PG

Notes: Irwin passes Palmer on all-time starts list



Shamus/Getty Images

Now with 1,054 combined starts on the PGA TOUR and Champions Tour, Hale Irwin has moved into No. 4 all time.

Aug. 27, 2012 By Champions Tour staff

The Champions Tour is idle until the Pacific Links Hawaii Championship at Kapolei GC in Hawaii, September 10-16. The purse for this inaugural event is \$1.8 million and the winner will receive \$270,000 and 270 Charles Schwab Cup points.

RECENTLY

- <u>Jay Don Blake</u> birdied the second playoff hole to defeat Mark O'Meara and win the Boeing Classic for his third career title on the Champions Tour. Blake is the 17thdifferent winner on the Champions Tour this year.
- Jay Don Blake's Boeing Classic win was his third victory in the last year. Only <u>Fred Couples</u> has won as many during that stretch.
- The Boeing Classic playoff was the third on the Champions Tour this year and the second in succession. A week ago, <u>Willie Wood</u> defeated <u>Michael Allen</u> in a playoff to win the Dick's Sporting Goods Open. Early in the season <u>Corey Pavin</u> edged <u>Peter Senior</u> in a playoff at the Allianz Championship.
- <u>Bernhard Langer</u> narrowly missed posting his 11th consecutive top-10 finish when he finished T11 at last week's Boeing Classic.
- <u>Duffy Waldorf</u> bounced back from an opening-round 75 at last week's Boeing Classic to post weekend rounds of 68-67 for a T8 in his Champions Tour debut. <u>Gene Sauers</u> recorded consecutive rounds of 71 to finish T21 in his debut.
- Jim Gallagher, Jr., had the lone eagle at the drivable 14thhole at TPC Snoqualmie Ridge during last week's final round of the Boeing Classic. Overall, there were four eagles during the week. Joining Gallagher were R.W. Eaks (Rd. 1) and <u>John Huston</u> and <u>Brad Faxon</u> (both Rd. 2). Eaks has now made three eagles on No. 14 in his career.
- <u>Hale Irwin</u> made his 1,054th combined career start (PGA TOUR/Champions Tour) at last week's Boeing Classic. Those 1,054 starts moved him past <u>Arnold Palmer</u> into sole possession of fourth place on the all-time list for combined starts. Miller Barber leads with 1,293 starts followed by <u>Dave Eichelberger</u> with 1,250 and <u>Charles Coody</u> with 1,070.
- <u>Barry Lane</u> claimed his fourth European Senior Tour title at last week's Wales Senior Open, beating <u>Phil Golding</u> by a stroke. Golding, who has yet to win on the European Senior Tour, has finished runner-up by a single stroke in his last two events.
- Champions Tour professional Jim Rutledge was among four players recently honored with Life Membership of the

Canadian Professional Golf Tour. Fellow Canadian's Mike Weir and Danny Talbot were also honored, along with Steve Stricker, the first American to receive the distinction.

• Augusta National Golf Club last week admitted two women into its previously all-male membership: former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and South Carolina businesswoman Darla Moore. Rice, for the past two years, has been the Honorary Chairperson for the Regions Tradition at Shoal Creek, one of the Champions Tour's five majors.

COMING UP

- The Pacific Links Hawaii Championship will mark the 39th official Champions Tour event in Hawaii since the inception of the Champions Tour.
- Kapolei GC, host of the upcoming Pacific Links Hawaii Championship, will be the fifth venue to host an official Champions Tour event in Hawaii, following Royal Kaanapali, Ko Olina, Hualalai and Turtle Bay.

CHARLES SCHWAB CUP

Tom Lehman remains in first place with 2,043 points followed by Bernhard Langer with 1,893 points, 150 points behind Lehman. Roger Chapman remains third with 1,756 points with Michael Allen fourth (1,531). With his Boeing Classic victory, Jay Don Blake is now 20th.

NUMBERS

7 -- The number of aces scored in 38 official Champions Tour events in Hawaii. A total of 332 aces have been recorded on the Champions Tour since records were kept in 1984.

DID YOU KNOW?

 Hale Irwin has eight Champions Tour victories, and three runner-up finishes, in Hawaii. Other multiple winners of Champions Tour events in Hawaii include <u>Bob Charles</u> with three titles and <u>Don Bies</u>, <u>George Archer</u>, <u>Dana Quigley</u>, <u>Loren Roberts</u>, and <u>Fred Funk</u>, all with two wins each.

ON THIS DATE

8/28/11 -- Forty-nine year-old <u>Kirk Triplett</u> becomes the oldest winner ever on the Nationwide Tour when he is a two-stroke victor at the News Sentinel Open in Knoxville, TN.

8/28/83 -- Nick Price wins the first of 18 PGA TOUR victories when he goes wire-to-wire to beat <u>Jack Nicklaus</u> by two strokes for the World Series of Golf crown in Akron, OH.

QUOTES TO NOTE

"I guess this time of year is when things happen for me." -- Jay Don Blake's three Champions Tour victories have come in August. September and November.

"I love playing with these guys out here because they're all friends of mine and it's such a great friendly atmosphere compared to the PGA TOUR where I played with kids younger than my sons and it wasn't the same." -- Willie Wood explains why he prefers the Champions Tour.

"I had a real scare with my life, and a bogey doesn't really mean too much anymore." -- Gene Sauers has perspective after being just a couple of years removed from a battle with a rare and painful skin condition called Stevens-Johnson Syndrome that put him in a hospital bed and nearly cost him his life. Sauers finished T21 in his Champions Tour debut at the Boeing Classic.

"The fact that it happens once only every four years is going to be a big deal. There's not going to be many golfers who can say they win a gold meld at the Olympics and whoever wins is going to be very pleased and very proud of the fact." - Corey Pavin, who attended the 2012 Olympic Games in London, shares his thoughts on golf being in the 2016 Olympics.

TWEET OF THE WEEK

Roy Kissel ?(@roykissel): @ChampionsTour Sean Penn could star in the Willie Wood story.

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