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If you wondered why Chad Campbell pulled out of the BMW Championship this week it's because he became a dad for the first time. Campbell, who was chosen by U.S. captain Paul Azinger with his final pick for the Ryder Cup, withdrew on Saturday when his wife began contractions.

Cigar-chomping Miguel Angel Jimenez, at 44 the oldest player on the European Ryder Cup team, wants to play all five matches against the U.S. "I am the oldest one in the team, although we have Padraig Harrington and Sergio Garcia with a lot of experience," he said. "I will be doing everything I can to help the four rookies. I feel I am strong enough and if my golf is good enough, I'm fit enough and I have the energy, then I could play all the five matches."

Just in case you didn't see Paul Azinger's Ryder Cup captain's choices, they are: Steve Stricker, Hunter Mahan, J.B. Holmes and Chad Campbell. He said no to Woody Austin and Rocco Mediate. Azinger said after the PGA Championship that the three tournaments that followed would go a long way toward deciding his captain's picks. "Unfortunately, we had three foreign winners [Carl Pettersson and Vijay Singh twice] in those events, so nobody really jumped off the page," he said. Azinger passed over D.J. Trahan, Sean O'Hair, Mediate, Brandt Snedecker and Zach Johnson in the points standings to select the long-hitting Holmes. "His upsides are that he has won this year (at Phoenix), he averages 310.4 yards off the tee, he's a local guy from Kentucky and he should be ideal for the alternate-shot format." **How's this for the quote of the week from Zinger** when asked about his team's lack of Ryder Cup experience: "Anyone who has played in the last six Ryder Cups has experience ... in getting their butts beat."

Euro captain Nick Faldo is already under a lot of pressure for his two captain's picks. European writers are lambasting his selection of Ian Poulter, who is winless in 2008, over Darren Clarke of Northern Ireland, who has won two tournaments this year, including the Dutch Open on Aug. 24.

Never voted best dresser on the Tour, Poulter will be under more pressure than any player in the Ryder Cup. Everything he does will be scrutinized in light of his friendship with Faldo and the suspicion, vehemently denied by both, that Poulter had been assured of a berth on the team even before he decided to pass up the Johnnie Walker Championship last week at Gleneagles, Scotland, to play at the Deutsche Bank Championship outside Boston, where he missed the cut.

Did you know that Faldo accumulated 23 Ryder Cup victories, the most for any golfer from the two teams?



SST PURE Wins Again in '08

Camilo Villegas, who first had his clubs PURED at Doral a few years ago, won the BMW Championship to raise the SST PURE victory total to 28 on the PGA and Champions Tours in 2008. Players with a history of asking SST to PURE their clubs have dominated the win column all season long, but especially now during the pressure events. In the last two months alone, Padraig Harrington won two majors, the British Open and the PGA Championship, and Vijay Singh has collected two of the three FedEx Cup playoff events. Other players with PURED clubs have won additional events on both Tours.

Total domination also shows up once again this week as SST PURE players finished 1, 2, and 3 and captured 12 of the top 20 positions. A salute to runner up Dudley Hart and third-place finisher Jim Furyk. They were followed by sixth-place finishers D.J. Trahan and K.J. Choi, Tim Clark in eighth, Frederick Jacobson, Steve Stricker and Aaron Baddeley in 10th, Brain Gay in 13th, Ernie Els in 17th and Tommy Armour III in 20th.

With such success the money won so far in 2008 by just the players on the PGA Tour who have asked SST to PURE their clubs now rises to over \$109 million. We're not even finished with some big-money events this year and the crowning of the 2008 FedEx Cup champion which could boost the total close to \$120 million.

Once again the SST PURE Shaft Alignment Lav was busy as FedEx Cup point leader Vijay Singh, President's Cup captain Fred Couples, U.S. Bank Champion Richard S. Johnson, top-10 finisher Fredrik Jacobson, Kevin Streelman, Dean Wilson and many more players stopped by to have some new clubs PURED. With this kind of success SST PURE may need to triple the size of its PGA Tour operations to handle all the requests from the players for PUREing.

Good news. You don't need to stand in the same line because there is an SST PURE licensee near you who has the same SST PURE proprietary programs and computers that are used on the PGA Tour to PURE your clubs. Many of them have also been trained out on the Tour.

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