

FUTURES

Tour  
Alumnae--  
Laura  
Davies

Photo by: Donald Miralle/Getty Images  
Courtesy of LPGA Tour

# FUTURES Golf Tour News Release

May 23, 2005

**Together Again:**

**Parallel Paths Bring Prange, Hardin to FUTURES Golf Tour**

**By: Lisa D. Mickey**

They met as teens in their shared home state of Indiana, battled in high school golf for four years, ended up in the same college athletic conference at universities nine miles apart, and now, are facing off each week as rookies on the FUTURES Golf Tour.

And whether it's fate or good fortune, Ashley Prange of Noblesville, Ind., and Leigh Anne Hardin of Martinsville, Ind., can't seem to get away from each other. Chances are, if they each stay in golf, they never will.

"She always kicked my butt in junior golf," said Prange, 23, who played collegiately at the University of North Carolina. "Leigh Anne wasn't just the girl to beat in Indiana. She was the girl to beat in this entire country."

"I only played with her once at the Indiana state finals when we both were high school seniors, but we played in a lot of the same tournaments," said Hardin, 23, who played college golf at Duke University -- literally, just down the highway that stretches between Durham and Chapel Hill, where the two Indiana natives ended up. "I certainly knew of Ashley and knew she was a good player."

The two were connected long before they ever competed in golf. Prange's father, Bob Prange, now the director of instruction at The Bridgewater Club north of Indianapolis, played golf with Hardin's uncle, Greg Hardin at a club in Greenfield, Ind. The elder Prange once was the men's and women's golf coach at Purdue University and the Hardin family regularly attended

P u r d u e  
b a s k e t b a l l  
games.

"I can tell you exactly where Leigh Anne sat in the stadium at Purdue games," said Prange.

But while Prange isn't exactly sure where they first met, Hardin thinks she met the fellow

Hoosier at a golf course when both were between 12-13 years old. "I was playing in a junior tournament," said Hardin. "Her dad was there recruiting and he brought Ashley along. I knew of her because my uncle grew up with Ashley's dad. All the Prange boys are pros. She comes from a good family of golfers."

For years, Hardin was the Indiana junior girl to beat. She played in her first tournament at age 8, won her first tournament at age 9, and by 13, turned her focus to more national events and American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) tournaments around the country. By contrast, Prange got more involved in AJGA competition around age 16.

## **This Week:**

**Northwest Indiana FUTURES  
Golf Classic  
May 26 - 28  
The New Innsbrook Country Club  
Merrillville, Ind.**

**Purse: \$70,000  
Winner: \$9,800  
Runner-Up: \$7,000  
Par: 36 - 36 = 72  
Pro Shop: (219) 980-9060**

## **Just Call Her Coach**

FUTURES Tour member Kim Moore of Ft. Wayne, Ind., won her second straight U.S. National Amputee Championship last fall in Nevada. But she put another feather in her cap when she was named as the new women's golf coach at Indiana University-Purdue University in Fort Wayne, Ind. Moore helped direct the women's program in its first collegiate season. Living in Fort Wayne and working at a golf club there, she was recommended for the job.

"I like playing golf when I'm playing well, but I also enjoy coaching," said Moore, in her second season on the FUTURES Golf Tour. "It's amazing how I can see things in other people's swings better than I can see stuff in my own."

**(SEE Moore, PAGE 3)**

### **Inside:**

**News and Notes**

**Tour Chat**

**Top Alumnae Finishes on the LPGA**

**Official Money List**

**Player Statistics**

**Tournament Schedule**

**Telephone: (863) 709-9100 Facsimile: (863) 709-9200 Web Site: [futurestour.com](http://futurestour.com)**

## (Indiana, FROM PAGE 1)

"She developed her game much earlier than I did," said Prange. "She was that child star who broke out in front of us and sort of left the rest of us behind. When you have someone who is so much better than you at an early age, they become the target -- the person to beat -- all the way through high school and then college."

Only, Hardin's head start in competitive golf and all-around athletic talent made her a hard target to catch. Not only was she the state's top female golfer for many years, but she also could have played college basketball. The 5-foot-10 guard led her Martinsville High School team to two Indiana state championships during her freshman and sophomore years. She was a savvy ball handler who played both point guard and shooting guard, averaging 15 points per game.

What Hardin remembers about her freshman year was helping her team upset Crown Point (Ind.), who had won the coveted and highly competitive Indiana high school girls' title for the last few years. "It was just like the movie 'Hoosiers,' with a packed gym and a lot of excitement," said Hardin.

What Prange remembers about Hardin was a photo of the attractive blonde in Sports Illustrated For Kids magazine: "She was 13, and she was palming two men's basketballs -- one in each hand. She was a phenomenal basketball player and she could have played [NCAA] Division I if she wanted to."

But when Hardin won the U.S. Girls' Junior Golf Championship following her sophomore year of high school, she began seriously thinking about her true juggling act -- the one between basketball and golf. All of her peers were playing in AAU leagues, going to summer basketball camps and plotting their paths into reputable NCAA programs. Hardin's high school coach told her to pick one sport. She did, and it was golf.

Hardin's girls' golf team went on to win four state high school championships. Hardin won the state tournament's individual title in three of those four years. Meanwhile, Prange's Noblesville High School team finished second twice in the Indiana State High School Championship -- both times, behind Hardin's team.

Even as amateurs, when the top 12 girls from southern Indiana (including Hardin) played girls from northern Indiana (including Prange) in an event called The North-South, the southern side of the state always held the edge.

"It was a huge rivalry and they just killed us," said Prange.

When it came to looking at college golf programs, Prange had good perspective after spending considerable time with her father while he coached at Purdue. "I knew I wasn't going to play in the Big Ten because I saw the weather they played in and it was not for me," she said.

Prange committed to play at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. She already knew that Hardin had committed early to play at Duke, but she had no idea

how close the two schools were until she arrived in North Carolina. For years, it had admittedly bothered her when family and friends asked if she had beaten Hardin yet. And in college, every time she went home for breaks and holidays, that same question continued.

"I guess it became a little taxing on me because every time I came home, they'd ask about Duke's team and Leigh Anne," said Prange. "During my freshman and sophomore years in college, I still looked at it like I was playing against her. She was a motivating factor for me growing up, but then it became a larger thing in college because now, there were so many other great players."

Prange was able to make an immediate impact on her team at Carolina, moving into the No. 1 and No. 2 spots on the squad. She played alongside Heather Angell, who now is a member of the FUTURES Tour, and later, with teammate and junior transfer Meaghan Francella, who pushed Prange in team challenge matches. [Francella also is a current FUTURES Tour member.]

Hardin, on the other hand, found herself fighting for a starting spot on her college team every week against such players as Duke alums Candy Hannemann, Virada Nirapathpongporn and Kristina Engstrom. The Blue Devils had won the NCAA Championship, so the level of expectation was high every time her team set foot on the golf course.

"I wanted to go to an environment that would push me," said Hardin, who largely played the No. 3 and 4 spots for Duke. "There were no guarantees. It was like an Open qualifier each week just to make the lineup, but it was good for me to get knocked around a little bit."

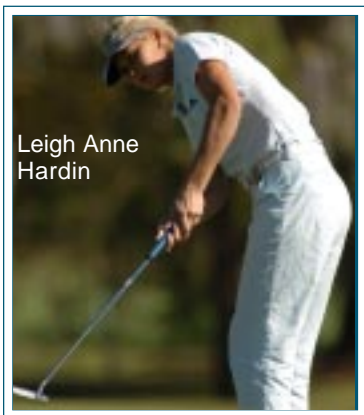
As busy as Hardin was trying to win her own spot on Duke's team each week, she noticed that her old home state pal was making important strides in her own game. Once again, the two never played each other individually because of their respective playing positions on their rosters, but their teams met often in conference play and Hardin saw the Tar Heels take a big step forward.

"Ashley's game really improved in college and she went in there and made her team a lot better," said Hardin. "We have that connection being from the same state, so we all know how each other is playing. It's great to see how we all got better."

Just as it was in high school, Hardin's loaded college team generally overpowered Prange's squad. There was little Prange, Carolina, or for that matter, most other college programs in the country could do to hold off Duke -- who won another NCAA Championship last week. But Prange still wasn't ready for the final blow that came during her senior year at Carolina when Hardin won the individual title at the Lady Tar Heel Invitational in Chapel Hill. **(SEE Rivals, PAGE 3)**



Ashley Prange



Leigh Anne Hardin

# FUTURES Tour News & Notes

## Road to the LPGA Tour

The 2005 FUTURES Golf Tour season is only five tournaments into its 18-event schedule, but already, the jockeying for position has begun with five different winners moving into the top eight spots. Taking the lead in the No. 1 position is Kyeong Bae of Seoul, Korea, who won her first FUTURES Tour title in El Paso, Texas and tied for second with No. 2 Virada Nirapathpongorn in Lawrence, Kan. Nirapathpongorn, of Bangkok, Thailand, earned her first professional win in McAllen, Texas. Only \$260 separates the top two players.

Making a leap into the top three is Tour veteran Lori Atsedes of Ithaca, N.Y., who recorded her sixth career FUTURES Tour title earlier this month in Kansas to jump into the No. 3 spot. The other two season winners are Jin Young Pak of Kang Leoung, Korea, who currently is ranked eighth, and Sarah-Jane Kenyon of Queensland, Australia, currently ranked sixth. Those two rookies won the first and second tournaments, in Lakeland, Fla., and Tampa, respectively.

While winless, two other players have moved into the top five through consistent weekly play. Sun Young Yoo of Seoul, currently is ranked No. 4, while Seon-Hwa Lee of Chonan, Korea, maintains the No. 5 spot.

The quickest player to move up the money list is Becky Lucidi of Poway, Calif., who is ranked 11th after three tournaments. And the player to make the biggest leap up the money list after five events is Christine Boucher of Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec, who charged from 44th to 12th following her second-place tie with Bae and Nirapathpongorn in the Kansas tournament.

## Tour Chat

**MEAGHAN FRANCELLA** of Port Chester, N.Y., made the most of her sponsor's invitation to the LPGA's Sybase Classic last week in New Rochelle, N.Y. Francella tied for 69th, carding rounds of 74-74-73-79 to finish at 300 (+16) in the rain-soaked event. For the record, last week in New York, the former collegian at the University of North Carolina beat former Kraft Nabisco champion Nanci Bowen and former U.S. Women's Open winner Hillary Lunke, both also alumnae of the FUTURES Golf Tour...**CINDY PASECHNIK** of Calgary, Alberta, recently tied for 14th at the BMO Financial Group Canadian Women's Tour held in Victoria, British Columbia from May 8-10. Pasechnik's name was erroneously omitted in last week's news release.

## (Rivals, FROM PAGE 2)

"That just ate me up," said Prange. "That was our home event in my final college season and I really wanted to win that one."

Fast forward, and now Prange and Hardin are both rookies on the FUTURES Golf Tour. They no longer have teams for support or wear team uniforms. They are, as Hardin says, "like freshmen all over again" as they learn to travel and live out of suitcases and compete week to week for a paycheck. But after five tournaments, Prange

is ranked No. 35 on the FUTURES Tour's Money List, while Hardin is ranked No. 91, hinting that the eight years that Prange has played in Hardin's shadow could be changing.

"Our teams have played each other for so long that we've built a respect for each other," said Prange. "But based on results, I've probably respected her longer than she's respected me. Still, I think it's a healthy rivalry."

Hardin says she doesn't like the word "rivalry" because of its negative connotation, but she adds that she is thrilled to see how well two long-time competitors can battle on the golf course.

"We kind of push each other -- all of the Indiana girls -- and if we are ever paired together, I think it will definitely be a good time," she said.

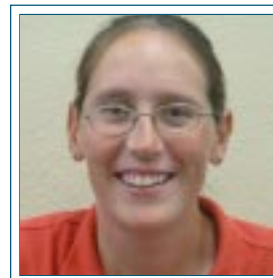
And does Prange share that same sentiment for the possibility of that special Indiana pairing on the FUTURES Tour sometime this season?

"First of all, you have to play the golf course, but yeah, there will still be that little voice in my head that says, 'You're playing with Leigh Anne today'," said Prange. "It's a habit and I still look at the leaderboard to see what she shoots. I always know where I stand with Leigh Anne, but it's a motivational factor, too. In college golf, it would have been a bigger deal, but now, I think it would just be kind of nice."

## (Moore, FROM PAGE 1)

And what has the coach learned from her players this year?

"You have to be patient, uplifting and positive," said Moore. "Doing that has helped my own game. Sometimes when bad things happen while I'm competing, I ask myself, 'What would I tell my girls? I'd tell them to stay calm and move on.' Of course, now I have to practice what I preach."



## Top Alumnae Finishes on the LPGA

Finish	Player	Score	Money
4	Christina Kim	280 (-4)	\$63,911
T5	Heather Bowie	281 (-3)	\$46,765
T8	Michele Redman	283 (-1)	\$27,954
T11	Siew-Ai Lim	284 (E)	\$22,603
T13	J. Bartholomew	285 (+1)	\$19,829
T13	Grace Park	285 (+1)	\$19,829
T15	Young Kim	286 (+2)	\$17,584
T15	Candie Kung	286 (+2)	\$17,584

\*Check out where our FUTURES Tour alumnae placed at last week's Sybase Classic in New Rochelle, N.Y., at [lpga.com](http://lpga.com).

# FUTURES Tour Statistics

## FUTURES Tour Official Money List

As of May 8, 2005

Rank	Player	Events	Wins	Earnings	Rank	Player	Events	Wins	Earnings
1	*Kyeong Bae	5	1	\$19,412	31	Li-Ying Ye	3		\$3,720
2	*Virada Nirapathpongporn		5	1\$19,152	32	Kellee Booth	5		\$3,575
3	*Lori Atsedes	5	1	\$18,334	33	Kelly Lagedrost	5		\$3,437
4	*Sun Young Yoo	5		\$13,805	34	Dana Lacey	5		\$3,215
5	*Seon-Hwa Lee	5		\$12,044	35	Ashley Prange	5		\$2,860
6	*Sarah-Jane Kenyon	5	1	\$10,553	36	Jen Hanna	4		\$2,830
7	*Hye Jung Choi	5		\$10,515	37	Meredith Ward	5		\$2,721
8	*Jin Young Pak	5	1	\$9,868	38	Kris Tamulis	3		\$2,652
9	*Tara Bateman	5		\$8,565	39	Allison Hanna	4		\$2,624
10	*Nicole Castrale	5		\$7,518	40	Kelly Cap	4		\$2,459
11	*Becky Lucidi	3		\$7,478	41	Courtney Trimble	4		\$2,338
12	*Christine Boucher	5		\$7,126	42	Marianne Morris	5		\$2,318
13	*Ji Min Jeong	5		\$6,682	43	Kristin Dufour	5		\$2,251
14	*Sasha Medina	5		\$6,562	44	Meredith Duncan	5		\$2,229
15	*Sarah Huarte	5		\$6,209	45	Meaghan Francella	4		\$2,218
16	Becky Iverson	2		\$5,908	46	Hong Mei Yang	3		\$2,017
17	Anna Rawson	5		\$5,458	47	Jessica Lewis	5		\$2,011
18	Alena Sharp	5		\$5,270	48	Naree Song	1		\$2,004
19	Aimee Cho	5		\$5,147	49	Natalie Wong	5		\$1,924
20	Kristy McPherson	5		\$4,908	50	Christi Cano	3		\$1,894
21	Janell Howland	4		\$4,894	51	Erica Blasberg	2		\$1,876
22	Mollie Fankhauser	5		\$4,718	52	Danah Ford	3		\$1,730
23	Cristina Baena	4		\$4,567	53	Jeanne Cho	5		\$1,722
24	Jenny Gleason	5		\$4,293	54	May Wood	5		\$1,717
25	Chiharu Yamaguchi	5		\$4,147	55	Laura Myerscough	5		\$1,631
26	Katie Connelly	5		\$4,140	56	Anna Knutsson	5		\$1,547
27	Su A Kim	5		\$4,024	57	Jan Dowling	4		\$1,493
28	Courtney Wood	5		\$3,935	58	Sarah Lynn Johnston	5		\$1,392
29	Libby Smith	4		\$3,904	59	Seul Ki Kim	4		\$1,321
30	Adrienne Gautreaux	5		\$3,736	60	Kristina Tucker	5		\$1,281

\*A minimum of six tournaments is required to be eligible for the LPGA Exempt Card and Qualifying School Opportunity

### Rookie of the Year

Rank	Player	Events	Money
1	Sun Young Yoo	5	\$13,805
2	Sarah-Jane Kenyon	5	\$10,553
3	Hye Jung Choi	5	\$10,515
4	Jin Young Pak	5	\$9,868
5	Christine Boucher	5	\$7,126
6	Ji Min Jeong	5	\$6,682
7	Sarah Huarte	5	\$6,209
8	Anna Rawson	5	\$5,458

### The Ostrop Award

Rank	Player	Points
1	Lori Atsedes	9.2
2	Jenny Gleason	9.3
3	Seon-Hwa Lee	12.3
4	Alena Sharp	12.4
5	Allison Hanna	13.0
6	Kristy McPherson	13.1
7	Kelly Lagedrost	13.3
8	Nicole Castrale	13.8

### Scoring Average

Rank	Player	Rounds/Average
1	V. Nirapathpongporn	15 71.200
2	Kyeong Bae	15 71.467
3	Seon-Hwa Lee	15 71.800
4	Sun Young Yoo	15 72.133
5	Lori Atsedes	15 72.267
5	Nicole Castrale	15 72.267
5	Hye Jung Choi	15 72.267
8	Li-Ying Ye	9 72.444

### Par 3 Average

Rank	Player	Holes/Average
1	Courtney Wood	57 2.912
2	Kyeong Bae	57 2.930
3	Anna Rawson	53 2.981
4	Nicole Castrale	57 2.982
5	Christi Cano	33 3.000
6	Tara Bateman	57 3.018
7	Heather Zielinski	50 3.020
8	Cristina Baena	48 3.042

### Par 4 Average

Rank	Player	Holes/Average
1	V. Nirapathpongporn	156 4.013
2	Jenny Gleason	156 4.019
3	Seon-Hwa Lee	156 4.032
4	Kyeong Bae	156 4.051
5	Kris Tamulis	96 4.052
6	Lori Atsedes	156 4.058
7	Hong Mei Yang	90 4.067
8	Ji Min Jeong	144 4.076

### Par 5 Average

Rank	Player	Holes/Average
1	V. Nirapathpongporn	57 4.632
2	Sun Young Yoo	57 4.667
2	Hye Jung Choi	57 4.667
2	Danah Ford	33 4.667
5	Li-Ying Ye	36 4.722
6	Seon-Hwa Lee	57 4.754
7	Kyeong Bae	57 4.789
8	Allison Hanna	45 4.800

# FUTURES Tour Tournament Schedule

Date	Tournament	Golf Course	Charity	Purse	Champion
March 11 - 13 Pro-am: March 9 & 10	Lakeland FUTURES Golf Classic	Cleveland Heights Golf Course 2900 Buckingham Avenue Lakeland, FL 33803 (863) 682-3277	The First Tee of Lakeland at YMCA Par 3	\$ 65,000	2005 Champion: Jin Young Pak
March 18 - 20 Pro-am: March 16 & 17	Tampa Bay FUTURES Golf Classic	East Lake Woodlands Golf & Country Club 1055 East Lake Woodlands Parkway Oldsmar, FL 34677 (727) 784-7270	Various Local Charities	\$ 65,000	2005 Champion: Sarah-Jane Kenyon
April 22 - 24 Pro-am: April 21	Jalapeno FUTURES Golf Classic	Palm View Municipal Golf Course P.O. Box 220 McAllen, TX 78505 (956) 688-3444	McAllen Hispanic Chamber of Commerce	\$ 70,000	2005 Champion: Virada Nirapathpongporn
April 29 - May 1 Pro-am: April 28	IOS FUTURES Golf Classic	Underwood Golf Complex, Sunrise Course 3200 Coe Avenue El Paso, TX 79904 (915) 562-7255	The Rotary Club of West El Paso Foundation	\$ 70,000	2005 Champion: *Kyeong Bae
May 6 - 8 Pro-am: May 5	Lawrence FUTURES Golf Classic	EagleBend Golf Course 1250 E. 902 Road Lawrence, KS 66047 (785) 748-0600	Various Local Charities	\$ 70,000	2005 Champion Lori Atsedes
May 26 - 28 Pro-am: May 25	Northwest Indiana FUTURES Golf Classic presented by Horseshoe Casino Hammond	The New Innsbrook Country Club 6701 Taft Street Merrillville, IN 46410 (219) 980-9060	Lake Area United Way	\$ 70,000	2004 Champion: Naree Song
June 3 - 5 Pro-am: June 2	Quality Concepts Kankakee FUTURES Golf Classic	Kankakee Elks Country Club 2283 Bittersweet Drive Saint Anne, IL 60964 (815) 937-9547	Harbor House & The Illinois Elks Crippled Children's Corp	\$ 70,000	Inaugural Event
June 10 - 12 Pro-am: June 9	Lima Memorial Hospital FUTURES Golf Classic	Lost Creek Country Club 2409 Lost Creek Boulevard Lima, OH 45804 (419) 228-8244	Lima Memorial Hospital Foundation	\$ 70,000	2004 Champion **Danielle Downey
June 17 - 19 Pro-am: June 15 & 16	Michelob ULTRA FUTURES Charity Golf Classic presented by Ameren and Miles Chevrolet	Hickory Point Golf Course 727 Weaver Road Forsyth, IL 62535 (217) 421-7444	Various Local Charities	\$ 70,000	2004 Champion: Aram Cho
June 24 - 26 Pro-am: June 23	Bank of Ann Arbor FUTURES Golf Classic	Lake Forest Golf Club 3110 W. Ellsworth Road Ann Arbor, MI 48103 (734) 994-8580	TBA	\$ 65,000	2004 Champion: Lindsey Wright
July 8 - 10 Pro-am: July 7	CIGNA Chip In For A Cure Connecticut FUTURES Golf Classic	Gillette Ridge Golf Club 1360 Hall Boulevard (RT 218) Bloomfield, CT 06002 (860) 726-1430	Chip In For A Cure	\$ 70,000	2004 Champion: Nicole Perrot
July 15 - 17 Pro-am: July 14	Albany FUTURES Pro Golf Classic	Capital Hills at Albany 65 O'Neil Road Albany, NY 12208 (518) 458-5689	Albany Police & Fire Foundation	\$ 70,000	2004 Champion: Nicole Perrot
July 22 - 24 Pro-am: July 21	Laconia Savings Bank FUTURES Golf Classic	Beaver Meadow Golf Course 1 Beaver Meadow Road Concord, NH 03301 (603) 228-8954	The Havenwood-Heritage Heights Trust Fund (Resident Support Fund)	\$ 65,000	2004 Champion: Erica Blasberg
July 29 - 31 Pro-am: July 28	M&T Bank Loretto FUTURES Golf Classic	The Links at Erie Village 5900 North Burdick Street Syracuse, NY 13507 (315) 656-4653	The Loretto Foundation	\$ 65,000	2004 Champion: Michelle Murphy
August 5 - 7 Pro-am: August 4	Children's Hospital FUTURES Golf Classic	Cross Creek Golf Club 12800 Bay Hill Drive Beltsville, MD 20705 (301) 595-8901	Children's National Medical Center Foundation	\$ 70,000	2004 Champion: **Courtney Wood
August 12 - 14 Pro-am: August 10 & 11	Betty Puskar FUTURES Golf Classic	The Pines Country Club 3062 Point Marion Road Morgantown, WV 26505 (304) 296-3462	Betty Puskar Breast Care Center	\$ 70,000	2004 Champion: Jimin Kang
August 19 - 21 Pro-am: August 18	Hunters Oak FUTURES Golf Classic	Hunters Oak Golf Club 500 Amberly Lane Queenstown, MD 21658 (410) 827-0800	TBA	\$ 65,000	2004 Champion: Smriti Mehra
August 26 - 28 Pro-am: August 24 & 25	YWCA FUTURES Classic	Regents' Glen Country Club 1000 Golf Club Drive York, PA 17403 (717) 505-4653	YWCA of York	\$ 75,000	2004 Champion: Malinda Johnson

\* Won in a Playoff \*\*Rain-shortened to 36 holes