



## *Inner City Youth Golfers' Incorporated*

Press Release

### *“Tiger Didn’t Win ‘THE PLAYERS’ - When Will He Win Again”*

By: Malachi Knowles, Golf Editor, Westside Gazette Newspaper

Riviera Beach, FL (USA), May 20, 2009: Tiger Woods 8th-place finish is his best outing at THE PLAYERS Championship – 2009, TPC Sawgrass, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL since he won it in 2001. He now has four top-10 finishes at the tournament. He has not missed a cut in 12 attempts at THE PLAYERS but this 8th-place finish snaps a string of six consecutive appearances in this tournament without a top-10 finish. This represents his longest streak in any single event without finishing in the top-10. His final round represented the 22nd time he has entered the last day five shots off the lead and he came back to win twice (2000 AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, 2009 Arnold Palmer Invitational). He has posted 18 of 20 rounds at par or better in 2009, with his only over-par efforts coming on the final day of THE PLAYERS with a 1-over 73 and during the 3rd round at the 2009 Arnold Palmer Invitational (71).

Eldrick “Tiger” Woods finished THE PLAYERS – 2009 with a 72-hole score of 5-under-par 283 which was not good enough. It was 7 shots behind Henrik Stenson’s who made his 44th career PGA TOUR start and posted a four day (68-69-73-66) total of 276 (-12). Stenson is the 9th international player to win the tournament; a five year exemption; the Waterford trophy and 1st place money - \$1,710,000. He is the first from Sweden. He is the third European-born player to win THE PLAYERS, joining Sergio Garcia (2008) and Sandy Lyle (1987).

The most exciting part of Woods' 2nd round came on the 9th hole, where he made birdie despite hitting a spectator on his second shot. Woods caught a flier on his approach shot from the fairway and hit Daytona Beach, FL Charlie Caravati (71) just right off the fairway. The ball bounced off of him and into a deep downhill lie. Woods apologized and gave him a signed glove. He then hit his 3rd shot 6 feet from the cup and made birdie. Mr. Caravati though a little bruised, was treated by medics before deciding to spend the rest of the day at the course watching the remaining golf.

On the final day, Woods showed some signs of being disgusted with many of his shots but was determined to grin it out. It also appeared at times from my view as I walked the course with him that, “he wanted to hit fairways and his clubs gave him spinners to the right - no matter where he aimed.” “Tiger Sunday Glory” folk sitting in front of their TV’s and at local sports joints all over the world were probably wondering just how will he fix his golf game and when will he play again.

ICYG Golf Director, Clewis Wright, Jr. offered the following solution from his view to Tiger through his web site and shared it with me after I returned from THE PLAYERS. Coach Wright stated that “his feet were lined up to the left as he attempted to hit a draw and there is no way for your lower body to work with the upper if your feet are aligned in opposite directions. On the practice range, you swing at 60 to 80 %, when on the course it appears that you are swinging at 100% or more and if you swing at 60 to 80% you will hit more fairways and greens.”

I’ve received many phone calls and emails of support for Mr. Woods but the central theme seems to be: “Where will he play next and When will he win again?” At the Crowne Plaza Invitational at Colonial, at the Memorial ( Jack Nicklaus’ Tournament) which he’s won five times, at the St. Jude Classic, at the U. S. Open Championship where he will be defending or any other time in 2009?” Tiger knows the answers but no matter what, “I am still a believer.”

*Photo Credit: Frank M. Howell, III – “Tiger hoping for a better shot from the 3<sup>rd</sup> tee at THE PLAYERS, May 10, 2009”& “Tiger autographs his glove for Charlie Caravati (sitting in green shirt) after misfired shot on the 9th fairway at THE PLAYERS, May 8, 2009.”*

