



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Alex Wood
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Final-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	José de Jesus Rodriguez	69-73-70-70-282 (-6)
2	Wyndham Clark	70-69-77-67-283 (-5)
3	K.H. Lee	71-70-78-66-285 (-3)
	Maverick McNealy	64-73-74-74-285 (-3)

José de Jesus Rodriguez makes final-round charge to win United Leasing & Finance Championship

EVANSVILLE, Ind. – It wasn't his first professional win, but it's one he will remember forever – and one he didn't know was coming until the final putt dropped. After entering the final round at the United Leasing & Finance Championship one stroke back of the lead, Mexico's José de Jesus Rodriguez put together a closing 2-under 70 to finish the week at 6-under 282, good for his first title on the Web.com Tour. Sitting one stroke back of Rodriguez was 2017 Ben Hogan Award finalist Wyndham Clark who carded a 5-under 67 to move into contention.

Rodriguez opened play Sunday at Victoria National Golf Club with four-straight pars before picking up a birdie on the par-3 fifth. He followed up the birdie with two more on the seventh and eighth, making the turn at 3-under 33 and taking the lead from Maverick McNealy, who hadn't given it up since Thursday afternoon. Rodriguez would battle on the back nine, picking up his first bogey at the par-5 15th after his third shot ended up in the deep rough.

"I had chances for birdies on the front nine," he said of the round. "I was making very good putts, thanks to my caddie. He helped me and this win is for him too. Then on the back nine I started with a birdie. I got a bogey on the par 5, a little mistake, but I'm good. I'm happy."

As the 37-year-old stood over his final putt on No. 18, he had no idea where he sat on the leaderboard. It wasn't until the putt dropped that his caddie shared the life-changing news – he had won on the Web.com Tour.

"The last four holes are hard, but it's the passage," the four-time PGA TOUR Latinoamérica champion said. "It's fun. Every day is fun at this game. I didn't know how many strokes [were between me and the leader] but then on the last one, I told my caddie 'I'm going to make this putt' and then I won. I'm very happy with that."

The win earned Rodriguez \$108,000, enough to move him up 20 spots to No. 3 on the Regular Season money list and move him one step closer to his dream of securing his first PGA TOUR card. For Rodriguez, however, all of that is just an added bonus – what he plays for is much greater than any paycheck.

"This is my dream," Rodriguez said, tearing up after the victory. "I had this dream for my sponsor. He's in the sky. My sponsor helped me, he changed my life, he helped me start to play professional and this dream is for him. Alfonso helped me for 12 years. I started with him as a caddie. He'd tell me, 'Jose, you can play.' I said it was too expensive, but he helped me. He died two years ago, so this is for him."

Rodriguez spent 2017 playing on PGA TOUR Latinoamérica, where he recorded nine top-25 finishes in 13 events, including two victories. He had the lowest scoring average on tour (69.26) and is the all-time money leader on PGA

TOUR LA having captured \$299,609 in 53 career starts. The performance was enough to land him at No. 1 on the Order of Merit, earning fully-exempt status on the Web.com Tour for 2018.

The Irapuato, Mexico, native has flourished in his third full season on Tour, having already picked up four top-25 finishes in eight starts before heading into Evansville. Prior to this year Rodriguez had only made 13 cuts in 35 starts, with his best finish being a T6 in 2016 at his hometown event, the El Bosque Mexico Championship by Innova.

SUNDAY NOTES:

* Sunday weather: Sunny, High 64, Winds NE 5/10 mph.

* This week's purse was \$600,000, with \$108,000 going to the champion.

* Jose de Jesus Rodriguez is the sixth Mexican-born player to win on the Web.com Tour. His victory at the United Leasing & Finance Championship is victory No. 9 for Mexico.

* Rodriguez is the sixth international player to win this season on Tour (Sungjae Im, Adam Svensson, Ben Taylor, Martin Trainer, Julian Etulain and Jose de Jesus Rodriguez). He is the eighth first-time winner this season.

* In the seven-year history of the United Leasing & Finance Championship, the tournament has had four international-born winners (Greg Owen – 2014, Seamus Power – 2016, D.H. Lee – 2017, Jose de Jesus Rodriguez – 2018).

* At age 37 years 3 months 7 days, Rodriguez is the first player in their 30s, to win this season on Tour.

* With a 72-hole total of 282 (-6), Rodriguez posted the same score as 2017 United Leasing & Finance champion D.H. Lee.

* In 2017, Rodriguez won the PGA TOUR Latinoamérica Order of Merit. He is the third PGATLA Order of Merit victor to win on the Web.com Tour (Nate Lashley – 2017 Corales Puntacana Resort and Club Championship, Julian Etulain – 2018 Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by NACHER).

* Rodriguez's week at a glance:

Fairways: 38/56 (T37)

GIR: 48/72 (T14)

Putts 114 (T6)

* About Jose de Jesus Rodriguez (ho-ZAY DE Hehs-US Road-DREE-guess)

FULL NAME: José de Jesús Rodríguez Martínez

NICKNAME: El Cameron (The shrimp)

HEIGHT/WEIGHT 5-9/175

BIRTHDATE: January 22, 1981

BIRTHPLACE: Irapuato, Mexico

RESIDENCE: Irapuato, Mexico

FAMILY: Wife, Bianca; Ximena (2006), José de Jesús, Jr. (2008)

TURNED PROFESSIONAL: 2007

JOINED TOUR: 2014

* With a scoring average of 74.90, Victoria National GC took over No. 1 on the toughest courses played in 2018. Panama Golf Club is second with an average of 71.859.

* Wyndham Clark recorded his best performance of his rookie season with his runner-up in Evansville. Clark birdied the par-4 finishing hole for a closing 6-under 30 on the back nine. Clark's 5-under 67 was the second lowest score in Sunday's final round (K.H. Lee – 66). Clark moved from No. 48 to No. 15 on the money list.

* Maverick McNealy carded a final round 2-over 74 for a T3, his first top-10 of the season, and moved from No. 103 to No. 43 on the money list.

* K.H. Lee moved up 19 spots on the leaderboard, during the final round, with his 6-under 66 on Sunday. Lee ended the week T3, his third top-five of the season (Country Club de Bogota Championship -T2, North Mississippi Classic – T2, United Leasing & Finance Championship – T3).

* Victoria National GC Scoring averages:

	Front (36)	Back (36)	Total (72)
R1	37.284	37.200	74.484
R2	37.538	36.780	74.318
R3	37.809	38.088	75.897
R4	36.544	36.926	73.471
CUM	37.294	37.249	74.543

* NEXT WEEK: The Web.com Tour takes a week off before heading to Fox Den CC in Knoxville, Tennessee, for the Knoxville Open.

For highlights from today's round, or any 2018 event visit <http://bit.ly/webcomtour2018>

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