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UPSIDE DOWN

THE PHILIPPINE GOLF TOUR ANNUAL REVIEW

MAKE WAY FOR REGION'S NEWEST PRO TOUR, PGT ASIA

PAU DEL ROSARIO, CLYDE MONDILLA MOVING FOUR-WARD WITH MULTIPLE VICTORIES

RECORD 11-LEG LPGT HIGHLIGHTS 2017 SEASON



TABUENA



MENOR



LASCUNA



MONDILLA



QUIBAN

WINNERS ALL OF INAUGURAL PGT ASIA



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Pauline Del Rosario

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AboitizPower's Read to Succeed Program in MakBan, Batangas

Our commitment to driving progress has defined us for over 100 years.

It is how we have grown businesses and industries, lives and livelihoods. And as we forge ahead, it will continue to be our singular thread, our north star.

Because for us at Aboitiz, advancing business and communities is one and the same. Creating value, led by values. Delivering profits, guided by purpose. Our approach is anchored in our belief that the growth of people—and their interests—is fundamental to the development of our society, our country, and the world.

It's why we are focused on creating the foundation people need to grow, from nation-building infrastructure to smart banking, from supporting entrepreneurs to providing expert solutions.

And at the heart of all we do will always be our deep sense of responsibility—relentlessly seeking ways to integrate economic growth with societal good to create meaningful progress that drives change for a better world.

GIVING OUR YOUTH A HEAD START



EDUCATION



SPORTS



COMMUNITY WELFARE

The ICTSI Foundation's core advocacy is youth development, with focus on the fundamental pillars of Education, Sports and Community Welfare.

How early young people begin to learn, what they read, how they play, what life is like for them and their families in their communities and environs—the Foundation takes a closer look at these and provides support mechanisms and programs to coax and nurture the youth's potential.

The ICTSI Foundation is doing what it can to help mold the youth into responsible, empowered, effective citizens.

After all, they are the future—our future.



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The Philippine Golf Tour Annual Review is the official publication of Pilipinas Golf Tournaments Inc.

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PGTI MANAGEMENT



Narlene A. Soriano
Executive Director

Ms. Soriano has been the Head of ICTSI Public Relations since 1990 and the concurrent Executive Director of the ICTSI Foundation, Inc. since 2010. She is also Director of Corporate Communications for Bloomberry Resorts Corp., operator of Solaire Resort and Casino. Ms. Soriano manages the ICTSI Golf Program, a sports advocacy program supporting the development of select top amateur and professional golfers in the country. She has been organizing golf tournaments for the Razon Group: the Annual ICTSI Invitational, which started in 1991; The Country Club (TCC) Invitational - Don Pocholo Razon Memorial Cup, which was launched in 2003; and the ICTSI-sponsored golf event of the 23rd Southeast Asian Games in 2005 at the TCC in Santa Rosa, Laguna. A mass communications graduate of the De La Salle University Manila, she is a member of the Public Relations Society of the Philippines, Asia-Pacific Association of Communication Directors and the Public Relations Society of America.



Maria Socorro S. Ventosa
General Manager

Ms. Ventosa has over 20 years experience in advertising and marketing both in the Philippines and the United States. She has held management positions in the Philippine operations of automaker Ford Motor Co. and sports apparel company Nike. Ms. Ventosa started her career in J. Walter Thompson in the ad agency's offices in Manila and San Francisco, California handling key accounts: Chevron, Sprint, Mexicana Airlines, Philippine Airlines, Nike, Ford, Kodak and Unilever. Concurrently, Ms. Ventosa is the General Manager of The Country Club in Santa Rosa, Laguna.



Enrique K. Razon, Jr.
Chairman and President

Sports management and promotions through Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc. is the latest addition to Mr. Razon's growing business portfolio, which includes port operations, property development, integrated resorts and tourism among others. He is Chairman and President of global port operator International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI), the country's leading corporate benefactor of golf, The Country Club in Santa Rosa, Laguna, and Solaire Resort and Casino in Entertainment City Manila.

ICTSI Golf Program

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THE GOLF PROGRAM



In 2005, the Philippine Government called on the private sector to support the hosting of the Philippine Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games). Global port operator International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI) responded to the call by supporting the Philippine Golf Team's campaign in the SEA Games and by hosting and co-organizing the Games' golf event at The Country Club (TCC) in Sta. Rosa, Laguna. This sponsorship gave birth to the ICTSI Golf Program with the ICTSI Public Relations Office as program manager.

At that time, ICTSI was on its 13th year of organizing the ICTSI Invitational, attended by over 100 business executives doing business with ICTSI. On one hand, the ICTSI Public Relations Office was on its third year of organizing The Country Club Invitational – Don Pocholo Razon Memorial Cup, the Philippines' largest professional golf tournament established in honor of the late Enrique "Don Pocholo" Razon Sr., ICTSI Founding Chairman. The TCC Invitational is one vehicle where Enrique K. Razon Jr., ICTSI Chairman and President, supports golf development in the country. Mr. Razon is also the Chairman of the TCC.

The Philippines won the gold and silver medals in the team categories of the men's and ladies events, respectively; and gold and silver medals in the individual men's and ladies categories.

Likewise, ICTSI successfully hosted and co-organized the golf event at the TCC. Since the 2005 SEA Games, ICTSI has been leading the private sector in the development and promotion of golf in the Philippines. The Company has become the country's largest corporate benefactor of the sport.

The ICTSI Golf Program approaches golf development in the Philippines holistically. It primarily focuses on golfer development by providing athletes their training requirements, assistance in competing in local and international tournaments, and by helping sustain a vibrant golfing community in the country. The Program also fosters value formation, instilling honesty, sportsmanship, respect and integrity among its beneficiaries.

The Golf Program selects promising Filipino golfers. It has a golfer management system, which provides personal and athletic development, and long-term career pathing. To achieve these, the Program has two (2) subprograms that journey with a golfer's growth:

AMATEUR

Through a golfer management system for female amateurs, ICTSI supports select amateur golfers in their training needs, including coaching, physical fitness and provision of equipment and uniforms; home schooling/academic scholarship; and participation in local and international tournaments. The Program follows a strict merit and evaluation system in retaining its beneficiaries. It also assists amateur players in their transition to professional players.

PROFESSIONAL

Through its sponsorship of the men's and ladies' circuits of the Philippine Golf Tour (PGT), the country's national pro golf league, ICTSI supports the country's professional golfers by providing them with a tournament circuit that showcases their talent, hones their skills, and allows them to earn from the sport. Through a golfer management system for pros, ICTSI assists select players at the top of the Order of Merit of both the men's and ladies circuits in their regional and international campaigns.



In 2015, ICTSI further enhanced the Golf Program, specifically its subprogram for amateurs, by involving its corporate social responsibility unit, the ICTSI Foundation, Inc. Through the Foundation, the Program hopes to include qualified and interested youth from the marginalized sector. These may cover introducing the sport in public schools or include into the Program, indigent youth working informally as ball pickers, caddies and grass cutters, and children of low-income golfers and caddies.

On one hand, the Golf Program is seen to enhance the Foundation's sports program – the third pillar of the Foundation's core advocacy, the youth. Aside from sports, the other two pillars are education and community welfare. The Foundation's programs are designed to provide support mechanisms that would help young beneficiaries develop their full potential.



Vision

A brighter future for the Filipino golfer: locally, globally.

Mission

To advance the growth of professional golf in the Philippines and to help promote the country's top golf courses as venues for international tournaments.

PGTI fulfills its vision-mission through a golf program with the Philippine Golf Tour (PGT) as its flagship tournament circuit.

Goals

Organization of the Philippine Golf Tour

To provide professionally organized, regular tournaments for Filipino professional golfers in the country's leading golf courses.

Development of world-class Filipino golfers

To select and support upcoming and talented Filipino professional golf athletes in their local and international campaigns.

To support Filipino amateur golfers through the opportunity of participating in the professional tournaments of the PGT.

Promotion of Philippine Golf worldwide

To help promote Philippine golf courses in particular, and the Philippines in general as a major golfing destination.



PILIPINAS GOLF TOURNAMENTS, INC.

Established in 2009 to advance professional golf in the Philippines, Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc. (PGTI) continues to provide Filipino golfers not only the venue to hone their talent and skills but also to keep them at par with the region's leading shotmakers with an eye at breaking into the world golfing stage in the near future.

Since the PGTI took over the country's pro golf, there had been encouraging results and positive effects that the Philippine Golf Tour (PGT) – and the Ladies PGT, and the recently-launched regional tour, PGT Asia, – has had on national golf.

With ICTSI as chief backer, PGTI hopes to cash in on the gains it had in terms of boosting Philippine golf and providing Filipino pros a circuit that allows them to be substantially rewarded for their hard work and determination, and at the same time earn that chance to get better and better for overseas campaigns.



PHILIPPINE GOLF TOUR

As the flagship circuit of the Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc., the Philippine Golf Tour holds at least 15 tournaments annually at various championship courses in the country, luring not only the rising stars and living legends of Philippine golf but also a slew of foreign players honing up their respective games for future cracks at the world ranking.

The birth of the region's newest circuit – the PGT Asia – also means more and more opportunities for these rising and seasoned campaigners – locals and foreigners alike – which only guarantees exciting and thrilling battles for golf supremacy and Order of Merit honors.

In 2013, PGTI also launched the PGT's counterpart, the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour, which continues its steady rise to recognition with more foreign players joining, while linking up with the region's leading circuits – the Taiwan LPGA and China LPGA Tours.



LADIES PHILIPPINE GOLF TOUR

The future indeed looks bright for the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour. From six tournaments in 2013, it became a 10-leg circuit in 2016 with another event added to the 2017 calendar, including two that also served as part of the Taiwan LPGA and one held as a leg of the China LPGA.

With more tournaments added in the LPGT calendar, the country's lady golfers – and their foreign counterparts – will have a busy season, all with an eye on golfing supremacy.

A slew of talented players from the amateur ranks are also gearing up to join the big league, ensuring a continued flow of talents into the country's first-ever ladies circuit.



PGT ASIA

Going global. Riding on the success of the men's and ladies local tours, Pilipinas Golf Tournaments Inc. launched Asia's newest pro golf circuit – the PGT Asia – in August 2017 to provide a new, rewarding venue for foreign campaigners to compete in Asia. PGT Asia is a new venue for global shotmakers to hone their games in preparation for other professional tournaments around the world.

The men and women behind the rise of Philippine golf as a golfing haven this side of the world have seen the need to further grow the sport here, and the positive feedback from foreign players, particularly on the Filipinos' acumen in organizing and hosting big-time golf tournaments pave the way for the establishment of the PGTA.

The first five legs of the inaugural season offered a US\$100,000 prize fund each. In 2018, a total of US\$1.7 million will be staked and in 2019 US\$2 million with plans to increase the purse in the future aimed at luring more and more foreign players.

The PGTA, besides serving as a welcome boost to the country's golf tourism program, is geared towards offering golfers from the Philippines, Asia and other parts of the world another platform on which to play, and at the same time complement each country's national golf tour and the existing regional circuits.

Plans are underway to hold future legs in other parts of Asia, making the PGTA a key circuit to compete in.



DOTTIE ARDINA



CLYDE MONDILLA



JUSTIN QUIBAN



RENE MENOR



MIGUEL TABUENA



PHILIPPINE GOLF

GETTING THERE

TONY LASCUÑA



YUKA SASO



LONG DIVORCED FROM ITS GOLDEN YEARS, THE SPORT CONTINUES ITS ASCENT WITH ICTSI PUTTING UP A NUMBER OF TOURNAMENTS IN 2018, INCLUDING THE RESUMPTION OF THE PGT ASIA, THE PGT AND THE LADIES PGT.

Golf is slowly – but surely – getting there.

Tournaments are starting to be a regular fare in sports pages and champions, old and new, are getting their share of the spotlight, alongside other athletic heroes. The steady stream of tournaments armed with lucrative prizes means there is a lot of hope that being a pro golfer can be a legitimate career path anew in the Philippines.

Such a development has spawned some sort of groundbreaking opportunities for the country's pros. Consider: Five legs during the PGT Asia inaugurals produced five different Filipino champions like household names Miguel Tabuena (Aboitiz Invitational) and Tony Lascuña (Wack Wack) to stars just getting their sparkle out in the local golfing universe such as Rene Menor (Splendido), Clyde Mondilla (Riviera) and Justin Quiban (CAT-Luisita).

While the victories of Tabuena and Lascuña make organizers confident that more big names will make the tour a regular stop, the titles won by Quiban and company give hope to other aspiring golfers.

Quiban, honed by stints in the PGT and tough club championship tournaments, is currently blazing a trail for other new names to follow. A lot of attention will fall on his shoulders especially with the way he closed out the year – top five finishes in the last seven tournaments, including his breakthrough win at Luisita.

That these pros get to face stiff foreign competition only speeds up the resurgence of golf in the country. Long divorced from its golden years, the sport continues its ascent with a number of tournaments slated in 2018, guaranteeing a busy season for the local players as well as the foreign ones.

And it ain't just the men.

The local ladies circuit (LPGT) has been making some noise, especially after a whopping, record setting 11-leg season in 2017. Three of those tournaments were held under the aegis of the Taiwan LPGA, lending the circuit a boost in relevance and credibility. In fact, the third of those legs was co-sanctioned by the Taiwan and China LPGA's.

Just think. Those tournaments may have just opened pathways for top foreign female aces to tee up in the country, giving the local tour a boost in its goal to make one of its legs a legitimate LPGA stop. And with young female guns sparking a rash of victories here and abroad against foreign competition, that goal may be achieved sooner than later.

"We're very happy with how our tour has grown, in terms of tournaments and players as well," said Colo Ventosa, general manager of the organizing Philipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc. "It is also good to see younger players and foreigners competing as well."

Who wouldn't be happy?

A healthy golf scene plus an unwavering partner in ICTSI has pushed golf way beyond its three-leg revival in 2009, which defibrillated a once gasping tour scene. And the growth has been exponential.

"Every year, our tour gets better and better," said Ventosa. "We have more and more tournaments and we noticed a big increase in terms of participation as well as foreigners who qualified in the Q-school."

"Our goal is to provide the local pros with professionally organized tournaments that are competitive. I've seen our local pros grow in this tour and be able to compete with other foreign golfers around the world," she added.

While defeats marked the ladies' campaign abroad, the victories the likes of young guns Yuka Saso have accomplished provide a refreshing ray of hope. Plus, Dottie Ardina continues to plod along, assembling strong finishes in the last few legs of the Symetra Tour and the LPGA, where she is a conditional player.

"It is our goal to see our lady pros hone their skills in our tour – to prepare them to compete in other circuits in Southeast Asia and around the world," added Ventosa.

Judging by the uptick of talent, it looks like that goal, too, is close to being accomplished.

DREAMING DADDIES DREAMING DADDIES



MIGUEL TABUENA



RENE MENOR



CLYDE MONDILLA



TONY LASCUÑA



JUSTIN QUIBAN

ENCOURAGED BY THE SUCCESS OF THE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CIRCUITS, THE PGTI HAS GONE GLOBAL WITH THE LAUNCH OF ASIA'S NEWEST PRO GOLF LEAGUE - THE PGT ASIA



JUST a decade ago, Filipino pros orphaned by the death of an already struggling local golf circuit were left to take their act to minor tours in neighboring countries, scrounging for a little cash and much-needed exposure.

Now Philippine golf never had it so good. In so short a time, the Philippine Golf Tour has grown to become the biggest in Southeast Asia and among the most prestigious in the Asian region, lining up annually a steady stream of tournaments offering big prize money and top-level competition.

After just eight seasons, the Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc.-organized tour has blossomed into a multi-leg circuit that keeps veterans like Tony Lascaña busy and served as the launch pad for the careers of Asian Tour standout Miguel Tabuena and rising stars like Clyde Mondilla.

The PGTI's ladies circuit (Ladies Philippine Golf Tour) has also honed a number of women players who have shown both the promise and the determination to become future world-beaters.

Encouraged by the success of the men's and women's circuits of the ICTSI Philippine Golf Tour, the PGTI has gone global with the launch of Asia's newest pro golf league, the PGT Asia (PGTA).

Mr. Enrique K. Razon, Jr., chairman and president of International Container Terminal Services, Inc., chief sponsor of both the PGTA, PGT

and the LPGT said the PGTA is consistent with their commitment to further develop the games of local pros and make the Philippines an international golfing destination.

"We are being true to our vision and long-term commitment to make the Philippines a leading international golfing destination," said Mr. Razon. "The PGTA will also further develop the game of our local pros. As we go global, we make Philippine golf thrive even further."

Mr. Razon has left no stone unturned to ensure the success of the PGTA.

The first seven legs of the PGTA's inaugural season offered a US\$100,000 prize fund each and a minimum of US\$300,000 for the eighth event. That prize fund will rise to US\$1.7 million in 2018 and to US\$2 million the following year.

The PGTI, which had the experience of staging international tournaments such as the Solaire Philippine Open and select regionally sanctioned legs of the PGT and LPGT, has done a splendid job with the launch of the tour's latest baby.

After holding a qualifying school at the Luisita Golf and Country Club in Tarlac where the top 60 and ties gained tour cards, the PGTA rolled off with the Aboitiz Invitational at Manila Southwoods followed by the ICTSI Splendido Classic, the ICTSI Riviera Classic, the ICTSI Wack

Championship and the Central Azucarera de Tarlac Open at Luisita.

Mr. Razon said he hopes the exposure to world-class competition that the PGTA tour offers will hasten the progress of current Filipino tour stars and give rise to new prospects.

"We hope to develop the game of our local golfers and produce more Miguel Tabuenas, Antonio Lascañas, Clyde Mondillas and the like," the longtime golf patron said. "We also expect the PGTA to provide a welcome boost to the country's golf tourism sector since golfers from various countries are expected to draw with them an influx of their own fans."

At the same time, Mr. Razon said the PGTA aims to cascade the success of the PGT to our Asian neighbors.

In fact, an additional 10 PGTA events for each of the next two years are also being finalized and talks to hold future legs in other parts of Asia, particularly Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia, are also on the drawing board.

"We intend to level up the ante of Asian golf through the PGTA," said Mr. Razon. "As we help thrive Philippine golf, we cascade the same support to our Southeast Asian neighbors by having PGTA legs in ASEAN countries."

HABIT FORMING

Tabuena records another career first at PGT Asia



TOURNAMENT	PGT ASIA ABOITIZ INVITATIONAL
DATES	AUGUST 15, 2017 - AUGUST 18, 2017
VENUE	MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	\$ 100,000

1,2 Among the many firsts Miguel Tabuena has recorded in a young pro career, this one should rank among the best – and perhaps the sweetest – after becoming the first winner of the inaugural PGT Asia. **3** Not even tough, difficult shots could stymie Angelo Que's surge in the third round.



Tabuena's immense talent simply sets him apart from the rest of the local pros.

The first winner is remembered forever. The second, third, and the succeeding winners will only serve as footnotes regardless of how well they perform. When a tournament ends, a champion surfaces, but down the line the one who started it all gets the accolade.

Miguel Tabuena is used to such distinction. Being a prodigy, he comes first most of the time, even in his teens. Then he turned pro and earned the distinction of being the first Filipino golfer to become an Olympian in Rio (de Janeiro) 2016.

It's no wonder therefore that he emerged victorious in the Aboitiz Invitational at the Manila Southwoods' Legends course. The \$100,000 tournament served as the inaugural leg of the Philippine Golf Tour Asia and, as always, he had to be the first.

Tabuena's immense talent that sets him apart from the rest of the local pros again became evident.

And Tabuena being only 23 years old, expect the gap to grow even bigger in the coming years.

If anything, the Aboitiz Invitational provided a glimpse of the future Philippine golf landscape, specifically the PGT Asia organized by Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc. and put up by International Container Terminal Services, Inc.

Ranged against some of the region's best, touring pros from different continents, and top local shotmakers, including three-time Asian Tour winner Angelo Que, Tabuena proved his mettle in a tight see-saw battle.

Pitted against Que and Indonesian Ian Andrew in the championship flight, Tabuena remained steady and calm even as the final round turned out to be a shootout between the country's aces.

In the end, Tabuena prevailed by one shot, the outcome decided only on the last three holes.

The 39-year-old Que blew his bid with a wet double-bogey on No. 16, allowing Tabuena to wrest the lead with a par.

Still, Que refused to give up and put up his final stand – a tap-in birdie on No. 17.

And just when the gallery thought Tabuena would crack under pressure, the 2015 Philippine Open champion delivered the lethal blow.

Tabuena made a 10-foot uphill birdie putt to negate Que's effort and then avoided a playoff by matching his rivals' closing par.

"It's a great win. My putting was so good," said Tabuena, who posted his 13th victory on the local circuit, including his triumphs in The Country Club Invitational and Luisita Championship in the season just passed.

Again going bogey-free, Tabuena carded a final round 65 and pooled an impressive 23-under 265, counting his 65-64-71 in the first three rounds.

Apart from the champion's trophy, the effort was worth \$17,500 for Tabuena, who also got bragging rights as the first titlist of the region's newest circuit.

With his closing 67, Que totaled 266 and settled for \$11,500.

Andrew simply couldn't match the firepower of his Filipino rivals and wound up with a 71 for 271, five shots off Que but good enough to repel Michael Bibat's rally from way behind.

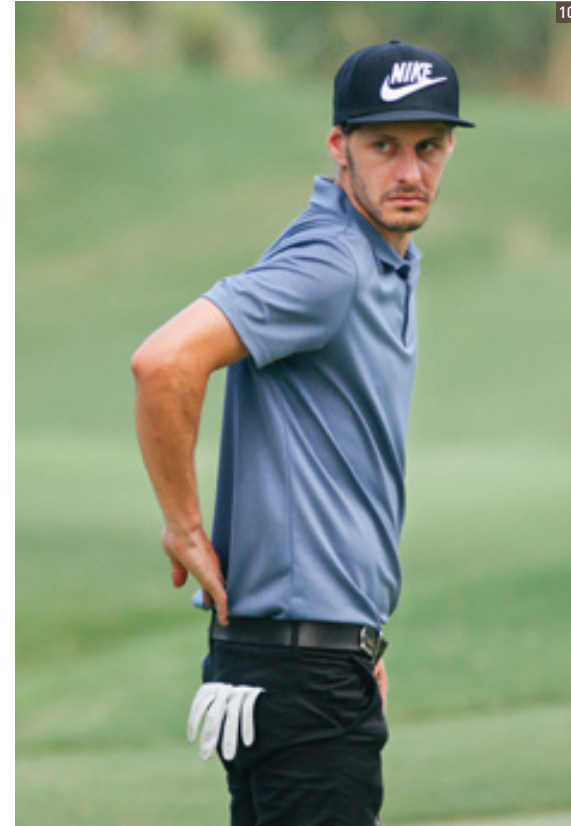
Propelled by five straight birdies from No. 13, Bibat tallied a 64 and vaulted to fourth place at 272.

During the awarding ceremonies, Tabuena was beaming with joy and pride.

Once again, he went through a tough test and got an A.

From now on, Tabuena's name will be hitched with the PGT Asia.

4 Eager to show up two of the country's top guns on the greens, Indonesian Ian Andrew ends up green with envy after Miguel Tabuena and Angelo Que finished 1-2 with plenty to spare. **5** Going winless for a considerable length of time could only get one, like Michael Bibat, crave for recognition. **6** After a lead-sharing 64 in the opening day, James Bowen comes up short – too short – of his second round bid. **7** Enduring pain from a bout with arthritis, Tony Lascaña still manages to churn out a run of under-par scores in a low-scoring four-day duel at Southwoods, in the process beating other 'healthy' players for ninth place. **8** Obscure Richard Abaring could more or less point to where he's heading despite opening with back-to-back 70s. **9** In a duel between the best of the old and new, it's the latter who hogged the spotlight in the end as Miguel Tabuena (left) outlasted Angelo Que in a thrilling stretch-run battle. **10** Aussie Andrew Campbell could only look back with a tinge of regret after failing to sustain an impressive first round 66 card. **11** Putting woes continue to hound former amateur hotshot Jobim Carlos in his pursuit of a maiden crown. **12** A mediocre third round 72 slows down former Singapore amateur ace Choo Tze Huang from his drive for a first Philippine crown.



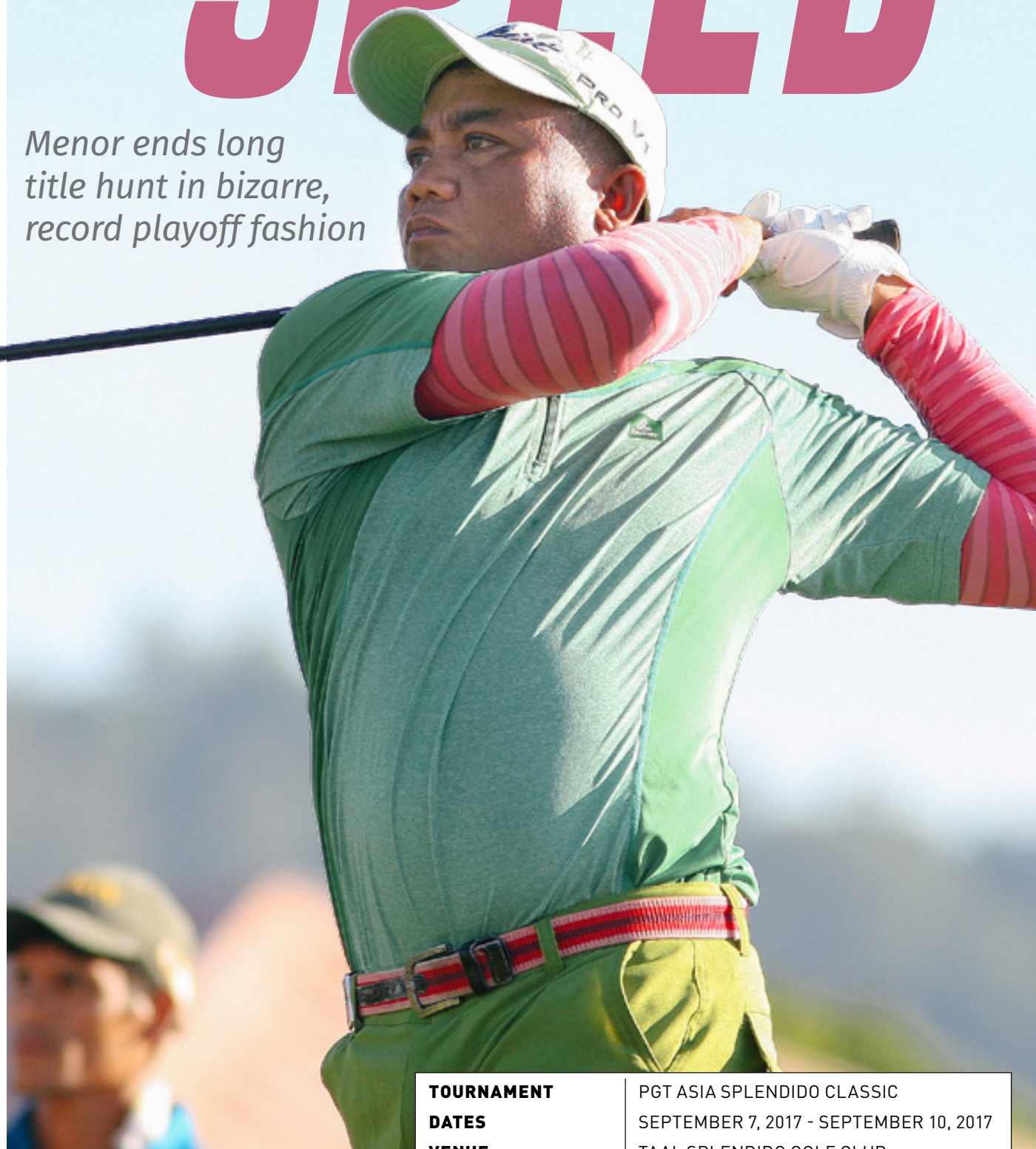
THE MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF & CC
Carmona, Cavite • (046) 430-0286

Slightly shorter than the Master's course, the Legend's layout stands at 7093 yards long. While the challenging Master's course is designed around 'traps' and water hazards, the bunker-laden Legend's layout is dominated by high mounds, making the par 72 layout friendlier to high handicappers but posing a real challenge to those more experienced golfers trying to aim for a low score.

PGT ASIA ABOITIZ INVITATIONAL FINAL RANKING									
Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	TABUENA, MIGUEL	PHL	65	64	71	65	265	-23	\$17,500
2	QUE, ANGELO	PHL	64	69	66	67	266	-22	\$11,500
3	ANDREW, IAN	INA	66	65	69	71	271	-17	\$7,000
4	BIBAT, MICHAEL	PHL	65	74	69	64	272	-16	\$5,600
5	HONG, CHARLES	PHL	71	65	70	67	273	-15	\$4,050
=	SALVADOR, ELMER	PHL	71	68	66	68	273	-15	\$4,050
7	SHIN, MICAH	USA	69	68	70	67	274	-14	\$2,850
=	ARTJANAWAT, WISUT	THA	69	70	64	71	274	-14	\$2,850
9	LASCUÑA, TONY	PHL	70	69	68	68	275	-13	\$2,300
10	HUANG, CHOO TZE	SGP	67	70	72	67	276	-12	\$1,900
=	ALIDO, IRA	PHL	70	68	69	69	276	-12	\$1,900
=	CARLOS, JOBIM	PHL	68	70	68	70	276	-12	\$1,900

IN FULL SPEED

Menor ends long title hunt in bizarre, record playoff fashion



TOURNAMENT	PGT ASIA SPLENDIDO CLASSIC
DATES	SEPTEMBER 7, 2017 - SEPTEMBER 10, 2017
VENUE	TAAI SPLENDIDO GOLF CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	\$ 100,000

Just when Rene Menor least expected it, the breakthrough victory finally came.

And it happened under bizarre circumstances.

Out of the contenders' radar at the start of the final round, Menor, Thai Pasavee Lertvilai and American John Michael O' Toole were only aiming for top 10 finishes in the ICTSI Splendido Classic at Taal Splendido Golf Club in Tagaytay.

After all, they were trailing strong players Rufino Bayron, Clyde Mondilla and Mars Pucay by at least four shots at tee-off.

But then the winds of fortune blew to the trio's direction even as the pacesetters suddenly lost their touch and committed mistakes in their haste to outplay one another in the last 18 holes.

Menor and Lertvilai, who enhanced his reputation by topping the 2017 Philippine Golf Tour Qualifying School, both shot six-under 66s, while O'Toole, carded a course-record tying 64 to forge a three-way tie for first after regulation play.

They headed back to No. 18 for the title playoff and O'Toole quickly fell by the wayside when he bogeyed it, his first for the day.

Four more trips to the 18th produced no winner and the organizers moved their duel to the par-5 No. 10.

It was there that Lertvilai eventually faltered. His drive went out-of-bounds, needing to tee-off again from the mound and missing an eight-footer for bogey that sent Menor's supporters into celebration outside the green.

For his part, Menor could only shake his head in utter disbelief for the long-awaited blessing.

"I couldn't believe I won," said Menor. "Actually I didn't even expect I would be able to come back and survive a long playoff duel."

The tiring six-hole playoff surpassed Frankie Miñoza's extra five-hole conquest of Miguel Tabuena for the PGT Negros Occidental Classic crown in 2016.

As the winning feeling sunk in, Menor finally flashed a smile during the awards rites.

"I'm very, very happy. I was never nervous and I just played my game," said Menor, a former caddie at Iloilo Golf and Country Club where he's now the resident pro.

Self-taught, the 41-year-old Menor showed latent talent when he wound up runner-up in the 2004 Uratex National Caddies Championship.

He turned pro with high expectations, only to suffer countless frustrations.



1 & 2 Hiding in the shadows of his more illustrious rivals for years, Rene Menor finally gets to raise his arm in triumph with a breakthrough feat in peculiar fashion, edging Thai Pasavee Lertvilai in a marathon five-hole playoff, to the delight of his trusted bag-toter. **3** Lertvilai might have wished they stuck to No. 18 as the disputed hole as he drove out of bounds when the playoff was moved to No. 10.



'I'm very, very happy. I was never nervous and I just played my game' - MENOR

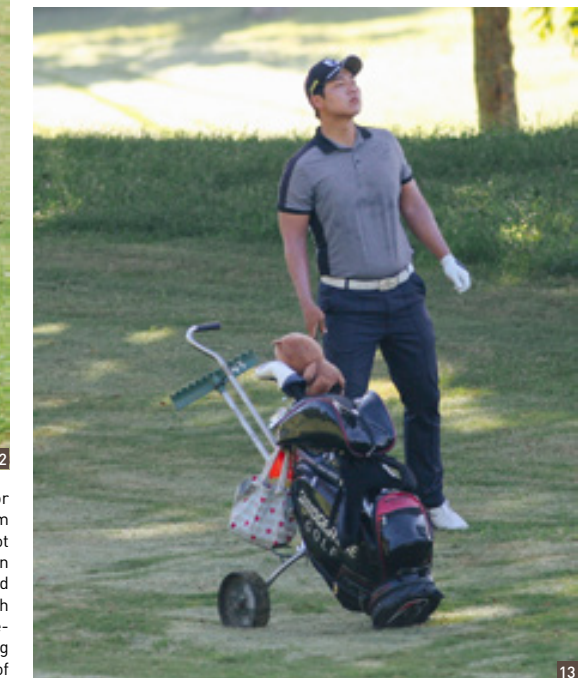
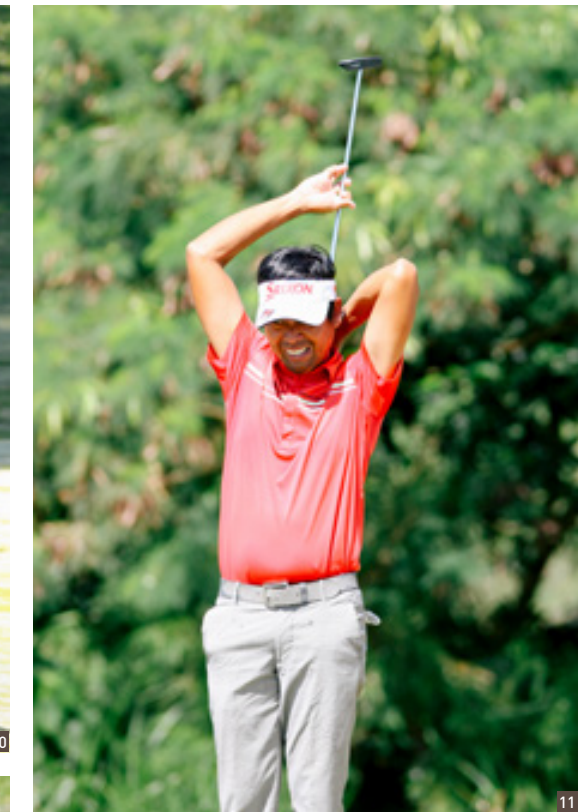
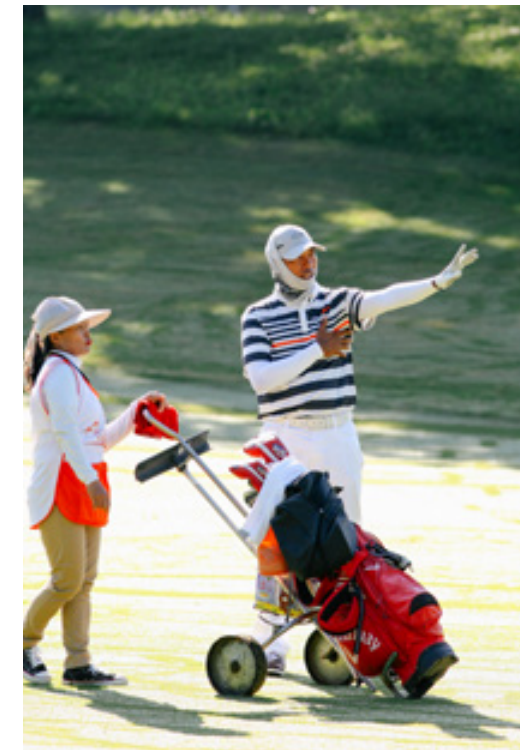
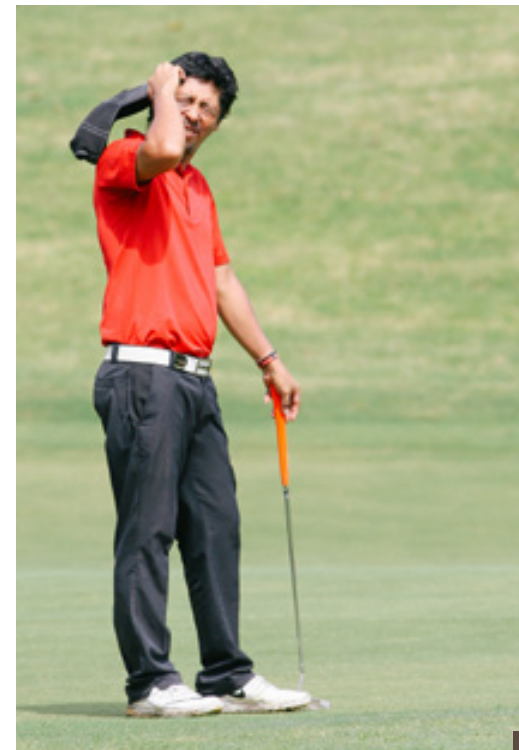
After carding 68-71-71, Menor seemed headed nowhere near the top, until the successive meltdowns of Bayron, who led by four shots entering the fourth round, Mondilla and Pucay, who were tied at second spot.

Tony Lascuña was also in the mix that time, five off Bayron, who actually held sway with an even 36 at the turn. But his backside was complete disaster with four bogeys, a double-bogey, and a triple-bogey that pulled him down to an 80 and down to joint 13th with Pucay, who also tumbled with a 76.

With a chance to make the playoff, Mondilla attacked the 18th but missed the green for bogey, a 70 and a share of fourth with American Micah Shin, who rallied with a 66, at 278.

According to Menor, the victory will give him peace of mind while the prize pot of \$17,500 will give him financial stability throughout the PGT Asia Tour.

The lean days are definitely over for Menor.



SPLENDIDO TAAL GOLF CLUB
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The Greg Norman-designed, 18-hole par-72 all-weather championship layout is a truly majestic course sprawled on a 152-hectare man-made valley nestled amidst the mountain ridges of the Grand Taal with a dramatic view of the Taal Volcano and Lake.

PGT ASIA SPLENDIDO CLASSIC FINAL RANKING

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	MENOR, RENE	PHL	68	71	71	66	276	-12	\$17,500
2	LERTVILAI, PASAVEE	THA	71	70	69	66	276	-12	\$11,500
=	O'TOOLE, JOHN MICHAEL	USA	72	68	72	64	276	-12	\$7,000
4	SHIN, MICAH	USA	70	69	73	66	278	-10	\$5,000
=	MONDILLA, CLYDE	PHL	68	73	67	70	278	-10	\$5,000
6	STOJANOVSKI, PETER	MKD	71	70	73	65	279	-9	\$3,133
=	SALVADOR, ELMER	PHL	71	69	71	68	279	-9	\$3,133
=	VILLACENCIO, ARNOLD	PHL	70	71	69	69	279	-9	\$3,133
9	DUNGCA, OMAR	PHL	70	76	67	67	280	-8	\$2,175
=	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHL	71	68	70	71	280	-8	\$2,175

4 For Rene Menor, happiness is holding a first-ever trophy – and a PGT Asia plum at that. **5** Jhonnell Ababa gives the thumbs-up sign for playing partner Rufino Bayron, whose superb putting anchored his surge to four shots on a six-under 66 in the third round. **6** Reeling from a third round 73, young Micah Shin swings back to a top five finish with a superb closing 66. **7** After blazing Splendido's backside with a hot six-under 30 to join the three-man playoff, American John Michael O'Toole turns cold right on the first sudden death hole. **8** Two bogeys in the last three holes take Clyde Mondilla out of the playoff picture. **9** Squandering a huge final round lead in a major championship could indeed be too exasperating for Rufino Bayron. **10** He's no ninja but Omar Dungca leaps from as way back as 32nd place to joint ninth with closing back-to-back 67s. **11** Things can really get scratchy for Ferdie Anzo with a sixth-to-last finish in a big-time tournament. **12** A once-feared player with a checkered amateur career, Mars Pucay fails to sustain his big charge in the middle rounds with a closing 76, tumbling from second to joint 13th instead. **13** Korean Joon You knows only too well he would need more than craning his neck to get a clear view of his target.

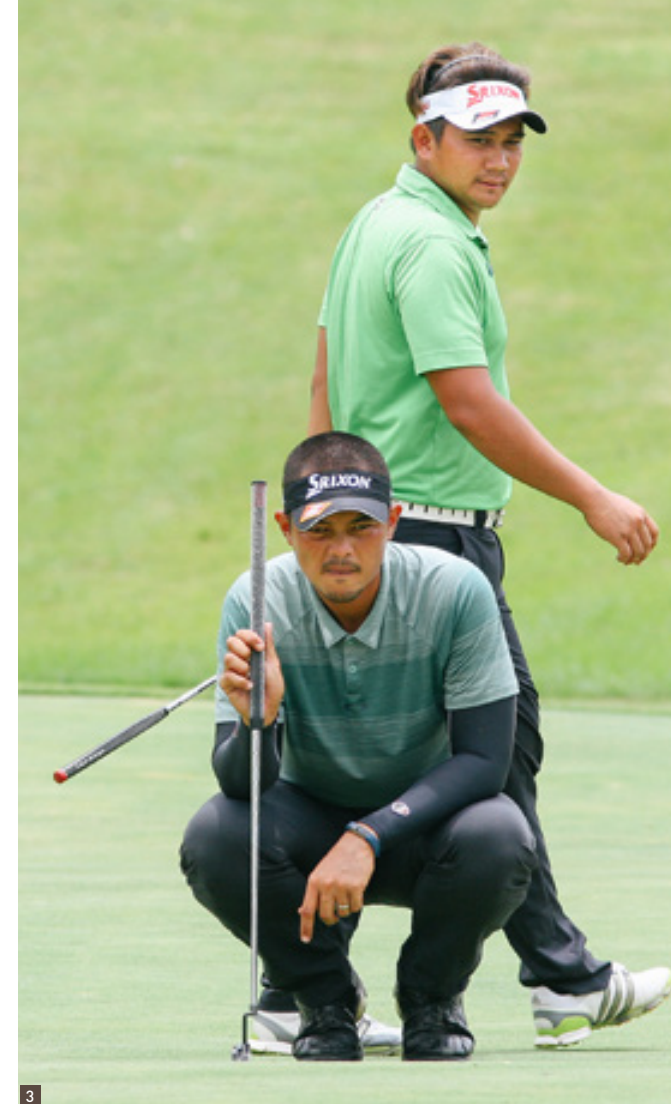
REDEMPTION AT RIVIERA

MEN'S TOUR

Mondilla gets it done after '16 playoff loss



TOURNAMENT	PGT ASIA RIVIERA CLASSIC
DATES	SEPTEMBER 13, 2017 - SEPTEMBER 16, 2017
VENUE	RIVIERA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB (LANGER COURSE)
PRIZE MONEY	\$ 100,000



1 Frustration turns into jubilation as Clyde Mondilla survives Michael Bibat and amateur Tom Kim's last-ditch charges to join the elite circle of PGT Asia champions. **2** Kim and father-caddy can easily point where the dangers lurk on a course they call home. **3** Bibat is all focused on his putt unmindful of a rival that has put a near-impeccable opening round 65 to wrest control.

For one whole year, the pain of losing in sudden death at Riviera hounded Clyde Mondilla no end.

He felt he blew it, big time.

That's why given another chance to vindicate himself in the ICTSI Riviera Classic, Mondilla seized the moment and made sure the shortfall against Jay Bayron won't happen again.

That he was up against a Korean teen and not Bayron in a spirited battle for the crown hardly mattered.

Mondilla was ready to face anybody to erase the bitter memory.

It just so happens to be 16-year-old amateur Tom Kim (Kim Joong Hyung) as the other favorites, including foreign aces, have difficulty conquering the soggy, ravine-laden Langer layout of Riviera Golf and Country Club in Silang, Cavite.

Kim's strong challenge was hardly surprising though as Riviera is his home course. For another, Kim is regarded as

a future star owing to his victory in the 2016 Philippine Junior Amateur Open at Sherwood Hills.

Truth is, Kim gave Mondilla some anxious moments in the final round of the \$100,000 event before getting sidetracked on the par-5 No. 16.

Mondilla birdied it while Kim paid for a couple of sloppy wedge shots with a bogey.

The two-shot swing provided Mondilla the buffer to rule the event serving as the third leg of Philippine Golf Tour Asia. He finished with a four-under-par 67 and 275 total, thwarting Kim, who matched par 71, and Michael Bibat, who carded a 68, for the \$17,500 top purse.

Kim and Bibat shared second place with 277 aggregates with the latter pocketing the \$11,500 runner-up prize.

Jhannel Ababa rallied with a bogey-free 66 and placed fourth at 281, towing Tony Lascuña, who carded 69 for 283.

Greatly relieved, Mondilla said he was thankful that his driving and putting clicked when he needed them most.

"I waited for one year to redeem myself and I am so happy to have pulled it off," said Mondilla, who was also 16 when he became the youngest ever Philippine Amateur champion in 2010.

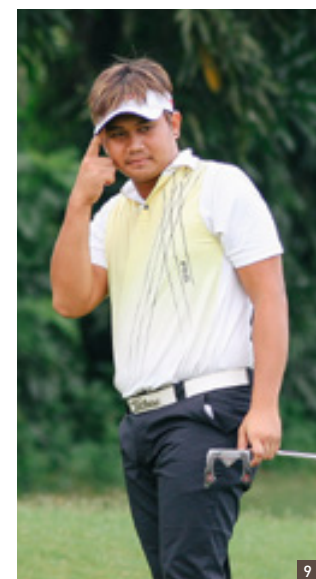
Mondilla hinted of things to come right on opening day when he led with a bogey-free 65 despite incessant rains brought about by Typhoon Maring.

"I know I can win this tournament. I'm confident since I know there are par-4 holes that I can attack," said Mondilla after the first round.

As rains continued to pour, second round play was suspended due to darkness with Mondilla and Kim among those unable to finish.

Marvin Dumandan, Riviera's former club pro, emerged the clubhouse leader following his second straight 70.

Upon resumption of play the following morning, Mondilla settled for a 71 and then struggled with a 72 in the afternoon to yield the lead to Kim, who carded a 69 and 67, respectively, for 206.



RIVIERA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
Silang, Cavite • (046) 430-0266

The Riviera Golf Club is an exciting concept unparalleled in the Philippines for its vision to be among Asia's most outstanding golf courses. This golf club is destined to be a golf Mecca and at the same time providing the ultimate in comfort and elegance. Found amidst the breathtaking landscape of cool Silang, Cavite, The Riviera Golf Club, Inc. is the ideal course for all ages and skills. The courses promise to be friendly to beginners as well as challenging for the more skilled players. It is also combined with residential amenities and facilities for the whole family fully integrated into a resort lifestyle.

PGT ASIA RIVIERA CLASSIC FINAL RANKING									
Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	MONDILLA, CLYDE	PHL	65	71	72	67	275	-9	\$17,500
2	BIBAT, MICHAEL	PHL	73	65	71	68	277	-7	\$11,500
=	KIM, JOONG HYUNG (AM)	KOR	70	69	67	71	277	-7	xxx
4	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHL	74	71	70	66	281	-3	\$7,000
5	LASCUÑA, TONY	PHL	72	71	71	69	283	-1	\$5,600
6	GUIDO VAN DER VALK	NED	75	71	66	72	284	0	\$4,400
7	ARCILLAS, ERWIN	PHL	70	75	69	71	285	+1	\$3,700
8	LOYPUR, DJ	AUS	72	74	72	68	286	+2	\$2,512
=	BOWEN, JAMES	USA	71	73	71	71	286	+2	\$2,512
=	HONG, CHARLES	PHL	73	68	69	76	286	+2	\$2,512
=	DUMANDAN, MARVIN	PHL	70	70	70	76	286	+2	\$2,512

Regaining his bearing, Mondilla stormed back in front with a 31, including four straight birdies from No. 5, while Kim lagged behind with a 36. An eagle-par-birdie stint from No. 11, however, enabled Kim to catch up with Mondilla, only to fall back for good two holes later.

The Riviera Classic was Mondilla's third conquest after narrow victories at both Manila Southwoods and the Philippine Masters revival at Villamor.

It paved the way for Mondilla's march to this year's PGT Order of Merit title, dislodging four-time king Lascuña.

With his mind finally cleared of misgivings, Mondilla is determined to stage a repeat in 2018.

Regardless of who'll block his way.

'I waited for one year to redeem myself and I am so happy to have pulled it off'

- MONDILLA

4 With only one under-par card to show in four days, veteran Jay Bayron opts to laugh off one of his poor performances in a highly successful career. 5 Ira Alido makes an early charge of 67 behind a hot putter that unfortunately turned cold in the next three days. 6 Rene Menor tries to figure out what went wrong from a run of under-par rounds to score a breakthrough win at Splendido to a slew of over-par cards to limp to joint 30th at Riviera - in a week's span. 7 Despite his local knowledge of the demanding Langer layout, Kim stills finds himself hitting a bailout shot from under a huge mango tree after an errant drive. 8 Omar Dungca isn't waving a Nazi salute but signalling a sliced drive. 9 In every shot he makes, Mondilla makes it a point to use his mental skills. 10 Tony Lascuña finds his deft touch off the bunkers too late to mount a rally. 11 With his wedge shots clicking, Erwin Arcillas gets his bid for a Top 10 finish going with the unheralded shotmaker eventually ending up solo seventh. 12 After an impressive third place effort in Aboitiz Invitational, a high-fiving Ian Andrew of Indonesia struggles to regain his form, failing to break into the Top 5 at Riviera.

NO ESCAPE

Lascaña finally grabs elusive PGTA crown at Wack Wack



TOURNAMENT	PGT ASIA WACK WACK CHAMPIONSHIP
DATES	NOVEMBER 15, 2017 - NOVEMBER 18, 2017
VENUE	WACK WACK GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	\$100,000



SOME, if not most, may crumble in pressure-packed situations.

Not Tony Lascaña.

Showing the grit and poise of a true grizzled veteran that he is, Lascaña was near impeccable in his decision- and shot-making to rule the ICTSI Wack Wack Championship at the fabled WW East course.

A closing two-under-par 70 was all Lascaña needed to finally bag the title that has escaped his grasp three times before as the erstwhile joint leaders succumbed to final round pressure in the fourth leg of the inaugural Philippine Golf Tour Asia.

Zanieboy Gialon, Pasavee Lertvilai of Thailand and Justin Quiban all sputtered and ultimately broke down in their quest for birdies and pars in the featured flight and ultimately tumbled down the leaderboard.

American Nicolas Paez gamely took on the challenger's role and strung up three

straight birdies from No. 15. But the holes ran out and he could only longingly settle for second, two shots adrift of Lascaña.

In the end, Lascaña emerged with a two-under 286 total and pocketed the top \$17,500 purse, keeping the Filipinos' domination of the circuit put up by ICTSI after Miguel Tabuena (Southwoods), Rene Menor (Splendido) and Clyde Mondilla (Riviera).

It was also the former many-time PGT Order of Merit winner's third championship this year, including the Manila Masters at Eastridge in April and the Forest Hills Championship two months later.

"It's nice to win again. But I had to work hard to put myself back into contention," said Lascaña, who narrowly missed forcing a tie for the lead with a last hole-bogey in the third round but remained in good position, just one stroke behind going to the last 18 holes.

"When I pulled to within one after the third round, I knew I had a chance," related the

multi-titled 47-year-old campaigner.

Going back to the range and practice green to primarily sharpen his irons and putter after finding himself down by five halfway through also helped.

"I also polished my putting stroke, *medyo magalaw kasi* (it's a little bit wobbly)," offered Lascaña.

The fine-tuning paid off, especially in the final round where the dusky Davao native got off to a strong start and, after wresting control, went for conservative play on one of the country's toughest courses made more challenging by the swirling winds.

Lascaña surged ahead with back-to-back birdies from No. 2 in the second-to-last flight then bounced back from a missed green-bogey on No. 12 with a birdie from six feet on No. 14.

He then rattled off a slew of gutsy pars to thwart the rallying Paez, who also wound up with a two-under card for 286 and had to settle for the \$11,500 runner-up purse.

1 A letdown thrice over, Tony Lascaña dishes out the kind of game expected of him and finally gets to grab a PGT Asia trophy. **2** Unable to shake off Lascaña in their head-to-head duel in second-to-last flight, American Nicolas Paez tips his cap to the eventual champion. **3** Flightmates and in contention in all four days, Justin Quiban and Zanieboy Gialon seem to have developed some kind of connection, only both also failed to hook it up for a final round charge that enabled veteran Lascaña to sneak in and steal the crown.





4 All level at 216 with over cards in the third round, Thai Pasavee Lertvilai, Quiban and Gialon brace for a final round shootout but got shot down by a charging Lascaña. **5** Putting woes continue to keep former Asian Games bronze medalist Michael Bibat out of the title picture in big-time tournaments. **6** After coming up short in a playoff duel with Clyde Mondilla at Eastridge two years ago, Jobim Carlos continues to polish his short game in search for a maiden championship. **7** Unable to make an impact with his so-so game, Marvin Dumandan still succeeds to draw attention with his outlandish outfits. **8** Muffing birdie chances from close range could indeed be so galling, frustrating, particularly for Jhonnell Ababa, who blew his bid with a third round 76. **9** Any player would've dropped with a thud like James Ryan Lam with a final round 77. **10** Charles Hong fails to get through in-between Wack Wack trees and skies to an 80 to miss the cut by one. **11** Years from now, this kid would make some noise on the fairways and beyond. **12** Miguel Tabuena literally throws in the towel with a wrist injury in the opening round.

At least, Paez was better off than the three who started the final day ahead.

Gialon, who went 3-up over Quiban after 36 holes, stayed on top with a birdie on No. 2 but slipped with three straight bogeys from No. 5 and faded after yielding another stroke on the 15th while missing a couple of birdie chances.

He limped with a 75, the same output put in by Lertvilai, who failed to check a roller-coaster round punctuated by three birdies as against four bogeys and a double bogey.

Unheralded Rolando Marabe Jr. birdied three of the last six holes to save a 72 and tie Gialon and Lertvilai at 290. Each received \$5,666.

Worse off was Quiban, who never recovered from a bogey-bogey start and closed out the backside with four bogeys for a 77 in another final round meltdown by the young gun. He tumbled to joint sixth at 292 with Michael Bibat and Jobim Carlos, who carded identical 72s.

Jhonnell Ababa fired a 71 to finish ninth at 293 while Jelbert Gamolo turned in a 74,

Aussie Marcus Both made a 76 and James Lam stumbled with a 77 for a share of 10th at 295.

Each of them and the rest of the original starting field of 99 players from 16 countries should have taken to heart Lascaña's words when he said after the third round: "No lead is safe here at Wack Wack East and it's going to be anybody's race (in the final round)."

The withdrawal of Tabuena, who hurt his wrist right on the opening round, could have given the title chase a different tune and texture. For sure, the return of the dreaded winds starting from the third round helped Lascaña's bid.

What is also certain is that Lascaña got himself into a favorable situation with his third round 73 as he lay just one behind Gialon, Quiban and Lertvilai.

Lascaña actually could have tied for the lead if not for a missed green bogey on the 56th hole, but he remained unperturbed.

"I'm still at it anyway," he declared.

And, boy, did he sure go for it.

'It's nice to win again. But I had to work hard to put myself back into contention'

- LASCUÑA



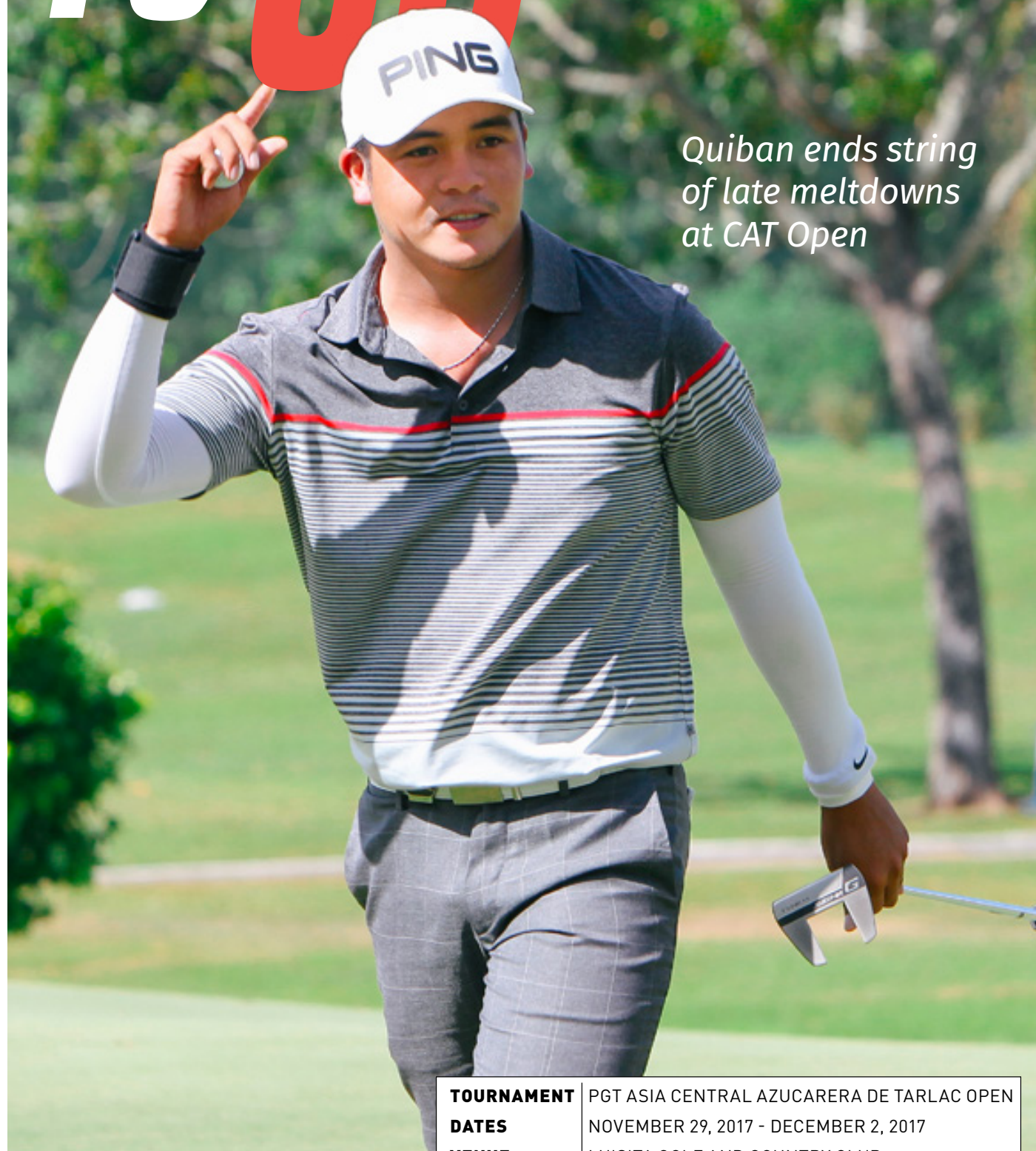
WACK WACK GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City • (02) 723-0665

Wack Wack, whose name is derived from the squawk of the large black crows known locally as "uwak-uwak", is the premier golf club in Manila. After a hiatus, it was once again the home of the Philippine Open and countless other tournaments and exhibitions which draw golfing stars from around the world.

PGTA WACK WACK CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL RANKING

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	LASCUÑA, TONY	PHL	71	72	73	70	286	-2	\$17,500
2	PAEZ, NICOLAS	USA	73	74	71	70	288	0	\$11,500
3	GIALON, ZANIEBOY	PHL	70	68	77	75	290	2	\$5,666
=	LERTVILAI, PASAVEE	THA	69	73	73	75	290	2	\$5,666
=	MARABE, ROLANDO JR.	PHL	71	74	73	72	290	2	\$5,666
6	QUIBAN, JUSTIN	PHL	70	71	74	77	292	4	\$3,133
=	BIBAT, MICHAEL	PHL	73	76	71	72	292	4	\$3,133
=	CARLOS, JOBIM	PHL	70	75	70	72	287	4	\$3,133
9	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHL	72	74	76	71	293	5	\$2,300
10	LAM, JAMES RYAN	PHL	73	73	72	77	295	7	\$1,900
=	BOTH, MARCUS	AUS	75	70	74	76	295	7	\$1,900
=	GAMOLO, JELBERT	PHL	76	72	73	74	295	7	\$1,900

CHOKES TO GO



Quiban ends string of late meltdowns at CAT Open

TOURNAMENT	PGT ASIA CENTRAL AZUCARERA DE TARLAC OPEN
DATES	NOVEMBER 29, 2017 - DECEMBER 2, 2017
VENUE	LUISITA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	\$ 100,000

DESPITE his relatively young age and being a newbie professional, Justin Quiban believed he was up for a breakthrough win. He just didn't think it would come this early.

But that's exactly what happened in the Central Azucarera de Tarlac (CAT) Open as the 21-year-old rising star realized his long-cherished dream – and in a cruising fashion at that.

Not even a listless finish, nearly reminiscent of two recent fold-ups, could keep Quiban from snaring the crown and the \$17,500 champion's purse in the \$100,000 event which served as the fifth stop of the inaugural Philippine Golf Tour Asia.

"I am lost for words," said Quiban. "I did not expect to win this year and actually gave myself another year or two before breaking through."

Maybe it was Joenard Rates coming up way short in his own title bid, or Clyde Mondilla and the other more established tour stars unable to muster the expected charge that paved the way for Quiban's rise.

Definitely, the sophomore pro did his part to reign supreme in the event which drew a total 99 players from 17 countries.

"When I saw the leaderboard, I told myself to keep up with them, I need to knock down birdies," related Quiban.

"I knew they won't give (the title) to me on a silver platter. And I'm thankful my game held sway."

Good enough for a final round 72 that gave Quiban a 275 total and a three-shot win over Rates.

Quiban actually had two bogeys in the last four holes, a kind of finish that normally stymies one's title drive. Along the way, he also flubbed at least seven birdie putts in the first 11 holes, enabling the rest, including Rates, to stay in the hunt.

But while the others faltered, Quiban proved steadier, tapping in a birdie on No. 12 and rolling in a 15-footer on the 14th for the much-needed cushion, before fully dashing Rates' hopes by saving par on the 17th after a shaky drive.

Rates actually fought back from six down to within three after No. 16 but ran out of holes, settling for a 69 and a 278. He received \$11,500.

'I knew they won't give (the title) to me on a silver platter. And I'm thankful my game held sway'

- QUIBAN

1 Storming to a huge five-stroke lead after 54 holes, Justin Quiban wavers but this time, toughens up in the stretch to cruise to a three-shot breakthrough triumph. **2** Joenard Rates comes up short of his bid for a second pro crown with a couple of flubbed must-birdie putts. **3** Clyde Mondilla isn't into a hocus pocus but just couldn't pull off a magical rally that would've netted him a second PGT Asia diadem.



True to his vow of a strong final round start, Mondilla birdied the opening hole. But the newly-crowned PGT Order of Merit champion went up-and-down from there, hitting three more birdies but stumbling with the same number of bogeys.

Mondilla wound up with a 71 for a 279, ending up tied at third with Jay Bayron, who rallied with a 66, and Jhonnell Ababa and Swede Oskar Arvidsson, who both carded 69s.

The victory thus made Quiban the fifth winner in as many legs of the region's newest circuit after Miguel Tabuena (Southwoods), Rene Menor (Splendido), Clyde Mondilla (Riviera) and Tony Lascuña (Wack Wack).

The former amateur hotshot also became one of the youngest winners in the local circuit with the triumph more than making up for his heartbreakers at Southwoods (tied for fifth) and Wack Wack (joint sixth), where he figured in the title chase, only to crumble in the pressure-packed stage.

The lessons learned from such experiences sure toughened up the former Southwoods mainstay, as evidenced by the way he held up after putting himself in the title hunt once more.

Such mental fortitude was readily displayed by Quiban right in the two middle rounds where he sizzled the most.

Quiban's 66, highlighted by eight birdies, enabled him to dislodge hot-starting Australian Andrew Campbell from the top and post a one-shot lead over Mondilla and Rates at the halfway point.

He then followed up with a 67 in the third round, which was spiked by him holding his own against Mondilla in a frontside duel and then finishing with a flourish for a commanding five-shot lead.

"I played pretty solid – with my irons doing the most damage which enabled me to attack the pins with precision," said Quiban, who hit all but one fairway and missed just two greens in hot condition for six birdies, half of which he drilled inside seven feet.

Notwithstanding, Mondilla managed to pull within two with back-to-back birdies from No. 11 and Quiban's three-putt miscue on the

12th before failing to match Quiban's strong finishing kick of three birdies in the last six holes.

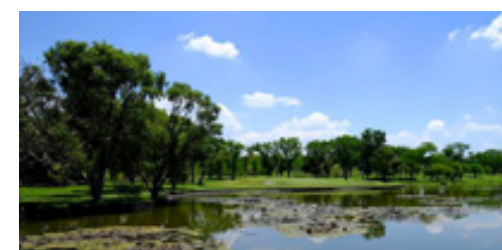
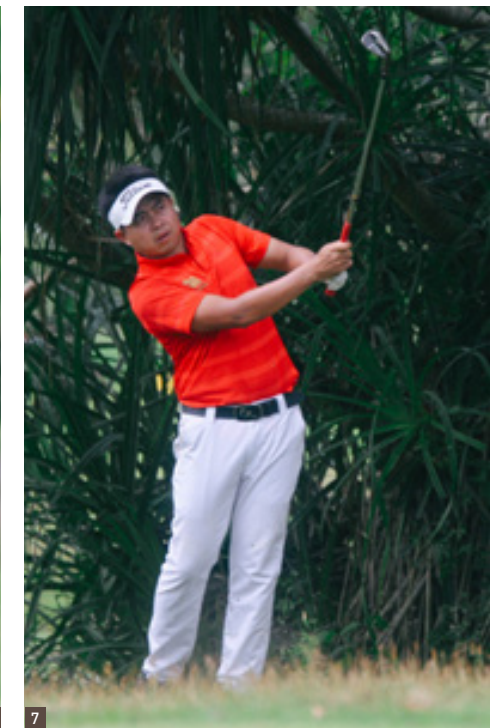
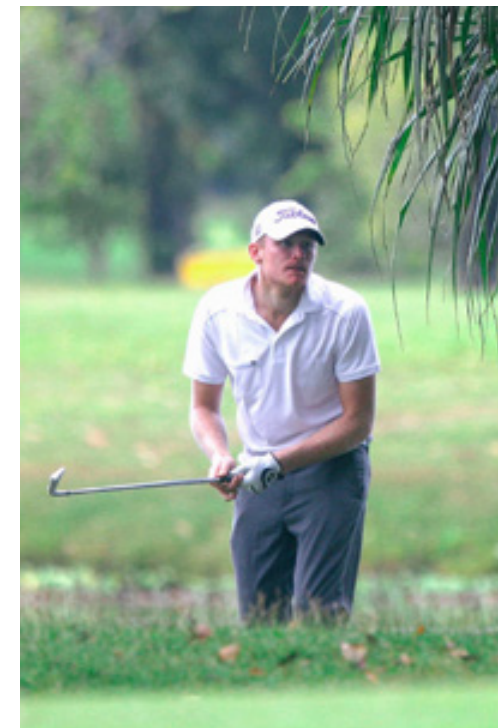
That trend was set earlier in the round when Quiban birdied the par-3 No. 2 for the second straight day, gained on a two-shot swing on No. 4 (birdie-bogey) and pulled away anew with a birdie on the ninth for a 33.

Still, the 23-year-old the four-leg winner in 2017 remained confident of his chances for a follow-up to his PGT Asia romp at Riviera last September. But he also stressed the need to come up with a strong start in the final round.

"It can still be done. I just need to have a good start (in the final round)," said Mondilla, perhaps with Quiban's recent implosions at the back of his mind.

Turned out Quiban has turned off the self-destruct mode this time.

4 Superb bailout shots from tough spots keep the bell ringing for Aussie Andrew Campbell in the opening round. **5** If not for his second day struggle from under the Luisita trees, Swede Oskar Arvidsson could've put himself in the mix and earned a crack at the crown. **6** Jhonnell Ababa looks forward to be seriously contending in the PGT Asia with his much-improved iron play and wedge shots. **7** Just two shots behind halfway through, Thai Wisut Artjanawat fades into the sunset with errant shots in the last two rounds. **8** After taming Luisita with a 13-under total to dominate the PGT Asia Q-School, Thai Pasavee Lertvilai finds it doubly tough to even break par at the quaint layout, hobbling with a four-over aggregate for a joint 35th place finish. **9** A third round 73 casts a shadow on Tony Lascuña's title bid. **10** There's nothing much to hear from Choo Tze Huang in the pros as the Singaporean continues to recall the form that once made him one of the leading amateurs in the region with victories in the Taiwan and Singapore Amateur Open and the Putra Cup. **11** Kris Etter believes it's just a matter of time – and big-time tournaments – before he could barrel his weight around the big guns of the sport. **12** A long birdie feat pumps up the one-time Luisita leg champion Charles Hong no end. **13** Peter Stojanovski sparkles with three brilliant rounds (71-69-69) until the Macedonian lost his spark with a closing 81.

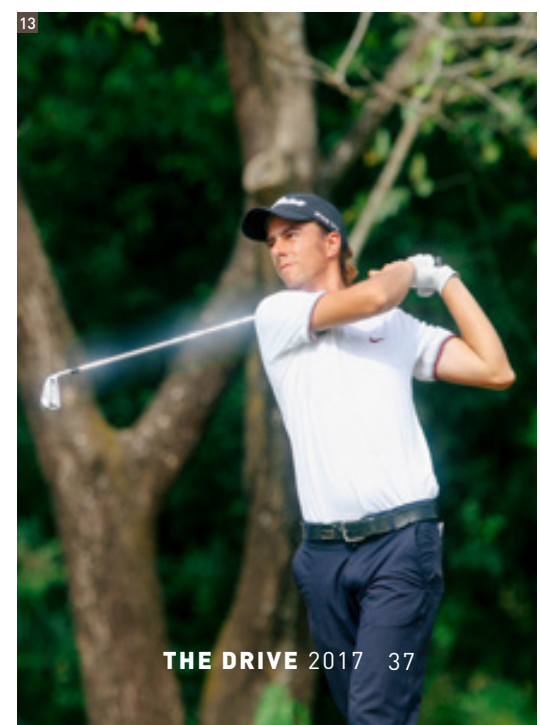
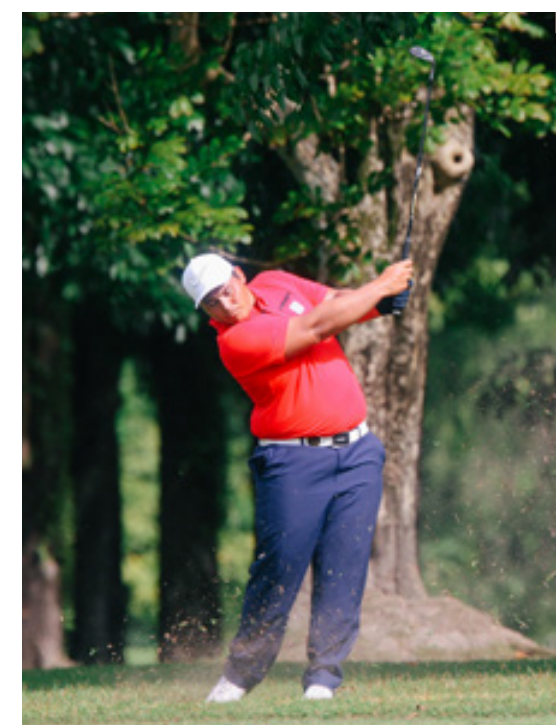


LUISITA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

San Miguel Tarlac, Tarlac • (045) 985-2240

Considered as one of the finest 18-hole, par-72 championship courses in the country, the Luisita Golf and Country Club has been home to the President's Cup, one of the country's four majors in the 90s. Situated on a 70-hectare area bounded on the east by a sugar central, it is the only golf course designed by the renowned Robert Trent Jones, Sr. in the country. The front nine is built mostly on an open but rolling ground while the backside is shaped by meandering creek experienced golfers trying to aim for a low score.

PGTA CAT OPEN FINAL RANKING									
Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	QUIBAN, JUSTIN	PHL	70	66	67	72	275	-13	\$17,500
2	RATES, JOENARD	PHL	70	67	72	69	278	-10	\$11,500
3	MONDILLA, CLYDE	PHL	70	67	71	71	279	-9	\$7,000
=	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHL	72	67	71	69	279	-9	\$5,175
=	ARVIDSSON, OSKAR	SWE	67	76	67	69	279	-9	\$5,175
=	BAYRON, JAY	PHL	74	70	69	66	272	-9	\$5,175
7	SALVADOR, ELMER	PHL	71	60	70	71	281	-7	\$2,850
=	VARAPORNKITTIRAT, N.	THA	72	69	70	70	281	-7	\$2,850
9	VAN DER VALK, GUIDO	NED	71	69	73	69	282	-6	\$2,083
=	DUMANDAN, MARVIN	PHL	79	62	79	62	282	-6	\$2,083
=	ETTER, KRIS	PHL	69	71	74	68	282	-6	\$2,083





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VICT won the award for "Smart Infrastructure Project" in recognition of its automation at the 2017 National Infrastructure Awards, and gained the highest possible rating of "Leading" for sustainability from the Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia (ISCA), in line with the vision to be among the world's greenest terminals.



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Headquartered in Manila, Philippines, International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI) is in the business of port development, management, and operations. Independent of shipping, logistics, or consignee-related interests, ICTSI works transparently with all port community stakeholders. Operating in both developed and emerging market economies—in Asia Pacific, the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, and Africa—ICTSI has received global acclaim for its port privatization partnerships with governments.



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TIME TO GLIDE

3 PGT victories propel Mondilla to OOM plum

After racking up three victories in 2016, barely missing a fourth one on a playoff setback, Clyde Mondilla thought he could do better the next season.

He was right.

Not only did he get better. He also emerged as the best.

But Mondilla did so simply because he wanted to. While most of his peers would prepare for a tournament the conventional way, he would train from sun-up to sun-down, hitting balls at varied distances at the range, polishing his short game and putting and fine-tuning his swing.

Consequently, he was rewarded with three victories on the Philippine Golf Tour, including the revival of the Philippine Masters, the Manila Southwoods Championship and the ICTSI Players Championship, besting the fancied Angelo Que, Miguel Tabuena and many-time champion Tony Lascaña for the coveted Order of Merit title.

He also triumphed in the inaugural PGT Asia at Riviera, a victory that capped a breakout season for the former national hotshot.

Que and Tabuena also churned out a pair of victories each but the two aces spent most of the year campaigning

abroad while two foreigners hogged the spotlight with victories in the Solaire Philippine Open (Steve Lewton of England) and in the ICTSI Orchard Championship (Thai Gunn Charoenkul).

Lascaña, a former many-time OOM champion, slowed down with two victories after a big harvest of five the previous season while Zanieboy Gialon claimed the other win at Calatagan in the PGT reduced to an 11-leg tour owing to the launch of the region's newest circuit – the PGT Asia.

Earlier in the season, Tabuena nailed his first The Country Club Invitational crown with a tense one-stroke victory over three-time winner Juvic Pagunsan while Englishman Steve Lewton hacked out an equally thrilling playoff victory over American Johannes Veerman to claim the Solaire Philippine Open diadem.

With a new title comes with loads of challenges for the 23-year-old Mondilla, including invitations to play in top tournaments abroad as the country's top player. But the Del Monte star would surely love to establish himself more on the local circuit. After all, with a record calendar lined up for the 2018 season, not only on the PGT but also on the PGT Asia, Mondilla need not go and ply his trade elsewhere to take another glide to golf stardom.

TOUGHEST OF 'EM ALL

Tabuena thwarts
Pagunsan in wild,
wooly TCC finish



TOURNAMENT	THE COUNTRY CLUB INVITATIONAL
DATES	FEBRUARY 2, 2017 – FEBRUARY 5, 2017
VENUE	THE COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 5,000,000



'It has been my dream to win this tournament'

- TABUENA

1 A subdued Miguel Tabuena makes a fist-pump after a clutch putt that helped steer the young gun to a dream victory. **2** Angelo Que's superb bunker plays fail to give the former champion another crack at the TCC Invitational crown. **3** Juvic Pagunsan's tough shot from a tough lie in the second round made a big impact in the final reckoning.

WHAT is the best way to tame the rest of the elite field and a daunting course specifically updated to meet tough PGA standards? By combining some fine shotmaking with grit and poise.

Miguel Tabuena failed in his bid to defy the wind-raked course but succeeded in playing better than the other elite golfers to nail his first The Country Club - Don Pocholo Razon Memorial Cup crown at the TCC course in Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

Some would say it was Tabuena's innate skills as a shotmaker that came to the fore, enabling him to re-group in the last 18 holes and bounce back from what should have been a disastrous third round 80.

Others would contend it was third round leader Juvic Pagunsan letting what should have been a record fourth title slip away by playing below-par in two of the last three holes, capped by a bogey on No. 18 that totally blew his chances of forcing a playoff with Tabuena.

Still, it must be considered in all the discussions that Tabuena's final round 72 came out as the best for the day, giving him a 72-hole total of 301 that moved him from five down and onto the top.

Not exactly an impressive total, but enough to edge Pagunsan by one for the P1.5 million winner's purse.

"It has been my dream to win this tournament," said the 23-year-old after

adding the crown to his growing list of victories while finally joining the rarified circle of winners in what has long been considered as one of the country's major championships.

The 13-over total is really not something to crow about and certainly way below expectations for the 2015 Philippine Open winner. But Tabuena – or any player for that matter – would take it any time, fashioned as it was on a course that produced just one under-par round the whole week.

No thanks to the Tom Weiskopf-designed layout, which underwent a major facelift the last two years and now offers more challenges even to the best.

Aside from the increased length – it can play to a maximum yardage of 8,000 yards from the back tees – there are also the sleek, undulating putting surface, unsettling hazards, the roughs and the winds, which may come at an instant and alter a hole's character.

Just ask Pagunsan, a veteran campaigner who now usually struts his stuff in the Japan PGA Tour but whose abilities proved no match for the course – particularly on No. 18.

Still holding on to the hope of forcing a playoff after his bogey two holes before, Pagunsan steeled himself and made a cautious drive on the par-4, 516-yard 18th. His approach from 200 yards landed mere inches from his target. But, to his – and those that ringed the green – horror and dismay, the ball spun and rolled into the water hazard at the back.

That lake proved to be the graveyard for the 38-year-old's bid to become the first golfer to record a fourth win in the event put up by ICTSI chairman and president Ricky Razon in 2003 to honor the

memory of his father, ICTSI founder Don Pocholo, himself an avid golfer.

Tabuena, who was at the scorers' area and saw Pagunsan's wet shot, said he was ready for sudden death had it come. "I am always ready for a playoff," he said.

"I have no problems with No. 18. I'm pretty long off the tee and the wind was coming from the right so it's not too much of a concern," he added.

Of more worry for the Rio Olympian was his energy since it marked the fourth tournament he has played in in as many weeks.

"I felt tired playing for the fourth straight week," he admitted. "But it's certainly a good confidence boost."

At least, Pagunsan's 302 total brought about by his final round 78 was still better than the rest.

Japanese Toru Nakajima, who shot the tournament's lone under-par 70 to wrest control in the opening round, also fought back with a closing 73 to snatch third place at 304.

Three-time Asian Tour winner Angelo Que, running second after three rounds, got hobbled early by a 40, faded with an 81 and tumbled to fourth on a 306.

2016 Philippine Golf Tour Order of Merit winner Tony Lascuña, who also started the final round five off Pagunsan, birdied No. 2 but bogeyed four of the next five holes and bowed out with an 80. He ended up tied for fifth at 309 with Jhonnell Ababa, who also skied to an 80.

Worse off was Cassius Casas, who won the inaugural staging of the event in 2003 and reigned again in 2014 before the course's renovation, as he wound up 10th with a 317 after a 76.

Simply told, they all didn't work behind their respective plans as well as Tabuena did.

Five behind Pagunsan at the start of the day, Tabuena worked his way up with a birdie on No. 4 and an eagle on the par-5 eighth on a solid drive and a 7-iron second shot that landed 20 feet off the cup which he made for 33.

But just as he found his name on top of the leaderboard after Pagunsan made the turn at 39 on a double-bogey on No. 5 and a bogey on the sixth, Tabuena faltered. He drove out of bounds on No. 10 and went two-down again as Pagunsan birdied the par-5 hole.

That is when Tabuena toughened up even more with gutsy pars under wicked conditions in the next four holes.

Although Pagunsan continued to hold sway despite a bogey on the 11th, he lost grip of the lead and his form in the last three holes after both bogeyed the difficult par-4 15th.

"My plan for the front nine was to get within 2 or 3 (shots)," related the 2015 OOM champion. "But I saw that I was one-up. I executed my plan. I knew the pins are very, very difficult so I told myself to be smart."

The long, albeit successful, chase was brought about when Tabuena opened up the P5 million tournament with a 75.

He gained some ground with a second round best 74, only to fumble with his 80 on the next, his worst and first birdie-less round in a very long while, marred by two double bogeys and two bogeys at the front. He dropped two more strokes at the back.

Turned out he was just setting up the dramatic finish.

4 Though he fails to nail the coveted crown, Japanese Toru Nakajima still distinguished himself as the lone player to have submitted an under-par card (70) at the treacherous The Country Club course. 5 Three of the country's top guns – Lascuña, Pagunsan and Que – take steps forward only to be halted by Tabuena's big strides in the finishing holes. 6 Que and Jay Bayron's penchant for striped-colored shirts easily makes them a pair for any tag-team competition. 7 Intrigued by Tabuena's winning record, lady golfer Chihiro Ikeda checks what's inside the bag of the golf phenom. 8 Unable to put his act together on the course, Zanieboy Gialon turns to Elmer Salvador to put some comic relief to a grueling TCC Invitational campaign. 9 So used to pumping fists at the end of each campaign, Tony Lascuña this time finds himself slumped on the fringe, head bowed after closing out with a wind-blown 80.



THE COUNTRY CLUB Sta. Rosa, Laguna • (049) 554-9600

One of few executive golf clubs in Asia, The Country Club has also established a reputation as one of the country's toughest courses following a major facelift in the last two years. The course plays long at 7,256 yards although it could play to a maximum of 8,000 yards from the back tees in the presence of the wind. The increase in yardage also comes with a significant change in individual hole strategies to take better advantage of the wind as well as the old and new bunkers, lakes, streams and planted native areas. But the true satisfaction at the Tom Weiskoph masterpiece is finishing on the magnificent 18th, definitely one of the best finishing holes in Asia.

THE COUNTRY CLUB INVITATIONAL FINAL RANKING									
Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	TABUENA, MIGUEL	PHL	75	74	80	72	301	13	P1,500,000
2	PAGUNSAN, JUVIC	PHI	75	75	74	78	302	14	P700,000
3	NAKAJIMA, TORU	JPN	70	77	84	73	304	16	P450,000
4	QUE, ANGELO	PHI	72	75	78	81	306	18	P330,000
5	LASCUÑA, TONY	PHI	76	77	76	80	309	21	P217,500
=	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHI	72	78	79	80	309	21	P217,500
7	VAN DER VALK, GUIDO	NL	80	77	80	74	311	23	P160,000
8	VILLACENCIO, ARNOLD	PHI	75	77	77	84	313	25	P130,000
9	SUMCAD, ORLAN	PHI	79	76	80	81	316	28	P120,000
10	CASAS, CASSIUS	PHI	81	82	78	76	317	29	P105,000



BACK AS CHAMP

Que snaps long spell with 2nd Anvaya victory



TOURNAMENT	ANVAYA COVE INVITATIONAL
DATES	FEBRUARY 15, 2017 – FEBRUARY 18, 2017
VENUE	ANVAYA COVE GOLF & SPORTS CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 3,500,000



ONE wind-less day blew Angelo Que directly into a clear line of sight for a coveted goal. Que was among those a bit befuddled by the swirling winds at the scenic Anvaya Cove Golf and Sports Club in Morong, Bataan.

When the currents eased up on the third round, Que wasted no time reducing the rest of the field scrambling for crumbs at the ICTSI Anvaya Cove Invitational.

Despite a whopping seven-stroke lead going to the final round, the former Philippine Open winner even pressed his bid by gunning down five birdies, including four at the back, against a lone bogey for a 33-35 card and a 15-under 273 aggregate.

Those netted him a runaway nine-shot win worth P650,000 out of the total P3.5 million purse in the kickoff leg of the 2017 Philippine Golf Tour.

Just as important, the repeat triumph in the tournament he also ruled in 2015 ended Que's 22-month-long winless spell.

All because Que proved up to the challenge posed by the wind-raked course overlooking Subic Bay and a field featuring the cream of the country's pro crop, plus a host of foreign aces.

Going to the final 18 holes, it was only Toru Nakajima, the first round leader and Que's constant companion at the leaderboard in the first two days, he needed to keep a close tab on.

"I played according to my game plan and strategy," related Que. "I closely watched the Japanese because he's the only one capable of spoiling my quest."

Indeed, Nakajima was the only one who came close to Que as he carded a 70 for a 282 which was good enough for the P430,000 runner-up purse in the event sponsored by ICTSI and organized by Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc.

American Nicolas Paez rallied with the day's best of 65 to snatch third place at 288 worth P240,000 while veteran Frankie Miñoza and Paul Echavez carded identical 71s to finish tied at fourth at 294. Each received P175,000.

Omar Dungca also shot a 71 to share sixth with Rufino Bayron, who stumbled with a 73, at 295 worth P115,000 each while Tony Lascaña failed to come up with a follow-up to his back-to-back 69s, limping with a 74 for joint eighth.

Orlan Sumcad and Japanese Shotaro Onuki, who matched par 72s, came next at 296.

Nakajima failed in his bid to score a second victory since winning at Wack Wack in 2013, but was still gracious in defeat.

"I offer no alibi for my defeat. He (Que) won fair and square. He played consistently throughout. I congratulate him for a job well done," said Nakajima.

The 32-year-old Tokyo native and regular campaigner in the local circuit actually conceded the crown as early as after the third round.

'I closely watched the Japanese because he's the only one capable of spoiling my quest'

- QUE

1 Her right foot barely keeping her in the cart, Angelo Que's bag totter perhaps had the last laugh after coming out with the right player to caddy her. **2** Two years after beating Tony Lascaña by three for his first Anvaya Cove Invitational crown, Que hoists a second trophy, this time by a wide margin – a nine-stroke romp over Japanese Toru Nakajima. **3** Nakajima fails to sustain the awesome form off the tee that netted him the first round lead, settling for second in the end – nine shots behind.



4 Even before hacking his first tee-shot in the final round, Que has hinted at nailing a second Anvaya Cove Invitational win in three years. 5 The sight must be something to behold for this bunch of players and caddies to be glued together. 6 Omar Dungca must've hit a very poor shot that he needs the help of seven others to search for the ball. 7 Short in height but long in talent, Zanieboy Gialon and Joenard Rates continue to provide the challenge to the tour's big guns. 8 Not that veteran Frankie Miñoza is aiming for No. 1 but only signaling an out-of-bounds drive on No. 14. 9 Despite flubbing a birdie putt from close range, Nicholas Paez still produced the final round best of 65 to net the American solo third place. 10 One wayward shot at the wind-ranked Anvaya Cove course could indeed hamper one's campaign like what (from left) Jay Bayron, Albin Engino and even Que had gone through.



ANVAYA COVE GOLF & SPORTS CLUB
Morong, Bataan • (02) 793-9000

Named the 'Best Golf Course in Asia' in 2014, Anvaya Cove boasts of an 18-hole all-weather sustainable golf course, a world-class golf club and an extensive sports complex in Morong, Bataan. The frontside, dubbed the Mountain Nine, is situated on or near the peaks and ridges of the development and offers majestic vistas of the sea and the Zambales and Bataan mountain ranges. The last nine holes, known as Seaside Nine, are reminiscent of popular seaside courses and combine panoramic sea views with those of the forest reserves with No. 13, called 'Reflection,' standing out from among the holes for its peninsular green at 130 meters above the ocean. Actually, each hole has its own personality to underscore the co-existence of great golf and the environment.

ANVAYA COVE INVITATIONAL FINAL RANKING									
Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	QUE, ANGELO	PHL	70	69	66	68	273	-15	P650,000
2	NAKAJIMA, TORU	JPN	68	72	72	70	282	-6	P430,000
3	PAEZ, NICOLAS	USA	76	71	76	65	288	0	P240,000
4	ECHAVEZ, PAUL	PHI	79	73	71	71	294	6	P175,000
=	MIÑOZA, FRANKIE	PHI	77	73	73	71	294	6	P175,000
6	BAYRON, RUFINO	PHI	81	70	71	73	295	7	P125,000
=	DUNGCA, OMAR	PHI	81	67	76	71	295	7	P125,000
8	LASCUÑA, TONY	PHI	84	69	69	74	296	8	P88,833
=	SUMCAD, ORLAN	PHI	76	75	73	72	296	8	P88,833
=	ONUKE, SHOTARO	JPN	78	72	74	72	296	8	P88,833

Que gave him good reason for doing so.

When the wind let up on that Friday Que didn't, using a combination of power hits, superb iron game and solid putting to shoot a six-under 66 he spiked with two eagles.

Like in the first two rounds Que holed out with a bogey on No. 18. But that hardly mattered as the virtually insurmountable seven-shot barrier has already been put up between him and the Japanese.

"All I need is watch out for Nakajima. Even if the rest would score low, I wouldn't mind since they're too far behind to contend with," said Que.

"Overcoming a seven-stroke deficit is a difficult task," admitted Nakajima.

More so for the others, who were at least another eight shots back as Que went on his binge right after dropping into a tie with Nakajima following a bogey on the very first hole.

Que immediately went five-under in the next four holes, spiked by a 40-foot eagle putt on the par-4 332-yard No. 3. He made the turn at 32, eagled the par-5 No. 10 from 20 feet after a 7-iron second shot from 160 yards, then birdied the next before settling for a run of pars and a missed green bogey on the 54th hole.

The two-man duel was set up as early as after the second round from where Que and Nakajima emerged as 1-2.

While the winds were largely blamed for several over-par scores on another trying day, little complaint was heard from Que, who came up with a 69 for a 139 total and a one-shot lead over Nakajima.

Nakajima could have retained the lead he held since opening up with a 68, but stumbled with bogeys on Nos. 14 and 18 and settled for a 72.

The rest of the original 112-man field were at least seven shots behind, all

victims of the winds that suddenly blew from all over and in various directions all day.

So severely tested were the participants by the flag-bending gusts that Nakajima admitted his 68 on opening day could be considered a fluke.

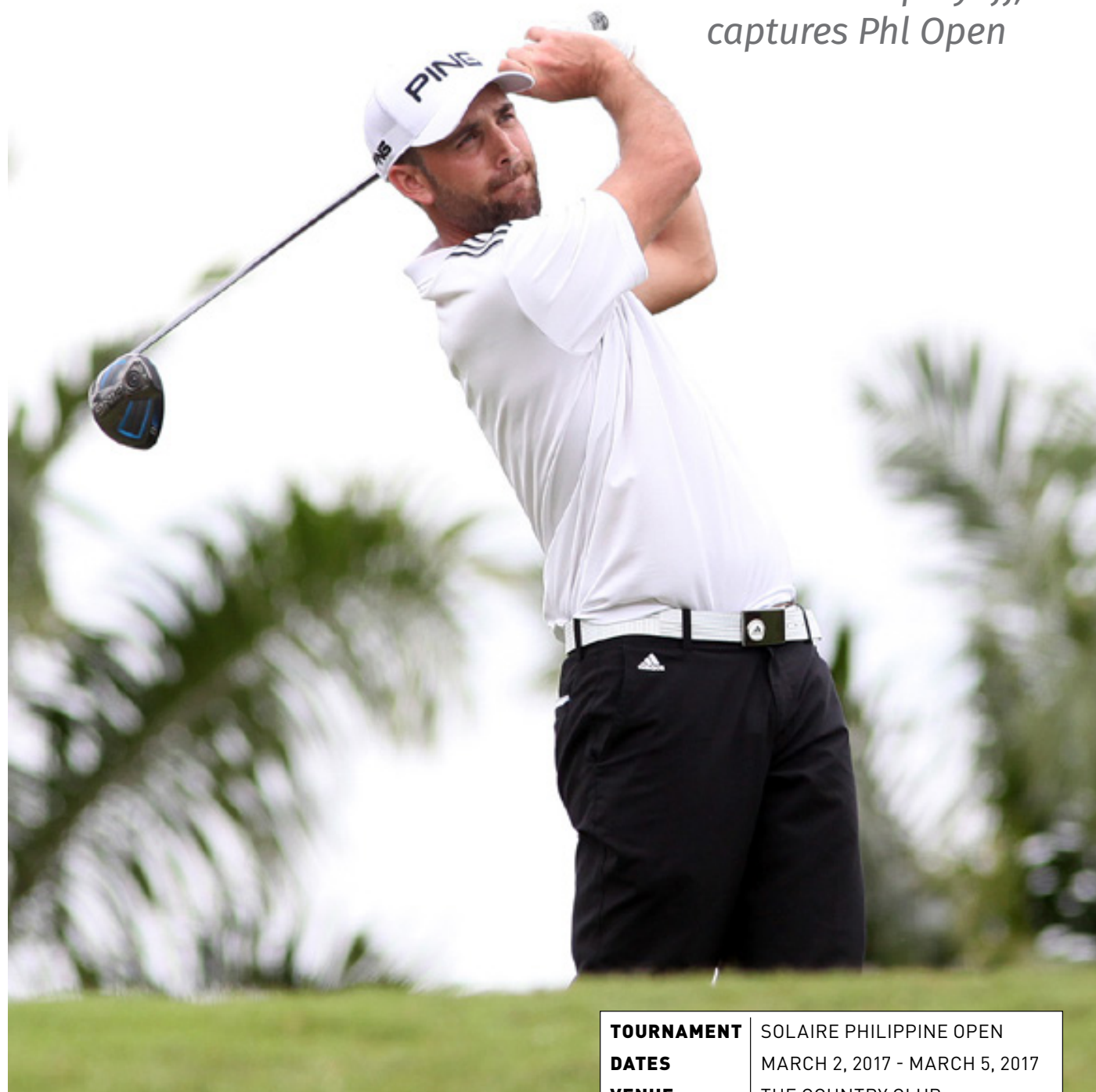
"The wind was very strong, the strongest I ever experienced here and I'm lucky to have made a sub-par round," said Nakajima, his sentiment echoed by Que.

"It was so tough playing in the wind. I was just lucky to shoot under par," was how Que put it.

But it was apparent then – and borne out by latter rounds – that Que was merely waiting for the right time to wrest control.

CENTER OF ATTRACTION

*Lanky Lewton nips
Veerman in playoff,
captures Phl Open*



TOURNAMENT	SOLAIRE PHILIPPINE OPEN
DATES	MARCH 2, 2017 - MARCH 5, 2017
VENUE	THE COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	\$ 400,000



'It's good to come back and play well again'

- LEWTON

It's easy to spot Steve Lewton on the fairway or on the green. Nearly 6-foot-4, he usually towers over his flightmates, especially among local pros.

Even when the players aren't fully visible, however, it's relatively easy to guess where Lewton really is.

Most likely, he's the one who hits the ball higher or longer, whatever is required of the shot.

That's because Lewton, despite his lean 180-pound frame, packs power. And coupled with a smooth, flowing swing, he drives over 307 yards with ease.

No wonder, the Englishman thrives on long, wind-whipped course like The Country Club in Santa Rosa, Laguna.

But length isn't Lewton's lone strength. The 34-year-old is also steady and doesn't count on luck nor gut feel. He always studies the intricacies of each course he plays whenever time permits.

Take the 99th Philippine Solaire Open at TCC.

Though he has tackled the par-72 layout in the 2014 Solaire Open and did well enough to wind up fourth, Lewton knew that it has undergone a facelift and has gotten longer not to mention tougher.

So he flew into the country two weeks before the start of the \$400,000 tournament and spent time honing his driving and putting on the course designed by Tom Weiskopf.

Having done his homework, Lewton, who hails from Northampton, England, but studied at North Carolina State University in the United States, felt confident of faring well even before the inaugural tee-off in one of the country's premier championships.

Lewton believed the time has come for a follow-up to his breakthrough victory in the 2014 Mercuries Taiwan Masters.

True enough, he defied the winds that blew nearly 30 kilometers per hour to shoot 70-71-71 in the first three rounds.

In the last round, however, organizers made the pin placements even more difficult and the entire field, including Lewton, yielded.

He tallied a 75, enabling American Johannes Veerman, who carded a 73, to force a sudden death at 287.

Lewton and Veerman returned to the par 4 18th, where the winner was finally decided in a putting duel.

Guided by the same line of putt he missed holing out in regulation, Lewton, who came out of a greenside bunker, drilled in a downside 12-footer and then watched Veerman, who reached the green in regulation, miss the cup by an inch from seven-feet to bag the net \$72,000 top purse.

1, 2, 3 Steve Lewton gives his trusted putter a precious look after hacking out the win with a clutch 12-foot putt in sudden death.



Thai Rattanon Wannarischan, the third man on the championship flight, got stymied by a double-bogey on No. 17, then flubbed his closing par putt to miss the playoff by one.

American Blake Snyder wound up fourth, while 2015 Philippine Open champion Miguel Tabuena finished joint fifth and emerged the best Filipino performer.

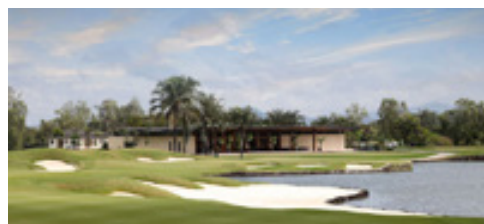
"It's good to come back and play well again," said Lewton. "It was a struggle toward the end with very difficult pin placements and wind blowing 30 mph."

In high spirits, Lewton took part in the 2017 New Zealand Open the following week, where, unfortunately, he missed the cut.

Last heard of, he had also scooped up a victory and faring well in other legs of the Jamega Pro Tour in the United Kingdom.

Lewton, however, promised to return and defend his Philippine Open crown.

With his length and talent, toppling Lewton in 2018 will be a tall order.



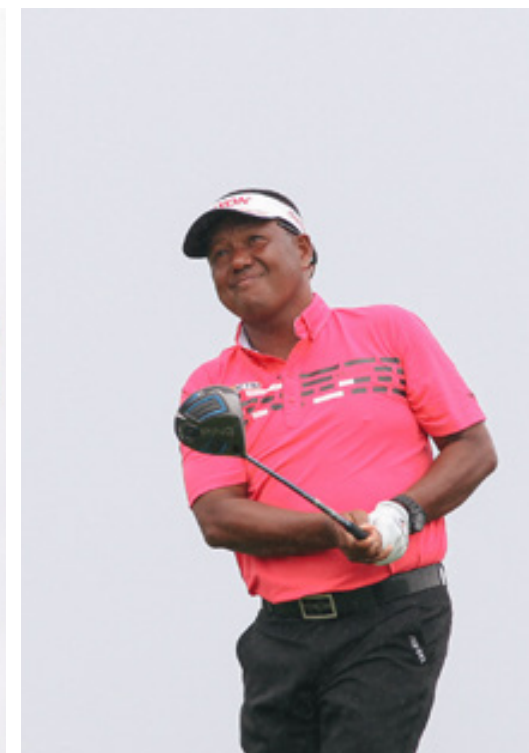
THE COUNTRY CLUB

Sta. Rosa, Laguna • (049) 554-9600

One of few executive golf clubs in Asia, The Country Club has also established a reputation as one of the country's toughest courses following a major facelift in the last two years. The course plays long at 7,256 yards although it could play to a maximum of 8,000 yards from the back tees in the presence of the wind. The increase in yardage also comes with a significant change in individual hole strategies to take better advantage of the wind as well as the old and new bunkers, lakes, streams and planted native areas. But the true satisfaction at the Tom Weiskoph masterpiece is finishing on the magnificent 18th, definitely one of the best finishing holes in Asia.

SOLAIRE PHILIPPINE OPEN FINAL RANKING

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	LEWTON, STEVE	ENG	70	71	71	75	287	-1	\$72,000
=	VEERMAN, JOHANNES	USA	74	69	71	73	287	-1	\$44,000
3	WANNASRICHAN, RATTANON	THA	72	71	72	73	288	0	\$25,200
4	SNYDER, BLAKE	USA	72	75	72	72	291	0	\$20,000
5	YONGCHAROENCHAI, S.	THA	75	70	74	73	292	4	\$12,730
=	SLORACH, MITCHELL	SIN	72	73	74	73	292	4	\$12,730
=	MUNSON, BRETT	USA	73	74	71	74	292	4	\$12,730
=	TABUENA, MIGUEL	PHI	70	73	75	74	292	4	\$12,730
9	PAEZ, NICOLAS	USA	71	77	73	72	293	5	\$8,560
10	NAKAJIMA, TORU	JPN	70	75	77	72	294	6	\$7,640



4 Johannes Veerman checks and reads the line of his putt then buries his head after missing forcing another sudden death hole. 5 Veteran of many championships, Mardan Mamat of Singapore (left) can still be edgy at times, particularly after barely hurdling the treacherous par-3 17th to the delight of flightmate and fellow seasoned campaigner Lin Wen Tang of Taiwan. 6 Panulat Muentek gets some help from Rufino Bayron's line of putt to salvage a decent 72 in the opening round but the Thai fails to draw any assistance from thereon and ended up way down at joint 50th. 7 American John Catlin meticulously weighs down on his choice of wedge en route to a lead-grabbing 68 in the first round. 8 James Ryan Lam may have missed the cut but still left the Phil. Open a winner. 9 Tony Lascuña and Lin make light of their so-so showing. 10 Rattanon Wannarischan's flubbed putt on the 72nd cost the Thai ace a spot in the playoff. 11 Winners of The Country Club Invitational, Angelo Que, Miguel Tabuena, and Lascuña all struggled at the TCC layout which underwent a major facelift with Tabuena emerging the top local finisher at joint fifth.

BREAKING THROUGH

MEN'S TOUR



Multi-titled Lascaña finally unravels Eastridge puzzle

TOURNAMENT	MANILA MASTERS
DATES	APRIL 5, 2017 - APRIL 8, 2017
VENUE	EASTRIDGE GOLF CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 3,000,000

Neither a gimpy foot nor a determined bunch of foes would keep Tony Lascaña from realizing a long-cherished dream.

That was what Jay Bayron and the rest of the ICTSI Manila Masters field found out to their consternation when Lascaña finally conquered the imposing Eastridge Golf Club in Binangonan, Rizal.

The 47-year-old, favoring an arthritic foot, did not let the up-and-down, hazard-laden layout stymie his bid and showed it by capping his comeback from three strokes down with a difficult birdie putt on the final hole.

The pressure-packed putt gave Lascaña a final round 70, a 285 aggregate and a one-shot win over Bayron worth P550,000.

"I really wanted this one very badly since I've never won here at Eastridge for years," said Lascaña, who has racked up victories in most other places even before turning pro in 1997, but found the course carved on the slopes of Angono and Binangonan too puzzling for his taste.

Until this year.

"I played good and my putting clicked," beamed the ace from Davao.

Bayron could at least have delayed his provincemate's celebrations with a playoff and that should have been bouncing around his head when he pulled within one shot off Lascaña after birdieing the 17th, which the latter bogeyed.

The possibility of sudden death loomed even larger after Bayron finished the final round with a tap-in birdie for his 71 and Lascaña's pitch from 40 yards stopped 14 feet short.

That was when the 2016 PGT Order of Merit champion showed his steely nerves by sinking the 14-foot uphill putt.



1 This is one victory that should rank among the best for Tony Lascaña. **2** Jhonnel Ababa fails to swing to the top with a so-so windup. **3** One need not look far ahead to grasp what stymied Jay Bayron's title drive.

"He's really good at putting," said Bayron, who wound up with a 286 and settled for P370,000 in the P3 million event.

Proving costly for Bayron was his triple-bogey 7 on No. 9, although he did give himself a shot at the title through three birdies in the last four holes.

The finish, minus the thrills, was exactly what Lascaña envisioned despite finishing the third round with a 76 that put him three down behind Dutch Guido Van der



'I really wanted this one very badly since I've never won here at Eastridge for years'

- LASCUÑA

Valk, who seized the lead with a 71 while the second round leader submitted a 76.

"He (Van der Valk) should watch out for me. He'll crack up the way he did when I beat him in a playoff last year," stated Lascaña, who edged the 37-year-old Dutch and the young Micah Shin in a playoff to rule the Bacolod stop of the PGT, one of his five-leg victories in 2015.

"We'll see. It depends on the wind," said Van der Valk. The Manila-based shotmaker's chances did get blown away, but not by the gusting currents but by his own balky putting.

"I played horrible. My putting was really bad and I'm very disgusted it happened in the final round," said Van der Valk, who saw his overnight lead disappear following a bogey-riddled, birdie-less 41.

Lascaña, meanwhile, emerged from the front nine with a 35 to take charge by three even as Bayron, who shared the lead up to the eighth, dropped three strokes on the ninth.

Van der Valk fought back with birdies on Nos. 10 and 13 but faltered again with a triple-bogey on the 16th and ended up with a 78 and a 290, tumbling down to sixth place worth P115,000.

Hiroto Naito of Japan charged from way down with a tournament-best-tying 68 to share third with Jhonnell Ababa, who matched par 72, on 288 worth P190,000 each. American Josh Salah also carded a 71 to place fifth at 289 and received P130,000.

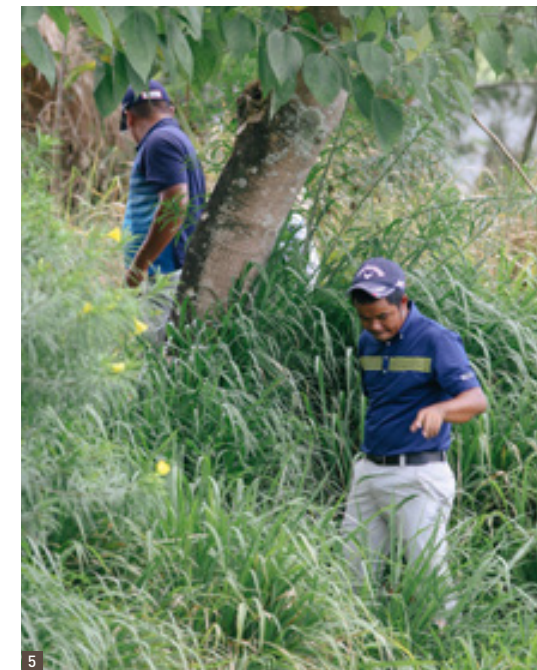
A glimpse of the final round foldup, which extended Van der Valk's winless run in the circuit, was had when he gunned down three birdies on the front nine for a 71 in the third round to raze Lascaña's overnight two-shot lead and go up by three going to the last 18 holes.

The lead could have been higher, but Van der Valk ended his solid run from the second round with bogeys on the two par-3s at the back, winding up his round with a 38.

Despite three three-putts and four muffed birdie chances, Lascaña remained confident his putting, which netted him a 69 and a 70 in the first two rounds, would return.

When it mattered most, it did.

4 Japanese Hiroto Naito couldn't back up his final round rally of 68, falling short by three to finish joint third with Ababa. 5 Zanieboy Gialon and Miguel Ochoa find their respective title bids buried in the thick grasses of Eastridge. 6 Angelo Que knocks down an approach shot that, however, failed to keep the veteran campaigner in the hunt. 7 Another mediocre finish leaves Anthony Fernando thirsting for victory. 8 While the others find the tall grasses of Eastridge not to their liking, Lascaña used his veteran smarts not only to wheel back into contention but also win the championship. 9 Mhark Fernando must've rued changing clubs as he tries to squeeze out a tough shot from a root of a tree. 10 A final round struggle fails to put some blast in Guido Van der Valk's title drive. 11 Rey Pagusan's reaction says it all after failing to advance for the nth time.



EASTRIDGE GOLF CLUB
Binangonan, Rizal • (02) 651-2240

An 18-hole golf course situated on top of Rizal's mountains, Eastridge Golf Club is so unique that it gives a much different experience with its ridge terrains, contours of the landscape, rolling hills, ravines and hazards plus unpredictable putting surface. More so, it gives the players scenic panoramic views of the Laguna de Bay and the skylines of Ortigas and Makati.

MANILA MASTERS FINAL RANKING										
Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS	
1	LASCUÑA, TONY	PHL	69	70	76	70	285	-3	P550,000	
2	BAYRON, JAY	PHL	72	72	71	71	286	-2	P370,000	
3	NAITO, HIROTARO	JPN	78	71	71	68	288	0	P190,000	
=	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHL	73	73	70	72	288	0	P190,000	
5	SALAH, JOSH	USA	72	71	75	71	289	1	P130,000	
6	VAN DER VALK, GUIDO	NL	72	69	71	78	290	2	P115,000	
7	FERNANDO, MHARK	PHL	73	71	75	72	291	3	P82,000	
=	O'TOOLE, JOHN MICHAEL	USA	75	73	70	73	291	3	P82,000	
=	MENOR, RENE	PHL	71	73	74	73	291	3	P82,000	
=	HARRIS, PAUL	USA	77	70	69	75	291	3	P82,000	



LUISITA ON MY MIND

Tabuena overcomes huge deficit, edges Keyser in playoff



TOURNAMENT	LUISITA CHAMPIONSHIP
DATES	MAY 3, 2017 - MAY 6, 2017
VENUE	LUISITA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	\$ 60,000

'I'm very happy because I made it despite the odds where I trailed all throughout'

- TABUENA

Wonder no more why Miguel Tabuena always gets listed among the favorites when he joins local tournaments. Invariably, Tabuena figures prominently in the money derby. His showing in 2017 ICTSI Philippine Golf Tour being the norm rather than the exception.



1



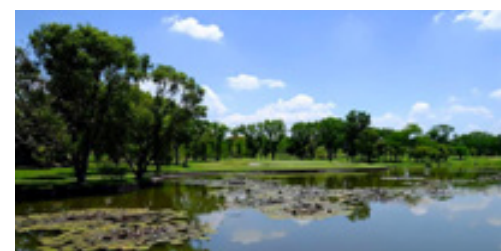
2

Tabuena took part in just five events and placed no lower than fifth in all of them. Twice, Tabuena won. First, he topped the The Country Club Invitational to open the season then snagged the ICTSI Luisita Championship. It was at the quaint Luisita Golf and Country Club layout in Tarlac, where the young ace shotmaker stamped his mark as a seasoned pro. Dismissed as a title contender after falling seven shots off the pace entering the final round, Tabuena mounted a comeback that left competitors drooling in admiration. Here's a guy who's only 23 and is already the most accomplished Filipino golfer of his generation. A prodigy, he held his first golf club when he was just 20 months old and already owned a fine swing when he was three. At eight years old, he became a World Kids champion in his age division. At 17, he bagged an Asian Games silver medal in Guangzhou, China. At 21, he won the 2015 Philippine Open presented by ICTSI, also at Luisita. That time, he also clinched the PGT Order of Merit title. At 22, he became the first Filipino golf Olympian in the 2016 Rio de Janeiro edition though he didn't play through his full potential with a hurting shoulder. In 2017, he claimed the distinction as the maiden leg winner of the PGT Asia Tour (Aboitiz Invitational).

1 Miguel Tabuena, Japanese Toru Nakajima and Elmer Salvador show their respective 'balls' before teeing up. 2 Tabuena tracks down another championship at what has become his 'home' - the Luisita Golf and Country Club, nailing his third crown at the Tarlac layout via sudden death over South African Mathiam Keyser.



3 Miguel Tabuena and Jake Shepherd clean up their respective lines of putt but didn't meet head-on for the championship. **4** Despite a career-best, bogey-free, seven-under 65 in the final round, Keanu Jahns still falls short by one off a playoff spot. **5** Tony Lascaña and John Michael O'Toole take their turn on the mound as if they were in a mano-o-mano duel. **6** No, they aren't playing the popular Filipino hand game 'jack-en-poy' but simply settling their turn on the mound. **7** After two brilliant, lead-grabbing rounds, Micah Shin finds the quaint Luisita layout not to his complete liking. **8** While Keyser kept his solid start to vie for the crown, first day co-leader John Catlin sputtered despite superb bunker saves in the next three rounds. **9** Trapped under the old Luisita trees, Mathiam Keyser looks for an open spot for a bailout shot. **10** John Michael O'Toole's caddie must've been wondering how his player could line up a putt through this style. **11** Failing to sustain a run of under par rounds in the first three rounds, Salvador seems to be resorting to a 'call a friend' lifeline to save a floundering bid.



LUISITA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
San Miguel, Tarlac, Tarlac • (045) 985-2240

Considered as one of the finest 18-hole, par-72 championship courses in the country, the Luisita Golf and Country Club has been home to the President's Cup, one of the country's four majors in the 90s. Situated on a 70-hectare area bounded on the east by a sugar central, it is the only golf course designed by the renowned Robert Trent Jones, Sr. in the country. The front nine is built mostly on an open but rolling ground while the backside is shaped by meandering creek. Experienced golfers trying to aim for a low score.

LUISITA CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL RANKING

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	TABUENA, MIGUEL	PHL	73	69	69	66	277	-11	\$10,500
2	KEYSER, MATHIAM	RSA	66	71	69	71	277	-11	\$6,900
3	JAHNS, KEANU	PHL	73	72	68	65	278	-10	\$4,200
4	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHL	72	68	69	70	279	-9	\$2,740
=	MUNSON, BRETT	USA	67	70	72	70	279	-9	\$2,740
=	LASCUÑA, TONY	PHL	79	67	71	71	279	-9	\$2,740
7	GLEESON, DAVID	AUS	70	72	73	65	280	-8	\$1,507
=	HARRIS, PAUL	USA	72	70	70	68	280	-8	\$1,507
=	CATLIN, JOHN	USA	66	73	69	72	280	-8	\$1,507
=	O'TOOLE, J MICHAEL	USA	67	70	67	76	280	-8	\$1,507

Still, it was Tabuena's third triumph at Luisita, where he also ruled the Central Azucarera de Tarlac Open in 2015, that will be included in local golf lore.

Outside of the radar of the third round leaders, Tabuena stealthily made his move, eventually shooting a bogey-free 65 that enabled him to catch up with South African Mathiam Keyser, who carded a 71, after 72 holes. They both wound up with 11-under 277 totals.

Their sudden death duel for the crown and the \$10,500 that went with it didn't take long.

In their return to No. 18, Keyser hit an errant drive that found the pond en route to a double bogey, while Tabuena made a routine par for his 13th victory in the country.

"I'm very happy because I made it despite the odds where I trailed all throughout," said Tabuena, who opened with a 73 before firing a pair of 69s that barely put him in the top 30.

While he enjoyed tremendous success on home soil, Tabuena failed to sparkle in his foreign stints this year, missing the cut five times in 15 appearances.

Tabuena's best finishes thus far was a share of third place in the Myanmar Open, joint fifth in the Yeangder Heritage Open and a share of seventh in the Macao Open last October.

As a result, Tabuena's world ranking dipped to 353 from as high as 105 two years ago.

No need to worry though.

Tabuena's slump will soon be over with more PGT Asia legs on tap in the country.

At home, particularly at the Tarlac layout, Tabuena usually holds sway.

GUNN WITH THE WIND

Thai blows huge lead, but clings on to ward off Mondilla



TOURNAMENT	ORCHARD GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP
DATES	MAY 10, 2017 - MAY 13, 2017
VENUE	THE ORCHARD GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	\$ 60,000



What happens when one's magic touch suddenly wavers on the golf course? Normally, it will lead to disastrous results. But

it didn't turn out that way for Gunn Charoenkul in the ICTSI Orchard Invitational. He was lucky to survive and nail the big win.

The Thailand ace's build-up in the first 16 holes in the final round provided a buffer to his horrible collapse in the stretch at the Player course of the Orchard Golf and Country Club in Dasmariñas, Cavite.

Charoenkul crawled home with back-to-back double bogeys but still emerged champion.

Thanks to his seven-stroke cushion heading to the 17th, Charoenkul was able to weather the hot-charging Clyde Mondilla's final assault.

"I'm happy because all my effort and sacrifices for four days didn't go to waste," said Charoenkul, who after a flawless start went the way no one would ever dare to in the final holes of a big tournament - hazards, roughs and bunkers.

But he endured those double bogeys and watched Mondilla run out of holes to

become the first Thai to win at Orchard. "This is a big boost to my confidence," said the 25-year-old touring pro from Phanga Nga in south of Bangkok.

The Filipino shotmaker turned in a birdie-birdie finish for a six-shot swing that was a tad short of the title.

And if Mondilla is going to look for the culprit behind the shortfall, it's going to be the par-3 No. 14. For four straight days, he bogeyed that hole, costing him four strokes no less.

The 25-year-old Charoenkul actually started bad with a 75, but put himself back in the mix with a 68 in the second day and



1 In trouble in the closing holes, Gunn Charoenkul hangs on to hold off the rallying Clyde Mondilla and clinch the championship. **2** Under the gun from a late-charging Mondilla, Charoenkul washes away all his worries after escaping with a one-stroke victory. **3** Mondilla comes up with a pump after a birdie feat but still falls short by one for a playoff bid.

then a 67 spiked by a closing eagle in the penultimate round to tie Mondilla at second, just a shot over third round leader Jay Bayron.

Charoenkul came out of the final round smoking, riddling the front side with five birdies to pull away with a 31 after nine holes and was up by seven after a birdie on No. 16.

But just when the field had given up chasing him, however, Charoenkul got lost in a maze of wayward drives, misplaced approach shots, and misread putts.

Only Mondilla was within sight, but he simply ran out of holes.

With a seven-under 281 total, Charoenkul thus became the first Thai to win at Orchard, continuing his quest for Asian Tour glory that started in 2011 when he was regarded as one of Thailand's top young guns.

It took a while for Charoenkul, whose fascination for the game started when his dad gifted him with a plastic golf set when he was five, to live up to the hype, scoring his breakthrough triumph in the 2014 Chongqing Jiangnan Open and replicating it in the 2016 Yunnan Open.

Credit that to his well-rounded training program that includes jogging, working on his putting, which he considers the strongest facet of his game – chipping and pitching, driving, gym work and mental drills.

Turning busy this year, Charoenkul competed in 17 events, missing the cut just twice while posting a best finish of joint second in the Taifong Open.

He also tied for fourth in the Singha Phuket Open and shared fifth place in the Ciputra Golfpreneur Tour.

Charoenkul's hectic schedule, of course, excluded his side trip to ICTSI Orchard.

Right after his great escape, Charoenkul flew back home for the Thailand Open, where he surpassed his Orchard score with rounds of 69-68-70-69 = 276. That time though, he had to settle for joint 28th.

But Charoenkul didn't mind.

Gunn's magic trick was gone.

'I'm happy because all my effort and sacrifices for four days didn't go to waste'

- GUNN



THE ORCHARD GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
Dasmariñas, Cavite • (02) 982-2000

The Orchard is distinguished by two world class championship courses, The Arnold Palmer Course and the Gary Player Course. Both have hosted international and national competitions, (1995 Johnnie Walker Classic, The 1996 World Golf Tour), and professional and amateur tournaments (The Philippine Amateur Matchplay Championships, Philippine Professional Tour events, etc). It actively supports golf course maintenance programs, a national handicapping system, and preserving wildlife sanctuaries.

ORCHARD GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL RANKING									
Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	CHAROENKUL, GUNN	THA	75	68	67	71	281	-7	\$10,500
2	MONDILLA, CLYDE	PHL	68	71	71	72	282	-6	\$6,900
3	LEPKURTE, KASIDIT	THA	73	71	71	68	283	-5	\$3,780
=	SALVADOR, ELMER	PHL	70	70	75	68	283	-5	\$3,780
5	MUENLEK, PANUWAT	THA	76	70	68	70	284	-4	\$2,240
6	CANNON, WILLIAM	USA	70	72	72	70	284	-4	\$2,240
=	BAYRON, JAY	PHL	71	69	69	75	284	-4	\$2,240
8	PREMSIRIGORN, J.	THA	73	75	71	67	286	-2	\$1,390
=	SHIN, MICAHA	USA	71	74	74	67	286	-2	\$1,390
=	CATLIN, JOHN	USA	68	75	72	71	286	-2	\$1,390

4 Just one behind after back-to-back 70s, Elmer Salvador struggles from around the green and reels back with a third round 75. **5** American William Cannon couldn't blast off in full steam with a number of visits in the bunkers. **6** Multi-titled Tony Lascaña could be looking at the future of Philippine golf. **7** Talk about synchronization and Jhonnell Ababa and partner (left photo) and Nelson Huerva and partner best typify cohesion in the individual sport. **8** Jay Bayron lets out his frustration after blowing a third round lead with a closing 75. **9** Thai Kasidit Lepkurte isn't asking for Divine intervention but is simply checking the wind direction before teeing off. **10** Unable to hit a good shot, Randy Garalde retrieves the ball from the thick grasses and takes a penalty drop.



LEARNING CURVE

Mondilla upends Tabuena, Lascaña in wet, wild finish



TOURNAMENT	MANILA SOUTHWOODS CHAMPIONSHIP
DATES	MAY 17, 2017 - MAY 20, 2017
VENUE	THE MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF & CC
PRIZE MONEY	\$ 60,000



'I'm so happy to beat our top two players, but I learned a lot from them'

- MONDILLA

With summer almost over and torrential rains starting to fall, Clyde Mondilla did an excellent account of himself to snatch the \$60,000 ICTSI Manila Southwoods Championship, beating a slew of stars that included perennial contenders Miguel Tabuena and Tony Lascaña.

Mondilla upstaged Tabuena and Lascaña as the weather did not get any better in a final round shootout that netted the eventual winner a brilliant charge with a 66 for a one-stroke victory at the Carmona, Cavite, layout.

Mondilla transformed the Legends course into his virtual playground. He watched from the background earlier in the final

round as Lascaña outgunned Tabuena at the front, in the process overhauling a three-stroke deficit to go 1-up.

But as the spotlight was on the two protagonists, Mondilla crept and clawed back from two shots down with a near-impeccable closing 33, watched his fancied rivals crack under pressure and flub birdie chances at the finish to complete a steal of a win on a 22-under 266 total.

"I'm so happy to beat our top two players, but I learned a lot from them," said Mondilla, who cashed in on his length off the tee and sneaked into the lead with four birdies in a five-hole stretch from No. 11.

He turned a two-stroke deficit into a two-shot edge and preserved a one-stroke lead after that late bogey mishap with clutch pars to wrap up the crown and the \$10,500 champion's purse put up by ICTSI.

1 Clyde Mondilla lets it all out – for good reasons – beating two former Order of Merit winners and claiming his first championship at Manila Southwoods. **2** His reaction says it all for Tony Lascaña, who flubbed his birdie bid on the 72nd hole and missed forcing a playoff.

The week started with eyes focused on Tabuena and Lascaña – and only partially on Mondilla, who was coming off a second-place finish behind Thailand's Gunn Charoenkul at the Orchard Championship.

The locals were in the hunt for redemption after being shut out of the Top 10 of the same tournament last year dominated by Gavin Green. The Malaysian won by two shots over Koh Deng Shan of Singapore with Tabuena emerging as the best local finisher at joint 13th.

But the hosts had hoped for a better finish this time with a fully-rested Tabuena seeking a second crown in three weeks, Lascaña out to follow up on his Manila Masters victory in April and Mondilla upbeat after his runner-up finish at Orchard.

"It's always a happy feeling playing at home. And I'm looking forward to another great week," said the 22-year-old Tabuena, who skipped the Orchard tilt to rest following a grueling campaign that included stints in the Asian Tour and Japan PGA.

But the locals found out they have some catching up to do when action began.

Macedonia's Peter Stojanovski did most out of a three-hour long weather delay with a cluster of birdies at the back late in the day and matched Lascuña's course record-equaling 10-under 62 to share a one-shot first-round lead over American Lexus Keoninh.

Tabuena and Mondilla?

Tabuena missed scoring a 66 with a bogey on the par-3 16th for a 67 and Mondilla rattled off seven birdies to negate a two-bogey mishap to share 18th place with Charles Hong, Edward Reyes, Frankie Miñoza, Mhark Fernando and rookie pro Ira Alido with 68s.

But after obscure Nilo Salahog took charge in another weather-delay second round and faded the next day and power-hitting Orlan Sumcad surged and reeled back, Mondilla came out of nowhere to grab the clubhouse lead with an eagle-spiked 66 in a twice weather-delayed third round then struck from behind in the stretch to spoil the projected Tabuena-Lascuña title duel.

"I'm playing solid. Since most were shooting low, I told myself that I should also make my move. I was lucky to hit a lot of birdies and the eagle proved to be a bonus," Mondilla said.

Lascuña ended up with a 67 while Tabuena slowed down with a 70 for 267s. They split the combined \$11,100 prizes.

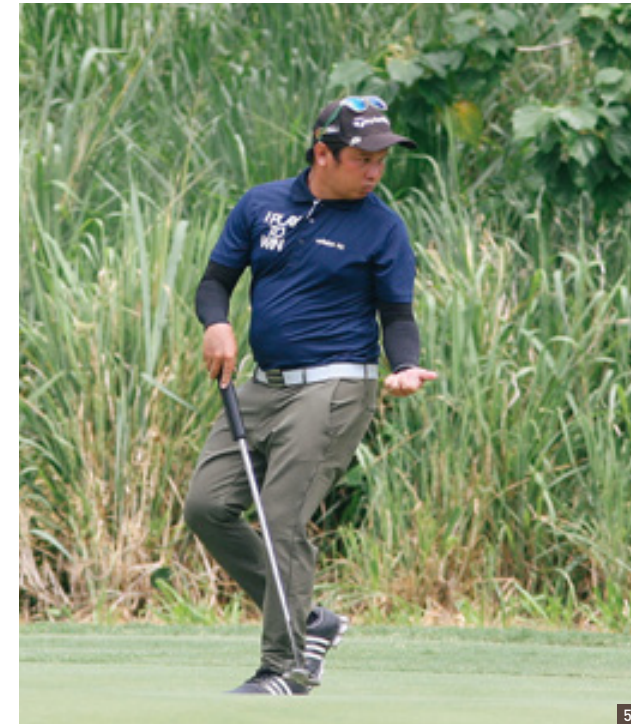
Trailing majority of the way, Mondilla later said the key was his monstrous drive on the par-4 11th that left him with a 40-yard pitch for an eagle that lipped out.

"I knew then that I could beat them with my power but it also helped that both of them missed a couple of birdie putts in the closing holes," said Mondilla, who racked up three victories last year to finish behind Lascuña in the Order of Merit race.

That tap-in birdie sparked a run for the Del Monte ace as he buried a four-footer on No. 12 and knocked down back-to-back feats inside seven feet from Nos. 14 to surge ahead.

And surge ahead for good Mondilla did and at the end of a long weekend of wet and wild golf, he got to kiss the glimmering trophy and march his way to the bank.

3 While Mondilla basks in glory, Miguel Tabuena rues after blowing his chance for a sudden death. **4** On a warpath? No. Nicolas Paez and Nilo Salahog are just looking on opposite directions while on the green. **5** Anthony Fernando's 'battlery' proves not enough to snap a long, long title spell. **6** If not for a third round fumble, Orlan Sumcad could be looking at a crack for a breakthrough win. **7** American Lexus Keoninh wants to hear no evil but couldn't get a clear view of his line of putt either, no thanks to flightmates Jun Bernis and Anthony Fernando. **8** After grazing the Southwoods' greens with a lead-sharing 62 in the opening round, Macedonian Peter Stojanovski found the Legends' surface not to his liking.



THE MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
Carmona, Cavite • (046) 430-0286

Slightly shorter than the Master's course, the Legend's layout stands at 7093 yards long. While the challenging Master's course is designed around "traps" and water hazards, the bunker-laden Legend's layout is dominated by high mounds, making the par 72 layout friendlier to high handicappers but will pose a real challenge to those more experienced golfers trying to aim for a low score.

MANILA SOUTHWOODS CHAMPIOSHIP FINAL RANKING									
Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	MONDILLA, CLYDE	PHL	67	67	66	66	266	-22	\$10,500
2	LASCUÑA, TONY	PHL	62	70	68	67	267	-21	\$5,550
3	TABUENA, MIGUEL	PHL	67	63	67	70	267	-21	\$5,550
4	SUMCAD, ORLAN	PHL	66	65	74	65	270	-18	\$3,360
5	SALVADOR, ELMER	PHL	66	67	70	68	271	-17	\$2,640
6	GIALON, ZANIEBOY	PHL	66	67	72	67	272	-16	\$2,220
7	FERNANDO, MHARK	PHL	68	65	70	70	273	-15	\$1,710
=	STOJANOVSKI, PETER	MKD	62	70	71	70	273	-15	\$1,710
9	QUIBAN, JUSTIN	PHL	69	67	72	55	274	-14	\$1,305
=	PAEZ, NICOLAS	USA	66	65	73	70	274	-14	\$1,305

MASTER OF 'EM ALL

Mondilla rallies past Lascaña, two others to win Masters revival



TOURNAMENT	VILLAMOR PHILIPPINE MASTERS
DATES	MAY 24, 2017 - MAY 27, 2017
VENUE	VILLAMOR GOLF CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 2,000,000

IT'S the Masters and hosting one of the most prestigious tournaments on local soil is a course with so much history to speak of – the Villamor Golf Club.

Former champions Robert Pactolerin and Cassius Casas could help but turn nostalgic as they braced for the revival of the International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI) Philippines Masters at its home course.

They hoped not only to turn back the hands of time but also turn back the young guns in the particular tournament so dear to them for its lore and tradition.

"It's nice to have the Masters back here at Villamor. It's been a long time," said Pactolerin, who has ruled this event many times during his prime. "But times have changed, we have matured and a lot of young, talented players has emerged through the years."

Like soothsayers, Pactolerin and Casas turned out right. The Masters was for the young generation for the picking.

And that youngster was 24-year-old Clyde Mondilla, who won back-to-back on the Tour after dominating the Legends course of Manila Southwoods in the previous Philippine Golf Tour event.

Mondilla staked his claim as the hottest pro on the circuit and with another late charge, he overhauled a four-stroke deficit to snare the Masters, beating Tony Lascaña, Jhonnell Ababa and American Nicolas Paez by one with a closing 70.

A blistering backside 33 – reminiscent of his feat at Southwoods, netted Mondilla another victory, a prized championship – the P2 million event put up by ICTSI being the revival of what used to be one of the country's four majors.

"I just played it safe at the front and when learned that I was near the leaders, I made my move," said Mondilla, who drove the 318-yard par-four No. 10 and two-putted for birdie. He added another from five feet on the next and drilled in a four-footer on No. 13 to take charge.

"After I birdied No. 14, I told myself that I can win this," he said.

Win he did and the Masters would eventually turn out as one of his biggest trophies in a year he proclaimed himself as the Order of Merit champion.

The Masters used to be a local version of the world's four majors, the others being the Philippine Open, President's Cup and National PGA – and its annual staging always drew huge international participation and crowds.

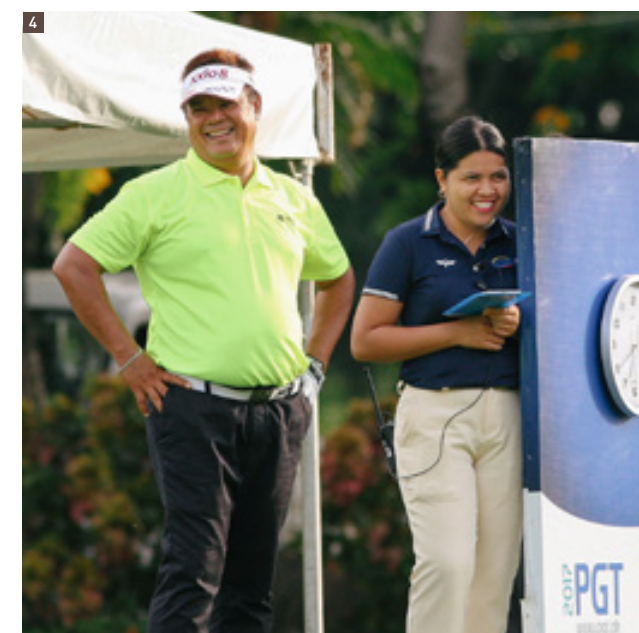
Pactolerin again said it right, saying then that the tight, tree-lined military layout remains challenging even to the toughest pros.

"You need to hit accurate drives or the trees will come into play. A little miscue will result to a double or triple bogey," he said.

And just like at Southwoods, Mondilla wasn't interested at going coast to coast.

Jobim Carlos rode a blistering frontside charge to cushion the impact of a shaky windup, carding a four-under 68 to wrest a one-stroke lead over Paez and Australian Nathan Park in the first round.

Mondilla, the pre-tournament favorite after Miguel Tabuena opted to skip the tournament, never recovered from a double-bogey start on No. 10 although he came up with back-to-back birdies on No. 14 and bounced back from a bogey mishap on



1 Down in the early going, Clyde Mondilla works his way to the top of the heap as he joins the elite circle of Masters winners in the revival of what used to be one of the country's four Major championships. **2** Superb rescue shots fail to rescue Jhonnell Ababa's drive for a championship. **3** A joint runner-up finish seems to be enough to make American Nicolas Paez's day. **4** Veteran Robert Pactolerin breaks into a smile after failing to break into the stranglehold of the young guns in a major tournament like the Masters which he used to dominate.



5 Tackling huge old trees could indeed be a daunting task and player has no recourse but take up the challenge – to no avail. **6** Not even national player and Villamor standout Harmie Constantino's (left) familiarity with the tight, tree-lined layout could help lift Joseph Suarez past the cut-off line. **7** No, the Mhark Fernando-Joenard Rates and Anthony Fernando-Jun Bernis pairs aren't vying in the North vs South Duel but are playing under one sponsor at the Masters revival at Villamor. **8** For multi-titled Tony Lascaña, it takes a lot of pondering and mental toughness to win big-time tournaments as the Masters. **9** Zenieboy Gialon makes light of his final round meltdown where he groped for a 73 and missed the title picture. **10** If only Joichiro Kawada and his caddie sustained their energy up to the last hole of the last round, the former could've fueled his drive for a first-ever crack at the Philippine Golf Tour crown. **11** Paul Harris' superb short game proves not enough to carry the American past the elims stage of the Masters' revival, missing the cut by just one. **12** A faulty third round 76 fails to steer the left-handed Nathan Park of Australia to the right direction in the Villamor Philippine Masters.



VILLAMOR GOLF CLUB
Pasay City • [02] 853-4978

While most golf courses feature unusual terrains, steeps or dog-legs and angled fairways to challenge the players, the Villamor Golf Club has none of those characteristics. But make no mistake about it, the fairly flat layout remains as demanding and exacting with its tight fairways and water hazards that come into play in most holes. Besides the playability, another benefit is that the Villamor golf course is very accessible and is located in the heart of the city, minutes away from Manila's Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3.

VILLAMOR PHILIPPINE MASTERS FINAL RANKING									
Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	MONDILLA, CLYDE	PHL	72	67	73	70	282	-6	P360,000
2	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHL	75	70	68	70	283	-5	P168,333
=	PAEZ, NICOLAS	USA	69	72	70	72	283	-5	P168,333
=	LASCAÑA, TONY	PHL	71	69	70	73	283	-5	P168,333
5	CARLOS, JOBIM	PHL	68	72	74	70	284	-4	P78,000
=	PARK, NATHAN	AUS	69	68	76	71	284	-4	P78,000
=	GIALON, ZANIEBOY	PHL	72	70	69	73	284	-4	P78,000
8	BALASABAS, JERSON	PHL	74	70	71	71	286	-2	P56,000
9	JAHNS, KEANU	PHL	70	70	70	77	287	-1	P50,000
10	FERNANDO, MHARK	PHL	72	70	77	69	288	0	P43,250
=	RATES, JOENARD	PHL	72	70	66	80	288	0	P43,250

'It was really a fantastic game, the best round of my career. Everything was in place'

- MONDILLA

No. 18 with a birdie on No. 2 to join the big group of even par scorers.

It was in the second round when Mondilla started to make his move.

The left-handed Park blew a huge lead as he lost his putting touch at the finish and carded a four-under 68 but held on to a two-stroke edge over Mondilla, who fought back with a 67.

"I was fantastic up to the sixth hole at the front. Then my putting deserted me," rued Park, who sizzled with birdies on Nos. 12, 15 and 16 then bounced back from a bogey-mishap on No. 1 with another four-birdie binge in five holes from the second.

Things turned quite complicated on the third day though when diminutive Joenard Rates traded length for accuracy and produced a tournament-best six-under 66 and grabbed a two-stroke lead over Lascaña and Keanu Jahns as the erstwhile frontrunners faded.

Zanieboy Gialon also stayed in contention for the top P360,000 purse with a 69 as he tied Paez, who fired a 70, at 211, three shots

adrift, while Mondilla dropped to sixth with a 73 but remained in the hunt at 212.

But there was no stopping Mondilla in the final round. He watched Lascaña and erstwhile contender Jahns self-destruct with late bogeys to clinch the coveted crown on a six-under 282 total, emerging on top after surviving another final round battle of nerves and poise.

Lascaña, who blew another title crack with bogeys on Nos. 15 and 17, nearly forced a playoff after his pitch from 40 yards on the closing par-5 hole stopped one roll of target to the disappointment of the big gallery that ringed the final hole anticipating a sudden death in the revival of the fabled event. He settled for a 73 and tied Ababa, who shot a 70, and Paez, who matched par 72, at 283.

"What a way to win," Mondilla said. "The aces were up there in the hunt, and I still managed to get through them."

By then, Mondilla almost had his year made – a season that saw him emerge as the country's hottest player on the tour – with a Masters crown to boot.

SETTING THE NORM



Fired-up Gialon flattens field at Calatagan

TOURNAMENT	CALATAGAN GOLF CHALLENGE
DATES	JUNE 7, 2017 - JUNE 10, 2017
VENUE	CALATAGAN GOLF CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 2,500,000



1



2

CALATAGAN kicked off with a taste of Dutch delight but wound up not as another Clyde Mondilla show, but that of Zanieboy Gialon.

Winless on the Philippine Golf Tour for three years, Gialon snapped the title spell by winning the International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI) Calatagan Golf Challenge, leaning on a strong start and a stronger finish to beat Jhonnel Ababa by six on a closing 67 at the Calatagan Golf Club in Batangas.

Two birdies in the first four holes kept Gialon away from erstwhile pursuer Tony Lascaña as the diminutive player pulled away at the back with three more birdies on his way to blasting his more illustrious fellow Davaoeños to snatch his fourth

career victory in the P2.5 million event sponsored by ICTSI.

It was the first lopsided win in the season marked by one-shot triumphs and a playoff finish with Gialon anchoring his romp on a brilliant third day 66 that netted him a three-shot lead over Lascaña and a near-impeccable final round effort for a 16-under 272 total worth P450,000.

"I expected to win after going 3-up in the third round. I knew it would be difficult for them (Tony and Ababa) to give chase," said Gialon, who came into the event brimming with confidence following a sixth-place effort at Southwoods and a tied for fifth finish in the revival of the Philippine Masters at Villamor.

"I knew I'd contend since I've been playing and hitting the ball pretty solid. And I



3



4

1, 2 Three years out of the spotlight, Zanieboy Gialon couldn't help but flash that winning smile as he savors the sweet taste of an impending victory. **3** An uncharacteristic final round struggle drops multi-titled Tony Lascaña out of the title picture. **4** Elmer Salvador isn't giving up just yet with an opening round 73 but the veteran campaigner hardly made his presence felt the rest of the way.

think Calatagan best suits my game," said Gialon.

Ababa was actually the pre-tournament favorite and exuded confidence on the course he calls home.

"I have the edge here since I'm very familiar with the course," said Ababa, who also went out to snap a long title spell on the Philippine Golf Tour on a course where he honed his talent and skills during his amateur days.

"There are reachable but tricky holes and some may think twice to attack them. But I will always go for it," Ababa said. "More importantly, I feel good and I know I can beat anybody here, even Mondilla or Lascuña."

Guido Van der Valk was a Dutchman with a mission as he unleashed a strong finishing kick to fire a three-under 69 and grab a one-stroke lead over Ababa and five others in the first round.

Mondilla's bid for a third straight victory, meanwhile, suffered a snag with three bogeys in the first four holes at the back. Though he fought back with three birdies in a seven-hole stretch from No. 15, Mondilla fumbled with another bogey on the sixth and ended up with a one-over 73.

Van der Valk's windup actually stood out in a day when majority struggled at the finish at the frontside of the tight, rolling layout.

Ababa and Gialon then hit late birdies to card identical 69s then watched Jay Bayron hole out with a triple-bogey to snatch a one-stroke in the second round.

Bayron looked headed to preserving an unblemished round for the second straight day. But the veteran Davaoño, a two-leg winner last year, stumbled with his first bogey on No. 6 then dropped off the leaderboard with a wayward drive on the par-4 ninth and a poor approach shot.

He settled for a second 70, enabling Ababa and Gialon to take charge at five-under 139 after matching outputs for the second straight day.

Van der Valk, on the other hand, barely survived a rollercoaster round with a 71 and joined Bayron at third at 140.

With seven players pooling 142s, including Lascuña and Americans Lexus Keoninh, Paul Harris and Nicolas Paez, and six more at 143s, led by back-to-back leg winner Mondilla, a fierce battle loomed entering the final two days.

Gialon made sure he was in strong position for the crown in the third round by scorching the backside for a 66, moving 18 holes away from snapping a long title spell with a three-stroke lead over Lascuña.

Gialon outgunned Ababa and Van der Valk with a near-flawless stint in the last nine holes, capped by three birdies in the last four for a 31 for an 11-under 205 total that put the diminutive shotmaker three shots clear of an equally charging Lascuña, who also turned in a six-under card four flights ahead to assume the challenger's role at 208.

Ababa fumbled with three bogeys for a 73 and tumbled to joint fifth with Mondilla and Paez.

With Lascuña and Bayron as his final round rivals, Gialon expected the pressure to mount early on but vowed to stay focused and seize the moment for a crack at the top P450,000 purse.

"I didn't expect to lead, more so by 3. But I'm hitting it pretty well and hope to sustain it," he added.

Gialon was unrelenting and made sure he would be hoisting the trophy at Calatagan.

Ababa could only rebound from a disastrous third round 73 with a 66, rallying from joint fifth to solo second at 278.

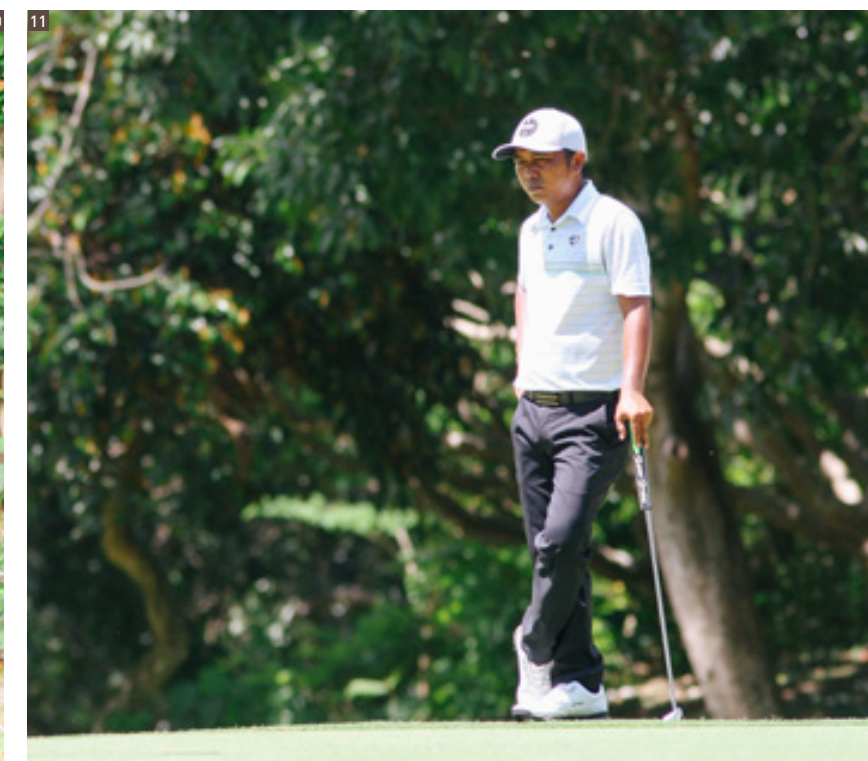
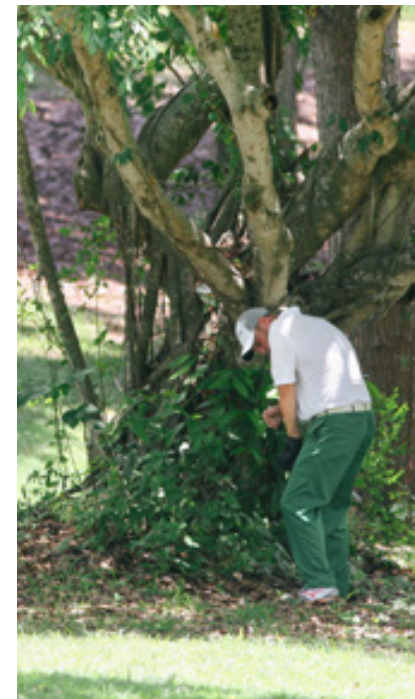
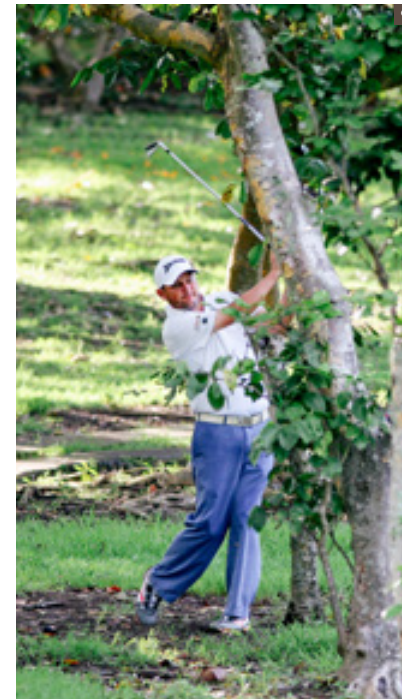
Lascuña failed to flash his vaunted final round charge with poor putting, finishing with two birdies against the same number of bogeys for a 72, ending up third at 280.

Mondilla? He rallied with three birdies in the last eight holes for a 70.

"This is sweet. It feels great to kiss a trophy again," said Gialon, who last won in the rain-shortened ICTSI Royal Northwoods Championship in 2014.

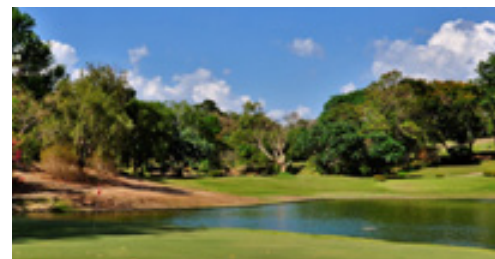
This time, there was no stormy weather to stymie his title drive.

5 A wayward approach leaves veteran Jay Bayron looking for his ball in the branches of a Kalachuchi tree **6** Anthony Fernando and Jun Bernis could make a good pair on the dance floor than on the fairway. **7** They don't add up to the challenge but do provide some kind of a sight for the men of the tour. **8, 9, 10** Calatagan trees come into play in some holes which Guido Van der Valk and two other contenders had failed to avoid with errant shots. **11** Failing to back up his pre-tournament brag as the player to beat, Jhonnell Ababa ponders what went wrong in his title bid on a course he calls home.



'I knew I'd contend since I've been playing and hitting the ball pretty solid. And I think Calatagan best suits my game'

- GIALON



CALAGATAN GOLF CLUB
Calatagan, Batangas • (02) 546-0885

Challenging is a word often heard when one is asked to describe the Calatagan golf course, built and designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr. in 1978. The challenging layout is laid out on a rolling terrain perfectly contoured for dramatic golf shots and the fairways and greens are designed between and across the rolls and folds of the land creating a variety of challenges. There are many bunkers and sloping greens planted in the 18 Tifton grass greens with the course dotted by sparkling lakes and an abundance of indigenous and exotic trees that come into play in most holes.

CALATAGAN GOLF CHALLENGE FINAL RANKING										
Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS	
1	GIALON, ZANIEBOY	PHL	70	69	66	67	272	-16	P450,000	
2	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHL	70	69	73	66	278	-10	P320,000	
3	LASCUÑA, TONY	PHL	71	71	66	72	280	-8	P180,000	
4	BERNIS, ROBERTO, JR.	PHL	73	70	70	68	281	-7	P140,000	
5	MONDILLA, CLYDE	PHL	73	70	69	79	282	-6	P102,500	
=	BAYRON, RUFINO	PHL	70	72	67	73	282	-6	P102,500	
7	BAYRON, JAY	PHL	70	70	71	72	283	-5	P84,000	
8	ROSALES, GERALD	PHL	70	71	73	70	284	-4	P70,000	
9	LAM, JAMES RYAN	PHL	71	74	74	67	286	-2	P55,666	
=	VAN DER VALK, GUIDO	NL	69	71	77	69	286	-2	P55,666	
=	SUMCAD, ORLAN	PHL	71	69	76	70	286	-2	P55,666	

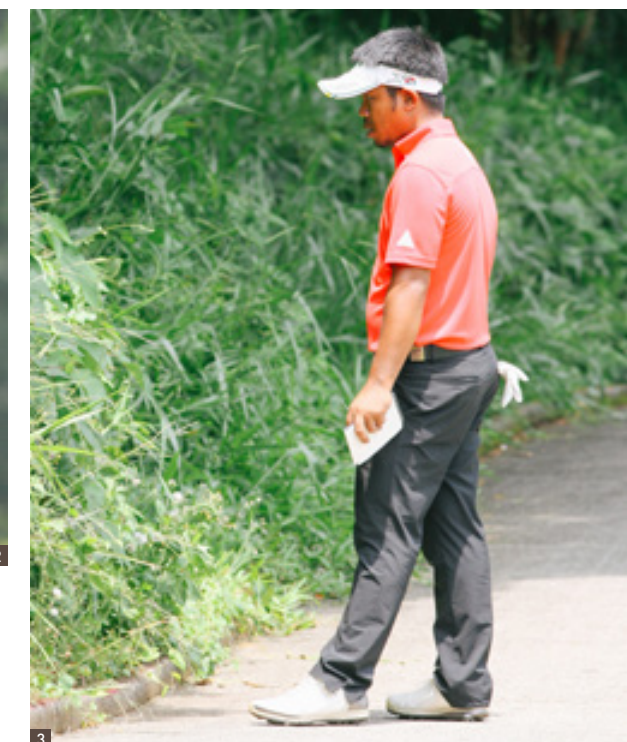
VINTAGE TONY

Lascaña defies
Father's Time anew,
dominates Forest Hills



TOURNAMENT	FOREST HILLS CHAMPIONSHIP
DATES	JUNE 21, 2017 - JUNE 24, 2017
VENUE	FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 3,000,000

1 Tony Lascaña comes out virtually unscathed at Forest Hills, humbling a slew of young guns and emerging No. 1 for the second time in the season. **2** Miguel Tabuena could only fault his shaky putting in his failed shot for a third PGT diadem. **3** Zanieboy Gialon watches his title bid vanish in a clump of grass.



'I played according to plan – stay in control and stay focused throughout'

- LASCUÑA

ADMITTEDLY, time is not on the side of Tony Lascaña. So he's trying to make the most of it while he can.

And the man who turned 47 in December showed he still has what it takes to keep Father Time at bay, dishing out a gutsy performance like what he so often did in his younger years to top the ICTSI Forest Hills Championship at the Forest Hills Golf and Country Club in Antipolo.

Not even the challenge offered by the 44 other remaining golfers, led by an Olympian and the same man who wound up just behind him in the same event

last year would deter Lascaña from his purpose.

In the end, Lascaña even shrugged off a wet double bogey on the way in for a final round 70 that was enough to give him an 11-under 273 total, a three-stroke victory and the P550,000 winner's purse.

Not bad at all for a player who has been nagged by an arthritic foot, does not often get the desired distance off the tee and usually struggles just to keep up with the young turks of the game.

His thorough knowledge of what it takes to win helps a lot, though, as was true in this case, thus ending his string of frustrating runner-up finishes in three of the last four legs of the circuit organized by Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc.

"I played according to plan – stay in control and stay focused throughout," said Lascaña.

He sure did, in direct contrast to those trying to wrest the crown he won via a record 11-shot margin over Zanieboy Gialon and Orlan Sumcad last year.

Jhonnell Ababa, three down going to the last 18 holes, threatened to within two with a birdie on No. 2 but fell back just as quickly with a double bogey on the next.

Rio de Janeiro campaigner and former Order of Merit winner Miguel Tabuena tried to launch one of his vaunted chases with a birdie on the seventh, but also faded with a bogey on the 10th.

Gialon bounced back from a one-over frontside card with three straight birdies at the back. But the Calatagan leg winner could only move no closer than three as he slowed down with missed putts.

Through it all, Lascaña proved unflappable.

The dusky Davaoeño ran off seven pars to launch his final round charge then closed out the front nine with back-to-back birdies to pull away by six. He birdied No. 11 to hold off a charging Gialon.

Although he stumbled with that double bogey on the par-4 No. 12, there was no need for a spectacular finish and his run of pars secured a follow-up to his Manila Masters victory at Eastridge last April for another championship to his vast trophy collection.

"I was so confident even if I double-bogeyed No. 12," related Lascaña.

Gialon wound up with a second straight 69 for a 276 and took the P370,000 runner-up prize while Tabuena ended up with a 71 for third at 279 worth P215,000.

Ababa hobbled home with a 74 and slid to joint fourth with Nilo Salahog, who rallied with a 67, at 280 worth P147,500 each while Ferdie Aunzo, just one behind Lascaña halfway through the P3 million event, ended up with a second 73 and fell to sixth at 282. He received P115,000.

Rookie pro Ira Alido made another final round foldup he hoped would toughen him up in his next tournaments, limping with a 77 and tumbling to seventh at 283 worth P100,000.

Jay Bayron rebounded with a 68 and snared eighth place at even 284, Elmer Salvador carded a 70 for ninth at 285 while Korean Hwang Myung Chal fired a 70 to tie Frankie Miñoza, who made a 72, and Jobim Carlos, who stumbled with a 73, at 286 for joint 10th.

One look back at the earlier rounds and it would seem Lascaña was just waiting for his fiery game of old to resurface and it took just the first 15 holes under benign playing conditions at the Nicklaus course to warm him up.

He birdied two of the last three holes in the first round for a 68, just one behind Alido and another two off veteran Arnold

Villacencio, who opened up with a 65.

But Villacencio and Alido considerably cooled down right on the next day with a 74 while Lascaña sizzled with a 67 to grab a one-shot lead over Aunzo.

As usual, Lascaña downplayed his chances. "I just played my usual game," he said while pointing out the hardships of contending with the young guns.

"I'm not getting any younger and easily get tired unlike before."

Not old enough for him to muster a pair of three-birdie strings closing out both nines that gave him a 68 in the third round, hiking his lead to three shots over Ababa and Alido.

His eight birdies offset the three bogeys and a double bogey he made for the day, but his last mishap on No. 18 was enough for him to remain reserved.

"The course remains tough even in the absence of the wind," said Lascaña.

"You have to be precise off the tee since a slight mistake will cause you trouble," he said. "I also dread the back nine since it's an uphill stretch and I easily get weary now because of my age."

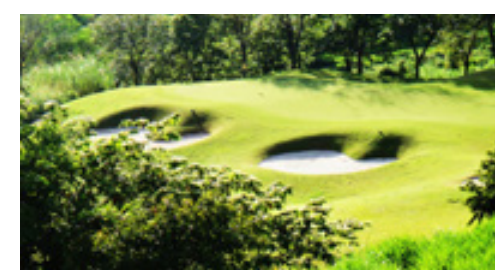
Ultimately, Lascaña did overcome the odds, the challenging course and his generally younger challengers to visibly remain at the top of his game.

Some day soon, Father Time would certainly catch up with Lascaña.

But for the meantime, the affable Davaoeño shotmaker would rather relish and celebrate his latest feat.



4 A one-time playoff loser, Jobim Carlos hopes to put it all together if given another crack at the title. **5** After outlasting young Tabuena in a grueling playoff in Bacolod a couple of years ago, veteran Frankie Miñoza believes he still has the short game – and the big fighting heart – to put him in the mix in any big-time tournament. **6** Lascaña (right) is all eyes on Ira Alido in the first three rounds then looked somewhere else when the young gun shot himself in the foot with a closing 77. **7** After scoring back-to-back feats at Southwoods and Villamor, Clyde Mondilla thinks it is better off to cut short his Forest Hills stint to heal a nagging back injury. **8** A strong closing 67, anchored on a near-impeccable short game, should augur well for the unheralded Nilo Salahog's quest for a maiden championship. **9** Superb putting gives Arnold Villacencio a view of the top in the opening round until the one-time PGT leg winner loses his touch and focus and falls off the leaderboard with a thud. **10** Failing to endure the heat and the charge of the fancied bets, Aussie Nathan Park grounds to a halt to get some relief. **11** Diminutive Joenard Rates finds himself dwarfed by the tall grasses of Forest Hills. **12** Ready to draw and shoot at all times, Anthony Fernando just couldn't gun down what mattered most – birdies. **13** Rico Depilo's name hardly rings a bell but the unheralded pro sure knows he can come up with a knockout punch soon. **14** Jhonnell Ababa is so pumped up with his solid 66-67 feats in the middle rounds, only to be quashed and crushed by a closing two-over 74.



FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
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Set in the hills of sleepy Barangay Inarawan in Cogo, Antipolo, the Forest Hills Golf and Country Club's Nicklaus course meanders through the hills of the Sierra Madre foothills. The shots one will be asked to play are difficult and made yet more complicated by uneven terrain. This isn't an easy golf course but a demanding shotmaker's layout. The fronts of the greens will accept and approach played on the ground and the greens are mature enough to receive the well struck ball. One will need to club for shots carefully because of the elevation changes and navigate the multiple ravines.

FOREST HILLS CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL RANKING

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	LASCAÑA, TONY	PHL	68	67	68	70	273	-11	P550,000
2	GIALON, ZANIEBOY	PHL	71	67	69	69	276	-8	P370,000
3	TABUENA, MIGUEL	PHL	72	68	68	71	279	-5	P215,000
4	SALAHOG, NILO	PHL	71	71	71	67	280	-4	P147,500
=	ABABA, JHONNEL	PHL	73	66	73	73	282	-4	P147,500
6	AUNZO, FERDIE	PHL	70	66	73	73	282	-2	P115,000
7	ALIDO, IRA CHRISTIAN	PHL	67	71	68	77	283	-1	P100,000
8	BAYRON, JAY	PHL	71	70	75	68	284	0	P85,000
9	SALVADOR, ELMER	PHL	70	72	73	70	285	1	P75,000
10	HWANG, MYUNG CHAL	KOR	70	75	71	70	286	2	P62,666
=	FRANKIE MIÑOZA	PHL	72	71	71	72	286	2	P62,666
=	JOBIM CARLOS	PHL	70	75	68	73	286	2	P62,666

HOME IS THE CHAMP



Que claims record 12-stroke victory at fave Malarayat

TOURNAMENT	ICTSI CLASSIC MT. MALARAYAT
DATES	JULY 19, 2017 - JULY 22, 2017
VENUE	MT. MALARAYAT GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 2,000,000

ANGELO Que's list of fond memories at Mt. Malarayat keeps on growing. The former Philippine Open champion one again displayed fine shotmaking at the Mt. Malarayat Golf and Country Club's composite course in Lipa City, Batangas, to win the ICTSI Classic crown in emphatic fashion.

Que's final round four-under 68 was made more memorable than his back-to-back triumphs at the Mts. Lobo and Makulot courses in 2008-09.

The 21-under 267 total he posted after the 72-hole event gave him a whopping 12-stroke winning margin, the biggest the nine-year-old circuit has seen, beating by one stroke what Tony Lascuña posted in topping the ICTSI Forest Hills Championship in 2016.

Not even Que can't exactly put into words how he does it so consistently at the often wind-raked and sun-baked course. "I really don't know why I play so good here at Mt. Malarayat," he said.

Definitely, his superb shots off the tees, solid iron plays and near-impeccable putting have a lot to do with it. So much so that the rest of the original 75-player starting field was left gasping in his wake.

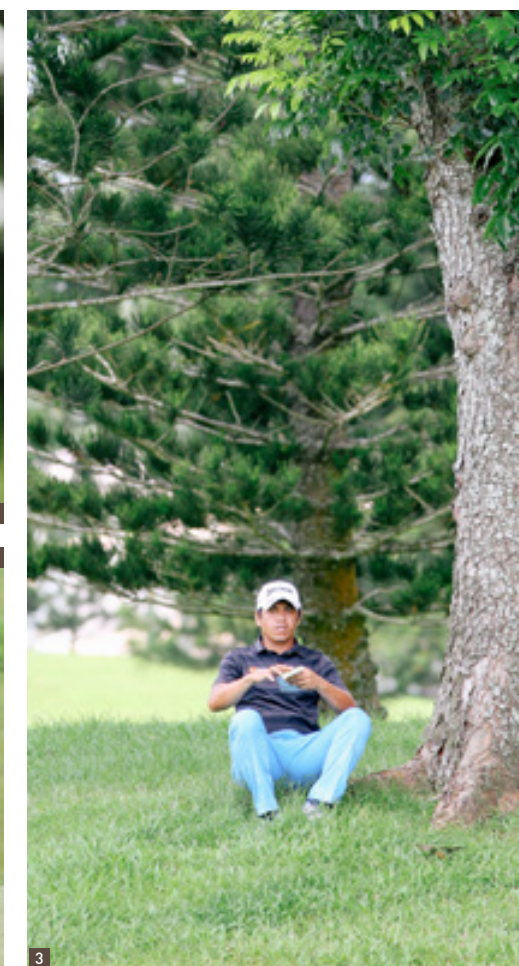
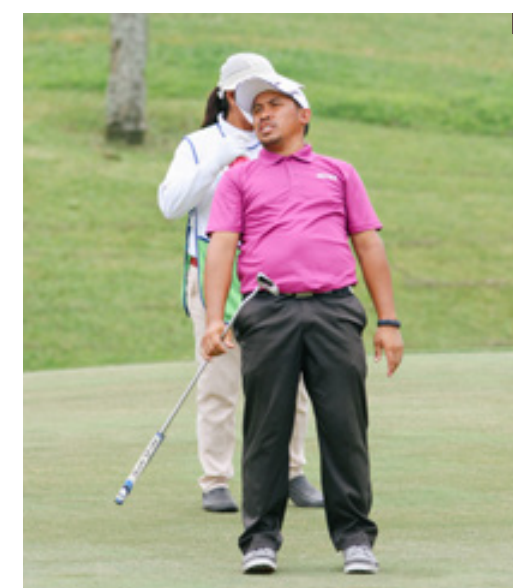
As is his wont, Que did not hog all the credit.

"While I practically played good in all four days, the rest had some bad rounds, particularly on the final day," said Que after pocketing the winner's purse of P360,000 out of the total P2 million prize.

Indisputably, the second runaway victory Que notched, following the nine-shot romp he posted over Japanese Toru Nakajima in the Anvaya Cove



1 Seems like Angelo Que has mastered not only the Mt. Malarayat course but also the field whom he dominated with a whopping 12-stroke victory **2** While James Ryan Lam savors a career-best runner-up finish, the young shotmaker also loathes being on the receiving end of Angelo Que's record winning margin of 12 strokes. **3** A visibly tired Jay Bayron takes a break as he tries to study his options from a stymied lie. **4** What he lacks in power, Joenard Rates makes up with his short game - plus some body English on the greens.





‘While I practically played good in all four days, the rest had some bad rounds, particularly on the final day’

- QUE

Invitational in Bataan last February, from which he pocketed P650,000, was primarily his own doing.

Matching the heat that grew as the day wore on, Que sizzled with an eagle-birdie-birdie run from No. 5, putting him way ahead at 11-up, helped along by closest chaser Clyde Mondilla’s shaky start to a 39.

Showing he was a mere mortal, Que stumbled a bit with a bogey-par-bogey-bogey start at the back. But then he quickly recovered with a monster drive on the 331-yard, par-4 16th and drilled in an eagle from 8 feet.

He then holed out with a 12-foot birdie on the par-5 18th from 12 feet to cap his four-day brilliance.

Que’s final tally, together with his earlier rounds of 65, 68 and 66, were

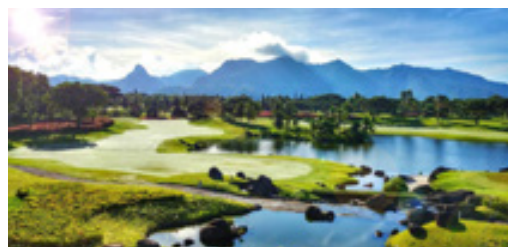
simply too much.

Mondilla, gutsy in the final rounds of the Southwoods Championship and the Philippine Masters of the circuit which he topped last May and only four down at the start of the final round, buckled this time with a 76 pockmarked by two double bogeys at the back.

That enabled James Ryan Lam, who birdied the final hole for a 71, to claim a career-best runner-up finish at 279 worth P250,000 while Jerson Balasabas also holed out with a birdie to match par 72 and snare third place at 280 for P140,000.

Joenard Rates carded a 70 and took solo fourth at 281 while Jay Bayron fired a 69 and Lascuña shot a 70 to finish tied for fifth with Mondilla at 282.

5 A clutch birdie putt pumps life to Elmer Salvador’s opening round 69, but the veteran campaigner reels back with a horrible 76 in the next. 6 Clyde Mondilla revels with a long putt that spiked his lead-sharing 65 in the opening round, only to tumble with a closing 79. 7 Jerson Balasabas knows it’s just a matter of time before the former amateur hotshot could finally say he’s ripe for the picking. 8 Veteran and many-time Order of Merit winner Tony Lascuña isn’t giving up the fight but only checking his target from a tough position. 9 With the big lake as backdrop, lefty Nathan Park chips onto the green to be right in the mix in the first 36 holes, only to drop from joint second to a share of 15th with closing 73-76. 10 A feared name in a long stretch of his checkered career, Cassius Casas now hardly finds himself in the mix, often buried in the deep bunkers of top-notch competition. 11 No, Que isn’t showing Salvador new tricks in juggling but uses the plastic water bottle to retrieve the ball stuck in the leaves of a pine tree after an errant drive.



MT. MALARAYAT GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
Lipa City, Batangas • (02) 404 - 3000

The three nines are named after the adjacent mountains. The Mount Lobo course is the shortest of the three but certainly a good test. The Mount Malipunyo course takes off adjacent to the Lobo. The Mt. Makulot loop is a favorite of many. There is an interesting ebb and flow of holes. For an all around golfing menu, Mount Malarayat has a triple order. The course is usually in immaculate shape, even during rainy season with the usual 419 Bermuda fairways and Tifdwarf greens. In addition to the fine course, there is a practice facility with target greens and you can hit off turf.

ICTSI CLASSIC FINAL RANKING

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	QUE, ANGELO	PHL	65	68	66	68	267	-21	P360,000
2	LAM, JAMES RYAN	PHL	76	64	68	71	279	-9	P250,000
3	BALASABAS, JERSON	PHL	69	70	69	72	280	-8	P140,000
4	RATES, JOENARD	PHL	69	70	72	70	281	-7	P115,000
5	BAYRON, JAY	PHL	73	67	73	69	282	-6	P78,000
=	LASCUÑA, TONY	PHL	70	75	67	70	282	-6	P78,000
=	MONDILLA, CLYDE	PHL	65	71	67	79	282	-6	P78,000
8	ENGINO, ALBIN	PHL	75	66	73	69	283	-5	P50,333
=	DEPILO, RICO	PHL	74	72	67	70	283	-5	P50,333
=	BERNIS, JUN	PHL	73	66	71	73	283	-5	P50,333

Jun Bernis pressed his bid for a top three finish with four birdies in the first eight holes but the former national amateur champion bogeyed five of the last 10 and wound up with a 73 for joint eighth with Albin Engino, who had a 69, and Rico Depilo, who turned in a 70 at 283.

They could all look with longing eyes at Que, who was actually tagged as one of the favorites in the event, but came in not expecting too much since he was coming off a three-week break following a stint in the Japan PGA Tour where he is a regular.

“I can’t tell if I’m in top condition since I haven’t played since I got back,” said Que, who also skipped the PGT’s The Duel 5 won by his team North over South in Baguio before resuming his PGT campaign in Batangas.

“The last time I played Malarayat was when I won (2009), so we’ll see,” he said before launching his drive.

As it turned out, that proved to be quite an understatement.

Que readily served notice of his title aspirations and his splendid form when he and Mondilla came up with identical seven-under opening round 65s to take the helm.

“I hit it pretty solid and I hope I can sustain it,” said Que, who actually looked headed to be alone at the top before Mondilla birdied the 18th to force the tie.

The next round saw Que instal himself all alone at the top.

Despite a bogey finish, the amiable long-hitting shotmaker still emerged with his four-under round, no little thanks to three birdies closing out the Mt. Makulot back side and three more at the Mt. Lobo nine against two bogeys for a 35-33 card.

Mondilla mustered three birdies in the last four holes at Mt. Lobo to save a 71 that still put him three shots behind in a tie with Australian Nathan Park.

Que actually took a six-shot lead to the par-5 18th after another brilliant eagle-spiked round but dumped his second shot into the hazard and settled for that six-under card and a four-shot lead.

Despite that, Que still downplayed his chances. “I need to stay relaxed and focused. No room for complacency. It’s just a four-shot lead and anything can still happen,” he said.

On another day, perhaps, but not on that fateful Friday and certainly not on a course Que could practically call his own.



A FITTING END

Sans 3 aces, Mondilla cruises to TPC win, bags OOM plum



TOURNAMENT	PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP
DATES	SEPTEMBER 26, 2017 - SEPTEMBER 29, 2017
VENUE	SUMMIT POINT GOLF CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 3,000,000



1 Despite a tournament-best 64 in the final round, Jerson Balasabas couldn't make a good grasp of the crown he was chasing all-year long. **2** Clyde Mondilla's three-stroke romp nets the Del Monte ace the coveted Order of Merit plum. **3** No thanks to shaky putting, Jay Bayron ends up way back behind despite a run of under-par scores.



SOME of the stars may not have come out for the ICTSI Players Championship. But that still doesn't take away any luster from Clyde Mondilla's latest and brightest crown.

Generally displaying fine form and the poise when it mattered most, the Bukidnon native was simply irrepressible in his march towards the victory while formalizing his claim to a first-ever Order of Merit title.

Previous commitments abroad prevented Tony Lascuña, Miguel Tabuena and Angelo Que from competing in the P3 million event, the final leg of the 2017 Philippine Golf Tour.

Still, there were a slew of other willing and able contenders among the 75-player elite field present, each prepared to lay down an ambush and spoil his crowning glory.

It's just that the 24-year-old Mondilla would not be denied, as evidenced by his mainly splendid game off the mound, on the fairway and on the greens.

More concrete proof is Mondilla's final round five-under 67 that gave him a 17-under 271 aggregate and a three-stroke winning margin at the Summit Point Golf Club in Lipa City, Batangas.

"I'm so happy, this is a sweet victory and I couldn't ask for more," said Mondilla, who also won back-to-back at Manila Southwoods and Villamor last May.

He also pocketed \$17,500 for topping the ICTSI Riviera Classic of the PGT Asia Tour to complete a four-leg romp in the ninth season of the country's premier circuit sponsored by ICTSI.

The P550,000 champion's purse was icing on the cake for Mondilla, who came into the event leading the pack in winnings and winding up with a total PGT haul of P3,156,409.

Lascuña, running second with P2,566,543 through two victories and

'I'm so happy, this is a sweet victory and I couldn't ask for more'

- MONDILLA

a bunch of top five finishes, could have given Mondilla a run for his money but has given up his OOM bid by signing up for the Taiwan Masters slated the same week of the TPC.

Tabuena, at No. 3 with P1,909,705 in winnings, also competed in Taiwan while the fourth-running Que, with P1,600,525 in earnings, opted to see action in Japan.

It may be theoretical, but Mondilla could have held his own in the event.

He trailed unheralded Dino Villanueva by one with a 67 in the opener, took charge with a 68 in the second round then hiked his lead to three over Jay Byron with a third round 69.

Jerson Balasabas gamely took on the cudgels of making Mondilla work, charging back from six strokes down in a flight ahead with a scorching eagle-spiked start to draw level after six holes.

He rattled off three birdies in the first four holes, gunning down an eagle on the next then birdying No. 6 from close range.

With Mondilla settling for a birdie-bogey card after six holes, Balasabas suddenly found himself sharing the lead.

Players of lesser stuff would've easily buckled under such overwhelming pressure – but not Mondilla.

Balasabas sure did as he bogeyed No. 7 and trailed by two again as Mondilla closed out the frontside with a bogey-eagle stint.

Balasabas actually forged another tie at 12-under on a two-shot swing on No. 10, which he birdied and Mondilla bogeyed. But the latter birdied the next then ran off three straight birdies from No. 14 before holing out with

another birdie against the former's two birdies in the last six holes to seal the victory.

"He played really well and his short game was awesome," conceded Balasabas, who displayed his own fine form by winding up with a tournament-best eight-under 64 that could only land him second at 274 worth P370,000.

Bayron, winner at Summit Point in 2015, pulled to within two with a 34 start but failed to match Mondilla's fiery windup with a lone backside birdie for a 69. He wound up third at 276 and received P215,000.

Orlan Sumcad rallied with a 65 to snatch fourth place at 277 worth P165,000 while Keanu Jahns also fought back with a 67 to tie Dutch Guido Van der Valk, who carded a 70, at sixth at 278. Each got P122,500.

Villanueva rebounded from a third round 75 with a 69 and finished tied for seventh at 280 with Zanieboy Gialon and Albin Engino, who closed out with 67 and 68, respectively, while Aussie Nathan Park and Jobim Carlos each fired a 70 to share 10th place at 281.

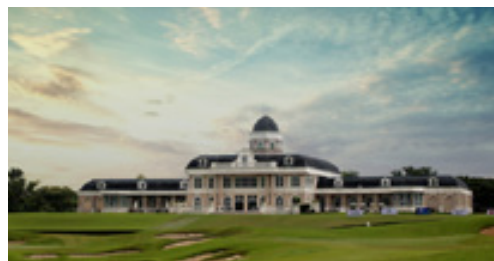
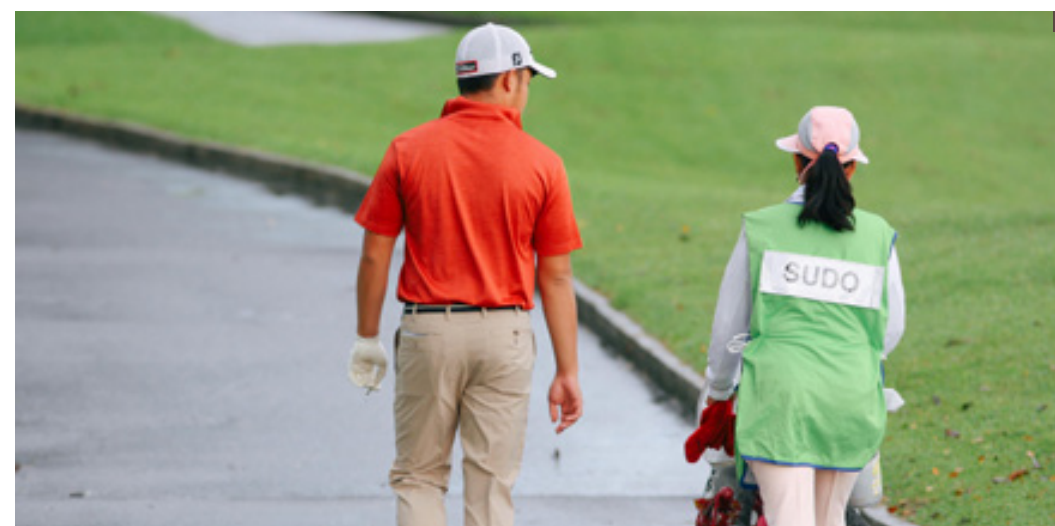
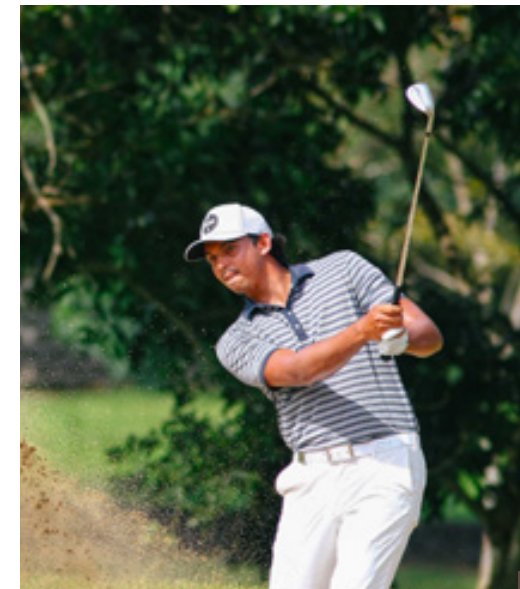
The biggest smile of the day was repeatedly flashed by Mondilla and understandably so. "I was so focused in all four days," he declared.

"When Jerson made a charge, I didn't panic since I knew I can handle the situation," added Mondilla, who birdied the three par-5s and eagled the last on No. 9.

It was also Mondilla's second TPC diadem in three years after edging Lascuña by one at Sherwood Hills in 2015.

And there's little doubt he'll be gunning for his third come next year.

4 Alvin Engino couldn't back up his title drive despite dishing out four under-par rounds. 5 One poor round costs Aussie lefty Nathan Park a rare chance for a shot at the championship. 6 If not for a disastrous opening round 73, Orlan Sumcad could've earned a crack at the crown with a strong finish. 7 After an impressive opening round of 68, Dutchman Guido Van der Valk loses his touch and all, including balance, and stumbles with a second round 73 to finish tied for fifth. 8 Like Sumcad, young Keanu Jahns flashes some kind of resiliency with clutch bunker shots to rally from joint 32nd to solo fourth. 9 Focused and all, Kris Etter fails to rescue his campaign with just one-under par card to churn out. 10 In contention at joint third in the first two days, Michael Bibat must've celebrated early as he hobbles and ties for 18th in the end. 11 Back at the very venue of his first and only victory way back in 2014, Arnold Villacencio could figure out what went wrong after falling short by one to make it to the final two rounds. 12 It's a long, lonely walk to second-to-last place for Japanese Yuta Sudo and caddy. 13 Poor stints on Summit Point's unpredictable surface in the middle rounds stymie unheralded Dino Villanueva's crack at golfing stardom.



SUMMIT POINT GOLF CLUB
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The Summit Point Golf Club prides itself as the only course in the country that brings together strategic elements inspired by some of the world's famous golf holes, including Augusta National's No. 12 and Winged Foot's No. 10, among others. Top golf course designer Robert Trent Jones Jr. made sure that even with the variety of styles, the routing flows smoothly from one hole to the next, thus making the 7,107-yard, 18-hole golf course a celebration of the best golf has to offer from around the world.

PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL RANKING

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	R4	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	MONDILLA, CLYDE	PHL	67	68	69	67	271	-17	P550,000
2	BALASABAS, JERSON	PHL	72	69	69	64	274	-14	P370,000
3	BAYRON, JAY	PHL	70	70	67	69	276	-12	P215,000
4	SUMCAD, ORLAN	PHL	73	68	71	65	227	-10	P165,000
5	JAHNS, KEANU	PHL	73	70	68	67	278	-10	P122,500
=	VAN DER VALK, GUIDO	NL	67	73	68	70	278	-10	P122,500
7	GIALON, ZANIEBOY	PHL	75	69	69	67	280	-8	P86,666
=	ENGINO, ALBIN	PHL	71	70	71	68	280	-8	P86,666
=	VILLANUEVA, DINO	PHL	66	70	75	69	280	-8	P86,666
10	PARK, NATHAN	AUS	67	75	69	70	281	-7	P65,000
=	JOBIM CARLOS	PHL	69	71	71	70	281	-7	P65,000



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DUEL 5

WHEN LESS IS MORE

Lesser-fancied bets deliver the goods for North vs South



THE DUEL
north VS south

TOURNAMENT	DUEL 5
DATES	JULY 5, 2017 - JULY 7, 2017
VENUE	CAMP JOHN HAY GOLF CLUB

IT took a masterful performance by Filipino golf star Miguel Tabuena to spark North to victory in the fifth edition of The Duel – North vs South. But North couldn't have completed the job without the help of unheralded players.

Tabuena was splendid as expected, winning all three matches at the Camp John Hay Golf Club. But it took clutch singles performances by little-known players like Randy Garalde and James Ryan Lam to end South's dominance in the Ryder Cup-style event.

Garalde, winless on the ICTSI Philippine Golf Tour, matched Tabuena's 3-for-3 performance capped by a 5 and 3 singles romp over Calatagan leg winner Zannieboy Gialon while Lam stunned Order of Merit topnotcher Clyde Mondilla, 1-up, by winning the last two holes.

Those two victories formed part of an audacious final-day stand by the Northerners as they ended South's quest for a hat-trick of titles in the three-day event that aimed to foster camaraderie among the top players of the Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc.-organized circuit.

South, made up of players from Visayas and Mindanao led by Tony Lascaña and coach Charles Hong, had won three of the first four editions of this event, with North's lone victory happening in the 2013 Duel marred by the late withdrawal of South spearhead Juvic Pagunsan.

From the onset, North looked determined to end South's dominance by ruling the first two days under cool conditions at John Hay's short but tricky layout.

Tabuena and Garalde stood at the forefront of the Luzon-bred players from the onset, bucking windy, chilly condition to turn back Lascaña and Orlan Sumcad, 2&1, to set the tone for a hot start that opened a 3 1/2-2 1/2 lead for North after the opening four-balls.

North sustained its fiery form in the foursomes (alternate play), again with Tabuena showing the way. The multi-titled pro teamed up with a new partner in Joenard Rates but produced a familiar result – an emphatic 6&5 victory over Rufino Bayron and Sumcad.

By the time the second round was over, North was up by three points, 7 1/2 to 4 1/2. But the Luzon players weren't about to lower their guard.

If North was getting overconfident, it only needed to look back at the last edition of The Duel back in 2015 at Wack Wack where it led, 8 1/2-3 1/2, heading into the last day, only to see South fight back by winning nine out of 12 singles to retain the crown.

Tabuena took the first singles match, 1-up over Sumcad, to widen the gap to four points, but a wave of South victories in four of the next five matches had it breathing down North's neck – and had Tabuena and Co. staring at a repeat of the 2015 collapse.

Mhark Fernando triggered the South fightback with a 1-up win over Ira Alido, and Jhonnell Ababa followed with a 4&2 victory over Rates. Lascaña and Jerson Balasabas followed suit with 3&2 and 5&3 romps over Keanu Jahns and Justin Quiban and suddenly, North's lead was nada.

Unlike in 2015, however, North had an answer this time.



VICTORS, VANQUISHED: Losers twice over, Team North (upper photo) finally stopped its counterpart from the South to snare The Duel 5 crown.

When the going gets tough, Team North calls on its shock-troopers to get going



1



2

Veteran Gerald Rosales delivered a crucial half point against Elmer Salvador to stop the bleeding for the Northerners before Michael Bibat, Mars Pucay, Garalde and Lam turned the momentum back in North's favor with a wave of timely victories.

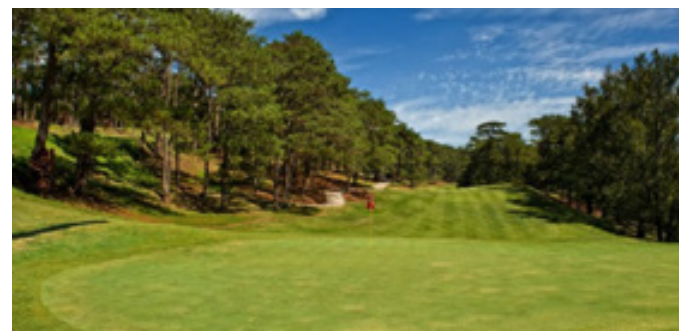
By the time the final singles match rolled along, North secured a 13 1/2 to 10 1/2 victory, giving it the bragging rights in the battle for regional supremacy.

Until the next Duel, of course.



4

1 So crucial was Jhonnell Ababa's missed putt that he drops to the ground and South teammate Jerson Balasabas appears ready to hit somebody with his wedge. 2 All it needs is a mere handshake between skippers Artemio Murakami of North and South's Charles Hong to guarantee The Duel 5 would be nothing but a friendly encounter. 3 Even with the two of the country's best players in the fold, Team South fails to draw the best from Clyde Mondilla and Tony Lascaña, whose tilted stance typifies the team's position against Team North. 4 Benjie Magada must've helped Team North's cause by clipping one of Team South's top guns - Elmer Salvador. 5, 6 Friendly in nature, The Duel also brings out the fire and enthusiasm from both sides as typified by Team North's James Ryan Lam and Jerson Balasabas of Team South. 7 The scoreboard tells it all as Miguel Tabuena and Joenard Rates tackle the downhill part of John Hay course to help lift Team North to a huge lead. 8 The North Team. 9 The South Team. 10 The Duel isn't only a heated but friendly rivalry but also a time for camaraderie and laughter for the men of the tour.



CAMP JOHN HAY GOLF CLUB
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The Camp John Hay Golf Course was designed by Jack Nicklaus' Golden Bear International, and is one of the best in the Philippines. It is located 5,000 feet above sea level, and is surrounded by rolling hills, crystal clear lakes and tall pine trees.



5



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3





FAMILIARITY BREEDS SUCCESS

Old pals Tonton, Jude rally from 3 down, rule inaugural Nat'l Pro-Am in sudden death



TOURNAMENT	NATIONAL PRO-AM OPEN
DATES	OCTOBER 17, 2017 - OCTOBER 19, 2017
VENUE	MOUNT MALARAYAT GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 2,000,000



ON the year the pro-am format made a grand return to the Philippine Golf Tour, Tonton Asistio and Jude Eustaquio wrote the perfect comeback story.

The two former national team mainstays returned to the limelight when they teamed up to win the maiden ICTSI National Pro-Am Open in a thrilling finish at the Mt. Malarayat Golf and Country Club course in Lipa, Batangas.

Asistio and Eustaquio hovered around the upper half of the leaderboard for most of the three days in the P2-million tournament and saved their biggest move for last.

The veteran pair made up a three-shot deficit against the tandem of Jelbert Gamolo and Jolo Magcalayo in the final four holes of regulation at the Mt. Malipunyo layout before wrapping up the title behind a superb shot by Asistio on the first playoff hole.

The vintage performance capped an amazing week for the two longtime teammates who, as if by fate, were brought together by this tournament to relive their glory days.

They couldn't have written a better story.

Asistio was a former golf rising star trying to rebuild a pro career that was sidetracked by a shooting incident several years back while Eustaquio was a US-honed prodigy starting a new career as the golf director of the sprawling Forest Hills golf complex.

"I really had an inkling that we were going to win here because we've been playing together since we were eight years old," said Eustaquio, who teamed up with Asistio in the 2009 Southeast Asian Games in Laos. "We knew each other well."

Back together, the two former jungolf teammates weaved their old magic from the opening round. They opened with an even-par 72 and could've tied early leaders Justin Quiban and Moulay Rhounimi had their not bogeyed two holes coming in.

1 Jude Eustaquio rues the birdie that got away on the last hole in regulation, enabling Jelbert Gamolo and Jolo Magcalayo to gain a crack at the crown via playoff. **2** Two heads prove not enough for Gamolo and Magcalayo, who missed their bid in sudden death. **3** LPGT Order of Merit winner Pauline del Rosario and young gun Anyka Cayabyab provide a different kind of challenge in the male dominated National Pro-Am.



4 Tonton Asistio and Jude Eustaquio reap the fruit of their long-time friendship and hard work with a victory in the inaugural National Pro-Am with no less than Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Torralba of Mt. Malarayat Golf and Country Club awarding their trophies and prizes. 5 A tied for 25th finish is enough to make pals J. Suarez and J. Reyes celebrate as if they've won the championship. 6 N. Salahog and J. Braga aren't in for a duel but are simply looking at a long putt to make in the final round. 7 With two 75s, it would take more than a fist-bump for amateur hotshot Paolo Wong and pro Elmer Saban to bump off a slew of tandems in a crowded leaderboard. 8 An early spark put Justin Quiban and M. Rhounimi in command, only to lose the luster and trigger when it mattered most. 9 Multi-titled Elmer Salvador sets up a short putt for partner M.Guiang, whose partnership netted them a joint fifth place finish.



MT. MALARAYAT GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
Lipa City, Batangas • (043) 404-3000

The three nines are named after the adjacent mountains. The Mount Lobo course is the shortest of the three but certainly a good test. The Mount Malipunyo course takes off adjacent to the Lobo. The Mt. Makulot loop is a favorite of many. There is an interesting ebb and flow of holes. For an all around golfing menu, Mount Malarayat has a triple order. The course is usually in immaculate shape, even during rainy season with the usual 419 Bermuda fairways and Tidwarf greens. In addition to the fine course, there is a practice facility with target greens and you can hit off turf.

NATIONAL PRO-AM OPEN CLASSIC FINAL RANKING

Rank	Names	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	T. ASISTIO/J. EUSTAQUIO	72	73	72	217	+1 (Playoff)	P360,000
=	J. GAMOLO/J. MAGCALAYO	74	68	75	217	+1	P250,000
3	R. GONZALES/I. RAYMUNDO	73	69	77	219	+3	P140,000
4	M. FERNANDO/N. SEVILLA	74	74	72	220	+4	P115,000
5	R. MARABE/G. SALES	77	72	72	221	+5	P78,000
=	E. SALVADOR/M. GUIANG	77	71	73	221	+5	P78,000
=	E. BISERA/J. QUIBOL	74	74	73	221	+5	P78,000
8	R. DEPILO/G. MACALAGUIM	77	78	67	222	+6	P48,125
=	M. DUMANDAN/J.Y. KIM	77	75	70	222	+6	P48,125
=	E. SABAN/P. WONG	75	75	72	222	+6	P48,125
=	B. MAGDA/C. QUIMZON	72	75	75	222	+6	P48,125

Asistio and Eustaquio wavered with a 73 in Day Two but remained within striking distance of Gamolo and Magcalayo, who fired a four-under par 68 to seize the lead with Raymond Gonzales and Inigo Raymundo (69) after Quiban and Rhounimi faded out of the top spot.

Gamolo and Magcalayo continued to wax hot in the third and final day. In fact the two looked as if they had put the championship in the bag when they opened a three-shot lead over the Gonzales-Raymundo and Asistio-Eustaquio pairs after back-to-back birdies from No. 13.

But Gamolo and Magcalayo fumbled with bogeys in the next two holes and left the championship door ajar for Asistio and Eustaquio, who birdied the par-5 17th to salvage a 72 and force a playoff at one-over 217 total. Gamolo and Magcalayo hobbled home with a 75.

"We wanted to win, but the breaks didn't go our way," said Gamolo.

Handed a new lease on life, Asistio and Eustaquio pounced on the opportunity right in the first playoff hole where Asistio hit a seven-iron second shot from 180 yards so pure the ball stopped a foot away from the hole at the par-4 18th.

The tap-in birdie putt by Eustaquio, after Magcalayo's own putt from 40 feet fell short, rewarded Asistio with his first win as a professional – and a P360,000 prize. Eustaquio received a trophy and gift prizes.

"When we compete, we're expecting something great," said Eustaquio.

'When we compete, we're expecting something great'

- EUSTAQUIO



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PUBLIC + PRIVATE + PEOPLE = A FUTURE-READY PORT OF LAE

To support the flourishing Lae fisheries sector—a major growth driver of the Papua New Guinea (PNG) economy—as well as the Morobe Province’s industrial base (especially its agro-processing and mining sectors): this is the vision for the Port of Lae. With the redevelopment, the port is geared to become a premier hub for Asia-Oceania trade. Key to the port program are the partnerships between the public and private sectors, and the private sector and host communities.

Port authority PNG Ports Corporation Ltd. having successfully overseen the 2014 initial upgrade in Lae, is keen on ramping up operational efficiencies and port performance, towards Lae’s increased competitiveness in the South Pacific, and to boost regional trade capabilities.

Private sector partner International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI), through PNG unit South Pacific International Container Terminal (SPICT), is investing in major equipment upgrades and leading-edge information technology. Equally significant are its investments in the people being hired for the redeveloped port.

Partner Communities represented by AHI Investments Ltd. and Labu Holdings Ltd. are engaged across several areas in the program. They will benefit directly from port

employment, with global standard training and benefits packages, and career pathing and mentoring.

Underpinning the sustainable port development are community programs to be carried out by the ICTSI Foundation, AHI Hope Foundation, the national and local governments, and host communities.

Together, the PNG Government, ICTSI, and the Partner Communities are optimizing PNG’s potential across borders—and working for development that is sustainable across generations.





EXCELLENCE UNCONTAINED

Headquartered in Manila, Philippines, International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI) is in the business of port development, management, and operations. Independent of shipping, logistics, or consignee-related interests, ICTSI works transparently with all port community stakeholders. Operating in both developed and emerging market economies—in Asia Pacific, the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, and Africa—ICTSI has received global acclaim for its port privatization partnerships with governments.

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C L Y D E M O N D I L L A

UNLIKE MAJORITY OF THE REST, HE BELIEVES THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR ONE TO GET BETTER – AND BETTER



While men his age would spend their days somewhere else, Mondilla would go to the range at 6 a.m., hit balls at varied distances, play a round, polish his short game and putting and back to the range way past at 6 p.m.

IT WAS the Saturday between Christmas and New Year, just before 6 a.m. when common 24-year-olds are still in deep slumber after a night of partying, of food, booze and what have you.

No one can fault them. After all, it's the weekend in the season of merriment. For most, it's a time to let it all hang out and live life the way normal 24-year-olds should.

Clyde Mondilla, though, sees everything in an entirely different light.

He's normal in every sense of the word. Make no mistake about it.

The only thing uncommon in this humble native of Bukidnon is that he has a work ethic that is second to none. A work ethic that has gotten him to where he is at now and a work ethic that would, hopefully, take him to places where no Filipino has ever gotten to before in the world of golf.

Mondilla returned a call for this interview just after sun-up, just the time of the day when the weather is perfect to stay in bed.

"Am on the way to the [Del Monte] golf course," Mondilla said in Filipino as he made sure he would catch the sunrise with a club in his hand at the driving range. "It's my usual schedule. The schedule I have kept in my entire career."

Ever since turning pro in 2012, Mondilla has racked up nine victories, and will look back at 2017 as the year he broke through in a big way by canning the two wins he considers the biggest thus far.

He triumphed in the inaugural Philippine Golf Tour

Asia's Riviera leg by besting a crack international field, a victory he considers the worthiest given the depth of the field and the prize money that went with it.

"The feeling is always different when you win an international event," he said.

But then, he gleefully talked about winning the Philippine Masters, which was revived at the tree-lined Villamor after an absence of close to two decades.

"That was very satisfying, mainly because of the great name of the tournament," Mondilla said. "The greatest golfers in our country have won that tournament, it is just truly an honor to be mentioned in the same breath with them."

Since joining the pros, Mondilla has bankrolled more than P10 million in prize money, and, barring any injuries or if he decides to quit the sport for good, will make a lot, lot more.

And because he is not the party-going type, he keeps everything simple and has been spending his hard-earned money wisely.

"I've acquired several properties here," he said. "Some of them are intended for my family, some for investment. I am not going to be young forever."

The eldest in a brood of three, Clyde credits

his interest in golf to father Ondoy, a pro at Del Monte, who he says is the biggest influence in his career.

"Ever since I can remember, the only thing I wanted to do as a child was tag along with my father to the golf course," said Mondilla.

'Since I was a child, I have wanted to make playing golf a living. This is what I was born to do'

Whenever the young Mondilla is not busy campaigning on the PGT, he would fly home to Bukidnon where he continues to polish what many of his peers already see as the perfect game.

"There's always room for improvement, sir," he explained, as he orders for a bucket of balls to warm up for the 18 holes he would be playing at the majestic course inside the vast pineapple plantation in Manolo Fortich.

"You can always get better, no matter what the other players say," Clyde went on. "And the other players (in the PGT) are doing the same. They keep practicing."

Mondilla's "relaxed" driver goes for at least 300 yards, "and I can hit it a little longer depending on the situation," he said without trying to sound boastful. "I really don't know how I do it. All I know is that it is a gift from God which I am just trying to harness."

"I just can't explain it," he said of his length, which awes even the other known long-hitters in the PGT. "That's why I work as hard as I do, because I don't want to just wake up one morning and see that it's gone because I didn't do anything about it."

Mondilla is bracing for a bigger 2018, where he will campaign a lot more in the PGTA and see if he is good enough to take the much bigger step of playing abroad more with the Japan Tour and the Asian Tour as targets.

He has billionaire restaurateur Martin Lorenzo as his adviser and the plan of Team Mondilla is go international by 2019.

That's why Clyde hasn't stopped working one day in his life.

A normal day for Mondilla starts with 100 balls to warm up, before he plays 18 holes in tournament mode. He would return to the driving range after lunch to fix whatever it is that needs fixing in his game.

If nothing is wrong with any aspect of his game after those 18 holes, he will still return to the range to polish his game even more.

After the round, at least 500 balls would still be hit. And that doesn't include the time he would spend on the practice greens for putting and pitching.

"I saw him as a kid, and I have a name for him already," swing coach Roger Retuerto, the only man the revered Frankie Miñoza trusts with his swing, said. "I call him the 6 to 6 kid. Because he starts hitting balls at 6 in the morning and works past 6 at night, when it gets dark and he can't see the balls anymore."

"That's the only way to become a better player," Mondilla said.

For Mondilla, that's how a normal day goes, and with the targets he has set for his career in the short term, there's no doubt he's bound to achieving all of those and come up with the unusually good results.





PAULINE DEL ROSARIO
*UNRUFFLED DESPITE SETBACKS IN HER FIRST 3 TOURNAMENTS,
SHE RACKS UP 4 WINS IN THE NEXT 8 TO EMERGE THE BEST*

At 18, the former De La Salle-Zobel hotshot opts to join the big league, saying she didn't want to turn pro at 25 and compete against young players

Pauline del Rosario arrived at the venue of the interview with a bad cold, but gamely played nine holes one fine Friday morning with a bunch of sportswriters eager to see her transformation.

Not only did she look trim and fit, Pauline had the game to back up her status as one of the country's top professionals.

She had a confident swing, the surgeon-like touch around the greens and the swagger rarely seen from someone who just turned 19.

Her rookie year is short of phenomenal. She won four of 11 legs and had eight Top 3 finishes in the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour, captured her first international crown in Taiwan and finished 13th in the Thailand Order of Merit.

Her total prize in the local tour – P1,585,500 – is nearly a million more than what second-ranked Chihiro Ikeda earned (P684,875).

Add the money she earned competing in the Taiwan and Thailand tours, Pauline has amassed close to P4 million, making her easily the richest Filipino athlete under 20 years old.

Just less than a year ago, Pauline was torn between a golf scholarship in the United States and a promising pro career.

She flew to Kansas, visited the athletes' dormitories and talked with coaches and school officials.

In the end, Pauline decided to turn pro at 18, a move which expectedly did not sit well with some parents of junior golfers.

"I did not want to turn pro at 25 and compete against young players," she explained. "Besides, I can always return to school anytime."

Pauline, a high school graduate of La Salle-Zobel, has the full support of her father Bong, a successful businessman and an 18-handicapper.

Bong, who sometimes works as Pauline's caddie, said he used to bring his then six-year-old daughter to the golf course.

"She loved riding the golf cart. One day, I told her that if she wanted to ride it often, she had to try playing golf," he narrated.

Pauline started hitting balls at the driving range.

Although he had no inkling that his daughter would become a champion golfer, Bong said one thing struck him.

"She was focused unlike the others her age," he said.

Pauline saw

action twice in the world junior golf championships in San Diego, California, winning once in 2013, the same year she joined the ICTSI national pool under coach Bong Lopez.

It was the year, Pauline admitted, that her love affair with golf was rekindled.

"Four years before, I rarely played golf and concentrated on my studies. Being around other talented golfers whetted my appetite," she said.

Despite playing second fiddle to Princess Superal, Pauline has had a successful amateur career with a stint in the Asian Games.

Her strong pro debut was unexpected, Pauline admitted.

"Our initial goal was to learn the ropes," she said.

In her first pro event, Pauline showed her potential by sharing second place with Thai Titiya Plucksataporn, just a stroke behind Thai winner K. Muangkhumsakul at Splendido in March.

After finishing 20 shots behind Ye Nah Hwang of Chinese-Taipei at Mt. Malarayat the week after, Pauline lost in the playoff to Korean Euna Koh in April at Luisita Golf Club in Tarlac.

She finally hit paydirt the following month when she completed an eight-shot win over Alisara Wedchakama of Thailand at Orchard Golf and Country Club.

Pauline would win three more times at Camp John Hay in Baguio, Pradera Verde in Lubao, Pampanga and Splendido in Tagaytay.

In between LPGTA tournaments, Pauline kept herself sharp by taking part in two legs in Taiwan and five tournaments in Thailand.

She won her biggest paycheck – 1.2 million Taiwan dollars (roughly P2 million) at the TPGA Royal Open last September.

The victory came just four days after she topped the Pradera Verde leg.

"I had to rush to the airport after the final round at Pradera. Arrived in Taiwan at 1 a.m., slept about two hours and showed up at the first tee at 8 a.m.," she recalled.

Pauline opened with a

two-under 70 and was still six strokes behind the leader despite scoring a four-under 68 in the penultimate round.

But in the final round, the long-hitting Filipina closed out with a 66 to win by one shot.

In her first foray in Taiwan last August, Pauline finished third in the Mobile Open.

In Thailand, Pauline earned P225,500.

Pauline credited her strong showing to coach Jun Cedo who worked on her swing in the offseason.

'My coach told me to have a swing that can withstand the rigors of tournament play. Consistency was what we worked on'

Toward the end of the season, however, Pauline wanted to raise her game a notch higher under new coach J3 Altea.

"I wanted to learn how to shape my shots and coach Altea has this device that would help me achieve it," she said.

Even during the Christmas holiday, Pauline spent countless hours at the course, driving range and gym to prepare for the next season.

She knew she would be on her own now, a deal she made with her father after she decided to turn pro.

Aside from the support she gets from main sponsor ICTSI, Pauline's expenses have been shouldered by her father.

"But starting next year, I would now be spending for myself," she said.

Getting an LPGA card is not in Pauline's radar at the moment.

"I would like to get one more year of experience competing here and in Asia before I attempt to join the LPGA," she said.

With the solid support of his family and corporate sponsors, Pauline is expected to continue to make huge strides this 2018.



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Amolkan Phalajivin

Take it from Amolkan Phalajivin. The first Thai player to win on the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour believes the country's first and premier circuit is on the upswing with a record setting 11-leg circuit, including one co-sanctioned by China and Taiwan LPGA, marking its breakout fifth season.

"With solid support from ICTSI, the LPGT is definitely growing," said the comely shotmaker from Bangkok, who broke into the local golfing scene in Baguio in LPGT's inaugural season in 2013 where she turned in a decent sixth

place finish in the event won by then amateur Princess Superal.

She didn't only become a regular fixture here but also paved the way for the inflow of talents from the Phl's perennial regional rival and other neighboring countries until she broke through with a victory over Cyna Rodriguez, no less, at Splendido in 2014.

Five years into the circuit, the Thais have started to dominate with the country's top bets, including three-time Order of Merit winner Rodriguez, Dottie Ardina and Superal now campaigning on the Symetra Tour after honing their skills and talent on the local circuit.

"I think the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour has been doing a pretty good job to help out foreign players to come out and play in the tournament," said Phalajivin. "But maybe a higher prize money would attract more players to come and play here."

ICTSI has actually put up a number of P1 million events in 2017 and went on to set a new record of 11 tournaments, including three events sanctioned by the Taiwan LPGA Tour, one of the more established circuits in Asia.

in fact, the organizing Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc. has linked up with

China LPGA Tour, one of the region's biggest, along with the TLPGA, to stage the Philippine Ladies Masters at The Country Club, a move seen to further build some kind of a base and bolster its drive to make the Philippines a legitimate LPGA stop in the near future.

"The LPGT was sincere in inviting the China LPGA to be one of the sanctioning bodies of the \$80,000 Phl Ladies Masters. Through this cooperation, the LPGT players can now earn Rolex world ranking points and compete against a strong line-up," said China LPGA Tour managing director Jennifer Lee.

Colo Ventosa, general manager of the organizing Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc., said the LPGT has been on the rise since it was launched in 2013 with six events.

"We're very happy with how our tour has grown and continues to grow - in terms of tournaments and participation," said Ventosa. "It is our goal to help our lady pros and amateurs hone their skills on our circuit to prepare them to compete in other tours abroad."

Although the Thais stamped their class by winning the season-opening leg at Splendido (Kanphanitnan Muangkhumsakul) and the closing two legs at The Country Club (Renuka Suksukont) and South Forbes (Yupaporn Kawinpakorn), former amateur hotshot Pauline del Rosario took the cudgels for the locals, racking up four victories at Orchard, Baguio, Pradera Verde and Splendido to clinch the Order of Merit diadem in her rookie season.

With another full, hectic season ahead - with a bigger, stronger batch of foreign bidders and endless possibilities, ladies pro golf has nowhere to go but up.

As what Lee has said: "This is just the beginning."

GETTING BIGGER, STRONGER

DEL ROSARIO, THAIS DOMINATE RECORD 11-LEG CIRCUIT



THAI DELIGHT



Muangkumsakul snaps LPGT spell, rallies to snare Champion Tour crown

TOURNAMENT	CHAMPION TOUR - SPLENDIDO
DATES	MARCH 8, 2017 - MARCH 10, 2017
VENUE	SPLENDIDO TAAL GOLF CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	\$ 75,000



1 Thai Kanphanitnan Muangkumsakul gets a well-deserved pat on the back from dad after scoring a breakthrough LPGT victory. **2** Pro winner Kanphanitnan of Thailand and low amateur Yuka Saso celebrate their victories with Taal Splendido Golf Club manager Teboy Javier (left) and Taiwan LPGA's Mei-Chi Cheng. **3** Frustration is written all over Mia Piccio's face as she rues a number of flubbed putts that ruined her title campaign. **4** Thai Thanuttra Boonraksat is all but focused in the final day but a second round 79 took her out of the title picture.

Thai Kanphanitnan Muangkumsakul perhaps didn't give it much thought after storming to the lead in the kickoff leg of the 2017 ICTSI Ladies Philippine Golf Tour - the ICTSI Champion Tour at Splendido. After all, with a number of sorry finishes in past campaigns, she must've felt this won't be any different.

She was right. One day after taking charge of the elite international field with a 69, she skied to a wind-blown 77 and fell with a thud in the \$75,000 event also held as part of the Taiwan LPGA.

This time, however, Muangkumsakul struck back like she never did - despite the blustery condition, a three-stroke

deficit and spirited challenge of at least two gritty rivals - and rallied to score her breakthrough win in Season 5 of the country's pioneering ladies golf circuit.

"I played relatively good. Everything was in place and I'm happy I finally made it," said Muangkumsakul.

Play good she did but actually only in the last nine holes where she put up a blazing eagle-spiked windup to frustrate local bet Pauline del Rosario and compatriot Titiya Plucksataporn.

She eagled No. 10 and birdied two of the last four holes to sneak from third-to-last flight and snatch the coveted crown at 215, two strokes better than erstwhile leader Plucksataporn, who wavered with a 74, and Del Rosario, who also launched her own comeback bid with a 68, for 217s.



'I played relatively good. Everything was in place and I'm happy I finally made it'

-MUANGKHUMSAKUL

In contrast, the 18-year-old shotmaker from Bangkok, a consistent Top 5 finisher but never a winner on LPGT until this tournament, sizzled at the finish, her solid four-under 32 netting her the crown worth \$15,000.

Plucksataporn, a veteran of the Ladies European Tour who surged ahead after 36 holes with a gutsy 71, actually hung tough despite Muangkhumsakul's eagle on No. 10, which she birdied. But Plucksataporn fumbled with bogeys on the next two, gave up another stroke on No. 14 and slipped off the lead – for good.

Del Rosario, whose disastrous second round 78 dropped her six strokes behind Plucksataporn, did mount a rally in second-to-last flight, ramming in her own eagle feat on No. 2 then coming through with birdies on Nos. 14 and 16. She pulled to within one of the Thai bets with two holes to play, raising hopes for a local player's victory after erstwhile contenders Mia Piccio and Cyna Rodriguez faded one after the other.

But while Plucksataporn succumbed under pressure, Muangkhumsakul proved up to the task, holding sway with clutch birdies. She rolled in a six-footer on the par-3 17th to gain a two-shot cushion that all but quashed Del Rosario's crack for a playoff and kept Thailand's winning tradition in the circuit sponsored by ICTSI.

"If not for my 78 in the second round, I could've vied for the crown," rued Del Rosario.

The locals had earlier pinned their hopes on Symetra Tour campaigners Piccio and Rodriguez, who closed to within two off Plucksataporn after 36 holes. But the former kissed her title bid goodbye with a bogey and double bogey on Nos. 7 and 9, respectively, and the latter wilted at the finish with a bogey-marred backside 41.

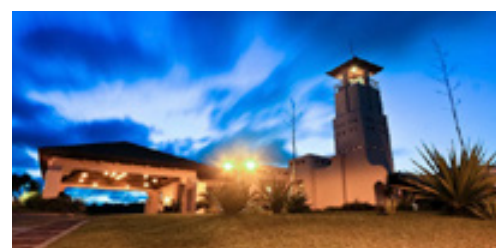
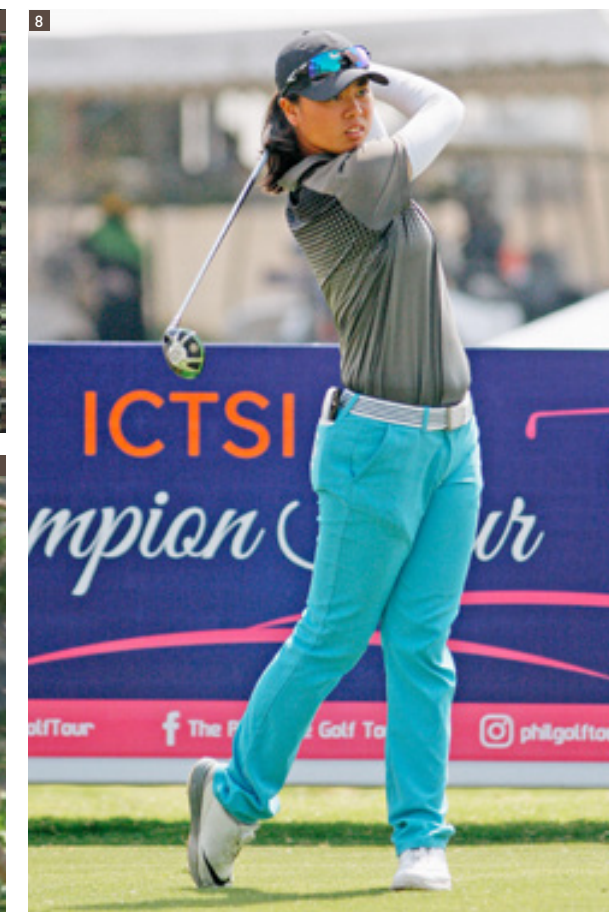
"I didn't get the breaks and missed a lot of putts," said Piccio, who also lost by one to Korean Lee Jeong-hwa here in 2016.

Yuka Saso, an emerging local talent, took the top amateur honors with a 74 as she finished tied for seventh with Taiwanese Yeh Hsin-ning, who hobbled with a 75, at 221 while Taiwanese Lin Tzu-chi fired a 70 and tied Thais Thanuutra Boonraksasat (71) and Punpaka Phuntumabamrung (74) and compatriot Lee Hsin (76) at ninth at 222.

Rodriguez, who had dominated the first three editions of the LPGT, limped home with a 78 and wound up tied with Thai Pimpadsorn Sangkagaru (75) at 223.

Two of the country's aces – Princess Superal and Dottie Ardina – never recovered from poor starts of 77 and 80, respectively, with the former ending up at joint 19th at 225 after a 74, and the latter finishing tied at 33rd after a 74 for a 232.

5 A struggling stint around the greens in the final round costs Titiya Plucksataporn not only the lead – but also the title. 6 Pro winner Muangkhumsakul and low amateur Yuka Saso share a light moment with co-players and officials of the organizing Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc. and host Taal Splendido Golf Club after topping their respective sides in the ICTSI Ladies Philippine Golf Tour kickoff leg, also an event of the Taiwan LPGA. 7 Pauline del Rosario and rulesman Jack Imperial seem to be discouraging the right area for a penalty drop. 8 Talent, skills and golfing IQ could make amateur Saso the next Filipina star. 9 Yeh Hsin-ning seeks her caddie's advise as to where to hit her target from just around the green. 10 Missing short putts could indeed be excruciating, particularly for a contender like del Rosario. 11 Traffic gives buddies Cyna Rodriguez and Sarah Ababa the chance to re-acquaint.



SPLENDIDO TAAL GOLF CLUB
Laurel, Batangas • (02) 693-4018

The Greg Norman-designed, 18-hole par-72 all-weather championship layout is a truly majestic course sprawled on a 152-hectare man-made valley nestled amidst the mountain ridges of the Grand Taal with a dramatic view of the Taal Volcano and Lake.

CHAMPION TOUR (SPLENDIDO) FINAL RANKING

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	MUANGKHUMSAKUL, K.	THA	69	77	69	215	-1	\$15,000
2	DEL ROSARIO, PAULINE	PHL	71	78	98	217	1	\$6,000
=	PLUCKSATAPORN, T.	THA	72	71	74	217	1	\$6,000
4	KANG, JI-WON	KOR	75	72	72	219	3	\$3,150
5	KERDRIT, NARISARA	THA	76	73	71	220	4	\$2,325
=	PICCIO, MIA	PHI	70	75	75	220	4	\$2,325
7	SASO, YUKA (AM)	PHI	72	75	74	221	5	XXX
=	YEH, HSIN-NING	TWN	71	75	75	221	5	\$1,800
9	LIN, TZU-CHI	TWN	80	72	70	222	6	\$1,241
=	BOONRAKSASAT, T.	THA	72	79	71	222	6	\$1,241
=	PHUNTUMABAMRUNG, P.	THA	75	73	74	222	6	\$1,241
=	LEE, HSIN	TWN	74	72	76	222	6	\$1,241

FAMILIAR PLACE FAMILIAR FACE



Hwang makes it two-in-row on LPGT, rips Malarayat field

TOURNAMENT	CHAMPION TOUR - MALARAYAT
DATES	MARCH 15, 2017 - MARCH 17, 2017
VENUE	MT. MALARAYAT GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	\$ 75,000

'I played pretty good, especially my putting. The wind was strong and I'm lucky to turn in a sub-par round'

- HWANG

From the tight, hazard-laden Southlinks course to the open, windy Mt. Malarayat layout, nothing seems to unnerve Hwang Ye-nah in pursuit of another Ladies Philippine Golf Tour crown.

In fact, it practically took the talented Korean just one round to outclass the elite field and wrap up another championship on the ICTSI Champion Tour.

Like in her first foray on the local circuit in 2015 where she posted a wire-to-wire triumph at Southlinks, Hwang dominated Mt. Malarayat with solid shotmaking, superb short game and near-impeccable putting in all three days of the second leg of the Champion Tour co-organized by Taiwan LPGA and the LPGT.

"I'm happy I made it on my first try here," said Hwang, who also emerged the lone player to have churned out a run of under-par scores in the 54-hole, \$75,000 championship.

That included an eagle-spiked six-under 66 in the first round that put her five shots clear off Princess Superal, whom she edged by one at Southlinks in 2015.

The Korean ace, 23, actually struggled in the early going while trying to get the feel of the Mt. Lobo and Mt. Malipunyo nines. But a bogey on No. 12 failed to dampen her spirit as she found her rhythm and touch in so short a time.

Two birdies in the next three holes and an eagle from seven feet on the par-5 17th off a solid 5-wood utility second shot from 190 yards got her going. She sustained her hot charge at the front with four birdies in the first seven holes but missed hiking her lead with a bogey on the par-3 No. 8.

Still, her 33-33 card spoke well of the caliber of the player who survived Superal's late-hole charge at Southlinks with the duo appearing headed for another title face-off after the Filipina ace carded a 71.

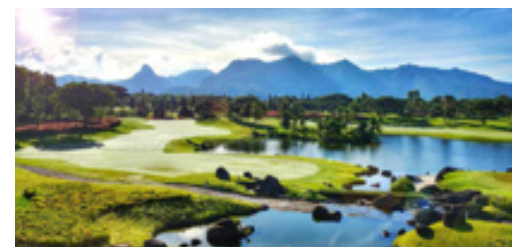
"I played pretty good, especially my putting. The wind was too strong and I'm lucky to turn in a sub-par round," said Hwang.



1, 2 Back on the local circuit, former ICTSI Ladies Open champion Korean Hwang Ye-nah backs up her claim as one of the best foreign players to vie for the crown here, posting an emphatic eight-stroke romp over amateur Yuka Saso in the LPGT Champion Tour at Mt. Malarayat. **3** For a player whose name is almost synonymous to winning, Princess Superal believes it's just a matter of time before she could put it all together and start piling up those victories again.



5 Gone are the days, it seems, when one solid Cyna Rodriguez drive is enough to send the opposition shivering, quivering. **6** An opening 73 is enough to make Ai Tanaka's day but the Japanese shotmaker never got to burst into laughter with a so-so joint 28th finish following rounds of 80 and 76. **7** Saranporn Langkulgettrin keeps it light and bright despite a not-so-inspiring 74 start. **8** With a near-flawless swing, lots of guts and a big fighting heart rarely seen in amateur players, Yuka Saso could be the next big thing in Philippine golf. **9** A visit to the thick grasses of Mt. Malarayat keeps Thai Parinda Phokan out of early contention. **10** With a huge deficit to overhaul, Thai Chatprapa Siriprakob could only rue a shaky 75 start that hardly put her back in real contention despite a closing 68-70. **11** Despite a near-perfect swing, form and shape, Mafy Singson still lacks the sting needed to get into the thick of things. **12** Thai Wannasiri Sirisampant seems to be more concerned getting tanned than getting into the groove.



MT. MALARAYAT GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
Lipa City, Batangas • (02) 693-4018

The three nines are named after the adjacent mountains. The Mount Lobo course is the shortest of the three but certainly a good test. The Mount Malipunyo course takes off adjacent to the Lobo. The Mt. Makulot loop is a favorite of many. There is an interesting ebb and flow of holes. For an all around golfing menu, Mount Malarayat has a triple order. The course is usually in immaculate shape, even during rainy season with the usual 419 Bermuda fairways and Tifdwarf greens. In addition to the fine course, there is a practice facility with target greens and you can hit off turf.

CHAMPION TOUR (MALARAYAT) FINAL RANKING								
Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	YE-NAH, HWANG	KOR	66	69	69	204	-12	\$15,000
2	SASO, YUKA (AM)	PHL	72	74	66	212	-4	XXX
3	SIRIPRAKOB, CHATPRAPA	THA	75	68	70	213	-2	\$7,500
4	SUPERAL, PRINCESS	PHL	71	73	71	215	-1	\$4,500
5	MIN-JEONG, HWANG (AM)	KOR	72	72	72	216	=	XXX
6	LANGKULGASSETTRIN, S.	THA	74	71	73	218	+2	\$3,150
7	RODRIGUEZ, CYN	PHL	74	73	74	221	+5	\$2,550
8	DUANGCHAN, PAKPRING	THA	77	75	70	222	+6	\$1,700
=	SANGKAGARO, P.	THA	80	71	71	222	+6	\$1,700
=	LOW, MICHELE	MAL	77	71	74	222	+6	\$1,700



Superal was also fortunate to have shot a 71 but while Hwang sustained her form and strung a pair of 69s to run away with an eight-stroke victory at 12-under 204, the former sputtered with a 73 in the second day and never got into the mix, finishing with a 71 for fourth at 215.

Saso, a multi-titled amateur, tried to take the cudgels for the embattled local aces but the former World Junior Girls individual winner never got closer than six despite closing 66, her bid hampered by mediocre start of 72 and 74. She settled for runner-up and low amateur honors at 212, eight behind Hwang.

Thai Chatprapa Siriprakob also rued a 75 start, hardly gaining a crack at the crown despite a 68 and 70, finishing at third at 213 while another Korean, amateur Hwang Min-jeong, who also humbled Superal and Cyna Rodriguez in the final round to snare the LPGT leg title here, also in 2015, matched par 72 in all three days and ended up fifth at 216.

Rookie pro Pauline del Rosario, joint second in the ICTSI Champion Tour first leg at Splendido won by absentee Kanphanitnan Muangkhumsakul, groped for form all tournament long, hobbling with 76-75-73 (224) for joint 15th with Symetra Tour campaigner Mia Piccio (76-72-76) while former amateur star Dottie Ardina finished way below expectations at joint 28th at 229 (76-79-74).

After an opening 66, Hwang actually slowed down with poor putting and so-so iron game for a 69 in the second but. But with the rest failing to mount any serious charge, the Korean found herself up by eight over Siriprakob.

"My putting wasn't good as well as my short game," said Hwang.

Despite her huge lead, she said she still has to shoot a 66 to win.

Superal, meanwhile, hinted at turning in a low 60 or a 10-under card to get a crack at the crown.

"My putting was awful and missed so many birdie putts," said Superal. "I have to score 10-under to win."

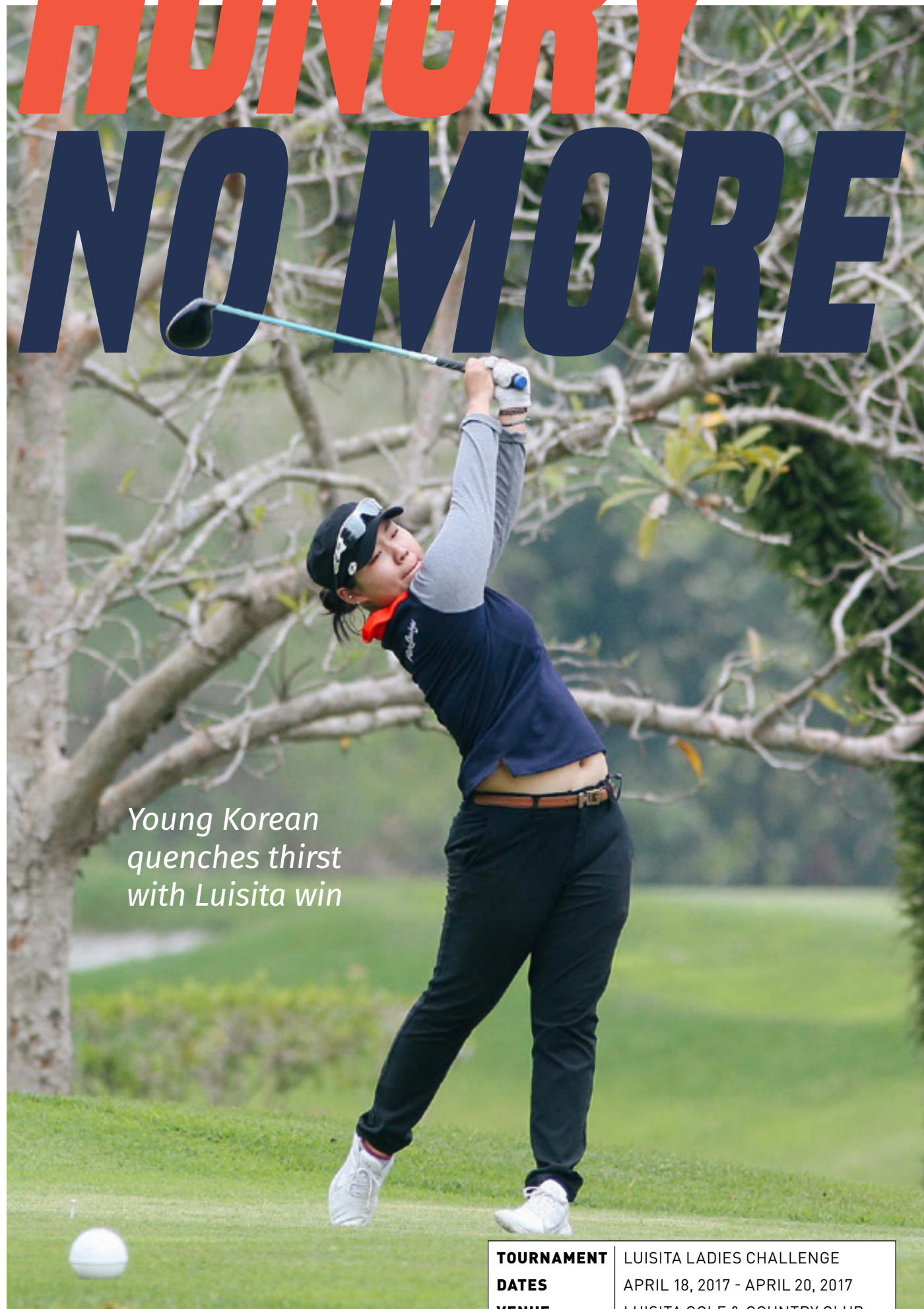
She fell nine strokes off her target and Hwang hardly had any stretch-run pressure to withstand although Saso did spark some hopes for the local bets but ran out of holes to pose any real challenge.

The 22-year-old Daejong native thus matched amateur Harmie Constantino's eight-shot romp over Thai Saranporn Chamchoi here last year, and vowed to defend her crown next year.

"Definitely, I'll be back," said Hwang after receiving her trophy and prize worth \$15,000 from Malarayat chairman Antonio Turalba and general manager Argy Garcia.

That should make her a familiar face seeking her familiar place on the LPGT.

HUNGRY NO MORE



Young Korean
quenches thirst
with Luisita win

TOURNAMENT	LUISITA LADIES CHALLENGE
DATES	APRIL 18, 2017 - APRIL 20, 2017
VENUE	LUISITA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 1,000,000



1 Ranged against the local aces and a slew of Thai campaigners, young Korean Euna Koh bucks overwhelming odds, including a pressure-laden sudden death with Pauline del Rosario to claim a first-ever LPGT crown at Luisita. **2** In chase of a maiden win in her rookie season, Pauline del Rosario blows another crack at the crown with a playoff setback to unheralded Koh. **3** A final round struggle keeps Thai Nemitra Juntanaket out of the title picture.



Euna Koh came into the playoff stage trembling, shaking – not because she's going up against a fancied Pauline del Rosario for a rare crack at the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour crown. She was shuddering simply because she was hungry.

Not for the title.

After barely surviving the sweltering heat and Del Rosario's fightback in regulation, Koh needed to replenish in sudden death.

She did and the 18-year-old shotmaker from Gwangju came through with a superb wedge shot from 120 yards that set up a four-foot putt for birdie, which she calmly sank to beat Del Rosario and claim the P1 million ICTSI Luisita Ladies Challenge plum at the Luisita Golf and Country Club in Tarlac.

"I was shaking because I'm hungry but I was happy to have pulled it off," said Koh, a mainstay at Riviera in Silang, Cavite who thus snapped a string of poor finishes on the LPGT to score her maiden victory worth a whopping P250,000.

But it didn't come easy. She toiled in exacting condition and needed to battle back from five shots down and recover after blowing a two-stroke lead late in regulation, coming through with that superb approach shot in the playoff then watching Del Rosario flub her own birdie bid from eight feet to snare the crown.

Koh wiped out Del Rosario's huge five-shot lead in a flight ahead with a remarkable 35 at the front but had to toughen up in the last two holes after failing to clinch it in regulation with a bogey on No. 16 for a 72.

Del Rosario birdied that par-5 hole for a crucial two-shot swing and matched Koh's pars in the last two to card a 77

'I was shaking because I'm hungry but I was happy to have pulled it off'

- KOH

and force a playoff at six-over 222 in the third leg of the LPGT.

While the win proved to be a big morale boost for Koh, Del Rosario reeled from the setback, ruing her failed bid to score a breakthrough win in just her third pro tournament.

She looked headed for a big romp after surging to a four-stroke lead over Thai Numa Gulyanamitta and going 5-up over Koh after the second round of the 54-hole championship.

But it didn't turn out right although the setback only toughened up the young Filipina shotmaker for her future cracks at the LPGT trophies.

Del Rosario, who finished tied at 15th at ICTSI Champion Tour Mt. Malarayat after an impressive joint runner-up feat in her first pro event at Splendido, both legs of the Taiwan LPGA Tour, settled for P120,000.

Nemittra Juntanaket also birdied No. 16 to save a 75 and tied Gulyanamitta, who turned in a 76, at third at 225 worth P80,500 each while Indonesian Jessica Lydia carded a 74 to place solo fifth at 227 and pocket P65,000.

Del Rosario came out brimming with confidence after storming to a huge four-shot lead after two rounds.

But after a regulation par on the first hole in the final day, she struggled with her irons and putting, dropping a stroke on No. 2 then fumbling with three straight bogeys from No. 5.

But while Gulyanamitta failed to pounce in with her up-and-down round of 38, the Korean gamely took up the challenge, mixing three birdies with two bogeys in a five-hole stretch from No. 2 then coming through with pars to catch Del Rosario at five-over overall after 9 holes.

A double-bogey mishap by the Filipina and a par by Koh shoved the latter to the top and the Korean kept her two-stroke lead with gutsy pars in the next six holes before missing the green on No. 16 and flubbed a par putt from short range.

In contrast, Del Rosario atoned for her earlier miscues with a clutch birdie before the duo parred the last two to set up the sudden death.

4 Nemittra Juntanaket (left) and fellow Thai Janjira Tiensard make the same pre-game routine but ended up with different results.

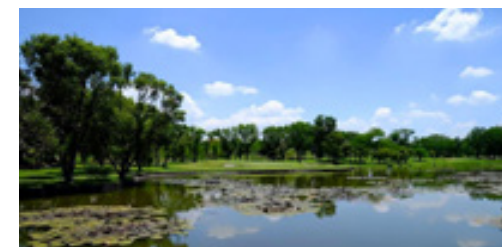
5 Despite another failed bid, Indonesian Jessica Lydia is all eyes on a first crack at an LPGT championship.

6 Flubbed putts from close range stymie Thai Numa Gulyanamitta's final round charge.

7 Perhaps disgruntled with her scores in the 80s, Sheryl Villasencio retreats in the privacy of her own mind, trying to figure out her game that continues to dip.

8 After a lead-sharing 72 in the opening round, Nimitta Juntanaket loses her way trying to solve the Luisita puzzle.

9 For Sarah Ababa, it's just a matter of time before she could blast the opposition again the way she did at Sherwood in 2015. 10 Two years after beating three crack Thai players to nail a breakthrough win at Luisita, Fil-Am Cristina Corpus continues to grope in the dark trying to recall the winning form at the quaint Tarlac layout.



LUISITA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
Tarlac City, Tarlac • (045) 985-2240

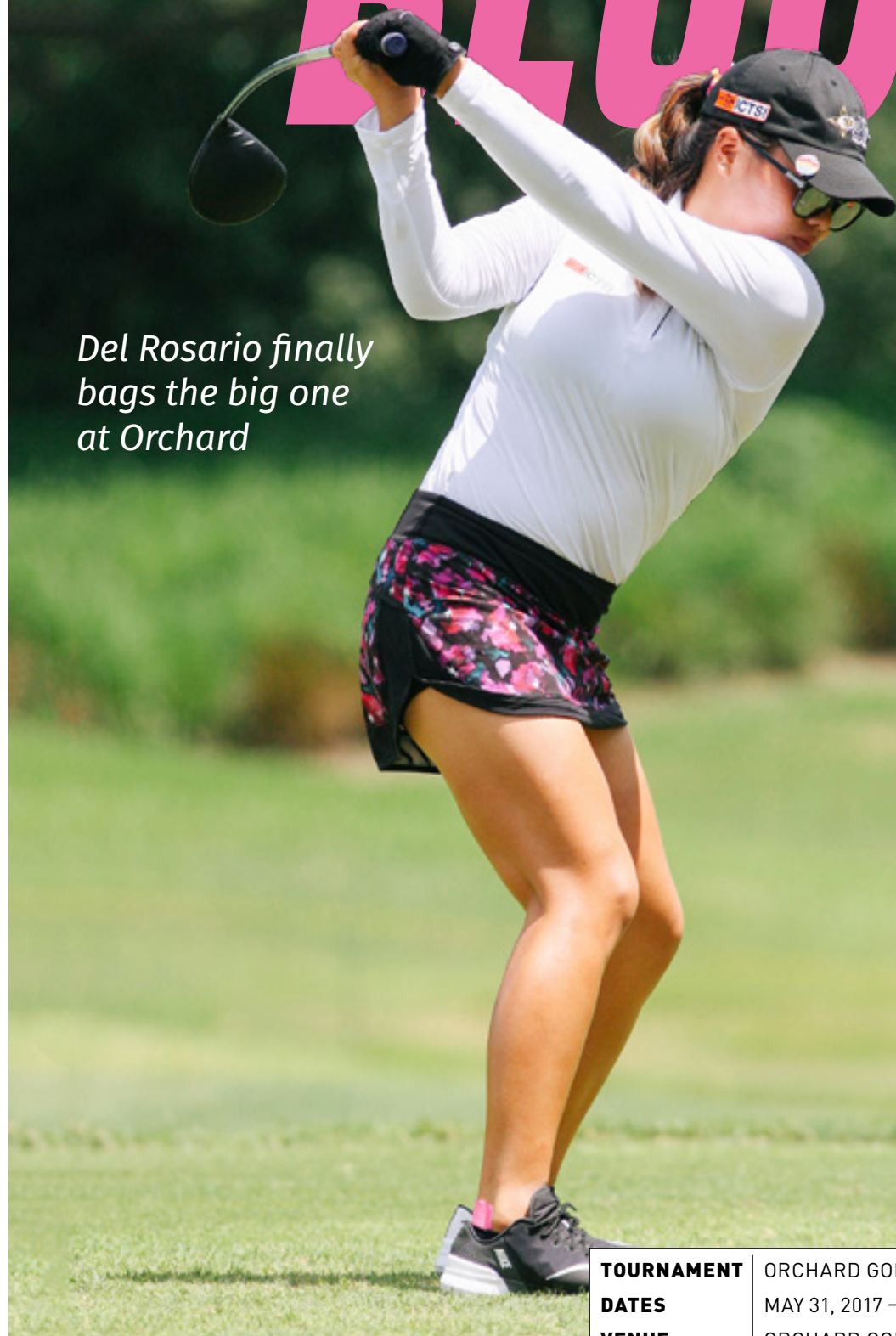
Considered as one of the finest 18-hole, par-72 championship courses in the country, the Luisita Golf and Country Club has been home to the President's Cup, one of the country's four majors in the 90s. Situated on a 70-hectare area bounded on the east by a sugar central, it is the only golf course designed by the renowned Robert Trent Jones, Sr. in the country. The front nine is built mostly on an open but rolling ground while the backside is shaped by meandering creek. Experienced golfers trying to aim for a low score.

LUISITA LADIES CHALLENGE FINAL RANKING								
Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	KOH, EUNA	KOR	72	78	72	222	+6	P250,000
2	DEL ROSARIO, PAULINE	PHL	74	71	77	222	+6	P120,000
3	JUNTANAKET, NEMITTRA	THA	74	76	75	225	+9	P80,500
=	GULYANAMITTA, NUMA	THA	72	77	76	225	+9	P80,500
5	LYDIA, JESSICA	INA	74	79	74	227	+11	P65,000
6	JUNTANAKET, NIMITTA	THA	72	78	78	228	+12	P60,000
7	IKEDA, CHIHIRO	PHL	81	76	72	229	+13	P50,000
8	PALAKAWONGNAAYUTAWA, J.	THA	76	78	76	230	+14	P42,000
9	FUDOLIN, APPLE	PHL	79	79	74	232	+16	P34,500
=	CORPUS, CRISTINA	USA	76	79	77	232	+16	P34,500



IN FULL BLOOM

Del Rosario finally bags the big one at Orchard



TOURNAMENT	ORCHARD GOLF LADIES CLASSIC
DATES	MAY 31, 2017 – JUNE 2, 2017
VENUE	ORCHARD GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 1,000,000



'I'm so happy to have finally scored a win'

- DEL ROSARIO

1, 2 Just four tournaments into the big league, rookie pro Pauline del Rosario claims her breakthrough win despite a muffed birdie putt on the 54th hole. **3** With the slew of Thai pros and local aces failing to provide the challenge, young Eagle Ace Superal stepped up only to be stopped on her tracks by a determined Del Rosario.

Losing a playoff battle to an unfancied rival must've brought out the killer's instinct in Pauline del Rosario. For she didn't only claim her maiden pro crown after just four events on the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour but clinched it in emphatic wire-to-wire fashion.

"I really felt bad losing at Luisita," said del Rosario, referring to her playoff setback to Korean Euna Koh in a duel she was heavily favored to win during the circuit's third stop in Tarlac.

So she toughened up during the tour break, honed her skills, firmed up her short game and polished her putting stroke.

Still, she needed to scramble for late birdies to card a 73 and gain control in the first round of the P1 million ICTSI Orchard Ladies Invitational beefed up by a slew of Thai aces.

From a one-stroke margin over Pannapa Polnamin of Thailand and two other locals, del Rosario hiked her lead to two despite a second round 74 then bucked an early scare from Thai Nemittra Juntanaket in the early going of the final round before coasting to a trouble-free five-stroke romp over amateur Eagle Ace Superal on a 218 after a closing 71.

Just like that, del Rosario found herself in the elite roster of LPGT winners after a couple of runner-up finishes and a 15th place effort after deciding to join the big league following a checkered amateur career.

"I'm so happy to have finally scored a win," said Del Rosario.

Happiness is also banking a P250,000 bonanza for a three-day job for an 18-year-old shotmaker.

But like the late meltdowns in her previous two cracks at the pro crown, del Rosario looked headed for another shaky finish at Orchard as Juntanaket, two down after 36 holes, pulled to within one after the second hole up to the 11th.

This time, however, the young Filipina kept her poise, came away with a brave run of pars and drilled in a birdie on No. 14.

And while del Rosario held sway, Juntanaket faltered with a double-bogey on a three-putt miscue on No. 11 and bowed out with four bogeys in the last six holes.

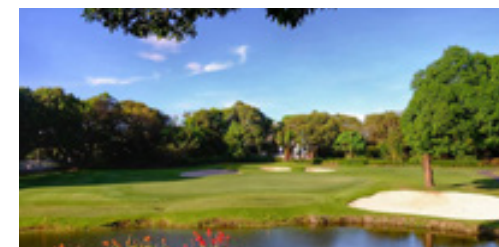
She limped with a 77 for a 226, enabling the 12-year-old Superal to snatch the runner-up honors at 223 after a 73 built around four birdies against three bogeys and a double-bogey.

"The turning point was when Juntanaket made that double-bogey. It was smooth sailing from there," said del Rosario.

Cruise to victory del Rosario did as the rest fumbled with over par cards, including Alisara Wedchakama, who bogeyed the last two holes and ended up with a 75 to drop to joint third with Juntanaket. The Thais, however, split the second and third prizes and earned P102,500 each with Superal, the younger sister of many-time Ladies Philippine Golf Tour winner and Symetra Tour campaigner, Princess, running away with the amateur honors in the 54-hole championship.

Numa Gulyanamitta, also of Thailand, matched par 72 for a 227 while Indonesian Jessica Lydia skied to a 79 for a 229. Former leg winner Sarah Ababa also limped with a 77 for a 230 while amateur Sam Bruce hobbled with a 79 for a 231.

After finally putting together the missing pieces to a victory jigsaw, Del Rosario is eyeing more puzzles to solve and more championships to collect.



THE ORCHARD GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
Dasmariñas, Cavite • (02) 982-2000

The Orchard is distinguished by two world class championship courses, The Arnold Palmer Course and the Gary Player Course. Both have hosted international and national competitions, (1995 Johnnie Walker Classic, The 1996 World Golf Tour), and professional and amateur tournaments (The Philippine Amateur Matchplay Championships, Philippine Professional Tour events, etc). It actively supports golf course maintenance programs, a national handicapping system, and preserving wildlife sanctuaries.

ORCHARD GOLF LADIES CLASSIC FINAL RANKING								
Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	DEL ROSARIO, PAULINE	PHL	73	74	71	218	+2	P250,000
2	SUPERAL, EAGLE ACE (AM)	PHL	78	72	73	223	+7	XXX
3	WEDCHAKAMA, ALISARA	THA	78	73	75	226	+10	P102,500
=	JUNTANAKET, NEMITTRA	THA	79	70	77	226	+10	P102,500
5	GULYANAMITTA, NUMA	THA	80	75	72	227	+11	P76,000
6	LYDIA, JESSICA	INA	75	75	79	229	+13	P65,000
7	ABABA, SARAH	PHL	74	79	77	230	+14	P60,000
8	TANGKAMOLPRASERT, S.	THA	77	74	81	232	+16	P50,000
9	IKEDA, CHIHIRO	PHL	74	81	78	233	+17	P42,000
10	POLNAMIN, PANNAPA	THA	74	79	81	234	+18	P36,000

5 Pauline del Rosario's walk to golfing fame didn't take long with a runaway triumph in her fourth LPGT tournament at Orchard. **6** Despite her power off the mound and big fighting heart, Apple Fudolin remains in chase for a breakthrough victory. **7** Pannapa Polnamin's superb rescue shots fails to save the Thai ace from tumbling down the leaderboard with sky-high rounds in the last two days. **8** After moving within two off del Rosario with a tournament-best 70 in the second round, Thai Nemittra Juntanaket sputtered on the unpredictable putting surface of Orchard and wound up tied for second with compatriot Alisara Wedchakama. **9** Jaruporn Palakawong Na Ayutthaya of Thailand tries to lean on her terrific short game to compensate for her tournament-long struggle off the mound to no avail. **10** A year after ending a long title spell at the Orchard, Chihiro Ikeda seems to be at a loss trying to put it all together again. **11** Numa Gulyanamitta's first round 80 proves too high a score to make up for the Thai shotmaker, who despite her near-impeccable touch around the green in the final round, still fell way behind at fifth at the finish. **12** Shaky putting keeps Sarah Ababa's from turning in low scores and living up to her name.

WINNING

TIME

Del Rosario delivers again, beats Ikeda by 4



TOURNAMENT	BAGUIO LADIES CLASSIC
DATES	JUNE 28, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2017
VENUE	BAGUIO COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 1,000,000



What a difference a victory makes, indeed. Coming off a resounding breakthrough win at Orchard, Pauline del Rosario nailed another one – again in impressive fashion. And from the looks of things, the 19-year-old rising star is bound to rake in more championships on the Ladies

Philippine Golf Tour.

The way Cyna Rodriguez dominated the first three seasons of the country's first and premier ladies pro circuit.

"I never doubted myself," said del Rosario after beating Chihiro Ikeda by four and a slew of Thai campaigners to claim the ICTSI Baguio Ladies Classic crown with a closing 64.

She built that confidence from her five-stroke triumph at Orchard that somehow erased the stigma of her two failed bids at glory in her first three tournaments as a pro.

"I knew some of them would make a charge. I just told myself to match their intensity," she added.

Ikeda did make a last-ditch bid, pulling to within one with a birdie on No. 12 of the Baguio Country Club. But that hardly rattled del Rosario, who displayed grace under pressure rarely seen in young, inexperienced players, as she matched her rival's birdie to keep a two-stroke cushion.

After trading pars in the next three holes, Ikeda dropped two strokes on No. 16 in pursuit of a birdie, paving the way for another del Rosario romp in the P1 million event at the tricky, up-and-down par-61 layout.

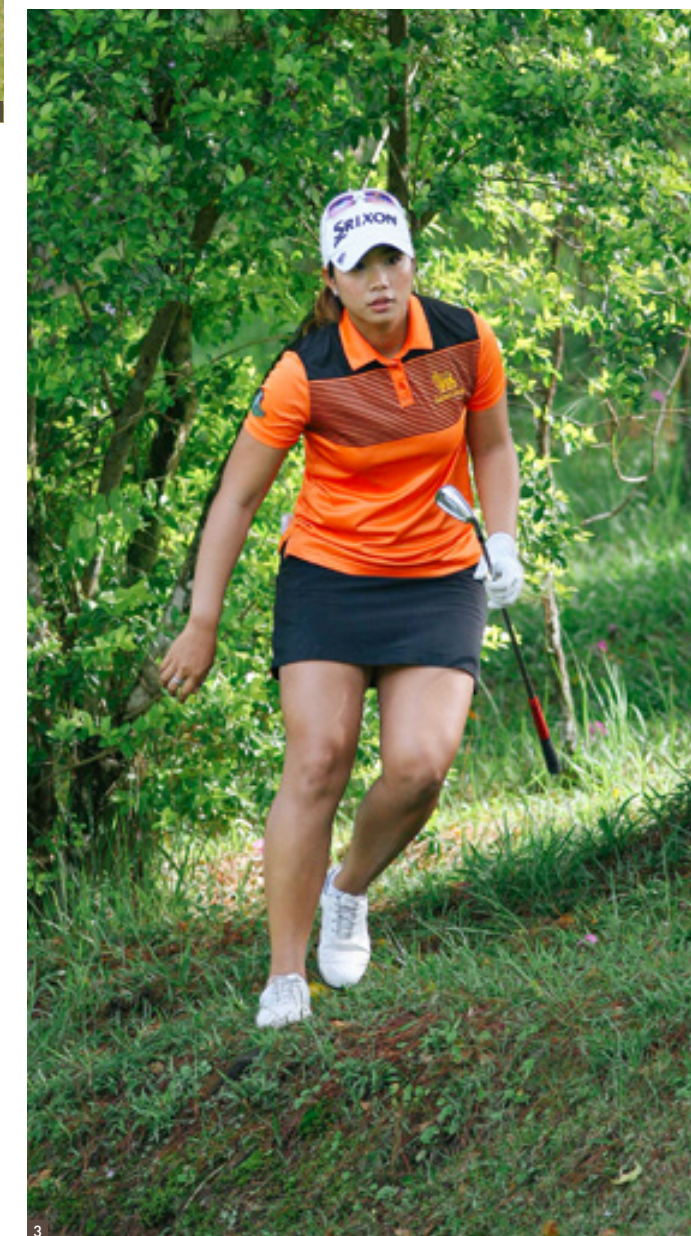
Heading up north for LPGT's fifth stop, del Rosario brimmed with confidence though she said she was wary of the Thais' presence and the BCC's big challenge for its trickiness and toughness.

"It's short but a tough course but I still believe I can contend there and a back-to-back win is a possibility," she said.

She was up to the task right in the first round, pouncing on Apple Fudolin's three-putt miscue on the straight par-3 18th to share the lead at 64.

The last-hole mishap typified the compact field's struggle at the unpredictable putting surface of the short layout, which proved to be as tough as the long, championship courses on the tour calendar.

"I didn't expect to be sharing the lead. I made too many errors on the green," said Fudolin, who birdied No. 6 but fumbled with four bogeys at the backside, which features all but one par-3.



1 Pauline del Rosario is all pumped up with Orchard romp that she turns in another dominating performance, rolling past her rivals at the up-and-down Baguio Country Club to nail her second straight victory. **2** Chihiro Ikeda couldn't get a decent stance for a chip shot and didn't have a chance against a red-hot del Rosario. **3** Chatprapa Siriprakob can't wait to track her ball after a bailout shot from under the trees.



4 Despite a string of mediocre finishes, Fil-Am Cristina Corpus remains hopeful of putting it all back together in pursuit of a second LPGT crown. **5** A rare shared view of the top in the opening is enough to light up the fire in Apple Fudolin. **6** From a 70 to 68 to 64, Supakchaya Pattarakrueng must've hoped the tournament extends to a fourth round to get a crack at the championship. **7** Behind a small pine tree, Sarah Ababa tries to find her way to the top three – to no avail. **8** Thai Tirapan Yoopan regales the gallery with her tee shot on No. 1 but fails to translate her big start to a solid finish, ending up joint third. **9** Unable to live up to the up-and-down challenge of the Baguio Country Club, Japanese amateur Kelly Marutani also finds BCC's bunkers not to her liking. **10** If not for an early pair of so-so rounds, things could've looked up for Ananya Vitayakonkomol of Thailand, who shot a tournament-best 60 in the final day.



BAGUIO COUNTRY CLUB
Country Club Road, Baguio City •
(074) 619-2050 to 64 or 619-0427

Short in length at 4,063 yards from the blue tees, the par-61 course is long challenges, its tight, up-and-down makeup and elevated greens enough to bring out the best – and the worst – from a golfer of any level. Built in 1905 by legendary Filipino golfer Luis 'Golem' Silverio, the course also serves a good test for one's stamina and mental toughness with its small greens compounding the tests and challenges.

BAGUIO LADIES CLASSIC FINAL RANKING

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	DEL ROSARIO, PAULINE	PHL	64	62	64	190	+7	P250,000
2	IKEDA ,CHIIHIRO	PHL	65	65	64	194	+11	P120,000
3	VITAYAKONKOMOL, A.	THA	68	69	60	197	+14	P80,500
=	YOOPAN, TIRAPAN	THA	69	65	63	197	+14	P80,500
5	FUDOLIN, APPLE	PHL	64	68	67	199	+16	P65,000
6	PATTARANAKRUEANG, S.	THA	70	68	64	202	+19	P60,000
7	GULYANAMITTA, NUMA	THA	71	65	68	204	+21	P50,000
8	SIRIPRAKOB, CHATPRAPA	THA	69	72	65	206	+23	P42,000
9	CORPUZ, CRISTINA	USA	71	71	67	209	+26	P34,500
=	ABABA, SARAH	PHL	65	72	72	209	+26	P34,500

'I knew some of them would make a charge. I just told myself to match their intensity'

- DEL ROSARIO

Del Rosario also three-putted the 18th as she, like Fudolin and the rest of the field, groped for putting form with the former still adjusting to the condition coming off a joint sixth place finish in Thailand LPGA.

"It's tough to adjust to the speed of the greens here coming from Thailand where we played on sleek putting surface. But I came in too aggressive on some holes. It was short but wasn't easy to reach the green. Precision shots should be my focus since there are only two holes that are long," said del Rosario.

Precision, focus and poise del Rosario displayed from thereon as she broke away from Fudolin and stormed to a four-stroke lead over Ikeda with a 62. She mastered BCC's frontside with a two-under 31 although her conservative approach at the backside backfired with poor putting.

Still, she was able to recover from bogeys on Nos. 12 and 16 with a 20-yard chip for birdie on the closing hole, her pair of 31s and an opening round 64 putting her way out in front at 126, four clear off Ikeda, who turned in a second 65-130.

"My game plan at the back was to play it short since if you overshoot the green, it's going to be tougher to recover from the

hazards," said Del Rosario. "But I had terrible putting from hole Nos. 12 to 17. I kept missing the putts. It's a good thing that I was able to birdie the last."

Fudolin dropped to third at 132 after a 68 while Thai Tiranan Yoopan bounced back with a 65 after a 69 but still fell by eight with a 134.

The rest, including amateur Kristine Torralba (67-135), Thai Numa Gulyanamitta (65-136), Ananya Vitayakonkomol, also of Thailand, (69-137), Sarah Ababa (72-137), Supakchaya Pattaranakrueng of Thailand (68-138) and Thai Chatprapa Siriprakob (72-141) stood too far behind to contend with 18 holes left.

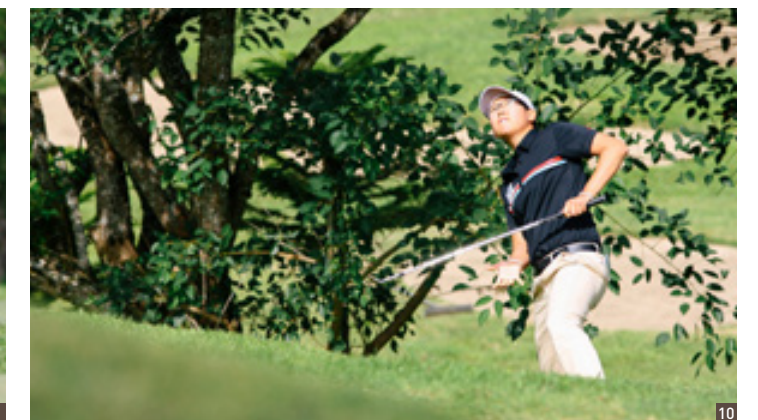
Del Rosario stayed 4-up over Ikeda majority of the final round but dropped two strokes on the lone par-4 at the back on No. 11, enabling Ikeda to threaten within two. But she matched her Fil-Japanese rival's birdie on the next and cruised to another win on a seven-over 190 aggregate despite a bogey on No. 16 as Ikeda faded with double-bogey-bogey miscues on Nos. 16 and 17 to likewise finish with a three-over card.

Ikeda ended up with a 194 while Vitayakonkomol and Yoopan shared third at 197 after a 60 and 63, respectively, with Fudolin finishing fifth at 199 after a 67.

The victory was worth another P250,000 for the former amateur hotshot, who also noted the venue's role in further boosting her short game.

"I'm happy to have played at BCC. I got to sharpen my short game extensively in preparation for my future tournaments here and abroad," said del Rosario.

That should serve as a stern warning to the rest of the LPGT campaigners, locals and foreigners alike, as the former Philippine Ladies Amateur champion, who has won a number of amateur titles abroad, is hell-bent on racking up more and more championships.



KEEPING TRADITION



Arevalo preserves amateurs' revered spot on LPGT circle of winners

TOURNAMENT	RIVIERA LADIES CHAMPIONSHIP
DATES	JULY 25, 2017 - JULY 27, 2017
VENUE	RIVIERA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 750,000



Princess Superal started it all in the first two seasons of the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour, winning in Baguio and Sherwood. Then young Korean Hwang Min Jeong joined the former US Girls' Junior champion, who romped off with another victory at Wack Wack, with a win at Mt. Malarayat in 2015.

Then as Superal moved to the pro ranks, a new batch of talented amateurs took over with Bernice Olivarez-Ilas, Yuka Saso and Harmie Constantino humbling the pros in 2016 at Beverly Place, Eagle Ridge and Mt. Malarayat, respectively.

But midway through the 2017 season, the pros, beefed up by the current toast of ladies golf, Pauline del Rosario, hinted at a sweep of the record 11-leg calendar.

In fact, del Rosario was poised to racking up a third straight championship in her rookie season at the ICTSI Riviera Championship, moving on top with Thai Saruttaya Ngam-usawan heading to the final 18 holes of the P750,000 championship.

And as Ngam-usawan wilted under pressure and faded with a closing 80, del Rosario held sway but found an unlikely rival in former The Country Club teammate Abby Arevalo.

Pitted against the hottest player on tour, Arevalo, 18, didn't flinch, birdying the tough finishing hole of Riviera's Langer course to stun del Rosario by one and nail

her biggest victory in a young career.

The winning birdie came off a brilliant 6-iron approach shot from 150 yards off a divot lie, the ball sailing over the overcast skies before landing 10 feet at back of the pin on No. 18.

"I couldn't believe I won," said Arevalo.

So did del Rosario, who had braced for a playoff after drawing level at two-over overall following Arevalo's three-putt miscue on the overlooking par-3 17th.

But Arevalo had other things in mind.

Unleashing a power drive off the 18th mound, Arevalo surprisingly bucked the gnawing pressure and followed it up with a solid approach shot despite needing to hit it over a bad spot.

That birdie capped Arevalo's closing 70 for a one-over 214 aggregate, frustrating Del Rosario no end after the back-to-back LPGT winner at Orchard and Baguio had looked forward to stretching her win run.

"I never expected the putt would be for the win. But I really made a good read of it," said Arevalo of her winning stroke.

Del Rosario also unleashed a good drive and made it in two but missed her birdie putt from 15 feet. She wound up with a 72 and finished second at 215 although she still pocketed the top purse of P150,000.

From the onset of the LPGT's sixth leg, it looked as if Ngam-usawan and del Rosario would be dueling for the coveted crown as the rest of the 30-player starting field, including bets from Korea, USA and Indonesia and reigning Philippine

1, 2 Happiness is winning not just one but two titles with the young Abby Arevalo dominating the amateur side while blasting her way past rookie pro Pauline del Rosario into the ICTSI Riviera Ladies Classic crown. **3** An added stroke off a flubbed putt does derail del Rosario's drive for a third straight championship.

'I never expected the putt would be for the win. But I really made a good read of it'

- AREVALO

Ladies Amateur Open champion Bianca Pagdanganan, hobbled with over par cards at the ravine-laced par-71 layout.

The Thai, seeking a follow-up to her breakthrough LPGT victory at Royal Northwoods in late 2016, rode on an early backside charge and shot an eagle-spiked two-under 69 and went 1-up over del Rosario.

With a birdie on the tricky 17th, Arevalo took the third spot but stood four strokes off Ngam-usawan with a 73 even as six others lay another shot farther back at 74, including Thais Tiranán Yoopan, Numa Gulyanamitta, Supakchaya Pattarakruang and Sarinee Thitiratanakorn.

But the two leaders wavered in punishing condition in the second round with del Rosario forging a tie with the Thai at 143 despite a 73 and Arevalo inching closer at 144 after a 71 and Chatprapa Siriprakob threatening at 146 after a 70.

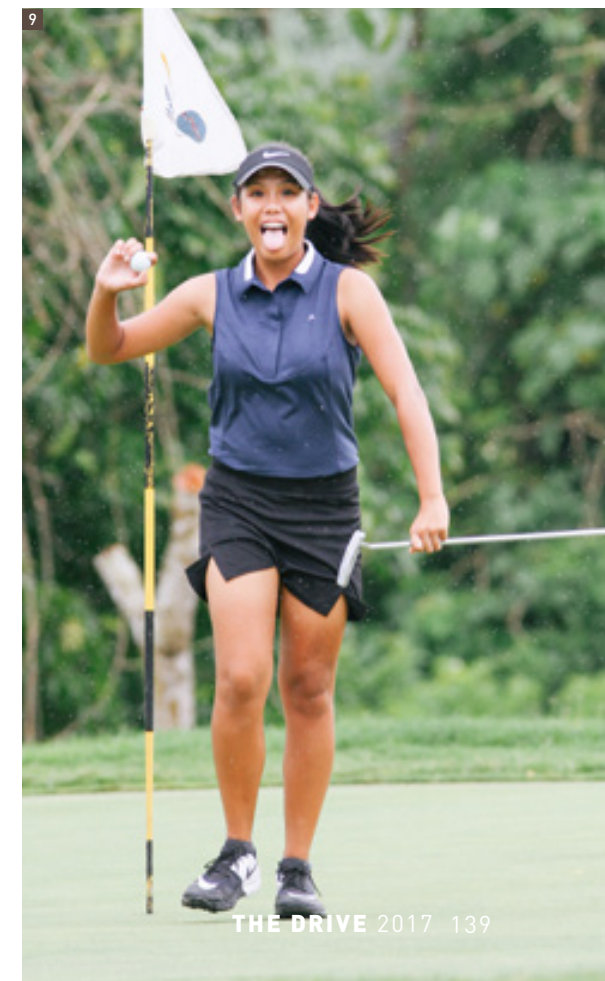
But as Ngam-usawan failed to recover from a double-bogey mishap on No. 2 in the final round, Arevalo took the challenger's role – and the lead – with an impressive 34 start, moving 2-up as del Rosario fumbled with a 37.

An Arevalo bogey on the 11th and a del Rosario birdie on the next tied the duo at one-over overall but the former regained the lead on the latter's bogey on No. 14. A missed par putt by Arevalo from close range on the 17th, however, enabled del Rosario to gain a share of the lead again.

Though she missed pocketing the prize money, Arevalo still wore that proverbial winner's smile, having joined the elite roster of amateur winners while keeping that tradition on the country's premier pro circuit.



4 If not for a horrible 76 start, Thai Chatprapa Siriprakob could be smiling and waltzing to victory. **5** Muffed birdie putts in the early going of the final round take Saruttaya Ngam-usawan out of the title race. **6** From the onset, Abby Arevalo is all focused on the task at hand. **7** Though she remains in search of the form that could put her in the mix, smooth-swinging Marianne Bustos continues to provide class and aura to each LPGT tournament. **8** More than a year after scoring an LPGT breakthrough, Sarah Ababa continues to figure out how to go low and at least live up to her name. **9** Amateur Kristine Torralba makes light of her rollercoaster stint of 79-72-83. **10** Philippine Ladies Open champion Bianca Pagdanganan and Thai Sarinee Thitiratanakorn could look back to their poor second and final round performances, respectively, to find out what went wrong in their respective title bids. **11** Failing to combine fierce looks with a fiery game, Thai Tiranán Yoopan finds herself out of title contention.



RIVIERA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

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The Riviera Golf Club is an exciting concept unparalleled in the Philippines for its vision to be among Asia's most outstanding golf courses. This golf club is destined to be a golf Mecca and at the same time providing the ultimate in comfort and elegance. Found amidst the breathtaking landscape of cool Silang, Cavite, The Riviera Golf Club, Inc. is the ideal course for all ages and skills. The courses promise to be friendly to beginners as well as challenging for the more skilled players. It is also combined with residential amenities and facilities for the whole family fully integrated into a resort lifestyle.

RIVIERA LADIES CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL RANKING								
Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	AREVALO, ABBY (AM)	PHL	73	78	72	214	1	XXX
2	DEL ROSARIO, PAULINE	PHL	70	73	72	215	2	P150,000
3	SIRIPRAKOB, CHATPRAPA	THA	76	70	71	217	4	P95,000
4	PAGDANGANAN, BIANCA (AM)	PHI	74	76	70	220	7	XXX
5	NGAM-USAWAN, SARUTTAYA	THA	69	74	80	223	10	P60,000
6	PATTAYANAKRUEANG, S.	THA	74	78	72	224	11	P47,875
=	YOOPAN, TIRANAN	THA	74	74	76	224	11	P47,875
8	GULYANAMITTA, NUMA	THA	74	81	7.	228	15	P43,750
9	THITARATANAKORN, S.	THA	74	76	81	231	18	P39,500
10	FUDOLIN, APPLE	PHI	79	76	77	232	19	P33,750



COMEBACK QUEEN

Heartbreaker
fuels another
Del Rosario romp



TOURNAMENT	PRADERA VERDE LADIES CLASSIC
DATES	AUGUST 29, 2017 – AUGUST 31, 2017
VENUE	PRADERA VERDE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 750,000



SEEMS like Pauline del Rosario thrives coming off sorry setbacks. Never mind if it means hurdling a host of seasoned Thai campaigners or humbling a slew of local aces. Never mind if it means grappling with her long game and battling through sun and rain and exacting condition.

For as long as she's highly motivated – eager to bounce back from another heartbreaking loss – nothing, it seems, could stop the emerging golfing star from essaying another big rebound and notching another win.

Like what she did when she lost the crown to Euna Koh at Luisita. Stunned in the playoff by the unfancied Korean, del Rosario struck back in the next leg at Orchard, beating the field by eight to record her maiden win on the ICTSI Ladies Philippine Golf Tour.

And after making it two in row with another cruise in Baguio, the former De La Salle-Zobel standout dropped another cliffhanger, this time to former The Country Club teammate and amateur Abby Arevalo, whose superb approach shot and clutch birdie putt on Langer course's difficult closing hole netted her a thrilling one-stroke triumph in the ICTSI Riviera Championship.

But while most would reel from those kind of defeats, del Rosario proved she's made of sterner stuff, flashing her resiliency once again and overpowering the tough international field to reign in the Pradera Verde Ladies Classic by seven.

But heading to the P750,000 event, del

'I told myself that if I could play through it (wind), I could win so I took it one shot at a time and went for the fairway and the green'

- DEL ROSARIO

Rosario never got to hog the pre-tournament spotlight, which naturally went to Symetra Tour veterans Cyna Rodriguez and Princess Superal along with Thailand aces Sarinee Thitiratanakorn and Tiranana Yoopan and Koh.

"If Ces or Cyna are the favorites, it's fine with me. It actually takes the pressure off me. But I'll be there to take care of what I need to do to win, too," said Del Rosario.

True, she took care of business early. Blowing a hot start, del Rosario recovered from a wobbly stint midway through the opening round, coming through with a scorching backside rally to shoot a four-under 68 and go 2-up over Yoopan.

Del Rosario birdied three of the first seven holes to take charge, only to drop off the leaderboard with three straight bogeys from No. 8 under debilitating heat. But she rattled off four birdies-in-row from No. 11 to post a 35-33 card and upstage the fancied Superal and Rodriguez for the early lead.

1, 2 ECSTASY, AGONY: Pauline del Rosario gets a hug from dad/caddy Bong as they celebrate the former's emphatic victory over Thai Tirapan Yoopan (left) and Princess Superal, who walked off the 18th green heads bowed after getting trampled by the current toast of Philippine golf.

"I struggled with my long game a bit but I hope to play a more steady game in the next two days," said Del Rosario.

Play steady she did in the second round that saw her match her opening 68 then coasted to a seven-stroke triumph despite a closing 71 as her rivals stumbled and fumbled in tough condition at the flat but challenging layout.

Back in the first round, Yoopan took the challenger's role with a 70 as Superal, who has posted emphatic wins as an amateur and pro in the country's premier circuit put up ICTSI, groped for a 72, and Rodriguez, a three-time LPGT Order of Merit winner, hobbled with a 73.

Superal, who last won on the LPGT in back-to-back fashion at Sherwood and Eastridge in 2016, did fight back in the second round with a 67 but del Rosario proved up to task, firing another 68 to hold off the former US Girls' Junior champion and keep a three-stroke lead heading to the final 18 holes.

Yoopan dropped to third with a second 70, four strokes behind, and Rodriguez hardly recovered from a one-over card with a 71 and lay eight shots off del Rosario.

Like Rodriguez, the rest were reduced to virtual members of the gallery.

Del Rosario actually said she had struggled with her club selection, given the windy condition. But with her rivals faring hardly any better, the stage was set for another del Rosario coronation.

Still, three shots, according to del Rosario, isn't such a comfortable lead. But she showed it was enough to fend off Superal's early final round charge that

had her bucking the day-long gale-force wind while her rivals faded one after the other in severe condition.

"I knew Ces can win at any given day, even at the last minute. But the wind was my toughest challenge, it's too strong," said Del Rosario, whose closing one-under card gave her a 54-hole total of nine-under 207. "I told myself that if I could play through it (wind), I could win so I took it one shot at a time and went for the fairway and the green."

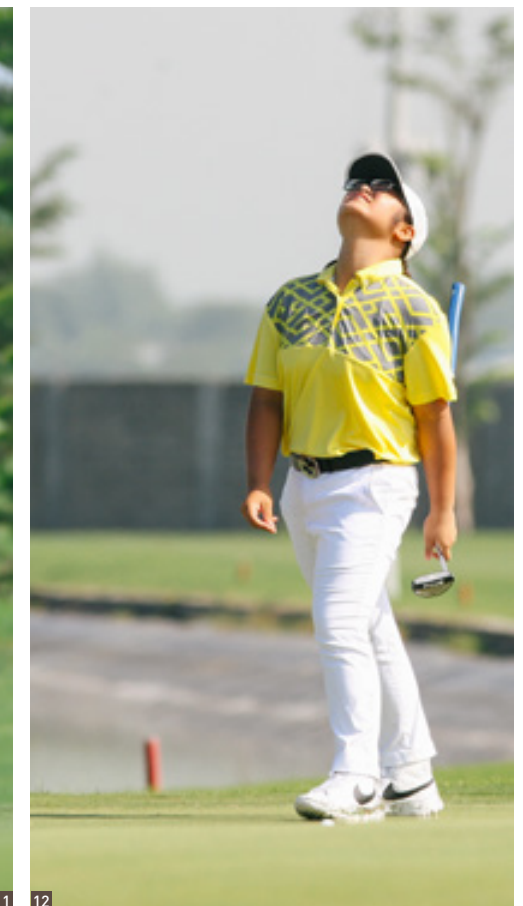
The play worked as Del Rosario rebounded from a 37 start with a slew of pars before hitting two late birdies to secure the win, her third in her rookie year after dominating the Orchard and Baguio stops of the circuit sponsored by ICTSI.

Superal actually pulled to within one with a birdie on No. 4 coupled with an early del Rosario bogey. But she failed to sustain her charge in the wind, bogeying No. 6 then falling farther behind with another bogey on No. 14 before yielding the crown with a double-bogey on the par-3 15th.

Taking the cue, Del Rosario birdied Nos. 15 and 16 inside six feet, turning what was expected to be a down-to-the-wire finish into a runaway triumph worth another P150,000 for the 19-year-old shotmaker.

Superal wound up with a 75 for a 214 and settled for joint runner-up with Yoopan, who missed snatching solo second with a double-bogey on the final hole for a 74.

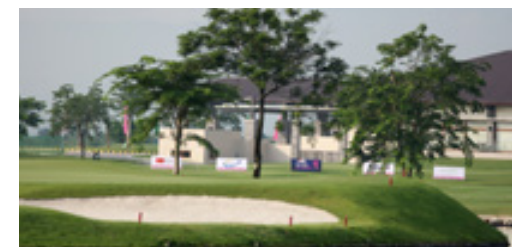
Rodriguez fired the day's only other 71 to claim fourth place at 215 while former leg winner Chihiro Ikeda carded a 74 for a 222 and ended up fifth with a 222.



4 Del Rosario is all eyes on the ball – and a third LPGT championship. 5 Player takes a break to make a changeover in rainy condition but fails to change her game for the better. 6 Ababa (center) and two others lighten up before resuming their Pradera Verde campaign by doing the latest dance craze 7 Ababa's caddy has the work cut out for his player, only the one-time leg winner fails to track the right direction with over-par scores. 8 Tirapan Yoopan and Princess Superal study their lines of putt from nearly the same spot and finish the event at the same place. 9 Yoopan takes a sip heading to her next shot but her game takes a dip with a final round 74. 10 Sofia Chabon walks away with the low amateur honors despite a wind-blown closing 77. 11 Cyna Rodriguez rushes onto the green to set up her putt but comes up short to put herself in title contention 12 Young Annyka Cayabyab lets it all out in frustration over her failure to cash in on her familiarity with the course she calls home.

PRADERA VERDE LADIES CLASSIC FINAL RANKING

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	DEL ROSARIO, PAULINE	PHL	68	68	71	207	-9	P150,000
2	YOOPAN, TIRANAN	THA	70	70	74	214	-2	P77,500
=	SUPERAL, PRINCESS	PHL	72	67	75	214	-2	P77,500
4	RODRIGUEZ, CYNA	PHL	73	71	71	215	-1	P52,000
5	IKEDA, CHIHIRO	PHL	76	72	74	222	+6	P45,000
6	FUDOLIN, APPLE	PHL	78	75	78	231	+15	P42,500
7	KOH, EUNA	KOR	79	79	76	234	+18	P39,500
8	VILLACENCIO, GRETCHEN	PHL	75	77	85	237	+21	P35,000
9	VILLASENCIO, SHERYL	PHL	79	79	80	238	+22	P32,500
10	ABABA, SARAH	PHL	79	81	79	239	+23	P28,500
=	THITIRATANAKORN, SARINEE	THA	79	80	80	239	+23	P28,500



PRADERA VERDE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB Lubao, Pampanga • 0917-447-1214

A gem of a course in what was once a desert of lahar, the Pradera Verde Golf and Country Club in Lubao, Pampanga measures up to 7000 yards from the back tees with large water hazards lining up the wide fairways topped by well-maintained greens. Both nines end with par-5 with No. 9 serving quite a test with water running all the way up the left from tee to green. The finishing hole offers a different kind of challenge with out-of-bounds on the left and hazard all the way up the right to the island green.

BACK TO BASICS

Ikeda reunites with Lopez, ends title spell at F Hills



TOURNAMENT	FOREST HILLS LADIES CHALLENGE
DATES	NOVEMBER 8, 2017 - NOVEMBER 10, 2017
VENUE	FOREST HILLS GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 750,000



'It's been a while since I last won but it was worth the wait'

- IKEDA

Some players win big golf tournaments through skills. Some through breaks or sheer luck. But the funny thing about good fortune is that it almost always falls on truly talented players.

Chihiro Ikeda came into the ICTSI Forest Hills Ladies Challenge aiming for a modest finish. Three months after linking it up with coach Bong Lopez again, she expected nothing spectacular - her swing a bit in disarray, her confidence needing some kind of a push.

"It's like going back to the basics - posture, alignment, swing plane and balance," said Lopez, who helped guide Ikeda to a number of victories during her amateur days, including a gold medal finish in individual play in the 2009 SEA Games.

"But the most important is helping make her fit again," said Lopez. "Now, she's back in the gym and constant practice."

"She's got talent and a very good player. She just needed some guidance," added the former national champion.

Direction Lopez did provide to Ikeda, who finally snapped a year long title spell - a sudden death victory over Thai Wannasiri Sirisampant - in Antipolo.

"I really didn't expect to win. All tournament-long, I felt I'd make mistakes. I didn't have the confidence," said Ikeda.

That self-doubt was evident right in the opening hole, which she bogeyed.

"All throughout in the final round, I knew the Thai had the lead. Only when we turned in our scorecard did I realize that we were tied," said Ikeda, who closed out with a 75 to tie Sirisampant, who hobbled with a 76, at 218.

"I just got lucky in the playoff," she said. Actually, the real Ikeda showed up in sudden death.

On their second trip on the par-4 18th, the Fil-Japanese split the fairway and made it in two. Sirisampant also hit a good drive but overshot the green. And as Ikeda putted to within three feet for par, the Thai wilted under pressure and made a so-so chip shot, the ball falling short by 12 feet.

She missed the putt and Ikeda confidently stroked to victory in a long follow-up to her maiden win at the Orchard Ladies Championship in 2016.

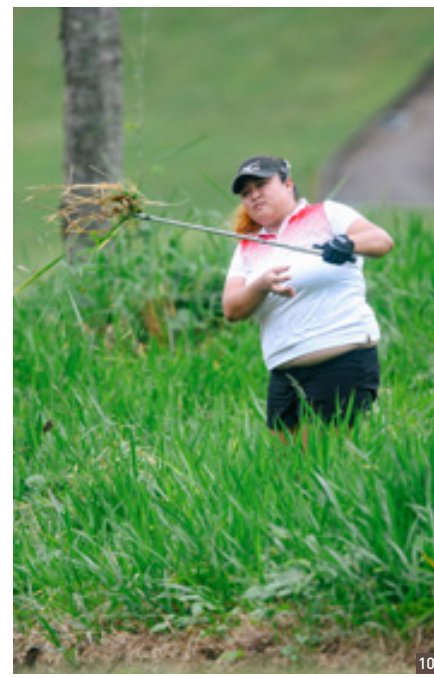
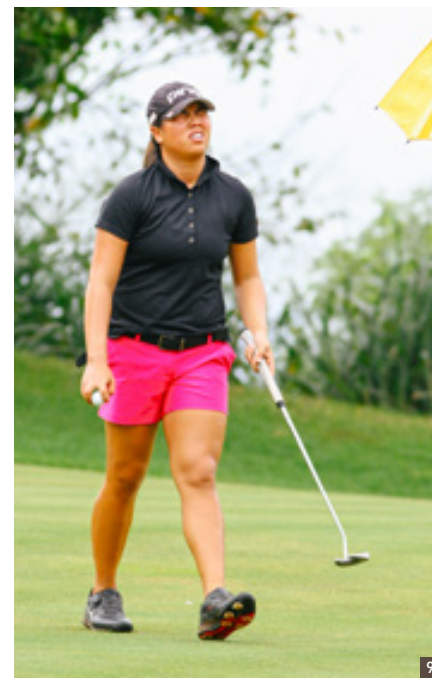
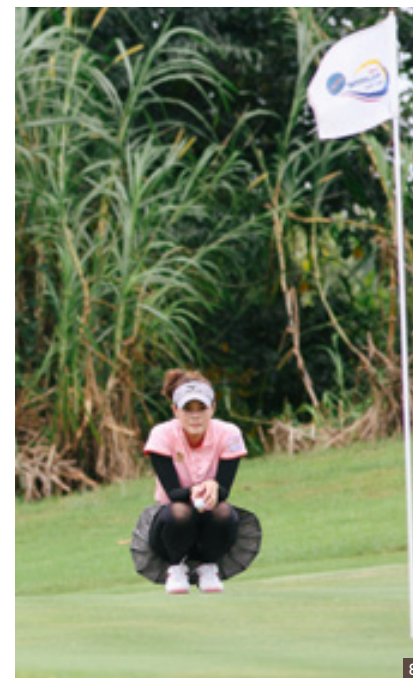
"It's been a while since I last won but it was worth the wait," said Ikeda. "My hard work and training with coach Bong paid off."

After losing by four to Pauline del Rosario in Baguio, Ikeda re-assessed her game then linked it up again with Lopez following an 11th place finish at Riviera and a fifth place effort at Pradera Verde.

She trailed the hot-starting Sirisampant by two after 18 holes with a 72 then turned in a stroke better in the second



1,2 The hunter in the first two rounds, Chihiro Ikeda finds herself being hunted by pals Apple Fudolin and Sarah Ababa after rallying from two down and edging Thai Wannasiri Sirisampant in the playoff to snare the ICTSI Forest Hills crown.



4 Their duel ending in a draw after 54 holes, Chihiro Ikeda (left) and Wannasiri Sirisampant take different routes in sudden death with the Fil-Japanese coming away with the championship. 5 Sarah Ababa's frequent visit into the Forest Hills' trees keeps the former leg winner down in the standing. 6 Sirisampant must've hinted at the coming off a bleak day after rival Ikeda birdied the par-3 No. 12 and pulled within two with six holes to play. 7 Three years after hitting the LPGT paydirt at Splendido, Thai Amolkan Phalajivin seems to have lost everything but her charm. 8 She's no peafowl with iridescent tail but comely Tiranan Yoopan of Thailand could easily pass up as one with her lure and form. 9 Del Rosario's face says it all - frustrated after coming up short by one for a spot in the playoff and a crack at a second straight LPGT diadem. 10 Apple Fudolin rakes it all - except the crown. 11 So eager to score a follow-up to her day-best second round 69, a teeth-grinding Cyna Rodriguez stumbles instead on an aggressive play and tumbles to joint fourth. 12 Despite her experience in the tougher Symetra Tour, Mia Piccio continues to struggle in search of a breakthrough win on the local circuit. 13 As Del Rosario heads to the next tee and Mookharin Ladgratok looks the other way, Pattaranakrueang Supakchaya tries to give her title drive a little bit of a 'shake and bump.'



FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
Cogeo, Antipolo City • (632) 401-2368

Set in the hills of sleepy Barangay Inarawan in Cogo, Antipolo, the Forest Hills Golf and Country Club's Nicklaus course meanders through the hills of the Sierra Madre foothills. The shots one will be asked to play are difficult and made yet more complicated by uneven terrain. This isn't an easy golf course but a demanding shotmaker's layout. The fronts of the greens will accept and approach played on the ground and the greens are mature enough to receive the well struck ball. One will need to club for shots carefully because of the elevation changes and navigate the multiple ravines.

FOREST HILLS LADIES CHALLENGE FINAL RANKING

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	IKEDA, CHIHIRO	PHL	72	71	75	218	+2	P150,000
2	SIRISAMPANT, WANNASIRI	THA	70	72	76	218	+2	P95,000
3	DEL ROSARIO, PAULINE	PHL	74	73	72	219	+3	P60,000
4	PATTARANAKRUEANG, S.	THA	72	75	73	220	+4	P48,500
=	RODRIGUEZ, CYNA	PHL	76	69	75	220	+4	P48,500
6	LADGRATOK, MOOKHARIN	THA	75	73	76	224	+8	P42,500
7	PHALAJIVIN, AMOLKAN	THA	79	75	77	231	+15	P39,500
8	YOOPAN, TIRANAN	THA	81	77	74	232	+16	P35,000
9	PICCIO, MIA	PHL	83	73	78	234	+18	P32,500
10	KOH, EUNA	KOR	84	77	75	236	+20	P29,500

day to close within one heading to the final round.

But Sirisampant birdied the first two holes and went 4-up as Ikeda bogeyed No. 3.

Still, Ikeda didn't give up. With a lot of holes still to be played, Lopez knew his ward still got a chance.

He was right. Not only did Ikeda overcome that huge lead but even stormed ahead after she birdied Nos. 12 and 14 and Sirisampant bogeyed No. 11 and dropped two strokes on the 13th.

But the Thai also struck back and birdied No. 14 to draw level and the duo matched closing bogeys to set the stage for the playoff.

Five down at the start of the final round, del Rosario birdied the first two holes but struggled the rest of the way, missing a couple of birdie chances and fumbling with three bogeys against one more birdie for a 72.

She ended up third at 219 worth P60,000 while former three-time LPGT Order of Merit winner Cyna Rodriguez limped with a 75 and wound up tied at fourth at 220 with Thai Supakchaya Pattaranakrueang, who carded a 73.

Through his ward's three-day struggle, Lopez kept believing, waiting for that one big shot.

Ikeda delivered not one solid shot in sudden death but two and nailed her second career win.

"It was like starting all over again. But I thank coach Bong for being there always, ready to help and correct my flaws and how to further improve my game," said Ikeda of the man at the helm of the ICTSI golf stable.

Now, she's back on the winning track.

PAU WOW

Young rookie pro pockets 4th crown, Order of Merit plum



TOURNAMENT	SPLENDIDO LADIES CHALLENGE
DATES	NOVEMBER 21, 2017 - NOVEMBER 23, 2017
VENUE	SPLENDIDO TAAL GOLF CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 750,000

1, 2 It ain't a ladies scuffle or what-have-you but a celebration for a fourth leg victory that secured the coveted Order of Merit diadem for Pauline del Rosario. **3** Despite her late struggles, former three-time Order of Merit winner Cyna Rodriguez remains one cheery player, confident of pulling it off together again in the next tournament or two.



'I learned a lot from this victory, particularly on playing relaxed while staying focused'

- DEL ROSARIO



Not even an off day on the mound could stymie Pauline del Rosario's drive for a fourth Ladies Philippine Golf Tour crown.

And rise to the Order of Merit throne.

But that's because she set up her title bid in motion in the ICTSI Splendido Ladies Challenge on a fiery start – an eagle-spiked four-under 68 that gave her a huge margin that even after she wrestled with her driver all day-long in the second round and hobbled with a 73, she was still able to double her four-stroke lead.

It was virtually over from there as del

Rosario re-affirmed her claim as the country's hottest player, fending off an early scare from Chihiro Ikeda and rolling to a seven-stroke victory over Cyna Rodriguez despite a closing 76.

The victory, worth another P150,000, was the fourth for the rookie pro, who scored a breakthrough at Orchard and topped the Baguio stop of the circuit. She then dominated a tough field at Pradera Verde, beating no less than Symetra Tour campaigner and many-time LPGT winner Princess Superal by seven.

"I learned a lot from this victory, particularly on playing relaxed while staying focused," said del Rosario, who thus ran away with the coveted OOM crown with an unassailable earnings of

P1,585,500.

Not bad for a 19-year-old shotmaker who gave up an offer at Gonzaga University to pursue a golfing career here. Her winnings nearly tripled Ikeda's P684,875 take for second.

The Golf Depot and Ping-backed pro, however, stressed the need to improve on her long game, putting and concentration, aware of a tougher, more challenging campaign facing her in the country's premier circuit and other tours abroad in 2018 and beyond.

But in one stretch, albeit briefly, of the final round at Splendido, del Rosario saw her overnight eight-shot bulge cut into half with a two-over card coupled with



Ikeda's two-under effort after 10 holes. But as her wont, she charged back and pounced on her rival's poor play on the par-5 No. 11 where she gained two shots despite a double-bogey mishap as Ikeda signed up with a 9 on her own undoing.

After pulling to within four with eight holes left, Ikeda failed to cash in on del Rosario's errant drive on the 11th, going for the green on her second shot instead of settling for regulation. She found the bunker and hit a skulled shot into the hazard.

While del Rosario salvaged a 7, Ikeda crumbled and made a 9.

It was cruise control from there as del Rosario matched her opening 38 for that four-over finish and a 54-hole total of 217.

Ikeda, who nipped Thai Wannasiri Sirisampant to snap a long title spell at Forest Hills, never recovered her bearing, bogeyed two of the last seven holes and

limped with a 77, dropping to fifth instead at 226.

Nine shots behind after 36 holes, Rodriguez also moved within four with a frontside 36 and a birdie on No. 11. But the former three-time LPGT OOM winner dropped two strokes on the par-4 13th and bogeyed the next to finish with a 74 for second at 224.

Superal, who blew her own bid early with an opening 80, also squandered a 35 start with two bogeys in the last six holes as she settled for a 73, still the best in another wind-blown day, and ended up tied for third with Thai Chonlada Chayanun, who shot a 75, at 225.

With her reign as the year's best secured, del Rosario could only look forward to a more fruitful 2018 season. And that could spell more trouble for her rivals.

4 Chonlada Chayanun is slowly leaving a mark as one of the best Thai campaigners never to win an LPGT title. 5 After a decent 72 start, Chihiro Ikeda tries to figure out what went wrong with her back-to-back 77s. 6 For a player who used to dominate the local tour – as an amateur and pro – Princess Superal seems to be having a tough time coming out of a deep hole. 7 From among a slew of talented Thai shotmakers plying their trade on the local circuit, Sarinee Thitiratanakorn easily comes out as one of the top draws. 8 Despite her Symetra Tour experience, Superal still couldn't quench her thirst for another local victory, her comeback campaign marred by frustrations. 9 Long in the shadows of her more illustrious compatriots, Thai Ananya Vitayakonkomol relishes the thought of finally hitting it big-time in the near future. 10 Like the rest of the best, Wannasiri Sirisampant walks off the last green head bowed after yielding to another Del Rosario romp. 11 Just by competing against the best in the fold is enough to make Jan Punzalan (left) and Lucy Landicho's day – on the course and off it.

SPLENDIDO LADIES CHALLENGE FINAL RANKING

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	DEL ROSARIO, PAULINE	PHL	68	73	76	217	1	P150,000
2	RODRIGUEZ, CYNA	PHL	74	76	74	224	8	P95,000
3	SUPERAL, PRINCESS	PHL	80	72	73	225	9	P56,000
=	CHAYANUN, CHONLADA	THA	75	75	75	225	9	P56,000
5	IKEDA, CHIHIRO	PHL	72	77	77	226	10	P45,000
6	SIRISAMPANT, WANNASIRI	THA	79	74	74	227	11	P42,500
7	KOH, EUNA	KOR	78	75	77	230	14	P39,500
8	THITIRATANAKORN, S.	THA	83	75	75	233	17	P35,000
9	VITAYAKONKOMOL, ANANYA	THA	78	78	79	235	19	P32,500
10	VILLANCENCIO, GRETCHEN	PHL	76	78	82	236	20	P29,500



SPLENDIDO TAAL GOLF CLUB

Laurel, Batangas • (02) 693-4018

The Greg Norman-designed, 18-hole par-72 all-weather championship layout is a truly majestic course sprawled on a 152-hectare man-made valley nestled amidst the mountain ridges of the Grand Taal with a dramatic view of the Taal Volcano and Lake.

MARK OF A CHAMP

Suksukont falls, rises to capture Phl Ladies Masters championship



TOURNAMENT	PHILIPPINE LADIES MASTERS
DATES	DECEMBER 7, 2017 - DECEMBER 9, 2017
VENUE	THE COUNTRY CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	\$ 80,000



1 Eluding Chonlada Chayanun and Ploychompoo Wilairungrueng all tournament-long and down the stretch, Renuka Suksukont finally gets cornered by her compatriots and supporters after completing an impressive wire-to-wire romp right in her first tournament here. **2** Losing her grip – and all – in a windy day didn't deter Suksukont from clinging on to the lead and eventually to the coveted championship. **3** A string of runner-up finishes must be driving Chayanun like crazy. **4** Solving The Country Club puzzle, particularly, its baffling greens, comes a day late for Ploychompoo Wilairungrueng, who closed out with a tournament-best 67 but still lost by two.

Twice she crumbled under pressure. And twice she rose to the occasion.

Thai Renuka Suksukont proved she's a cut above the rest as she defied the odds in the first two days then flashed resiliency in two times that she stumbled in the final round, foiling compatriot Chayanun Chonlada to claim the hotly-disputed ICTSI Philippine Ladies Masters crown at The Country Club in Laguna.

What made her feat doubly remarkable and memorable was that she did it on her first foray on the Ladies Philippine Golf Tour, humbling an elite cast led by fellow China LPGA Tour campaigners and those from the equally-tough Taiwan LPGA.

Sure, with six top 10 finishes in the CLPGA, Suksukont was easily among the marked players in the \$80,000 event despite being a first-timer in the country. And while the other pre-tournament bets, including the local aces, struggled and sputtered at one of the country's toughest courses in the first round, Suksukont imposed her will early, birdying three of the first four holes to seize control.

But it was her big recovery from a bogey and a triple-bogey on Nos. 5 and 6 that somehow hinted at the coming off a big weekend for the 22-year-old shotmaker from Phatum Thani.

While players of lesser stuff would wilt and fade from those back-to-back miscues, Suksukont fought back with a birdie on the seventh then eagled the next to get back – not only into the groove but also into the lead.

That ability to spring back from misfortunes was also evident in the final round.

After blowing what had seemed to be a huge four-stroke lead with a triple-bogey seven on No. 9 that enabled Chonlada to draw level at three-under overall, Suksukont came through with back-to-back birdies from No. 10 to re-establish control.

Chonlada did fight back with her own version of birdies on Nos. 11 and 13, only to fall behind by two again on her own undoing – bogeys on Nos. 15 and 16.

Two-up with two holes to go, Suksukont looked headed for a trouble-free ascent to the crown, only to dump her 9-iron tee-shot into the greenside bunker of the par-3 17th. She made a weak blast that hit the edge of the green and back into the trap.

Bogey.

But as Chonlada – and the big gallery – braced for a thrilling ending to what had been an exciting duel, Suksukont did what she does best – rebound in her typical emphatic fashion.

She birdied the difficult closing hole and won by two.

"This (win) is memorable because I made it on my first try," said Suksukont, whose closing 72 gave her a five-under 211 total. She pocketed \$15,000 and led an impressive Thai sweep of the top three places in the blue-ribbon event co-sanctioned by China and Taiwan LPGA Tours and Ladies Philippine Golf Tour.

It was also her first win on the CLPGA and it came on the heels of her triumph in the Singha-Sat Toyota Championship on the Thai domestic tour last June.

"Finally, I got a championship outside of Thailand and my first CLPGA win," said Suksukont, who also kept the crown which compatriot Saranporn Langkulgasetrin won over Princess Superal in 2016. "It's an amazing feeling. It happened so fast and I'm very happy."

Suksukont nearly blew it after fumbling on No. 9 where she needed three extra shots to reach the green and signed for a 7.

"I hit it three times at the same place beside the green. I chipped short twice and the ball came back. I chipped for the third time and missed the putt. I didn't think anything. If the tournament is mine, I can make birdie," recalled Suksukont.

That mishap enabled Chonlada to draw level but as it turned out, Suksukont recoiled to claim her biggest championship in a five-year pro career. The victory also moved her to No. 4 in the CLPGA Order of Merit derby.

Chonlada, 24, gunned down two birdies in a solid frontside stint and tied Suksukont at three-under overall, setting the stage for a backside shootout between the two Thai aces.

Make it three as Ploychompoo Wirairungreung rallied from seven down to within one off Suksukont with a scorching six-under card after 14 holes. But she bogeyed the 17th and finished with a 67, sharing runner-up honors with Chonlada, who wound up with a 70, at 213.

Korean Hwang Min-jeong birdied the final hole to card a 71 and snatch fourth place at 215, nipping Yuka Saso for low amateur honors in China LPGAs first overseas event sponsored by ICTSI and organized by Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc.

With Chihiro Ikeda, who co-shared the

lead late in the second round en route to a 70, losing her putting touch and poise when it mattered most, Saso struck back from a horrible 77 in the second round, ramming in five birdies at the front to rally from nine down to within two with nine holes to play.

But the young Fil-Japanese wavered at the back, hobbling with two bogeys against a lone birdie for a 69 and a 217. She ended up tied for sixth with Hsieh Yu-Ling of Taiwan and Chinese Zhang Jienalin, who matched par 72s.

Ikeda faltered with four bogeys in a birdie-less 76 and wound up joint 12th at 219 with Taiwanese amateur Hung Jo-hua (75), Thai Supakchaya Pattaranakrueng (73) and Chinese Li Xiya (72).

Superal finally broke par with three birdies in the last six holes but her closing 69 could only net her a joint 17th place finish at 220 while Pauline del Rosario squandered a three-under card after 11 holes with five bogeys in the last seven holes. She wound up with a third straight 74 for 23rd place at 222.

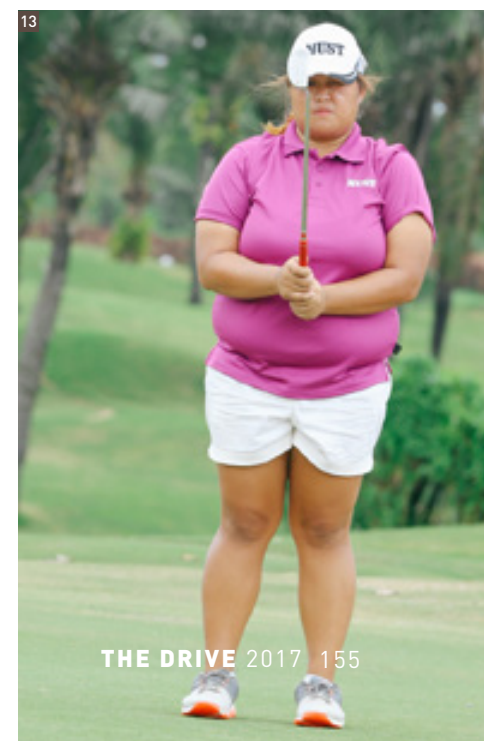
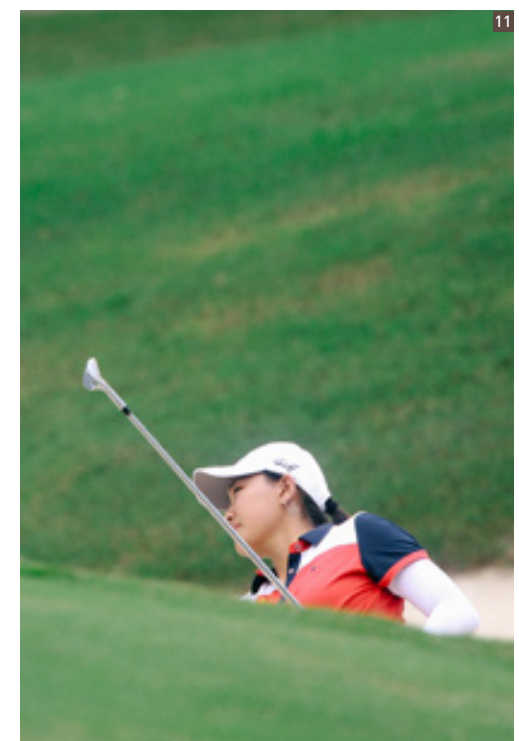
Cyna Rodriguez matched par 72 and tied for 24th with Thais Mookharin Ladgratok (70) and Numa Gulyanamitta (76) at 223.

Winning her first CLPGA title in her first foray on local circuit, Suksukont promised to come back and defend the crown in 2018, hoping to put up another three-day show of awesome shotmaking, superb iron game and precision putting – plus comebacks – from the young Thai fighter.

5 After turning in a number of top five place finishes, including four victories, Pauline del Rosario finds herself bending a little bit more, perhaps just to see her name down in joint 21st. **6** Not even her three birdies in the final round could pump life to Yi Ching Wu's title bid as the Taiwanese fumbles with three bogeys and a double-bogey to end up tied for ninth. **7** A two-day struggle on the sleek surface of The Country Club fails to stop one-time LPGT leg winner Saruttaya Ngam-usawan from advancing to the final round. **8** Tall, talented amateur Hwang Min-jeong of Korea impresses with her strength tipped to power her to a number of golfing glories in the near future. **9** Chihiro Ikeda moves into contention with a second round 70 but walks off it with a so-so finish. **10** Amateur Yuka Saso stirs up the final round with a scorching 31 start only to cool down with a couple of bunker visits. **11** Chinese amateur Du Mohan flashes some kind of brilliance with her bunker shots but just couldn't dig herself out of second round 75 that dropped her from ninth to joint 17th. **12** Despite spending most of their amateur training days at The Country Club, Cyna Rodriguez and Princess Superal still find the world-class challenging layout not to their liking, both finishing out of Top 15. **13** Granting Apple Fudolin does drill in the must putt, it still didn't prevent the Del Monte shotmaker from turning in a forgettable finish.

'This (win) is memorable because I made it on my first try'

-SUKSUKONT



THE COUNTRY CLUB
Sta. Rosa, Laguna • (049) 554-9600

One of few executive golf clubs in Asia, The Country Club has also established a reputation as one of the country's toughest courses following a major facelift in the last two years. The course plays long at 7,256 yards although it could play to a maximum of 8,000 yards from the back tees in the presence of the wind. The increase in yardage also comes with a significant change in individual hole strategies to take better advantage of the wind as well as the old and new bunkers, lakes, streams and planted native areas. But the true satisfaction at the Tom Weiskoph masterpiece is finishing on the magnificent 18th, definitely one of the best finishing holes in Asia.

PHILIPPINE LADIES MASTERS FINAL RANKING								
Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	SUKSUKONT, RENUKA	THA	69	70	72	211	-5	\$12,000
2	CHAYANUN, CHONLADA	THA	75	68	70	213	-3	\$6,000
=	WILAIRUNGRUENG, P.	THA	71	75	67	213	-3	\$6,000
4	HWANG, MIN JEONG (AM)	KOR	71	73	71	215	-1	XXX
5	BOONRAKSASAT, T.	THA	77	69	70	216	=	\$3,600
6	HSIEH, YU-LING	TPE	72	73	72	217	+1	\$2,680
=	ZHANG, JIENALIN	CHN	76	69	72	217	+1	\$2,680
=	SASO, YUKA (AM)	PHL	71	77	69	217	+1	XXX
9	PORUANGRONG, W.	THA	73	70	75	218	+2	\$2,053
=	WU, YI CHING	TPE	71	73	74	218	+2	\$2,053
=	LEE, CHIA PEI	TPE	73	73	72	218	+2	\$2,053

GUT FEELING

Thai vet turns hunch into winning attack at South Forbes



TOURNAMENT	SOUTH FORBES LADIES INVITATIONAL
DATES	DECEMBER 19, 2017 - DECEMBER 21, 2017
VENUE	SOUTH FORBES GOLF CLUB
PRIZE MONEY	P 750,000

PLAYING on a short but tricky course, Yupaporn Kawinpakorn knew she had a chance. Only there lies a line of blocks to hurdle – a fired-up Filipino crew, an equally skilled bunch of Thai shotmakers – and the wicked South Forbes wind.

Besides, there's a long stretch of winless streak on the local soil to deal with.

But the veteran campaigner bucked all the odds – and in the end backed up her claim as the best in the fold – clinching the ICTSI South Forbes Ladies Invitational crown via a two-stroke victory over compatriot Chonlada Chayanun in Silang, Cavite.

"I knew I could win because the course is short," said Kawinpakorn, referring to the par-67 layout that however proved a calvary of sort for the other bidders, most specifically the local aces.

Ask Princess Superal, who birdied the last three holes in impressive fashion in the second round to salvage a two-over 69, force a tie with Kawinpakorn and set up what many had hoped to be a fitting ending to a record 11-stage Ladies Philippine Golf Tour.

Ask Chayanun, who gained a rare three-shot swing on one hole to pull within three but ran out of holes in her comeback bid for the crown and an end to another runner-up finish.

Ask the rest of the contenders, who faded one after the other after getting ruffled by the wind that blew from all over, all day in the final round.

But one player came out virtually unscathed from the ordeal.

"We really had to deal with the wind that blew from all directions all tournament-long," said Kawinpakorn, who closed out with a 71 and took the crown on a five-over 206 aggregate.

The victory also proved to be a triumph of the spirit for a player who last won here in 2007.

"I'm happy winning the trophy. It's my second win in a decade," said Kawinpakorn, best remembered for her two-shot victory over Malaysian Ainil Johani Abu Bakar in the Philippine Ladies Open at The Country Club.

Her margin of latest victory actually didn't reflect the way she dominated the final round, most specifically Superal, whose fiery second round windup sparked hopes for a big local rebound following the Thais' 1-2-3 finish in the centerpiece Philippine Ladies Masters at the TCC.

But Kawinpakorn turned the final 18 holes into a victory walk, taming the wind with her solid driving and superb iron play and pulling away from Superal after 10 holes. She then edged Chayanun by two despite double-bogeys in the last two holes to pocket the top P150,000 purse from the top pot of P750,000.



1 Thai vet Yupaporn Kawinpakorn needs just 18 holes and a couple of superb bunker shots to blast Princess Superal and the rest of the field and end a long title spell here. **2** Gunning down birdies proves to be a tough mission to accomplish even to a seasoned player like Dottie Ardina. **3** Not even a helping hand could make up for Chihiro Ikeda's run of over-par cards at the short but tricky South Forbes layout.

'I'm happy winning the trophy. It's my second win in a decade'

- KAWINPAKORN



With Superal grappling with her balky putter, Kawinpakorn stormed to a four-stroke lead with an even-par card after 10 holes as the Filipina bet fumbled with two bogeys and a double-bogey.

Three behind Kawinpakorn at the start of the final round, Chayanun fell by as many as seven shots after 16 holes but gained a three-shot swing with a birdie on No. 17. But she ran out of holes in her rally, finishing with a 70 and posting another runner-up finish at 208. Chayanun also placed second to Renuka Suksukont in the Phl Ladies Masters.

And it was a sorry finish for Superal, who had hoped for a big windup after that scorching windup in the second round. But she failed to recover from a bogey-bogey miscue from No. 6 and a double-bogey mishap on the par-3 No. 10, no thanks to shaky putting that produced three-putts and a four-putt miscue.

She dropped another stroke on No. 13, double bogeyed the 15th and wound up with a birdie-par-bogey finish for a 74, ending up third at 209.

Chihiro Ikeda, five behind Kawinpakorn after 36 holes, blew a one-under card after nine holes with a roller-coaster finish marred by a double-bogey on the final hole. The Forest Hills leg winner placed fourth with a 210 while Dottie Ardina failed to live up to the pre-tournament hype as the LPGA and Symetra Tour campaigner failed to follow up a second round 68 with a 73, marred by a triple bogey seven on the final hole. She ended up fifth with a 211.

Pauline del Rosario also failed to recover from a poor start and poor health, ending up at 10th with a 79 in a finish that marred what was an otherwise successful rookie season that saw her rack up four victories and run away with the coveted LPGT Order of Merit crown.

But with Kawinpakorn recalling her fierce form and flashing that winning feeling again, not even Ardina's experience or del Rosario's winning streak could stop the Thai veteran from ending a decade-long title spell and ending the LPGT fifth season with another victory from the country's toughest arch rivals in the sport.

4 Rivals on the course, Chihiro Ikeda and Cyna Rodriguez are pals off it as they take some time to chat on something else other than the sport they love. 5 With a swing as smooth as silk, amateur Sam Dizon could be the next big thing in Philippine golf. 6 Kawinpakorn needs just 18 holes and a couple of superb bunker shots to blast Princess Superal and the rest and end a long title spell here. 7 An impressive opening of 66 keeps Superal's head above water, only to sink with a woeful closing 74. 8 Chayanun could only look back to rue another runner-up finish with hopes of finally hitting paydirt sooner than expected. 9 More than missing the cut, three-time Order of Merit winner Rodriguez rues missing the final round on an uncharacteristic DQ infraction.



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Located in the first class municipality of Silang in the province of Cavite is the South Forbes Golf Club. This 4,886 yard golf club in Silang may relatively short for a par 67 course with seven holes of Par 3. However, this demands a lot of accurate shots. South Forbes Golf Course is a masterpiece in its own right. Boasting a location that will definitely give golfers a challenging game.

SOUTH FORBES LADIES INVITATIONAL FINAL RANKING

Rank	Names	REP	R1	R2	R3	TOTAL	TO PAR	EARNINGS
1	KAWINPAKORN, YUPAPORN	THA	70	65	71	206	+5	P150,000
2	CHAYANUN, CHONLADA	THA	67	71	70	208	+7	P95,000
3	SUPERAL, PRINCESS	PHL	66	69	74	209	+8	P60,000
4	IKEDA, CHIHIRO	PHL	69	71	70	210	+9	P52,000
5	ARDINA, DOTTIE	PHL	70	68	73	211	+10	P45,000
6	THITIRATANAKORN, SARINEE	PHL	76	70	74	220	+19	P41,000
=	GULYANAMITTA, NUMA	THA	73	71	76	220	+19	P41,000
8	DEL ROSARIO, PAULINE	PHL	74	73	79	226	+25	P35,000
9	VILLACENCIO, GRETCHEN	PHL	76	75	78	229	+28	P31,000
=	NA AYUTTAYA, J.P.	PHL	71	80	78	229	+28	P31,000

ON THE HORIZON: A GATEWAY TO GREATER GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS, A BLUEPRINT FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

Charting a more expansive course for Papua New Guinea's (PNG) economy requires a world-class maritime gateway, designed for growing trade across Asia and Oceania, and thoughtfully planned to benefit present and future stakeholders. This is precisely the vision for the international port in Motukea in Port Moresby, the bustling capital of PNG—a vision being realized through the strong partnerships between public, private and community sectors.

Port authority PNG Ports Corporation Ltd. is committed to transform the harbor area of Motukea island into a world-class port. Upon full build, Motukea will not only be serving Port Moresby, but will be capable of facilitating the expanding trade with Asia, Oceania, and other markets.

Private sector partner International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI), through PNG unit Motukea International Terminal (MIT), leverages its depth of expertise in carrying out major port infrastructure projects, to ensure that the Motukea facility is robustly equipped to support PNG's growth potential over the long term.

Partner Communities are engaged across several areas in the program such as providing port manpower and local expertise. With the ICTSI Foundation, ICTSI will provide community programs as part of Motukea's sustainable port development.

Together, the PNG Government, ICTSI, and the Partner Communities are optimizing PNG's potential across borders—and working for development that is sustainable across generations.

PAPUA
NEW GUINEA

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Headquartered in Manila, Philippines, International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI) is in the business of port development, management, and operations. Independent of shipping, logistics, or consignee-related interests, ICTSI works transparently with all port community stakeholders. Operating in both developed and emerging market economies—in Asia Pacific, the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, and Africa—ICTSI has received global acclaim for its port privatization partnerships with governments.



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Philippine Golf's Grand Dame

LUISITA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

The players' choice the second time around, the Robert Trent Jones Sr. - designed layout is looking to make it three straight to cap a milestone golden year.

LUISITA Golf and Country Club is moving in the right direction in its all-out bid to regain former glory.

No less than the country's top professional golfers, represented by the Philippine Golf Tour, acknowledged Luisita G&C's unrelenting efforts by naming it as the Best Host Venue for the PGT's 2017 circuit sponsored by the International Container Terminal Services, Inc.

It marked the second straight time the course, spread inside the sprawling Central Azucarera de Tarlac, was given such an accolade and it couldn't come at a better time since Luisita is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

"This distinction jumpstarts the whole year of festivities for Luisita," according to Jeric Hechanova, in charge of the club's marketing and players' affairs.

The 2016 award was understandable since Luisita hosted two events that year. For the 2017 circuit, however, it was venue to only the ICTSI Luisita Championship topped by Miguel Tabuena in early May.

And yet Luisita was still chosen over other, more state-of-the-art venues the local tour has visited and played in.

"While there are more modern clubs today, we are more than just happy to work with the PGT when it requests us to host a tournament," was how Hechanova tried to rationalize the award.

"We give the best possible hospitality. I think that sets us apart from the rest," offered Hechanova.

That conviviality, turned into more concrete form by the waiving of the green fees, free breakfast and lunch on event days and the availability of its huge sports function room to act as free accommodation to participants, may partly explain why Luisita was chosen.

But perhaps the biggest come-on should be the course itself.

The only course originally designed in Asia by Hall of Famer Robert Trent Jones Sr. and renovated by his son and namesake, Luisita remains as challenging today as it was when it first opened.

With water as primary element to deal with, the course plays longer and tougher than its par-72, 7,042-yard layout and there lies the challenge every golfer worth his salt wants to conquer.

Hechanova said the award should serve as additional spur for them to continue laboring and bring Luisita back to its lofty place as the Grand Dame of Philippine golf.

"Luisita is in championship condition, but we would continue to strive for perfection," said Hechanova.

"She deserves nothing less."



Flags of nine countries are silent witness to Luisita's all-out effort to provide the men of the tour not only a true test of golf but also a venue which they can call their home.



PARTNER ASSOCIATIONS



The NGAP is the country's governing body for amateur golf and the sanctioning body for the country's premier golf championship, the Philippine Open which is celebrating its Centennial year this 2018. The NGAP and ICTSI have been partners in golf development for years with the former mandated to develop Phl golf through organization and conduct of local tournaments, including the training and participation in overseas competitions of the national pool and players, and the latter supporting some of its programs through sponsorships.



The TLPGA Tour and the LPGT have put up a joint effort the last three years with the latter leaving no stone unturned in ensuring its expansion through luring more and more foreign players. From its launch in 2013 with a six-leg circuit, the LPGT put up an eight-stage tour in 2014 and hosted a record 11-leg calendar in the season just passed.

Meanwhile, the growth in TLPGA's collaborative ventures also creates substantial benefits of building a healthier tour structure while allowing its members to have more playing opportunities abroad in a bid to hone their skills and increase global presence.



The \$80,000 ICTSI Philippine Ladies Masters in late 2017 marked the first time that the China LPGA Tour expanded its footprint by co-sanctioning the blue-ribbon event with LPGT and Taiwan LPGA, making it the very first three-way link-up in the three countries' ladies golf history.

After previously co-sanctioning overseas events in Australia, Taiwan and Thailand, the China LPGA Tour said that with the country's close proximity and long history in golf, it just made sense to stage an event in the Philippines as part of China's "Belt and Road" initiative to expand the national market in Southeast Asia.

Through the link-up, the LPGT players not only gained to earn Rolex world ranking points and compete against a strong lineup but also enabled the Filipino players to hone their skills and prepare them to compete in other tours abroad.

To say that Philippine golf is on the rise would be an understatement. For it is swinging to high levels since ICTSI, answering the government's call for support during the 23rd Southeast Asian Games in 2005, took over and turned the sport into what it is today.

From jungolf to amateurs to ladies and pros, the global port management leader has been at the forefront of golf development, boosting each level's programs with sustained tournaments before focusing on the ladies and pros the last few years.

In fact, the Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc., organizer of the various ICTSI-sponsored tours, including its flagship circuit, the Philippine Golf Tour, has linked up with the top ladies tours in the region, including the Taiwan LPGA and the China LPGA while launching a new men's circuit in the region – the PGT Asia, its inaugural season fittingly capped by the staging of the 100th Philippine Open through the sanctioning National Golf Association of the Philippines.

With the right program, vision and links, Philippine golf is indeed swinging in rhythm.



The Philippine Golf Tour, Southeast Asia's largest local golfing circuit and the Philippines' premier battleground for its professional players, is backed by global port operator International Container Terminal Services, Inc. (ICTSI).

ICTSI has been supporting Philippine golf since 2005 when the Philippine government tapped ICTSI as one of its private sector partners in the hosting of the 23rd Southeast Asian Games (SEAG) where ICTSI sponsored and co-organized the golf event of the Games at the Country Club in Santa Rosa, Laguna. After the Philippine SEAG, ICTSI continued supporting the country's top professional and amateur players through a golf program envisioned to put the Philippines back in the global golfing arena.



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Makers of high performance golf clubs, clothes and gear, Taylor Made has a long history of quality and reliability. Their innovative products are the number one choice of the best golfers in the world.



Summit Natural Drinking Water is the official bottled water of Philippine Olympic athletes. It has helped aspiring Filipino athletes maintain superior concentration and athletic edge with minerals that boost their hydration level.



Used by top PGA golfers like Vijay Singh and Karrie Webb, Srixon balls provide better flight for a golfer's drive. Together with Srixon golf clubs, golfers have seen better scores and performance on the fairway and in the driving range.



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Champion Detergent, one of the country's top detergent brands, has been providing superior quality cleaning products to uncompromising Filipino households since 1977. It continues to serve the needs of discerning Filipino consumers beyond laundry detergents with its expanded portfolio that now includes liquid fabric conditioner and dishwashing liquid.



Titleist is one of the premium golf brands in the market with products ranging from golf balls, metals (drivers and fairway woods), hybrids/utility clubs, irons, wedges, putters, gloves, golf bags, travel gears and other accessories. Its core product is golf ball. Over the past 30 years, Titleist has been the preferred golf ball of the majority of pro players on the US PGA Tour – more than all other golf balls combined. The Titleist golf balls and equipment go through strict quality inspections before these hit the stores. In addition, all these go through robotic tests as well as validations of tour professionals and amateurs alike.



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PGT ORDER OF MERIT WINNER
CLYDE MONDILLA

LPGT ORDER OF MERIT WINNER
PAULINE DEL ROSARIO



VENUE OF THE YEAR
LUISITA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

ANVIL GOLD FOR ICTSI GOLF PROGRAM



Recognizing the ICTSI Golf Program's vital role in improving the quality of the sport – from the amateur ranks, the ladies and the men's pros, the Public Relations Society of the Philippines (PRSP) awarded the prestigious Gold Anvil Award to the country's top port management company.

PRSP, the country's largest organization for PR professionals, cited the ICTSI Golf Program for "establishing the Pilipinas Golf Tournaments Inc. and organizing the Philippine Golf Tour to improve the quality of the game of young Filipino golf men."

Through its long-running amateur golf program, ICTSI has produced a number of players, including a world champion (Princess Superal – 2014 US Girls Junior) and LPGA and Symetra Tour campaigners, while inspiring young Filipinas to take up the sport.

The ICTSI Golf Program is the umbrella program of the PGT. It is managed by ICTSI Public Relations Office headed by PR Director Narlene Soriano.

Ms Soriano's team is composed of Colo Ventosa who heads the professional program; Luigi Tabuena, PGT Tournament Director; Bambi Marfil, amateur program; Joop Kalambakal, marketing support; Ronnel Javier, media; Jocelyn Duque, operations; Yehlen De La Luna, finance; and Charity Lumayno, social media.



Presented annually by the Public Relations Society of the Philippines (PRSP), the ANVIL is the symbol of Excellence in Public Relations. It is awarded to outstanding public relations programs, tools and, now, practitioners after careful screening by select PR professionals and judging by a distinguished multi-sectoral jury.

GO INQ GOLFCON



Phl golf will never be same without Ricky Razon, whose passion, vision and support have helped raise the sport to where it is today

Philippine golf never had it so good since ICTSI took over in 2010 with the global port management leader not only boosting the popularity of the sport but also providing the country's golfers – from the junior, amateur, ladies and pro ranks the needed tournaments – and circuits – to hone their talent and skills, keep them at par with the region's best and eventually make it to the world stage.

So it didn't come as a surprise when ICTSI president and chairman Ricky Razon was named as one of the recipients of the Icons of Golf award during the Inquirer Golf's 20th anniversary bash, sharing center stage with the elite roster of personalities, whose passion for the sport and whose contribution and roles

that helped make golf to what it is now are second to none.

Colo Ventosa, general manager of Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc., which organizes the various PGTI circuits, received the award on behalf of ICTSI chairman and president Ricky Razon with the accolade underscoring ICTSI's key role in the development of the sport and improving the quality of the local players' games.

Without a doubt, Phl golf has blossomed into a major product ready to compete with other sports in terms of popularity and prestige and it is definitely alive and swinging with ICTSI at the forefront of empowering the sport in the next decade and more.



Colo Ventosa [center], general manager of Pilipinas Golf Tournaments, Inc., organizer of the Philippine Golf Tour, the Ladies PGT and the newly-established PGT Asia, receives the Inquirer Golf's trophy from (from left) Alex Prieto, Inquirer chair Marixi Prieto, and hosts Tessa Prieto-Valdes and Inquirer Golf columnist Nick Tuason during Inquirer Golf's 20th Anniversary Gala Night at the City of Dreams. Ventosa accepted the award on behalf of ICTSI chairman/president Ricky Razon, who was recognized as one of the top 20 prime movers of Philippine golf.

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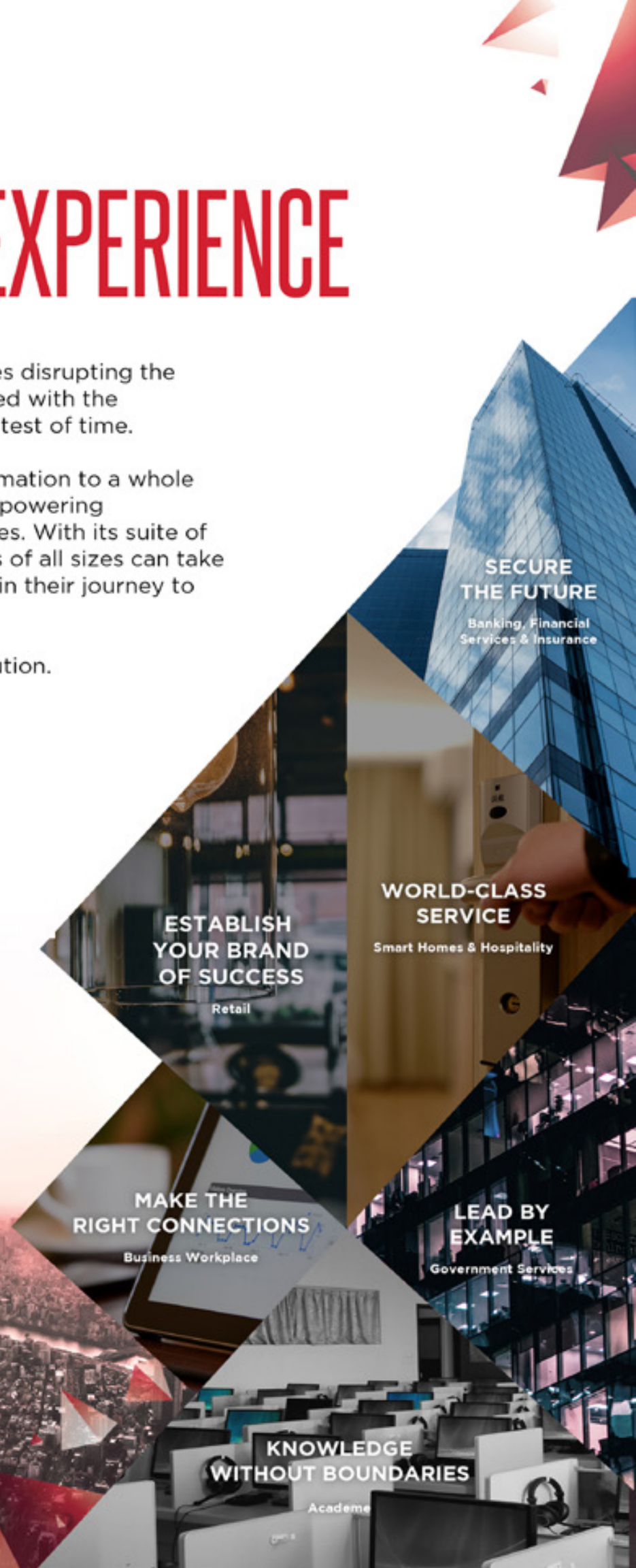
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Dr. Robert Lo
President
RDF Feed, Livestock & Foods, Inc.



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Dioceldo Sy
President
Ever Bilena Cosmetics, Inc.



"As a testament to our 106th year in the business, we worked with the Meralco Biz Partners from planning to energizing a state-of-the-art headquarters. They helped us with our transformer, which allowed our business to save on real estate space."

Gerry Chua
President
Eng Bee Tin

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THE PHILIPPINE GOLF TOUR ANNUAL REVIEW

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2018



JANUARY

- 3-5 **AYALA GREENFIELD**
Ayala Greenfield Golf & Country Club
- 9-11 **BEVERLY PLACE LADIES CLASSIC**
Beverly Place Golf Club
- 17-20 **EAGLE RIDGE INVITATIONAL**
Eagle Ridge Golf & Country Club (Aoki)
- 24-27 **PRADERA VERDE CLASSIC**
Pradera Verde Golf & Country Club
- 30-FEB 2 **2018 PGT Qualifying School (Local)**
Splendido Taal Golf Club

FEBRUARY

- 7-9 **EAGLE RIDGE LADIES INVITATIONAL**
Eagle Ridge Golf & Country Club
- 14-16 **SPLENDIDO LADIES CLASSIC**
Splendido Taal Golf Club
- 14-17 **THE COUNTRY CLUB INVITATIONAL**
THE COUNTRY CLUB
- 20-23 **2018 PGT QUALIFYING SCHOOL (FOREIGN)**
Splendido Taal Golf Club
- 28-MAR 3 **SOLAIRE PHILIPPINE OPEN**
The Country Club

MARCH

- 7-10 **EAGLE RIDGE INVITATIONAL**
Eagle Ridge Golf & Country Club
- 13-15 **TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS LADIES CLASSIC**
Tagaytay Highlands Golf & Country Club
- 21-23 **RIVIERA LADIES CLASSIC**
Riviera Golf & Country Club

APRIL

- 4-7 **2018 PGTA QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT**
Luisita Golf & Country Club
- 11-14 **LUISITA CHAMPIONSHIP**
Luisita Golf & Country Club
- 17-19 **LUISITA LADIES CHAMPIONSHIP**
Luisita Golf & Country Club
- 25-27 **PRADERA VERDE LADIES CLASSIC**
Pradera Verde Golf & Country Club
- 25-28 **MANILA MASTERS**
Eastridge Golf Club

MAY

- 3-5 **SPLENDIDO CLASSIC**
Splendido Taal Golf Club
- 8-10 **SUMMIT POINT LADIES CLASSIC**
Summit Point Golf & Country Club
- 15-17 **MT. MALARAYAT LADIES INVITATIONAL**
Mt. Malarayat Golf & Country Club
- 23-26 **VILLAMOR PHILIPPINE MASTERS**
Villamor Golf Club
- 30-JUNE 2 **RIVIERA CLASSIC**
Riviera Golf & Country Club

JUNE

- 5-7 **ROYAL NORTHWOODS LADIES CLASSIC**
Royal Northwoods Golf & Country Club
- 6-9 **MANILA SOUTHWOODS CHAMPIONSHIP**
Manila Southwoods Golf & Country Club
- 12-14 **VALLEY LADIES CLASSIC**
Valley Golf Club
- 20-23 **DEL MONTE CLASSIC**
Del Monte Golf Club
- 26-29 **PUEBLO DE ORO CHAMPIONSHIP**
Pueblo de Oro Golf & Country Club

JULY

- 4-7 **APO CHAMPIONSHIP**
Apo Golf & Country Club
- 21-28 **SUMMIT POINT CLASSIC**
Summit Point Golf & Country Club
- 25-28 **MT. MALARAYAT CHAMPIONSHIP**
Mt. Malarayat Golf & Country Club

AUGUST

- 1-4 **FOREST HILLS CHAMPIONSHIP**
Forest Hills Golf & Country Club
- 15-18 **ILOILO CHAMPIONSHIP**
Iloilo Golf & Country Club
- 22-25 **MARAPARA CHAMPIONSHIP**
Bacolod Golf & Country Club
- 28-SEPT 1 **CEBU CHAMPIONSHIP**
Cebu Golf & Country Club

SEPTEMBER

- 11-14 **ABOITIZ INVITATIONAL**
Orchard Golf & Country Club
- 18-21 **CAT OPEN**
Luisita Golf & Country Club
- 25-28 **LUISITA CHAMPIONSHIP**
Luisita Golf & Country Club
- 25-28 **TBA**
TBA

OCTOBER

- 10-13 **TBA**
TBA

NOVEMBER

- 21-24 **WACK WACK CHAMPIONSHIP**
Wack Wack Golf & Country Club

DECEMBER

*As of January 2018. Dates are subject to change.

- Men's Golf
- Ladies' Golf
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