

Michael Harris Wins His 4th Tournament of Champions



Photo by Andy Sneedon / Petoskey News Review

Mike Harris Wins Tournament of Champions on the Monument Course, Boyne Mountain Resort, July 26

Courtesy of Michigan PGA

BOYNE FALLS, MI (7/26/06) – Michael Harris, a 28-year-old touring professional from Troy, shot 67 on the Monument Course in the Goyne Tournament of Champions final round to successfully defend the crown he’s now won four times. Harris commanded the \$12,000 first-place check, but his other T of C titles had already yielded the traditional green blazer and Country Club of Boyne membership.

“Maybe they should just donate Bay Harbor to me,” Harris joked. “Seriously, I enjoy coming back and my goal is to put my name on the trophy as many times as I can. I love the competition.”

Harris wrote his name in the record books by shooting an Alpine course record 62 in the second round. He began the final round a stroke behind fellow mini-

tour player Eric Jorgensen. His three-round total of 15-under-par was enough to overcome and then best runner-up Jorgensen by four strokes. “I was happy I maintained poise and didn’t try to force anything. I just tried to stay steady and I knew that if I just kept going forward I’d be alright. It was kind of a plodding round,” said Harris, “but it’s my first win this year, and it’s always good to get back into

Final:

Overall leaders:	Mike Harris	72-62-67 - 201	-15
Low amateur:	Ian Harris	72-69-72 - 213	-3
Low Female:	Stacy Slobodnik-Stoll	72-70-73 - 215	-2
Low Senior:	Ian Harris	72-69-72 - 213	-3

the winner's circle. Hopefully it's a sign of good things to come."

Harris previously won the Tournament of Champions in 2000, '03, and '05.

The University of Michigan alum and Troy native who now lives in Shorewood, WI also won last year's Michigan Open and the Canadian Tour's Players Championship at Bay Mills Resort in Brimley.

round 72 on Boyne Mountain's 6,785-yard Monument Course.

"It's tough. I haven't been in contention for a long time and I knew I'd be nervous. Why wouldn't I be nervous?" Jorgensen asked. "Once I lost confidence in my tee shots I couldn't recover. I was keeping myself calm and making pars to keep myself in the game, but I was making mistakes, and I knew it."

Jorgensen, a Michigan State

likely not looking forward to Boyne's Monument course. After the opening two rounds were contested on Boyne's Alpine course, the final round of the Tournament of Champions was held on The Monument.

"I'm comfortable on the Alpine but there are some shots on Monument that I just don't feel comfortable playing," Jorgensen admitted, even sighting that he was afraid of heights, so elevated tee shots, like

"I enjoy coming back and my goal is to put my name on the trophy as many times as I can."

Harris is currently 26th on the Canadian Tour's Order of Merit and 138th on the Nationwide Tour money list. He is hoping to receive a sponsor's exemption to next week's PGA Tour event, the Buick Open at Warwick Hills Country Club in Grand Blanc. If not, he'll play the same Canadian Tour event in Montreal to which Jorgensen is headed.

Jorgensen, who won the Tournament of Champions in 2004, lost the lead by shooting a final

University graduate now living in Oconee, FL, has been playing on the Canadian Tour, this year, where he ranks 71st, and has won only \$4,225 over seven events. The 26-year-old collected \$5,300 as TofC runner-up.

"This tournament usually gives me a boost, but being runner-up is not as good as being the winner," said Jorgensen. I thought about this tournament three months ago and knew I wanted to come here and get my confidence up." He was

the 565-yard first hole and the 517-yard fifth, made him nervous.

Reigning Michigan Open champion Scott Hebert, at 5-under-par, finished in third place, his seventh top-five finish in the Tournament of Champions. Michigan State University golf coach Stacy Slobodnik-Stoll was the lowest female competitor finishing at 1-under-par. Ian Harris, of Walled Lake, was both low-amateur and low-senior, with a three-round total of 3-under-par.

119 champions of all varieties began the Tournament of Champions competing against each other for a purse of \$65,000 from staggered tees. The two-

round cut came at 153, and Harris emerged the winner from a remaining field of 71 professionals, amateurs, women, men, juniors and seniors. While the field

is diverse, the entrants had one thing in common: they'd all captured an important, sanctioned state title at some stage in their playing career. **MG**

Final Scores

1st	Michael Harris	Shorewood	72	62	67	201	-15	\$12,000
2nd	Eric Jorgensen	Grandville	68	65	72	205	-11	\$5,300
3rd	Scott Hebert	Grand Traverse Resort	71	71	69	211	-5	\$4,000
4th	George Bowman	Oakhurst Golf Country	73	69	70	212	-4	\$1,975
	Brian Cairns	Highland Golf Center	72	71	69	212	-4	\$1,975
6th	Ian Harris-A	Walled Lake	72	69	72	213	-3	\$750
	Gary Smithson	Thousand Oaks Golf Club	71	73	69	213	-3	\$1,400
8th	Randy Erskine	Great Oaks Country Club	70	72	72	214	-2	\$1,175
	Charles Pasco	Grosse Ile Golf CC	71	70	73	214	-2	\$1,175
10th	John DalCorobbo	Forest Akers GCMSU	71	68	76	215	-1	\$1,025
	Dave Kendall	Kendall Academy of Golf	68	72	75	215	-1	\$1,025
	Stacy Slobodnik-A	Haslett	72	70	73	215	-1	\$500
13th	Lee Houtteman	Bay Meadows Golf Cou	71	70	75	216	Even	\$893.75
	Lynn Janson	Egypt Valley Country C	71	75	70	216	Even	\$893.75
	Thom Piscopink	Wayne	70	70	76	216	Even	\$893.75
	Adam Walicki	Jackson	71	71	74	216	Even	\$893.75
17th	Bob Ackerman	Bob Ackerman Golf	75	69	73	217	+1	\$740
	Kenneth Allard	Detroit Golf Club	73	75	69	217	+1	\$740
	Ron Beurmann	Country Club of Jackson	74	71	72	217	+1	\$740
	Ryan Brehm-A	Mt. Pleasant	70	75	72	217	+1	\$490
	Robert Makoski	Van Dyke Sports Center	73	74	70	217	+1	\$740
	Andy Matthews	Ada	73	70	74	217	+1	\$740
	Kevin Muir	The Wyndgate	76	74	67	217	+1	740
	Barry Redmond	Lenawee Country Club	73	72	72	217	+1	\$740
	John Traub	TNT Enterprises	75	72	70	217	+1	\$740
26th	Mark Black	Fortress	75	71	72	218	+2	\$670
	Elaine Crosby	Jackson	69	72	77	218	+2	\$670
	Peter Green-A	Franklin	72	73	73	218	+2	\$480
	Tom Harding	Kendall Academy of Golf	73	75	70	218	+2	\$670
30th	Ron English	Charlotte Country Club	69	75	75	219	+3	\$650
	Jerry Gunthorpe-A	Ovid	72	75	72	219	+3	\$465
	Bill McDonald-A	Troy	72	74	73	219	+3	\$465

33rd	Steven Cuzzort-A	Grosse Ile	70	78	72	220	+4	\$445
	Bill Zylstra-A	Westland	71	72	77	220	+4	\$445
35th	Shawn Koch	Lawrenceville	74	72	75	221	+5	\$635
	Timothy Matthews	Scotts	74	72	75	221	+5	\$635
	Mike Ray-A	Dearborn	70	80	71	221	+5	\$430
38th	Steven Brady	Oakland Hills Country	74	75	73	222	+6	\$610
	Larry Mancour	Life Member	71	75	76	222	+6	\$610
	Jamie Wiest	DeWitt Golf Center	72	77	73	222	+6	\$610
41st	Agim Bardha	Red Run Country Club	72	76	75	223	+7	\$575
	Jeff Champine-A	Rochester Hills	77	71	75	223	+7	\$420
	David VanLoozen	Edgewood Country Club	73	74	76	223	+7	\$575
	Mark Zelazny	Dearborn Country Club	70	77	76	223	+7	\$575
45th	Andrew Bethune	The Sawmill GC	74	76	74	224	+8	\$557.50
	Korey Mahoney	East Lansing	73	77	74	224	+8	\$557.50
	Kirk Scheerhorn	Wuskowhan Players Club	78	74	72	224	+8	\$557.50
	Christian Vozza	Grand Traverse Resort	71	78	75	224	+8	\$557.50
49th	Bill Baldwin	King Par Golf Corporat	74	69	82	225	+9	\$540
	Jeffrey Cuzzort	Grosse Ile	76	74	75	225	+9	\$540
	John Seltzer	The Polo Fields Golf Club	75	72	78	225	+9	\$540
52nd	Tom Fortuna	Shenandoah Golf Count	80	71	75	226	+10	\$517.50
	Jeff Gniewek	Prestwick Village Golf	75	75	76	226	+10	\$517.50
	Joe Hill-A	Shelby Township	75	75	76	226	+10	\$410
	John Nolan	Van Dyke Sports Center	74	76	76	226	+10	\$517.50
	Michael Pearson	Crystal Mountain Resort	75	75	76	226	+10	\$517.50
	Robert Pillard	Duck Lake Country Clu	73	76	77	226	+10	\$517.50
	David Zielinski	DeWitt Golf Center	75	76	75	226	+10	\$517.50
59th	Paul Haase	Kendall Academy of Go	77	70	80	227	+11	\$495
	Theodore Kondratko	Life Member	78	75	74	227	+11	\$495
	Fred Muller	Crystal Downs Country	74	78	75	227	+11	\$495
62nd	Brian O'Neill	Boyne Mountain Resort	77	75	76	228	+12	\$485
63rd	Aaron Bush	Flushing Valley GCC	78	73	78	229	+13	\$462.50
	Josh Fryer	Franklin Hills Country	77	76	76	229	+13	\$462.50
65th	Mike Raymond-A	Jackson	75	75	80	230	+14	\$395
	Jack VanEss-A	Gand Rapids	80	72	78	230	+14	\$395
67th	John Gregus	Copper Ridge Golf Club	77	74	80	231	+15	\$415
	Gary Robinson	Foundation Learning Ce	74	76	81	231	+15	\$415
69th	Claud Johnston-A	Westland	75	77	80	232	+16	\$370
	Luigi Spadafora-A	Milford	75	75	82	232	+16	\$370
	Tommy Valentine	Lochmoor Club	82	71	N			