

Showdown at North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina!!

# THE SUMMIT

12TH ANNUAL MILLENNIUM INVITATIONAL GOLF SUMMIT

MARCH 12-15, 2011

**Who will Claim the Inaugural Summit Best Dressed Title?**

**Say What?!**

Relive Summit Banter through the Years

**Pg. 51**

**What Makes him Tick?**

**Find out inside! Interview with a Champion**

**Pg. 15**

**You Pick the 2011 SMC Champion Stat & Odds on all your Favorite Players**



*Steve enjoys a little R&R after arriving early to defend his third SMC Title. Ever a student of the rules, Steve bones up on a few things as his trainers, Renee and Roxanne, administer true professional service that any elite athlete needs to stay on top.*





## A Word from the Director

by *Bart Edmunds*

*Tournament Founder/Director*

*Two-Time SMC Champion*

### *The Path Less Travelled*

**“if you do what you’ve always done, you’ll get what you’ve always gotten.”**

— Anthony Robbins

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference

— *The Road Not Taken*  
Robert Frost; 1916

In 2000, the seed of an idea planted long ago bore its first fruit, and The Summit was born. From its inception, The Summit was meant to be a different experience. An experiment in what could be— not what has been. The Summit was never intended to be a democracy; fore, in a democracy, majority rules, and, too often, where the crowd goes, is where the crowd is, and mediocrity obediently follows— as it cannot do otherwise.

Suppose our Founding Fathers had simply transported their existing forms of government, economies, and religious tolerance to the New World— would we even have one? Or if Henry Ford had continued to build his cars one at a time; after all, that was the normal way to build things. And one has to wonder if John Wooden’s goal was to coach more like other coaches; if so, it appears he failed.

We all have trips for which we anxiously await and about which we fondly reminisce. It’s the annual round with college buddies to trade stories and catch up; the winter ‘Church-mice’ getaway where golf ranks second to camaraderie; the long, fall weekends to Pinehurst for concentrated doses of golf and gambling; or the classic D&D (drinking and debauchery) escape from R&R (reality

and responsibility) crudely disguised as a “golf trip”. Most of us have a limited ration of days circled on our calendars dedicated to some form of golf getaway— except for Woody who has found himself in the enviable position of being forced to block off days for activities *other* than golf. And, most trips fall into fairly narrow categories such as competitive, relaxing, or wild, and vary in intensity from meaningless fun, where bets are small and scores are an afterthought, to pressure-cookers where voices rise and tempers flare as words are exchanged and big bills trade hands.

Participation and skill-level vary widely from ‘Captain’s Choice’ and other, more social, team formats, where errant shots and big scores have limited impact on final results, to straight-up, individual medal play where every shot counts and there’s no one to rely but yourself. There are times when one feels so far above or below the level of competition that they wonder how long must they endure their fate and what they did to deserve it. There are highly anticipated trips whereupon you’re confronted early on with the realization that you’ve got three more rounds of misery ahead of you as you struggle to ‘work it out’ on the course. There are formats that are uninteresting, one-dimensional, and/or not conducive to your “style of play”. There is action so incidental that all you need to know is ‘who to pay’ and so significant that that ‘fun’ no longer describes the grinding that ensues. There are daily negotiations regarding pairings, shots, and dollars that devolve into ‘who shot John’ accusations recounting old matches, opening old wounds, and straining relationships.

The Summit is none of these, and The Summit is all of these. The Summit is a virtual carnival of activity, offering something for everyone, where the intent has always been, and always will be, to keep everyone involved from start to finish and to make sure that no one is left out— regardless of ability, style of play, temperament, or bio-rhythmic vicissitudes. The Summit is a self-correcting machine that, once started, monitors and processes play smoothly and objectively for four days. The Summit rewards consistency while simultaneously taking excess sand and redeploying it to bags in need of filling— oftentimes, after the levy has broken. Whether it be wing-eating or Matchplay, horseplay or Stableford, Calcutta (as in India) or hold ‘em (as in Texas), money or merchandise, golf or wrestling, The Summit is never boring— on or off the course.

Despite its legendary status, no event strives harder to improve, is more willing to evolve, nor more resistant to fads or knee-jerk reactions than The Summit. The structure of The Summit is designed to eliminate the gray areas and subjectivity that muddy the water and plant seeds of controversy and disgruntlement. Everyone is subject to the same set of rules and the same set of rules applies to everyone. The Summit is designed to provide an equal opportunity to everyone while making it difficult for handicaps to be padded, teams stacked, or for anyone to go home empty-handed. The Summit rarely rewards or punishes without good cause, does both freely where deserved, and does neither without subsequent adjustment.

Those looking for a more a normal experience in a golf trip— one more like other trips— need not look far. There are any number of alternatives rolling out of a town near you almost every weekend— trips where the courses are neither too short nor too long, the accommodations are nicer, newer, bigger, better [insert adjective], the handicap system is simpler, the groups/pairings are more flexible, the format is not so predetermined, there’s more time to relax, the drinking/golf is more (or less) serious, the money is bigger and/or the price tag smaller. There may even be a trip with a better group of guys with which to spend four days. One simply needs to decide what they want out of a golf trip, because, make no mistake, there are plenty of other trips out there— the problem is, none of them are The Summit.

*Bart Edmunds*  
*Tournament Founder/Director*

# Lodging & Arrangements

## Cayman Villas Resort & Casino

Participants will share a luxury villa conveniently situated in the heart of the beautiful Cherry Grove section of North Myrtle Beach, SC.'s entertainment district. Cayman Villas G is a 3,800-square-foot, eight-bedroom vacation house located right across the street from the Atlantic Ocean. Ocean view balconies line the front where a palm tree landscape is across the street from the white, sandy beaches. Open the front door and you will be greeted by luxurious accommodations. Eight bedrooms comfortably sleep nearly two dozen people and seven baths are convenient for your large group. A spacious living room with big-screen television is adjacent to the dining area. The fully furnished kitchen with marble countertops also boasts an extra-large refrigerator/freezer and it would not be complete without a dishwasher to make clean up after home-cooked meals even easier. Cayman Villas G has an exciting game room with a pool table, console video game and plenty of chairs. The washer and dryer unit means Ben can do Ryan and Bo's laundry without ever leaving this peaceful retreat.

All you need to go to the beach when you vacation at Cayman Villas G is a beach bag with your towel, sunglasses, favorite book and sunscreen. Easy access across the street allows you to walk to the water without a problem from this luxurious location.

The bedrooms at Cayman Villas G are well suited for peaceful sleep, which you will surely need if your group is going to visit all the Myrtle Beach attractions that sound fun and exciting to you. Myrtle Beach boasts numerous live theatres where family-friendly shows are often musically oriented. Down the road from Cayman Villas G is a popular shopping, dining and live entertainment destination that is located on the Intracoastal Waterway. Up the road in the other direction from Cayman Villas G, discover fishing charters, waterfront restaurants, boat rentals and commercial fishing boats. Amongst the obvious riches of this luxurious venue are numerous hidden gems for more adventurous treasure hunters looking for additional booty. Everything is within reach when you vacation at Cayman Villas G in North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Plan to arrive the evening of **Friday, March 11, 2011** with checkout prior to the final round on the morning of **Tuesday, March 15, 2011**.

In addition to the aforementioned accommodations, tournament entry fee includes four rounds of golf with cart on three luxurious Grand Strand area courses, some range balls, tournament banquet, tournament gifts/souvenirs, taxes/tips, and over \$1,000 in daily and tournament cash prizes.

**Balance of entry fee is due one month prior to the event— February 12, 2011 (As in NOW!). Final payment of \$400.00 should be made payable to Bart Edmunds and can be mailed to P.O. Box 20392, Roanoke, VA 24018.**

Over \$100.00 in prize-money will be awarded each day with another \$250 awarded to the individual winners on the final day of The Summit.

Afternoon rounds are the responsibility of individual participants for those interested in prolonging the experience. The only additional expenses relate to out-of-pocket expenditures for food, drinks, souvenirs, the Calcutta, wagers and side-action, and/or entertainment (if you like that sort of thing).



# Lodging & Arrangements

## Directions to Cayman Villas G

**3907 North Ocean Blvd. Unit #2**

**North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582**

**(843) 280-7798**

From Interstate 95 or Highway 701, take Hwy 9 South toward North Myrtle Beach. Proceed approximately 20 miles to Hwy 17 South toward North Myrtle Beach. Take Cherry Grove exit and bear right onto Sea Mountain Highway at end of ramp. Stay on Sea Mountain Hwy for almost a mile before turning left onto Ocean Blvd. N. Unit will be approximately 3/4 mile on your left.

## FIRST ARRIVALS:

Keys are located in lock box at the Elliott Realty main office at

**401 Sea Mountain Highway**

**North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582**

**(800) 525-0225**

**Lock Box Code: 531**

DIRECTIONS: Pick up Hwy 9 to North Myrtle Beach (Do NOT take Hwy 301 or 501 toward Myrtle Beach). Hwy 9 runs into Hwy 17 at the Intracoastal Waterway entering North Myrtle Beach. Take the Cherry Grove Beach exit on your right after crossing the Intracoastal Waterway. At the end of the exit ramp, make a right onto Sea Mountain Highway. Elliott Beach Rentals is on the right just before the second traffic light.

# Handicapping, etc.

## The Summit Handicap System®

Initial handicaps have been determined by calculating 90% of last year's tournament ending handicap. Individual handicaps will be adjusted daily by one-third (33%) of the difference between a participant's actual score and his most recent handicap.

EXAMPLE: 2010 Ending Handicap = 11. 2011 Initial Handicap:  $11 \times 90\% = 10$ . 10 handicapper shoots 14 over par. Adjustment would be 1.33  $((14-10=4)/3=1.33)$ , rounded down to 11.

**Amendment 2009-01: FOR HANDICAPPING PURPOSES ONLY, no more than a double-bogey will be counted on any individual hole for single-digit handicappers, and no more than a triple-bogey will be counted on any individual hole for double-digit handicappers.**

**Amendment 2010-01: FOR HANDICAPPING PURPOSES ONLY, once a match is closed-out, neither competitor may score more than a bogey on any remaining hole in that round**

## General Information

1. USGA rules prevail
2. No mulligans
3. Ball may be moved one club-length in *own* fairway
4. When in doubt about lost or out-of-bounds ball, play provisional
5. Double-par stroke limit per hole (No limit for match play purposes)
6. In case of rules disagreement, play second ball. Committee will decide after the round
7. Tie breaking procedure:

**Where permitted by PRIOR approval of Pro Shop, matches tied after 18 holes will be decided by sudden death playoff to begin immediately following completion of the 18th hole at the sole discretion/direction of the Pro Shop. If a playoff is not permitted and/or reasonable for completion IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ROUND, the classic Summit tie-breaker will be applied as follow:**

- A. Last three holes
- B. Last six holes
- C. Back nine
- D. Low net for round
- E. Low net on *randomly* drawn hole
- F. Two out of three "Rock, Paper, Scissors" (no dynamite... that's silly).



New in 2011!



# Daily Contests

## SKINS

**TOTAL PURSE: \$144.00**

- Classic \$2.00/hole skins game with carryovers
- Skins awarded to individuals for winning a hole outright versus the field.
- Orphaned skins at the end of a rounds 1-3 will be carried to the next day
- Orphaned skins at the end of the round 4 will be awarded to the individual winning the most skins for the tournament
- All skins will be paid at the end of the tournament
- Full handicaps will be used in this event.

## STABLEFORD (4-Man/2-Man)

**TOTAL PURSE: \$100.00**

- Points are awarded to team based on individuals' scores as follows:

<b>DOUBLE EAGLE:</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>EAGLE:</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>BIRDIE:</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>PAR:</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>BOGIE:</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>DOUBLE BOGIE:</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TRIPLE BOGIE+:</b>	<b>-1</b>

- Team accumulates points throughout round
- Highest cumulative point total wins
- No tie-breaker. All ties split purse
- Full handicaps will be used in this event.

# Daily Contests

## FOUR-MAN BEST BALL

**TOTAL PURSE: \$80.00**

- Best 2 individual scores from four-man team on each hole used for team score.
- No tie-breaker. All ties split the purse
- Full handicaps will be used in this event.

## BATTLE OF THE BYES

**TOTAL PURSE: \$20.00**

- Day One event specifically and only for the four individuals receiving a First Round Matchplay bye.
- Low net individual score for the round takes the purse.
- Tie-breaker: Match cards on randomly selected holes until we have a winner
- Full handicaps will be used in this event.

## DUAL-DAY, DOUBLE-DUDE DUEL

**TOTAL PURSE: \$100.00**

- At the conclusion of Round 2, two-man teams will be objectively determined for the final two rounds in this net best ball event.
- Best individual score each hole is used to determine team score. Team with the lowest total net best-ball team score for the final thirty-six holes wins.
- No tie-breaker. All ties split the purse.
- Full handicaps will be used in this event.

## THE MELEE

**TOTAL PURSE: \$60.00**

- Final day event for the ten individuals eliminated from Matchplay competition.
- Low net individual score for the round wins
- No tie-breaker. All ties will split the purse.
- 1st Place: \$40.00; 2nd Place: \$20.00
- Full handicaps will be used in this event.

## **2011 EXHIBITION ONLY**

### FACE-OFF

- Based on final day pairings, two teams will face-off in a series of six head-to-head matches.
- Low net score wins the hole.
- Each match is worth 1 Team point.
- Competitors in matches ending 'all square' will each receive 1/2 Team point.
- Full handicaps will be used in this event.

### THE DRAFT

- SMC Finalists will serve as captains to draft teams of six
- Winner of coin toss can decide to choose first or defer
- Captain choosing second also gets third and sixth pick
- Competitors in matches ending 'all square' will each receive 1/2 Team point.
- Full handicaps will be used in this event.



# Short Game Championship

**2004–2010**

## The End of an Era

Unfortunately, due to budget cuts and waning interest, 2010 will record the final Summit Short Game Championship and Kevin Dill as the final Summit Short Game Champion. Other than Woody's "Golden Year", only two individuals have ever held this Title. For this reason, we will posthumously change the name of this contest to the BlankenDill Challenge in honor of Bo Blankenship and Kevin Dill who have combined to win six Titles in the seven year history of this event. Congratulations to Bo and Kevin for their bulldog-like tenacity and ruthless dominance of this event through the years.

### Past Champions

2004: Bo Blankenship

2005: Bo Blankenship

2006: Kevin Dill

2007: Bo Blankenship

2008: Kevin Dill

2009: Woody Deans

2010: Kevin Dill

## Participation optional... but encouraged

This is the only event that requires additional monetary commitment. Not for the faint of heart, this auction style event allows you to profit from the success of others—regardless of your own abilities.

**ENTRY FEE:            \$10.00**

**TOTAL PURSE:            ?**

### How It Works

- Contest is based on individual scores over two-day period consisting of Sunday and Monday morning rounds only
- Adjusted Summit handicaps will be used for this event.
- Calcutta participants bid on Summit contestants based on their anticipated performance.
- Calcutta participants must open bidding on themselves at \$20.00. Bidding then proceeds in \$5.00 increments.
- Calcutta participants are required to own at least 25% of themselves.
- Purchaser is obligated to sell up to 50% back to contestant at his request.
- Purchaser will receive a 20% discount on total amount invested in participants other than himself.
- Purchaser is responsible for all money related to their transactions.
- All purchases must be settled in cash at conclusion of auction.
- Prize-money will be paid as follows:

		<u>2010 Prizes</u>	<u>2010 Winners</u>	<u>2010 Owners</u>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Place:</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>\$991</b>	<b>Steve</b>	<b>Bo</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Place:</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>\$541</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Bart</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Place:</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>\$270</b>	<b>Joe</b>	<b>Bart</b>



# The Majors

“The Majors” are multi-day events designed to distinguish individuals with extraordinary talent and tenacity. Major events are printed in **BURNT ORANGE**.

## SUMMIT MATCH-PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP (SMC)

**DEFENDING CHAMPION: Steve Hale**

**'10 Runner-up: John Bradberry**

**PURSE: \$100.00**

**Runner-up: \$50.00**

- Series of three (or four) individual matches beginning Day 1 (or 2)
- All individual matches will be match-play format
- Seedings determined by combination of prior year finish and Round 1 results
- Full handicaps will be used in this event

## LOW NET

**DEFENDING CHAMPION: Ryan Crush**

**'10 Runner-up: Steve Hale**

**PURSE: \$50.00**

- Awarded to individual with lowest four-day net score using full handicap

## INDIVIDUAL TEAM CHAMPION

**DEFENDING CHAMPION: Dave Linden**

**'10 Runner-up: Steve Hale**

**PURSE: \$25.00**

- This oxymoronic title is awarded to the individual collecting the most team points over the four-day event

## HIGH NET

**DEFENDING CHAMPION: Jeff Parker**

**'10 Runner-up: Woody Deans**

**PURSE: \$25.00**

- Awarded to hapless sap with the *highest* four-day net score using full handicap

**NOTE: Player can win only one major. Prizes awarded as follows: SMC Champ, Low Net, Individual Team Champ, High Net Champ.**

# Summit Best Dressed



## *New to the Summit in 2011!!*

For the first time ever, style and fashion sense will be rewarded at the Summit! Votes will be cast on days one and two for the top three best-dressed Summiters each day. Scores for the two days will be combined, and whoever has the highest two-day total score will be crowned Champion. Prizes will be awarded to the top two vote getters. As with all beauty, 'best-dressed' is in the eye of the beholder, so plan your outfits carefully and make them count.

# Practice Round



**Friday, March 11, 2011**

## **Crow Creek Golf Club**

240 Hickman Road NW  
Calabash, NC 28467

\$54 per man

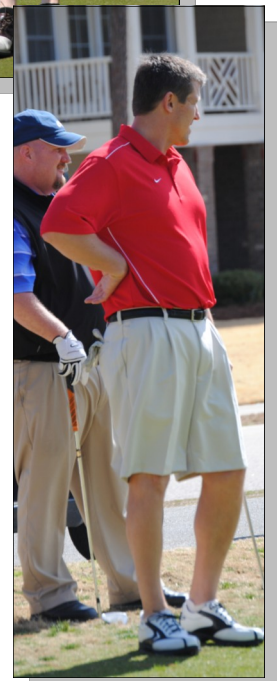
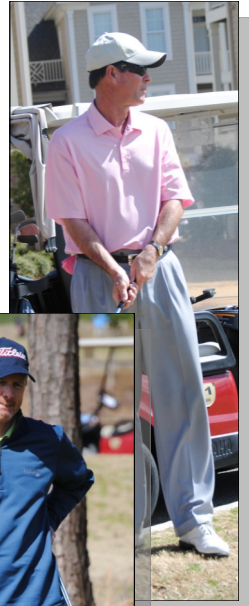
Tee times are 1:00 pm, 1:09 pm, and 1:18 pm

Confirm your spot with Ben Fry by Thursday, March 3, 2011

**[bfry@metlife.com](mailto:bfry@metlife.com)**  
**(540) 525-0314**



# Summit Photo Gallery





# Interview with a Champion



Steve demonstrates how, even with a stance twice the normal width, he is still able to hit his tee-shot half the distance of a normal man .

## Blast from the Past

**All but forgotten as a legitimate contender, Steve Hale does what Tom Watson couldn't and inspires a generation of aging athletes by playing dead for years, only to rise again to mount a sneak attack on an unsuspecting Summit field.**

*The Summit* reporter, Frank N. Stein, had an opportunity to spend the afternoon with Steve at his compound in the Court of Raleigh just outside the Village of Grandin this past winter. A leaner, hungrier Steve finally breaks his silence on injustices of the past, rumors surrounding his unexplained weight-loss, and his battle back to the Winners' Circle in 2010. What follows is Steve's story in his own words\*.

**FS:** How does it feel to have won more than one out of every four Summit Titles?

**SH:** Being a 3-time champion gives me mixed emotions. On one hand it places me in an elite category of golfers but at the same time it places a huge bull's eye on my back. I've always been a hunter and now I feel hunted!!

*(Continued on page 84)*

\*Based on claims that an unthinking and defenseless Steve has been brainwashed into mouthing scripted responses in the past, *The Summit* magazine went to great lengths to preserve the authenticity and protect the accuracy of this year's interview. Steve was subjected to a battery of psychological evaluations prior to, during, and after his interview to assess his mental state, and the firm of Ernst & Young was commissioned to safeguard the transcript until it went to press. We at *The Summit* can say with complete and utter confidence that Steve was fully aware of what was coming out of his mouth throughout the interview and seemed, for the most part, to understand what he was saying.



# SMC Champion

## Steve Hale



### #1 Seed

**Reigning SMC Champion**  
**2006 Low Net Champion**  
**2005 SMC Champion**  
**2003 Low Net Champion**  
**2002 SMC Champion**  
**2001 Low Net Champion**  
**2001 SMC Runner-up**

Handicap: 0  
 Day 1 Matchup: **Bye**  
 Assignment:  
**Tournament Gift**  
 Roommate: **Ben Fry**  
 Projected Odds: **6:1**

### Summit Career Stats

<u>Titles</u>		Matchplay Record:	14-8(.636)
<b>SMC Champion:</b>	<b>3</b>	Rank:	2
<b>Low Net:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Average Gross Round:</b>	<b>80.91</b>
<b>IT Champion:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	2
<b>High Net:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Net Round:</b>	<b>80.5</b>
<b>SMC Runner-up:</b>	<b>1</b>	Rank:	2
<b>Short-Game:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Net Summit:</b>	<b>+43.95</b>
		Rank:	6
		<b>Career Earnings:</b>	<b>\$683.75</b>
		Rank:	2
		<b>Average Earnings:</b>	<b>\$62.16</b>
		Rank:	7



Steve, still stinging from Greg's sudden departure, clings to fond memories and odd reminders of that special, "experimental" time in his life.

## What People Are Saying:

### *An Ode to Steve Hale....*

*Of who have I been asked to describe?  
Why, the greatest golfer of our tribe...*

*A lad so dominate in stature and wit  
When matched against us lesser men,  
we can only grit*

*A drive so long and putt so delicate  
Our friend Bradberry wishes he a  
surrogate*

*A laugh so loud and opinion so wise  
Only Bart can tell his truths from his  
lies*

*And Woody who is a worthy foe  
Thinks Steve reminds him too much of  
the stooge not named Larry or  
Moe*

*As Jeff and Steve begin their endless chatter*

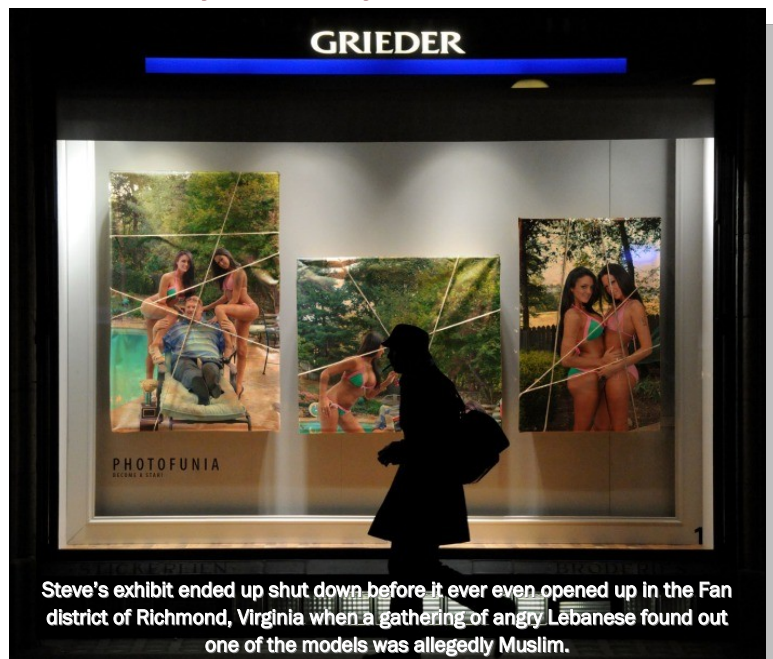
*Poor Ken and Bo stare at each other as if to say "does any of this s\*%t matter?"*

*Who will Steve stave off this  
year??? will it be Kevin or  
Ben????*

*And Dave Linden just wants to  
know "will Steve 'lose' Ryan's  
ball again?"*

*But the big news this year is that  
Steve's eyes are on Joe  
Not that he is worried about the  
'mid-  
handicappers' chances, Oh  
no....*

*Steve, well he just wants to know,  
"What time do we leave to go to  
Rioz???????"*



Steve's exhibit ended up shut down before it ever even opened up in the Fan district of Richmond, Virginia when a gathering of angry Lebanese found out one of the models was allegedly Muslim.

## Ryan Crush

*Super Sophomore*

**#2 Seed**  
**Reigning Low Net**  
**Champion**

Handicap: 0  
 Day 1 Matchup: Bye  
 Assignment:  
**Entertainment**  
 Roommate:  
**John Bradberry**  
 Projected Odds: **4:1**



### Summit Career Stats

<u>Titles</u>		Matchplay Record:	2-1(.667)
<b>SMC Champion:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	1
<b>Low Net:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Average Gross Round:</b>	<b>78.5</b>
<b>IT Champion:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	1
<b>High Net:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Net Round:</b>	<b>78.5</b>
<b>SMC Runner-up:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	1
<b>Short-Game:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Net Summit:</b>	<b>+26.0</b>
		Rank:	1
		<b>Career Earnings:</b>	<b>\$66.00</b>
		Rank:	14
		<b>Average Earnings:</b>	<b>\$66.00</b>
		Rank:	6

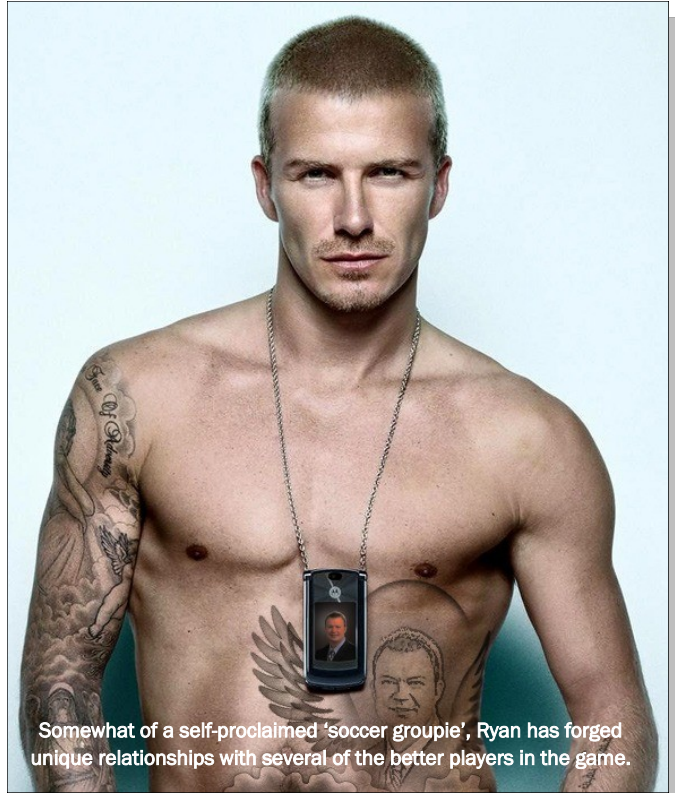


### What People Are Saying:

His strongest attribute has to be his commitment to his hobbies. Some have termed it Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, and it may be, but I believe it is THIS trait that has helped him excel in most of the arenas he participates. I've heard he was good at basketball, and looking at him, you have to assume he worked his butt off to be good at it, because he wasn't born with height, speed, or vertical jump.



At a recent divorce hearing, Victoria Beckham presented evidence of infidelity allegedly found in husband David's underwear drawer.



Somewhat of a self-proclaimed 'soccer groupie', Ryan has forged unique relationships with several of the better players in the game.

This same determination has molded him into one of the top golfers on this trip. He has been able to narrow his focus on golf to the point where neither friends, family, nor work get in the way of his passion. Averaging just over 197 rounds a year for the past 4 years has definitely paid huge dividends and will make him a favorite this year.

# Individual Team Champion



## Dave Linden

**#3 Seed**

**Reigning Individual Team Champion  
2008 High Net**

Handicap: 17

Day 1 Matchup: Bye

Assignment: **Photographer**

Roommate: **Bo Blankenship**

Projected Odds: 19:1

### Summit Career Stats

<u>Titles</u>		Matchplay Record:	0-4(.000)
<b>SMC Champion:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	13
<b>Low Net:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Gross Round:</b>	<b>96.28</b>
<b>IT Champion:</b>	<b>1</b>	Rank:	12
<b>High Net:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Average Net Round:</b>	<b>83.44</b>
<b>SMC Runner-up:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	13
<b>Short-Game:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Net Summit:</b>	<b>+46.25</b>
		Rank:	13
		<b>Career Earnings:</b>	<b>\$233.50</b>
		Rank:	11
		<b>Average Earnings:</b>	<b>\$58.38</b>
		Rank:	9



### What People Are Saying:

Dave (aka. Bo's little buddy) The Skipper and Gilligan. How can you say anything negative about Dave? I mean the guy has his quite little, adorable face plastered all over a moving van for all of Roanoke to see. He's like the little brother that we all wanted, and can still have— even in his 40's.

Short in stature but big in the heart. Dave would do anything for you. I believe last year, after Steve told his touching sheep story, Dave rushed out to Wal-Mart and surprised Steve with a pair of rubber wading boots at the foot of his bed. Again, Dave would do anything to make his fellow roommates happy. I've seen Dave take double pars on many holes just to let his competitor win and feel good. That's Dave being Dave— a real people person.

Some say Dave was added to the SMC golf trip because he's seen as not a threat of every winning the Championship. Just a whipping boy that the committee has placed in the field, but we love that boy. Some may call him "Pierre the Pot Builder" because he adds to the fun, but is never a threat, at really- anything. We need more Dave's on this trip! Never the athlete, but always an athletic supporter, Dave will be there to cheer you on.

I will close by saying that with his "likeable guy" personality, Dave is someone that might take over the SMC reins one day soon. He's got my vote.



Go west, young man! In late-2010, Dave capitalized on his success in the small, local van advertising industry by taking his show on the road and expanding his national presence with a fleet of candy-apple red eighteen-wheelers. Dave was quoted as saying, "I think these larger vehicles are going to be a big hit— not that the size really matters. . ."

# SMC Runner-up

## John Bradberry

*Black Summiteer*

**#4 Seed**

**2010 SMC Runner-up**  
**2009 Low Net Champion**

Handicap: 2

Day 1 Matchup: Bye

Assignment:

Dining Coordinator & Asst. Skins

Roommate: Ryan Crush

Projected Odds: 7:1



### Summit Career Stats

<u>Titles</u>		Matchplay Record:	3-5(.375)
<b>SMC Champion:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	12
<b>Low Net:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Average Gross Round:</b>	<b>83.87</b>
<b>IT Champion:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	4
<b>High Net:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Net Round:</b>	<b>82.95</b>
<b>SMC Runner-up:</b>	<b>1</b>	Rank:	10
<b>Short-Game:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Net Summit:</b>	<b>+43.95</b>
		Rank:	5
		<b>Career Earnings:</b>	<b>\$348.50</b>
		Rank:	10
		<b>Average Earnings:</b>	<b>\$69.70</b>
		Rank:	4

### What People Are Saying:

John's strongest attribute is his distance and strength – tee to fairway and fairway to green. When you can hit a deadeye 7 iron 180-190 yards, you should have a shot at winning this event every year. Unfortunately, John's other biggest attribute (detriment) is a lack of self-confidence against this field of all-stars. This, unfortunately, more than cancels out his strength and distance. Bottom line - HE does not believe in his heart that he can win this event. Until that happens, John will continue to battle Bo for the title of "best player never to win the big one"! As they say, the most important balls in golf are in your pants and the most important 6 inches in golf is between your ears. If those two are not lined up, you tend to come up short in competitions of this caliber. John is still a super nice guy though!



When asked about her friendship with John in a recent interview, Pamela responded, "His bad-boy image really turns me on! Kinda like a chocolate-covered cherry— all hard and dark on the outside, but sweet and gooey in the middle. That's why I call him my little Cherry-bomb."





## Jeff Parker

**Reigning High Net**

Handicap: 24

Day 1 Matchup: Ken Rogich (17)

Assignment: Course Relations

Roommate: Joe Assaid

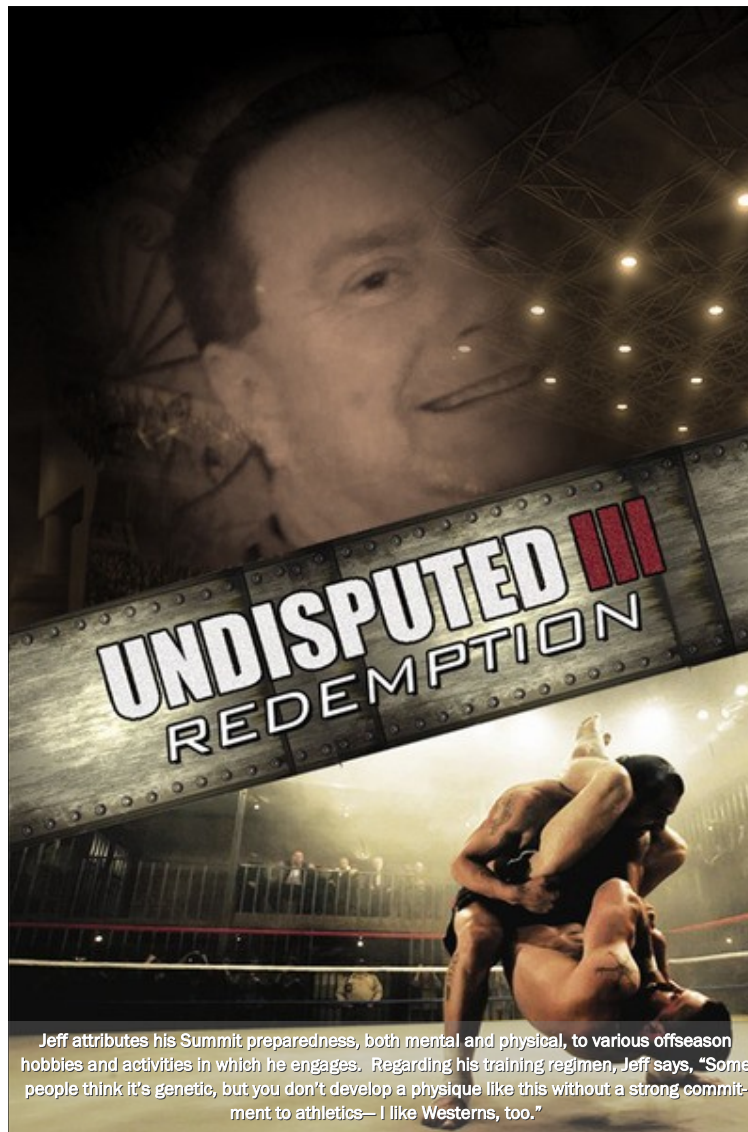
Projected Odds: 21:1

### Summit Career Stats

<u>Titles</u>		Matchplay Record:	0-2(.000)
<b>SMC Champion:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	12
<b>Low Net:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Gross Round:</b>	<b>110.88</b>
<b>IT Champion:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	16
<b>High Net:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Average Net Round:</b>	<b>84.72</b>
<b>SMC Runner-up:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	16
<b>Short-Game:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Net Summit:</b>	<b>+51.83</b>
		Rank:	16
		<b>Career Earnings:</b>	<b>\$61.00</b>
		Rank:	15
		<b>Average Earnings:</b>	<b>\$30.50</b>
		Rank:	15

### What People Are Saying:

Many of the other Summit competitors would agree that Jeff's strongest personal attribute is his fun, laid-back personality. Regardless of Jeff's on-the-golf-course performance, he always seems to have a good time and so do the players in his group. His positive outlook and relaxed approach could be a true asset to him in his quest for a Summit victory. While other competitors are hard on themselves for their performance, Jeff adopts the attitude of go hit the ball, find it, and then hit it again (sometimes 125 times more). Dr. Bob Rotella would be proud! Rumor has it, that Jeff's enthusiasm and enjoyable approach transcends golf and even those in the GLBT community applaud his efforts.)



Jeff attributes his Summit preparedness, both mental and physical, to various off-season hobbies and activities in which he engages. Regarding his training regimen, Jeff says, "Some people think it's genetic, but you don't develop a physique like this without a strong commitment to athletics— I like Westerns, too."



# Everybody Else

## Joe Assaid

*Van Klanner*

**2008 Individual Team Co-Champion**

**2006 SMC Champion**

**2005 SMC Runner-up**

**2004 Individual Team Champion**

**2002 High Net**

**2001 High Net**

**2000 SMC Runner-up**

Handicap: **12**

Day 1 Matchup: **Kevin Dill (4)**

Assignment:

**Yankee Swap & Prize Distribution**

Roommate: **Jeff Parker**

Projected Odds: **17:1**



### Summit Career Stats

<u>Titles</u>		Matchplay Record:	7-11(.389)
<b>SMC Champion:</b>	<b>1</b>	Rank:	11
<b>Low Net:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Gross Round:</b>	<b>102.11</b>
<b>IT Champion:</b>	<b>2</b>	Rank:	14
<b>High Net:</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Average Net Round:</b>	<b>82.86</b>
<b>SMC Runner-up:</b>	<b>2</b>	Rank:	9
<b>Short-Game:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Net Summit:</b>	<b>+44.41</b>
		Rank:	9
		<b>Career Earnings:</b>	<b>\$667.75</b>
		Rank:	3
		<b>Average Earnings:</b>	<b>\$60.70</b>
		Rank:	8

### What People Are Saying:

Joe's spirit is clearly his best attribute. Though one's spirit could easily be overlooked in a golf tournament of this magnitude, it's place in a Champion's (Joe of course being the Champion who hit the phenomenal 3 iron on the par three 17th and then laid up with such grace on the 18th to trounce the "spirit" of our fearless dictato... i mean leader) psyche is topped by nothing.

Take for example the time Joe took a full-speed, full-hearted swing with his 3 metal just to leave John Bradberry crying on the tee box because the ball moved only 3 feet. Did Joe get down? No. Joe got right back in the saddle and whacked at it again.

Or how about the time Joe was only getting 27 shots from Steve Hale during a match and was forced to make bogey after bogey to win holes— did Joe let Steve's bellows of "are we at a pitch and putt?" bother him? NO! Joe is a warrior with a spirit that either is unflappable in the face of great pressure, or just doesn't quite understand what pressure is.

Either way, if Joe gets that spirit alive, and gets 27 shots from Steve, and gets Bart to have oxygen deficit syndrome in the Championship again, then Joe can definitely win this years Summit.



Joe returns to his homeland each year for the Festival of Rainbows held in his honor, where he is known for making a point to personally hug and sign an autograph for each and every participant. Festivities run deep into the night before exhausted partiers retire to the 'pup-tent village' Joe helped erect earlier in the day.

# Everybody Else

## Bo Blankenship

*Black Summiteer*



2009 SMC Runner-up  
**2007 Low Net Champion**  
2007 Short-Game Champion  
2005 Short-Game Champion  
**2004 Low Net Champion**  
2004 Short-Game Champion  
**2003 High Net**  
**2000 Low Net Champion**

Handicap: 2

Day 1 Matchup:

**Woody Deans (9)**

Assignment:

**Gaming Consultant & Odds Maker**

Roommate: **Dave Linden**

Projected Odds: **13:1**

### Summit Career Stats

<u>Titles</u>		Matchplay Record:	9-9(.500)
<b>SMC Champion:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	8
<b>Low Net:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Average Gross Round:</b>	<b>84.95</b>
<b>IT Champion:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	5
<b>High Net:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Average Net Round:</b>	<b>82.71</b>
<b>SMC Runner-up:</b>	<b>2</b>	Rank:	7
<b>Short-Game:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Average Net Summit:</b>	<b>+43.55</b>
		Rank:	3
		<b>Career Earnings:</b>	<b>\$601.75</b>
		Rank:	4
		<b>Average Earnings:</b>	<b>\$54.70</b>
		Rank:	10





After years of setting the bar, many question if Bo still has what it takes to capture this year's 'Best Dressed' honors.

### What People Are Saying:

Bo's biggest attribute is his mental toughness. The guy is always grinding. He wakes up in the morning...grinding. Brushes his teeth....grinding. Drives to the golf course...grinding. Starts to warm up....really grinding. The round begins and you are now the enemy..... grinding.

In the Summit format, this quality and ability is a big advantage. We come down to this prestige event in early March. It's the beginning of the golf season for most (except Woody) and the rust hasn't been shaken off yet. Of course, our requests to move the event to later in the year has fallen on deaf ears. Why you

ask? Well, our dictator doesn't develop rust. His game, and I quote from anonymous source, "It never changes."

Bo really only needs to avoid these two competitors, b/c toughness has little effect. The other competitors will have mental lapses, a rusty short game, and some are just happy to be there. For example, Ben is just excited Steve has to buy him dinner at the Brazilian place. All Linden talks about is his first round bye... Parker is just worried about those liberals, and Ken is worried about all those trees. So in conclusion, Bo's 'never quit mentality' gives him the advantage he needs for his first Summit championship.

# Everybody Else

## Woody Deans

*Van Klanner*

**1st 3-Time SMC Champion**  
**2009 SMC Champion**  
 2009 Short-Game Champion  
**2007 SMC Champion**  
**2000 SMC Champion**



Handicap: **9**  
 Day 1 Matchup:  
**Bo Blankenship (2)**  
 Assignment:  
**Wake-up Calls & Course Directions**  
 Roommate: **Kevin Dill**  
 Projected Odds: **11:1**

### Summit Career Stats

<u>Titles</u>		Matchplay Record:	14-8(.636)
<b>SMC Champion:</b>	<b>3</b>	Rank:	2
<b>Low Net:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Gross Round:</b>	<b>89.28</b>
<b>IT Champion:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	8
<b>High Net:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Net Round:</b>	<b>83.15</b>
<b>SMC Runner-up:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	11
<b>Short-Game:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Average Net Summit:</b>	<b>+44.95</b>
		Rank:	10
		<b>Career Earnings:</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>
		Rank:	5
		<b>Average Earnings:</b>	<b>\$54.55</b>
		Rank:	11



## What People Are Saying:

Without a doubt, the strongest attribute of Woody Deans would be What I would call “Competitive Advantage”. Woody Deans will go through painstaking maneuvers within the guidelines of the rules to gain any, and every competitive advantage at his disposal.

- Who else carries a notepad with marked, putting green undulations for every hole at Hanging Rock?
- Who else calls Bart, 4 months prior to the Summit, to politely suggest the tees from which to play?
- Who else has a matching shirt and towel for every round played since 1984?
- Who else studies every course at the Summit online and plays them mentally prior to the Tournament?
- Who else arrives to the course 90 minutes prior to tee off to assure ample warm up time?
- Who else does not utter ‘good luck’ to his opponent, because if luck is to be had, he wants it for himself?
- Who else has won 3 Summit Titles, 2 State Championships, and had a gymnasium named after them?

Competitive advantage to this individual means, Attention to detail, an unwavering practice regimen, Laser like focus on the course, knowing yardage and elevation for every shot. “The rules of golf are for your benefit, not to hinder you.” It is this type of winning attitude that makes this individual almost a “shoe-in”, to win an unprecedented fourth Summit Title?

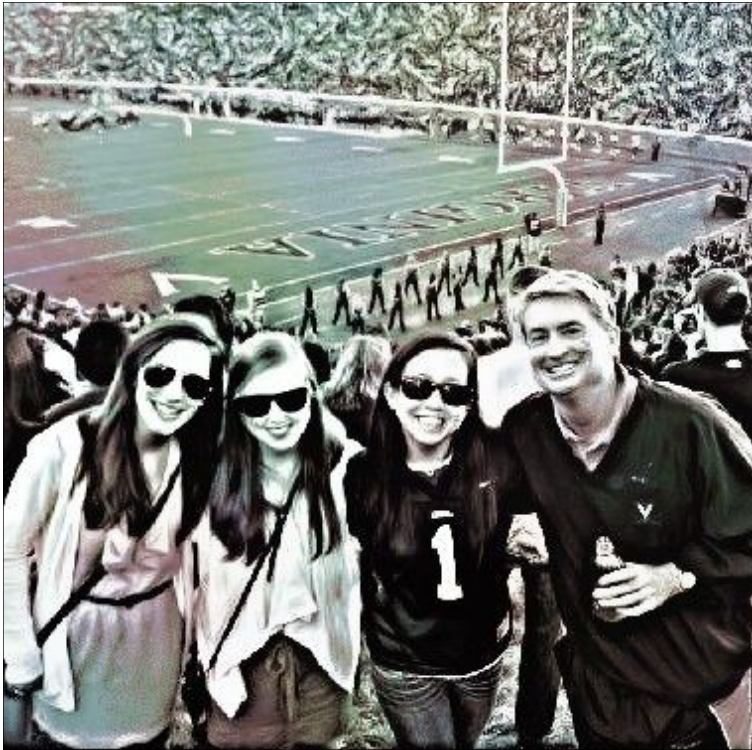


Pictured with former ‘runnin’-buddy’, Mike Sisler, in the 1982 ‘Loud, Proud, and Out’ edition of *David* magazine, this photo offers new evidence that Woody Deans is indeed related to Benjamin Button.

# Everybody Else

## Kevin Dill

*Van Klanner*



2010 Short-Game Champion

**2008 SMC Champion**

2008 Short-Game Champion

**2007 High Net**

2007 SMC Runner-up

2006 Short-Game Champion

**2005 Low Net Champion**

Handicap: 4

Day 1 Matchup:

Joe Assaid (12)

Assignment:

Breakfast Coordinator

Roommate: Woody Deans

Projected Odds: 8:1

### Summit Career Stats

<u>Titles</u>		Matchplay Record:	6-4(.600)
<b>SMC Champion:</b>	<b>1</b>	Rank:	4
<b>Low Net:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Average Gross Round:</b>	82.96
<b>IT Champion:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	3
<b>High Net:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Average Net Round:</b>	83.20
<b>SMC Runner-up:</b>	<b>1</b>	Rank:	12
<b>Short-Game:</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Average Net Summit:</b>	+45.77
		Rank:	11
		<b>Career Earnings:</b>	\$485.25
		Rank:	7
		<b>Average Earnings:</b>	\$80.88
		Rank:	2



### What People Are Saying:

Kevin Dill will be hard to contain in 2011. Not only is he an All-State football and basketball player, this past September he was inducted into the Ferrum College Sports Hall of Fame. Combine that with his 2008 Summit Championship, and he will have the confidence and momentum to become one of only 4 multiple champions.

When Kevin puts together his Ernie Els takeaway with his Ben Crenshaw contact, combined with his Bernhard Langer follow through, he has the total package.

One of Kevin's goals this year is to keep from falling head over heels into the sand trap. If he can do that and play his game, don't be surprised if the Trophy comes back in the Van again after a one-year sabbatical.

As one of the funniest and easygoing players on the tour, competitors are always thrilled to have him in their foursome.



Summiteers are still chattering about Kevin's "surprise" party at the 2010 Summit and his new pair of slacks courtesy of a local restaurant's circumspect management team.



# Everybody Else

## Bart Edmunds

*Tournament Director*

**1st 2-Time SMC Champion**  
**2008 Individual Team Co-Champion**  
**2005 High Net**  
**2004 SMC Champion**  
**2001 SMC Champion**  
**2000 High Net**

Handicap: 4

Day 1 Matchup: Ben Fry (5)

Assignment: Tournament Director, *The Summit* Editor-in-Chief, & Handicapping

Roommate: Ken Rogich

Projected Odds: 11:1



### Summit Career Stats

<u>Titles</u>		Matchplay Record:	12-9(.571)
<b>SMC Champion:</b>	<b>2</b>	Rank:	5
<b>Low Net:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Gross Round:</b>	<b>86.09</b>
<b>IT Champion:</b>	<b>1</b>	Rank:	6
<b>High Net:</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Average Net Round:</b>	<b>82.84</b>
<b>SMC Runner-up:</b>	<b>1</b>	Rank:	8
<b>Short-Game:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Net Summit:</b>	<b>+44.32</b>
(3 time runner-up)		Rank:	8
		<b>Career Earnings:</b>	<b>\$437.75</b>
		Rank:	9
		<b>Average Earnings:</b>	<b>\$39.80</b>
		Rank:	13

## What People Are Saying:

Bart has two attributes which are equally strong. His gamesmanship and his cautious/"safety first" approach to the game. Sometimes not even waiting until the first ball is struck, Bart will immediately launch into an array of comments. These comments are subtle jabs, back handed compliments, and descriptions of the opposing player's game that are meant to put doubts in his mind about his abilities.

Examples would be: player is preparing to putt 4 footer..."Ben told me you haven't missed one of these all year"; player hits drive down the middle..."For a player struggling with his driver, that looked pretty good.", or "The driver is not his problem, it's the short-game that gives him fits." The chatter will also pick up around weaker players. Stronger minded players typically don't get as much chirping.

The other attribute is his "safety first" approach to the game. Given the option between trying to make par or not making worse than bogey, Bart will always choose the "don't make worse than bogey" approach. This strategy serves him well in the Summit as players, just coming out of winter, having not played much, are not sharp with their games. Because of the manner in which shots are adjusted, his strategy plays right into the Summit scoring system. The scoring system actually penalizes players for playing well, therefore, a player that shoots similar scores each day has

an advantage over a player that plays well.

He is a savvy competitor and can definitely win the event. His ball striking has gotten better and his putting has improved. Length continues to be an issue, but with the typically moderate length golf courses at the Summit, if he can get by Ben Fry, he is a contender.



North Myrtle Beach prepares to welcome the 2011 Millennium Invitational Golf Summit back to the Grand Strand.

# Everybody Else



## Ben Fry

*Black Summiteer*

**2008 Low Net**

Handicap: 5

Day 1 Matchup:

**Bart Edmunds (4)**

Assignment:

**Practice Round Coordinator**

Roommate: **Steve Hale**

Projected Odds: **11:1**

### Summit Career Stats

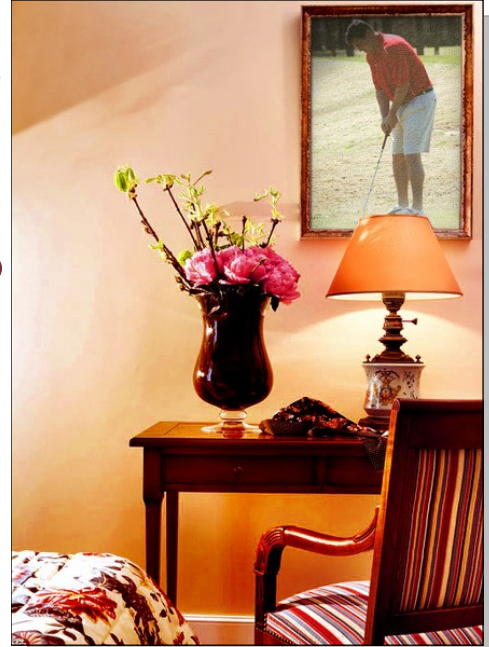
<u>Titles</u>		Matchplay Record:	5-5(.500)
<b>SMC Champion:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	8
<b>Low Net:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Average Gross Round:</b>	<b>89.35</b>
<b>IT Champion:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	9
<b>High Net:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Net Round:</b>	<b>82.66</b>
<b>SMC Runner-up:</b>	<b>0</b>	Rank:	6
<b>Short-Game:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Average Net Summit:</b>	<b>+43.59</b>
		Rank:	4
		<b>Career Earnings:</b>	<b>\$223.50</b>
		Rank:	12
		<b>Average Earnings:</b>	<b>\$44.70</b>
		Rank:	12



## What People Are Saying:

There is little doubt that Mr. Benjamin Fry has displayed an incredible amount of perseverance during his tenure at The Summit. Ben and I began our Summit journey the same year. In his first year, he was an easily intimidated young golfer who appeared to crack at the slightest sign of pressure. He lacked the confidence needed to compete with this group, and when the wheels wobbled, they came off quickly. That is no longer the case. I have watched Ben mature into not only a fine player, but also a fierce competitor. He believes in his game, he gets back up from a punch (although he may not if Ryan hit him), and he can hit the ball a mile.

Ben has learned to shrug off the occasional criticism without allowing it to swirl around in his head for hours. He has shown he can compete day-in and day-out with everyone in this group. The January 24, 2011 edition of the Roanoke Times & World News may have shed a little light on Ben's ability to persevere when it noted that "Benjamin Fry of Salem had been 'up in space' ever since he and his sister, Leigh Anna, met a real live astronaut in Roanoke in September 1984." Unfortunately, the astronaut was aboard the space shuttle Challenger when it exploded on Jan. 28, 1986. Such difficult life-lessons at an early age can teach perseverance. Good luck this year, Ben.



In late December, Ben and Whitney welcomed their daughter, Sydney Emily Fry, to their lovely home in the quaint backwoods village of Salem, Virginia. Due to Whitney's condition, many of the decorating decisions fell on Ben who did a yeoman's job of merging old-world charm with progressive, some would say liberal in not outright bold, concepts and stylings. (Note the prolific, yet subtle, use of floral accents.)

# Everybody Else

## Ken Rogich

2008 SMC Runner-up  
2006 Individual Team  
Champion  
2003 SMC Champion  
2002 Low Net Champion  
2002 SMC Runner-up  
2000 Individual Team  
Champion

Handicap: 17  
Day 1 Matchup:  
Jeff Parker (24)  
Assignment:  
Scoring/Skins & Asst.  
Photographer

Roommate: Bart Edmunds  
Projected Odds: 17:1



### Summit Career Stats

<u>Titles</u>		Matchplay Record:	10-9(.526)
SMC Champion:	1	Rank:	7
Low Net:	1	Average Gross Round:	101.38
IT Champion:	2	Rank:	13
High Net:	0	Average Net Round:	83.59
SMC Runner-up:	2	Rank:	14
Short-Game:	0	Average Net Summit:	+47.32
		Rank:	14
		Career Earnings:	\$881.75
		Rank:	1
		Average Earnings:	\$88.18
		Rank:	1





President Obama relives his 'glory days' by watching home movies as he wiles away the remaining hours of his Presidency.

### *What People Are Saying:*

It's been said that Liberals govern with their heart, while Conservatives govern with their head. Ken is an odd mix of emotion and intellect. First impressions govern you to believe that brainpower is his dominant trait; however, even the briefest of political conversations leaves one scratching their head in in confusion.

Intellectually, there are less than seven individuals in the entire Summit field as smart or smarter than Ken, and if you throw out the Republicans, there may not be any! Meanwhile, a heart as big as Texas beats within his breast. Over the years, he has learned to control his impulses and restrain his emotions behind a veneer of calm. Ken is very methodical, level-headed, and slow to incite— attributes that have served him well in the business world. This ability to manage his inner turmoil is what allows him to play well under pressure and take care of business at the Summit.

While any sane person would agree that there are greater golfing talents at the Summit, it's hard to argue that few have accomplished more with what they have to work with than Ken. With one SMC Title, two runner-ups, two Individual Team Titles, one Low Net, and the distinction of being the all-time leading Summit money-winner, Ken has clearly mastered the ability to subdue his emotions in order to focus on the task at hand. Never count out 'Sammy Simple Swing'.



# The Courses



Awarded **4.5 STARS** by *Golf Digest*, Thistle has quietly become one of the region's finest courses. The dramatic 27-hole layout reflects its 1815 Scottish heritage with rolling fairways, stacked-sod bunkers and flawless bentgrass greens. Old World architecture, abundant landscape and wildlife surround the lakes,



## Thistle

[thistlegolf.com/index\\_golf.cfm](http://thistlegolf.com/index_golf.cfm)

8840 Old Georgetown Road

Sunset Beach, NC 28468

### Day 1

**Stewart/MacKay**

Par 71

Distance: 6,396

Rating: 71.6

Slope: 133

### Day 4

**MacKay/Cameron**

Par 72

Distance: 6,505

Rating: 72.2

Slope: 131



bridges and private homes. The new clubhouse features an authentic Scottish pub with an extensive list of single malts and houses one of the finest private collections of golf memorabilia in the world.

# The Courses

## Panther's Run Golf Links

351 Ocean Ridge Parkway  
Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469

Par 72

Distance: 6,706

Rating: 73.6

Slope: 134



In Panther's Run, Architect Tim Cate created a spectacular layout that winds its way throughout a massive and pristine nature preserve. Featuring generous landing areas and brand-new, immaculately manicured MiniVerde greens, Panther's Run blends modern course architecture and a breathtaking natural setting into a seamless fusion of design and nature, creating a truly new breed of golf course.

Panther's Run has also been named in Golf Digest's prestigious "Places to Play" Guide and was also included in their list of the "Top 50 of Myrtle Beach." Don't miss the outstanding pro shop, ranked as one of "America's Top 100 Golf Shops" for four consecutive years.



# The Courses

## The Pearl East Course

[Thepearlgolf.com](http://Thepearlgolf.com)

1000 Pearl Blvd.

Sunset Beach, NC 28468



Par 72  
Distance: 6,543  
Rating: 71.5  
Slope: 129

Completely renovated in 1999, the East Course is a traditional parkland layout, carved through the pristine forest, with many scenic views, all ending with a dynamic finish along the Calabash River. The East Course was given a notable 4 star rating in Golf Digest's "Best Places to Play" in 2008. It features crowned greens, demanding tee shots and consistent conditioning. The East Course is one of the most sought after courses to play in the area and it is certain to be the highlight of your golfing visit to the coast.



# The Event

## Day 1

Thistle: Stewart/MacKay—Blue Tees

### SMC Play-in Matches/Qualifying

Stableford Teams and Round 1 Matchplay Pairings (Blind Draw)  
(Play-in matches in boxes)

9:24

Hale (0)  
Bradberry (2)

Deans (9)  
Blankenship (2)

9:32

Crush (0)  
Linden (17)

Rogich (17)  
Parker (24)

9:40

Edmunds (4)  
Fry (5)

Dill (4)  
Assaid (12)

### Four-man Stableford

\$40.00/Team

Team Points: 2/1

### Skins

Daily Purse: \$36.00

### Battle of the Byes

\$20.00 Winner-Take-All

### The Best of the Summit Fashion Showcase

Day One

### Afternoon Round

Discretionary

# The Event

## Day 2

Panther's Run: Blue Tees

### Round 2 of SMC

10:00

A

**1 Hale**

**8** \_\_\_\_\_

**9** \_\_\_\_\_

**11** \_\_\_\_\_

10:10

B

**2 Crush**

**7** \_\_\_\_\_

**10** \_\_\_\_\_

**12** \_\_\_\_\_

10:20

C

**3 Linden**

**6** \_\_\_\_\_

D

**4 Bradberry**

**5** \_\_\_\_\_

### Skins

Daily Purse: \$36.00

### 2 Best Balls (Four-man Teams)

\$80.00/Team

Team Points: 4/2

### The Best of the Summit Fashion Showcase

Day Two

Calcutta

Day One

# The Event

## Calcutta

<u>PLAYER</u>	<u>HCP</u>	<u>OWNER</u>	<u>BID</u>	<u>POT</u>	<u>DAY</u> <u>1</u>	<u>DAY</u> <u>2</u>	<u>TOT</u>
PARKER							
ROGICH							
LINDEN							
ASSAID							
DEANS							
FRY							
EDMUNDS							
DILL							
BLANKENSHIP							
BRADBERRY							
CRUSH							
HALE							
		ENTRY FEES					
			TOTAL				



# The Event

## Day 3

The Pearl East Course: Blue Tees

### Round 3 of SMC

10:20

L(A) \_\_\_\_\_

L(D) \_\_\_\_\_

L(B) \_\_\_\_\_

L(C) \_\_\_\_\_

10:30

a

W(A) \_\_\_\_\_

W(D) \_\_\_\_\_

(12) \_\_\_\_\_

(9) \_\_\_\_\_

b

W(B) \_\_\_\_\_

W(C) \_\_\_\_\_

(10) \_\_\_\_\_

(11) \_\_\_\_\_

### Skins

Daily Purse: \$36.00

#### Two-Man Stableford

\$60.00/Team

Team Points: 6/3/1

#### Dual-Day Double-Dude Duel

Day One

### Calcutta

Day Two

#### Summit Dinner

House of Blues

Barefoot Landing

(843) 913-3746

Immediately Following Round

# The Event

## Dual-Dude Double-Day Duel

### Teams:

<sup>I</sup>  
L (C)/L (D)

<sup>III</sup>  
W(D)/(10)

<sup>V</sup>  
W (C)/(9)

<sup>II</sup>  
L (B)/L (A)

<sup>IV</sup>  
W (A)/(11)

<sup>VI</sup>  
W (B)/(12)

## Leaderboard

<u>TEAM</u>	<u>DAY 1</u>	<u>DAY 2</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>

# The Event

## Day 4

Thistle: MacKay/Cameron—Blue Tees

### Final Round of SMC

Payout to Winner of Championship Match: \$100.00

<u>8:00</u>	<u>8:12</u>	<u>8:24</u>
<u>I</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III or IV</u>
L(C) _____	L(B) _____	10 or 11 _____
L(D) _____	L(A) _____	W(a) _____
<u>III or IV</u>	<u>V or VI</u>	<u>V or VI</u>
L(a) _____	L(b) _____	W(b) _____
10 or 11 _____	9 or 12 _____	9 or 12 _____

### Skins

Daily Purse: \$36.00

### Dual-Day Double-Dude Duel: Day Two

\$100.00/Team

Team Points: 8/4/2

### The Melee

Total Purse: \$60.00

## 2011 Exhibition Events

### Face-Off

### The Draft



# The Event

## Day 4

### Face-Off

L(a)_____	L(B)_____
9/12_____	L(A)_____
L(C)_____	10/11_____
L(D)_____	L(b)_____
9/12_____	10/11_____
W(a)_____	W(b)_____

### The Draft

<u>W(a)</u>	<u>W(b)</u>
-------------	-------------

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

### Awards Presentation

**SMC Champion (\$100):** \_\_\_\_\_

**SMC Runner-up (\$50)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Low Net (\$50):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Individual Team Champion (\$25):** \_\_\_\_\_

**High Net (AKA: Hapless Sap)(\$25)** \_\_\_\_\_

# Hall of Fame/Shame

Below is a partial listing of notable accomplishments over the years. So much has happened, that it is difficult to distill it down to the few pages allotted here.

## Money and Earnings

These are earnings from Tournament sanctioned and sponsored events only and do not include Calcutta or "side-action".

<b><u>Most Money Won (Tournament)</u></b>	Ken Rogich	\$289.00	2006
<b><u>Least Money Won (Tournament)</u></b>	Steve Hale	\$0.00	2008
<b><u>Highest Earnings per Start (min 2 starts)</u></b>	Ken Rogich	\$88.18	
<b><u>Lowest Earnings per Start (min 2 starts)</u></b>	Jeff Parker	\$30.50	

## Scoring

<b><u>Low Gross (Tournament)</u></b>	Steve Hale	308	2006
<b><u>High Gross (Tournament)</u></b>	Joe Assaid	460	2001
<b><u>Low Gross (Round)</u></b>	Steve Hale 72	S'bury Glen	2005
<b><u>High Gross (Round)</u></b>	Jeff Parker 124	Heather Glen	2010
<b><u>Low Net (Tournament)</u></b>	J.Assaid/S.Hale	+18	2006
<b><u>High Net (Tournament)</u></b>	Joe Assaid	+80	2001
<b><u>Low Net (Round)</u></b>	W. Deans 65	Hilton Head Natl	2009
<b><u>High Net (Round)</u></b>	Jeff Parker 104	Heather Glen	2010

## Miscellaneous

<b><u>Highest MIGS MP Winning %</u></b>	Deans/Hale	64%
<b><u>Lowest MIGS MP Winning % (Active/2+ Summits)</u></b>	Linden/Parker	0%
<b><u>Largest Calcutta Purse</u></b>	\$1,960	2007
<b><u>Highest Calcutta Bid</u></b>	\$370 by B.Edmunds for G.Stephens	2007
<b><u>Lowest Calcutta Bid</u></b>	\$20 by B.Edmunds for J.Assaid	2003
<b><u>Most Majors</u></b>	Steve Hale	6
<b><u>Most Majors + SMC Runner-ups</u></b>	Hale/Assaid	7

# Star-Spangled Banter

## A Compilation of Summit Email Correspondence through the Years

### "Correction"

**February 21, 2006**

Gentlemen,

As Director of the Millennium Invitational Golf Summit and Editor of the related Summit magazine, it is my duty to relay any errors, discrepancies, and/or omissions that come to my attention. While many of these are what I might consider benign, others are so egregious as to cause great distress and consternation to those effected. While I do make every effort to simply report the news and not make it, like any journalistic endeavor, there will be mistakes, and for this, I apologize. For some, apologies are not enough, and it is for that reason that I am writing you today.

Let us start with the benign: In the yellow ball competition, if two or more teams finish the round without losing the yellow ball or lose the ball on the same hole, then the tie will be broken by totaling the score of the yellow ball itself to that point.

Slightly less benign: Pre-Tournament seeding is awarded as follows: 1: Defending SMC Champion (Hale); 2: Defending Low-Net Champion (Dill); 3: Defending Individual Team Champion (Stephens); 4: Previous Year's SMC Runner-up (Assaid). On page 34 of the Summit magazine (Day One), Assaid/Stephens have been transposed in the seedings and pairing. Assaid should be in the first group as the 4th seed and Stephens should be in the second group as the 3rd seed. Seedings are correct on the Tournament bracket.

Egregious (according to an unnamed whining, crybaby): Everyone was meaner to Steve Hale than anybody else, and it's not nice, so everybody just stop it! Plus, on page 40, I referred to his "shot" that was a "little firm" as a putt. It was actually a chip.

Again, I, as Editor, apologize for the aforementioned errors/omissions and sincerely hope that it hasn't caused any inconvenience.

Sincerely,

Bart Edmunds, Tournament Director/Editor and first 2-time SMC Champion

This feedback from Hale can only be translated as a weakening of his already fragile mental toughness. To let something so benign hurt his feelings like that must mean he has already determined his place in this year's matches, which of course will be anywhere but first. As predicted in Sheridan's Tip Sheet, the second round upset by one of the newcomers could have a lasting effect. I would equate it to Ryan Leaf's blow up in the locker room before he exited the NFL never to be heard from again. Truly gentlemen, have compassion for this lost and lonely soul. His best days are behind him.

Bo Blankenship

Mr. Blankenship,

You have some nerve, my friend. Singling me out and comparing me to Ryan Leaf? Who could I parallel with you, let me count the ways. Does the name Heath Shuler ring a bell? Or better yet, Steve Spurrier. Much like Spurrier, you found your comfort zone in the late 80's betting on golf matches and then pressing those bets until you broke even or won a little. Feasting on the likes of Chris Turner and Tim Cone just like Spurrier did in the SEC. But as soon as you take your game to the beach every March, where you advance based on talent rather than close-out presses, you fail to make a ripple in the pond. A.k.a. Spurrier and the Redskins. Yes, quite the similarity!



# Star-Spangled Banter

Let me give you some advice. Take that new \$400 driver you just got and drive over to Roanoke Prosthetics Inc. and see if they can take the grip off and fit the club with a mouthpiece. Then take the club out to the first tee swing it with the best part of your game, your mouth. (Helpful Hint: After inserting club in mouth be careful not to choke, again.....)

Steve E. Hale, LUTCF

## **“Summit Wrap-up**

**March 16, 2006**

[Steve offers thoughts after being spanked by Joe at the infamous Angel’s Trace]

Bart,

I have chosen not to respond to the questions this year for fear that my answers will be used against me at a later date. I had a great time, the weather was great, all of the courses were great, with one exception, and I am already looking ahead to next year, when we can have a true champion and not a paper one.

P.S. I hear that BlackBeard’s Pirate Cove Putt-Putt has an opening for a Sunday or Monday round next year. Let me know if you need their number.

Steve E. Hale,

## **“Aunt Freda at the Summit”**

**December 7, 2006**

So far, I only have seven paid registrations for the 2007 Summit. At this time, it looks as if we’ll go to the waiting list and/or open registration to the general public to see if we can fill the field. I’m sure those of you who paid by the December 1<sup>st</sup> deadline have friends/acquaintances that would love to join us next year and would be happy to pay their \$125 registration fee on time. Apparently, Joe, Steve, Ken, Chris, and Dave have other obligations that weekend. They will be sorely missed.

Please remit \$125 check made payable to Bart Edmunds to P.O. Box 20392, Roanoke, VA 24018 to secure a spot.

Sincerely,

Bart Edmunds

Hey Bart,

My Aunt Freda is a 34 handicap and would love to go on the trip. There are no rules about an oxygen tank in the cart...is there? I will send in her registration fee today.

Aunt Freda is hornier than a Tom Cat so be careful as to whom she bunks with? Bo might be a good choice.

Love,

Kevin O. Dill

Kevin –

Please clarify the meaning of your last sentence – “Bo might have a chance”.

Ken

# Star-Spangled Banter

Ken,  
i think Kevin forgot to complete his statement. It should've read, "Bo might have a chance.....unless he played against her in the matchplay!

[Steve Hale]

## **"'o7 Summit"**

**December 23, 2006—January 3, 2007**

Dave,

Am I correct in assuming that your spot in next year's Summit is up for grabs?

Bart

Mr. Edmunds,

While I would like to auction my spot in the '07 Summit on e-bay, my pride will not allow me to deny myself the opportunity to de-throne the most unworthy defending champion ever. Therefore, even though the dates conflict with my youngest son's 7th birthday and the fact my beautiful wife may withhold her voluptuous blessings from me for attending -- I will be there.

The check is in the mail. Merry Christmas to you and your family.

David Linden

'07 Summit Champion

Now this is the kind of commitment we're looking for! This young man has true potential! Bo will be happy to define "potential" for those of you unfamiliar with the term.

Interestingly, Kevin was bragging that he has made enough off "set up" charges during this holiday season to go ahead and write a check for both he and Woody's balance due on the trip. Congratulations and thank you, Kevin.

It looks as if Colton will be the only one giving up his spot this year.

We'll miss you, Chris.

Bart

Happy New Year!

I find it odd that Bart would bring up the "set-up" fee issue. Although I am unfamiliar with the specifics of Kevin's issue, I have always found him to be a man of utmost honesty and dignity. As I recall, I think we even had to bring him in to help mediate that ugly money dispute that occurred at the Calabash seafood house involving our soon to be former champion (I will not mention his name because it was sullied enough due to the transgressions that allegedly occurred). Bottom line, Kevin has always handled himself with grace and honor, as exemplified in his behavior following catastrophic Summit collapses year after year on the golf course. I would imagine his treatment of "set-up" fees is no different.

# Star-Spangled Banter

However, I digress.... my point was that Bart, of all people, should understand the importance of "admin fees, copy/binding charges, utility allocation charges, handling tariffs, etc." as he apparently incurs quite a few of them in the coordination of tournament book. It seems a short sighted jab on his part.

Anyway, the original point of my email was to wish each of you a happy and healthy 2007!

Ken

Greetings and warm wishes to all S.M.P. Participants,

I would like to thank Ken for his kind words as they relate to defending my integrity and character. I would also like to thank John for his recognition of my boyish good looks and tasteful apparel as is evident in the attached photo.

The purpose of this memo is simply to remind all that I am a man who puts his pants on one leg at a time just like you guys. I would really like to just play golf and relax this year. I do not mind helping any of you wonderful guys **after your matches, on the range**. However once the match starts, I really need to focus on my game. I will be happy to discuss swing speed, divot depth, grip pressure or wrist rotation during cocktail hour or break-fast. All I ask is that you **schedule it in advance**.

Last year I felt awkward when Bo asked me to follow him around the course and line up his puts for his consolation match. I'm just not going to do that this year. **It's not fair to the other guys!**

Nothing but Love for all,

Kevin O. Dill

## "Pictures"

### January 9, 2007—January 16, 2007

It's that time again! I am now accepting your choice of photos to be printed in this year's Summit magazine. I'll not only accept your choice of pictures of *you*, but also your choice of pictures of *anyone else* that you might happen to possess. As in the past, if you are disinclined to provide a picture of yourself and/or are "too busy", don't worry about it. I'm sure I can scrape something up.

As a bonus, I've attached our group photo from last year to get you in the spirit. Call/write if you have any questions or concerns.

66 days and counting!

Sincerely,

Bart Edmunds

Bart,

Thanks for the picture! Maybe it's just me, but have you examined the body language exhibited by John and Lil' Joe? At first i thought it was just a freindly gesture on John's part to place his arm gently around Joe's shoulder, all the while keeping a firm grip on the towel he had obviously just used or planned to use to clean his club. And take a closer look at Joe. Doesn't he remind you of a stereotypical altarboy? It didn't hit me until last weekend, when I dropped Colby off at the Catholic church and saw Joe, that he IS Catholic! Anyway, I would love it if you could crop the picture and remove everyone but the two of them and send it to me. Oh yeah, and remove the words "summit matchplay" and replace it with "Lil' Joe and Father John". To think, I've been his roommate for 6

# Star-Spangled Banter

years and this is how I find out!

Thanks,

Steve

P.S. Please don't share this with the group!

Steve,

That's really mean-spirited and not at all in keeping with the dignity of The Summit. If any of the other guys accidentally read that, they would be appalled! Thankfully, you ran it by me before responding to Joe's taunts. Remember what we all agreed... we're going to be nice to Joe no matter what. He can't help it.

Bart

**Bart:**

I just got back into town from Orlando, so I'm sorry for the delayed response. How was I taunting Steve, I was simply complementing his shorts, or lack of shorts might better describe them. Just got back from a 3 day golf session with my current instructor, so this looks like gravy this year. I keep getting e-mails from Mary Hale and Sonja's starting to get a little suspicious. Anyway, you can break it to her that it's over.

Your Champion,

Joe

Guys,

As you guys may or may not know, Steve sent his email to Bart to proof read before ripping into Joey and myself. So....the only question I have is....Since when do we send Bart emails to proof read? Has Steve used up that one feeling he had left? I don't know who Steve is rooming with, but I hope you can sleep with his night light on. On further thought, let's examine the real father-son relationship here. At least Lil' Joe didn't send me his response to proof read. It's ok Steve, Bart will let you stay out late with the rest of us on the trip.

Father John

## **"Pairings"**

**January 16, 2007 – January 21, 2007**

Dearest Bart,

In response to your pairings: Dave Linden is arguably the best striker of the golf ball I have ever been associated with. Dave is of too strong of character to accept the 16 strokes you suggest. Dave Linden is a gifted athlete, a remarkable

Bunker player, and possesses a surgeons touch around the putting surface.

Neither Dave nor I will allow you to insult him by offering this Summitt icon 16 strokes. On behalf of my good friend Dave, we refuse your offer and will not accept any handicap greater than 8. I trust this matter is settled.

Respectfully,

Kevin O. Dill & Dave Linden



# Star-Spangled Banter

Mr. Edmunds,

It is obvious that Mr. Dill has forgotten the frequency at which I made passes at the golf ball last spring. It may also be an attempt to gnaw at my already fragile psyche regarding my game. I will graciously accept 16 shots so that I can put Mr. Dill out of his misery by the 13th hole. My only request is that you schedule this round on a golf course similar to that at which our current champion ousted Mr. Hale. Something without much water and very minimal foliage would be preferable so when I spray it all over the place I have a chance of recovering.

I am.... off to the range

Dave Linden

Kevin,

you got the hell beat out of you. On second thought, give Dave the 14 and stop y  
Here's an idea with regard to you giving David Linden all those strokes. Why don't you ask Bart to pair you up against someone you don't have to give strokes. Or even better, someone who has to give you strokes, say, Steve Hale. Steve would give you 2 strokes.....Oh, I'm sorry, that did happen last year in the second round, and our whining, "Botetourt Boy."

Bo Blankenship

Dear Bo,

The intent of my letter to Bart was to protect Dave Linden's dignity as well as preserve the integrity of our Tournament. I did not expect yourself or Marcus Vick to understand.

Respectfully,

Kevin O. Dill

Bart,

Since everyone is responding to the pairings, I thought I should respond about my first round opponent. I have known Bo Blankenship since he was a long hair tuff kid from Southeast. I took this kid and coached him to an undefeated season and molded him into the successful business man and community leader that he is today. This is like placing father against son, coach against player, financial advisor against client, and mentor against hero. Bo is the son I never had and now you are throwing us against each other. I have been losing sleep each night trying to deal with this outlandish pairing. I just hope that the earth stays on its axis and the tides don't overflow the coast of Myrtle Beach. I hope to be OK by the time of the event because I am seeking therapy to deal with this great injustice.

Woody Deans

Photo, Check

Survey, Check

Ken on Friday, Don't know

As to Kevin, he is afraid of his own shadow. Could explain why he wilts against the likes of Hale but cruises against the meek, timid, and non-confrontational types. If I'm up against him this year, I think I'll pull out some Philly fan tactics that I learned growing up. We are responsible for throwing snowballs at Santa Claus after all. Can't get much meaner than that.

# Star-Spangled Banter

As to Steve's respite, it takes a bit of time to reload, even for one as witty as him. I'll keep checking my milk cartons for his mug.

Remember people, let's not peak too early on the trash talk. Save some of the good stuff for the event itself.

Greg Stephens

Bart,

When someone does see Steve, approach carefully. No big arm motions or loud noise. We don't want to scare him away again. The only noise that should be made is..."here kitty kitty kitty," but again very quietly.

Steve come home soon!!!

Father John

Gentlemen,

I am deeply saddened, shocked and disappointed by the recent unwarranted attacks of Mr. Greg Stephens. Let me begin by stating that I forgive Mr. Stephens because forgiveness is the attribute of the strong. Napoleon Bonaparte once said of counselor Stephens; "He who fears being conquered is sure to defeat".

I look forward to facing you on the battlefield.

Respectfully,

Kevin O. Dill

Hey Kevin, BOO!

[Greg Stephens]

## **"Submission Deadline"**

**January 22, 2007**

My apologies to my faithful followers! I have been without email for the past week as i was traveling to Joe's homeland of Kazakhstan in an effort to locate a member of his tribe. My curiosity got the best of me. I had always heard that it was customary for the men from Joe's country to have many wives and for him cast mine aside so casually, i just had to find out for myself. That's a story for another time. Remind me in Myrtle to tell you about my encounter with Hasheesh, Joe's crazy uncle!

As for the uneducated remarks made by Father John regarding the golf outing in Raleigh where Bart reportedly beat me, i have one question. Who did you beat? We had two people in our group that didn't break 100 and you were one of them. I can't give you your exact score because i'm still not sure what value you gave the 6 x's you had. You had almost as many x's as your brother Ben had in our quarterfinal match last year.

That being said, my New Year's resolution is to blend in to the background more and not do anything that would make me stand out in a crowd. I trust you will all stand by me as i work my way through this new direction in my life. From this point forward, i will be striving to become less confrontational and more like Chris Colton!

[Steve Hale]

# Star-Spangled Banter

## **“Tee Distance”**

**February 2, 2007**

Bart,

Thanks for the tee information. With Heathland being a par 71 makes it play even longer. I appreciate YOU looking out for the senior member of the group. I guess I will have to take back all those nice things I said about Bo. Here he is my hero, and it looks like he wants to kick me when I am down, shovel dirt on my grave and take advantage of our senior citizen. I guess he is going all out this year. After all, he is the best player never to win the big one. It really doesn't mean that much to me beings how I am a former CHAMPION!!! Seriously Bart, thanks for all you do, you know I will go along with anything. I am so excited!!! Thanks,

Coach Deans

## **“Summit 8” (The “Black Summiteer” Incident & Handicaps)**

**February 16, 2007–March 1, 2007**

Summiteers:

For those of you have not paid-in-full, the balance of payment on the trip is due at this time. Those that are fully paid are: Woody, Kevin, Bart, Joe, and Chris. Steve has a net balance due of \$260, Dave has a balance due of \$425 and Ben, John, Greg, Bo, and Ken still owe \$500. If you have questions and/or concerns about this, please call me at (540) 353-0420.

Two items worth noting have been brought to my attention:

1. Attached, you will find a corrected page 8 from The Summit magazine. An egregious omission occurred in the original printing (Note: Responsible parties have been relieved of their duties) which necessitated the issuance of this amendment. Please take appropriate measures to replace the erroneous page with the corrected one. Apologies from the editorial staff for this oversight.
2. It seems that a small group of rogue participants have attempted to secure an unfair advantage in the '07 Summit by clandestinely slithering to Myrtle Beach on an unsanctioned scouting mission prior to the event less than a month away. These hoodlums, who will remain anonymous and be identified only as BB, JB, and BF, apparently stole out of Roanoke under the cloak of darkness in the wee hours of this past Saturday morning, stayed at The Legends Resort, (coincidentally) played all three Legends courses, and had their scheduled tee-time at TPC moved only because of a scheduling conflict with a tournament. This ignominious band of rebels unknowingly honor the prestige of The Summit through the lengths and depths of their struggle to gain an edge in pursuit of golf's Holy Grail, while simultaneously debasing it by chipping away at the very core of honor, integrity, and tradition that have made The Summit the pinnacle of golf that it is today. Several suggestions have been forwarded as to the sort of penalty that should be levied against these unscrupulous scoundrels; suggestions ranging from public humiliation, to a docking of 2 strokes each from their initial handicaps, all the way to The Summit death sentence of losing their spot in the '08 lineup. As Director, it is my duty to report significant events to the group for airing in a public forum. Please weigh in on this most unfortunate of events, so that we, as a group, will know how to deal with similar situations now and in the future.

Sincerely,

Bart Edmunds

Tournament Director and First Two-time Champion

# Star-Spangled Banter

Public humiliation seems inadequate for such outrageous actions on the part of these three individuals. Furthermore, the leader of the group (everyone knows the others are mere puppets on a string) should be chastised for his attempts to drag others into this junket. This was most likely an attempt to provide an appearance of acceptable behavior by a majority of Summiteers, which is certainly not the case. To those others who were invited and, like myself, declined the invitation, I commend you on your values and beliefs. For those who participated, the golf gods punishment awaits.

Dave

Gentlemen,

For those who did not go on the Myrtle Beach practice round trip here is what I would like to suggest. Let's all get together the Friday before the tournament is to start and have a huge pity party. I will bring the towels and you guys can whine and cry like a bunch of girls or more like a bunch of 1st graders. Better yet, take your golf ball and go home, don't play with those mean boys. Give me a break. Does anybody in this group have heart? Prove wrong the naysayers that say you are a bunch of weak minded, sniffing, childish boys. Just show up and play golf and stop babbling.

Yours Truly

Bo Blankenship

An open letter to all Summit Participants,

In the interest of full disclosure my attorney has advised me to now make public the fact that I was solicited by this rogue group to join them on their wholly unsanctioned jaunt. Now, I'm a live and let live kind of a guy so I said thanks but no thanks and went on my merry way. I did not anticipate the firestorm of controversy that would ensue. Looking back, perhaps I was obligated to uphold the integrity of the Summit by reporting, in advance, the intentions of these rogues to our esteemed commissioner. Perhaps the situation could have been nipped in the bud. I'll never know and that will be my cross to bear should the '07 Summit outcome prove affected by these events. We can only hope that BB, JB, and BF do not factor significantly into the upcoming events.

Turning to the issue of penalties, perhaps we can take a page from our NASCAR brethren as there have been many an unfortunate bending of the rules lately in advance of their pinnacle event at Daytona. Fuel additives, chassis' too low, and a myriad of other infractions have led to numerous penalties ranging from starting in the last row to the docking of points. Our commissioner must weigh the infractions and determine the proper penalties. A few suggestions come to mind based on the nature of each rogue participant and any possible motivation they may have had.

The three rogues possess different personality traits that factored into their unfortunate decision to participate. I have broken them down as follows. First is the 'enabler'. This person, BB, possesses many traits that give him the unique ability to sway the others. First, he presumably holds some form of power over the employment conditions of the other two, including, and this is just speculation on my part, vacation time. Clearly this trip has no chance of happening without the enabler. Thus, it is the enabler that must receive the harshest of penalties.

Second is the 'facilitator'. The facilitator, JB, is the one that either conceived of the idea or talked it up so much to the enabler as to make it a reality. The facilitator probably bombarded the enabler with a steady drumbeat of things like, "Wouldn't be fun if we ", or "How 'bout we get an advance look at" type statements over and over. This person is nearly as much to blame as the enabler, a fact the commissioner must consider.

The last person on the unsanctioned trip is the 'follower'. The follower, BF, was an afterthought for the facilitator. More accurately, again speculation on my part, the facilitator just took it for granted that the follower would join them. Perhaps the enabler and the facilitator needed someone to split the drive with, chip in with gas money, defray the room cost, get coffee in the morning, and spew tons of sickening admiring compliments to the



# Star-Spangled Banter

enabler and the facilitator to bolster their egos and maintain his own wide-eyed puppy dog status. Clearly the most innocent of the three, he nevertheless is in line for some type of sanction(s). In legal terms it's called strict liability and it means that it doesn't matter why you did it just that you did it. Leniency may or may not apply in the follower's case. That is for the commissioner to decide.

As to actual penalties, if we refer back to our NASCAR example, the enabler should be docked points. In golf terms, points = handicap. I suggest one handicap point for each round of golf played on a Summit venue. Rounds of golf played on non-Summit venues can not be considered unlawful as this falls under section 4.2 of the Summit Rules regarding practice. Rule 4.2 states "No Summit participant shall be penalized for engaging in activity pertaining to the sport of golf in any way so long as the participant refrains from visiting, walking on, or playing on a Summit venue course once it has been identified as a Summit venue course." Taking a virtual Internet tour of the courses to view the layout of holes is not considered a violation of Rule 4.2. The commissioner is still debating the controversial video game exception that allows participants to supplement their training regimen using Xbox, PS2 or PS3, or Nintendo Wii to play virtual rounds of golf on Summit venues. A ruling is expected shortly for 2008 and beyond.

For the facilitator, his penalty should be more in line with Jeff Gordon's NASCAR penalty. The 24 car was moved from the front row to the back row. Again, in golf terms, the facilitator should be made to play all courses from the tips (without handicap adjustment) each day. The tips shall mean no ball shall be teed up more than 3 yards from the back of the tee box that is furthest away from the green on each hole regardless of where any tee markers may be situated at the time.

For the follower, I would suggest a golf penalty of limiting practice time before and between rounds to no more than 3 minutes on the range and 1 minute on the green. The follower should also assume the additional duties of cleaning everyone's golf equipment at the end of each day and shining everyone's shoes. All golf club grooves shall be free of dirt and debris prior to play each morning.

I have also wondered why this rogue group tried to recruit me into this foolish folly. Perhaps they wished to associate an attorney with the venture to give it an air of a legally sanctioned event. Perhaps they just wanted a fourth for symmetry or were trying to get an advance look at the state of my game for betting purposes. Who knows. I suppose that I too must be penalized for failing to bring this issue up in a timely manner and before the proper authorities. I suggest that my penalty be that I room with Steve Hale.

With all apologies to those who hold the Summit in such great esteem,

Greg Stephens

Gentlemen:

Wow! .....all I can say is wow! Stunned, shocked, disappointed, discouraged...

I am reeling from the events that are unfolding today. First, there is the actual revelation which is quickly followed by an angry reaction from BB (the so identified "enabler"). BB's reaction reminds me of my 5 year old son who, when being caught outside the backyard fence, immediately does any or all of the following: 1) becomes defensive, (2) whines (3) blames someone else, (4) tries to re-cast the issue in some innocent light....all this in hopes of redirecting focus from the transgression at hand. I am not sure if any of the participants have considered a simple apology, but the reaction from BB (at the least) is more telling possibly than the crime itself. I think he simply feels distraught that he has broken a trust and just does not know how to express himself to make it right. In a way, it is the 5 year old boy in him bubbling to the surface. Its okay Bo, we are here for you! Just remember, Pete Rose still thinks what he did is alright just because he did not bet on his team. You are not alone. Its okay Bo, we are here for you!

As if that were not enough, GS, who is admitted into the bar in my great state, discloses prior knowledge of these disturbing events (by the way, I have contacted Raleigh and will keep you posted). Only now does he consider the possibility that maybe it would have been a good idea to have informed the commissioner earlier. As Greg is

# Star-Spangled Banter

finding out, hindsight is always 20/20. I would encourage him to consult with Tim Hardaway on damage control tactics. He also has some fences to mend. We will see how many other rats jump the ship.

As you will note, I have intentionally not commented on penalties or punishments. Unfortunately, that responsibility lies with the Commissioner.

I have taken the rest of the day off and am going to proceed to a quiet place to reflect on these happenings with a cup of green tea. In the interim, if anyone needs to contact me, please reach out to my assistant – Beyonce'. I am confident that calmer heads will prevail.

Peace

Ken

Summit Participants:

What very little I know about women, I do know one thing...if around each other for a period of time their menstrual cycles will synchronize. BE, GS, KR, DL I hope that your "Aunt Flow" doesn't visit during the trip. Bo, addition to the betting book: over/under number of tampons used on the trip.

I find it very troubling that you guys view our trip as scandalous. Bart, I know that actually practicing golf is an anomaly to you; however it is what golfers do. If the Summit is in fact a "major," I want to be prepared. Somebody should call Tiger and inform him visiting courses before tournaments is prohibited by the USGA.

As for punishment, I will throw myself to the mercy of the committee. I do have some thoughts. First, (punishment 7.2) I will go to the night club of your choosing and you can force me to sit, drink, and watch those girls dance. I know, I know, JB that seems a little to harsh, but again I don't dispute breaking rule 4.2.

Second, (punishment 7.3) if the death penalty should come in '08, you need to think of Kevin Dill. Let's face it; he only wants to spend a few days with BB. It would break his heart. Don't let the actions of a few damage Kevin's trip.

As for you Linden..... When your **wife's** decision was handed down **not** to let you go, did you at least become engaged into some sort of tantrum? "But, But, But honey the rest of the guys are going.....Next time Grow a set and say "honey I need the practice. I'm tired of being your bitch; I don't want to be theirs too."

In conclusion, our pre-trip speaks volumes to the respect and excitement we feel towards the Summit. We only wish that other participants could have attended.

Father John

Gentlemen of the Summit,

Grandmother Dill often said: "Let's not make something complicated out of something that's not". What we have here is one group of individuals who choose integrity and honor as their moral compass.

Another group which choose deception, half truths, and a myriad of smoke and mirrors to guide them. The path we choose ultimately determines our success. Shame on you BB, JB, and BF. What other moral codes have you broken? What other lines have you crossed? What's next for you guys: Child pornography, 15 clubs in the bag?

Illegal dimple configuration and the list go on.

I am at a crossroads as to whether to attend the Summit 2007? But then I think of Grandmother Dill and how she once told me "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing. Then she took my hand in her crooked fingers and said though thy enemy (BB,JB,BF) seems a mouse, yet watch him like a lion. Therefore, I will be at this year's Summit in honor of the nine wonderful guys whose conscience and reputation remain in tact.

Respectfully,

Kevin O. Dill

# Star-Spangled Banter

Gentlemen,

For those of you who didn't get the chance to go for practice rounds at Myrtle Beach, we are planning another trip this weekend. Because of the great weather coming this weekend we are planning on going down this Sunday and leaving Tuesday night just like before. We will play all the Legend's courses plus TPC this time. The cost is \$285 for the golf and two nights at the Legends. Let me know if you would like to go. For those of you who cannot go, I would suggest calling 1800-cry like a little girl.

See you in 15 days

Bo Blankenship

Hey Bo, I've got a line on a timeshare in Myrtle that you and Bradberry might be interested in. Maybe you can talk the suits in New York into opening a part-time Branch in Myrtle. Much more of this and we will have to stage an intervention. Perhaps addict was a better characterization than enabler. Hit 'em well.

[Greg Stephens]

Gentlemen,

There has been a suggestion concerning handicaps that I would like to be considered. On the "play in round" Saturday we have 4 players that get byes. These four players have no incentive to play their very best as they do not have matches. I know that we have the "daily games" of Vegas and Stableford but we all know that the highest payout by far is the match play championship, \$100, and that is what everyone considers the most important title. With an event as prestigious as this we wouldn't want even the slightest hint of impropriety or the suggestion that someone can "sandbag" on Saturday without repercussions. Even the appearance or the mere presence of incentives to not "play your very best" is unacceptable. Therefore the suggestion is being made to not adjust the handicaps for those four players after the play in round. In this manner we can eliminate any perception of sandbagging and also not hurt any of the four players. If they play great there would be no adjustment down and if they play poorly no adjustment up. This would seem to be a compromise in both directions and a good solution to the problem.

Please send your feedback to me.

Handicap Committee

Bo Blankenship

I think that is a wonderful idea.

[Dave Linden]

There is a enough logic to the proposal that I concur.

[Greg Stephens]

I agree too.

John B

It's easy for you all to agree, because none of you get byes. Why not earn a bye, and then make a suggestion. I for one will work within the rules established through years of evolution and collect my championship trophy and

# Star-Spangled Banter

earnings the old-fashioned way... by earning them!

[Ben Fry]

Ben, I'm not sure if anyone told you but you do not get a bye either.

[Greg Stephens]

Guys -

Here's an idea!

How about an additional rule modification that would adjust handicaps based on the number of rounds played in the weeks leading up to the tournament...or better yet we could only look at rounds played at Summit courses in the weeks leading up to the tournament. How about we adjust a player's handicap down by 1 stroke for every 2 rounds played on Summit courses in the weeks before the tournament? I am guessing that local knowledge must count for something...right? Why would you haul all the way down to Myrtle 2 times in the month before the tournament if you were only after some practice rounds...certainly you could get that in Roanoke or somewhere closer?

I think Bo is concerned with people who haven't had the benefit of multiple practice rounds on the Summit courses in the weeks before the tournament. These players may not have their game quite tuned in until the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> rounds.

It also strikes me that Woody should be insulted by Bo's focus on his second round match and how that opponent's handicap will be calculated. It would be nice if Bo at least showed Woody a little respect given their history.

On the other hand, we could just leave well enough alone....if it ain't broke....

Ken

Gentlemen,

Ken Rogich is a visionary as well as a great American. Why can not Bart exhibit some of the basic Leadership principles as Ken? Bart has simply become a "yes" man for Blankenship. If Bo says jump: Bart says "How High"?

If Ken ever considers branching out and forming his own tournament I would certainly follow.

Kevin O. Dill

Ladies,

Let's just play some golf.....12 Days and counting.

Father John

A ... friggin' ... Men

[Greg Stephens]



# Star-Spangled Banter

Gentlemen of the Summit, Bo, John and Ben,

I have waited until the smoke cleared before I passed judgment on the recent actions taken by 3 of our participants. I have had mixed emotions as I read the responses from each of you. My knee-jerk reaction was one of disbelief once it was brought to my attention that the only people in Roanoke that Bo didn't invite to go on the trip were former SMC Champions. The feeling of disbelief soon turned to pity as I remembered how Bo minimized the importance of winning the matchplay event in the grand scheme of things. He has told me two or three times throughout the past few years how meaningless the title was to him. Now I realize how painful it must have been each of the past seven years as he saw his (friends) bringing the trophy home.

That brings me to today, after reading Bo's desperate plea to waive the scores of the 4 participants who receive a bye in the first round to prevent them from "sandbagging" to manipulate their handicaps for future rounds. Not only is this a weak attempt at throwing a smoke screen over the embarrassment of his scandal, but I must ask the question, **"How in the world would Bo have any idea of the mindset of a player receiving a bye when he has never received one!"** Does he understand what must be accomplished in order to receive a bye? I can only imagine the pressure this man must be under to win this tournament. I, for one, hope that this is his year. Because if it's not, 2008 will be an awful year for us all, but especially John and Ben. They'll be dragged to Myrtle Beach every other weekend in January and February, one or both will get divorced, (from the pictures in this year's book I'd say John will file first) and this ridiculous banter will only escalate. I would appreciate it if everyone, upon arriving in Myrtle, would just put an arm around Bo and assure him the everything's ok. Buy him a beer, preferably something dark, share a laugh and put the last 4 weeks behind us and settle in for some great golf. What do ya' say?

That's all you will hear from me on this subject and you won't hear much more from me on this year's trip. I am determined to drastically reduce the number of words coming from my mouth this year. Some of your calculations from last year were just plain mean-spirited.

Hale

Gentlemen of The Summit:

It had to come to this. Any reasonable man could have foreseen the unfolding of events over these past few weeks. It is an unavoidable collision course clumsily navigated throughout history. Inevitably, anything of value, about which people are passionately convicted, ultimately finds itself embroiled in controversy and/or conflict—freedom, civil rights, advertising at the Masters, custody of Anna Nicole's baby just to name a few. As a dynamic, living icon, The Summit cannot help but experience growing pains. Gentlemen, I urge you, do not fear the conflict, embrace it, for out of conflict comes change and with change... progress.

As to the infractions and suggestions of the past weeks, the verdict is this... The three lost souls that decided that Summit glory was worth the price of honor and reputation have paid. They, like the Black Sox, Pete Rose, and Ben Johnson, will forever live/play under a dark cloud of controversy.

The handicap issue is another matter. While, at first blush, the suggestions seems to have merit, if we dig deeper we find some, not insurmountable, problems. First, this suggestion, by its very nature, implies that one or more of the four participants that have earned a bye would proceed though his first round with less than an honorable approach to the game. This suggestion/implication, coincidentally proffered by one of the three aforementioned Black Summiteers, flies in the face of the American justice system which is built on the principle of 'innocent until proven guilty'. Secondly, in an attempt at even-handedness, the suggestion carried the addendum that handicaps could neither go up or down. In at least one case, this puts what many would agree is an unfair burden on the play-in qualifier unfortunate enough to face a vastly improved title defender in their second match. Finally, while sometimes criticized, primarily in dark corners of seedy bars by disgruntled also-rans, the SHS, though not without its flaws, is not only as good as it gets, but is at the very heart of The Summit and, in itself, provides much of its spice and excitement through the vagaries of handicap adjustment. Rather than change a time-tested system in a knee-jerk reaction to an off-hand suggestion made by a left-wing radical, I say

# Star-Spangled Banter

we all make a point to closely observe the play of both our partners and opponents. It is each participant's duty to bring to the attention of The Council any conduct of a questionable nature. In this way, we can deal with each infraction and its perpetrator individually on a case-by-case basis rather than impose additional restrictions and/or guidelines on what I believe to be a field comprised of, with only a few possible exceptions, gentlemen of the highest honor and character. In the words of the illustrious Ken Rogich: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

And finally, Gentlemen, lest you forget and get caught up in torrent of allegations and denials in the eye of all hurricanes of controversy, remember... This too shall pass.

Bart Edmunds

Tournament Founder and Director and

First Two-time SMC Champion

In response to Ken:

Wow, "if it ain't broke, don't fix it". Wow! What in depth analysis and deep thinking. Never have I heard such thought provoking comments. Usually one would have to go to M.I.T. to get such sophisticated feedback.

I mean, the last time I heard such shallow discourse and superficial thinking was when Jerry Springer had Anna Nicole on. On second thought one would have to go to N.I.T.W.I.T to get that kind of feedback. As usual, Ken has nothing meaningful to add to the discussion. Can we block his email?

As for the handicap discussion. It's interesting that several participants have let it be known that they like the idea of no adjustments for the participants that are getting byes. Yet Mr. Edmunds, unilaterally decides that we will continue to make adjustments. This decision was made without listening to any discussion or input from the other participants. On the other hand, Steve Hale, a good friend of Mr. Edmunds, has been complaining since last year about having to give Mr. Assaid more than 18 shots. And whad'ya know there has been a change for participants receiving more than

18 shots. Again, this change made unilaterally without input from the other 10 participants.

This my friends is why the Summit handicapping system has been under a cloud of suspicion since it's inception. Let's see, Bart has won twice, Steve twice. This is just another example of why the handicapping system itself is more important than actual play. 4 or 5 participants say we think this should change and nothing is done. Steve says this should change, when no other participant agrees, and presto, the change is made.

The motive, I'm afraid, comes from sour grapes. Mr. Assaid gave poor Mr.

Hale and pitiful Mr. Edmunds thorough beatings last year. Hale and Edmunds have been hatching a plan to get back at Mr. Assaid since last year. After all, one of probably only two players that can be affected by the new handicapping rule would be Mr. Assaid. A coincidence? I think not. We should look to protect our fellow players from these incestuous relationships that threaten to poison the future of the tournament.

Remember my fellow combatants, "Evil prospers when good men stand and do nothing."

I would like to make a pact that all 9 fellow competitors, excluding hale, edmunds and nitwit(rogich), stand on the first tee to begin the tournament and sing "we shall overcome" in unison. Deliver us from this evil O' Lord, deliver us!

See you in Myrtle

Bo Blankenship

# Star-Spangled Banter

Bart -

Confidentially...is everything alright with Bo. He seems a little high strung. As his friend, I am concerned. What, if anything, can I do to help him? Do you think he is still stinging from my victory over him in the SMC match play finals a few years ago? It wasn't personal that day, I hope he knows that.

You can update me at your convenience.

Thanks, Ken

Bo,

When you say 4 or 5 participants agree with you i can only assume you are speaking of your chauffeur and caddy, John and Ben, both of whom are on your payroll, and little Dave Linden who thinks you are one of the best pure free throw shooters in the history of the Roanoke Athletic Club. Throw your own vote in and that totals 4. Hardly worth taking seriously on any ballot. Let's forget about this nonsense and get down to the real issue here.

Bo, I apologize if I have offended or insulted you in any way. That was never my intention. Only now do I realize how critical some of my comments have been towards you in my last few emails. I offer up a truce. An offering to become as good a friends as we once were and to put an end to this meaningless, hurtful banter. I look forward to a joyful reunion in Myrtle 11 days from now.

Sincerely,

Steve

What a nice gesture on your part Steve. It seems that going to church recently has really paid off for you. You're a new man, and I for one like the new you. And here I thought you were only sleeping in church. It really bothers me that Bart will not let us room together again this year. Maybe we could go to a sunrise mass together Sunday morning at the beach.

Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Joe

Steve,

I have not been offended at all. Just trying to make the tournament fair to everyone and let everyone have input into the final handicapping structure. By the way, of the 8 possible votes(those other than the guys with byes), 6 voted to not adjust, as was suggested. Those 6 are, Bo, Ben, John, Dave, Woody, Greg with Kevin and Chris abstaining at this point. With a vote of 6 to 0 and 2 abstaining, I guess you are right, 4 or 5 was inaccurate, it was really 6 - 0. This has nothing to do with an attack on you, it's the structure of the handicapping system I am questioning and what drives changes to that system.

By the way, "incestuous relationship" between you and Bart doesn't necessarily mean it's sexual in nature, although it could be, now that you mention it.

Bo Blankenship

**"Driving Arrangements"**

**March 3, 2007**

Mr. Edmunds,

# Star-Spangled Banter

I don't mind driving, but my 5 series BMW is more suitable for little people like me who idolize Bo's free-throw shooting and it does not easily hold more than three sets of clubs in the trunk. Tall people are often uncomfortable in the back seat.

If I am going to have the opportunity to ride with Mr. Hale, please let me know so that I can bring my pitch counter and begin counting the number of words spewing from his mouth.

Dave

## **“’08 Summit: Some Advice Concerning Leadership”**

**November 28, 2007**

So far, with the deadline rapidly approaching, we only have six returning participants to the Summit. That's good and bad. . . On the one hand, I hate to see so many fine and loyal combatants lose their spot after so many years of service to the cause. On the other hand, I am confident that the open market value of those six spots will go a long way toward defraying overall costs to those of us still in the game, because, of course, you have to be in it to win it. But, then again, not everyone can be a winner. I'm sure, for some, the effort to keep fighting seems futile and, at some point, the struggle becomes too great. I can't imagine how that must feel, but it must be bad. So, good luck to those of you who have decided to pursue less strenuous pursuits whether they be gardening, cooking, sewing, or some other safer, more relaxing endeavor. I'm sure you'll excel there!

To those of you polishing armor and sharpening weapons in the off season, I need a monetary commitment of \$200 within the next week.

See you on the Battlefield!

Bart

First Two-Time SMC Champion

Dearest Bart,

Some citizens are so good that nothing a leader can do will make them better. Others are so incorrigible that nothing can be done to improve them. But the great bulk of the people go with the moral tide of the moment. The leader must help create that tide. Your recent letter appears to be both demeaning, and self serving. One must ask "What type of tide are you creating"?

I believe I speak for the group when I say **"We do not like you"**.

Mr. Deans and I will have our checks in the mail tomorrow.

Respectfully,

Kevin O. Dill

## **“Anyone Out There?”**

**January 9, 2008**

It has been eerily quiet on the Summit front. One might think that there is no interest for this prestigious event. Someone needs to get the ball rolling.



# Star-Spangled Banter

Random thoughts:

I propose a new award called the "Rory". It should go to the person who can provoke Hale the best. I'll start. I think Hale looks as beatable as ever this year. I think he will finish no higher than 3rd for low gross - ouch. Too many good and improving players out there for him to sustain his dominance.

Can we have some sanity for the Calcutta bidding this year. I for one will not be buying the max % of myself if the bidding is as ridiculous as last year. Perhaps we should cap the amount a player has to invest in himself in real dollars not by percent.

Greg

**"Typo"**

**January 26, 2008**

Gentlemen:

It's been brought to my attention that I inadvertently made a typo when emailing Round 1 pairings/ matches. Rather than a handicap of 2, Ben will actually be receiving 12 shots in the match against me, and he doesn't seem at all embarrassed by it. Sorry for any confusion my error may have caused. If anyone has questions and/or concerns about Ben's handicap, please feel free to email/call me.

Thanks again.

Bart

Bart,

My only concern with Ben's handicap is I'm not sure if that is enough. I know it's not enough to beat you. I hope the committee is kind and can make a special circumstance exception and alter his handicap.

Thanks,

John

Dear Tournament Director Bart,

You are the epitome of sportsmanship and fair play. If Woody Deans can have the Patrick Henry Gymnasium named after him, surely we can erect some type of statue or bust in your Likeness. If the Summit Match Play tournament was based on character and integrity; You would win every year.

I hope you beat the crap out of Ben Fry and his shameful 12 strokes. I have always hated Ben.

Respectfully,

Kevin O. Dill

Dear Kevin,

Alternatively, if the Summit Matchplay was based on shameful ass kissing, talking out of both sides of your mouth (at the same time no less), and overall duplicitousness, you would be the hands down winner, bless your little heart. And to think, all you got was some lousy pickle named after you.

Yours ever so sweetly,

# Star-Spangled Banter

Greg

Dear Greg,

Your accusation that I may be “kissing Bart’s ass” is both absurd and unfounded. If I were to congratulate Bill Belichick on his ability to manage and guide an NFL franchise no one would bat an eye. If I were to compliment Larry Bird on being one of the greatest Celtics of all time there would be little criticism. When I portray John F. Kennedy as one of our great Modern day leaders, there is an aura of acceptance and agreement.

So why Greg Stephens must you deny Bart the accolades he so richly deserves? Perhaps you should start emulating Bart rather than condemning him, and you too, may someday have two SMPC titles under your belt. I trust this matter is closed.

With Kindest Regards,

Kevin O. Dill

Sadly for Kevin O. Dill (or is it O'Dill), he has chosen to idol worship our tournament director, Bart Edmunds. Way to aim high, buddy. Are there no luminary figures in Roanoke lore for you to hitch your pathetic little wagon to. How about Tiki Barber. He exhibits the same whiny characteristics as you have displayed. I can practically see Bart cringing with every syrupy word from Kevin silently praying “Make it stop. Please, make it stop.”

[Greg Stephens]

**“Ken Deserves Better”**

**January 26, 2008**

Dear Bo, Gentleman, and fellow high handicappers,  
What are the plans/times for Friday? If I have been “conveniently” or “inadvertently” left off of the e-mail list, I understand. I am still looking forward to the weekend.  
Let me know if I need to show up on Friday.

Thanks,

Ken

Ken:

If you have nothing to do on Friday, you could come carry my bag at Tobacco Road.

Joe

Dear Ken,

I played Golf with Bart last week and he told me he was not planning on inviting you to the practice round. I thought he was just kidding but obviously I was mistaken.

I have thought for years that you and I should form our own tournament and invite a higher caliber of participant. Lets talk in Myrtle beach.

Your Friend,

Kevin O. Dill

# Star-Spangled Banter

Kevin,

That's a great idea. You and Ken can start a beach trip with players closer to your golfing abilities. Being defending high net player from last year's trip should have some drawing power for other high handicappers. You may also want to visit area golf clubs on Tuesday, you know that is Ladies' day. Or leaf through some super seniors names from area associations.

I would be glad to donate some used golf balls to your little group. Good Luck, and remember, always use the older balls when you are hitting across water.

With great respect,

*Bo Blankenship*

Kevin -

Once again you have risen above the fray to provide some gentle and sensible counsel. Its obvious that the sting of 2003 still resonates with Mr. Blankenship. All I can say is that if I had known that 5 years later he would still be so spiteful, I would have let him win the Cup. Let it go Bo...its just a game....let the healing process begin...

Ken

2003 SMC Champion

Dear Ken,

You are a gentlemen and a scholar and it is always a pleasure to hear from you. However I must warn you, not to not sell "Little Bo" short. If the conditions are just right, the fairways especially wide, several talented players out with the flu, and the moon in its 7<sup>th</sup> equinox, I feel as if Bo would have a marvelous chance of winning this tournament. I personally will be rooting for him.

Your Friend,

Kevin O. Dill

## **"2009 Summit"**

**November 28, 2008**

Summit Alumnae:

8 spots left in the 2009 Millennium Invitational Golf Summit! Early-bird spots will be released to the general public on 12/1/08. Don't wait! Act now! Save your spot by sending your \$229 deposit to Bart Edmunds at P.O. Box 20392, Roanoke, VA 24018. We'd love to keep the same group, but the barbarians are at the gate, and those folks waiting in line for a shot at the glory of The Summit are getting restless.

More good news...

Initially, I was told we would not be allowed to play from the Heritage tees at Harbour Town, but after greasing a few palms, we have finagled our way back to where the big boys play. We'll experience the thrill of 200 yard carries into prevailing winds with the fate of our Summit future hanging in the balance—a true survival of the fittest! So, sharpen those long-driving skills, and get ready to rumble!

Sincerely,

Bart

Summit Founder & Director

# Star-Spangled Banter

Bart,

I thought we talked about this last year. Did you forget your evaluation when we played at TPC last year and only 2 people broke 90 and the fact that it just was not fun. Thanks for the invite, but I can stay in Roanoke and touchier myself and save over \$800.00 . Thanks anyway,

Woody

## **"Pictures, et al"**

**December 29, 2008**

Fellow Summit combatants:

It is now time to begin submitting pictures for inclusion in this year's The Summit magazine. As in the past, these may be submitted via email

(preferable) or print. If you have any other suggestions and/or ideas regarding the magazine content, please let me know and forward pertinent information ASAP.

This week, the identity of our final participant will be released, first round pairings will be drawn/announced, and you will all be given an assignment for the book. The book is scheduled to print the first week in February with an online version distributed shortly thereafter.

For those that have not paid in full, the balance of \$600 will be due one month prior to the event.

In the meantime, please refrain from any "smack-talk" as it tends to upset some of our more sensitive souls. For instance, please avoid use of the words/phrases "Lebanon", "best player never to win", "mouth of the south", "back tees", "Norma", "just happy to get away", "too nice to win", "Furyk-esque", "unaware there's even a tournament going on", or "LeeAnne".

I'll be in touch.

Bart

Bart,

I couldn't agree more about the "smack-talk." I hate to bring this to your attention b/c I know of your relentless pursuit of perfection, but I feel it is my duty to help keep the "sensi's" safe....please add to the refrain list....."what I do is just help the putt through the break." I also would recommend adding a asterisk or red flag to the phrase, b/c this person is the most sensitive of all. Bless his heart.

P.S. Steve Hale you are still shunned

Looking forward to the trip.

John "Working on not being so Furyk-esque" Bradberry

## **"The Summit"**

**January 21, 2009**

**Dear Summiteers who have yet to send out any entertaining emails,**



# Star-Spangled Banter

In honor of our recently elected and inaugurated president and the rest of his loony lefty counterparts (Dill) (sorry couldn't resist) I would like to do a segment similar to that nut-job Keith Olberman, ill call it "special comment"

I have a few things to say. First, I want to make sure that Kevin knows that I am happy for him and his victory but that I want my fair economically justified share of any winnings he has on the Summit, I'm really trying to embrace this new thing and I think that would help me out a lot. Second, yall should know that I am taking the roll of many great visionary athletes before me and guaranteeing that the Summit Trophy will be coming back in a black Tahoe this year. and it will be firmly perched atop someone's desk at MetLife... my Nostradamus talents have yet to tell me which desk it may end up on but Bradberry getting 6 shots isn't good for the rest of the field. Third, my leg is twitching and I have a major wood thinking about obama... oh wait sorry I was just having a nightmarish flashback of our lovely and politically indifferent network tv anchors, god bless journalism, its so pure. And finally in my tribute to olberman, I will beat a dead horse just one more time and ask... where the hell is steve hale? Its been 3 damn months since the first summit email came out and not a word from him. Is he afraid of the ridicule from his peers? Does he know that his game might not be what it once was? Does the thought of woody taking him down for a third consecutive year make him go poopy in his pants? Honestly steve if you are having problems with your gay tendencies like.. matching sweaters and movie dates, you have two fantastic options: go off the deep end like dill and wear the wackiest stuff you can find, or let the rest of us, your manly friends so to speak, have an intervention. We'll let you get out all of what's been bothering you, and tell you we miss you. Then maybe just maybe, you'll find your nuts, quit bowing down to woody, and play the 20 dollar bill game\* like only you can. So in closing I say to you... on the eve of this tenth annual summit, 267 days since the last sighting of Steve Hale, 38 days since I've changed underwear, 2 days since the savior took over the country, and 75 days since john Bradberry's official shunning of pinky, good night and good luck. you'll need it from the back tees at Harbour Town.

R. Benjamin Fry, CLTC

Ben, dear Ben,

Congrats on spurring me to respond! I too have missed the usual banter but had hoped it would be provided by some of our more vocal participants, such as the mouth from the south, Greg Stephens, or Glenn Campbell and his little buddy Clay Aiken from that advertising company downtown. Since you decided to begin the discussion, let me start by saying way to go out on a limb and predict a MetLife win this year! That's like calling Vegas to place a bet on an American winning the Masters this year. Since half the field works at Met that's a real stretch. Oh, and as far as your plug for your hero Bradbury, if the tournament was played on paper, he and Bo would take turns winning it every year. Lucky for us most of the courses we play still require you to putt it out.

Speaking of courses, that brings me to your comment regarding my old friend and opponent, Woody Deans. Thanks to the past six months of hearing him moan and groan about the tees we are playing, I see that our first course has a total yardage of 6300! That's right, 6300! For all the adult males in the group, that is only 4500 yards longer than Brookside Executive Par 3 course. I believe it's the same yardage as Angel's Trace in Myrtle Beach where Joe cold topped six drives off the tee and still had less than 200 yards into all the par 4's. That being said, the length (or lack thereof) combined with the 10 shots I'm giving Woody make him the odds on favorite. However, some off-season work in Pinehurst has given me renewed confidence in my game. (Bradbury, wish you had gone with us) I like my chances and will be taking myself in a blockbuster parlay.

Let the games begin!

Hale

Just a quick note to Kevin. I saw that Bart had you getting 2 shots from me and John getting 6 shots to start the summit. John has already committed to sending a certified mail response to Bart disclaiming those shots as

# Star-Spangled Banter

grossly unfair to the field as well as unfit for any man with integrity and character. Knowing the quality of person you are, would you have Woody send that response for you. Otherwise, as with last year's summit trophy, any win by you would have an asterisk similar to that of Mark McGuire's home run records. Please let me know when Woody sends that response so that I can confirm with Bart that the proper handicaps have been applied in accordance with truth and honesty. Similar to Mark McGuire and Barry Bonds, don't take the steroids Kevin, do it on your own, don't let Bart create a crutch for you to lean on in difficult times. "Give a man a fish he eats for a day, teach a man how to fish he eats for a lifetime." Don't let Bart continue to give you fish like a little child that refuses to do it on his own. Have the fortitude to just say no. Don't bring down the reputation of the AIA (Adventures in Advertising) office after Woody has worked so hard to build it up.

*Bo Blankenship, MA*

First, Summit participants. You should all know that I am shunning Steve Hale for some his actions against me, of which cannot be divulged in this email. However, for this email only I am not shunning him.

Steve,

I don't know what kind of "blockbuster parlay" you are speaking of, however I will give you some action. It's a 3 game Parlay, pays 6 to 1. You have to win all three.

1. -Rumor has it you can't hold your liquor. So we will set the first leg of the parlay: 8 (no crying if there doubles) drinks before Steve spends the night in the bathroom.

2. -Your "boy-toy" Edmunds goes to bed right before all the fun & excitement of the "entertainment" begins.

3. -You and Greg are branching out from last years matching outfits and movie date night.....to a double date with Glenn Campbell and Clay Aiken. (Steve be careful, I know of your jealousy... and I hear Aiken is a little aggressive.)

6300 yards? The good news is I am playing Botetourt Country Club tomorrow so I will get some practice on that long of a course. Bart as tournament director, you should be warned. There will probably be some submissions for rule changes to future Summits. It will read, "Please add 3 red tees, 2 mulligans, and 1 throw." But I will tell you right now, no throws....Ben, Bo, and Greg have cannons and Steve would just snap it 100 yards. That's just not fair.

Steve re-shunned.

John Bradberry

Dear Friends of the Summit Match Play,

When the Los Angeles Police Department was beating the Crap out of Rodney King, I remember him addressing the masses and asking the crowd this simple task: "Can't we all just get along". It is in this same vein of compassion that I speak to the Summit participants this afternoon.

As the Summit defending Champion I am shocked but not surprised by Bo requesting that I disobey Bart with his fair and balanced handicap system. Should I disobey the Pope when he asks me to honor the Sabbath? Should I disobey my High school coach when he asked me to take a charge? I am sorry Bo, but I happen to respect authority and the painstaking sacrifices which were necessary to achieve it. Bart Edmunds is our tournament director and it is high time that you start respecting the office. I Love you Bart.

Non Related: Ben fry; Our resident racist Republican who wishes David Duke was our president attacks perennial first round loser Steve Hale. Steve then proceeds to attack Woody and myself by referring to us as Glen Campbell and his little buddy Clay Aiken. Is it just me or does Steve remind you of a kindergarten kid who cries every time he can't get a second cup- cake. It doesn't take a psychiatrist, to figure out that Steve does not want to play Woody?

When I questioned Woody about this pairing, he said: "I considered playing Steve Hale in the first round to be the equivalent of a bye". End quote.

# Star-Spangled Banter

Your 2008 Defending Champion,  
Your 2008 Short Game Champion,  
Kevin O. Dill

Kevin,

It is not surprising that a catholic boy like yourself can't keep from continually referring to priest, popes, and clergymen at every possible opportunity. I would never want you to disobey Bart. In fact, take those 2 shots and be extremely proud. And if we happen to meet in a match, and those two undeserved shots allow you to win, be proud. After you win that match, receiving the two undeserved shots, I will personally pay for the recognition in the Roanoke Times sports page. It should read something like this: "Mentally and physically inferior Dill defeats O handicapper Blankenship in handicapped tournament. Dill used the shots to work his way into the Championship flight, a rarity for a high handicapper like Dill. When ask about the win, Dill stated that he hoped one day "to improve my game enough so that elite golfers such as Bo don't have to take pity and give me shots to even the talent level out." Be Proud Kevin, that's a win worth talking about. Sorta like PH being spotted 6 points before playing for the AAA state championship. I am sure Woody would love those 2 state championship rings just as much if they were given to him versus the way he actually got them. He earned them on an even playing field. That's why they named the PH court after Woody, because they gave him all those wins...no wait a minute, he actually went out there and worked his butt off for those wins, that's right, that's why they have the bronze plaque in front of the entrance. Hmmm.... is there a lesson here?

*Bo Blankenship, MA*

Did anyone watch Silence of the Lambs on TBS last night? Hannibal is on the loose! Is there a doctor in the house?

[Steve Hale]

Oh Steve, stop being a baby, either get involved or sit on the sidelines and enjoy the festivities. Don't be a critic. You remind me of a politician, criticizes everything going on but never has any of his own contributions.

*Bo Blankenship, MA*

Bo,

It is hard for me to take your comments seriously because you've never been one to stay committed to a cause. Aren't you the one who grew up in Garden City, went all the way through Roanoke City Schools, watched as the school system eroded and then, when you had the chance to make a difference and be part of the solution.....YOU RAN to the county. If you're looking for support from the troops you have to stand and fight with them. It was only 2 years ago that you were living off the strokes Bart gave you! Now tell me who sounds like the politician.....

[Steve Hale]

Oh, and one more thing. Make sure you keep a supply of Chapstick handy in case your lips or Woody's butt gets chapped!

[Steve Hale]

# Star-Spangled Banter

The "tell a lie" pot calling the kettle black. It has been said many times that Steve Hale "would rather climb a tree and tell a lie than stand on the ground and tell the truth". But without regard to his selective memory of facts, Steve worked in the city for many years as a "project yes" counselor whose job it was to keep kids from dropping out of Roanoke City schools. The project yes program had federal funding. The only thing Steve prevented from dropping was the revenue at the surrounding golf courses. Today the Roanoke City drop out rate is over 40% thanks to Steve's commitment to the city school system. Your taxpayer dollars at work. Steve must be a liberal. Let's continue to rely on the Federal Government, the oversight by federal agencies, and the incredible efficiency of government mandated programs to make our life better. Steve, for all of our sakes, please get out of the tree and just rely on your golfing ability rather than your recollection of facts or your references to other people's commitment to their communities. "Let he without sin cast the first stone." I'll explain the meaning to you at Hilton Head.

*Bo Blankenship, MA*

## **"Special Needs"**

**March 2, 2009**

Bart (Tournament Director),

In reading the bios on the competitors this year, I noticed that Messrs Deans and Dill turned 60 and 50 respectively this year. Congratulations to both. However, I do hope you had the good sense as tournament director, to ensure that their condo is at ground level and that the "Van" has a reserved parking spot closest to the door of the condo. I assume you also arranged for valet and/or bag handling service for these gentlemen at all four courses. I am also quite sure that the other competitors will respect a 9:00 PM 'noise free' rule especially for adjacent condos either above or next to Woody and Kevin. Can I also assume that Monday's Champion's dinner has been moved up to a more customary 4:30 start time?

Best regards,

Greg

## **"2010 Dear Kevin Column"**

**March 2, 2009**

Guys -

I have arranged for the Friday round at The Links at Waterford in Rock Hill, South Carolina (Hale Irwin design). The negotiated rate is \$42. The tee times are 11:27, 11:36 and 11:45 and are under my name. Here is a link to the website for directions etc. [www.thelinksatwaterford.com](http://www.thelinksatwaterford.com).

I chose this course in Rock Hill so that we would be south of Charlotte when we leave which could be around rush hour. The course is about 15-20 minutes south of Charlotte and then it would be about 4 hours to Hilton Head from there.

I am looking forward to it. See you in a couple of weeks. Let me know if you have questions.

Ken



# Star-Spangled Banter

Ken,

Thank you for making these exquisite arrangements for Friday. Your efforts are appreciated.

Bart, I would like to compliment you on arguably the finest piece of literature I have ever encountered. Like Chaucer and the Canterbury Tales You have created a timeless piece of work for future generations.

One could not help but notice that you allowed Gregory Stephens to participate in this year's rendition. While Gregory is a fine litigator and certainly capable of data entry responsibilities; I hardly consider him to have the creative juices or grey matter necessary to undertake such a task as assisting you with the book. In the future I suggest you limit Stephens' responsibilities to strictly bean counting. I will be more than happy to begin my own column in next year's book. With your permission I will call it "Dear Kevy" where I will answer a multitude of personal and golf related questions from the field. I will begin my research at this years Summit.

Kevin O. Dill

Dearest Kevin,

You're on! I accept your offer and heartily welcome yours and others'

submissions to next year's The Summit magazine. With regard to Greg, why do I detect such derision? Could it have something to do with Greg's thoughtful suggestions related to the "older crowd"? Kevin, remember that aging is a double-edged sword-- while on the one hand, your physical abilities diminish daily, you are simultaneously gaining wisdom only attained through experience. With Woody and your combined century-plus experience, the rest of us not only look up to you two, but also turn to you for guidance. So, Kev... do not curse the years that slip under your belt faster than Joe's backswing. . . embrace them and the knowledge they bring.

After all, it's all you've got left, and it's better than the alternative.

Bart

Dear Kevy,

Did Greg not give you enough love in his 2008 re-cap? Are you so fragile that a few innocuous (yet 100% true) words describing your 2008 performance are enough to cause you to lash out. Wasn't the Summit title enough consolation? I guess the lesson here is never to use the words snowman, Kevin, or Dill in the same sentence. I promise to never do that again provided, of course, you promise never to shoot an eight on the final hole of the Calcutta to fall out of the money by a single shot. I know that Bo (thanks for screwing my clean Calcutta sweep) would agree with this.

Warmest regards,

Greggy

## **"A Brief Note from Your Current Champion"**

**March 3, 2009**

All,

I propose one more team event for the 1st day only. It will be billed as the Champs vs. Chumps. One team is comprised of the six former Summit Champions (Steve, Bart, Woody, Kevin, Ken and Joe). The Chumps team includes (Greg, Bo, John, Ben, Chris and Jeff). The stakes can be minimal (\$10/man). I've added the handicaps of both teams. The Champs are getting 45 shots and the Chumps are getting 53 shots for a difference of 8.

# Star-Spangled Banter

The bet is which team will have the lower total gross score after the Chumps deduct their 8 shots.

I welcome format or scoring alternatives but the fact that we have exactly six former champs is too good to pass up. Any thoughts?

Greg

Greg, Greg, Greg, My Dear Friend Greg,

Hmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm, I have met with Our Former 6 champions and have been asked to respond to your request. The Champions were explicit in their instructions to be as non confrontational as possible. They demanded that I Tread lightly on the feelings, emotional turmoil and despair that our non champion participants may be harboring.

Greg, when you are "Muhamid Ali", everybody wants to fight you. When you are "Michael Jordan", everybody wants to play you one on one. When you are "Tiger Woods".....I think you know where I am going with this?

We recognize that it would make you guy's career (Life), if you were to somehow defeat the 6 champions. You would probably have a little pretzel party Saturday night. We understand your excitement.

We love you guys and we really, really want you to be successful. But as the song writer Jim Croche' once said: Don't tug on Superman's cape, don't spit into the wind, and do not challenge Championship caliber golfers, when your own trophy cupboard is bare.

We suggest you politely back down and apologize for this testosterone filled request before somebody gets hurt.

Warmest Regards and Love,

Current Champion

Kevin O. Dill,

Am I to assume that Kevin's response to my mild mannered proposal carries with it the weight of all the Champions opinion. I am trying to picture Hale politely demurring this challenge and can't quite see it. I smell fear from 1/6 of the Champions. Perhaps I should rename the challenge "chimps vs. chimps". Seems more accurate.

[Greg Stephens]

Brother Kevin -

In order to be discreet (and out of respect for the Champions group), I have only copied past Champions on this email.

You have put yourself out on a very fragile limb, my friend, by speaking for the entire Champion's group. We will need to discuss your conduct at the Champions-only cocktail reception (hosted by the newest champion) that we typically hold on the Monday morning of the Summit. I am sure that you were unaware of this session due to your nubile status. You are also not aware, I am quite sure, of the Champions code of conduct which you now must adhere to. It specifically states that only Hootie Johnson will speak for the Champions group as a whole. His decisions and communications will be final. He was hired for this purpose several years back and this is the primary reason for the Champion's dues of \$500 per year (which, by the way, we are still awaiting your 1st year payment - checks to be addressed to Ken Rogich, Treasurer).

While I am sure that the Champion's group appreciates your irrational exuberance at being a part of this elite club, please be prepared explain the actions below when we gather in one week's time.

Yours in trust,

# Star-Spangled Banter

Brother Ken

Note: please see the general response that both Bart and I gave back to the group to Greg's invitation. This should be an example to you for future responses.

Bring it, Homey!

[Steve Hale]

So far, there have been acceptances to the Champs vs. Chumps challenge from 4 champs (woody, bart, steve, ken) and a scared but polite "no"

from the most recent "champion" Kevin. We have not heard from Joe as yet and can only assume that he is either too confused to respond or is looking for a syndicate to front him the \$10 before accepting.

Kevin, you alright. Your entire team just finished cutting your legs out from under you. Not even Woody's got your back. Must be feeling pretty lonely about now. Just keep repeating: I am smart enough, I am good enough, and gosh darn it, people like me. Self affirmation, it's the way to go for you little buddy.

[Greg Stephens]

## **“Summit Site: New Content”**

**February 22, 2010**

what an interview.... with great anticipation I clicked on the links to watch these two titans spare against each other.... I truly believed at first that I was watching something akin to Frost v Nixon... then as it played through, I realized that it was more like Larry King interviewing Joe the Plumber..... however; upon further review, I have decided the best way to view this is from the strictly whole hearted likeness that Bart has to Roy Firestone and Steve has to Cold Stone Steve Austin... therefore; upon viewing with that 'visual' in mind, I can say that I truly enjoyed the interview.

[Jeff Parker]

## **“The Voice of Reason— The Van [Klan]”**

**March 3, 2010**

Greetings to my friends of the Summit,

When the United States chose to invade Iraq, there was an Arabic Broadcast Station that went by the name of ALCAZAR. They were staunch supporters of Sadam Hussein and Osama Binladin. Osama Binladin would use ALKAZIR as a vehicle to communicate To Alkeida, and provide a forum for terrorist propaganda.

Bart, seems to have taken a page from the ALKAZAR playbook, and is using little dim witted Steve as a tool, In his agenda to destroy all that is good with the Summit. Like a puppet, orchestrating a marionette, Like Eddie Haskell manipulating Lumpy into letting him copy his homework (Leave it to Beaver), Bart Has the “The Cute Chubby One” doing all of his dirty work.

A web of lies and half truths which are corroborated by no one? Accusations and innuendos which have no bear-

# Star-Spangled Banter

ing on reality? All of this add up to a mad man who is drunk with Power, and a follicley challenged sidekick, neither one of whom, has won a summit championship since Jimmy Carter was President.

It has been said: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." Well, I will not sit idly by and watch these two "Ass Clowns" Attack the honor and integrity of our City's greatest asset. A man who's reputation is beyond reproach, so much so that we name schools in his honor.

Woody Dean's only flaw is one of over achievement and an unyielding commitment to excellence resulting in three Summit Match Play Championships, And a habit of administering an ass pounding to Steve Hale whenever he desires.

There is a new Sherriff in town, a fresh way of thinking, a dominant force of truth and justice, who get down to business, push the cry babies out of the way,

Pick up the Trophy and say Adios. They are called The VAN CLAN and they are coming to a city near you on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

Kindest Regards,

Kevin O. Dill

Kevin,

Did you just liken yourself to the United states military in Iraq? and Bart to saddam hussein? while the second of the two may have merit ( my apologies to the kind dictator), the first is quite surprising.

Can you hug a tree and a flag at the same time? Would Keith Olberman and Rachel Mad-dike, i mean Maddow, approve of such comparisons, much less hints of approval with regards to our freedom defending military? Or was it just a side effect of trashing Bart and steve in defense of our good friend woody. I must say that all of this hostility has me a little bit worried about the relationship between the van Klan and the Greystone crowd. A hug, maybe a summit (within the summit) to discuss things, giving the minority party (everyone but bart) a chance to speak could help. Though that might not be a good idea since, as jimmy carter jr/ the chosen one/ your boy has taught us, such summits would only be to accomplish public relations... so what can we do?

Maybeeee... we can all be honest with ourselves about our "shot dumping" "steve Haleing it" "Woodying it" or whatever terms have been coined to describe it. maybe others who judged steve so harshly can admit that they have "let their guard down" after a match was over (which is dumping shots no matter how you look at it). im not accusing any individual but certainly if we look at scores after matches have completed im quite certain we will find plenty of accusers snap hooking their stones OB left into their "glass houses". Or dumping them into 18th hole water hazards (two balls rinsed at Mooreland) the day before the championship.

I think the answer to all of this sandbagging argument is simple. I can honestly say I've never let up on a hole at the summit (though my scores can certainly end up pretty ugly) because I've always had some sort of action. Everyone should have side action. Lots and Lots of side action. Ryan and I are willing to take matches against any two out there. Yes, we know that this makes the two of us heroes, and that being humble about our heroic acts is going be impossible. Please feel free to shower us with praise... I digress.....

Really? are we actually all still talking about this? tee it up, play your ass off the entire round, and don't dump be a douchebagshotdumper.

ps. steve i didn't think you looked like one of Barts fat bald puppets in the interview, Kevin is just a meanie.

Ben.

Is it just me or did Kevin's reference to Woody (his fellow Van Clanner) as an "overachiever" strike anybody as a bit condescending and back handed? After making it about ¾ of the way through his lecture below, Kevin throws in this sardonic comment about Woody playing over his head.

It seems to me that maybe within Kevin's diatribe below lies some suppressed interoffice resentment that Kevin holds for Woody. Is Kevin really that happy that Woody took the crown from him in 2009 and now holds office



# Star-Spangled Banter

bragging rights? Is he really supportive of the man who holds a commanding Summit title lead over him (3-1) and whose mere presence in his office every day is a constant and bitter reminder of this fact? A quick surface read of Kevin's comments below would indicate that he is defending Woody, but a closer look reveals, I think, a hidden animosity. "Woody Dean's only flaw is one of over achievement" Ouch!

Jealousy is a bitter pill that sometimes has a bit of reflux. I think we just saw some reflux buried in Kevin's commentary.

On the other hand, maybe I am just off base...

[Ken Rogich]

Dear Off Base, (Ken)

Your effort to drive a wedge between Woody and myself will fall flat on its face. I believe William Shakespeare was referring to Ken when he wrote:

"Red on the noodle, like a dick on a poodle."

Warmest Regards,

Kevin O. Dill

Dearest Kevin -

Not sure what that means and not sure I want to know...anywho, I guess you are right...I am sure that Woody will understand that by calling him an golf overachiever, you meant it in the most positive or "lucky" sense of the word...

On the other hand, maybe I am off base (again)...

Kindest personal regards,

Ken

Well, well Kevin, in the immortal words of one Foghorn Leghorn, "I say I say boy, it looks like your chickens have come home to roost!"

I enjoyed reading the satirical, overglorifying prose of Woody. However, in your haste to dislodge Joe from his well deserved spot in the front seat of the van so that you may resume your position near the glove box, you have awakened the proverbial sleeping dog! Perhaps more than one sleeping dog from the sounds of it. You claim that my interview lacked corroboration? Perhaps, instead of taking a defensive posture upon seeing the interview, your time would've been better spent taking a collective sigh of relief that your name was left off the "Sandbagger Report". I tried to protect as many people as possible by only publishing the names of suspected kingpins of the operation. I left off some names in hopes that they would rehabilitate themselves without the spotlight being cast on them. But you just couldn't resist. Recent discussions of the interview have all led back to the van klan with one participant saying, "When that van leaves Myrtle, there is so much sand in it that the EPA has linked the trio to recent dune erosion problems on the Grand Strand." New allegations have surfaced that suggest Woody may have been the fall guy in this whole scandal. It is too early to tell, but a new audit of score-cards is under way to determine what involvement Kevin had in this scandal. Details will be released prior to opening day.

Last but not least I would like to comment on your repeated homosexual references in your response. "Ass pounding" "Red on the Noodle" and "Ass Clowns"! Kevin, a wise man once told me that the use of profanity is a persons compensation for a lack of vocabulary. I believe in your case however, its a sign of tension, maybe even

# Star-Spangled Banter

frustration over the fact that Joe jumped to Woody's defense before you could muster a response. Whatever the reason, what happens in the van, stays in the van and your recent statements have GUARANTEED one thing.....On day one in Myrtle it will be your ass that gets pounded and you can take that to the bank!

[Steve Hale]

## **“Don’t Shoot the Messenger”**

**March 6, 2010**

Kevin,

Thank you for the kind words. While I appreciate your flattery, try to remember that I put my pants on the same way you do (more or less). You may see me as a charismatic leader, capable of influencing and persuading others to act against their will, but, in truth, I’m just a regular guy like you. Well..., maybe not so much like you, but like, say, John or Joe.

The portion of your email that I found puzzling and somewhat disturbing, was the hurtful part directed at Steve. The part where you imply that Steve is some sort of mindless minion incapable of independent thought or action. I know for a fact that he is an independent thinker because I told him so just the other day. What I admire about Steve is his courage in speaking so candidly about what has, apparently, been a pervasive concern outside the sanctuary of The Van. Like you, I have been somewhat oblivious to the fact that there even were concerns these past few years. My heart was warmed, however, by the outpouring of support for Steve; not so much in the wake of the general disappointment in his 2009 final round performance and what it implied, but for his retaliatory response to those accusations—a response which so obviously struck a chord with bystanders and targets alike. I was stunned and amazed at his meteoric rise to celebrity status as the heroic spokesperson for years of quiet observation and underlying frustration on the part of so many of his fellow Summiteers. Your attempts to discredit Steve and portray him a nothing more than a paper-tiger or straw-man are ineffectual and mean-spirited. They say that ‘the pioneers take the arrows’ and Steve has displayed true pioneer spirit in his willingness to brave uncharted waters in the pursuit of righteousness. Ghandi and Martin Luther “the King” faced similar adversity in journey, but through their perseverance and self-sacrifice, change was effected and the world became a better place.

So, Kevin, it seems the real question here is ‘Why are you so opposed to making the world a better place?’ Like those before you—Judas, Brutus, Nathuram Godse, James Earl Ray, [Mehmet Ali Ağca](#) (look it up)—one must ask, “What do you stand for?” What do you and your people really want? It’s time for some real soul-searching, my friend. The road back will be long and difficult, but not without its own rewards. I wish you well on your journey of self-discovery. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

Your good buddy,

Bart

.... every 'Spoon' (Steve), needs a "Pot" (Bart)

[Jeff Parker]

Dear Bart and Steve,

The only word which can adequately describe my emotional state would be “Ashamed”. Here I am referring to

# Star-Spangled Banter

yourself and Steve as “ass clowns”, only to find out that the two of you are knee deep in the noble pursuit Of righteousness. I simply had no idea that Steve was following Gandhi's footsteps, with one goal in mind....that being; making the world a better place.

How could I be so narrow minded? Your recent reference to me as ...Mean spirited, albeit painful was accurate. Furthermore, I am going to heed your advice, and do some real soul searching, for it is only through enhanced self awareness, that I can Truly understand others and their intentions. I want to thank you, for putting things in perspective for me, as well as your thoughtful well wishes.

Please accept my heartfelt apology. With the guidance of a couple of swell role models like yourself and Lumpy, I truly can change.

You are the wind beneath my wings.

**PS May I have a ride Thursday?**

Your Best Buddy,

Kevin O. Dill

Kevin,

John and Dave are riding with me and we have an extra seat if you need one. Ben and Ryan are coming down later. My companions have also expressed interest in spending 5 hours in the car with you. They believe there is much to be learned from a man who has made sand bagging an art form. I'm not kidding, it is an art and we believe to be the best you've got to learn from the best. When you are deep into your craft it is more like the "ballet" than golf and "throwing shots" is such an ugly word. We look forward to learning all the intricacies of pretending to be worse than you are, what an art form.

your humble servant

*Bo Blankenship*

Dear Bo,

Thank you for your kind and thoughtful invitation. I will be driving up with Bart, Steve and Joe in the morning. However, I will be happy to conduct a sand bagging seminar for you and your people on the range or in our rooms.

Just let me know a convenient time for you.

Your Friend,

Kevin O. Dill

**“2010 Summit Wrap-up”**

**March 18, 2010**

Bart,

Another fine job organizing this great event! I was glad to be able to re-join the group and even happier to ride Bradberry's and Hale's coat-tails to the individual team championship.

I will answer the questions below....but thought I would give my 2 cents worth on the "rules controversy" from the weekend. The Summit has obviously become a highly sought after crown and the ever-increasing calcutta pot

# Star-Spangled Banter

ads to the intensity. The Rules of Golf are very cut and dried...and I don't see how you could "waive" some without looking like you are playing favorites. Yes...maybe Ryan's ball was hit right down the middle....but if he can't find it to hit it again...you can't allow him to drop one without penalty. If you allow the Rules to be bent once, the integrity of the entire event will be in doubt. They are designed to protect the entire field in an event. Furthermore, it will almost certainly lead to hostility and accusations...and the good Lord knows we don't need any more of that.

Along with the skill necessary to play the game, there is also some luck involved...some of which is bad luck and some good luck. That is all part of the game and if you try to accommodate for the "bad breaks" you'll have more trouble than you care for.

Lift, clean and place....fine. A "leaf" rule for a lost ball...no chance. If you go making special rules, the Summit could become just another golf trip!

[Dave Linden]





Steve works on his famous “chunk-n-run” in preparation for his second round match against Woody.

(Continued from page 15)

**FS:** To what do you attribute your success? Why have you won three when so many haven't come close to winning one?

**SH:** I don't think there's any secret that the key to my success is consistency, plain and simple. If you want to know the formula for victory, here it is. The person whose scoring average in Myrtle Beach is closest to their home scoring average will win every year. There have been 4 times that I have achieved this feat and I won 3 of those years. The other time I did it, I would've won had it not been for the 23 shots I gave Joey at Brookside that year.

**FS:** Were you intimidated by the Van Klan's recent dominance going into last year's Summit?

**SH:** Sure I was tired of hearing about the recent streak of wins by the Van Klan, and the beauty of last year's trip was that in order for me to win my third title, I HAD to go right through the middle of that Van. I had to beat them all. Well, I say “all”, but I actually only beat Kevin and Woody, but, realistically, they are the only Van Klanners that posed a threat. So yes, it felt special to take them down to earn my third victory!

**FS:** Is there any chance that you could become the first back-to-back Summit Champion?

**SH:** I hate to even think about the “back to back” jinx that has cursed previous winners, but I honestly think that THIS should be the best opportunity for it to happen. I have spent this off-season working hard to come back to Myrtle Beach in the best shape of my life. There

are 12 people entered in this tournament, but in my opinion only 3 have a chance of taking the trophy from me. So, if the brackets are aligned properly I shouldn't be challenged until the final, and then, we'll just have to see who has what it takes.

**FS:** Break down your game for us. In what situations do you feel most confident, when do you feel most anxious, and why?

**SH:** My game has been critiqued and criticized more this past year than at any time in my life. People have said that I don't have the short game that I used to, or I'm not as long as I once was. Someone even had the nerve to say that I was no longer the best putter on the trip! It's human nature to let these comments get under your skin a little, but anyone who knows me knows that this is the secret of my game. If my chipping is off then my iron game gets better, if my putting is off then my approach shots get closer. My game adapts to itself and can't be compared to that of others. And as for the question as to who is the best putter on the trip? Let me ask all 12 people, if you had a 5 ft. putt and your life was at stake, who on the trip would you want to putt it? Those that value their life would have me putt it, and there's no greater testament than that! Sorry Ryan.....

**FS:** Is your truncated backswing the secret to your ball striking consistency?

**SH:** A couple people have commented recently that I had an abbreviated backswing. To be honest, I had no idea! It feels to me like I'm taking it all the way back to parallel. I asked my swing coach, Jeff Sprinkel, about it and he said if you broke Ernie Els' swing down into 30 frames per second, our swings were identical for 22 of those frames. I'm just

missing the 8 in the middle. I can live with that! I guess when the time comes that I can no longer get it done with that swing, it too will adapt.

**FS:** Tell us a story about an incident when your legendary loquaciousness got you into or out of trouble.

**SH:** Contrary to what some may think, my talkative nature is much more a benefit than it is a detriment. I think I come across at first glance as an intimidating figure and over the years I've been forced to develop my communicative skills to match my physical presence. I have definitely used it to get me out more trouble than into it. I can't think of an instance where it got me



Ever the fashion pioneer, Steve is not afraid to experiment with odd color combinations and horizontal stripes.





Steve takes time out of his practice schedule to pose for a picture with one of the Mexican groundskeepers. . . Oh, wait a minute,. . .that's Joe. Never mind.

in trouble although there have been a few where it could've escalated into trouble had the other person not seen the eye of the dog and decided against it.

**FS:** What do you say to critics who say that your chipping is well below-average?

**SH:** It's funny to me, without naming names, that these critics you mention have "0" Summit Titles combined, so it's all relative. As I stated earlier I can't deny that my game is a constant piece of work and as one area falls behind, another picks it up, so I'm not too worried about it. A wise man told me once that he had had sex with

women all over the world, every shape, size and color and the worst he ever had was still pretty good. I relate this to my game, sometimes it's up sometimes it's down but it's always pretty damn good!

**FS:** How do you feel about the length of courses played at the Summit and do you feel it puts you at a disadvantage?

**SH:** Overall I think the length of the courses we've played has been as fair as possible. It's hard to predict where each club will place the tee markers on a given day, so a 6,500 yard course could actually play to 6,200 if the tees have been bumped up. I think you will agree that a longer course plays to my advantage, not because I'm longer than everyone else, but because I'm better with my mid to long irons than most. In recent years we've trended towards shorter tees, and I actually understand the thinking behind it. Take a course like Angels Trace. At somewhere around 5,900 yards, this course brings players like Joey, Jeff, and Ben into the mix. They pay their entry fee just like we do so they should have the chance every so often to play a course that gives them a legitimate shot at winning, with their stroke allotment. I just hope that moving forward, management will continue striving to keep us in the 6,700 to 7,000 yd. range. Based on my last 50 rounds, that is my sweet spot.

**FS:** What are your thoughts on being the only the second man in Summit history to win three SMC Titles?

**SH:** I think it's an honor to be one of only two people to have won three Titles. Looking at the level of competition that we play against year in and year out, it is quite remarkable. I think I can speak for Woody as well as myself in saying that if we played this event as a stroke play event we

would both finish in the middle of the pack; however, there is something special about matchplay that makes heroes out of some and zeros out of others. There are some great players on this trip that will never win a Title and to have won 3 is quite an accomplishment.

**FS:** Why has the Summit been dominated by so few?

**SH:** As I stated earlier, matchplay requires a different skill set than strokeplay. Strokeplay requires you to play the course, which is 1-dimensional. Everyone plays the same course, so all you have to do is learn the holes you can attack and the ones you have to be patient on. With matchplay, you are playing your opponent. The course should be irrelevant. All of a sudden you must take into account the opponent's psyche, their insecurities, weaknesses, and strengths. It's an entirely different game and should not be attempted by simpletons. For this very reason, as I stated earlier, there are some great players on this trip that will never win a Title.

**FS:** Tell us something about you that you feel is different from all your Summit competitors.

**SH:** I have been an overachiever my whole life, so I am constantly striving to exceed expectations. When it comes to golf, I can't think of anyone who gets more out of their swing than I do. Unlike any other Summiteer, my swing is probably the worst part of my game. Sure there are some uglier swings out there but their results mimic the swing. Take Dave Linden for example. A casual observer sees him hitting balls on the range and thinks, "That guy won't break 100" and he's right! That same guy sees me on the range and thinks, "that guy's probably gonna shoot between



In addition to ignoring repeated requests to turn down his pants, Kevin stubbornly refused to change, or at least wash, his grandfather's "lucky" socks.

85-95", and I throw an effortless 74 on him. That's what I like to call Pavlov's Reverse Theory of Observational Differentiability. Every year someone I play with for the first time says to me, "How did you shoot even par with that swing?" I used to consider these occurrences as insulting but I've grown to embrace them.

**FS:** Tell us about your path to the



Championship. Start with your Play-in Match against Kevin Dill. Didn't he take you down to the wire?

**SH:** I started out against Kevin Dill and I don't recall how many strokes I had to give him but from the beginning I knew he hadn't gotten enough. I gained strength as the match went on recollecting how in my last Summit match against him at Shaftsbury Glen I shot the Summit record low score of 72 and left him talking to himself in the parking lot. Something about Kevin brings out the best in me as I blistered the course this day. Ordinarily I would've made quick work of this match but the shots he received came at just the right time for him. Somehow I trailed him by one hole coming into 18. Kevin was riding with Woody so from the beginning I knew what was at stake. Headlines of "Hale falls to VanKlan once again!" if I lose. Worse than that, what would people say if I lost to someone who dresses like that! The costume he was wearing looked like he came right off the set of Glee. It all came down to the last hole. I hit my tee shot left of left and had no shot at the green while Kevin striped one down the middle. I had to go for broke since I needed par to have a chance so I hit a low punch fade through the trees and managed to get it up even with the green near the cart path. Kevin hit his approach right over the flag and ended up 50 ft behind the cup. I had a tight lie on hardpan and had been reminded already that day of how poorly

I'd been chipping. I bumped it up to 8 feet and made putt for par. All Kevin had to do was 2 putt for a victory. His first putt was a good one but he left it 6 ft short on the high side. Watching him line up that last putt was painful to watch as he let the importance of the putt snowball on him. He tried twice to pull the trigger before finally making a convulsive jab at the ball with his putter. He had made putts from everywhere all day but when the chips were down his nerves got the best of him. Someone said later that they had heard he suffered from performance anxiety. I just never associated that with the golf course. It was a closer match than it should've been and I was glad to be moving on!

**FS:** Your Second Round Match pitted you against your arch-rival, Woody. It seemed to begin with controversy. Tell us about that and how it played out.

**SH:** My next round was a rematch with my friend, Woody Deans. This was a much anticipated match as there had been a ton



Steve, Dave, Joe, and Woody prepare for battle in Round 2 at the River's Edge.



of ink used in writing headlines detailing our previous matches. There was tension in the air as we prepared to play our match. The previous day had produced a couple inches of rain, and the driving range at the course was closed, limiting our warm-up session. We proceeded to first tee and hit our opening shots. Woody's ball trickled into a bunker, and mine found the fairway. Right after hitting, the Tournament Director approached and said that he had decided to allow everyone to hit two off of



Ryan, in describing his disappointing loss to Steve in the semi-finals: "He's a load! But Ben says I woulda beat him if they'd of just let me play a mulligan on that one hole!"

the first tee to compensate for the lack of range time. This would've been fine had we not already hit our tee shots, but we had, so I objected to this ruling due to the fact that we had already played our shots with the mindset that we were following the rules of golf, which frowns upon mulligans. I was over-ruled by the Tournament Director, and Woody was given the option to play a second ball. Some of our competitors may have jumped at this opportunity to hit a freebie, but Woody, being the true gentleman that he is, declined this offer and chose to follow the rules on which we based our tournament some 12 years ago. He sacrificed his score on that first hole to maintain the credibility of the Summit and do what he knew in his heart to be the right thing. There weren't a lot of spoken words between us that day as the match ended prematurely on the 14<sup>th</sup> hole with a lopsided victory for the eventual champion. Only later did I find out that Woody had played those 14 holes with the anger of a serial killer pulsing in his veins. He had been duped by his own Van Klanners into thinking that some of the insensitive remarks made by me in a scripted video interview were actually fact-based. Looking back, it's amazing to me that Woody could play as well as he did with the amount of frustration and rage that he had to carry around that day. The match itself wasn't very memorable, but two things came out of it. First, I had finally quieted the masses who said that Woody was my kryptonite and that he owned me, and secondly, but more importantly, I gained a new respect for Woody Deans, the man.

**FS:** Round Three found you facing Rookie Ryan. This was a rare occasion where you were actually receiving one shot. More controversy in this Match. Tell us about that Match, the hype, and what you say to



**John finds out who his friends are as he emerges from the woods on 18 at the Thistle. (Ben and Ryan stumbled out only moments later with odd smiles on their faces.)**

those that think Ryan is the best golfer at the Summit.

**SH:** Round Three was the key matchup for all bookies in North America. It was a made for TV matchup including the seasoned multi-win veteran versus the highly acclaimed newcomer. Much was said about this match before we ever reached the Grand Strand. Ryan “The Crusher” Crush would overpower me off the tee and out putt me on the green. I heard it all, and on paper I had to agree with the hype! I saw Ryan hit a couple shots that no other amateur in the country could hit. I still shake my head when I think about the 220 yard uphill 4-iron he hit to 20 feet on a hole on the back nine that day. I have to admit that had I been a betting man on the

range I would’ve bet the house on Ryan to win. The match was even on the front, but controversy reared its head on the back. On the 11<sup>th</sup> tee, a slight dogleg right par 4, Ryan hit a massive drive over the corner just off the fairway. We looked and looked for his ball and never found it. This happened to be the one hole in the history of this event on which I received a shot. Yes, I, Steve Hale, did receive a shot from Ryan Crush. Ryan, without hesitation, went back to the tee and hit a second ball, causing him to lose the hole. (side note: upon reaching the tee, Ryan was approached by Woody, who had a temporary lapse in judgment as he remarked to Ryan that he couldn’t believe that I didn’t allow him to just drop a ball in the area where we thought it should be without penalty) I took this 1-up lead all the way to the 17<sup>th</sup> hole where I won the match 2 and 1. That lost ball proved to be the difference in the match as Ryan birdied number 18, which, had he been 1-down at that point, would have won him the match in a tiebreaker. Let me say that I learned a lot about Ryan’s game that day, but the biggest takeaway for me was what I learned about his character. He is gracious, gentlemanly and respectful of the game, and I didn’t know that about him before that match. Oh, and of the last 4 rookies to come on this trip, he is the only one who has a chance in hell of winning it! That being said, I know how to beat Ryan in matchplay, and more importantly, Ryan knows that I know how to beat him in matchplay. I figured it out on the 17<sup>th</sup> hole of our match, and I promised to keep it to myself so don’t ask.

**FS:** And finally, your Finals Match against good-natured John. What happened there?

**SH:** The Finals match was against my friend, John. I wasn’t sure just how our match



would go as we stood on the first tee, until a very spiritual occurrence took place. We were the last group to tee off, and the group in front of us included my friend Woody. After Woody hit his tee shot he walked over to our group and hugged John and said, “Good luck today, John, I hope you play well!” Woody then turned and walked by me and as he passed he said,

off in his cart. This changed my whole mindset and I should probably have thanked Woody for the added motivation, but I didn’t.

Our match was even most of the day except for the 5 putts John made over 40 feet. Every time I thought I was in the driver’s seat, John made a twisting 45-footer to win the



Steve lines up the putt that will secure his third SMC Title, making him only the second player in the history of the Event, behind Woody Deans, to accomplish the feat.

“Steve you look nice today!” Now this flabbergasted me for two reasons. One, Woody never says good luck to anyone not on his team, and two, he had never snubbed me like that before! I immediately called out to Woody and said, “Woody, I can’t believe you just hugged John and wished him luck and then told me I looked nice!” To which Woody replied “Well Steve, you do look nice today.” as he drove

whole. When we got to the 15<sup>th</sup> tee, John was 2 up with 4 to play. I said to John, “Damn, I’ve played well John, and you’re 2 up with 4 to play!” What I think John must’ve heard was “Damn John, if you hit another shot on the clubface I’m gonna kick your ass!” because the next 5 shots he took were hosel-rockets into the nearest hazard. Two holes later we are tied with 2 to play. 17 was the key hole because John

had a 3 foot putt to go 1-up with 1 to play and it was a long par 5 that favored the long hitting youngster. Well, the rest was painfully witnessed by all as he pull hooked the 3-footer and had to make a 4-foot comebacker. The 18<sup>th</sup> hole can only be described as anticlimactic. I hit first knowing that I needed to bust one so that I could reach the par 5 in two shots, as I anticipated the long hitting Bradberry would surely hit it past me. Somehow I

managed to split the fairway with my go-to 265 yard butter fade. John stepped up to the tee after a consultation and full update of all parlays and betting lines placed by Ryan, Ben and Bo. Not sure if the insider info shook him up or what, but he proceeded to hit a slight draw 20 yards deep in the woods about 50 yards off the tee box. Ryan and Ben donned machetes and mosquito nets as they scurried into the woods to find the ball, while Bo sat in his cart jotting down some numbers. It's at this point that I realize which way the house was betting. The match ended abruptly after John chipped out and then hooked his third shot back into the woods, giving me my third Summit victory.

**FS:** Why do people have such a hard time viewing you as an athlete?

**SH:** I won't dignify that with an answer, Mr. Edmunds, as I feel you are now trying to be mean spirited.



Steve strokes the final putt of his Championship victory over John.

**FS:** Much has been made of your relationship with Greg and your bitterness toward the Summit committee for not 'making a spot for him'. Explain this to us in your own words.

**SH:** I'm not alone in thinking that Greg was an integral part of the Summit while he was on the trip. He contributed in many ways and I don't know of anyone who valued this trip more than he did and still does. Some members of the Summit, who make the drive from the Charlotte area, have readily admitted that they look forward to this trip each year just to get away from their families for a few days. Greg considered it an honor to be a part of this tournament and he strived to make it better for us all. His contributions in the statistical data arena were pioneering and are still used today. I think that the current roster is absolutely awesome and I wouldn't remove a single player on this trip but I think it is unfortunate that we



can't find a way to get him back in. I think it's fair to say I miss him.

**FS:** As beautiful as your relationship with Greg appears to be, your relationship with Woody has been equally strained. What is your perspective on that and where do things stand now?

**SH:** Woody and I, as far as I know, have never had a strained relationship. We have always been friends, though not as good a friends as he and Bo, Ryan, Kevin and now John. This past year was difficult for both of us at the Summit and I regret that there was ever any indication of hostility or disdain. I think the world of Woody Deans and could not sleep at night if I thought that we were anything less than good friends. We talked immediately after the Summit and I really feel like we are closer now than ever before. I feel that way and I hope he does too. Believe it or not I even consulted with him on this year's Tournament gift. So I definitely think we are in a good place currently. But make no

mistake; I will step on his throat if we play each other again this year.

**FS:** Do you consider yourself a good 'pressure player'?

**SH:** I feel like that is when I perform at my very best, not just in golf, but in every aspect of my life. Bart, you have been witness to some very pressure filled moments with me in our pool league. It seems every year that I've won the Summit, I have had at least one match where I have been pushed into extreme pressure situations (ie: Greg Stephens, 5-up with 5 to play; Tim Cone 3-up with 3 to play; Kevin Dill 1-up with 1 to play; playing Joey in the finals one year giving him 23 shots in an 18 hole match and closing him out in 15). All of these are matches I won on the way to a Championship! My record speaks for itself.

**FS:** What impact do you feel your recent weight loss will have on your golf game?

**SH:** My recent weight loss was not so much about the weight, but about my quest to become a healthier version of me. I recognized that in order to continue competing at my current level as I approach the age of 50, I'm going to have to get into a healthier state of mind. I'm equally impressed with Ben's commitment to improving his quality of life. Even more impressive is the fact that throughout our competition he has had a newborn at home and a wife that needs and deserves his attention. I applaud him for the huge body modification he has made. At the time of this submission, we still have 3 weeks left in our competition, and Ben has far surpassed any weight loss goal that I had hoped to achieve. Upon our arrival in Myrtle Beach he will have a much deserved dinner at Rioz Brazilian Steakhouse for a job well done.



Woody captivates onlookers with the most heartfelt, and memorable, of all Summit Trophy presentations.



Steve proudly displays the Trophy representing his third SMC Title.

**FS:** With regard to your weight loss competition with Ben, were you ever concerned about the health risks or, more importantly, losing?

**[Editor's Note:** Steve, inexplicably, chose not to answer this question, but simply muttered the Portuguese phrase, "Eu nao posso ouvir a moca gorda."]

**FS:** I'll mention a player, and you give me two adjectives to describe him—one strength and one weakness:

**SH:**

Joe: Strength – big on overpromising  
Weakness- famous for under-delivering

- Bo: Strength – Mental toughness  
Weakness- his body is crumbling due to athletic trauma over the years
- John: Strength- overall golfing ability  
Weakness- analysis paralysis
- Kevin: Strength-ability to stay focused for 18 holes  
Weakness-inability to hit consistent shots for 18 holes
- Bart: Strength- knows his limitations and plays within them  
Weakness- doesn't practice enough to play at the level he's used to
- Ben: Strength- Has solid mental toughness for an entire 18 holes  
Weakness-The Summit is played for 72 holes
- Woody:Strength- Has a sneaky good short game  
Weakness- He is giving up to many yards off the tee
- Jeff: Strength- He makes sure that everyone in his group has a good time  
Weakness- Doesn't have killer instinct on the course
- Ken: Strength- Has the core strength of an 18 year old  
Weakness – Has the swing of an 88 year old
- Dave: Strength – Has the ability to throw a birdie in 3 or 4 times a round

Weakness- The other 14 or 15 holes are usually double bogey or worse

Ryan: Strength- Superb technique and length with all clubs

Weakness – Has a major flaw in matchplay psyche

**FS:** What are your strengths and weaknesses?

**SH:** My strength is definitely my consistency and mental toughness, and my weakness is obviously my short game from 40 yards in. I will work to improve it.

**FS:** Describe your thoughts as you prepare to defend your Title and attempt to win an unprecedented fourth SMC.

**SH:** I'm excited about my chances to defend the Title. I will definitely be in the best shape I've ever been in coming into the event, and I can't wait to see if it translates into improved results on the course

**FS:** Describe your training regime.

**SH:** Since December 7<sup>th</sup>, I have averaged 75 miles a week on a stationary bike and limited my caloric intake. 3 days a week I have lifted weights to improve my core strength and stability.

**FS:** You aside, who will win the '11 Summit and why?

**SH:** I think if you take me out of the picture, then Ryan has to be a favorite

because of his consistency and ball striking ability

**FS:** What 'recipe for success' would you offer some of the younger participants trying to break into the winner's circle?

**SH:** For the younger players I would advise them to change their overall approach to this Event if you want to win. It requires a totally different mindset that can't be purchased at Martin's Golf Superstore or learned on the range. You have to sit down with someone who's been there, and let them pass the knowledge on to you. As long as you think you know it all, you'll never win it,

**FS:** Last question. Once and for all, would you rather climb a tree and tell a lie, or stay on the ground and tell the truth?

**SH:** Once again, a question not worth answering [Nuff said!]



Woody and Steve share the glow of victory, and a bond, to which only Champions can relate.

# Summit Scorecard

PLAYER	ROUND 1			ROUND 2			ROUND 3			ROUND 4			points	
	HCP	GROSS	NET	HCP	GROSS	NET	HCP	GROSS	NET	HCP	GROSS	NET		STATUS
ASSAID	12													
BLANKENSHIP	2													
BRADBERRY	2													
CRUSH	0													
DEANS	9													
DILL	4													
EDMUNDS	4													
FRY	5													
HALE	0													
LINDEN	17													
PARKER	24													
ROGICH	17													



# Summit Matchplay Championship

## Seedings

1. Hale \_\_\_\_\_
2. Crush \_\_\_\_\_
3. Linden \_\_\_\_\_
4. Bradberry \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_

**DDDDD Teams are in Red.**

	ROUND 2	ROUND 3	ROUND 4	ROUND 3	ROUND 2
1	Hale	L(C) VI		9 IV	Crush
2	A	W(A) I (DDDDD: 12)	(9 or 12) W(a)	W(B) II (DDDDD: 11)	B
3			a		
4	Bradberry		W(b)		Linden
5	D	(DDDDD: 9) W(D) IV	(10 or 11)	(DDDDD: 10) W(C) III	C
6		L(B) V	L(b) (10 or 11)	12 I	
7					
8					
9	10 III		L(C) L(D)		10
10				11 II	12
11	L(A) V	L(a) (9 or 12)	L(a) (9 or 12)	L(D) VI	
12			L(A) L(B)		

NOTE: Green tees-off first; Yellow second; Blue last  
Two-man teams in rounds 3&4 grouped by shading