Teenager becomes youngest PGA Tour winner in 95 years

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS CABOS, Mexico — Blades Brown is like several young players who can remember Tiger Woods making big putts and winning big tournaments and inspiring them to play. Only for Brown, it wasn't all that long ago.

Two years after his surprising decision to turn pro while a junior in high school, the 19-year-old Brown became the youngest PGA Tour winner in 95 years when he closed with a 9-under 63 and beat Ben James on the second playoff hole in the World Wide Technology Championship.

"It hasn't set in just yet, I guess, the magnitude of being a PGA Tour winner," Brown said. "I just go back to 5-year-old Blades that was watching the TV and watching Tiger Woods and all those great players win major championships, and to think that I'm now in a similar spot with having won a PGA Tour event is mind-blowing."

Brown is youngest winner since Charles Kocsis won the Michigan Open in 1931 when he was 18, a tournament that was considered a regional event in the early years of the PGA.

James lost a four-shot lead going into the final round at El Cardonal at Diamante and then showed his moxie by smoking a 285-yard shot into 20 feet on the par-5 18th and making eagle to salvage a 70 and force the playoff.

But he missed an 8-foot putt on the second playoff hole, and Brown made his 3-footer.

"Had a feeling that it was going to go in," James said of his clutch eagle, the only putt he made all day longer than 15 feet. "Hadn't really made anything all day. Just had a really good line on it and it was a good putt. Played the best I could."

For a sleepy FedEx Cup Fall event on the southern tip of Baja California, this was pure theater between two players from the next generation. James was the No. 1 player in the PGA Tour University ranking last season. Brown turned pro at 17 and earned his PGA Tour card this year by being among the top 20 in Korn Ferry Tour points.

He made up a seven-shot deficit in the final round and then was tested even more by going through two bags of golf balls on the range waiting to see if the two-shot lead he had over James would hold. Then it was back to the par-5 18th for the playoff.

On the first extra hole, their approach shots were side-by-side, separated by about 3 feet, and both narrowly missed eagle chances. They returned to the 18th tee and their drives were next to each other. Both came up just short of the green.

James nearly holed his pitch and saw it run out 8 feet. Brown, who had a similar pitch in regulation that he hit to 6 feet for a closing birdie, this time came up 3 feet short. James' birdie putt grazed the right edge, and Brown poured in the winner.

"I'm so obsessed with this game. It tests you in so many ways," Brown said. "I love golf, all the stuff that goes into it and I can't wait for what's next."

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

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Interested parties are encouraged to contact the City's consultant, Sports Facilities Companies, to obtain plans, specifications, and detailed bidding requirements. For information, contact Kevin Greene (kgreene@sportsfacilities.com) and Ishan Patel (ipatel@sportsfacilities.com).

The successful bidder shall provide all bonds, insurances, and licenses as required.

The City of Elizabethtown intends to award the contract based on the best evaluated bid. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to let the contract as a whole or in part, and to waive any formalities or irregularities in the bids received where the best interest of the City may be served.

/s/ Honorable Jeffrey H. Gregory, Mayor
Attest: Jessica J. Graham, City Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Hardin County Fiscal Court, in a Regular Meeting on 27 October 2026, had the First Reading of Ordinance No. 347, Series 2026 Budget Amendment #2 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 ANNUAL BUDGET AND AMENDMENT THEREOF. HARDIN COUNTY FISCAL COURT HAS REALIZED UNBUDGETED RECEIPTS FROM THE GENERAL AND ROAD FUNDS.

A Second Reading of the proposed Ordinance will be held on 24 November 2026 at a Regular Fiscal Court meeting at 5:30 P.M., at the Hardin County Government Building, 150 N. Provident Way, 3rd Floor, Fiscal Courtroom, Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

A copy of the full text of the ordinance is available in the office of the Hardin County Treasurer, Finance Department, Hardin County Government Building, 150 N. Provident Way, 3nd Floor, Suite 320, Elizabethtown, Kentucky, Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

/s/Keith L. Taul
Hardin County Judge/Executive

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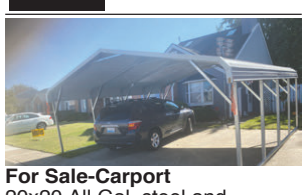


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