

Sault Tribe Takes Inaugural Native American Cup



Photo courtesy of Sault Tribe News

Notah Begay III presents the Native American Cup to Sault Ste Marie Chippewa Tribe team captain Alan Bouschor.

Courtesy of Sault Tribe News

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians team won the Native American Cup Golf Tournament over the weekend of Aug. 12-14 at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa near Traverse City, Michigan.

Four 12-member teams vied for the 2005 Cup and included the host, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, along with the Saginaw Chippewa

Indian Tribe, Sault Tribe, and Team Native America, which was composed of various tribal chairmen, American Indian businessmen and four-time PGA tour champion Notah Begay III.

Qualifying for the competition took place July 9-10. Alan Bouschor was the top qualifier for the Sault Tribe team and was designated the team captain. Also playing on the team were Jeff McLeod, Leroy Frazier, Bernard Bouschor, D.J. Kuczewski, Gary Cook, Harold Frazier, Chad Cook, Mike Nolan, Donald Smith, Brandon Jackson and Brandon Cook. The final

results were Sault Tribe, 20; Grand Traverse, 13.5; Saginaw Chippewa, 11; and Team Native America, 3.5.

"Congratulations to the Sault Tribe for an outstanding weekend of golf," said Henry Bouley, executive director of the Native American Cup. "They deserve the Cup, they earned it." Bouley said the Sault Tribe team did well all along but shined during singles matches on the final day of competition. The team won 11 out of 12 singles matches; Bouley called it an unheard of feat.

The Native American Cup dates back to 1997 when the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe hosted the Sault Tribe in a one-day golf event called the Anishinaabe Cup. Since then, the contest and the organization has evolved and there are hopes of eventual nationwide expansion. "Our goal is for this event to grow so that in future years, dozens of American Indian tribes from across North America are represented and more scholarships are awarded," said Bouley.

The goal of the organization is to enhance leadership and educational opportunities for American Indian students through annual scholarships funded through golf tournaments, sales of logo items and other fund-raisers. The signature golf tournament, the Native American Cup, will be held annually on the second weekend of August. *MG*

Video:

<http://michigangolfer.tv/2005shows/nativeamericacup/>

Harris Wins Third Tournament of Champions in Playoff

By Michael Patrick Shiels

Michael Harris, a 27-year-old touring professional from Troy, won his third career Michigan PGA Tournament of Champions Wednesday by shooting 67 in the final round on Boyne Mountain Resort's Monument course and then outlasting a charging Scott Hebert in a two-hole playoff. His three round total in the \$100,000 event was 69-69-67 - 205 (-11).

Hebert, 36, an assistant professional at Sunnybrook CC near Grand Rapids, began the day two strokes behind Harris, but shot the tournament-low 65 to finish at 11-under-par and force sudden death.

"Scott is bitten by the runner-up bug, I guess," said Harris of Hebert, who finished second to the University of Michigan alum three weeks ago in the Michigan Open at Traverse City. "When you shoot 11-under-par in this tournament you'd think he ought to win. Unfortunately for him, I shot 11-under too."

And while Harris has won the Tournament of Champions three times, Hebert has five T of C runner-up finishes, including the last three years in a row, and now two of them to Harris.

"Always a bridesmaid, huh?" quipped Hebert, who missed a seven-foot par putt on the second playoff hole - the par-three 13th hole - to seal his fate. It was his only bogey of the day. "I read too much into it," Hebert admitted, but nevertheless, was proud of his effort. "I played well. In a playoff, anything can happen. Unfortunately I three-putted. Golf is funny. I goofed up in the playoff but I missed plenty of putts earlier in the week," said Hebert. "My putting is so bad right now I can't tell if I'm stroking them well or not."

The low amateur in the event was Jenny Calkins, a 19-year old from Greenville who plays at the University of Louisville. She finished the event at 5-over-par. Mike Raymond, an amateur from Jackson, who finished 7-over-par, was the low senior. *MG*