



NEWS FROM THE TOUR

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Sergio Garcia has been established as the 10-1 British Open favorite despite his 0-for-36 major tournament record. He has inherited the mantle of "Best player Not to Win a Major" from Phil Mickelson, who had to face reporters' questions about it for years. Now it's El Niño's chance.

Garcia missed his best chance to win a major last year at the British Open, which saw him begin the final round with a four-shot lead and end in a playoff loss to Padraig Harrington. I took Sergio to batting practice with the New York Mets a few years ago and he hit some out of the infield, which was remarkable for a cricket player. He also graciously agreed to be in my current book. He's since told me, "If I wasn't meant to win the British Open last year, there must be a reason for it. It is just a matter of waiting for it and seeing what happens in the future." He spent this past week in Spain preparing for the British Open under his father Victor's tutelage.

Veteran golfer David Frost's qualification last weekend for the British Open marks the largest South African contingent ever to play at the prestigious tournament.

Colin Montgomerie has his heart set on being the Ryder Cup Captain when it comes to Scotland in 2014. There is another candidate, of course, with impressive credentials: Sandy Lyle. But Monty is Monty and he has a huge following and a dream to make it happen.

So what became of Steve Williams, Tiger's caddie who is now unemployed until Tiger's knee heals next year? Caddies are generally paid about 7-10 percent of a player's winnings, so Williams will miss out on six figures worth of salary in the absence of Woods. Keep in mind, Williams has collected over \$1 million each of the past few years. A few of the other caddies decided they needed to do a benefit for Williams so a few weeks ago they posted a sign asking for donations to the "Steve Williams Benevolent Fund." Apparently they figured Williams didn't need much help, because the donation jar was a shot glass.

Here's another bit of golf wisdom you can impress your buddies with while waiting on the tee. Steve Williams caddies for Tiger now, and he also caddied for Greg Norman, but there was one other golfer in between. Who was it? Raymond Floyd, not known to be as generous as Woods.

Would you believe some sports guys are already speculating on the date of Tiger's return? Leave it alone. The biggest problem, as Brad Faxon will tell you, is returning too quickly. Having said that, my gut prediction is a return to Torrey Pines when its regular PGA Tour event comes up next year. But deep down I think we won't see him before the Masters.



SST PURE wins around the world

SST PURE hit a trifecta on Sunday, with Kenny Perry winning the John Deere Classic on the PGA Tour, Graeme McDowell winning the Scottish Open and Padraig Harrington winning the Irish PGA. All three players ask SST to PURE their clubs.

Perry collected his third victory of the year in a playoff that required an accurate shot to the green on the first playoff hole. Brad Adamonis, who is having a career season since having SST PURE his clubs this year, finished second. He may have been disappointed by not getting the win, but it will be a huge confidence booster for him. And with the win SST PURE also once again dominated the top 20.

SST has now won 19 PGA and Champions Tour events in 2008 plus others worldwide. The total winnings for just PGA Tour players with SST PUREd clubs has now climbed to more than \$82 million in 2008. With a good part of the season left, including two majors and the FedEx Cup, SST has a lock on breaking the \$90 million in winnings set by SST players on the PGA Tour just last year.

Now let's journey over the pond and we find two more wins by players with SST PUREd clubs. Graeme McDowell's three straight birdies won the Barclay's Scottish Open, which included a great field of players. Defending British Open champion Padraig Harrington cruised to a morale-boosting four-shot win in the Ladbrokes.com Irish PGA at the European Club.

So as you can see the world's best players are asking SST to PURE their clubs. More and more players on Tour all over the world PURE their clubs each week after seeing other players with PUREd clubs cash the winner's check or turn their games around. The players watch what the other guys do out there and when they see the spectacular results SST has been a part of, they quickly jump on the PUREing band wagon. You can follow their lead and PURE your clubs this week.

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