



# WEEKLY NEWS RELEASE

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Duramed FUTURES Tour Weekly News Release  
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\*\*The Weekly News Release is available on our web site at  
<http://www.duramedfuturestour.com/News/WR073106.pdf>.

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## **1. Kristy McPherson Hopes Best Season Gets Better**

So far, so good.

That's how Kristy McPherson describes her fourth season on the Duramed FUTURES Tour. And for good reason. McPherson won her first Tour event earlier this year in McAllen, Texas. And she has moved into the No. 9 spot on the Tour's money list with five tournaments remaining.

"To finally get a win under my belt is great, but I've got to make a move in these last few weeks," said McPherson, 25, of Conway, S.C. "It's been a good year for me in general to jumpstart my career."

And the former three-time, first-team All-American from the University of South Carolina especially has her heart set on taking care of unfinished business this week at the Laconia Savings Bank FUTURES Golf Classic in Concord, N.H., where she tied for second last year with co-runners-up Bo Mi Suh and Seon-Hwa Lee of South Korea. Lee has moved on to the LPGA Tour and McPherson hopes she will join her if she can grab another tournament win and move into the top five on the money list by season's end.

But what is different this year than any other year? McPherson always seems to have her "A game" and possesses a swing and putting stroke that stacks up to any player on Tour. Behind her thick-as-honey Southern drawl and friendly demeanor is a player who is as competitive and tenacious as any.

"She's stubborn as hell," said her father David McPherson, a scratch-handicap player who put both a golf club and a fishing rod in his daughter's hands at age 4. "She breathes competitive fire from the time she gets up in the morning to when she finally goes to sleep at night."

The elder McPherson, who regularly shoots between 68 to 74 on the golf course (with an occasional 65), once tried to qualify for the PGA's senior tour. He didn't make it.

"I didn't have the grit that it takes," he said. "But Kristy's got it. She's got it all. And I told her that LPGA card will come when she's ready."

The father and daughter have shared respective health hurdles that made each a little tougher and more resolved than ever to compete and play well. At age 11, Kristy was

stricken by an illness that put her in the bed for almost a year. She was in and out of hospitals and it took six months for doctors to finally diagnose rheumatoid arthritis. She was forced to be home-schooled for part of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Worst of all, the highly active kid who played Little League baseball, basketball, golf and wrestled with her brothers in the yard was on the inside looking out.

"We used to carry her out to the front porch and she'd watch the other kids play," said her dad. "It just broke her heart that she couldn't be out there with them. But even after she was starting to get better, she still wanted to compete. In Little League, she'd bat and they'd get another kid to run the bases for her."

With nearly 12 months to only *think* about the sports she loved, Kristy would lie in her bed and wait for her father to come home from playing golf. Then, she would ask him about his round, demanding great detail about every shot on every hole -- visualizing the round, feeling it herself, playing the game vicariously flat on her back.

At one point, doctors told the youngster she wouldn't be able to play sports. At her worst, she had a horrific rash and had difficulty breathing. She was taking Prednisone, and at "five-foot-nothing," she weighed 170 pounds -- a far cry from the active little girl who could hold her own in any sport against a bunch of boys.

But a rheumatologist switched her medicine to the anti-inflammatory drug Mobic, which she takes daily, and told her she had the green light to "do anything you want." Those words were golden to McPherson.

And while she still can't run with ease, McPherson has learned to adapt her physical endeavors. She uses the medicine ball for exercise and regularly performs 100 pushups and 100 sit-ups. She avoids certain foods that cause flare-ups. And she accepts the daily pain as a reminder that she ultimately turned to a sport that she could play and play well.

"I wouldn't know what it's like to wake up every day and not feel pain," said McPherson. "But I probably would never have played golf if I hadn't had arthritis. I would have tried to play softball.

"And I believe my life would have been completely different if I wouldn't have gotten sick," she added. "I don't think it's ironic at all. I wouldn't have been a Christian. I wouldn't be on a professional golf tour. Nothing in my life would have been the same. There's no doubt in my mind that when doctors said, 'No sports,' I knew I'd work as hard as I needed to work to get back."

It was Kristy's turn in November 2003, to encourage her father when he was diagnosed with cancer. He underwent kidney surgery and nine days later, had more surgery for bone cancer in his left leg (femur) and hip, which were replaced with artificial implants.

The McPherson family -- with four children -- are a close bunch, and Kristy spent every night possible camping in her father's hospital room recliner and encouraging him, just as he had encouraged her. She learned to give him injections in his stomach. And now she was sharing her own golf adventures with her dad, reassuring him that even with an artificial leg, he would be back on the links.

"That doctor who told him he'd never play golf again didn't know how stubborn McPhersons are," laughed Kristy, whose family lives 10 miles from the golf courses of Myrtle Beach, S.C. "I was with my dad when the doctor told him that, and my dad said, 'No way, that's not even an option.'"

As sick as he was, her father shot a 67 in his last round before surgery. In his third round back, he carded a 71. And two months after being able to play again, he fired another 67. As they say, the nut doesn't fall far from the tree.

"You'll never hear Kristy complain about her bad days," said good friend and fellow Tour member Janell Howland of Boise, Idaho. "She's not the type who looks for sympathy. She wants to be like anybody else."

But that's just it. McPherson isn't like everybody else and she's far from being a selfish, winning-is-everything kind of touring pro, as is often the stereotype. She still puts in the hours of practice, is as competitive and skilled as anyone in the top-20, but has taken her unique perspective and applied it to every-day random acts of gentility.

That quality was best exemplified this season by a situation that occurred during an early round of the Tour's tournament in Tucson, Ariz. McPherson was playing with Allison Fouch and Fouch was having a tough day off the tee with a new driver. After the round, McPherson asked Fouch if she could tell her something she noticed about her opponent's swing during the round.

"Kristy said my swing looked really closed and that I was swinging too far right and needed to just turn the club over," said Fouch of Grand Rapids, Mich., who is now ranked fifth on the Tour's money list. "It was a neat gesture on her part and I was taken back a little bit because it's not very often that you get that. I felt like she was saying, 'Hey, we're not just competitors out here.'"

Fouch considered McPherson's suggestion, thanked her, and went to the range and worked out her swing issues. That week in Tucson, Fouch tied for eighth and McPherson tied for 10<sup>th</sup>.

"I think she's one of the least selfish people that I know," added Howland. "Obviously, she wants to win, but she's the type of person that if she says, 'Great birdie,' she means it. She'll always bring her 'A' game, but if you beat her, she also can tell you, 'Good job.'"

Of course, the next big job for McPherson is to win again to move up the money list. It's a tough assignment against a competitive field. And every player feels the clock ticking.

Especially McPherson, who won seven times in college, including two SEC Championships, and who was the 2002 NCAA Honda Inspirational Athlete of the Year. Making the transition from college to the Duramed FUTURES Tour and on to the LPGA Tour has been a tough assignment, but not as difficult as the other challenges McPherson has faced in life.

"Nineteen tournaments [during the Tour's competitive season] is really not a lot of time and every dollar counts out here," she said. "I've made it to the final stage of LPGA Q-School three times, but I don't just want the week of my life to get my card. When I get out there [on the LPGA Tour], I want to be there to stay. It's a timing thing because there are some people out there now who haven't beaten me one single week. But Q-School is just a crazy, crazy week of golf."

Top-ranked players on the Duramed FUTURES Tour scratched their heads during June when McPherson left the Tour for two weeks of filming in Los Angeles during the middle of the season. She was picked for The Golf Channel's Big Break VI Trump National show, scheduled to air in September. When she left, McPherson was ranked No. 5 on the money list. When she returned two weeks later, she had slipped to 10<sup>th</sup>. But when asked why she risked losing ground on the Tour's money list, McPherson said it was a decision she made with great consideration.

"I believe I have game and needed something to put my game out there because I haven't made a quick transition from college golf to the LPGA," she said. "It was an awesome experience and it definitely helped me realize how important every single shot is. Every shot out here could mean a couple thousand dollars and a couple thousand dollars sometimes means the difference between getting or not getting your LPGA Tour card."

But for the next five weeks, McPherson's focus is on the Duramed FUTURES Tour, where she says, "That little white ball doesn't know what tour it's playing on." McPherson does, but she is motivated to move on to play against such former collegiate opponents as Virada Nirapathpongporn and Reilley Rankin, who "graduated" from the Duramed FUTURES to the LPGA.

"I can play with those girls and I know it," she said. "I'm happy for them and I look forward to playing with them on the next level. Sure, there are times when I've been pretty frustrated, but I've been a lot more patient than I ever thought I'd be. And I'm one that's learned that everything happens for a reason."

And in its own time.

## 2. Tour Chat

**KRISTINA TUCKER** of Stockholm, Sweden is the leader of the Etonic "First One There In the East" competition. Tucker posted a five-under-par, first-round score of 66 in Syracuse, N.Y. The contest awards players wearing Etonic shoes for the lowest first-round score. The contest runs for four more weeks, concluding at the event in Gettysburg, Pa...

CHAMP Spikes is again holding its East Coast Challenge bonus pool for top-performing players wearing CHAMP spikes in the Tour's Northeast and Mid-Atlantic tournaments. After two weeks, the top-10 point earners are: **KRISTINA TUCKER** of Stockholm, Sweden, 49 points; **SMRITI MEHRA** of Calcutta, India, 49 points; **SONG-HEE KIM** of Seoul, Korea, 47 points; **HA-NA CHAE** of Seoul, 45 points; **IN-BEE PARK** of Las Vegas, 40 points; **JULIE TURNER-PELUSO** of Skaneateles, N.Y., 40 points; **KATIE ALLISON** of Mahwah, N.J., 40 points; **BRANDI JACKSON** of Greenville, S.C., 38 points; **CHARLOTTE MAYORKAS** of Las Vegas, 36 points; and **LIZ JANANGELO** of West Hartford, Conn., 36 points. The CHAMP East Coast Challenge will conclude at the Tour's tournament in Gettysburg, Pa.

## 3. Upcoming Tournament Previews

### THIS WEEK:

Laconia Savings Bank Golf Classic  
August 4-6  
Beaver Meadow Golf Course  
Concord, N.H.

The Duramed FUTURES Tour will make its third annual visit to Concord this week for the 15th of 19 tournaments in the Tour's 2006 schedule. The tournament will be the final stop in a three-city Northeastern-states swing. This year's tournament returns to Beaver Meadow Golf Course, where Kyeong Bae of South Korea captured her second Tour title in 2005 en route to earning one of the five exempt LPGA Tour cards for the top money winners. Bae has now moved on to the LPGA Tour, guaranteeing a new champion this year.

Purse: \$70,000  
Winner: \$9,800

Par: 72  
Format: 54 holes

Runner-up: \$7,000  
Pro-Am: Aug. 3

Field: 144 players  
Golf Shop: (603) 228-8954

**NEXT WEEK:**

Betty Puskar FUTURES Golf Classic  
August 11-13  
The Pines Country Club  
Morgantown, W.Va.

The Tour returns to Morgantown for the 15th year. This stop will be the 16th of 19 tournaments in the Tour's season schedule. This year's tournament returns to The Pines, where Sun Young Yoo of South Korea captured her first professional title in 2005. Yoo has now moved on to the LPGA Tour, making the trophy available to a new champion this year.

Purse: \$75,000  
Winner: \$10,500  
Runner-up: \$7,500  
Pro-Ams: Aug. 9 & 10

Par: 72  
Format: 54 holes  
Field: 144 players  
Golf Shop:(304) 296-3462

**4. Duramed FUTURES Tour Official Money List**

(Thru \$70,000 Alliance Bank FUTURES Golf Classic)

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Player</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Wins</u>	<u>Earnings</u>
1	Song-Hee Kim	13	4	\$59,429
2	Charlotte Mayorkas	11	1	\$37,974
3	In-Bee Park	12		\$35,200
4	Ashley Prange	14	2	\$32,872
5	Allison Fouch	13		\$29,060
6	Mollie Fankhauser	14	1	\$27,161
7	Angela Park	11		\$24,113
8	Meaghan Francella	13	1	\$23,030
9	Kristy McPherson	12	1	\$22,221
10	Salimah Mussani	9	1	\$20,754
11	Sarah Huarte	12		\$20,668
12	Brandi Jackson	13		\$19,502
13	Hye Jung Choi	13	1	\$19,369
14	Ha-Na Chae	14	1	\$19,132
15	Cristina Baena	11		\$18,325
16	Stephanie George	14		\$17,506
17	Smriti Mehra	14		\$17,369
18	Lori Atsedes	14		\$17,276
19	Sarah-Jane Kenyon	13		\$15,679
20	Kellee Booth	14		\$15,271
21	Katie Allison	12		\$14,908
22	Ashley Hoagland	7		\$14,778
23	Jin Young Pak	14		\$14,691
24	Annie Young	12		\$14,617
25	Samantha Head	9		\$14,491
26	Ji Min Jeong	13	1	\$13,212
27	Danielle Downey	9		\$12,767
28	Marie-Josée Rouleau	12		\$12,054
29	Lisa Hall	9		\$11,793
30	Seul Ki Kim	14		\$11,768
31	Randi Meadows	13		\$11,612
32	Karen Dennison	11		\$11,561
33	Lee-Anne Pace	11		\$11,296
34	Su A Kim	14		\$10,656
35	Lisa Ferrero	13		\$10,028

36	Sarah Lynn Johnston	12	\$9,740
37	Kristina Tucker	12	\$9,398
38	Bo Mi Suh	13	\$9,044
39	Kelly Lagedrost	9	\$8,586
40	Jeanne Cho	13	\$8,415
41	Kuan-Pei Chen	11	\$7,924
42	Lisa Fernandes	11	\$7,832
43	Julie Turner-Peluso	11	\$7,802
44	Stella Lee	14	\$7,725
45	Naree Song	6	\$7,165
46	Kim Brozer	6	\$7,131
47	Tina Miller	10	\$6,857
48	Kim Augusta	14	\$6,652
49	Mo Martin	14	\$6,556
50	Elizabeth Janangelo	4	\$6,404

\*\*To view the remainder of the money list please visit the Duramed FUTURES Tour web site at [www.duramedfuturestour.com](http://www.duramedfuturestour.com)

#### 5. Top Duramed FUTURES Alumnae Finishes on the LPGA

Rank	Player	Score	Money
1	Karrie Webb	272 (-16)	\$450,000
T2	Laura Davies	273 (-15)	\$255,333
5	Lorena Ochoa	275 (-13)	\$133,683
10	Cristie Kerr	281 (-7)	\$65,625
T11	Heather Young	282 (-6)	\$56,876
T11	Candie Kung	282 (-6)	\$56,876
T15	Michele Redman	284 (-4)	\$43,427
T15	Young Kim	284 (-4)	\$43,427

Check out other Duramed FUTURES Tour alumnae scores at last week's Evian Masters held in Evian-les-Bains, France, on LPGA.com.

#### 6. 2006 Duramed FUTURES Tour Schedule

**March 10 - 12 Lakeland Duramed FUTURES Classic \$70,000**  
 Cleveland Heights Golf Course -- Lakeland, Fla.  
 To Benefit: The First Tee of Lakeland at YMCA Par 3  
 2006 Champion: Meaghan Francella of Port Chester, N.Y.

**March 17 - 19 Greater Tampa Duramed FUTURES Classic \$70,000**  
 Summerfield Crossings Golf Club -- Riverview, Fla.  
 To Benefit: Mary and Martha House  
 2006 Champion: Ashley Prange of Noblesville, Ind.

**April 7 - 9 Louisiana FUTURES Classic \$75,000**  
 The Wetlands -- Lafayette, La.  
 To Benefit: CASA of Acadiana, CADENCE of Acadiana &  
 Goodwill Industries of Acadiana  
 2006 Champion: Song-Hee Kim of Seoul, Korea

**April 21 - 23 The Power of a Dream FUTURES Golf Classic \$75,000**  
 The Trails of Frisco Golf Club -- Frisco, Texas  
 To Benefit: Various Local Charities  
 2006 Champion: Hye Jung Choi of Seoul, Korea

<b>April 28 - 30</b>	<b>Jalapeno FUTURES Golf Classic</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>
Palm View Municipal Golf Course -- McAllen, Texas		
To Benefit: McAllen Hispanic Chamber of Commerce		
2006 Champion: Kristy McPherson of Conway, S.C.		
<b>May 5 - 7</b>	<b>IOS FUTURES Golf Classic</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>
Underwood Golf Complex, Sunrise Course -- El Paso, Texas		
To Benefit: Rotary Club of West El Paso Foundation		
2006 Champion: Song-Hee Kim of Seoul, Korea		
<b>May 12 - 14</b>	<b>Tucson Duramed FUTURES Golf Classic</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>
<b>presented by: ABC Foundation</b>		
Dell Urich at Tucson Golf Complex -- Tucson, Ariz.		
To Benefit: Various Local Charities		
2006 Champion: Charlotte Mayorkas of Las Vegas, Nev.		
<b>June 2 - 4</b>	<b>Aurora Health Care Championship</b>	<b>\$85,000</b>
Geneva National Golf Club -- Lake Geneva, Wis.		
To Benefit: Geneva National Foundation, Aurora Health Care		
2006 Champion: Song-Hee Kim of Seoul, Korea		
<b>June 9 - 11</b>	<b>Team WLF.org Golf Classic</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>
Kankakee Elks Country Club -- Saint Anne, Ill.		
To Benefit: World Leadership Foundation		
2006 Champion: Mollie Fankhauser of Columbus, Ohio		
<b>June 15 - 18</b>	<b>Michelob ULTRA FUTURES Players Championship</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>
<b>presented by Ameren and Miles Chevrolet</b>		
Hickory Point Golf Course -- Decatur, Ill.		
To Benefit: Various Local Charities		
2006 Champion: Salimah Mussani of Burlington, Ontario		
<b>June 23 - 25</b>	<b>Lima Memorial Hospital FUTURES Classic</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>
Lost Creek Country Club -- Lima, Ohio		
To Benefit: Lima Memorial Hospital Foundation		
2006 Champion: Ji Min Jeong of Kyungki, Korea		
<b>June 30 - July 2</b>	<b>Horseshoe Casino FUTURES Golf Classic</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>
Lost Marsh Golf Course - Hammond, Ind.		
To Benefit: TBA		
2006 Champion: Ashley Prange of Noblesville, Ind.		
<b>July 14 - 16</b>	<b>CIGNA Chip In For A Cure Golf Classic</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>
Gillette Ridge Golf Club -- Bloomfield, Conn.		
To Benefit: Chip In For A Cure		
2006 Champion: Song-Hee Kim of Seoul, Korea		
<b>July 21 - 23</b>	<b>Alliance Bank FUTURES Golf Classic</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>
The Links at Erie Village -- Syracuse, N. Y.		
To Benefit: The Loretto Foundation		
2006 Champion: Ha-Na Chae of Seoul, Korea		
<b>August 4 - 6</b>	<b>Laconia Savings Bank Golf Classic</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>
Beaver Meadow Golf Course -- Concord, N. H.		
To Benefit: The Havenwood-Heritage Heights Trust Fund (Resident Support Fund)		
<b>August 11 - 13</b>	<b>Betty Puskar FUTURES Golf Classic</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>
The Pines Country Club -- Morgantown, W. Va.		
To Benefit: Betty Puskar Breast Care Center		

**August 18 - 20 Hunters Oak FUTURES Golf Classic \$70,000**  
**presented by Cutter & Buck**  
Hunters Oak Golf Club -- Queenstown, Md.  
To Benefit: TBD

**August 25 - 27 The Gettysburg Championship \$75,000**  
**presented by Klein Builders Inc., and Hanover Honda**  
The Links At Gettysburg - Gettysburg, Pa.  
To Benefit: United Way of Adams County

**September 8 - 10 ILOVENY Championship \$85,000**  
**at Capital Hills Golf Course at Albany**  
Capital Hills at Albany -- Albany, N. Y.  
To Benefit: Albany Police & Fire Foundation

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