



PGA
SOUTHWORTH SENIOR
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



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Development LLC

**23rd Southworth Senior PGA Professional National Championship
presented by Mercedes-Benz
Creighton Farms, Aldie, Va.
River Creek Club, Leesburg, Va.**

Executive Media Summary

Contents:

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- Sample Media Outlet Coverage
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- Championship Media Campaign
- Additional Media Coverage
- Select Media Clips

Top Line Media Summary

We garnered excellent coverage of the 23rd Southworth Senior PGA Professional National Championship, which was highlighted by the Associated Press producing a story following each round of play, which helped position the event as one of our Association's most prestigious.

We saw significant coverage locally, regionally and nationally. The Associated Press exposure also helped generate coverage on many of the most visited sports web sites on the Internet.

Total media impressions were more than **51,000,000** media impressions and more than **\$175,000** in estimated value.

USA Today, ESPN.com, SI.com, Forbes.com, *Newsday* and *The Palm Beach Post* were just a few of the media outlets that covered the Championship.

Additionally, local media in the Middle Atlantic PGA region covered the event, and included mentions in the *Washington Post* and *Baltimore Sun*. *The Washington Business Journal* also included photos from the Players' Reception, and featured Southworth executives with PGA Secretary Derek Sprague.

We conducted a series of web interviews on site at Creighton Farms throughout Championship week. We interviewed the host PGA Professional, PGA Rules Chairman Tom Carpus as well as many of the leaders.

Additionally, Derek Sprague was interviewed on Sirius/XM Radio and by Russ Evans on Golf Exchange Radio, where he talked about the Championship, and Southworth Development's title sponsorship.

Finally, a Championship win advertisement ran on Golf Channel and included a photo of Kirk Hanefeld and a scoreboard of the top finishers.

To listen and watch all of those interviews [Click Here](#).

Our Social Media campaign was a huge success. Over 330 visitors re-tweeted or posted Championship content from PGA.com on their individual social media pages during Championship week. We provided exclusive content throughout the week on both Facebook and Twitter.

Local media covered the Championship extensively, with particularly strong coverage in New England, home of our 2011 Champion Kirk Hanefeld. Those media outlets in the New England Region included the Lowell Sun (Mass.), Worcester Telegram & Gazette (Mass.), Boston Globe, The Republican (Mass) and The Citizen (N.H.).

Sample Media Outlet Coverage

(The below media outlets are only a portion of the entire coverage)

National Media Outlets:

Associated Press
CBSSports.com
ESPN.com
Forbes.com
FoxSports.com
Golf Channel
NBCSports.com
SI.com
USA Today
Yahoo Sports

Local/Regional Media

Baltimore Sun
Bellingham Herald (Wash.)
Boston Globe
Brownsville Herald (Texas)
Charleston (W. Va.) Gazette
Charlotte Observer
Daily Press (Va.)
Lowell Sun (Mass.)
Miami Herald
News-Record (N.C.)
Newsday
Northern Virginia Daily
Palm Beach Post
Post-Standard (N.Y.)
San Francisco Examiner
Star-Tribune (Minn.)
Sun-Sentinel (Fla.)
Washington Examiner
Washington Post
Worcester Telegram & Gazette (Mass.)

Media Placements

(See bottom of summary for selection of featured clips)

Championship Media Campaign

In October 2010, Southworth Development was announced as the title sponsor of the Championship. This was included in *PGA News* and posted on PGA.com, PGALinks.com and PGAMediaCenter.com. It was also distributed to our national media list.

Coverage included a story on Golfweek.com and a mention in *Golfweek's* daily email, "The Wire."

In February, we announced that Southworth Development-owned facility Creighton Farms as well as River Creek Club were named co-hosts of the Championship.

In Mid-September, a media alert was sent to Middle Atlantic PGA region notifying of a National Championship coming to their area.

Championship preview stories were included in *PGA News* beginning in early September, and ran throughout the Championship.

A full Championship e-kit was sent to over 1,000 local, regional and national media on Friday, Sept. 30. The kit included preview releases, a full field list, fact sheet, photo instructions, and links to web interviews and live scoring. Those same contacts were included on all round summaries and sidebars throughout the week.

A final Championship advance was sent to local, regional and national media on Tuesday, Oct. 4.

Additional Media Coverage

Additional Print Coverage

More than **200** media outlets from coast-to-coast covered the Championship over the four days of the Championship.

The Palm Beach Post and Scripps Newspapers covered the local South Florida Section participants extensively, included coverage of the local participants

Media coverage in local markets was extremely strong, and local participants throughout the country were featured in their hometown newspapers and online. Those markets/media outlets included: West Virginia (Scott Davis), Washington (Jeff Coston), North Carolina (Robert Linville), South Florida (Ed Sabo, Mike San Filippo, Pete Oakley, Ken Martin), New York (Darrell Kestner), Virginia (Mike Ahrnsbrak, Tim White) and Nebraska (Jim White).

Northern Virginia Daily interviewed Championship participant and PGA of America Board Member Mike Ahrnsbrak as part of their preview coverage.

Additional Internet Coverage

PGA.com continued to provide strong coverage of our Championship with a spot on the main flash page, a Championship microsite, and links to round recaps, agate, history and additional Championship information.

The third and final round scoring page link saw a huge jump in visits, with over **22,000** page views on Saturday and Sunday of Championship week. The web interviews also generated solid traffic, with **696** page views during Championship week.

Preview releases, round summaries, sidebar stories, photos and scores were all posted at PGAMediaCenter.com and PGALinks.com.

Many PGA Section web sites covered the Championship. Sports blog web sites also covered the Championship and included the North Shore (Mass.) Golf Blog, which posted a Championship summary featuring their local PGA Professional, Kirk Hanefeld.



ESPN.com: Golf

[\[Print without images\]](#)



Friday, October 7, 2011

Hanefeld sits atop leaderboard

Associated Press

ALDIE, Va. -- Past champion [Kirk Hanefeld](#) increased his lead to six strokes in the Senior PGA Professional National Championship, shooting a 5-under 67 on Friday at Creighton Farms for a tournament-record 11-under 133 total.

The 55-year-old Hanefeld, the 2008 winner from Acton, Mass., had seven birdies and two bogeys in the second round to break the 36-hole record of 134 set by [Reed Hughes](#) of Senatobia, Miss., in 2006. Hanefeld opened with a 6-under 66 on Thursday at River Creek Club.

"I feel pretty good all around with my game and where I stand," Hanefeld said. "Both rounds could have been better, but I won't complain. Everybody makes a few mistakes and after 36 holes I am happy."

Because of the wet conditions, preferred lies were used for the second straight day.

The final two rounds will be played on Creighton Farms' [Jack Nicklaus](#) Signature Course.

"It is harder over here at Creighton Farms," Hanefeld said. "They took it a little easy on us today, but I don't expect that over the weekend. This is a terrific golf course and very difficult. I am just going to play my game and play my best and see where I fit in at the end of Sunday."

Robert Linville of Greensboro, N.C., was second after a 67 at River Creek Club.

"This is a traditional layout, and really nice. Both days the weather was perfect, we didn't have any wind," said the 53-year-old Linville, the the PGA director of instruction of Precision Golf School in Greensboro. "The green complexes at Creighton Farms are very difficult. To get through there even par yesterday, I was happy about that. We finished at dark last night. I had a stretch in the middle of today's round where I just made a lot of birdies. I made all the putts when I hit it close."

The top 35 finishers will earn spots in the Senior PGA Championship in May at Harbor Shores in Benton Harbor, Mich. The top five will receive exemptions into the final stage of the 2011 Champions Tour Q-school.

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Kirk Hanefeld wins Senior PGA Professional

Updated 10/9/2011 7:05 PM



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"I really don't feel like I won a golf tournament, but golf is a wacky game," Hanefeld said.

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"Making birdie on the last hole was great, but there wasn't too many highlights for me today," said Hanefeld, who earned \$20,000 from the \$285,000 purse. "But to win is obviously very satisfying. Kenny played really, really well up until the last few holes and I gave a lot back to him."

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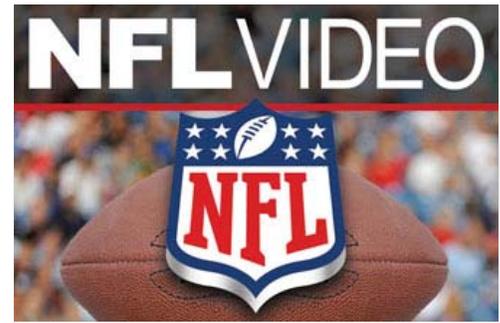
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Kirk Hanefeld wins Senior PGA Professional

Oct 9, 6:50 pm EDT



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Published 05:50 p.m., Sunday, October 9, 2011

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Associated Press

Kirk Hanefeld wins Senior PGA Professional

Associated Press, 10.09.11, 06:46 PM EDT

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Hanefeld holds on to win 2nd Senior PGA Professional

CBSSports.com wire reports

Oct. 9, 2011

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The Back Page Extra

Washington Business Journal by Nicole Duhring, Editorial Assistant

Date: Monday, October 24, 2011, 10:13am EDT - Last Modified: Monday, October 24, 2011, 3:08pm EDT

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Southworth Development owners David Southworth, second from right, and Joe Deitch, far right, were on hand Oct. 4 for the opening reception for the Southworth Senior PNC Championship, held at Creighton Farms in Aldie. Southworth and Deitch were joined by Derek Sprague of PGA of America, far left, and Kevin Lewis of Southworth Development.

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Southworth Senior PGA Professional National Championship

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The Club at Creighton Farms and River Creek Golf Club will co-host the 2011 Southworth Senior PGA Professional National Championship, presented by Mercedes Benz, from October 6-9th.

The field will be comprised of 264 senior PGA Professionals competing for a \$265,000 purse. The first two rounds will be played at both venues, while the final two rounds will be held at Creighton Farms.

The top 35 finishers earn a berth in the Senior PGA Championship at Harbor Shores in Benton Harbor, Michigan, in May 2012. The top five finishers earn an exemption into the final stage of the 2011 Champions Tour National Finals.

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Posted at 12:15 AM Oct. 6, 2011 | Updated: 11:33 PM Oct. 5, 2011 0 0

Nations: Ahrnsbrak takes aim at coveted PGA spot

By Jeff Nations - jnations@nvdaily.com

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Mike Ahrnsbrak has had his share of harrowing moments on the golf course, but perhaps nothing to compare with what he faced back in August.

Ahrnsbrak, the PGA general manager and head professional at Blue Ridge Shadows Golf Club in Front Royal, found out his work assignment as a first-year member of the PGA of America's board of directors at the 93rd PGA Championship -- announce the players as they came to the first tee during the second round of play at Atlanta Athletic Club in Johns Creek, Ga.

"From my perspective, I didn't want to butcher anyone's name," Ahrnsbrak said of his first announcing gig in a major. "I had a dream that when it was time to announce Rory McIlroy, I said 'Roy McAvoy' from 'Tin Cup' instead. No mishaps, though. It was quite a thrill."

The thrills keep coming for Ahrnsbrak, who will tee off at River Creek Club today for the opening round of the 23rd Southworth Senior PGA Professional National Championship. The final three rounds will be played at Creighton Farms Golf Course in Aldie. At stake is the Leo Fraser Trophy for the winner, and 35 spots for the 2012 Senior PGA Championship at The Golf Club at Harbor Shores in Benton Harbor, Mich.

"I've played in two PGA Tour events," said Ahrnsbrak, who has worked at Blue Ridge Shadows since it opened in 2007. "As a kid, you always dream about playing in a major. This is our opportunity

to play in a major."

The competition for those coveted 35 qualifying spots will surely be stiff -- 264 club pros from across the United States are slated to tee off in today's opening round. This will be the first Senior PGA Professional National Championship (open to club pros age 50 and over) for Ahrnsbrak, but he's had experience playing against top professional competition.

Ahrnsbrak played in the 1985 Kemper Open at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Md., and the 1992 Anheuser-Busch Classic at Kingsmill Resort in Williamsburg.

"Back when I was younger and skinnier and had a lot more hair, I played in five national club pro tournaments," Ahrnsbrak said.

To even get this far, Ahrnsbrak had to dust off the clubs for the Middle Atlantic PGA Section qualifier. Originally scheduled as a two-day, 36-hole event, that late August tournament was doused by Hurricane Irene and shortened to a one-day, 27-hole format at the Suburban Club in Pikesville, Md. Ahrnsbrak fired a 1-over-par 107 to tie for fifth place and earn his slot in today's field. Eight players from the Middle Atlantic PGA Section qualified at Suburban for this week's national championship.

"Honestly, I had no clue," Ahrnsbrak said of his expectations for that tournament. "I was not playing and hadn't played all summer -- it's kind of the nature of the business. I'm playing very little golf right now."

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For at least two days -- hopefully four -- Ahrnsbrak will be playing for a change. He's familiar with both courses hosting the Senior PGA Professional National Championship, but doesn't expect anything to come easy. With all the wet weather, Ahrnsbrak is hoping both will play long -- which would play into his hands.

"They're both great courses," he said. "These two golf courses are not going to be cakewalks for anyone."

Ahrnsbrak opens the tournament with an 11:45 a.m. tee time today at River Creek, then has an early 7:45 a.m. tee time at Creighton Farms on Friday.

Ideally, Ahrnsbrak will spend a good portion of his birthday -- he turns 56 on Sunday -- playing for one of those Senior PGA Championship spots.

"I have no expectations," Ahrnsbrak said. "I'd have to play very, very well just to make the cut. I have hopes, but we'll see what happens."



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Ahrnsbrak fires 76 in opener

Winchester's Mike Ahrnsbrak shot a 76 in Thursday's opening round of the 23rd Southworth Senior PGA Professional National Championship

Ahrnsbrak, the PGA general manager and head professional at Blue Ridge Shadows Golf Club in Front Royal, is currently 10 strokes off the lead after his opening round at River Creek Club in Leesburg. Former champion Kirk Hanefeld of Acton, Mass., grabbed the first-round lead with a 6-under-par 66 at River Creek. Hanefeld is up by two strokes on Tom Herzan of Findlay, Ohio, and Mike Lawrence of Anderson, S.C.

Ahrnsbrak, hoping to make the cut and play in the final two rounds at Creighton Farms, had an early tee time for Friday's second round at Creighton Farms. The field will be cut to the low 70 scorers and ties following the second round.

The top 35 finishers in the National Championship earn a berth in the 73rd Senior PGA Championship, which will be played May 24-27, 2012, at Harbor Shores in Benton Harbor, Mich.

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Acton man wins national title

The Lowell Sun

Updated: 10/10/2011 03:55:16 PM EDT

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ALDIE, Va. -- Kirk Hanefeld of Acton ran the gauntlet of emotions in the span of an hour on Creighton Farms' final four holes, before executing the shot he needed for a closing birdie yesterday, holding off Ken Martin of Wellington, Fla., to win the 23rd Southworth Senior PGA Professional National Championship in Aldie, Va.

"It wasn't pretty," said Hanefeld, who earned his second national title with a closing 3-over-par 75, the highest closing round by a champion in the showcase event for senior PGA Professionals.

The 55-year-old PGA Life member, who had not surrendered the lead all week until the 69th hole, salvaged his round after posting bogeys on four of his five final holes.

"I really don't feel like I won a golf tournament, but golf is a wacky game," said Hanefeld, who added his title to his 2008 crown while finishing with a 72-hole total of 6-under-par 282.

Martin, who briefly held a two-stroke margin before bogeys on his closing two holes, finished with a 74 and 283. The twosome ended as the only players in a 264-player field to finish under par.

Hanefeld took home \$20,000.



It wasn't easy, but Acton's Kirk Hanefeld won his second national championship.

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Article published Oct 10, 2011

International's Kirk Hanefeld wins Senior PGA

ALDIE, Va. — Kirk Hanefeld of The International GC in Bolton won the Senior PGA Professional National Championship for the second time in four years, birdieing the final hole for a one-stroke victory over Ken Martin yesterday.

The 55-year-old Hanefeld shot a 3-over 75 — the highest closing round by a winner in the showcase event for senior PGA pros — to finish at 6-under 282. Martin had a two-stroke lead after 16 holes, but bogeyed the final two holes for a 74.

“It wasn’t pretty,” said Hanefeld, who set the 36-hole record at 11 under, but shot a 74 on Saturday to take a two-shot lead into the final round.

“I really don’t feel like I won a golf tournament, but golf is a wacky game,” Hanefeld said.

Hanefeld’s round included a birdie at the fifth hole, then bogeys at Nos. 8, 12, 13, 15 and 16. He hit a 96-yard wedge at 18 that spun back within 18 inches.

“Making birdie on the last hole was great, but there wasn’t too many highlights for me today,” said Hanefeld, who earned \$20,000.

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Larry Bush: San Filippo seeking a third PGA senior professional national title

By Larry Bush

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

Mike San Filippo of Hobe Sound appears to be on his game as he goes for an unprecedented third victory later this week in the 23rd annual PGA Senior Professional National Championship.

A teaching professional at Trump International in West Palm Beach, San Filippo fired a 3-under-par 69 Monday in the Southeast Chapter's inaugural Braman Motorcars Tour Championship at the Ritz-Carlton GC. He tied for second with Justin Thompson of The Wanderers Club, Wellington, and two behind Jason Hrynkiw, Gleneagles CC, Delray Beach, the winner with 67.

Both are comparative youngsters to San Filippo, who turns 60 later this month.

"I played well today, three bunker saves on the back nine," at 15, 16 and 17, San Filippo said. "It's a nice course." He made three birdies.

The Senior PNC is scheduled Thursday through Sunday on two courses in Virginia: Creighton Farms in Aldie and River Creek Club in Leesburg.

"I've got a 4:30 flight out this afternoon," he said Monday.

San Filippo won the Senior PNC in 2002 and 2005, both at the PGA GC in Port St. Lucie.

Three others have also won twice: Ed Sabo, Tequesta, 2000-01; Roger Kennedy, Stuart, 1992 and 1994; and Tom Joyce, Long Island, N.Y., 1990-91.

San Filippo, a native of Miami and graduate of Florida State University, had some degree of exempt status on the Champions Tour for seven years but says he doesn't plan to try qualifying again this fall.

"You can lose money unless you play really well," he says.

Instead, he'll return to Trump International when it reopens for the season on Oct. 15.

He may play in some events at the PGA's Winter Championships in January, he says, likely the Quarter Century and Senior Stroke Play.

"The others take too many days," he says. San Filippo won the PGA's Stroke Play in 1992, the Quarter Century in 2004 and 2006, and the Senior Stroke Play in 2008.

Williams wins at Old Trail

Pete Williams of Juno Beach makes several trips to Europe each month, usually taking a planeload of people with him since he's a pilot for United Airlines. What he doesn't get to do is play golf at any of his exotic destinations such as Geneva, Frankfurt or London.

"I know there are a lot of nice courses over there but it would mean taking my clubs to Washington each time since that is my departure base, and that could be a lot of hassle (baggage fees anyone?)," he explains.

"Besides, you don't have a lot of time. You fly all night, then you have to get some sleep during the day, then get ready to fly back to Washington, then home."

Williams, 52, gets to play plenty when he's home.

He won four Palm Beach County Golf Association titles in 2010, earning Senior Player of the Year honors, and also qualified to play in the U.S. Senior Open.

He won for the first time this year on Sunday at Jonathan's Landing GC at Old Trail in the 32nd annual PBCGA Senior Amateur Championship after three runner-up finishes earlier in the season.

He shot 68-70—138, seven strokes ahead of Tim Conboy of Lantana, who had 69-76—145. Bob Stieren of Palm Beach Gardens won super seniors (65-older) with 78-74—152.

Morin shoots Course record

Add scoring record to Alan Morin's achievements last week during the South Florida PGA Professional Championship at Mayacoo Lakes CC. Morin, an assistant professional at The Falls CC, Lake Worth, shot 65-66—131.

That was one stroke lower than the previous record of 132 by Jerry Tucker of Stuart in 2006 at Jupiter's Loxahatchee Club.

It was Morin's third victory in the four SFPGA major championships this year and his fourth win in what was once known as the Club Professional Championship. Morin ranks second only to Tucker in the number of titles since the SFPGA was formed in 1980, 16 to 17. Lee Rinker of Jupiter is third with 12.

Morin has won the Section Championship thrice and has two wins apiece in the Southeast Classic and South Florida Open.

Morin also leads the 10 SFPGA qualifiers for the PGA Professional National Championship in June at two courses on the Monterey Peninsula in California.

Three Jupiter pros are also on the list: Jim Karr, Palm Beach CC; Paul Scaletta, The Bear's Club; and Lee Stroeve, North Palm Beach CC.

SFPGA players with two majors in one year are Frank Dobbs, Jensen Beach, 1997; Chris Toulson, Weston, 1999; Rinker, 2003 and 2008; Jim Herman, Port St. Lucie,

Bill Hilbig: Ex-champs Sabo, San Filippo and Oakley returning to Senior PGA Professional National Championship

By Bill Hilbig

Thursday, September 29, 2011

Three former champions with Treasure Coast connections will be in the field when the 23rd Senior PGA Professional National Championship gets under way next week outside Washington D.C.

Ed Sabo of Tequesta and Mike San Filippo of Hobe Sound are two-time champions in the event designed for club professionals, while Pete Oakley of Palm City claimed the crown once.

Sabo first captured the title in 2000 when the tournament was played at Ibis Golf and Country Club in West Palm Beach. He retained the title in 2001 when it was contested at the PGA Club in Port St. Lucie. San Filippo won his two crowns at the PGA Club — in 2002 and 2005. Oakley's victory came in 1999 at Ibis.

Chris Campbell of Vero Beach and Jamie Fordyce of Port St. Lucie also will be in the field at this year's event, which begins next Thursday at Creighton Farms in Aldie, Va., and River Creek Club in Leesburg, Va.

The winner will receive \$20,000 from the \$285,000 purse, while the top five finishers will be exempted into the final stage of Champions Tour qualifying this year. And the top 35 finishers will earn a berth in next year's Senior PGA Championship.

HOLE-IN-ONE

Dale Hanson recorded a hole-in-one on the 17th hole at Sebastian Municipal on Monday.

DORWARD'S EFFORT

Louisville's Justin Dorward, a senior from Port St. Lucie, has set the pace for the Cardinals in their first two tournaments of the season.

Dorward finished 11th in the individual standings at the Marshall Invitational in Huntington, W.Va., two weeks ago, posting a 4-under-par 209 (70-69-70). And he was third overall at the Cardinal Intercollegiate that wrapped up Tuesday in Louisville, shooting a 4-under 140 (68-72).

FALL INSTRUCTION

Linville wins Carolinas PGA senior

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Thursday, October 13, 2011
(Updated 7:10 am)

STAFF REPORTS

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Greensboro's Robert Linville claimed his first Carolinas PGA senior title of the year in impressive fashion Wednesday with his second bogey-free round on Rock Barn Golf & Spa's Robert Trent Jones Jr. course in Conover.

Linville, the director of instruction at Robert Linville's Precision Golf School, opened the two-day event Tuesday with a tournament-low round of 7-under par 65 that featured seven birdies. Amateur John Walters of Charlotte sat three strokes behind at 68.

Linville didn't convert as many birdie opportunities in his second round, but he made a string of 14 pars in to card a 2-under 70. His two-round total of 9-under 135 gave Linville a six-stroke victory over Walters.

This has been a very good week for Linville. At the Southworth Senior PGA Professional National Championship in Virginia, he finished tied for 17th. By finishing in the top 35, Linville qualified to compete in the 2012 Senior PGA Championship in May in Michigan.

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Local golf: Three area players miss cut at Senior PGA National Professional Championship

Staff Reports

Friday, October 7, 2011

Three Southwest Florida professional all missed the cut Friday at the 23rd Southworth Senior PGA Professional National Championship in Leesburg, Va.

Hideout's Gene Fieger shot a second-round 75, but had a 152 total -- as did Dennis Meyer of Dennis Meyer's Golf Schools, who shot a 77 -- and missed the cut to the low 70 and ties by two strokes. Ric Nalyd of Bonita Bay East had a 79 for a 154.

The top 35 finishers in the National Championship earn a berth in the 73rd Senior PGA Championship presented by KitchenAid, which will be conducted May 24-27, at Harbor Shores in Benton Harbor, Mich.

The top eight finishers, including ties, will receive exemptions into the 2012 Southworth Senior PGA Professional National Championship.

The top five finishers earn an exemption into the final stage of the 2011 Champions Tour National Finals.



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October 07, 2011

Boise pro is three shots backat Senior PGA Pro tourney

- STATESMAN STAFF

LEESBURG, Va. — Jeff Thomsen, the head professional at Indian Lakes, shot a 3-under 69 in the first round. He trails former champion Kirk Hanefeld. John Wallace of Nampa was 1-over, while Boisean Jim Empey was 3-over.



October 9, 2011

Hurricane's Davis qualifies for Senior PGA

Hurricane's Scott Davis closed with a 3-over 75 to finish tied for 24th at the 23rd Senior PGA Professional National Championship in Aldie, Va.

The top 35 finishers earn spots in May's Senior PGA Championship at Harbor Shores in Benton Harbor, Mich.

Davis entered the weekend tied for 10th at 1 under, but shot 9 over during the final two rounds to finish with an 8-over 296.

Kirk Hanefeld birdied the final hole to win the event for the second time in four years by one stroke over Ken Martin.

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Oct, 9, 2011

GOLF: Coston qualifies for Senior PGA Championship

Sports Desk / THE BELLINGHAM HERALD

THE BELLINGHAM HERALD

Semiahmoo Golf and Country Club instructor Jeff Coston finished tied for 10th on Sunday, Oct. 9, at the Senior PGA Professional National Championship at Aldie, Va., shooting a final-round 71 for a three-day total of 292.

Coston, who won the event in 2006 and turns 56 later this week, said the finish is good enough to qualify him for the Senior PGA Championship in 2012, which will be played in May at Benton Harbor, Mich.

Kirk Hanefeld birdied the final hole for a 1-stroke victory over Ken Martin on Sunday, as Hanefeld had a three-day total of 282.



Schuchart wins Nebraska Senior PGA Championship

By the Lincoln Journal Star | Posted: Tuesday, August 9, 2011 6:10 pm

The newest "old guy" shot even par on the final round and won the Nebraska PGA Senior Professional Championship on Tuesday at Platteview Country Club in Bellevue.

"I've got an AARP card and the hip and disc problems in my back to prove my age," said Mike Schuchart, who shot a two-under 70 and an even 72 to beat Jim White by two strokes in the two-day tournament.

"It felt great to have the competitive juices flowing again," said Schuchart, who was named to the Nebraska Golf Hall of Fame last fall. The teaching pro at the Nebraska Golf Academy at Wilderness Ridge said he felt he had a good lead until White turned on the burners for the last six holes.

"If he makes a couple of putts at the end, it would have been more than interesting," said Schuchart, a Nebraska grad who played on the PGA and Nike (now Nationwide) tours before turning to full-time teaching. "It's always fun to play with Jim in the final round, it's just been a few years since I was in that kind of position to win."

Schuchart said he had practiced a little more this year in preparation for the tournament.

"I had a good mind-set going in and that made a difference," he said.

Schuchart has won two Nebraska Open titles and three Nationwide crowns, and he has been named the player of the year and pro of the year in the past.

Schuchart; White, who runs the West Nine and Learning Center at Firethorn; Don Germer of Deer Creek; and Mark Bauman of Simply Golf each qualified for the 2011 Senior PGA Professional National Championship, Oct. 6-9 in Virginia.

Other Lincoln pros in this state tournament this week included Charlie Borner of Hillcrest Country Club in a tie for seventh with John Craw of Holmes Golf Course at 153.

Schuchart will compete in the Nebraska PGA Professional Championship next Monday through Wednesday at Wilderness Ridge.