

Yi defeats Pressel for first LPGA win at Toledo tourney

SYLVANIA (AP) — The gallery was going wild. There was no question what had happened.

Eunjung Yi watched from the 17th tee and knew that Morgan Pressel, playing just ahead of her, had holed a lob wedge from 70 yards for eagle that had erased what had only a few holes earlier had been a six-shot lead.

Rather than let her mind wander or allow herself to be distracted by all of the people cheering for Pressel, Yi shut everything out.

"I didn't think about her," she said. "I thought about my golf."

Yi recovered to roll in a 10-foot birdie putt on the first playoff hole to beat Pressel and capture her first LPGA Tour title Sunday in what might be the final Jamie Farr Owens Corning Classic.

Pressel, a runner-up for the second time in three years at the Farr, tipped her hat to the winner.

"She won the tournament," Pressel said. "She made a birdie on the playoff hole. I had my opportunities."

The 21-year-old Yi, the 2005 U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links winner, began the day with a four-shot lead. She birdied two of the first three holes to go up six shots. Yet she remained oblivious; she never looked at a leaderboard and didn't ask her caddie about her status.

"I was just focusing on my golf," she said. "I didn't see the scoreboards at all. I just hit the driver, the second shots — I was very centered."

Pressel, chasing her third career victory, pulled even by holing that

wedge shot on the par-5 17th hole.

Yi, from South Korea, finished at 18-under 266 to earn the \$210,000 first prize — more than she had earned in her previous 23 LPGA Tour starts combined. She had missed the cut in four of her seven starts this year and her biggest previous check was just over \$11,000 for a 26th-place tie at the Corona Championship.

Yi closed with an even-par 71 and Pressel had a 67. Michelle Wie had a career-best 64 to tie for third at 16 under, but lost a chance to put extra pressure on the leaders when she misfired while going for the par-5 18th in two and had to settle for a par.

On the playoff hole, the 18th, both Yi and Pressel were in the fairway inside 100 yards away in two. Pressel's approach came up short to the back left pin location, ending up on the first cut of rough about 20 feet from the hole. Yi hit a lower, harder shot that stopped 10 feet away.

Pressel's birdie putt held the line and almost fell as it scooted past on the left edge. She then tapped in for par.

After looking over her putt, Yi hit it firmly and — before the ball even settled into the cup — she raised both arms in victory.

"When I hit it, I thought it was going in," she said.

The instant Yi left the green she picked up her cell phone and called her father back in Temecula, Calif., who was working at his restaurant, the Minong Korean Barbecue.

Armstrong stays back in pack

BRIGNOLLES, France (AP) — Lance Armstrong just wanted to stay out of trouble on a scorching day one rider felt was better suited for baking bread.

British sprinter Mark Cavendish won the second stage of the Tour de France on Sunday, with Armstrong finishing safely in the pack and Fabian Cancellara of Switzerland keeping the leader's yellow jersey. Cancellara captured the opening time trial a day earlier.

Cancellara has an 18-second lead over 2007 Tour winner Alberto Contador of Spain. Bradley Wiggins of Britain is third, 19 seconds behind. Armstrong, the seven-time champion, is 10th, 40 seconds back.

Tyler Farrar of the United States finished second and Romain Feillu of France was third in the 116-mile route from Monaco to Brignolles.

Armstrong is making a comeback to the Tour four years after retiring. The 37-year-old Texan said his strategy for this leg was "just avoid trouble and get in the rhythm of the race."

The Tour rolls across the rim of the Mediterranean for mostly flat stages the next few days, with a challenging team time trial Tuesday. Three days in the demanding Pyrenees start in Stage 7.

"Yesterday was not really a normal stage," Armstrong said as he headed toward his Astana team bus. "These start to be the more normal stages."

The heat, however, was anything but normal.

"St[age] 2 done. Hot, hot, hot,"



Associated Press

SECOND-STAGE WINNER: Mark Cavendish of Britain, front, reacts as he crosses the finish line to win the second stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 187 kilometers (116 miles) with start in Monaco and finish in Brignolles, southern France on Sunday. Third from right is American Tyler Farrar, who took second place. Second from right is Thor Hushovd of Norway who took a fourth place, and far right is Yukiya Arashiro of Japan who took a fifth place.

Armstrong tweeted later. "Up/down/left/right but pretty uneventful," he wrote, before hailing a big fan turnout on the roadsides and congratulating Cavendish.

Many riders groaned about the weather.

"The heat was like you were baking bread. ... It was terrible," Can-

cellara said on French TV. He recounted how with about an hour left of riding his team manager said the temperature hit 104 degrees. "I haven't seen heat like that in years."

Cavendish had little trouble with the conditions. The 24-year-old rider, who is from the rarely hot Isle of Man, won three stages in the Giro

d'Italia in May and is proving to be among the world's top sprinters.

He burst from the main pack behind a textbook escort by his Columbia teammates, then took over alone to finish a split second in front.

"I'm glad I could win to just pay them back," Cavendish said, who finished in 4 hours, 30 minutes, 2 minutes — the same time as all but two of the riders. "It's emotional for me."

With his fifth Tour stage win, Cavendish took the green jersey awarded to the best sprinter. This is his third Tour, but he has never finished. He wants that to change when the three-week race ends July 26 in Paris.

Armstrong, teammate Contador and other title contenders approached the stage cautiously to avoid crashes. Armstrong was 80th and Contador 58th.

The stage featured four minor climbs along sun-baked hills in a layout that favored sprinters and breakaway specialists. During the ride, water bottles sailed out of the pack like corn kernels popping, as cyclists refreshed themselves along the route that featured medieval sites like a Cistercian abbey.

There were three minor crashes midway through the race. One involved Saxo Bank team rider Frank Schleck of Luxembourg, a possible title contender.

In the first, Jurgen Van De Walle, a Belgian with the Quick Step team, scraped and bruised his left shoulder and knee. It was not clear if he would start today.

CYCLISTS

Continued From C1

able containers in place of more convenient throwaway water bottles that are popular at sporting events."

Quinlan says that Carbon Racing is the first team to promote the carbon neutrality in Ohio cycling events.

Carbon Racing co-founder Erin Quinlan described the various venues, starting with the time trial in Ellsworth.

"We tried to pick an area with nice, quiet roads and bring attention to a local business [Mastropietro's Winery] that is growing and trying to attract people traveling from Cleveland and Akron.

"The 5-mile loop around the winery is mostly flat. Riders compete against the clock and the one to go the fastest is the winner. The time trial is very special and unique."

The criterium in Canfield is a shorter race, about a mile loop that usually has about six sharp turns, but is very fast.

"Some pro riders usually get up to 40 mph," Quinlan said. "Spectators make the event by cheering riders on and give them an adrenaline rush."

Saturday's road race is one of the decisive parts of the tour.

"It starts in the center of the city of Columbiana and goes to New Waterford, Negley and Rogers and back into Columbiana."

She said that the 33-mile course will be 66 miles for pros (Men 1, 2 and Cat 3).

"It's a real hilly course with a mile-and-half climb at one point." Those reaching the top first are designated King and Queen of the Mountain.

Sunday's criterium will be a mile loop downtown starting at Feder-

TOUR STAGES

Events

Preregistration: Online at Truesport.com until Wednesday, 11:59 p.m. Dinner during pre-registration Thursday at Mastropietro's Winery, 5-9 p.m.

Friday

What: Time Trial stage.
Where: Ellsworth Township.
Time: 8:30 a.m.

What: Criterium stage

Where: Canfield

Categories: Women 1-4, 1 p.m., 45 minutes; Men Cat 4, 2 p.m., 30 minutes; Master's 40+, 2:45 p.m., 45 minutes; Men Cat 3, 3:45 p.m., 60; Men Pro 1 & 2, 5 p.m., 90 minutes.

Saturday

What: Road Race

Where: Columbiana

Categories: Men Pro 1 & 2 category, 9 a.m. 67 miles; Men Cat 3, 9:15 a.m., 67 miles; Women 1-2-3, 9:30 a.m., 33 miles; Master's 40+, 1 p.m., 33 miles; Men Cat 4, 1:15 p.m., 33 miles; Women Cat 4, 1:30 p.m., 33 miles.

Sunday

What: Criterium stage

Where: Downtown Youngstown

Categories: Men Cat 5, 8:15 a.m., 30 minutes; Men Cat 4, 9 a.m., 30 minutes; Master's 40+, 9:45 a.m., 45 minutes; Women 1-4, 10:45 a.m., 45 minutes; Men Cat 3, 11:45 a.m., 60 minutes; Men Pro 1 & 2, 1 p.m., 90 minutes.

al Plaza.

"It's fast with approximately six turns at speeds of 30 to 40 mph. Riders take corners real tight."

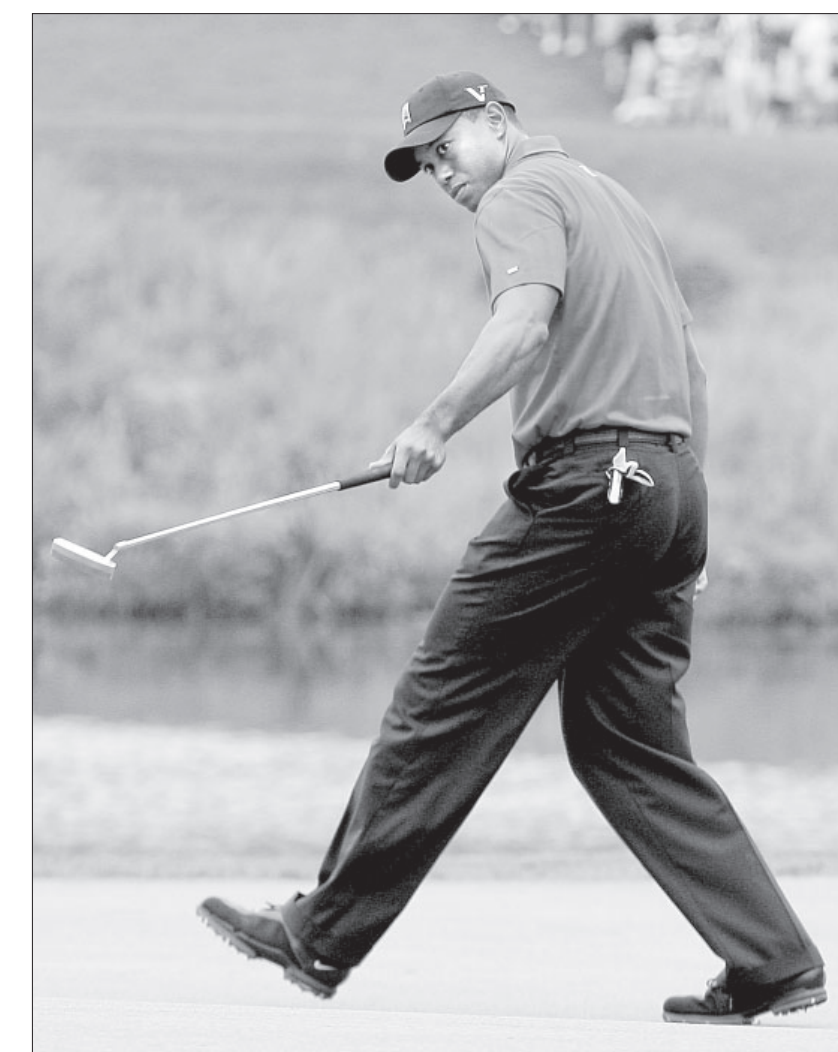
"It's very spectator-friendly. We want the streets to be lined with spectators and looking to get businesses to open doors because cyclists will eat all weekend long. They need their energy, they need their pasta. Restaurants are going to be a hot spot."

bassetti@vindy.com

TOUR OF THE VALLEY

Courses

Friday Stage 1 Time Trial (5.53 mi.)	Saturday Stage 3 Road Race (33 miles)
<p>Course: Ellsworth Township Location: Mastropietro Winery, 14558 Ellsworth Road, Berlin Center</p> <p>Protocol: First rider will take off at 8:30 a.m. Each rider after that will leave in 30 second intervals. Please line up in order assigned, 3 minutes prior to start time. You will be called to the line 15-30 sec. prior to your start. It is the rider's responsibility to be ready to start.</p> <p>Start/Finish: Riders will stage facing west on Ellsworth Road at the entrance to the winery.</p> <p>Description: Embrace the ambience of Italy as you set your wheels on the grounds of Mastropietro's Winery. This course sits amidst a one-acre lake with indoor/outdoor wining and dining for the start of an exciting weekend of racing. This flat, fast and short 5.6-mile prologue-type course will set the stage for three days of intense racing. This route makes four right hand turns down quiet country roads leading back to the scenic outdoors of the winery, where you are sure to find many late morning/afternoon snacks.</p> <p>Parking provided by Mastropietro's Winery.</p>	<p>Course: Columbiana Start/Finish: South Main.</p> <p>Description: Race begins in the circle of Columbiana and turns out of town into an easy six-mile stretch of rolling flats. Making your way to the first right hand turn onto Bye Road, the climbing begins. This two-mile section starts with a steep half-mile climb, tough rollers and ends with a wicked descent. After navigating the hair-raising descent, riders will roll onto state Route 170. Use this two-mile stretch to catch your breath and prepare for the race to the top of Pancake. After crowning the king of mountain/queen of mountain, the next five miles will encounter short, rolling climbs with grades of 10-15 percent.</p> <p>Parking: As marked around town.</p>
Friday Stage 2 Criterium (0.88 mi.)	Sunday Stage 4 Criterium (0.96 mi.)
<p>Course: Canfield Location: Village Green, South Broad Street.</p> <p>Start/finish: In front of Dairy Queen.</p> <p>Description: Starting along the tree-lined green, this technical 1 mile criterium course comprises seven turns, including a sweeping 180-degree turn around the green. The finishing straightaway is 40 feet wide and a quarter-mile long with a slight right hand</p>	<p>Course: Downtown Y-town, Federal Plaza West</p> <p>Start/Finish: Riders will line up in front of the county courthouse at base of Market Street bridge.</p> <p>Description: The course follows the path through downtown Youngstown. The race consists of six turns around office buildings and a long straightaway through the art and restaurant district. The race will turn back onto Federal Street with a fast 200 meters to go. Main parking will be around the central downtown streets and parking lots. Additional parking will be at the YMCA.</p>



Associated Press

WATCH THE BIRDIE: Tiger Woods watches his birdie putt roll into the hole on the 10th hole during the final round of the AT&T National golf tournament at Congressional Country Club on Sunday in Bethesda, Md.

Late birdie gives Woods win at own tournament

BETHESDA, Md. (AP) — Tiger Woods made it a hat trick of victories in tournaments hosted by PGA Tour stars, this one the most meaningful of all because it was his own.

Woods lived up to his hopes of being a "greedy host" Sunday, leaving Anthony Kim in his wake and then making a 20-foot birdie putt on the 16th hole to overtake hard-charging Hunter Mahan for a one-shot victory in his AT&T National.

Woods closed with a 3-under 67 at Congressional for his third victory of the year, the others coming at the Arnold Palmer Invitational at Bay Hill and Jack Nicklaus' Memorial Tournament.

Inside the ropes, they all felt the same.

"Whether it's my tournament, Jack's, Arnold's ... it really doesn't matter. You go out there with the same intensity to win," Woods said.

The challenge came from a rising star, just not the Californian anyone expected.

Mahan made six birdies on the back nine for a 62, tying the course record that Kim set Thursday. The final birdie on the 18th gave Mahan a share of the lead, and he had to wait more than an hour to see if Woods could top him.

Woods twice scrambled for par to stay tied for the lead, then looked as though he squandered a good birdie chance on the par-5 16th when his chip from the rough came out heavy and stopped 20 feet from the hole. Backing off once, he rolled in it, then walked stoically to the hole, nodding his head.

He closed with routine pars to finish at 13-under 267. The 68th victory of his PGA Tour career

moved him to the top of the money list and the FedEx Cup standings for the first time this year.

Whether it gives him any momentum will be determined in two weeks at Turnberry.

All three of Woods' victories this year have come in his final start before a major, and he finished four shots behind in both the Masters and the U.S. Open at Bethpage Black two weeks ago.

The next stop is the British Open on a links course Woods has never seen.

As for the golf he played Sunday — that was nothing new.

Woods kept mistakes to a minimum — he failed to make par on the 11th hole for the fourth straight round — and took advantage of his birdie chances when he had them.

"Six holes to go, and at the time I was tied for the lead," Woods said, referring to when Mahan finished his round. "You can win the tournament or you can lose the tournament from here. Just got to keep plodding along and hopefully sneak one or two birdies coming in and get the title."

Kim simply couldn't keep up.

It was the ideal final pairing at Congressional — the world's No. 1 player and tournament host tied with Kim, a confident 24-year-old who was the defending champion. Kim lost four shots in four holes on the front nine, and didn't make a birdie on the back nine.

He shot a 71 to finish alone in third, four shots behind.

"I had a lot of fun," Kim said. "I know I'll be knocking on the door again. It's only a matter of time. I learned if you have a birdie putt, you better make it."

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