



2009 Buick Invitational

(The fifth of 37 events in the PGA TOUR Regular Season)

La Jolla, CA	February 5-8, 2009	FedExCup Points: 500	Purse: \$5,300,000
South Course (Host Course)		Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,568	
North Course		Par/Yards: 36-36—72/6,874	

Final-Round Notes – Sunday, February 8, 2009

Weather: Partly cloudy and cool. High temperatures reaching 61. Winds W-SW 8-15 mph.

Nick Watney posted a 4-under 68 on Sunday – including birdies on three of his last six holes – to capture the 2009 Buick Invitational by one stroke over 54-hole leader John Rollins (74). Lucas Glover (68) and Camilo Villegas (72) finished two back. The victory is the second of Watney's career (2007 Zurich Classic of New Orleans) and comes in his 125th start on the PGA TOUR.

Watney, a 27-year-old native of Sacramento, CA, becomes the first player in his 20s to win on Tour this season.

The Buick Invitational has not produced a first-time winner since Jay Don Blake captured the title in 1991.

The victory for Watney is worth 500 points and moves him to No. 2 in the FedExCup standings with 601 points, 46 behind leader Zach Johnson (647). The win comes in his fifth start at the Buick Invitational and is his second top-10 finish here (1-2009, T9-2007).

Nick Watney collects \$954,000 with the victory, moving to No. 4 on the official money list, with \$1,108,093. He is the fourth player this season to surpass \$1 million in earnings. He also moves to No. 157 on the career money list, surpassing 158th-ranked Jack Nicklaus.

The previous 13 winners of the Buick Invitational have Major Championship victories on their resume. Nick Watney is hoping to add his name to that list. The last player to win the Buick Invitational who did not already own or did not go on to win a major title was Peter Jacobsen in 1995.

The win by Nick Watney is the 240th on TOUR by a former Nationwide Tour winner and the third of the season (Zach Johnson, Pat Perez).

John Rollins has now entered the final round with at least a share of the 54-hole lead four times (2003 Buick Classic, 2003 FUNAI Classic-Disney, 2005 Deutsche Bank Championship, 2009 Buick Invitational), but has failed to win in those events. His two victories were in come-from-behind fashion, including a seven-stroke comeback at the 2002 Bell Canadian Open and a three-shot comeback at the 2006 B.C. Open.

In 72-hole events, John Rollins is the first 54-hole leader this season who has failed to carry that lead on to the winner's circle.

In the 54 years that this tournament has gone the full 72 holes, the third-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win 26 times, including most recently Tiger Woods in 2008.

The runner-up finish is the sixth of John Rollins' career (2009 Buick Invitational, 2008 Legends Reno-Tahoe Open, 2007 FBR Open, 2007 Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, 2005 B.C. Open, 2003 Buick Classic).

Dating back to the 2008 PGA Championship, Camilo Villegas has now finished inside the top 5 in five out of his last eight starts on TOUR.

Australian Matt Jones, making his first start of the year, tallied 10 birdies on his way to the round of the day with an 8-under 64 (equaling the best round of the week on the South Course – John Rollins/2nd round). His stellar play was good for solo-fifth place. It was just shy of his career-best round (63, 2008 Buick Open/2) and career-best finish (T4-2008 Honda Classic and Buick Open). His top-10 finish is good for entry into the Northern Trust Open in two weeks.

Two-time Buick Invitational runner-up Luke Donald has never failed to finish in the top 25 in six career starts here (T7-2009, T24-2006, T2-2005, T2-2004, T7-2003, T18-2002).

2008 PGA TOUR Player of the Year Pdraig Harrington and Retief Goosen both made their season debut and Buick Invitational debut this week with T24 and T26 finishes, respectively.

Three-time Buick Invitational winner Phil Mickelson, finished T42 this week in his 20th start at the tournament. His 2-over-par 290 total represents the first time he has finished above par in 16 made cuts here. He was joined in the field this week by fellow past champions Davis Love III (T35) and Bob Tway (missed cut). Tway, who made his 24th start at the tournament, will be eligible to join the Champions Tour later this year when he turns 50 on May 4.

For the eighth consecutive year, the Buick Invitational failed to have a player record all four rounds in the 60s. Dating back to the 1997 tournament (13 tournaments), only six players have performed the feat, with two coming in 1999 (Billy Ray Brown and Bill Glasson) and four in 2001 (Frank Lickliter II, Mike Weir, Jay Don Blake and Shigeki Maruyama).

Stat leaders for the week:

Driving Distance	Robert Garrigus	309.9 yards
Driving Accuracy	Dean Wilson	41 of 56 (73.21 %)
Greens in Regulation	Bill Haas	58 of 72 (80.56 %)
Putts per Round	Aaron Baddeley	26.50 per round

The South Course did not yield a bogey-free round during the final round.

The final-round scoring average at the South Course was 72.366, bringing the cumulative average for the week to 74.010. It represents just the second time since 1983 that the overall average has exceeded 74.00, with the highest average coming in 1993 (74.179).

Course	Rd. 1	Rd. 2	Rd. 3	Rd. 4	Cumulative
North (par 72)	71.731	71.880	---	---	71.804
South (par 72)	75.372	74.091	74.059	72.366	74.010

The par-4 seventh hole played the toughest this week on the South Course, yielding a 4.402 average, while the par-5 sixth hole was the easiest at 4.527.

Of the 25 graduates from the 2008 Nationwide Tour who teed it up this week, PGA TOUR rookie Jeff Klauk had the best showing with a T11 finish. It was a career-best effort for Klauk (topping his T12 earlier this year at the Sony Open in Hawaii). Klauk has posted sub-par rounds 13 times in 17 attempts this season.

The season-long Kodak Challenge, where players must play at least 18 of the 30 Kodak Challenge holes throughout the season to be eligible for a \$1 million prize, includes this week's 435-yard, par-4 14th hole at Torrey Pines South Course. Through the first four events of the Challenge, Dustin Johnson, Cameron Beckman, Jarrod Lyle and Zach Johnson share the lead at 3-under.

The PGA TOUR heads north this week for the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, with Steve Lowery set to defend his title from a year ago.