



P&G beauty
NW ARKANSAS
CHAMPIONSHIP
PRESENTED BY JOHN Q. HAMMONS

NEWS RELEASE

For Release: Thursday, July 30, 2009

Contact: **David Shoemaker**, Director of Sales
(479) 657-6410 or david.shoemaker@octagon.com
Adam Harris, Marketing & Communications Manager
(919) 531-0500 or adam.harris@octagon.com

WIE, LEWIS & SHIN HIGHLIGHT ROOKIE CONTINGENT AT P&G BEAUTY NW ARKANSAS CHAMPIONSHIP

ROGERS, AR – A top class of LPGA Tour rookies, including Michelle Wie and Stacy Lewis, are expected to compete at the P&G Beauty NW Arkansas Championship presented by John Q. Hammons, September 7 – 13. Jiyai Shin, the 2008 RICOH Women's British Open champion and the current leader in the Rolex Rookie of the Year race, will also make her Arkansas debut.

“Without question we are going to have a world-class field at this year's event,” said Jay Allen, Tournament Chairman. “It's great to have Stacy Lewis back for the third year in a row and Jiyai Shin here for the first time, and Michelle Wie is simply one of the top draws on the whole LPGA Tour.”

Wie, 19, is well known for an extraordinary amateur career. She first competed in a LPGA event at the 2002 LPGA Takefujii Classic when she became the youngest player to be a Monday qualifier for a LPGA event at the age of 12 years, 4 months, 14 days. In 2003, at the age of 13, Wie made her mark as the youngest USGA champion in an adult event when she won the USGA Women's Amateur Public Links Championship.

Wie qualified for the LPGA Tour through the LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament in her first attempt in December 2008. In her first full year on Tour, she has already earned five top-10 finishes.

Lewis was the 2007 NCAA Division I National Champion and a four-time All-American while at the University of Arkansas. While a student, she competed on a sponsor's exemption at the 2007 LPGA NW Arkansas Championship and was declared the unofficial champion of the rain-shortened event after leading the first round. She turned pro in June 2008 and finished tied for third shortly after at the U.S. Women's Open. She outplayed Wie and others at the LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament in December 2008 to earn medalist honors and LPGA membership for 2009.

Shin is currently second on the LPGA Money List and stands fourth on the Rolex World Rankings. In 2008, Shin became the first non-LPGA member to win three events: the RICOH Women's British Open; Mizuno Classic; and season-ending ADT Championship, where she crossed the \$1 million mark in season



octagon
events



earnings. The 20-year-old is already a two-time winner in 2009, picking up her first official win as a LPGA Tour member at the HSBC Women's Champions, and also taking home the Wegmans LPGA title.

Tournament officials previously announced that rookie Anna Nordqvist, the reigning McDonald's LPGA Championship winner is expected to participate. Other notable rookies that are planning to participate include: 18-year-old Vicky Hurst and Japanese stars Shiho Oyama and Mika Miyazato.

Daily tickets are \$15 Tuesday – Thursday of tournament week and \$25 for championship play, Friday – Sunday. Week-long grounds badges can be purchased for \$50. The tournament will continue to allow 20 area charitable organizations to sell weekly grounds badges while keeping 100 percent of the proceeds. To support your favorite participating charity, visit www.PGBeautyChampionship.com or call (479) 715-6100.

About Procter & Gamble

Three billion times a day, P&G brands touch the lives of people around the world. The company has one of the strongest portfolios of trusted, quality, leadership brands, including Pantene®, Olay®, Cover Girl®, Venus®, Pampers®, Tide®, Always®, Herbal Essences®, Mach3®, Bounty®, Dawn®, Gain®, Pringles®, Charmin®, Downy®, Iams®, Crest®, Oral-B®, Actonel®, Duracell®, Head & Shoulders®, Gillette®, PUR®, and Braun®. The P&G community consists of 138,000 employees working in over 80 countries worldwide. Please visit <http://www.pg.com> for the latest news and in-depth information about P&G and its brands.

About John Q. Hammons Hotels & Resorts, LLC

Springfield, Mo.-based John Q. Hammons Hotels & Resorts, LLC is the nation's leading independent builder, developer, owner and manager of upscale, full-service hotels, resorts and suites, including: Embassy Suites Hotels, Renaissance, Marriott, Radisson, Residence Inn, Homewood Suites by Hilton, Holiday Inn and Courtyard by Marriott brands. With 62 hotels strategically located near demand generators, such as state capitals, universities, airports, corporate headquarters or office parks in secondary and tertiary markets, John Q. Hammons Hotels & Resorts' properties are dominant in their markets. Over the course of his impressive career in the hotel business, Mr. Hammons has developed 164 hotels. For more information, visit www.jqh.com.

About the Ladies Professional Golf Association

The LPGA features a membership comprised of world-class LPGA Tour professionals and dedicated Teaching and Club Professionals (T&CP). Today's LPGA Tour features the most talented global group of professional athletes who, in 2009, will compete in events in 10 countries. In addition to its dynamic Tour members, 1,200 certified LPGA T&CP members serve the golf industry in teaching, coaching and management positions, and oversee programs aimed at increasing the involvement of women, girls and youth in golf. The LPGA's Vision is to inspire, empower, educate and entertain by showcasing the best golf professionals in the world. Its Mission is to be a leader in the world of sports, to promote economic empowerment for all members, and to serve as role models on and off the course. The LPGA is headquartered in Daytona Beach, Fla. For more information on the LPGA, log on to www.LPGA.com.

About Octagon's Golf Division

Octagon Golf & Outdoors is a division of Octagon, the world's largest sports and entertainment representation and marketing agency. Octagon Golf & Outdoors focuses on premium event/property management, developing key player relationships and providing strategic corporate solutions. The division currently manages two Champions Tour events, two LPGA Tour events, one Nationwide Tour event, the 2009 U.S. Amateur and the Toyota Texas Bass Classic. Additionally, Octagon Golf & Outdoors represents famed teaching professional Hank Haney and numerous PGA TOUR, LPGA Tour and Champions Tour professionals. For more information visit www.octagongolf.com.



octagon
events