



THE GOLF CHANNEL

A Trip to Tiger's Place

October 27, 2004

• By Steve Burkowski
College Central

One of the great parts of being a college golfer is getting to play some of the great golf courses across the country. Well, this past week, here in the Orlando area, the University of Central Florida and Wake Forest co-hosted the first Isleworth Collegiate Invitational.

With 16 of the nation's best teams in attendance, I feel as though this newbie to the college scene may very well become an event to which every team will try to get invited.

There aren't many places where some of those in attendance as spectators included Tiger Woods, Mark O'Meara, and John Cook, just to name a few. The elite Isleworth club is home to Woods and many PGA Tour players, but think about it from the perspective of a 20 year old collegiate golfer. Vanderbilt sophomore Luke List came running out of the clubhouse on Sunday, telling



anyone who would listen that he just saw Woods and O'Meara in the grill room. I have a feeling this story will be told by List and dozens of others for years to come.

The newly renovated course proved to be a challenging layout for the best players in the land, as just seven were able to break par over the 54-hole event. The Georgia Bulldogs took home the team honors, while Chris Kirk from Georgia and Pablo Martin from Oklahoma State tied for the top spot individually.

It seems these days that many tournaments are popping up on the schedule. This could pose a problem as NCAA rules restrict play to 24 days of competition not including post season events and the match play championships later this fall. While teams have to be choosy when selecting places to compete, my feelings are the folks from UCF and Wake might be onto something with their new addition to college golf.

Only time will tell just how successful this event can be, but if the feedback from most players and coaches are any indication, the trip to Tiger's place might soon become as big as Isleworth's most famous resident.

