

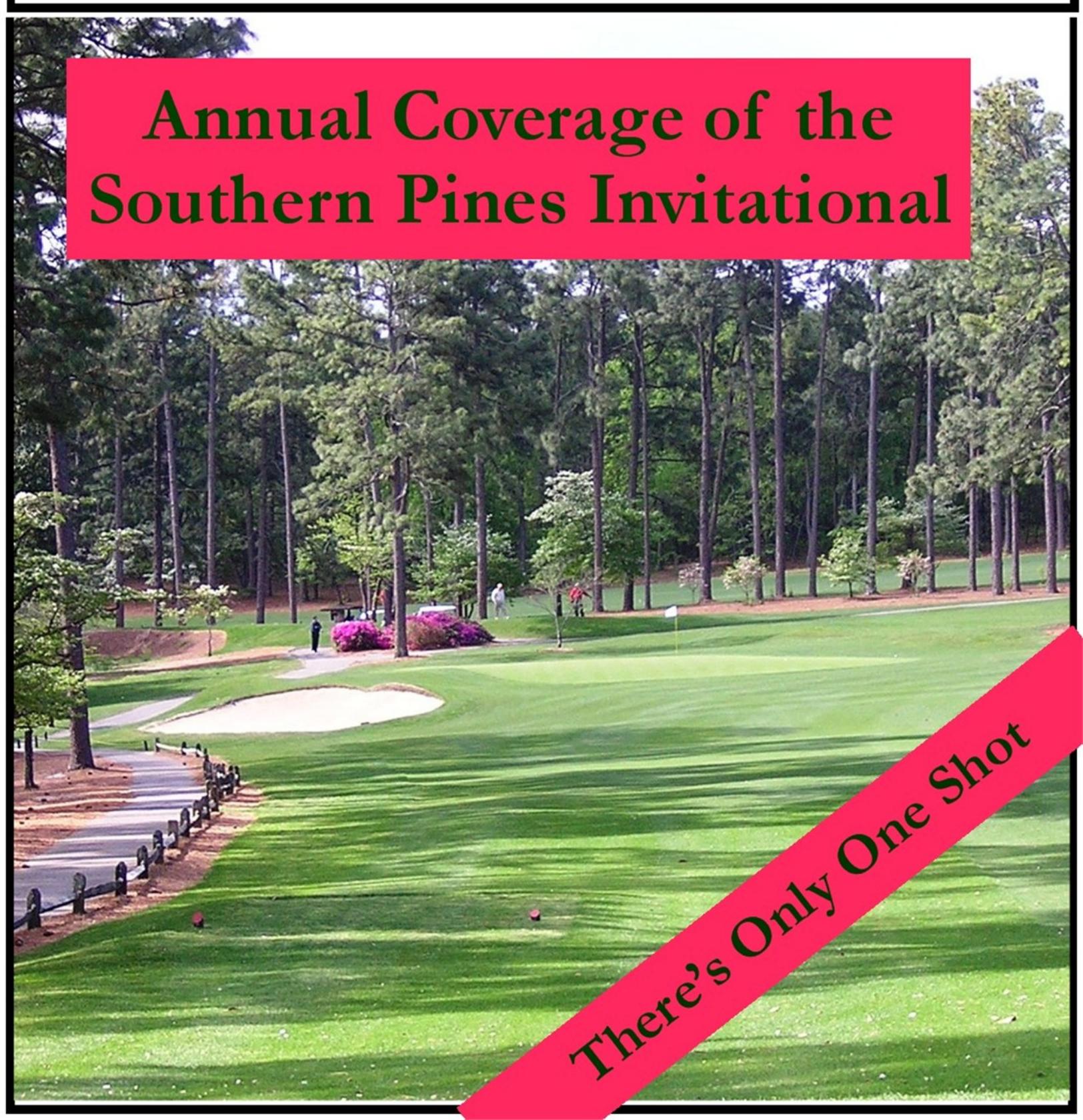
# THE DIMPLED ORB *DIGEST*

Volume XV

April 24, 2005

**Annual Coverage of the  
Southern Pines Invitational**

**There's Only One Shot**

A wide-angle photograph of a golf course green. In the foreground, a well-maintained green lawn leads to a sand trap on the left. A paved path with a wooden fence runs along the left side. In the middle ground, a white flag is visible on the green, and a few people can be seen near a cluster of pink flowers. The background is dominated by a dense line of tall, slender pine trees under a clear sky.

## Big Daddy Brings Home the Bacon

*Sunday, April 24, 2005. 2:20 PM EDT.*

*By Chuck Dumbásss, Senior Editor,  
Dimpled Orb Digest © 2005.*

SOUTHERN PINES, North Carolina (DOD) – **W**hen Toby “Hoss Cartwright” Hyke stripes a golf ball, it knows it’s been striped. With arms like Popeye, Hyke’s unorthodox style results in astounding length off the tee. And despite his girth, Hoss is remarkably nimble around the greens. After years of steady play and near misses, these talents, along with the ability to play well under severe conditions, took Hoss “Big Daddy” Cartwright to the title in the sixth annual Southern Pines Invitational.



The first Calcutta was held on its traditional third Monday in April at the WMBAC offices. All attended except Danny “Depot Stove” Pressley, who was sleeping off the effects of tax season. Last year’s first-time entrant, Jon Lawler, canceled at the last minute due to Cub Scout commitments. Brother in law Randy Gibson was added to take Lawler’s place. Calcutta Chairman Michael Wood inexplicably brought along a non-playing associate, who had the opportunity to observe one of the rarest and most exclusive sights in golf—the inner sanctum of the Calcutta Conclave. Since the new Pope had just been named, it seemed fitting that a certain air of solemnity be added to the traditional Calcutta ceremony. Hermetically sealed

envelopes housed in a specially constructed wooden box contained the Calcutta Cards. These ducats have become so prized that they require an extra level of security to be certain no tampering occurs before the momentous occasion.

Prior to the Calcutta, Tournament Director Greg “Loguemeister” Logue awarded the Terrapin Travelin’ Trophy to last year’s champion, Mark “Cueball” Kimmet, for his outstanding play. Kimmet got to keep the Orb for all of three days, as it had to be returned on Thursday for this year’s tournament. Some months ago, for no reason anyone will admit, the Trophy had fallen into the clutches of the Chairman. Wood held it hostage, remarking that Kimmet was not “Turtle Worthy” to have possession of it for more time. Kimmet enjoyed the trophy for his brief sojourn with it.





This year's slide show combined panoramic views of the playing venues with the player profiles, all accompanied by the music of the Alan Parsons Project. The show included the PPM ratings for Day One at Mid Pines (a switch from the usual rotation), which revealed Logue, Hyke and Wood as the favorites. Abernethy also rated a buy at forth. Logue drew the premium bid, followed by Carl "Papaw" Trantham and Wood. Despite the change of locale for the first day's play, the PPM proved uncannily accurate in predicting the eventual leaders.

Marti Rose has long been a fixture in organizing and providing the ceremonial pre-tournament Bucket, along with compatriot Angie Rossini. This year marked Marti's last appearance in the Bucket ceremony as a WMBAC regular, as she will soon be over the wall and off to other realms. In honor of her departure, she and Angie outdid themselves, with gifts of Scotch at the office, and a purloined driving-range basket filled with goodies delivered to Mid Pines. Thanks again girls, for all you do, and best of luck to Marti. Despite the sentimental and solemn occasion, Marti and Logue couldn't pass up the opportunity to spar a few rounds one last time. Logue finally dropped her in the third with a great right cross.

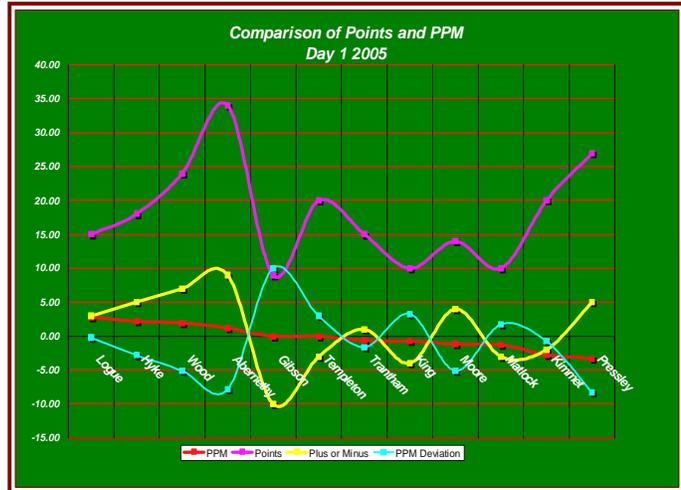


And so it was as our intrepid heroes set forth for the competition, swearing fealty to the Terrapin as they went. As a matter of tradition, for years the tournament began at the crack of dawn on Thursday. After the disastrous alarm clock incident two years ago, for some, last year's departure was moved to late Wednesday afternoon, with a layover and target practice at the Statesville Golf Center. This year, the Call of the Orb proved too much, though, as most of the players found themselves leaving early on **Wednesday** for preparatory rounds en route to Southern Pines. The Logue Contingent, including Papaw, Norm "The Total Package" Templeton, and Dan "The Man" Moore landed in Hickory at the Rock Barn Golf Club and

Spa. The trip over featured Trantham's Anthem to the Bush Bean Plant, played expertly as only Papaw can on a remote flatulence simulator. The Logue group was joined at Rock Barn by Mike "The Golfer Once Again Known as Big Boy, Jr." King and Richard "Murdock" Matlock. Rock Barn proved playable over all and spectacular in spots. Everyone who played there thought The Barn would be a keeper.

The Wood Faction, headed by the Chairman, including Harvey, Cueball, and Gibson, dallied at Mimosa Hills in Morganton. They found the course to be rough in spots, but hospitable enough to allow Wood and Harvey to lighten the wallets of Gibson and Cueball. Hoss and Danny “Material Girl” Pressley skipped the Wednesday practice rounds and met the others in Southern Pines on Thursday.

Ah Thursday—the first day of the tournament was at hand! In a break from tradition resulting from a scheduling snafu, the first round was played at Mid Pines on Thursday afternoon, rather than Pine Needles. With a blistering performance, Abernethy shattered the one-day scoring record with 34 points to post a +9, all the more impressive given the course conditions. The greens were hard and failed to hold even well-struck wedge shots. Wood finished second at +7. Hoss Cartwright came in tied for third at +5, which earned him a rousing chorus of the “Bonanza Theme” at the evening’s Calcutta. The Depot Stove also posted an out of character first day +5. The PPM had predicted three of the top four players. The top PPM prediction, Logue, also showed well at +3. As the deviation chart above shows, the PPM worked well on Day One to predict the strong finishers.



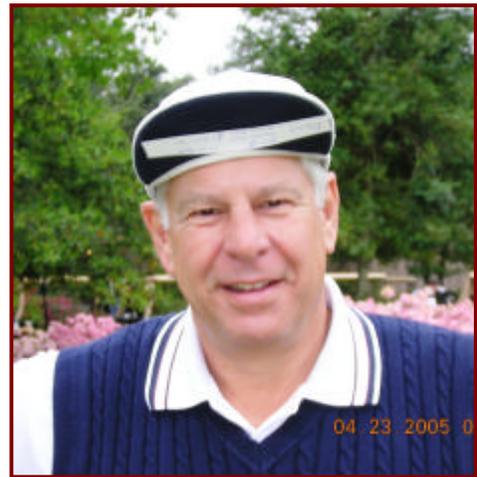
Day Two found the players at a new track none of them had seen before—Mid South Golf Club. For the most part, the players enjoyed the course, although none appeared ready to trade it for the usual locations. The course was quite playable but did not yield particularly high scores, due probably to its novelty. Only a third of the field could manage positive numbers, the leader of whom was the Total Package. Norm carded a neat 29, finishing at +7. It was Norm’s first win on tour. Logue and Depot tied for second at +4, with the Stove registering Eagle for the second day in a row (in the fourteen prior years of the Golf Trip, only two eagles had been recorded—Pressley had two on consecutive days). King played well

with a +3. Defending champion Cueball played well in spots, but could manage only a -2, while injuring his back in the process. Gibson, demonstrating good form and nice touch on the greens, but still trying to get his tournament legs under him, followed his -10 on Day One with a lackluster -4 at Mid South. Harvey sandbagged to -5 since Templeton owned him.



At Friday's dinner, no one wanted to challenge the North Carolina Association of Proctologists to a fist fight or a golf match. Apparently emulating those sons-of-bitches, though, Depot Stove Pressley professed a cure for Cueball's ailing back. Calling it "Dr. Depot's Special Remedy—it's Good for What Ails Ya'®," the Stove tried to position himself to apply the treatment. He was even spotted lurking outside Cueball's bedroom door during the night. Kimmnet managed to avoid it until Dr. Depot finally cornered him on Saturday on the practice green. Judging by the look on Cueball's face, the "Special Remedy" was a success.

Day Three is Moving Day at the Southern Pines Invitational. Last year's dual between Cueball and King on the back nine at Pine Needles will long be remembered as one of the Golf Trip's finest. Although this year's closing holes were not as dramatic as last, Harvey, Hoss and Moore staged a memorable finish nonetheless. Playing in the second group with swing keys taped to the bill of his cap, Harvey parred 18 to post a +5 as the leader in the clubhouse. With Moore and Hoss in the last group, Moore had gotten hot on the back nine, to go to +5 by 16. Hyke, playing steady golf, was at +3. Moore failed to point on 17, while Hyke added one to get to +4. As they stood on the tee at 18, Hoss knew he needed at least one to catch Moore. Moore needed at least one to protect the lead. Both hit good tee shots and had decent approaches to the well-bunkered green. Hoss's shot came to rest just off the front edge, while Moore's trickled into the front left bunker. Moore managed to get it out of the sand, but was 20 feet short of the hole. With the entire throng ringing the green, the pressure was palpable. Moore learned first hand how difficult it is to putt with his hands around his throat, leaving his approach putt six feet short. Meanwhile, Hoss had nudged his fairly close. Moore needed the six-footer to take the lead but, despite hours of night putting, pulled it left. All Hoss had to do was make the par putt to take the win outright. Alas, he too, failed, settling for a one-point bogey. When the smoke cleared, we had a gut-wrenching, three-way tie for first.



The tie was enough, though, to get Hyke the three day lead at +10. Harvey, Logue (with a Day Three +3), and Moore were all tied for second, one stroke back. Depot was also in the hunt at +7 going into the final round.

At dinner on Saturday evening, in a masterful stroke of sandbaggery, King seemed to have severely pulled a groin muscle while arising from the table, nearly decapitating Templeton in the process. King vowed to work on his dining techniques with a swing coach in an effort to avoid similar incidents in the future. Meanwhile back at the Calcutta, the freak injury had a chilling effect on the bidding for King, despite his known proclivity for strong Day Four performances. This allowed King's partner, Murdock, to acquire King for a paltry sum, which would later prove to be the best bargain of the tournament.



Day Four dawned to frigid temperatures, overcast skies, and howling winds. The conditions were reminiscent of the storied Legends round of '93. Scoring proved to be difficult, as none of the leaders could get much purchase. Logue and Moore just never had it, both finishing at -6, tied for fifth. The Stove never heated up and also fired a -6. Harvey played well, and finished at -1, good enough for second. But with the same steadfastness he had shown all week, Hoss Cartwright fashioned a round of 17 points to finish the day even and take home the coveted Terrapin Trophy.

The best round of the day was turned in by King, who overcame his dining room injury the night before to card a soaring +7. King's round featured several clutch putts, including a forty foot birdie on 8 (the 17<sup>th</sup> hole played) to salt the win away from Gibson, who finally broke into the money with a solid +4. Said Murdock during the round, "Mikey always shows up on Sunday, and besides, he's a polar bear." Moore gained some consolation in defeat by owning King in the Blind Hog. King's round was good enough to garner third in the overall.



But it wasn't enough to catch Hyke, who crafted two rounds at +5 and two rounds at even to win the championship. Hoss is among the longest standing members of the Golf Trip, having played in every tournament since his first appearance in 1995. Since his lone prior win in 1998, his steady play had carried him to a third in 2002 and a second place finish in 2003. This year, that steady play, and tenacity on the last day

when it counted, paid off. Hats off to Toby "Hoss Cartwright" Hyke, the 2005 Southern Pines Invitational overall champion.

