

GolfWeb

PGA Tour '97



BellSouth Classic
TPC at Sugarloaf, Duluth, GA
May 8-11, 1997

**PGA
TOUR**

Sunday's notebook

McCarron owes this victory to Pride

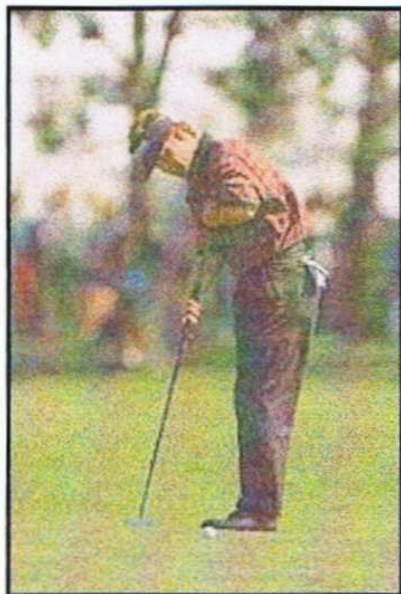
By Patrick Jones
GolfWeb Contributor

DULUTH, Ga. (May 10, 1997) -- BellSouth Classic champion Scott McCarron revealed that he got into a painful foot race with Dicky Pride when Friday's second round was halted by a rain delay. McCarron, Pride and Bob Estes had just teed off on the par-3, 189-yard 11th hole, when the horn went off to stop play. McCarron and Pride turned the horn into a starter's gun and playfully went into full sprints to mark their balls.

"We're pretty competitive out here," McCarron understated. "About 60 yards out I heard something pop in my hamstring. I pulled my hamstring. I went back to the (Centinela Fitness Center) van and they tried to rub it out. It felt like a big cramp back there."

Following the incident, McCarron said if he played well he was going to dedicate his strong showing in the tournament to Pride. "I think the pulled hamstring kept my swing slower. I was not able to go after it as hard as I normally do and I got to walk a little bit slower, too."

After picking up his \$270,000 winner's check, McCarron said he would "take Dicky out to dinner...after I beat him in a race again."



Scott McCarron survived a foot race to win.

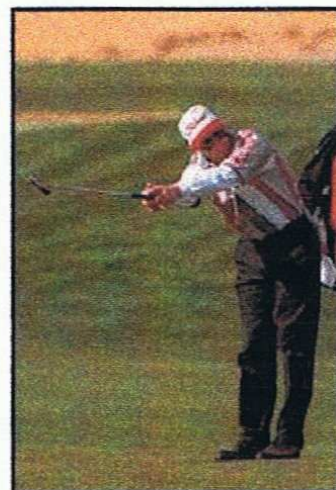
Things are looking up for Woody

GolfWeb Playing Editor Woody Austin was not forced to putt with a sand wedge this week. After missing 10 straight cuts this season, he finally got back in the money. Austin shot rounds of 70-72-73-70-285 (3-under) to finish in a tie for 28th. A frustrated Austin, you will likely remember, whacked himself in the side of the head with his short stick so many times at the MCI Classic that he bent the shaft and had to finish the second round putting with his sand wedge. The BellSouth is the first tournament since the Phoenix Open at the end of January that Austin earned the chance to play on the weekend.

"I finally got to play on Sunday, which feels nice," said Austin. "My game is getting there. I need to work on what I figured out this week."

Which is what?

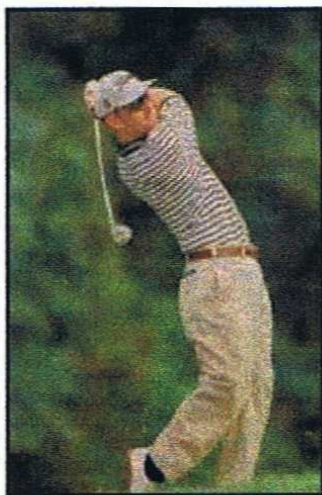
"Just trying to hit my driver somewhere on the golf course is what I'm working on. I didn't do it that great but it is getting better." Austin said his iron play is right where he wants it and his putting is improving. It's the 1-wood that has been the problem. "I'm hitting my irons so good. I'm hitting the ball close to the hole when I've given myself a chance in the fairway."



Woody Austin and his putter made it to Sunday.

Duval and the Monkey

David Duval still has the monkey, and the media, on his back after failing to finish as the BellSouth champion. As the third-round co-leader with McCarron, Duval was in a familiar position--atop the leaderboard and facing **THE QUESTION** of when he was going to win his first title. It's an inquisition he will have to face again on another day. He closed with an even-par 72 and finished in second place for the seventh time in his brief career. Duval showed a perceptible wince and hint of frustration when the inevitable question came his way preceding the final round.



David Duval knows second place too well.

"I want to win a golf tournament and several golf tournaments more than (the media) is curious to why I haven't won," said Duval. Winning isn't everything. I go out there and do the absolute best I can. Anytime I've had a chance to win a golf tournament, I haven't walked off the course feeling like, man, you just didn't give it a chance today. You didn't have your heart in it or anything.

"I've done whatever I could in the past," Duval added. "I don't necessarily feel like I've forced things. I don't feel like I've been kind of lazy about things either. I feel like I've gone about it the right way, but it just hasn't worked out. I said it a few months back, if the biggest problem I have is winning a golf tournament out here, I'll be all right. And that's not necessarily what everybody wants to hear, but it's the truth."

After the tournament, Duval remained upbeat, realistic and resolute.

"It was a good day. We (Duval and McCarron) both played quite well. He obviously played a little better. I hit good putts on the back nine but nothing would fall." Regarding his second-place finish: "If I didn't believe I could win out here I wouldn't even play."