



NEWS FROM THE TOUR

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Two-time British Open champion Pdraig Harrington likes to set goals for himself and it look like he also likes the rewards when he achieves them. Now that's he a two-time major winner Harrington wants to own a private jet so his transatlantic commutes to tournaments are easier and more comfortable. Winning the Open will no doubt lead to more lucrative sponsorship contracts, but a \$45-million jet? "If I had any financial motive, that would be a little carrot," Harrington said. "Warren Buffett calls his plane 'The Great Unjustifiable.' I don't think I will be able to justify it either."

So is there a reason Michelle Wie continues to try and make the cut at PGA Tour events? Her efforts at the Legends Reno-Tahoe Open came up short after rounds of 73 and 80. So the trivia question of the day is: In how many PGA events has she failed to make the cut? The answer is eight. While Annika Sorenstam played the Colonial a few years ago, she did it to get the sense of her game compared to the men. She was also a two-time U.S. Open champion plus a future Hall of Famer, Wie brings nothing to the table. It was fun a few times but no longer.

The eight automatic Ryder Cup berths will be filled Sunday since the PGA Championship is the last tournament that counts. Zinger will also get four captain's choices. The current eight automatic selections, in order, are: Stewart Cink, Phil Mickelson, Kenny Perry, Jim Furyk, Anthony Kim, Justin Leonard, Boo Weekly and Steve Stricker. Woody Austin and Rocco Mediate are knocking on the door to round out the top 10.

Speaking of Rocco, he goes into the PGA Championship with a legitimate chance of winning it. After a runner-up spot at the U.S. Open and another strong performance in the British Open, Rocco told me: "I'm exactly where I wanted to put myself." Just like Kenny Perry, Rocco wants to make the team this year and spoke to Azinger about it earlier this summer. "I told Zinger that I would love to play for him and, more importantly, that I'd love to make it so that he doesn't have to pick me. He told me to go for it. This is the best shot I've ever had at it. It's a very nice opportunity."

Mediate's slow start to the season made him even more of an underdog. He made the cut four times in his first 12 starts. But taking advantage of a sponsor's exemption, he tied for sixth at the Memorial Tournament and then survived a playoff in sectional qualifying for a spot in the U.S. Open. You know the rest of the story!



Wins Keep Coming for SST PURE

Vijay Singh won his first event of the year and it was a big one, the World Golf Championship Bridgestone Invitational. The win was worth \$1.35 million.

"It gives me a lot of confidence," Singh said. "You know, I struck the ball really well, especially with my irons. My driver was really good all week."

For years SST has PUREd Vijay's shafts and the 45-year-old golfer has been the icon for consistency on the PGA Tour. Vijay's win was only the headline, but the real story is the domination of the top 20 by other players who have asked SST to PURE their clubs. Are ready for this list? Here goes: Stuart Appleby finished second and Retief Goosen came in fourth, followed by Darren Clarke, Paul Casey, Sean O'Hair, Chad Campbell, D.J. Trahan, Henrik Stenson, K.J. Choi, Zach Johnson, Steve Lowery, Pdraig Harrington, Robert Allenby and Scott Verplank.

Twenty-two championships have now been won on the PGA and Champions Tours this year by players with SST PUREd clubs in their bags. More than \$93 million has been won just on the PGA Tour by players with SST PUREd clubs in their bags. SST has now broken its own money record set just last year and the PGA Championship and lucrative FedEx Cup playoffs are still ahead. The \$100-million mark will put 2008 over the top for SST PURE.

SST PURE plays a major role in game improvement for golfers of all levels, not just the pros. Since all shafts have inconsistencies it takes SST PURE technology to locate every shaft's most stable position and then orient the shaft in the club head in this PUREd position. That's why if you have a bagful of randomly inserted shafts you have certain clubs you love and certain clubs you hate.

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