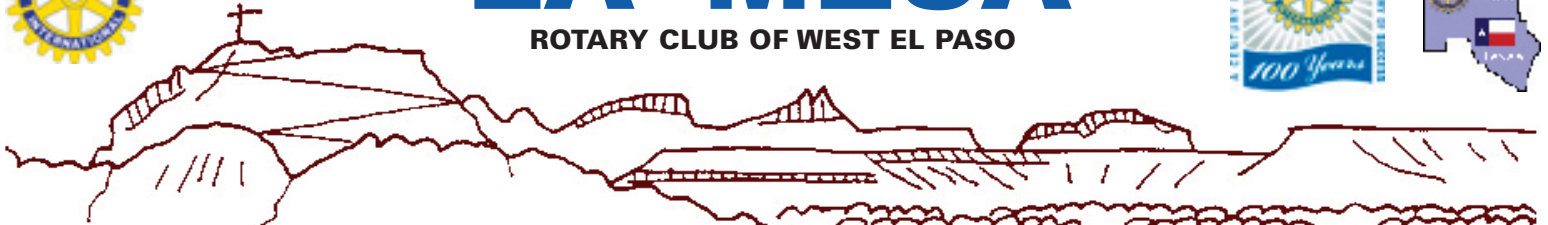




LA MESA

ROTARY CLUB OF WEST EL PASO



VOLUME 41 Number 26

April 26, 2005

April, 25

Rick Shector

Candidate, District 1



The FUTURES is now

By Rick LoBello, President - Rotary Club of West El Paso

Rotary Websites

Rotary Club of West El Paso:
www.rotarywestelpaso.org

The IOS Futures Golf Classic:
www.elpasofutures.org

Rotary District 5520:
www.rotary5520.org

Rotary International:
www.rotary.org

eClubOne:
<http://www.rotaryclubone.org>

The IOS Futures Golf Classic is upon us. The tournament, April 29-May 1 at Fort Bliss Underwood Golf Complex's Sunrise Course, will bring together 144 of the best women golfers in the world to compete for \$70,000 of prize money. The event is the biggest professional sporting event in El Paso.

You are invited to our Meet the Pros Party 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday at the Sunland Park Racetrack and Casino in the Signature Showroom downstairs. Each club member is entitled to one ticket to the party. If you want to take a guest, tickets are \$10 each. Those who are "outside of Rotary" are charged \$25.

Here are some interesting facts that we have been sending out to the media:

This is the FUTURES Golf Tour's 25th anniversary season.

Forty-eight international players from 16 nations outside the United States will compete in El Paso, alongside players from throughout the United States.

Most of the players are making their transition from college and amateur golf to the professional level. A number of players in this year's tournament field are from Texas or competed in Texas universities or at nearby New Mexico State University.

The tournament features a \$70,000

purse (\$9,800 to the winner) in a 54-hole stroke-play tournament format. This event will be the tour's fourth tournament of the 2005 season. It also will be the tournament's fourth staging in El Paso.

Rookie Jin Young Pak of Kang Leoung, Korea, won the season-opening Lakeland FUTURES Golf Classic in Lakeland, Fla., followed by rookie Sarah-Jane Kenyon of Queensland, Australia, who won the Tampa Bay FUTURES Golf Classic in Oldsmar, Fla. Both players are in the El Paso tournament field. For background on these players, please go to futurestour.com, then to "News

Room" and then to "Weekly News Releases."

Details of Pak's win are in the March 14 release, while details of Kenyon's win are in the March 21 release. Results from each of the first two tournaments also accompany each release.

There will be five 2004 winners in the El Paso field hoping to win again in 2005 and move on to the LPGA Tour in 2006. Leading the way will be defending champion Hong Mei Yang of Si Chuan, China. Yang's win at the IOS FUTURES Classic last year, her debut on the FUTURES Tour, made her the first Chinese professional to win in America.

Her win in El Paso drew wide

see **Future...** on page 2



Futures... *continued from front*

news coverage in her homeland, as China is a newcomer to women's golf. Yang opened the doors for other Chinese women to come to America to pursue careers as touring pros. (For background information on Yang, go to the 2004 News Archives in futures-tour.com and look up the May 3, 2004 release.)

Joining Yang this year will be Shanghai native Li-Ying Ye, who qualified for and made her first American tournament last year's U.S. Women's Open. Ye went on to earn 2005 non-exempt status on the LPGA Tour and divides her time between the LPGA and FUTURES Golf Tours.

Other 2004 winners are as follows:

Kim Adams, of Tide Head, New Brunswick, Canada, winner of the 2004 Lakeland FUTURES Golf Classic;

Erica Blasberg, who left the University of Arizona early after two seasons, and won her second FUTURES Tour event last year in New Hampshire with a second-round score of 10-under-par 62 (on a par-72 course) that set a new FUTURES Tour 18-hole record (She currently has non-exempt LPGA Tour status.);

Naree Song, twin sister of the LPGA's Naree Song, now with LPGA non-exempt status and hoping to add another FUTURES title to her 2004 win in Merrillville, Ind.;

Courtney Wood, a 2004 rookie out of Vanderbilt University, who won her first professional title last year at the FUTURES event in Beltsville, Md.

In addition to Song and Blasberg, several top-15 players from the Tour's 2004 roster also will be in the El Paso field. They are Korea's *Seon-Hwa Lee*, who finished 10th on the season money list with six top 10 finishes; non-exempt LPGA Tour member *Allison*

Hanna, the 2004 Big Ten Player of the Year while at Ohio State University, finishing 13th on the 2004 season money list with two runner-up finishes and four top-10s; Korea's *Kyeong Bae* (called K.B.), who finished eighth on the Tour's 2004 money list with seven top 10s; and non-exempt LPGA Tour member *Kris Tamulis* of Naples, Fla., who played collegiately at Florida State University and finished the year ranked ninth, with five top-10s and two runner-up finishes.

There are several key rookies to watch this season, including: *Leigh Anne Hardin* of Indiana, who played collegiately for the top-ranked Duke University women's team after win-



ning the U.S. Girls' Junior Championship; *Sara Huarte*, the 2004 NCAA Women's Golf Championship individual champion while at the University of California-Berkeley; and *May Wood*, the 6-foot-2 long-hitter who left Vanderbilt University early to turn pro.

There also will be several LPGA Tour professionals in the field (now with non-exempt status), including LPGA veterans *Marianne Morris* of Middletown, Ohio, and *Miriam Nagl* of Berlin, Germany.

Three former U.S. Women's Amateur champions also will be in the field. They are: (2001) *Meredith Duncan* of Shreveport, La., a 2004 member of the LPGA Tour; (2002) *Becky Lu-*

cidi of Poway, Calif.; and (2003) *Virada (Oui) Nirapathpongporn* of Bangkok, Thailand, who was also the 2002 NCAA Women's Golf Championship individual champion and a four-time All-American while at Duke University.

Former LPGA Tour member *Kelley Booth*, who played collegiately at Arizona State University and now lives in McKinney, Texas, also will be in the field as she attempts to regain form after injuries. Booth won the USGA's 1993 U.S. Girls' Junior Championship.

Other Texans in the field are amateur *Janet DeGroat*, 21, of El Paso, a student at Texas A&M University; *Kristin Dufour* of Austin; *Lacey Englert* of Plano; *Katie Futcher* of The Woodlands; *Adrienne Gautreaux* of Mabank; *Jana Harmon* of Plano; *Randi Meadows* of Fair Oaks Ranch; *Gidget Tate* of San Angelo; LPGA non-exempt member *Brooke Tull* of Georgetown.

FUTURES Tour members who played college golf in Texas are: Angelo State University - *Gidget Tate*; Baylor University - *Tara Bateman* and *Melanie Willhite*; St. Mary's University (San Antonio) - *Jillian Wyne*; Texas Christian University - *Sue Horton*; and the University of Texas (Austin) - *Kristin Dufour*, *Jana Harmon*, and *Randi Meadows*.

Players in the El Paso field who played college golf at nearby New Mexico State University are *Rachel Bailey* of Faulconbridge, Australia; *Sasha Medina* of Ponce, Puerto Rico; and *Alena Sharp* of Hamilton, Ontario. *Medina* can conduct interviews in both English and Spanish.

Two FUTURES Tour members who are in the Golf Channel's current TV series, "Big Break III: Ladies Only" will be in the field. They are *Jan Dowling* of Bradford, Ontario; and *Valeria Ochoa* of Miramar, Fla., and Colombia, South America.

Feast for Futures

Gerri Wootten and other Rotarians who attended the "Feast for the Futures" dinner at the home of Teresa Cavaretta say the food was excellent and they had a great time. Teresa put on the dinner to help raise money for the IOS Futures Golf Classic.

**Vista Hills holds 'Casino Night'**

The Vista Hills Rotary Club is planning a casino night on Thursday, April 28. The club is looking for players, dealers and other volunteers. If you feel lucky and have a little extra time on the eve of the IOS FUTURES Golf Classic, stop by the Vista Hills Country Club for the casino night – you'll help our fellow Rotarians raise money for their community projects.

**Pass the hats and shirts**

Ken Slavin, our Club Service (A) director, is working on getting new shirts and caps for new club members. If you're new and need a shirt or cap, or if you've been a member of the club but worn out your garments, contact Ken at a club meeting or call him at 533-4424.

Volunteers still needed for tournament

Gary Mundy, who's heading up efforts on the IOS FUTURES Golf Classic, says volunteers are still need for parking and admission. If you haven't volunteered, please call Gary at 581-5476.

Nominate a cooperative project

The deadline for nominations for the Best Cooperative Project Award has been extended to 15 May to allow time for Rotarians to access the translated versions of the nomination form (<http://www.rotary.org/aboutrotary/award.html#form>). The form will be available for download from the Rotary Web site in the nine Rotary languages. The purpose of the award is to recognize outstanding

Rotary club service projects done in cooperation with other organizations. For example, at the local, national, and international levels the club may have cooperated respectively with a health clinic to provide free vaccinations; organized youth camps with the Boy Scouts of America, and worked with UNICEF to co-sponsor feeding programs for schoolchildren. Questions about this award should be referred to RI External Relations staff.

Rotary helps Filipinos gain sight

Indigent patients in an underserved Philippines province can now see clearly because of the work of a 12-member team of medical specialists and Rotarians from Michigan and Pennsylvania and their local counterparts. The group received a personal invitation from Borromeo Melchor, governor of Benguet Province, to perform free ophthalmic surgeries for poor residents of the province. For 10 days starting Feb. 25, the volunteers performed corrective surgeries on 109 adult and child patients, 82 of them to remove cataracts and 27 to correct strabismus (crossed eyes), at the Benguet General Hospital in La Trinidad.

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La Mesa is published by the Rotary Club of West El Paso, Inc. To subscribe send an e-mail to eligner@elp.rr.com with "Newsletter Subscription" as the subject.

MEETINGS

Monday: Holiday Inn - Sunland Park, 12 PM

EL PASO MAKEUPS

Tuesday: East El Paso, 12 PM

Airport Hilton

Wednesday: Sunrise, 7 AM

Sunland Park Holiday Inn

Vista Hills, 12 PM

Vista Hills Country Club

Thursday: El Paso, 12 PM

1st Presbyterian Fellowship Hall

Anthony, 12 PM

Dos Lagos Golf Club

Franklin Mountains, 5:45 PM

Sunrise Center Furr's Cafeteria

Friday: Northeast, 12 PM

Sunrise Center Furr's Cafeteria

JUAREZ MAKEUPS

Tuesday: Juarez Sur, 2:30 PM

Campestre Juarez

Wednesday: Cd. Juarez, 1:30 PM

Campestre Juarez

Juarez Chamizal, 2:00 PM

Rest. Barrigas Monumental

Juarez Americas, 3:00 PM

Campestre Juarez

Juarez Frontera, 7:30 PM

Rest. Viva Mexico

Thursday: Juarez Paso del Norte, 2:00 PM

Campestre Juarez

Juarez Empresarial, 2:30 PM

Rest. Barrigas Mon.

Friday: Juarez Industrial, 2:00 PM

Campestre Juarez

Juarez Ejecutivo, 2:00 PM

Mision de Los Lagos

Juarez Norte, 8:30 PM

Casino Juarez

Juarez Oriente, 9:00 PM

Hotel Holiday Inn