

For Immediate Release

Kevin Stone, International Junior Golf Tour, 843-785-2444



**International Junior Golf Tour (IJGT) Presents
The IJGT Penn State Nittany Lion Classic
State College, PA
Sunday, April, 18 2010**

CHRISTIANA SHINES IN CLOSE BATTLE

Jackson Dominates on Home Turf

STATE COLLEGE, PA—This week the International Junior Golf Tour (IJGT) traveled to the campus of Penn State University for the Nittany Lion Classic. Best known for hosting some of the finest collegiate golfers in the country, the Penn State Blue Course proved once again to be a formidable challenge for a strong field of IJGT competitors. With the flags of the Big Ten schools raised, some of the area's best junior golfers were able to experience what it is truly like to compete on a Division I stage. Not only did players have to navigate Penn State's lightning greens, but they also had to deal with untimely weather circumstances. Cold and damp conditions gave each player another obstacle to try and overcome.



In the Boys 16-19 Division, Max Christiana of Mt. Kisco, NY played well under pressure and down the stretch to capture first place honors. Going into the final day 1-stroke behind, Christiana stuck to his guns and played consistent golf. Christiana carded rounds of 79 and 77 to finish the tournament with a score of 156 and this week's title. Coming in a close second was J. Harrison Brink II of Chambersburg, PA. Brink II vastly improved on his opening round 85 to fire a tournament low 73 on Sunday. Brink II finished with a score of 158. Rounding out the top three in the division was Patrick Ross of Dunmore, PA finishing with a tournament total of 160.

After finally breaking through the top of the leader board, Christiana sat down with us to talk about his performance. "It feels great to finally pull through this weekend and win first place. This was my first time playing greens that were aerated this season and I thought I putted the ball really well." Hoping to one day play collegiate golf, Christiana credited a few holes that really gave him some momentum. "I made back-to-back birdies on holes No. 11 and 12 on Saturday, and that really boosted my confidence for the rest of the tournament."

With the competitive juices flowing and all eyes on the prize, it was fitting that the Boys 13-15 Division came down to a one-hole play-off. In the end, it was Cody Cox of Milford, PA who stepped up to grasp the Championship. Cox fired rounds of 80 and the division low of 75 on Sunday to finish with an 11-over-par 155. Not to be outdone was Cole Berman of Rosemont, PA. Berman



posted rounds of 79 and 76, eventually falling just short in the play-off to claim second place honors. Coming in third place was Evan Sommer of Pittsburgh, PA. Sommer finished just 2- strokes behind the leaders with a score of 157.

Recently changing his swing, Cox talked with us about the joy of success. “It feels great to finally get back in the winner’s circle. After all of the swing changes I’ve been going through, I am happy to get this victory.” After hitting a lot of fairways and greens, the bashful Cox thanked his family for coming out and supporting him.



Winning for the second time in as many weeks in the Boys U-12 Division, Noah Edmondson of Davidson, NC proved once again why he is a force to be reckoned with. Edmondson did not allow the tough conditions to sway him away from his game as he posted rounds of 75 and 77 to run away with the title. Edmondson finished with an impressive score of 152. No stranger to the winner’s circle, Luke Miller of Venetia, PA carded back-to-back rounds of 79 to place second in the division. Miller finished with a tournament total of 158. Continuing his streak of top 3 finishes, Hank Haney International Junior Golf Academy (HH IJGA) student Derrick Villarreal of Hartland, WI finished his tournament with a score of 159 to round out the top three.

Becoming accustomed to giving victory speeches, Edmondson took a minute to talk about his game over the weekend. “It’s nice to get the win this week in the tough conditions on a challenging golf course. I struggled with my ball striking but I was able to bounce back with my putting.” Excited and optimistic about the future, Edmondson talked about a short-term goal he has his eye on. “I hope to play well in the IJGT Tournament of Champions and compete against a great field.”

In the Girls U-19 Division, local product Sara Jackson of State College, PA used her home field advantage and knowledge of the course to capture the first place crown. Jackson had the momentum all weekend and played like a golfer with a lot of confidence. She fired rounds of 80 and 84 to finish her tournament with a score of 164. Coming in second place was Tara Petruzillo of Syosset, NY. Petruzillo finished with a score of 194.



Comfortable and feeling right at home, we caught up with Jackson to talk about her win. “It feels great to get the win this week. I hit my driver well during both rounds and I took advantage of being in the fairway a lot. I felt confident with my putter going into the tournament and I was able to make some really nice putts.”

##IJGT##

Title Sponsors include: Bridgestone Golf, GolfWorld, Verterra Sport and the Hank Haney International Junior Golf Academy.

The IJGT was founded in 1995 for junior golfers ages 10-19. Its purpose is to provide aspiring collegiate players the opportunity to compete in a series of events against the highest quality U.S. and international competition.

This year's schedule features 65 open events and 6 invitational events at some of the finest courses in the U. S. as well as tournaments in Mexico, Canada, and Scotland.

Nearly 2000 junior golfers compete on the IJGT representing 43 states and 28 countries. These young men and women will have the opportunity to participate in the national junior ranking system sponsored by Golfweek and Junior Golf Scoreboard.

STATE COLLEGE, PA —Final round results of the IJGT Penn State Nittony Lion Classic conducted by the International Junior Golf Tour (IJGT) on the Blue Course played Sunday, April 18, 2010. Boys 16-19 Division: Blue Tees – 6776 yards, par 72, (72.7/135). Boys 13-15 Division: White Tees – 6328 yards, par 72, (70.5/128) Boys U-12 & Girls U-19 Divisions: Gold Tees – 5737 yards, Par 72 (Boys: 68.3/121; Girls: 70.1/124)

Weather:

Saturday – Overcast with strong winds, periods of rain and temperatures in the low 40's

Sunday –Overcast with strong winds and temperatures in the low 40's

**IJGT Penn State Nittony Lion Classic
State College, PA
April 16-18, 2010**

Finish	Boys 16-19 Division (Blue Tees)	Grad	RD 1	RD 2	Total	To Par
1	Max Christiana - Mt Kisco, NY	2011	79	77	156	12
2	J. Harrison Brink II - Chambersburg, PA	2011	85	73	158	14
3	Patrick Ross - Dunmore, PA	2010	78	82	160	16
4	Tyler Fewell - Harrisburg, PA	2010	84	78	162	18
4	David Paladino - Jefferson Hills, PA	2010	79	83	162	18
4	Thomas Lawson - Pittsburgh, PA	2011	81	81	162	18
4	Kevin Webb - Doylestown, PA	2011	79	83	162	18
8	Animesh Hajela - Loudonville, NY	2010	82	81	163	19
9	Chris Rhein - New Park, PA	2010	86	81	167	23
10	Tommy Leech - Pgh, PA	2011	86	82	168	24
10	Joey Manzinger - Baden, PA	2011	87	81	168	24
10	Kurtis Straw - Johnstown, PA	2011	83	85	168	24
13	Josh Taylor - Crescent, PA	2011	88	82	170	26
14	Brendan Lovelock - West Seneca, NY	2011	86	87	173	29
15	Chris Boyer - West Chester, PA	2011	90	86	176	32
15	Nick Priola - Moon Township, PA	2012	90	86	176	32
17	Cody B. Moore - State College, PA	2011	90	87	177	33
18	Matthew Rubino - Kimberton, PA	2011	86	94	180	36

Finish	Boys 13-15 Division (White Tees)	Grad	RD 1	RD 2	Total	To Par
*1	Cody Cox - Milford, PA	2013	80	75	155	11
2	Cole Berman - Rosemont, PA	2014	79	76	155	11
3	Evan Sommer - Pittsburgh, PA	2013	79	78	157	13
4	Austin James - Bath, Ontario, Canada	2013	79	79	158	14
5	Patrick McDonnell - Pittsburgh, PA	2014	82	80	162	18
6	Matt Holuta - Indiana, PA	2014	84	82	166	22
7	Charles Corner - Cayuga, Ontario, Canada	2013	88	81	169	25
8	Alex Hofstrand - Stewartstown, PA	2012	89	86	175	31
9	Aaron Kaul - Mississauga, Ontario, Canada	2013	95	88	183	39

Finish	Boys U-12 Division (Gold Tees)	Grad	RD 1	RD 2	Total	To Par
1	Noah Edmondson - Davidson, NC	2015	75	77	152	8
2	Luke Miller - Venetia, PA	2015	79	79	158	14
3	Derrick Villarreal - Hartland, WI (HH IJGA)	2015	78	81	159	15
4	Michael Phan - Newport Coast, CA	2015	83	81	164	20
5	Jake Reilly - Hershey, PA	2015	85	80	165	21
6	Daniel Core - Newmarket, Ontario, Canada	2018	102	98	200	56

Finish	Girls U-19 Division (Gold Tees)	Grad	RD 1	RD 2	Total	To Par
1	Sara Jackson - State College, PA	2011	80	84	164	20
2	Tara Petruzillo - Syosset, NY	2010	97	97	194	50

***Denotes win in playoff**