



By: Steve Hosid  
Instruction Editor - PGA TOUR Partners Magazine  
June 2, 2008

**Forty-eight-year-old Fred Couples** is having an excellent season, but he knows it can't last for long, what with his back problems and all the young great players on Tour. He wants to play in one more U.S. Open, so he stayed overnight in Columbus to play the 36-hole U.S. open sectional qualifier at two local courses.

"I want to play because it's probably going to be my last U.S. Open," he said of the next major in two weeks at Torrey Pines in San Diego. So he'll get up early Monday morning and drive to Brookside Golf and Country Club for his first 18 holes. After a quick lunch, he'll play 18 more holes at Ohio State's Scarlet Course. "I don't know the two courses," he said Friday. "I have to make a lot of birdies because I'm sure I'll make some mistakes in 36 holes. But I'll give it a shot. I just don't know. If I get in this year, and don't play well, and I'm not in next year, to do that again ... I think my days are done." Or in a few years he can win the U.S. Senior Open and get an automatic berth.

**I thought everyone loved Sergio but I'm wrong.** Apparently some guy yelled out, "America hates you, Sergio" as he was walking down the fairway with Phil Mickelson. Bones walked over to the rope and said something to the guy and Phil looked over and said, "C'mon, guy." That jerk and the guys we all hear every week with their "Get in the hole!" shouted at their top of their inebriated lungs should have, as former CBS commentator Ben Wright used to say, "been choked at birth."

**Yes, betting exists in golf and with Tiger Woods sidelined** golf gamblers have taken advantage of increased betting options in recent weeks. For the Memorial and the uncertainty, Sportsbetting.com had listed "the field" as a 3-1 favorite, followed by Phil Mickelson, who was coming off a one-stroke win at Colonial listed at 7-1.

**So what did you think of the Master's telecast and especially** some of the music CBS chose? How about this review from the New York Times I came across this week: "The loud martial music CBS Sports used so relentlessly was meant to evoke heraldry. But the Masters is not "Braveheart" and Trevor Immelman is not William Wallace."

**Golf, as I wrote several weeks ago, was an Olympic sport 100 years ago** and as we know Tim Finchem wants to bring it back (but Tiger doesn't). Finchem said at his Memorial press conference, "We made a strong first impression in an informal meeting last week with IOC President Jacques Rogge." Finchem was joined by the European Tour chief George O'Grady; LPGA Tour Commissioner Carolyn Bivens; David Fay, the United States Golf Association's executive director; and Peter Dawson, the Royal & Ancient chief executive. I want to see John Daley carry the flag in Tiger's absence.



## 15<sup>th</sup> Victory for SST PURE

Kenny Perry (who has a history of having SST PURE his clubs) finally made it to the winner's circle last week, and he did for the second time at Jack Nicklaus's Memorial Tournament. But that's not the total story. **Players who have asked SST to PURE** their clubs dominated the top 20. Start with Justin Rose (who is the defending European Order of Merit Champion), Mike Weir and Jerry Kelly tying for second place. Then add in Rocco Mediate, Steve Lowery, Luke Donald, Brent Quigley (yes another top-10 finish for him) Robert Allenby, Matt Kuchar and Tom Lehman.

**This was the 15<sup>th</sup> victory this year for SST and the players with SST PUREd** clubs fared so well throughout the field they boosted the money won this year by players with a history of SST PUREd clubs to more than \$59 million.

**It was great to see Kenny win** following some close calls at The Players and a few weeks ago making it to the playoff in Atlanta. His motivation is making it on to the Ryder Cup team. Perry reminds me of my late great friend Payne Stewart, who had missed some Ryder Cup appearances and then put together a spectacular year including a win at the Open to make the team that won with the great Sunday comeback. Paul Azinger had said if Perry expected to be a captain's pick he would have to win, which he now has. For the record Perry rose to fifth on the FedEx points list and is now ninth in career earnings.

**Over on the Champions Tour SST also enjoyed a great week.** Runners up included Andy Bean, Nick Price, Joey Sindelar and defending Schwab Cup Champion Loren Roberts.

**Huge news from SST PURE** this week: The latest addition to the network of SST PURE licensees, Jack Nicklaus Performance Solutions is based in Jupiter, Fla. Using the latest technologies in golf club fitting and building, the company offers its services to the public through an alliance with the PGA National Resort and Spa and at the nearly 200 Jack Nicklaus Signature Courses around the world.

*The Pros Competitive Edge® has been copy written by Strategic Shaft Technologies, LC; SST PURE®, SST PUREd®, PURE™, PUREd™, PUREing™, retro-PURE™ are property of of Strategic Shaft Technologies, LC*

[WWW.SSTPURE.COM](http://WWW.SSTPURE.COM)