

Schnell Back On Top At Hillcrest

Spirit Lake, Iowa, Native Wins His Second Pro-Am Championship

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Five strokes.
In the world of golf, that amount of shots is not exactly the biggest deficit in the world, but it can put pressure on both the leader and those chasing the leader.
So says Brady Schnell.
Five years after winning the event, Schnell rallied to win the professional title and a \$21,000 check at the 40th annual Hillcrest Invitational Pro-Am, which concluded Sunday at Yankton's Hillcrest Golf & Country Club.
"The final group, from my experience, feels a little more of the heat," Schnell said. "It's a little easier to come from behind."

A native of Spirit Lake, Iowa and current resident of Scottsdale, Ariz., Schnell trailed defending champion Neil Johnson by five shots heading into Sunday's final round.
Playing in the second-to-last group, Schnell shot a 64 on Sunday to finish first at 268, while Johnson carded a 71 to finish two back, at 270. Tim Ailes, who trailed by one stroke entering Sunday, shot a 73 to finish five off the lead.
Jordan Krantz tied with Johnson for second place, while Paul Peterson finished at 271.

Schnell, the 2008 Hillcrest professional champion, did exactly what he set out to do over the final 18 holes.
"I hit my mark that I set for myself," he said of his 64. "I knew that's what I would probably need. I knew those other guys would do something."
Johnson, who lives in River Falls, Wis., knows all about what it takes to win on the final day.
He came back from a 9-shot deficit last year to beat Andre Metzger in a playoff.

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ABOVE: Brady Schnell tees off on the No. 16 hole Sunday during the Hillcrest Invitational Pro-Am at Yankton's Hillcrest Golf & Country Club. Schnell won the professional title by two shots. (Jeremy Hoeck/P&D)

LEFT: Yankton's Jace Guthmiller watches his tee shot on No. 18 during the final round of the Hillcrest Invitational Pro-Am on Sunday at Hillcrest Golf and Country Club. Guthmiller, who will be a junior at Yankton High School, finished second. (James D. Cimburek/P&D)

Elwood Defends Amateur Title

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Ryan Elwood showed that he's not ready to hand the reins of the Hillcrest Invitational Pro-Am off to the next generation of Yankton golfers yet, rallying from a four-stroke deficit to defend his amateur title in the 40th annual event, which concluded on Sunday.
Elwood, a Yankton graduate and resident, became the first amateur to defend his title since Curt Tate won four straight from 2000-03 by shooting a final round 75 to finish at 291. Jace Guthmiller, an incoming junior at Yankton High School and the leader after three rounds, finished second, carding an 80 on Sunday to finish at 292. Dillon Cooney placed third for a second straight year, posting a four-day score of 299.

Scott Hiltunen shot the best amateur round on Sunday, carding a 74.
With pouring rain to start the day — for the third day in a row — Elwood focused more on trying to keep his game together than catching Guthmiller.
"I was trying to manage my own game," he said.
Meanwhile Guthmiller got off to a rough start, with double-bogeys on his first two holes.

"I told myself after the second hole that I was going to let it go and keep going," he said. "On the back nine, it was back and forth."
Elwood gained a stroke edge on No. 17, then survived a bogey on No. 18.
"That was a tough one," he said. "I was indecisive off the tee, hit one over the green, then got a great shot."
For Guthmiller, it was a second runner-up finish in a big tournament this week. He spent Monday and Tuesday in Watertown, where he finished second in the South

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Kahne Holds Off Gordon To Win At Pocono Raceway

LONG POND, Pa. (AP) — Kasey Kahne got the jump on Jeff Gordon off the final restart with two laps left and pulled away to win at Pocono Raceway.
Kahne had the car to beat for the final half of Sunday's 400-mile race until a late caution bunched up the field. Gordon, his Hendrick Motorsports teammate, took the lead and seemed poised to win his first race of the season. After the final caution, Kahne was strong enough this time off the restart in the No. 5 Chevrolet.
Kahne also won at Bristol this season. His win helped solidify his spot in the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship.
Gordon finished second on his 42nd birthday. Kurt Busch, Ryan Newman and Dale Earnhardt Jr. rounded out the top five.
The top five cars were Chevrolets.
Kahne, Gordon and Earnhardt made it a strong day for Hendrick. Teammate and series points leader Jimmie Johnson was

13th after a blown tire knocked him out of the lead.
Kahne had stretched his lead to almost 8 seconds when a caution for debris came out with 12 laps left. Gordon, still winless this season, was strong in the No. 24 and zipped to the lead as he looked to extend his record for career wins at Pocono.
Matt Kenseth spun with four laps left to erase Gordon's lead and set up the thrilling finish. Gordon led again until Kahne ran him down and blasted by his teammate for the win.
So close to the checkered, this loss stung Gordon.
"We had them. We certainly had the position," he said. "I'm pretty disappointed I let him get inside of me on (turn) one."
Kahne also won at Pocono in 2008. He entered ninth in the points standings and need a win to make sure he'd at least qualify for a wild-card spot should he fall below 10th place. Kahne was third last

week at Indianapolis Motor Speedway and seems to be heating up with five races left until the Chase field is set.
Kahne's 16th career win should make him a Chase lock.
Gordon, who has six Pocono wins, finished second last week and has three straight top 10s to also position himself for a spot in the 12-driver field. He had won at Pocono each of the last two seasons. When Gordon leads late at Pocono, he usually wins. Just not this time.
"I've given away a lot more races than I've won," he said.
Johnson, who set a track record in qualifying, again had the dominant car for half the race until he blew a front tire. A week after a slow, final pit stop cost him a win at Indianapolis, Johnson was done in this time by a tire issue that ended his chance to win. Johnson did stretch his points lead to 77 over Clint Bowyer.

Hall Of Fame DT Art Donovan Dead At 89

BALTIMORE (AP) — Art Donovan, the lineman whose hilarious stories about his football career enabled him to maintain his popularity long after his election into the Pro Football Hall of Fame, died Sunday night. He was 89.
Donovan died at 7:20 p.m. at Stella Maris Hospice in Baltimore, according to Kevin Byrne, senior vice president of public and community relations for the Baltimore Ravens.
Donovan made a name for himself as a feisty defensive tackle for the Baltimore Colts, helping the team to world championships in 1958 and 1959. He also spent single seasons with the New York Yanks and Dallas Texans in a career that lasted from 1950 through 1961.
"We lost a friend, one of the finest men and one of the greatest characters we were fortunate to meet in this community and in this business," Ravens owner Steve Bisciotti said. "Baltimore is now without one of its best and someone who was a foundation for the tremendous popularity of football in our area. The world is not as bright tonight because we lost someone who could make us all smile."
Voted into the Hall of Fame in

1968, Donovan was an outstanding lineman and an even better storyteller. Long after his career was over, Donovan made a living on the talk-show circuit, weaving yarns about the NFL's good old days — as he put it, "When men were, well, men."
Donovan was much like Bob Uecker, who also became popular on late-night talk shows through his stories about sports. But Uecker's game was baseball, and his schtick dealt with his limited abilities. Donovan performed on the football field as well as anyone at his position, even though he once said the only weight he ever lifted was a beer can.
"Some of the greatest football ever played by a defensive tackle was played by Art Donovan," said Hall of Fame center Jim Ringo, who died in 2007. "He was one of the greatest people I played against all my life."
Donovan played in the 1958 championship game between the Colts and New York Giants, a contest that was decided in overtime and ultimately tabbed by some football historians as "The Greatest Game Ever Played." The winner's share was \$4,700; the most Donovan ever earned in one season was \$22,000.

But Donovan got a million dollars' worth of memories and more than enough material for storytelling. Once, he filled a hotel shower stall with water and went for a dip. Things went swimmingly until the shower door burst open, flooding his room and the one below it.
Donovan had a thousand more stories like that, many of which were chronicled in his autobiography, appropriately titled, "Fats." Donovan liked to say he was a light eater — "When it got light, I started eating."
He was hardly particular about what he ate (or drank), which could explain why he spent much of his life hovering around 300 pounds, although the playing weight of the 6-foot-3 Donovan was listed at 265.
"I've never been a gourmet eater," he wrote. "Kosher hot dogs, cheeseburgers, pizza, baloney, and a couple of cases of Schlitz are all I'd need on a desert isle."
Donovan's father was Arthur J. Donovan Sr., arguably the most famous fight referee of all time. The elder Donovan was the third man in the ring at 19 of Joe Louis' title fights and some 150 championship bouts in all.

Baseball: Crofton Blanks Tabor For District 6B Title



Crofton's Seth Erdmann fires the ball home during the District 6B Amateur Baseball Tournament on Saturday in Scotland. Erdmann pitched six shutout innings as Crofton beat Tabor 4-0.

Irene Earns Final State Berth; Class B Pairings Announced

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SCOTLAND — Crofton's Seth Erdmann has a history of strong post-season outings, but was coming off an injury-hampered season. Saturday, he showed he still had plenty to offer the Bluejays.
Erdmann struck out six over six innings, allowing just one hit and retiring the final 11 batters he faced in a 4-0 Crofton victory over Tabor in the championship of the District 6B Amateur Baseball Tournament in Scotland. Both teams had previously secured berths in the S.D. State Class B Amateur Baseball Tournament, which begins Wednesday at Sioux Falls Stadium.
"Seth is coming off a knee

injury, but we didn't want to push him too hard," said Carl Schieffer, Crofton's manager and starting catcher. "He had pitched in some prior games and a lot of bullpens to regain his strength, and it's paid off."
Scot Donner doubled and singled, and Nick Hegge doubled for Crofton. Rand Thygeson had a double and a RBI. Joe Wiebelhaus had the other Crofton hit.
Rob Keppen and Jason Humpal had the only Tabor hits.
Erdmann picked up the win, with Trevor Arens pitching the final three innings for the save. Tabor player-manager Jon Vavruska pitched seven innings, allowing four runs, one earned, in taking the loss.

Erdmann got off to a shaky start in the first, hitting Tabor leadoff batter Nathan Kloucek and allowing Doug Vanecek before walking a two-out single to Humpal to load the bases. But Schieffer picked Vanecek off of second base to end the threat.
Crofton took advantage. After Hegge's two-out double, the Bluejays took advantage of two errors and a passed ball third strike to plate two runs.
From there, neither team threatened again until the bottom of the sixth, when a pair of errors allowed Crofton to score again to stretch the advantage to 3-0.
Tabor nearly got to Arens early in the seventh. A leadoff single by Keppen and walks to Wes Kloucek and Lance Ranek loaded the bases, but Arens induced a flyout to end the inning.

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