Thorbjornsen and Svensson win at Sea Island

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. SIMONS ISLAND, Ga. — Michael Thorbjornsen spent the last few weeks working on his iron play and saw it pay off Thursday in the rain and wind at Sea Island. He made five of his seven birdies inside 10 feet for a 6-under 64 to share the low score with Jesper Svensson in the RSM Classic.

Thorbjornsen, one of the group of rising young stars who won the Rocket Classic this year for his first PGA Tour title, had five birdies in a seven-hole stretch around the turn at the tougher Seaside course, which included an 8-foot par save.

Svensson, who needs at least a two-way tie for second to finish among the top 100 in the FedEx Cup to keep a full card for next year, birdied his last four holes on the easier Plantation course for an 8-under 64.

Max Greyserman and Garrick Higgo each shot 65 on the Plantation, while Sea Island member Keith Mitchell shot 65 at Seaside.

Korda looking for a big finish to a great year

BY DOUG FERGUSON
AP GOLF WRITER

NAPLES, Fla. — Nelly Korda arrived at the LPGA Tour's season finale with the potential for history in front of her. A victory in the CME Group Tour Championship puts her in the LPGA Hall of Fame at age 28 and moves her past Annika Sorenstam atop the tour's career money list.

That's of little concern. Korda has spent much of her week looking back at what led to another stellar season and the one trophy — the U.S. Women's Open at Riviera — she desperately wanted.

Reflections are not all positive.

Imagine a video of all the great golf played around the world this year with each star player getting only one highlight. What would she choose? The high-risk wedge she played to a tuck pin when she won the first major of the year at The Chevron Championship? That 3-foot putt that lipped in on the 18th at Riviera for a one-shot victory?

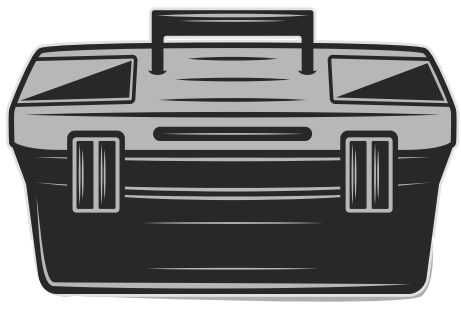
She chose a missed short putt, the occasional nemesis in her game.

"I feel like as athletes, as golfers, we want to be such perfectionists that people don't realize we make mistakes, and we miss what amateurs miss," Korda said Wednesday. "Athletes should just be more vulnerable as human beings. Sometimes we are put under such a microscope where we can't mistakes — whereas you can make mistakes and still rise to the occasion."

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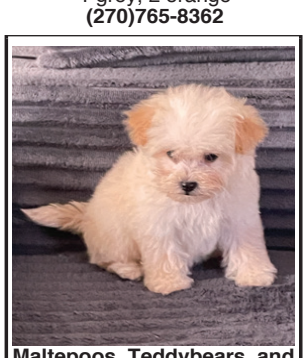
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