degenerative condition that plagued Snedeker from birth. He finally took steps to correct the problem, undergoing surgery on his right hip in October 2010. He repaired the left hip this past fall.

Now fully recovered and pain-free in both hips, Snedeker has already won in 2012 as he prepares to defend his Heritage title at Harbour Town Golf Links.

The 31-year-old former Vanderbilt standout, who turned professional in 2004, credits the end of his discomfort and the start of family life for the best golf of his career. Snedeker and his wife, Mandy, welcomed their first child — daughter, Lily — a month before his victory at Harbour Town.

“It gives me some relief and comfort when I come home and know that I’m not living and dying by every shot like I used to,” Snedeker said. “It’s making me play a lot better.”

His recipe also includes rallying from a deficit. In each of his three PGA Tour victories, he made up at least five shots during the final round.

He shot 64 the final day of the 2011 Heritage to force a playoff with Luke Donald. He fired 67 at Torrey Pines in January to catch Kyle Stanley and win the

“I think a lot of it is belief in what I’m doing, confidence in myself, realizing that I don’t have to make any big changes to play my best golf.”

Brandt Snedeker, on his success of late

Farmers Insurance Open in a playoff. Snedeker finished 2011 with a 68.31 final-round scoring average, third best on Tour.

The spark begins with Snedeker’s putter, said Sea Island, Ga., professional Todd Anderson, Snedeker’s swing coach since 2005. Snedeker ranked 10th in strokes gained putting in 2011 and 10th in total putting.

“He’s confident,” Anderson said. “He thinks he’s going to make it from everywhere, you know? Last year on Sunday, it was just one of those days.”

Anderson slipped in on Saturday of the 2011 Heritage to help Snedeker after a tough ball striking day. On the range before Sunday’s final round, Anderson saw good things.

And Snedeker started fast.

Anderson said he has worked with Snedeker on some of the same swing thoughts since the pair started, to stabilize the lower body, avoid becoming too upright on the backswing and to maintain his height on

THEN AND NOW

Brandt Snedeker on the PGA Tour:

2011-2012
 Wins: 2
 Top 3: 4
 Top 10: 10
 Top 25: 18
 Cuts made: 24/34

2004-2010
 Wins: 1
 Top 3: 5
 Top 10: 21
 Top 25: 37
 Cuts made: 79/118

the downswing — head up and upper body tall so that the arms are free to swing through the ball.

Anderson said the pair develops a plan based on what area of Snedeker’s game needs work. Snedeker said his recent success came, in part, by not trying to tinker too much.

“I think a lot of it is belief in what I’m doing, confidence in myself, realizing that I don’t have to make any big changes to play my best golf,” Snedeker said.

No big changes, except in the hips.

Snedeker’s problems developed from hips ill-fitted from birth. He chose Dr. Marc Philippon, a hip specialist who practices at the Steadman Clinic in Vail, Colo. The surgeries shaved away bone and repaired labrums.

Please see **SNEDEKER** on 9B



JAY KARR • The Island Packet

Brandt Snedeker pumps his fist on No. 18 after sinking his putt during the first sudden-death playoff hole with Luke Donald during the final round of the Heritage golf tournament last year at Harbour Town Golf Links. Snedeker triumphed over Donald on the third playoff hole.



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LEARNING EXPERIENCE

In his second season on PGA Tour, Berkeley Hall's Kyle Stanley has used an early-season collapse as motivation



DARRON CUMMINGS • The Associated Press

Kyle Stanley hits his second shot on the first hole during the first round of the Masters April 5 in Augusta, Ga.

By **STEPHEN FASTENAU**
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843-706-8182

The questions might stick around a while.

Bluffton resident and Berkeley Hall touring pro Kyle Stanley positioned himself for his first tour victory in January, leading by as many as seven shots at the Farmers Insurance Open at Torrey Pines.

But from the fairway on the par-5 18th, he unraveled, spinning his third shot back into the water, then three-putting for an 8.

He would lose in a playoff to defending Heritage champion Brandt Snedeker.

After the initial shock, Stanley's response to further questions was that he was playing good golf, that the process was working. He proved it the following week, winning the Waste Management Phoenix Open after trailing by eight shots to start the final round.

No matter what happens the remainder of the season, even a victory this week in his backyard, those two weeks early in the season might define Stanley for a long time.

But he'll have answers to the questions.

"I think I learned a lot about myself and my golf game," Stanley told reporters at the Shell Houston Open in March.

"And I wasn't quite sure how I was going to respond to that. But I wouldn't really change anything about it. I think it was really good for me, and I think it definitely made me a tougher player."

Stanley makes his second start at Harbour Town Golf Links hoping for a better showing than 2011, when he

"I think I learned a lot about myself and my golf game. And I wasn't quite sure how I was going to respond to that. But I wouldn't really change anything about it. I think it was really good for me, and I think it definitely made me a tougher player."

Former Clemson golfer and Berkeley Hall touring pro Kyle Stanley, on his 18th-hole collapse early this season at Torrey Pines

shot 74-73 to miss the cut. The same support system that helped him through the debacle at Torrey Pines might have worked against him when he was home last year, Stanley said.

He said he hasn't had the opportunity to play Harbour Town this year but that he hopes for more focus and a better showing the second time.

"I had a lot going on with family, friends and what not and I did not manage things as well as I would have liked," Stanley said. "I don't think that I was as prepared to play as I should have been and underestimated some of the demands that go along with playing a tour event in your backyard."

After a furious pace to start to this season, Stanley returned home for

some relaxation and to work on his game. The Washington state native traveled to Pittsburgh to watch Gonzaga play in the NCAA basketball tournament, practiced at Berkeley Hall and experienced Augusta National Golf Club.

Stanley's focus since the offseason has been on his play from 100 yards in, working on his wedge game and putting. He has worked with Mike Taylor, his swing coach in Sea Island, Ga., and James Sieckmann, who works with several other tour pros.

Sieckmann tweeted a photo in late March of Stanley practicing at Augusta National.

Stanley's work ethic has been well-documented in recent weeks. At Clemson, he took advantage of the lighted driving range, staying until he was satisfied his final shot was his best one.

The commitment began when Stanley was 15, after he missed the cut at the Washington high school state championships and received a gut check from his father.

Practice sessions at Clemson, which Stanley guessed ended as late as 3 a.m., sometimes resumed after Stanley had driven away and turned around, Stanley not content with how he finished.

Putting owns his focus of late. He said this past week, before playing his first Masters, that he would probably make changes.

"Probably just getting out of my way a little bit," Stanley said. "Instead of trying to make putts, maybe focus a little bit more on the things I can control, maybe just be a little more process-oriented on the greens."

Please see **STANLEY** on **PD**

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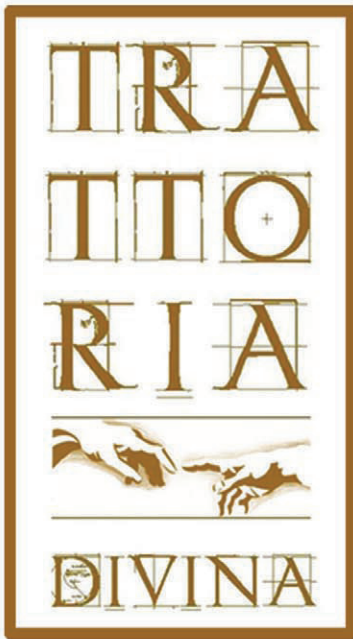
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SARAH WELLIVER • The Island Packet

Arnie Burdick, the Heritage Classic Foundation's tournament director of information, didn't come to Hilton Head Island intending to take a job. He retired to the island in the 1980s after a newspaper career in Syracuse, N.Y.

ARNIE THE AMBASSADOR

Nearly 30 years after taking temporary job with Heritage, Arnie Burdick continues to tout its virtues at age 92

By MIKE MCCOMBS
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843-706-8120

Arnie Burdick didn't want the job full time.

Heck, Burdick didn't want the job, period.

The longtime Syracuse (N.Y.) Herald-Journal sports editor and columnist, who had retired to Hilton Head Island with his wife, Mimi, received a phone call before the 1986 Heritage from former tournament director Mike Stevens.

Stevens, now the head of the Champions Tour, went to Penn State where he and Burdick knew some of the same people.

Stevens and the Heritage needed a media relations guy. He asked Burdick.

Burdick said no. He asked again. Burdick said no, again.

Stevens finally convinced Burdick to come to his office and talk about it.

"He said 'I need somebody. How about helping me out for a year?' And I said, 'Oh, all right. I'll do it for a year,'" Burdick said. "And I'm still here. Mike is gone, and I'm still here."

What initially was a hassle that Burdick wanted no part of has become one of the longest chapters in his life.

"I've had fun. And the more I think about it, it's been good for me," Burdick said. "You've got to keep your mind going. You've got to do something. You can't just sit home and watch the tube."

What Burdick has done is become a fixture at the Heritage.

Though he has cut back, the 92-year-old Burdick is working his 29th Heritage this week. Each year at media day, the

tournament awards the Arnie Burdick award to a media member who has excelled in their coverage of the tournament over time.

The prize is a pair of thick glasses frames, similar to those Burdick has long worn.

Burdick lost his wife to cancer several years ago but still lives in the house they bought together back in 1984.

Since he's made Hilton Head Island and its most famous golf tournament his home, it might be surprising to learn that he doesn't even play golf.

"I used to play a lot of tennis, but my knee gave out and I can't play anymore," Burdick said. "I don't play golf. I guess I'm one of the nuts that works for a golf tournament that doesn't even play golf."

Burdick may not play golf, but he's seen a lot of it at the Heritage. And he might even know a little bit about it.

Here's what Burdick had to say about several topics related to golf and the Heritage:

Question: On Brandt Snedeker's playoff win last year over Luke Donald and where it ranks all time among Heritage finishes:

Answer: Donald needed to win to be No. 1, and Snedeker won and took the big pot. It's tough to beat a tournament like that.

Donald has been 2-3-2 here the past three years, right there, but he hasn't kicked the door down.

It would be close to the top. It was one of the more thrilling, exciting tournaments that we've had, with a lot at stake. Nationally, internationally, everything else, with Donald going to No. 1 if he wins.

But I think the most dramatic tournament I can remember was '88 when Greg Norman won or rallied to win.

A young kid by the name of Jamie Hutton, a cancer victim, was idolizing Norman. He was a little kid for his age. He walked the last 18 with Norman.

Norman had a 66, and he came from behind and won it by a stroke. TV went wild and they knew the story and they told the story repeatedly for three hours.

It was touch-and-go between Norman and Gil Morgan. Norman won his only Heritage. Everybody was talking about it for the whole year.

Q: On why the first Heritage and Harbour Town were different from the start and why that was important:

A: The first tournament was Thanksgiving weekend. We played in November back then, the only dates that they would get.

We had a darn good field with a new golf course. Pete Dye had just finished it. It was a super golf course, a links course with all kinds of unique twist and turns and railroad ties that were different. And very small greens and narrow fairways. Lots of trees and lots of tough territory. That's why the golfers like it.

One of the reasons they like the course, you really gotta play the game or you're gonna get a big score here. You've got to be able to shape the ball, you've got to be able to put the ball in the right spot on the fairway and depending on wherethe flags are and such, hit to the green or else you're going to be in trouble.

Please see ARNIE on 92



FILE • The Island Packet

Brandt Snedeker lines up his putt on the 17th green during final round of Heritage last year at Harbour Town Golf Links on Hilton Head Island.

“We were going to be frustrated with the Tour if something wasn’t worked out, because of what it meant to us. We love coming here.”

Defending Heritage champion Brandt Snedeker, on the Heritage’s search for a new sponsor

SNEDEKER

Continued from 4D

He required six weeks on crutches and couldn’t play golf for another two weeks after that.

Snedeker underwent five hours of therapy each day and pool sessions three times a week.

“Now, I’ve got no issues,” Snedeker said. “I can work out, play as much as I want to without any pain. It’s a huge deal.”

Snedeker returned to Harbour Town in February to meet with the media as defending champion of a tournament once

in danger of fading from the schedule. He commended the job of PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem to secure RBC as the sponsor.

The Nashville native had not played particularly well at the Heritage before winning. He missed the cut the previous two years and tied for 53rd in 2008. But Snedeker received an exemption in 2005 and said he felt a connection here.

And so he keeps coming back.

“We were going to be frustrated with the Tour if something wasn’t worked out, because of what it meant to us,” he said. “We love coming here.”

STANLEY

Continued from 6D

In his second season on the PGA Tour, Stanley has displayed the talent that led friend and former Masters champion Zach Johnson to label Stanley a “stud.” As he prepared for his first Masters, Stanley ranked fifth on the money list, fifth in the FedEx Cup points race and fifth in driving distance.

After the wild finish at Torrey Pines, the surprised benefactor of Stanley’s slip predicted better days for the 24-year-old.

“And sure enough, the next week he won,” Snedeker said.

“And it was great to see him come down 18 and make a putt to win a tournament and get that monkey off his back. He’s just a great player.

“He’s going to be around here for a long time, and it’s great to see him have that confidence now.”

ARNIE

Continued from 8D

Palmer won it and Palmer hadn’t won in 14 or 15 months or something like that. It was better than a year. And all of a sudden the King came out and won the tournament, and everybody got all excited.

And it focused on Hilton Head. And it focused on Dye’s new course. And it focused on Pete Dye, who at that time was not very well known, compared to today where he’s built so many courses all over and he’s become very established. That was 44 years ago.

As a footnote, Palmer won \$20,000. It was a \$100,000 purse back then, compared to over a million today.

Q: On what’s changed about golf since he became involved with the Heritage:

A: The money, of course, has gone out of sight all over. But these golfers today are more dedicated than they were back then. I think it’s more professional than it used to be.

Years and years ago, I think they were amateurs who would turn pro. Now these kids are pros when they’re in college, practically, when they’re on scholarship. And that’s what they have in mind. I’m going to turn pro and that’s going to be my livelihood. And they’re dedicated that way, a good many of them.

Of course a lot of them fall by the wayside and don’t make it, naturally, because you’ve got to be damn good to stay out there and make the cuts. But I think that’s the one thing. The

competition is much more keen than it used to be and the fields are much deeper. The quality of the fields.

The course itself is groomed better, probably, because you have more modern equipment, more people doing it. They know what they’re doing.

The top golfers 30 years ago would still be top golfers today. The major winners and those like that, but the quality of the fields is much better. Coming out of college, they’re more advanced. The coaches are better and they work them harder.

Q: On what makes the Heritage special for the players:

A: One of the things that makes the Heritage for the golfer and his family, it’s an intimate area, small. They can see each other. They go out to a restaurant and they run into each other.

It’s a family affair. (The wives) can come down and bring the kids and shop or go to the beach or whatever. It’s good compared to a lot of other events where they never see each other.

Q: On the legacy of the Heritage:

A: One thing that sticks out in my mind. I was going over the history of it the other day.

Of the first 24 tournaments, 23 of the first 24 winners won majors. Now that’s ... I don’t think any other tournament can make that statement.

All the names like Johnny Miller and Hale Irwin and Palmer and Watson, and on and on and on — 23 of the first 24 have won majors.

The tournament is well established. It’s on its 44th year on the same course. How many

tournaments can make that claim? Because they move them around here and there.

Also, we’ve done a swell job as far as charity, and giving to local charities and state charities and so on. Over \$22 million, which is not small change.

We have a swell scholars’ program, and that’s been going on since 1993. It’s a terrific inspiration for high school kids here.

(The media doesn’t) focus on that, but they should.

Another thing that’s very important, especially for this community. Hilton Head is a tiny community when you consider the sites for all the other PGA Tour events. Most of the are in big cities or metropolitan areas.

This is either the smallest site or one of the smallest. And the economic impact for the week is \$82 million for Hilton Head and the state of South Carolina.

The other thing is, I think a lot of people forget, because of all the TV that we get, the global exposure, it has an economic impact throughout the year.

Because you never know, maybe somebody is watching the Heritage. He could be in South America. He could be in the Orient. He could be in the United States. He could be anywhere.

He sees the beautiful golf course in South Carolina and the amenities and he decides, “that’s where I want to take my family.”

He might come in November or May or June or some other time. He doesn’t have to come during the tournament, he could come any time throughout the year.



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OPENING ACT

The Masters has turned out to be the perfect warm-up for the RBC Heritage

By BOB STEVENS

Special to the Island Packet

It's too bad Phil Mickelson didn't decide to join the thousands flocking to the island this week for the RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing, for a couple of reasons.

First, he'd be playing a Harbour Town Golf Links course his peers ranked as their second favorite course on Tour, behind only Augusta National, in a winter survey by Golf World magazine.

It's a course he ranks even higher, even though he hasn't played here in more than a decade.

"My favorite golf course out here is probably Hilton Head," said Mickelson, who has skipped the RBC Heritage since finishing third in 2002. "I don't play there anymore because it's the week after the Masters. The kids are out of school, we go on a family trip that week, and I'm really tired from the Masters."

Certainly, winning at Augusta is a life-changing event. And Phil's got company in passing on a trip to our island paradise in recent years.

Bubba Watson's not coming this week. In fact, Zach Johnson is the only player to bring his green jacket to Hilton Head since Vijay Singh in 2000, though Zach finished sixth here the week after Augusta in 2007 and Vijay was third following

his Masters win.

Then there's the second reason Mickelson might have wanted to join the line of cars coming across the bridge this week. One of the 30-or-so fellow pros who played for the green jacket this past weekend and made the trip is likely to be fitted for a tartan jacket Sunday.

Only five times since the Heritage was moved to spot right behind the Masters in the schedule, 30 years ago, has the winner at Harbour Town not at least teed it up at Augusta National the week before.

Could it be, in a bit of only semi-twisted logic, that the Masters is a great tune-up for the RBC Heritage?

Three of the five "out of nowhere" Heritage champs have come in the last six years. Aaron Baddeley had missed his two previous cuts and only had one top-20 finish in 2006 before his Easter Sunday testimony and eventual win.

Boo Weekley announced his presence on the Tour in 2007 (just before his win here) with a playoff loss at the Honda earlier in the season. He defended in 2008 off a 20th-place Masters finish — his first trip to Augusta guaranteed by his '07 win here.

And Brian Gay had already had two top 10s and had made 9 of his 10 cuts before blitzing the field by 10 shots in 2009.

Otherwise, the formula has been simple: playing Augusta can lead to a title under the lighthouse.

Last year, Brandt Snedeker

followed his 15th-place finish at Augusta with a fourth at the Valero Texas Open before rallying to beat Luke Donald, who'd taken the week off after his fourth place finish at the Masters. Heritage winner Jim Furyk missed the Masters cut in 2010, as did Peter Lonard in 2005 and Jose Coceres in 2001.

Playing the weekend at Augusta is even a better predictor of success here. Stewart Cink, Davis Love III and Justin Leonard finished in the top 20 at Augusta before their Harbour Town wins in 2004, 2003 and 2002.

Before that, only Love's win in 1987 and Bob Tway's win in 1995 came after missing out on Masters week.

Though Bernhard Langer is the only player to sweep the Masters/Heritage duet in 1985, green jacket winners Sandy Lyle (1988), Nick Faldo (89-90) and Langer (1993), as well as Johnson and Singh, all finished in the top 20 at Harbour Town, refuting any "Masters Hangover."

And since it began following the Masters in 1983, more Heritage winners have gone on to win again that season on Tour than Masters champs.

So maybe there's a reason Mickelson might want to come back to Hilton Head someday. While his three Masters wins came after he stopped coming, in those three seasons, it was his last win of the year.

And Sunday's winner will punch the first winner's ticket to next year's Masters.



FILE • The Associated Press
Jim Furyk hits his tee shot on No. 18 during the third round of the 2006 Heritage at Harbour Town Golf Links on Hilton Head Island.

Harbour Town's No. 18 most memorable in SC

From staff reports

Harbour Town Golf Links' 18th hole has been selected as the Most Memorable Golf Hole in South Carolina by the S.C. Golf Course Rating Panel.

Harbour Town's 478-yard, par-4 18th requires a strong tee shot followed by a long iron into a small green protected by marsh and the waters of Calibogue Sound.

The panel, composed of 125 golf enthusiasts from around the state with all ranges of skill, made Harbour Town's 18th an overwhelming choice for the state's most memorable hole.

The hole "has done more for South Carolina tourism than any hole in the state," one panelist said. "It's demanding, scenic and memorable."

Another noted, "It's special in the way it represents South Carolina." Considering the challenge of the hole, one panelist said, "Long tee shot, long second shot, small green, narrow landing area. It's nerve-racking to play for a \$2 bet. I can't imagine playing it (on the PGA Tour) for \$1 million."

The rest of the top 10

2. No. 17 at Kiawah Island Golf Resort's Ocean Course; 3. No. 13 at Myrtle Beach's Dunes Golf and Beach Club; 4. No. 13, the Cliffs at Glassy (Landrum); 5. No. 18, Caledonia Golf and Fish Club (Pawleys Island); 6. No. 11, at Country Club of Charleston; 7. No. 17, Harbour Town Golf Links; 7. No. 17, Cliffs at Keowee Vineyards (Sunset); 9. No. 18, Ocean Course (Kiawah Island); 9. No. 18, Wild Dunes Links Course (Isle of Palms).

HARBOUR TOWN 2ND FAVORITE AMONG PGA TOUR PLAYERS

In a survey this past winter by Golf World, PGA Tour pros named Harbour Town Golf Links among their favorite courses on tour. The magazine polled 81 players, asking them to award each of the tour's venues a score from 1 to 10. Harbour Town, site of the RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing, finished second to Augusta National Golf Club, home of the Masters. Among the anonymous pro praise: "My favorite Pete Dye course" ... "the best course we play;" ... "don't need length for a great golf course" ... "It's a 10 because of great greens;" ... "you have to shape the ball on almost every hole."

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PALMETTO ROOTS

Beaufort native Anderson among 11 in RBC Heritage field with SC ties

By **STEPHEN FASTENAU**
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 843-706-8182

Mark Anderson feels he can squeeze more from this game, that lower numbers are out there.

But until then, the Beaufort resident and PGA Tour rookie can be content with his consistency. He has made five consecutive PGA Tour cuts entering this week at Harbour Town Golf Links, with his only miss coming early in the season at the Sony Open.

His most recent event, at the Shell Houston Open the week before the Masters, Anderson strung together four rounds under par, finished tied for 29th and earned his second biggest check of the season to pass six figures.

"I felt like I should have scored better, but I played well considering I didn't really feel like I was playing my best the beginning of the week," Anderson said. "But my ball-striking came around, and I actually felt pretty good with the putter. And overall, it was a pretty good week."

Anderson had some time off prior to Houston and said he wasn't pleased with the way he prepared, that he would try for more effective practice time during Masters week.

The Nationwide Tour graduate expects more events to open up after the Masters, when many players flock to play European Tour events. After the RBC Heritage, Anderson will travel to San Antonio and New Orleans and then hopes to earn a spot in the Wells Fargo Championship. He lists Quail Hollow Club, in Charlotte, N.C., among his top three layouts.

"It's a great golf course — ton of fun," Anderson said. "It's got a lot of risk/reward holes and it's always in impeccable shape, so it's definitely up there."

The 26-year-old has played Harbour Town once since missing the cut in 2011, visiting Sea Pines during his time off before Houston. Despite changes to the layout adding length to some holes, Anderson said he left his driver at home and worked his way around the Pete Dye design with a 3-wood.

Anderson returned from Texas disappointed



FILE • The Island Packet

Beaufort native Mark Anderson hits from the first tee during last year's Harbour Town Cup Pro-Am.

with his short game.

"That's usually a strong part of my game, and I felt like it was below average, at best," Anderson said. "I'm going to try and work on that and keep practicing my putting. And (the RBC Heritage) comes around, try to go out and figure out how to play that golf course."

Finding the lower scores is a matter of becoming comfortable during tournament play, Anderson said.

"I think I've been able to do that pretty well as far as getting comfortable and playing out there and enjoying myself and just going out there and playing golf," he said. "I think that's come along nicely. I'm just looking to improve every single week."

The Palmetto 11

Here's a capsule look at the 11 golfers in the RBC Heritage Field with South Carolina ties, including four golfers — Mark Anderson, Kris Blanks, Kyle Stanley and D.J. Trahan — who, at one time or another, have called Beaufort County home:

MARK ANDERSON

Turned pro: 2009
PGA Tour wins: 0
Best Heritage finish: T-81st (2010)
Palmetto roots: Beaufort resident; played at Univ. of South Carolina



MATT BETTENCOURT

Turned pro: 2002
PGA Tour wins: 1
Best Heritage finish: 72nd (2010)
Palmetto roots: Duncan resident



TOMMY BIERSHENK

Turned pro: 1997
PGA Tour wins: 0
Best Heritage finish: First Heritage
Palmetto roots: Boiling Springs native; played at Clemson



KRIS BLANKS

Turned pro: 1995
PGA Tour wins: 0
Best Heritage finish: T-5th (2010)
Palmetto roots: Former Bluffton resident



TOMMY GAINEY

Turned pro: 1998
PGA Tour wins: 0
Best Heritage finish: 3rd (2011)
Palmetto roots: Bishopville native



LUCAS GLOVER

Turned pro: 2001
PGA Tour wins: 3
Best Heritage finish: T-7th (2008)
Palmetto roots: Greenville native; played at Clemson



BILL HAAS

Turned pro: 2004
PGA Tour wins: 4
Best Heritage finish: T-27th (2002)
Palmetto roots: Greenville native



WILLIAM MCGIRT

Turned pro: 2004
PGA Tour wins: 0
Best Heritage finish: Cut (2011)
Palmetto roots: Boiling Springs resident; played at Wofford



CORBIN MILLS

Turned pro: Amateur
PGA Tour wins: 0
Best Heritage finish: First Heritage
Palmetto roots: Plays at Clemson



KYLE STANLEY

Turned pro: 2009
PGA Tour wins: 1
Best Heritage finish: Cut (2011)
Palmetto roots: Bluffton resident; played at Clemson



D.J. TRAHAN

Turned pro: 2003
PGA Tour wins: 2
Best Heritage finish: T-17th (2008)
Palmetto roots: Mt. Pleasant resident; played at Clemson



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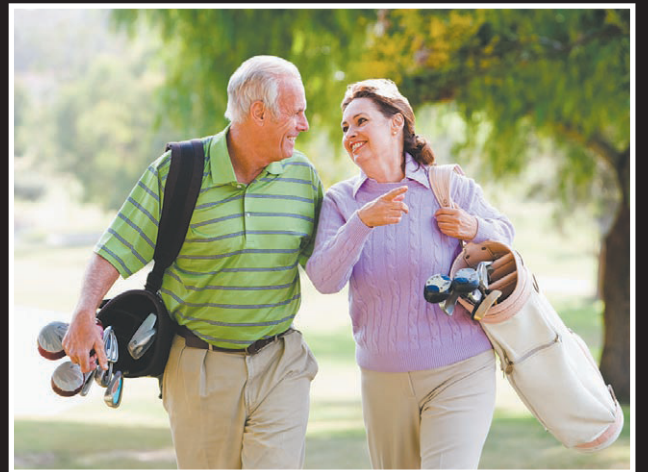


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HARBOUR TOWN GOLF LINKS

FRONT NINE

Hole No. 1
Yardage: 410
Par: 4
Handicap: 11
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: 13
Key: Stay left off 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: 469
Par: 4
Handicap: 9
Key: Drive to the middle of the fairway makes for a straightforward 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: 15
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: 540
Par: 5
Handicap: 5
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.



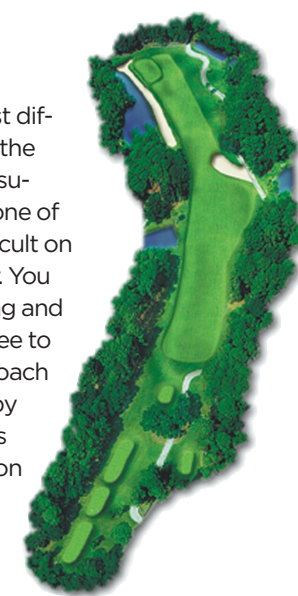
Hole No. 6
Yardage: 419
Par: 4
Handicap: 3
Key: Carry the fairway bunker to the right for the best angle to an open green. Big hitters can play more safely to the left. The green tilts heavily from back to front.



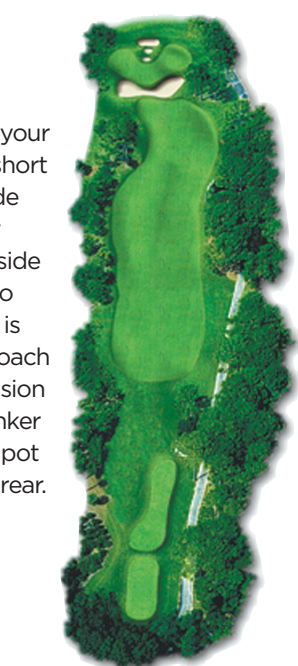
Hole No. 7
Yardage: 195
Par: 3
Handicap: 17
Key: Sand surrounds this hole, but the real key is avoiding tree branches that will deflect wayward shots. Lots of tee boxes give officials plenty of options, but the far right box has been all but abandoned during recent Heritage play.



Hole No. 8
Yardage: 473
Par: 4
Handicap: 1
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 unmolested by trees, bunkers and lagoons on the approach shot.



Hole No. 9
Yardage: 322
Par: 4
Handicap: 7
Key: Position your drive 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.



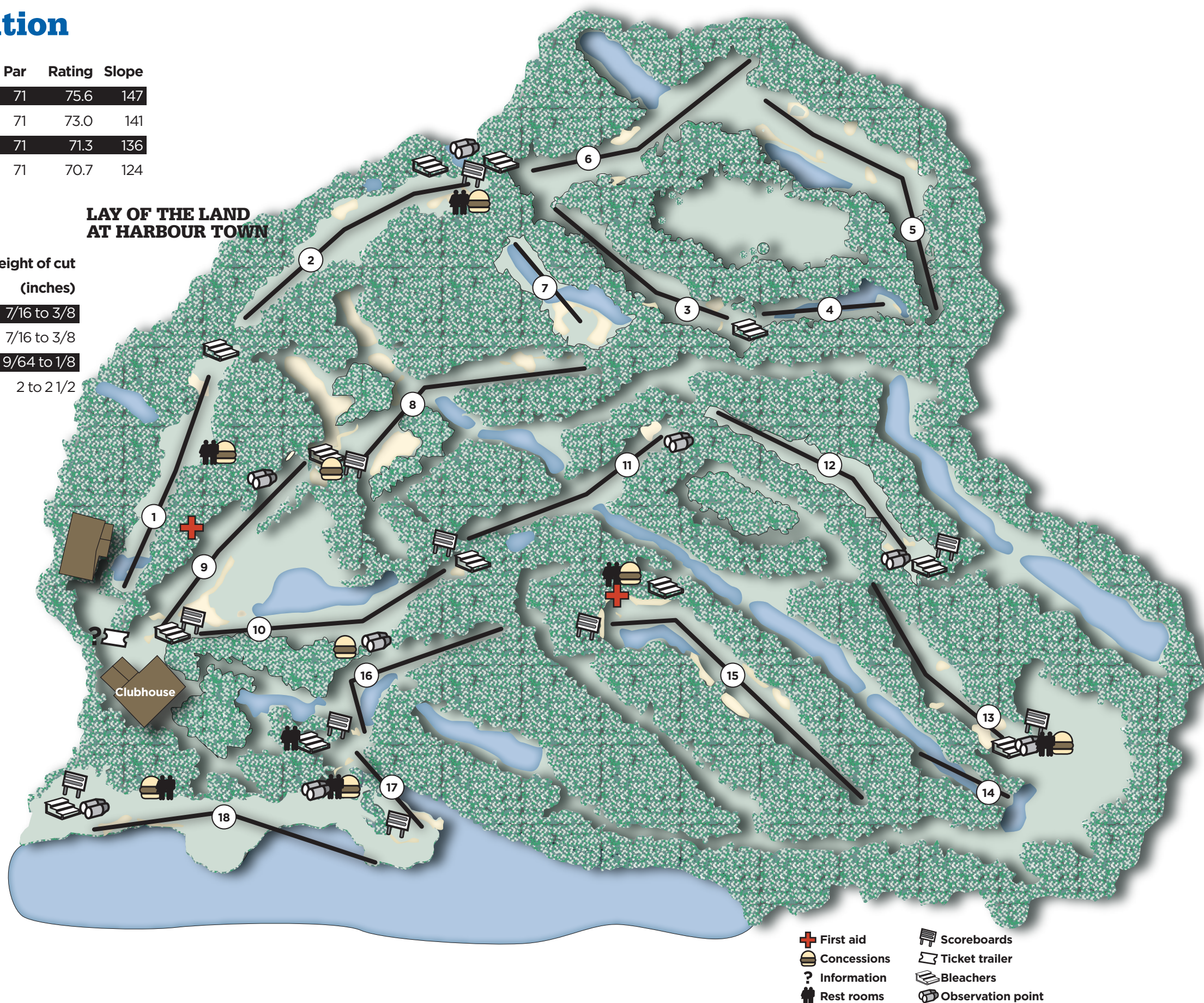
Tee information

Tee	Yardage	Par	Rating	Slope
Heritage	7,101	71	75.6	147
Championship	6,640	71	73.0	141
White	6,251	71	71.3	136
Green	5,208	71	70.7	124

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



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- Bleacher
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Places to go, things to see at this year's RBC Heritage

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

From staff reports

The annual 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 are inside 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 sit by 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 our newspaper 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 easy to catch up with him as he plays the course.

One of the most popular viewing spots at Harbour Town is the spectator mound 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 by your 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 tee size:** 2,400 square feet
- Rounds per year:** More than 40,000
- Acres of fairway:** 31
- Acres of rough:** 40
- Sand bunkers:** 48
- Water hazards:** 12
- Tournament Stimpmeter:** 10 to 10.5 feet
- Soil conditions:** Sandy loam and clay
- Superintendent:** Jonathan Wright
- Head PGA professional:** John Farrell

Images courtesy of HoleView

BACK NINE

Hole No. 10
Yardage: 451
Par: 4
Handicap: 12
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: 6
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
Key: Reaching the dogleg from the tee box is imperative to par ... but the challenge doesn't end there. Bunkers and a severe dip essentially 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: 10
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
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: 588
Par: 5
Handicap: 4
Key: Stay to the middle of the fairway. Bunkers, water and waste areas abound 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: 434
Par: 4
Handicap: 14
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: 485
Par: 3
Handicap: 16
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: 472
Par: 4
Handicap: 2
Key: Aim your tee shot for the famed lighthouse 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.





HERITAGE MEMORIES

A retrospective of 10 of the greatest moments from Hilton Head Island's PGA Tour event

10 COURSE FINISHED JUST IN TIME FOR 1ST HERITAGE

The first Heritage was planned for Thanksgiving weekend 1968 on Sea Pines' Ocean Course. But organizers delayed the debut by a year, giving them time to double the purse and play the first event on a new course, a collaboration between well-known Jack Nicklaus and then-obscure designer Pete Dye.

Though what would become Harbour Town Golf Links was mapped by George Cobb, designer of Sea Pines' Ocean and Sea Marsh courses, by the time ground was broken, Dye and Nicklaus had only 11 months to build and prepare the course.

They made it just under the wire. Promotional materials for the first tournament depicted the clubhouse and holes of the Ocean Course, and a pamphlet declaring the tournament will be played at Harbour Town attached an asterisk, with the fine print stipulating the Ocean Course would be used if Harbour Town was not ready.

As pros arrived for practice rounds, Dye was still crafting bunkers, and the PGA Tour official who had to certify the course ready to play cut organizers a break by overlooking greens where the grass had not quite filled in.

But approved it was, and Harbour Town helped usher in a new era of golf architecture, jump-start the burgeoning design careers of Nicklaus and Dye, and endure as one of the most challenging shot-makers' courses in the world. While shorter than 7,000 yards from the championship tees until this year, only four times in the event's first 15 playings would the victory shoot 274 or better.

9 IRWIN BECOMES OLDEST HERITAGE CHAMPION

A full 21 years after his last title at Harbour Town, the 48-year-old Hale Irwin 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 dominating performance — he shot two 65s and two 68s to set a then-tournament record of 18 under par.

8 DAVIS' SELF POLICING MEANS HERITAGE TITLE FOR FURYK

Former U.S. Open winner Jim Furyk has the precision game tailored for Harbour Town Golf Links. He posted four top-10 finishes from 2003-2008. But it took an act of honesty and sportsmanship from another player to vault Furyk to his first Heritage victory in 2010.

On the first hole of a sudden-death playoff, opponent Brian Davis ticked a loose reed with his backswing — an act imperceptible without slow-motion television replay and so slight, Davis himself was not sure he had nicked it. The result was a two-stroke penalty and a win for Furyk.

Davis' violation cost him a chance at his first PGA Tour victory and a stunning comeback — he had rolled in a clutch 18-footer for birdie on his final regulation hole to catch Furyk and force the playoff.

7 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 win from 10 down in the 1999 British Open. Cink also became the eighth golfer to win the Heritage more than once. He won't be remembered for either of those things.

Cink and Purdy battled in a five-hole playoff tied for longest in tournament history. After driving into a waste bunker tucked in the turn of a dogleg right at the par-4 16th, Cink hit a miraculous wedge shot to within feet of the pin to set up birdie and secure his second tartan jacket.

After the closing ceremonies and unknown to fans, 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 because they suspected the golfer of illegally removing debris from behind his ball and illegally marking the line of his shot or illegally grounding his club in a hazard.

Cink's victory stood when tournament rules official Slugger White determined he wasn't guilty of the first offense. And though Cink did ground his club and remove loose impediments from around his ball, both were allowable because he was in a "waste area" and not a bunker.

6 STEWART FIRST TO WIN BACK-TO-BACK TITLES AT HARBOUR TOWN

It was arguably the most dominant stretch by a professional golfer at Harbour Town Golf Links — Payne Stewart, who eschewed the course for five years because of what he deemed poor conditioning, returned



FILE • The Island Packet

Arnold Palmer ended a 14-month winless drought to capture the first Heritage, helping vault the tournament and the course it is played on to national prominence.

Please see MEMORIES on 15D



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MEMORIES

Continued from 4D

to the Heritage in 1989 only because the course it was played upon would host the season-ending Nabisco Championships later that year.

Stewart broke the tournament scoring record on the way to a win in his return and then won again in 1990. In between, Stewart lost a playoff to Tom Kite to finish second in the Nabisco. He then tied for fourth in the 1991 Heritage.

Stewart was the tournament's first back-to-back champion.

5 LOVE'S MIRACULOUS CHIP VAULTS HIM TO PLAYOFF, FIFTH TARTAN JACKET

Davis Love III was as inconspicuous on the final-round leaderboard of the 2003 Heritage as a four-time champion could be. He hadn't led any of the first three rounds 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 which, at one point, there was an eight-way tie for first.

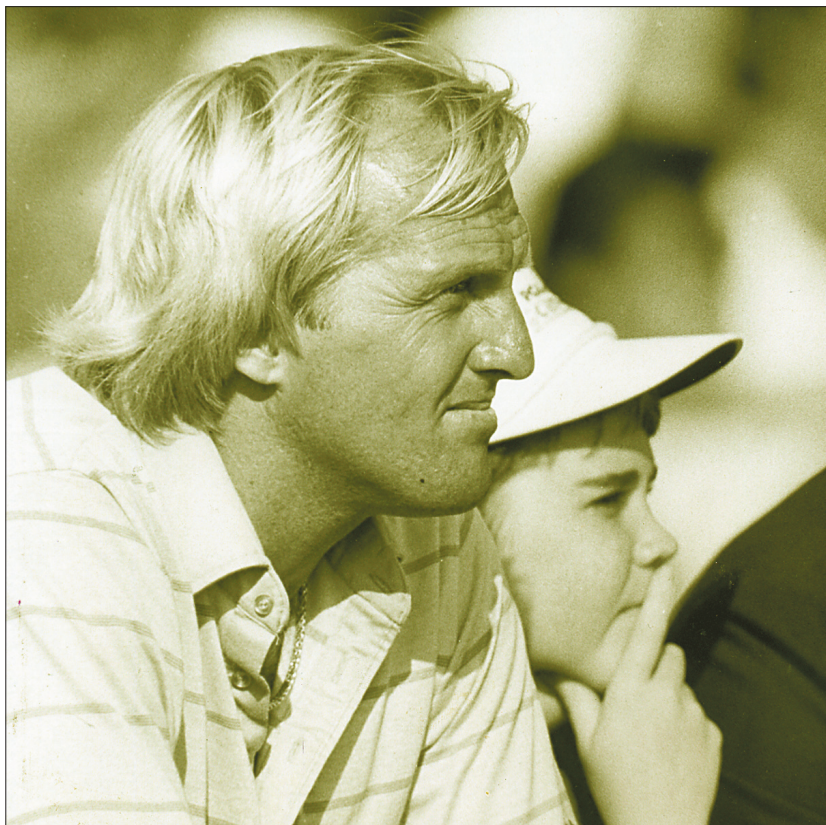
An hour after his miraculous shot, Love and Austin arrived back at No. 18 for the third time that day. Love pulled off another near miracle — his 6-iron approach hit the flag stick and stopped within feet of the hole. He made an easy birdie, and Austin missed a 19-footer to extend the playoffs.

Austin twice missed putts to win: A 6-footer on the second playoff hole and a 3-footer on the third extra hole.

4 HERITAGE CLASSIC FOUNDATION, MCI HELP ISLAND'S PGA TOUR EVENT AVERT 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.

More than \$100 million was owed to



FILE • The Island Packet
Greg Norman, left, and Jamie Hutton attend the closing ceremonies at the 1988 Heritage.

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 eventually take over administration of the tournament and shore up its financial furures.

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

Today, the nonprofit organization collects the revenue from sponsorships and ticket and concession sales and distributes it throughout the year to organizations that have submitted grant requests.

3 LANGER BECOME FIRST — AND IS STILL ONLY — TO WIN MASTERS, HERITAGE IN CONSECUTIVE WEEKS

A week before arriving at Sea Pines in 1989, Bernhard Langer became the first German to win on the PGA Tour when he won the Masters.

The press had been relentless in the days following Langer's Masters victory, but he found refuge on the golf course, shooting 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 on the way to a tartan jacket.

He 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, and he suffered a bogey to make Langer the first

golfer — and thus far the only one — to win the Masters and Heritage in consecutive weeks.

2 NORMAN DEDICATES HERITAGE WIN TO CANCER-STRIKEN BOY

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.

As it turned out, he did more than that.

A group called "Thursday's Child," 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 round, Norman ate breakfast with Jamie, who gave him this simple advice: "Shoot a 64." With Hutton following him in the gallery and CBS telling the touching story of his new friend, 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.

1 THE KING WAS THE FIRST AND HE'S STILL NO. 1

John Gettys Smith could barely stand to watch.

With the first Heritage Classic approaching a nail-biting finish on Thanksgiving weekend, 1969, Arnold Palmer threatened 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 that 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.

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 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.)

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

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CHANGING COURSE

Dye's changes at Harbour Town subtle, but players will notice

By **STEPHEN FASTENAU**
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 843-706-8182

Spectators might not notice subtle changes at Harbour Town Golf Links, save one significant new tee.

The players should recognize some extra length and new bunkers.

Pete Dye's tight design, leveled at testing players shot-making ability and headiness rather than length, was extended more than 100 yards since the 2011 Heritage. The difference is minimal, but pushes the total yardage beyond 7,000.

"Harbour Town doesn't need a lot of length," said Dye, who developed the layout with Jack Nicklaus. "It's so tight, with all the trees and the way it is. But the pros are all hitting it another 10 or 15 or 20 yards farther, so you try to offset that the best you can."

A tee on No. 16 was created beyond the road separating No. 15 and 16. The hole jumped from 395 yards to 434 yards.

The tee on No. 3 was moved back 28 yards and the new 18th tee adds more than 20 yards. The eighth tee also jumped back 12 yards. The entrance to

No. 1 green was widened as a favor to the high-handicapper, Dye said.

The tee on the par-4 sixth was repositioned, making it play more like a dogleg.

Dye added length on holes where he wanted pros to pull driver more often. He left alone holes designed to work shorter.

"Which, I think we were very pleased that was his decision, because that's one of the beauties of this golf course is you've got to make decisions," said John Farrell, director of golf at The Sea Pines Resort and head professional at Harbour Town. "You can't just get up there and rip away at it. You

"Harbour Town now is in better shape than I've ever seen it."

Pete Dye, course architect



Courtesy Sea Pines Co.

Pete Dye walks a fairway at Harbour Town Golf Links soon after the course's completion in 1969.

have to look at the hole location sheet before you pick your club on the tee box."

Other than the bunker on No. 1, Dye said the bunkers received few dramatic changes other than to spruce them up. New bunkers on the fifth hole threaten tee shots in what was a popular landing area. And a trap behind the green on the par-5 second was reconfigured.

Dye's other Beaufort County designs include Sea Pines' Heron Point, Hilton Head Island's Long Cove Club, the Colleton River Dye course in Bluffton and Hampton Hall. He periodically pays visits to oversee

work at each.

The 86-year-old World Golf Hall of Fame inductee said he planned to visit Harbour Town again during Masters week and that more changes could happen this summer, with the possibility of No. 5 green moving away from the property line, closer to the water and offering players a better angle to try and reach the par 5 in two.

The work is in addition to the restoration off of No. 18 meant to prevent erosion and restore the marsh.

"Really, Harbour Town now is in better shape than I've ever seen it," Dye said.

Harbour Town among SC's best

From staff reports

Harbour Town Golf Links at Sea Pines Resort on Hilton Head Island, site of the 44th RBC Heritage, has been named the second best golf course in South Carolina by the S.C. Golf Course Ratings Panel.

The Pete Dye course is ranked behind only The Ocean Course at Kiawah Island, another Dye gem, which will play host to the PGA Championship

this summer.

Harbour Town has been ranked No. 1 or No. 2 since the rankings began in 2005.

"We're flattered," said John Farrell, PGA Director of Golf at Sea Pines. "We're in great company. I love the Ocean Course, too, but I guess I'm biased. This is a great place to be. I really believe there's a lot of great golf courses in the state, and we're in great company."

S.C.'S TOP 50 GOLF COURSES FOR 2012

As Selected by the South Carolina Golf Course Rating Panel

1. The Ocean Course at Kiawah Island Golf Resort

2. Harbour Town Golf Links at Sea Pines Resort (Hilton Head)

3. Sage Valley Golf Club (Graniteville)

4. May River Golf Club (Palmetto Bluff)

5. Greenville Country Club - Chanticleer Course

6. The Dunes Golf & Beach Club (Myrtle Beach)

7. Yeamans Hall Club (Hanahan)

8. Long Cove Club (Hilton Head)

9. Secession Golf Club (Beaufort)

10. Palmetto Golf Club (Aiken)

11. Caledonia Golf & Fish Club (Pawleys Island)

12. Kiawah Island Club - Cassique Course

13. Musgrove Mill Golf Club (Clinton)

14. Chechessee Creek Club (Okatie)

15. Bulls Bay Golf Club (Awendaw)

16. Kiawah Island Club - River Course

17. Country Club of Charleston

18. Colleton River Plantation - Nicklaus Course (Bluffton)

19. Cherokee Plantation Golf Club (Yemassee)

20. Old Tabby Links (Spring Island)

21. Colleton River Plantation - Dye Course (Bluffton)

22. Cliffs at Keowee Vineyards (Sunset)

23. Haig Point Club (Daufauskie Island)

24. The Golf Club at Briar's Creek (Johns Island)

25. Tidewater Golf Club & Plantation (Little River)

26. Cliffs at Keowee Falls (Salem)

27. Belfair Golf Club - West Course (Bluffton)

28. The Reserve at Lake Keowee (Sunset)

29. Daniel Island Club - Ralston Creek Course

30. Belfair Golf Club - East Course (Bluffton)

31. Wild Dunes Resort - Links Course (Isle of Palms)

32. Wachesaw Plantation Club (Murrells Inlet)

33. Cliffs at Keowee Springs (Six Mile)

34. Cliffs at Glassy (Landrum)

35. The Reserve Club of Pawley's Island

36. True Blue Plantation (Pawleys Island)

37. Thornblade Club (Greer)

38. TPC of Myrtle Beach (Murrells Inlet)

39. Country Club of Spartanburg

40. Camden Country Club

41. Barefoot Resort - Dye Course (North Myrtle Beach)

42. Mount Vintage Plantation & Golf Club (North Augusta)

43. Debordieu Club (Georgetown)

44. Barefoot Resort - Love Course (North Myrtle Beach)

45. Grande Dunes Resort Course (Myrtle Beach)

46. Surf Golf & Beach Club (North Myrtle Beach)

47. Berkeley Hall - North Course (Bluffton)

48. Heron Point by Pete Dye at Sea Pines Resort (Hilton Head)

49. Pawleys Plantation Golf & Country Club (Pawleys Island)

50. Florence Country Club

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Title sponsor RBC and presenting sponsor Boeing signed on last June.

sional and personal relationships. Verizon and its corporate predecessors, MCI and WorldCom, had been Heritage title sponsors for 14 years.

“Those people are still my friends,” he said. “They didn’t leave because they didn’t believe in our tournament, but because their company just decided to go in a different direction.”

Wilmot characterizes his tournament’s relationship with both corporations as a work in progress.

RBC spokesman Andy Shibata agreed that there’s room for growth in the relationship, but maintained it’s off to a strong start.

“Steve Wilmot and his team have been fantastic to deal with, and I believe have put together a best-in-class tournament this year,” Shibata said.

Shibata added RBC is already offering new enticements to fans — for instance, a contest to design a golf bag to be carried by golfer Matt Kuchar’s caddie in next year’s event — and is committed to implementing more changes in future years.

“Being our first year as title sponsor, we simply want to experience this unique tour stop firsthand and look for ways to enhance the experience for the players, golf fans and RBC in the future.”

Follow reporter Grant Martin at Twitter: com/LowCoBiz.

GAME CHANGERS

New sponsors presented Heritage with new challenges

By GRANT MARTIN
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843-706-8145

It was the night before the final round of the 2011 Heritage, and tournament director Steve Wilmot could keep his emotions in check no longer.

For months, he had spent stressful days and sleepless nights trying to secure a sponsorship for the coming year, hoping to keep his tournament alive, and he’d yet to see any meaningful results.

“It just all caught up to me, and I got pretty emotional,” he says. “The governor was saying ‘no’ is not an option; the (PGA Tour) was saying ‘Moving is not an option,’ and I remember thinking that night, ‘I just want an option.’”

Fortunately for Wilmot — not to mention local golf fans and businesses — the coming weeks would bring better news, culminating in his June 16 announcement that the tournament had secured a five-year partnership with RBC and Boeing.

He says the search for new sponsorship proved more challenging than expected, as several corporations insisted on saving the tournament on the condition they relocate it nearer their headquarters.

“It really wasn’t as easy as we thought,” he admits. “We couldn’t anticipate the economy or the number of interested companies that wanted to hold our event in their back yard.”

Even after the announcement, Wilmot faced a variety of challenges and debates.

Because of the new sponsors’ active involvement in other tournaments — RBC remains as title

“The good news is, they’d run golf tournaments before.

The bad news is, they’d run golf tournaments before. We had some fundamental differences.”

Steve Wilmot, RBC Heritage tournament director, on working with two new sponsors



Wilmot

sponsor of the Canadian Open, and Boeing is title sponsor of a Champions Tour event in Seattle — both companies entered negotiations with the Heritage with preconceptions about how the tournament should be run.

“The good news is, they’d run golf tournaments before. The bad news is, they’d run golf tournaments before,” Wilmot said with a laugh. “We had some fundamental differences.”

He resisted some of the new sponsors’ suggestions, such as replacing “Heritage” with “Classic” and having mascot Sir Willie dress in blue and carry a flag instead of his trademark tartan red and golf club.

Other issues involved whether players would tee off in threesomes or foursomes and subtle changes to the tournament logo.

“These may not sound too dramatic,” Wilmot said, “but they’re really the nuts and bolts of running a golf tournament.”

Wilmot also had to cope with the sudden loss of people at the telecommunications company with whom he’d spent years cultivating profes-

Heritage purse remains same for 3rd straight year

By CHRIS COX
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843-706-8123

Steve Wilmot saw the gradual increases being made to the RBC Heritage purse. The tournament director had seen it every year since he started working with the event way back in 1987, when the purse was just \$650,000.

But for the third consecutive year, Wilmot won’t see that increase. The tournament’s purse, which reached \$5.7 million in 2009, will remain at that number for the fourth straight year after 17 consecutive years of steady accrual.

“You realize the increase, but you don’t realize how far it might go,” Wilmot said. “That’s out there with \$6.5 million purses and \$8 million purses. Whether that makes them better or bigger or whatever, that’d be tough to tell.”

There isn’t any particular reason why the purse did not increase this year, Wilmot said.

The tournament is backed for the next five years by the Royal Bank of Canada and Boeing, who joined last June as sponsors after the Heritage survived 2011 without a title sponsor.

The Heritage Classic Foundation had to use \$4 million of its reserves — along with a grant from the town of Hilton Head and a \$1 million loan from Beaufort County — to keep the tournament alive after Verizon departed following the 2010 tournament.

“It was certainly a sensitivity to us ... knowing what we just went through in the last year and a half in looking for a title sponsor,” Wilmot said. “Obviously, the town supported us. The county supported us, as well.”

In the past, the PGA Tour required the Heritage to raise its purse each year, but has since relaxed those contractual requirements. Wilmot said the Heritage talked with the tour several years ago about raising the purse but was told

it wasn’t a necessity.

According to pgatour.com, total purses for the tour have dipped 4 percent (in 2011 dollars) since peaking in 2004,

“Yes, it was a part of the contract, but the tour was working with us in the agreement of, ‘Let’s stay status quo and we’ll address the future in the future,’” he said.

“It’s never been a tour issue and the players have never (had an issue). I’m sure you’ll never hear a player say, ‘I’m not going to go there because it’s X amount.’”

Those players are flocking to the RBC Heritage for much more than the purse, which will result in a check for \$1,026 million for the winner this year. Harbour Town Golf Links was voted by players as their second-favorite course on the tour in a survey earlier this year by Golf World.

Harbour Town was behind only Augusta National.

“Just to be the richest purse out on tour doesn’t necessarily mean you’re going to have the best tournament out there, either,” Wilmot said. “We certainly realize that we’ve traditionally been in the top third or so. We’ve probably dropped a little bit in purse, but we also know that we have a special event on the PGA Tour, and the purse isn’t the only reason that these players are coming here.”

Wilmot said the Heritage will get together with its title sponsors after the tournament to discuss the future of the event, which naturally includes the amount of the purse. Whether that happens or not remains to be seen.

“Just to throw money into the pot again won’t necessarily bring us players, but then again it might be important to be in that elite group of tournaments from the purse side,” he said. “But we feel we have something very special here. Certainly RBC and Boeing feel the same way.”

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BEEN THERE, WON THAT



Boo Weekley won the Heritage in 2007 and 2008.

Eight past champions will go after another tartan jacket this week

By **MIKE McCOMBS**
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843-706-8120

Brandt Snedeker returns to defend his 2011 title in this week's RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing.

Snedeker's return means there are eight former Heritage champions in this year's field, including winners of 10 of the past 13 tournaments.

Two-time champions Stewart Cink and Boo Weekley will try for their third tartan jacket.

This year's RBC Heritage, however, will be an

event without Love.

Five-time champion Davis Love III, that is.

Love, who had not missed a Heritage since his first in 1986, cracked a rib at Bay Hill, forcing him to withdraw before his final round and miss the Shell Houston Open the next week, as well.

The Sea Island, Ga., native has won 20 times on the PGA Tour, with his five Heritage victories coming in 1987, 1991, 1992, 1998 and 2003.

Love has earned more than \$2.5 million at Harbour Town. His streak of Heritage's played ends at 26.



AARON BADDELEY

Heritage starts: 7
Heritage titles: 1 (2006)
Top-10 finishes: 3
Tournament scoring average: 69.19
2011 finish: T-14th



STEWART CINK

Heritage starts: 12
Heritage titles: 2 (2000, 2004)
Top-10 finishes: 5
Tournament scoring average: 69.96
2011 finish: T-30th



GLEN DAY

Heritage starts: 18
Heritage titles: 1 (1999)
Top-10 finishes: 2
Tournament scoring average: 71.11
2011 finish: Cut



JIM FURYK

Heritage starts: 13
Heritage titles: 1 (2010)
Top-10 finishes: 5
Tournament scoring average: 69.93
2011 finish: T-21st



BRIAN GAY

Heritage starts: 12
Heritage titles: 1 (2009)
Top-10 finishes: 2
Tournament scoring average: 70.83
2011 finish: T-36th



JUSTIN LEONARD

Heritage starts: 14
Heritage titles: 1 (2002)
Top-10 finishes: 1
Tournament scoring average: 70.83
2011 finish: Cut



BRANDT SNEDEKER

Heritage starts: 6
Heritage titles: 1 (2011)
Top-10 finishes: 1
Tournament scoring average: 70.95
2011 finish: 1st



BOO WEEKLEY

Heritage starts: 5
Heritage titles: 2 (2007, 2008)
Top-10 finishes: 2
Tournament scoring average: 68.85
2011 finish: T-46th

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Heritage family includes trio of top tournaments

The RBC Heritage is by far the biggest and best-known golf tournament in South Carolina, but it isn't the only top tournament conducted by the Heritage Classic Foundation.

That roster includes the Players Amateur, a prestigious amateur event to be held this summer at Berkeley Hall Club in Bluffton, and the Junior Heritage, a top-flight junior event played each February at the Sea Pines Resort.

Both tournaments boast an impressive list of alumni, many of whom come back to the area to play in the RBC Heritage upon launching their pro careers.

Past Players Amateur champions include Corbin Mills, Bill Haas, Camilo Villegas, Matt Kuchar, Rickie Fowler and Mark Anderson, all of whom are in this year's RBC Heritage field.

Past winners of the Junior Heritage include Kyle Stanley and Charles Howell III, another duo shooting for a tartan jacket this week at Harbour Town Golf Links.

From staff reports

FOLKS YOU NEED TO KNOW



Cary Corbitt



Simon Fraser



John Farrell



Bonnie Hunt



Morgan Hyde



Andy McMillen



Bill Wagner



Steve Wilmot



Jonathan Wright

JOB TITLE:	Director of sports and operations for the Sea Pines Resort	Chairman of Heritage Classic Foundation	Director of golf	Executive administrator/volunteer coordinator	Assistant tournament director	Operations manager	Sales director	Tournament director	Golf course superintendent
JOB RESPONSIBILITIES:	Golf and tennis operation, recreation, retail operations, resort facility maintenance and landscaping	A practicing lawyer, he's a trustee with the foundation and works with the tournament, as well	Golf operations at the Harbour Town Golf Links, Ocean and Heron Point by Pete Dye golf courses	Coordinating some 1,000 volunteers, various secretarial duties	Tournament operations, pro-am administration, gifts, staff and volunteer apparel	Basically everything that goes on behind the scenes	Sponsorship sales	A little bit of everything	Maintaining Harbour Town Golf Links
YEARS ON THE JOB:	30 plus years	24	21	42	14	3 1/2 years	6	25	3
HOMETOWN:	McCormick	Hilton Head Island	Pittsfield, Mass.	Thomasville, N.C.	St. Simons Island, Ga.	Salamanca, N.Y.	Jacksonville, N.C.	Moorestown, N.J.	Lexington, Ky.
GOLF HANDICAP:	PGA Class A Club	12	Professional	Do not play	Do I really need to say? 28.	18	8 (Only when good Bill shows up)	16	10
FAVORITE HOLE AT HARBOUR TOWN:	15	17	9	18	17	13	18	15	15
LEAST FAVORITE AT HARBOUR TOWN:	I love all the golf holes	None — hardest for me is 18	Don't have one	Do not have a least favorite	No. 8. It just has my number	14	11	There are none; I love them all	18. My ball always finds the marsh
HOBBIES:	Golf, running, boating	Golf, boating, fishing, hunting, reading, cooking	Family time, tennis, travel	Reading, ceramics, painting	Reading, playing guitar	Beach, watching all sports	Yard work, golf	Playing golf and basketball	Spending time with friends
PREVIOUS JOBS:	My position with the resort has seen much change over the years and continues to be very satisfying every day largely because of the company we work for	Have always been a lawyer	Head professional at Ocean and Sea Marsh Courses	Telephone operator with Southern Bell; switchboard operator at University Hospital in Augusta, Ga.; title clerk with major financial company	U.S. Army	Operations coordinator for 2008 Senior PGA Championship; 2005-2007 tournament intern for PGA Championships, Heritage, Senior PGA Championship	20-plus years in the hotel/resort industry	I worked with the Carolinas PGA Section prior to coming to Hilton Head in the summer of 1986 to work for Sea Pines in their pro sports department	I worked at Haig Point on Daufuskie Island and Man O War Golf in Lexington, Ky.
IF YOU WERE NOT AT THE TOURNAMENT WHERE WOULD YOU BE?:	I can't imagine not being there; The Heritage is the only place to be in April	I have attended every tournament; I don't have an answer for that	Spending time with family	On a cruise or vacationing in Hawaii	Well, I would hope that I would be at another tournament	I hopefully would be working in the sports industry, preferably in a position I am in now	Probably still in the hotel business	I always wondered what it would be like working in the front office of the NFL	I honestly don't know what I would be doing, but it would definitely be on Hilton Head Island

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FEW ARE CHOSEN

Deciding who gets RBC Heritage's 8 exemptions tough task

By **CHRIS COX**
ccox@islandpacket.com
843-706-8123

It was bribery at its finest. RBC Heritage tournament director Steve Wilmot was opening a package that had been delivered to his office. Inside, he found a note which said something along the lines of, "I'll give you the shirt off my back for an exemption."

Underneath that note was a shirt from the golfer's clothing line.

"I tell people there's a lot of tough things about the job and a lot of things I love," Wilmot said. "This is one part of it that's definitely one of the toughest."

Every year, Wilmot and his group are tasked with the difficult responsibility of handing out eight exemptions for the Heritage. Four are unrestricted — they can go to whomever Wilmot chooses — while another two are restricted, meaning they go to members of the PGA Tour. The final pair generally come from PGA Tour qualifying school or the Nationwide Tour.

The Heritage has a limited field of only 132 golfers, while most other tournaments have somewhere between 150-170 players participating. So naturally, the demand for the Heritage's eight exemptions increases. Wilmot says the tournament had close to 80-plus players asking for one of the coveted spots this year.

"You've got to do what you've got to do, but there's so many players worthy of a

"You've got to do what you've got to do, but there's so many players worthy of a spot. You just can't give it to everybody."

Steve Wilmot, RBC Heritage tournament director, on exemptions



MATT SLOCUM • The Associated Press
Corbin Mills, left, plays during the second round of the Masters in Augusta, Ga. Mills is in the RBC Heritage as a result of his 2011 Players Amateur victory.

spot," he said. "You just can't give it to everybody."

One of the first things Wilmot looks for in determining exemptions is local flavor. Golfers who are natives of South Carolina or the Savannah area are likely to jump to the top of the list. That's happened this year with Mark Anderson, Corbin Mills, Tommy Biershenk, Will McGirt and Brian Harman.

Anderson — a Beaufort native who played for the University of South Carolina — will be playing in his fourth consecutive Heritage, while Mills, a current Clemson golfer from Easley, will make the trek down to Hilton Head Island after competing in the Masters this week. He claimed his exemption after winning the the Players Amateur in 2011.

Biershenk is a Clemson alum from Inman, and McGirt graduated from Wofford. Harman, a Savannah native who was an All-American at the University of Georgia, rounds out the list.

"It's important to us to have additional

(press) around the state plus tickets," Wilmot said. "They're going to sell us tickets having some of these great local stories."

Connections to the Heritage's sponsors and previous success also can't hurt one's chance of claiming an exemption. Such is the case for Mike Weir, who is sponsored by the Royal Bank of Canada and is best known for winning the Masters back in 2003.

Wilmot said a personal touch certainly helps a player's chances at grabbing an exemption.

"Something that's important to me is a personal phone call," he said. "For me to get a phone call from an agent, significant other, spouse or some copied letter, ... Guess what? If it's important to you, and we're giving you an opportunity to come inside the ropes and make a million dollars, I better feel that it's personal."

And if that doesn't work, you can also try to send him a shirt. Wilmot wears a husky

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

TODAY: First round, Harbour Town Golf Links, all day
FRIDAY: Second round, Harbour Town Golf Links, all day
SATURDAY: Third round, Harbour Town Golf Links, all day;
Tartan Day judging in the tent by the clubhouse. Fans are encouraged to wear their best Heritage garb, noon-2 p.m.
SUNDAY: Church service at 18th green, 7:30 a.m.; final round, Harbour Town Golf Links, 8:30 a.m.; closing ceremonies at 18th green, after play

TOURNAMENT AT A GLANCE

What: 44th annual RBC Heritage
When: Today through Sunday
Where: Harbour Town Golf Links, Sea Pines Resort, Hilton Head Island
Par: 36-35-71
Yardage: 3,540-3,561-7,101
Format: 72 holes, 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 Calibouge South with view of the marsh and Harbour Town Yacht Basin
Defending champion: Brandt Snedeker
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, Boo Weekley, Brian Gay, Jim Furyk
Total prize money: \$5,700,000
Winner's share: \$1,026,000
Playoff: If necessary, a sudden-death playoff will be conducted, starting at the 18th hole
Field: 132 invited players who qualify in at least one of the 22 categories of eligibility
Title sponsor: Royal Bank of Canada
Presenting sponsor: Boeing
Tournament director: Steve Wilmot
Director of golf: John Farrell
Course superintendent: Jon Wright
Live TV: The Golf Channel — Thursday: 3-6 p.m.; Friday: 3-6 p.m.; Saturday 1-2:30 p.m.; Sunday 1-2:30 p.m.; CBS — Saturday: 3-6 p.m.; Sunday: 3-6 p.m.
Replay: The Golf Channel — Thursday: 8:30-11:30 p.m.; Friday: 8:30-11:30 p.m.; Saturday: 9:30-11:30 p.m.; Sunday: 9:30-11:30 p.m.
Radio: XM Satellite Radio — Thursday: 2-6 p.m.; Friday: 2-6 p.m.; Saturday: 2-6 p.m.; Sunday: 2-6 p.m.

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10 who can win: Taking a shot in the dark at picking a champ

When I started to write a 10 Who Can Win column for this year's RBC Heritage, I admit, I was at a little bit of a loss as to how I wanted to go about it.

Aside from one round in 1998, this is my first Heritage. Along with the Royal Bank of Canada, I'm jumping in with both feet this year.

So I peeked at a couple of these type columns from years gone by written by those who preceded me.

One thing most had in common?

They acknowledged that it's borderline insane to try and pick the winner of a professional golf tournament.

So why try?

I mean besides the obvious need to fill this space in the section.

Because people like knowing who the favorites are. The public usually wants to know what to expect. Fans want to know who should win. And then they are typically pretty split between rooting for one of them and rooting for the underdogs.

If one of the guys listed at the end of this column wears the plaid (like Brandt Snedeker last year), I'll gain a little bit of credibility.

If someone from outside this list wins on Sunday, we can all revel in the stories about the surprise winner who came from nowhere to win at Harbour Town.

Knowing no better way to go about it, the first thing I did was to make a list of former champions who are in the field this week. My logic is if they've won it before, they can do it again.

Then I added a few more golfers who have played well here before but come up short.

And finally, I took a look at the FedEx Cup standings for this season and added a few more golfers who are playing well.

I ended up with a list about twice as long as I needed it to be, so then I turned to that age-old prognostication tool — my gut. I went on feel as I whittled the favorites down to an



MIKE MCCOMBS

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843-706-8120

elite 10.

So, with no more delay, here are my 10 who can win:

RICKY BARNES

Heritage scoring average: 68.63 (8 rounds)

Best finish: T-4th, 2011

2011 finish: T-4th

Why Tartan suits him: Barnes's Harbour Town debut in 2010 was good for a fifth place finish at 9 under. He bettered that by a stroke and a place in the standings in 2011. In his two years at the Heritage, Barnes has the lowest scoring average in tournament history. He also has no wins. It's almost impossible for both to continue. So for now, I'm betting on the latter.

STEWART CINK

Heritage scoring average: 69.96 (46 rounds)

Best finish: Won (2000, 2004)

2011 finish: T-30th

Why Tartan suits him: He's played the Heritage for 11 straight years, missing the cut just once and winning twice with three other top-10 finishes. He's obviously got this place down. He's the closest thing to Davis Love III in the field, aside from Love himself, of course.

LUKE DONALD

Heritage scoring average: 70.00 (20 rounds)

Best finish: 2nd, 2009, 2011

2011 finish: 2nd

Why Tartan suits him: He shares the mark for most consecutive rounds under par at Harbour Town with 11, and that streak is still active. The world's top-ranked player has finished second, third and second here the past three years. It would seem as though a win here is inevitable.



FILE • The Island Packet

Luke Donald tees off at No. 17 during the second round of the Heritage last year. In the past three years, Donald has finished second, third and second at Harbour Town.

ERNIE ELS

Heritage scoring average: 69.98 (44 rounds)

Best finish: 2nd, 2007

2011 finish: Cut

Why Tartan suits him: His seven top-10 finishes at Harbour Town are tied for fifth best. Despite missing the cut last year, he's made 10 of 12 here and has three times finished in the top three. He'll have some extra rest this year after missing his first Masters in 18 years.

JIM FURYK

Heritage scoring average: 69.93 (46 rounds)

Best finish: Won, 2010

2011 finish: T-21st

Why Tartan suits him: Furyk has twice

shot all four rounds of the tournament in the 60s (2008, 2010). In the nine times he's played the tournament since 2002, he's finished inside the top 21 seven times with four top-5 finishes, missing the cut twice. Like Luke Donald, there was a time when it seemed as though it was just a matter of time before he won here.

BILL HAAS

Heritage scoring average: 71.65 (20 rounds)

Best finish: T-27th, 2006

2011 finish: T-30th

Why Tartan suits him: He's never cracked the top 25 since first playing Harbour Town in 2005, missing the cut in three of his six trips to Sea Pines. Why's he on my list? Haas has taken his play to another level since last year's tie for 30th at Har-

bour Town. He has six top 10s and two wins, including the Tour Championship. He won the FedEx Cup and has made nine cuts in nine tournaments this year.

TOMMY GAINEY

Heritage scoring average: 70.4 (10 rounds)

Best finish: 3rd, 2011

2011 finish: 3rd

Why Tartan suits him: Finished third in his third try at Harbour Town, just a shot behind behind Brandt Snedeker and Donald, who went to a playoff.

BRANDT SNEDEKER

Heritage scoring average: 70.95 (20 rounds)

Best finish: Won, 2011

2011 finish: Won

Why Tartan suits him: He won last year, after missing the cut the previous two years, by shooting a final-round 64 and forcing a playoff with Luke Donald. He's healthy and he loves Harbour Town. And he knows he can win here, which is half the battle. Factor in that he's playing well (10th in FedEx standings, a win, 8 for 8 in cuts made in 2012) and a repeat isn't out of the question.

BOO WEEKLEY

Heritage scoring average: 68.85 (20 rounds)

Best finish: Won (2007, 2008)

2011 finish: T-46th

Why Tartan suits him: After winning in his first two tries at Harbour Town, he turned in a tie for 13th and a tie for 12th before slipping into a tie for 46th last year. But his scoring average of 68.85 through his first 20 rounds is the third best in Heritage history.

MARK WILSON

Heritage scoring average: 71.28

Best finish: T-21, 2011

Why Tartan suits him: He's the second among all the players in the field in the FedEx Cup standings. His scoring average at Harbour Town is over par, however, he has carded rounds in the 60s in each of his past four Heritage appearances. That includes an opening-round 66 last year, when he posted his career tournament-best 21st-place finish. He won the Humana Challenge in January and was third in the WGC Match Play in late February. He's slumped since, but his accuracy off the tee could put him in the Heritage mix.

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2011 SCORING SUMMARY

Final Round
x-won on third playoff hole

x-Brandt Snedeker (500), \$1,026,000	69-67-72-64	-272	-12
Luke Donald (300), \$615,600	67-65-70-70	-272	-12
Tommy Gainey (190), \$387,600	71-67-67-68	-273	-11
Tim Herron (123), \$250,800	65-71-71-67	-274	-10
Ricky Barnes (123), \$250,800	71-67-67-69	-274	-10
Nick O'Hern (92), \$190,950	70-66-72-68	-276	-8
Ben Crane (92), \$190,950	69-66-71-70	-276	-8
Pat Perez (92), \$190,950	71-67-68-70	-276	-8
Kevin Na (70), \$142,500	70-68-73-66	-277	-7
Paul Goydos (70), \$142,500	72-67-70-68	-277	-7
Garrett Willis (54), \$91,200	64-69-74-70	-277	-7
Jason Day (70), \$142,500	69-65-71-72	-277	-7
Scott Verplank (70), \$142,500	67-70-67-73	-277	-7
Webb Simpson (54), \$91,200	69-69-72-68	-278	-6
Chris DiMarco (54), \$91,200	73-69-68-68	-278	-6
Spencer Levin (54), \$91,200	68-69-71-70	-278	-6
Chad Campbell (54), \$91,200	65-69-73-71	-278	-6
Aaron Baddeley (54), \$91,200	64-69-74-70	-277	-7
Jason Dufner (54), \$91,200	67-71-68-72	-278	-6
Chris Couch (54), \$91,200	68-68-70-72	-278	-6
Bio Kim (46), \$52,060	71-69-74-65	-279	-5
Fredrik Jacobson (46), \$52,060	69-71-71-68	-279	-5
Brendan Steele (46), \$52,060	70-68-72-69	-279	-5
Brian Davis (46), \$52,060	68-74-68-69	-279	-5
Matt Kuchar (46), \$52,060	68-72-69-70	-279	-5
Michael Bradley (46), \$52,060	71-71-66-71	-279	-5
Mark Wilson (46), \$52,060	66-70-71-72	-279	-5
Brendon de Jonge (46), \$52,060	67-71-66-75	-279	-5
Jim Furyk (46), \$52,060	68-66-69-76	-279	-5
Stewart Cink (39), \$34,628	72-68-73-67	-280	-4
Billy Mayfair (39), \$34,628	70-68-73-69	-280	-4
Ryuji Imada (39), \$34,628	70-71-69-70	-280	-4
J.P. Hayes (39), \$34,628	70-70-69-71	-280	-4
Bill Haas (39), \$34,628	70-70-69-71	-280	-4
Carl Pettersson (39), \$34,628	71-69-69-71	-280	-4
Robert Garrigus (31), \$23,969	68-70-76-67	-281	-3
Jason Bohn (31), \$23,969	73-69-72-67	-281	-3
Ben Curtis (31), \$23,969	71-71-71-68	-281	-3
Jerry Kelly (31), \$23,969	68-71-73-69	-281	-3
Ian Poulter (31), \$23,969	69-66-75-71	-281	-3
Stephen Ames (31), \$23,969	72-68-69-72	-281	-3
Brian Gay (31), \$23,969	66-73-70-72	-281	-3
Camilo Villegas (31), \$23,969	66-68-74-73	-281	-3
Kevin Streelman (31), \$23,969	73-69-67-72	-281	-3
Jeff Klauk (31), \$23,969	69-71-68-73	-281	-3
Alex Cejka (23), \$15,504	69-73-70-70	-282	-2
David Hearn (23), \$15,504	72-70-69-71	-282	-2
D.J. Trahan (23), \$15,504	69-67-73-73	-282	-2
Blake Adams (23), \$15,504	67-71-71-73	-282	-2
Boo Weekley (23), \$15,504	69-70-70-73	-282	-2
Tim Petrovic (23), \$15,504	68-72-69-73	-282	-2
Troy Merritt (18), \$13,367	71-70-73-69	-283	-1
Nathan Green (18), \$13,367	69-69-74-71	-283	-1
Chris Riley (18), \$13,367	67-71-73-72	-283	-1
Trevor Immelman (18), \$13,367	69-71-71-72	-283	-1
Josh Teater (13), \$12,768	68-74-71-71	-284	E
James Driscoll (13), \$12,768	70-70-71-73	-284	E
Steve Flesch (13), \$12,768	72-70-69-73	-284	E
Ben Martin (13), \$12,768	67-72-71-74	-284	E
Greg Chalmers (13), \$12,768	74-65-71-74	-284	E
Chad Collins (9), \$12,312	71-70-75-69	-285	+1
Heath Slocum (9), \$12,312	71-68-73-73	-285	+1
Graeme McDowell (9), \$12,312	68-69-74-74	-285	+1
Daniel Summerhays (7), \$12,027	73-66-73-74	-286	+2
Matt Bettencourt (7), \$12,027	65-73-70-78	-286	+2
Lee Janzen (4), \$11,742	70-71-74-72	-287	+3
Steve Elkington (4), \$11,742	68-72-74-73	-287	+3
Arjun Atwal (4), \$11,742	65-73-72-77	-287	+3
Will MacKenzie (2), \$11,457	71-69-77-71	-288	+4
Kris Blanks (2), \$11,457	71-69-74-74	-288	+4
Kent Jones (1), \$11,229	73-68-76-73	-290	+6
John Daly (1), \$11,229	70-72-74-74	-290	+6
Charlie Wi (1), \$11,058	72-70-73-77	-292	+8



FILE • The Island Packet

2010 Heritage champion Jim Furyk is ranked 27th in the latest FedEx Cup standings after his 11th-place finish at the Masters. Furyk is in the field for the 2012 RBC Heritage Presented by Boeing.

THE CHAMPIONS

Past champions 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)
WORLDWIDE CLASSIC - THE HERITAGE OF GOLF
2001: Jose Caceres** (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 (269)
2007: Boo Weekley (270)
2008: Boo Weekley (269)
2009: Brian Gay (264)
2010: Jim Furyk (271)
HERITAGE
2011: Brandt Snedeker (272)

* First two rounds split between the Sea Pines Ocean Course and Harbour Town Golf Links
** Won in playoff

2012 FIELD TRACKER

Bold indicates player is in RBC Heritage field.

FedEx Cup Standings
(Through the Masters)

Golfer	Pts.
1. Hunter Mahan	1,378
2. Bubba Watson	1,322
3. Phil Mickelson	1,136
4. Johnson Wagner	1,056
5. Rory McIlroy	1,045
6. Kyle Stanley	954
7. Justin Rose	948
8. Mark Wilson	887

9. Tiger Woods	875
10. Bill Haas	865
11. Brandt Snedeker	835
12. Keegan Bradley	795
13. Steve Stricker	734
14. Luke Donald	674
15. Ben Crane	627
16. Louis Oosthuizen	623
17. Carl Pettersson	611
18. Martin Laird	556
19. John Huh	547
20. Graeme McDowell	530
21. Matt Kuchar	522
22. Kevin Na	517

23. Lee Westwood	509
24. Robert Garrigus	504
25. Sang-Moon Bae	498
26. Charles Howell III	486
27. Jim Furyk	465
28. Webb Simpson	451
29. George McNeil	437
30. Sean O'Hair	432

World Golf Ranking
(Through the Shell Houston Open)

Golfer	Pts.	Cntry
1. Luke Donald	504.48	Eng
2. Rory McIlroy	479.58	Nir

THE RECORD BOOK

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
129: Jack Nicklaus ('75); Phil Mickelson ('02)
BEST 54-HOLE SCORES
197: Justin Leonard ('02).
BEST 72-HOLE SCORES
264: Brian Gay ('09).
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: 7 back, Stewart Cink ('04).
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), Brian Gay ('09), Brandt Snedeker ('11).
HIGH FINISH BY WINNER
75: Peter Lonard ('05).
LARGEST MARGIN OF VICTORY
10: Brian Gay ('09).
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
Daniel Summerhays ('11), Jerry Kelly and Davis Love III ('10), Tommy Armour III and Lee Janzen ('09), Robert Allenby and Ben Curtis ('08), 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).
142 (even par): 1996, 2001, '02, '03, '06, '10, '11.
HIGH 36-HOLE CUT
152: 1971 (10 over).
HIGH 54-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
26: Davis Love III

LAST MONDAY FINISH
2007
LAST BACK-TO-BACK WINNER
Boo Weekley, 2007-2008
FIRST-TRY WINNERS
Arnold Palmer ('69); Bob Goalby ('70); Stewart Cink ('00); Jose Caceres ('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 ('83).
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 Kenny Knox in 1989 Heritage Classic.
FEWEST PUTTS, 18 HOLES
18: Kenny Knox, 1989, tied PGA Tour record, in first round.
SUDDEN DEATH PLAYOFFS
2011: Brandt Snedeker defeated Luke Donald.
2004: Jim Furyk defeats Brian Davis.
2004: Stewart Cink defeated Ted Purdy.
2003: Davis Love III defeated Woody Austin.
2001: Jose Caceres 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
Ricky Barnes	2	68.63
Boo Weekley	5	68.85
Aaron Baddeley	7	69.19
Brad Elder	2	69.25
Spencer Levin	2	69.58
Anthony Kim	2	69.63
Paul Casey	2	69.63
Tim Wilkinson	3	69.67

CAREER HERITAGE MONEY LEADERS

Player	Dollars
Davis Love III	2,638,466
Jim Furyk	2,431,132
Boo Weekley	2,197,666
Stewart Cink	1,943,794
Aaron Baddeley	1,760,275
Luke Donald	1,456,710
Ernie Els	1,369,682
Brian Gay	1,324,663
Brandt Snedeker	1,132,463
Billy Mayfair	1,019,856

TOP 10 FINISHES
11: Davis Love III
10: Tom Kite
9: Hale Irwin
8: Craig Stadler

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2011 HERITAGE RECAP

SportsFriday

Bulls, Heat win from advancing 3B Braves' trip out west off to rough start 4B



Flat stick saved Willis' fear of change helps him grab early lead

Garrett Willis was hit with the normal jitters of a first-round tee-off on a Friday. He was nervous, but he was willing to try something new. Willis, who has been a consistent performer in the past, was looking for a way to break through. He found it in a flat stick that he used to hit a hole-in-one on the 10th hole. Willis' lead was not unshakable, but it was a start. He finished the round with a score of 64, one stroke ahead of Matt Bettencourt, Chad Campbell, Tim Herron and Arjun Atwal.

LEADERS table with columns: Hole, Par, 1-18, Total. Garrett Willis (-7), Chad Campbell (-6), Tim Herron (-6), Arjun Atwal (-6).

What happened: Garrett Willis had six consecutive birdies on the front nine on the way to a 7-under-par 64 and a one-shot lead over Matt Bettencourt, Chad Campbell, Tim Herron and Arjun Atwal. There was a rain delay of more than two hours and six groups did not complete their first round.

Leaderboard: Garrett Willis (-7), Chad Campbell (-6), Tim Herron (-6), Matt Bettencourt (-6), Arjun Atwal (-6), Brian Gay (-5), Mark Wilson (-5), Camilo Villegas (-5), Jason Dufner (-4), Scott Verplank (-4), Luke Donald (-4), Blake Adams (-4), Brendon de Jonge (-4), Chris Riley (-4), 11 players tied (-3)

SportsSaturday

Celtics make easy work of Knicks 3B Sand Sharks start final series with win 4B



LUKE'S GOOD But several good ones are on his heels, too

It's not just Luke Donald who is playing well. Several other players are also performing well. Luke Donald shot a 6-under-par 65 to take a one-stroke lead over first-round leader Garrett Willis. Camilo Villegas, Jim Furyk, Jason Day and Chad Campbell were two back. Luke Donald's performance was aided by calm conditions and a steady breeze. He finished the round with a score of 65, one stroke ahead of Garrett Willis.

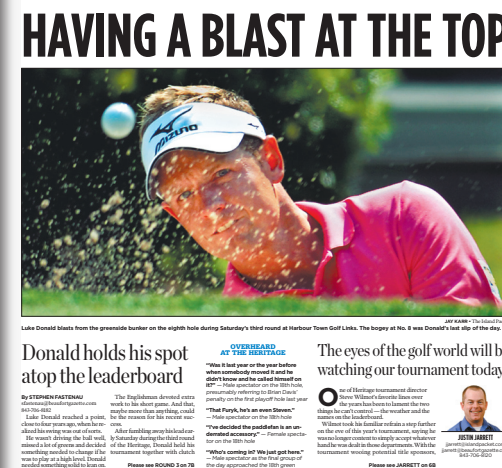
LEADERS table with columns: Hole, Par, 1-18, Total. Luke Donald (-10), Garrett Willis (-9), Camilo Villegas (-8), Jim Furyk (-8), Jason Day (-8), Chad Campbell (-8), Ben Crane (-7), Ian Poulter (-7), Chris Couch (-6), Brandt Snedeker (-6), D.J. Trahan (-6), Nick O'Hern (-6), Tim Herron (-6), Mark Wilson (-6).

What happened: Play opened with calm conditions allowing for low scores, and Luke Donald took advantage, shooting a 6-under-par 65 to take a one-stroke lead over first-round leader Garrett Willis. Camilo Villegas, Jim Furyk, Jason Day and Chad Campbell were two back.

Leaderboard: Luke Donald (-10), Garrett Willis (-9), Camilo Villegas (-8), Jim Furyk (-8), Jason Day (-8), Chad Campbell (-8), Ben Crane (-7), Ian Poulter (-7), Chris Couch (-6), Brandt Snedeker (-6), D.J. Trahan (-6), Nick O'Hern (-6), Tim Herron (-6), Mark Wilson (-6)

SportsSunday

NBA playoffs: Pacers stave off Bulls 3B Sand Sharks squeeze into postseason 5B



HAVING A BLAST AT THE TOP

Brandt Snedeker came from way back to win the Heritage. He shot a 69 to finish at -12, one stroke ahead of Luke Donald. Snedeker's performance was a surprise, as he had been struggling in the first two rounds. He finished the round with a score of 69, one stroke ahead of Luke Donald.

LEADERS table with columns: Hole, Par, 1-18, Total. Brandt Snedeker (-12), Luke Donald (-12), Tommy Gainey (-11), Tim Herron (-10), Ricky Barnes (-10), Nick O'Hern (-8), Ben Crane (-8), Pat Perez (-8), Kevin Na (-7), Paul Goydos (-7), Garrett Willis (-7), Jason Day (-7), Scott Verplank (-7).

What happened: Luke Donald lost the lead early in the round, but held steady to take it back and take a one-shot advantage over Jim Furyk heading into the final round. Furyk's bogey on 18 kept him out of a tie for the lead. Scott Verplank and Brendon de Jonge were two shots back. First-round leader Garrett Willis shot 74 and faded to five strokes off the pace.

Leaderboard: Luke Donald (-11), Jim Furyk (-10), Brendon de Jonge (-9), Scott Verplank (-9), Ricky Barnes (-8), Jason Day (-8), Tommy Gainey (-8), Pat Perez (-7), Jason Dufner (-7), Chris Couch (-7), Ben Crane (-7)

SportsMonday

NHL: Flyers' OT win knots up series 2B Hawks go up 3-1 on Magic 3B



PRETTY SNEAKY, SNEDS

Brandt Snedeker came from way back to win the playoff. He shot a 69 to finish at -12, one stroke ahead of Luke Donald. Snedeker's performance was a surprise, as he had been struggling in the first two rounds. He finished the round with a score of 69, one stroke ahead of Luke Donald.

LEADERS table with columns: Hole, Par, 1-18, Total. Brandt Snedeker (-12), Luke Donald (-12), Tommy Gainey (-11), Tim Herron (-10), Ricky Barnes (-10), Nick O'Hern (-8), Ben Crane (-8), Pat Perez (-8), Kevin Na (-7), Paul Goydos (-7), Garrett Willis (-7), Jason Day (-7), Scott Verplank (-7).

What happened: Brandt Snedeker shot a blistering 7-under-par 64 to come from six strokes down and force a playoff with Luke Donald, who needed the victory to ascend to the No. 1 spot in the world. Both were at 12 under. A birdie on the third playoff hole was enough to give Snedeker the improbable victory.

Leaderboard: Brandt Snedeker (-12), Luke Donald (-12), Tommy Gainey (-11), Tim Herron (-10), Ricky Barnes (-10), Nick O'Hern (-8), Ben Crane (-8), Pat Perez (-8), Kevin Na (-7), Paul Goydos (-7), Garrett Willis (-7), Jason Day (-7), Scott Verplank (-7).

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