

The Met Golfer EXTRA



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE METROPOLITAN GOLF ASSOCIATION

MGAGOLF.ORG

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August 2014

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This page: PGA TOUR Pros and their wives met up for an evening of mystery, suspense, food, and fun for a good cause in Saddle River, N.J. the week of the Barclays. The event, **Ragtime Rendezvous – A Murder Mystery**, had guests team up to solve crimes and unravel mysteries. Players on hand included Graham DeLaet (pictured left) and Scott Stallings (right).
Photo by Jeff Day



JAY GETS ICED

Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy have done it. So has the U.S. Ryder Cup Team. The MGA's Executive Director Jay Mottola also participated in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge and members of the MGA staff were more than happy to assist. The phenomena of the ice bucket challenge has been an incredible money raiser for the ALS Foundation, helping to bring in more than \$22 million in just one month. Tom Watson's longtime caddie, Bruce Edwards, was diagnosed with ALS, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, in 2003 and died shortly after. The origins of this challenge can be traced back to a mini-tour golfer in Florida. Chris Kennedy was nominated for the ice bucket challenge, and then nominated his cousin Jeanette Senerchia, a Pelham, N.Y., resident whose husband Anthony has ALS. After videos of the ice bucket challenge started being posted on social media, Yonkers, N.Y., native Pat Quinn, also suffering from ALS, passed the challenge along to Peter Frates, a Boston College alum, ALS fighter, and advocate for raising awareness about the disease. From there, we've all seen the videos to know it's gone viral. Check out the full video of Jay's ice bucket challenge.



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WINNING

By David Gordon

Hole-In-WON



David Pastore's wedge shot on the 35th hole of the Met Amateur final match at The Creek in Locust Valley, N.Y. may be the moment of the summer. There was enough hang time on it for Pastore – and the 50-person gallery – to prematurely start walking towards the green to await a possible championship-clinching putt. The ball had a different plan. It landed a mere 6 feet past the hole, smiled back at its spectators, and began its slow roll home. Pastore's forward walk came to a cautious pause, the ball vanished, and chaos ensued. The 22-year old University of Virginia graduate admitted it was an astonishing way to win the championship. "When the ball disappeared, it was completely surreal. The celebrations from the crowd made it special. All of a sudden the ball went in and everyone was jumping around." Pastore's final summer as an amateur has been one for the record books. He's the first to capture the Ike and the Met Amateur in the same year since Johnson Wagner in 2002. He received national attention on Golf Channel's "Morning Drive" show and was invited for a casual Sunday round with billionaire Donald Trump - which he accepted - to top it off. "This summer has been an incredible way to end my amateur career and I look forward to the next step this fall." Yes it has, Mr. Pastore. It has, indeed.

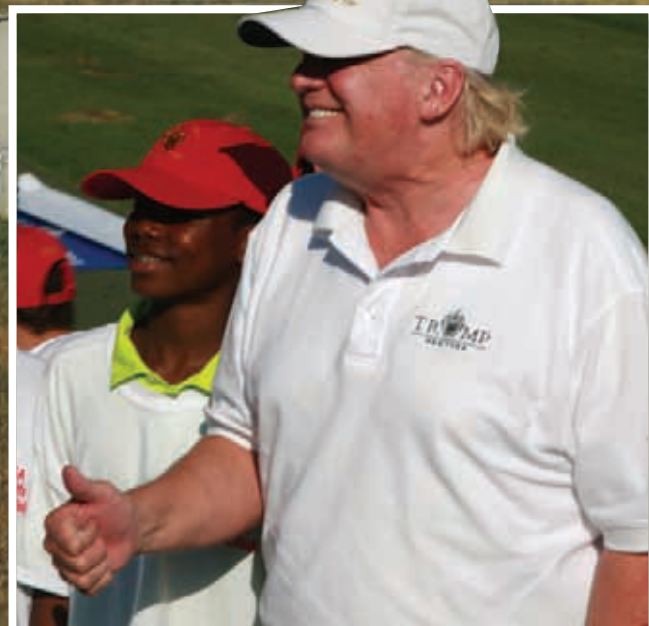


HISTORICAL

Ghosts of Golfers Past

The graveyard at The Creek sprawls across a fescue-covered knoll that is protected by large trees and sits adjacent to the 16th fairway and right behind the 17th green. The view of the cemetery that was opened up during a recent course restoration may have provided an unnerving backdrop for players in this year's Met Amateur. The names on many of the tombstones have been weathered away and it's been centuries since people were first buried there. Robert Stein, General Manager at The Creek, says there are stones that date back to as early as the 1750's in the graveyard. "The people who owned the property, before it was ever a club, the Frost family, that's their family that is buried there," Stein said. Although his stone has vanished, it is believed William Frost was buried in the graveyard. Frost bought the land in 1674 and founded the estate, which remained in the Frost family for the next two centuries. The last member of the family to live there, Valentine Frost, died in 1890 and his daughters sold the property. By 1922 it was sold to what is now known as The Creek. While Stein says there aren't many visitors anymore, the graveyard still remains a mysterious element of the historic club.

YOUNG APPRENTICES



When 45 kids from The First Tee of Metropolitan New York's Plainfield – West 9 facility showed up for the third and final MGA/MetLife Youth Clinic of the year at Trump – Bedminster, they may not have known they would be paid a special visit from the Donald himself. The clinic was held on the day of the 99th Met Open Caddie Scholarship Pro-Am and the kids got to hang with Snoopy, chip on a 6-hole course on the range, and even get an up-close look at Mr. Trump's helicopter. While that was probably enough for them, their day was made when Mr. Trump showed up. He posed for pictures with the kids and offered pearls of wisdom. "I know you're all going to be successful and join a club like this one day," Trump told the kids.



5 Things About... Bob Papa

By Jeff Day

As play-by-play announcer of the New York Giants and anchor of Westwood One Radio and Golf Channel coverage, Bob Papa is one of sport's most recognized voices. The 49-year-old was born and raised in the Met Area, and has never left. In addition to his roles in media, the Florham Park, N.J. resident is a passionate golfer who plays out of Baltusrol Golf Club and carries a 3.9 Handicap Index.

Here are Five Things about Bob Papa:

- 1** Papa was born in the Bronx and grew up in Dumont, N.J. He graduated from Bergen Catholic in 1982, one year ahead of Jim McGovern, and from Fordham University's School of Business in 1986.
- 2** His childhood home was within walking distance of both White Beeches and Haworth Country Clubs. He was introduced to golf through caddying at Haworth, a gig he continued through his freshman year of college. "It gave me the chance to play and learn about the game, which just got me hooked for life," said Papa.
- 3** Papa's career with the Giants started in 1988 as the pre- and post-game show host, he became Big Blue's play-by-play announcer in 1998. He has been Westwood One's anchor of the Masters since 2003 and joined Golf Channel in 2012. His most memorable calls include David Tyree's helmet catch in Super Bowl XLII, as well as Phil Mickelson's first major winning putt at the 2004 Masters. "I still get chills running up and down my spine thinking about how good that was," he said.
- 4** Covering Champions Tour events has afforded Papa opportunities to play with Golf Channel colleagues Lanny Wadkins and John Mahaffey. "It's a real treat to play with a World Golf Hall of Famer like Lanny," said Papa. "And John Mahaffey, who is a Ben Hogan protégé, has taken it upon himself to help me – knowing that I am getting a little bit of knowledge that was handed down from Hogan is something that I cherish."
- 5** Papa calls himself a "weekend warrior" golfer, playing early on Saturdays and Sundays in less than three hours and having the rest of those days to spend with his three boys, Christopher, Will and Nicholas. "There's nothing better than taking my kids over to Baltusrol late in the day and watching them have a death match over the first four holes of the Lower Course," said Papa. "It's really special to watch them fall in love with this game."

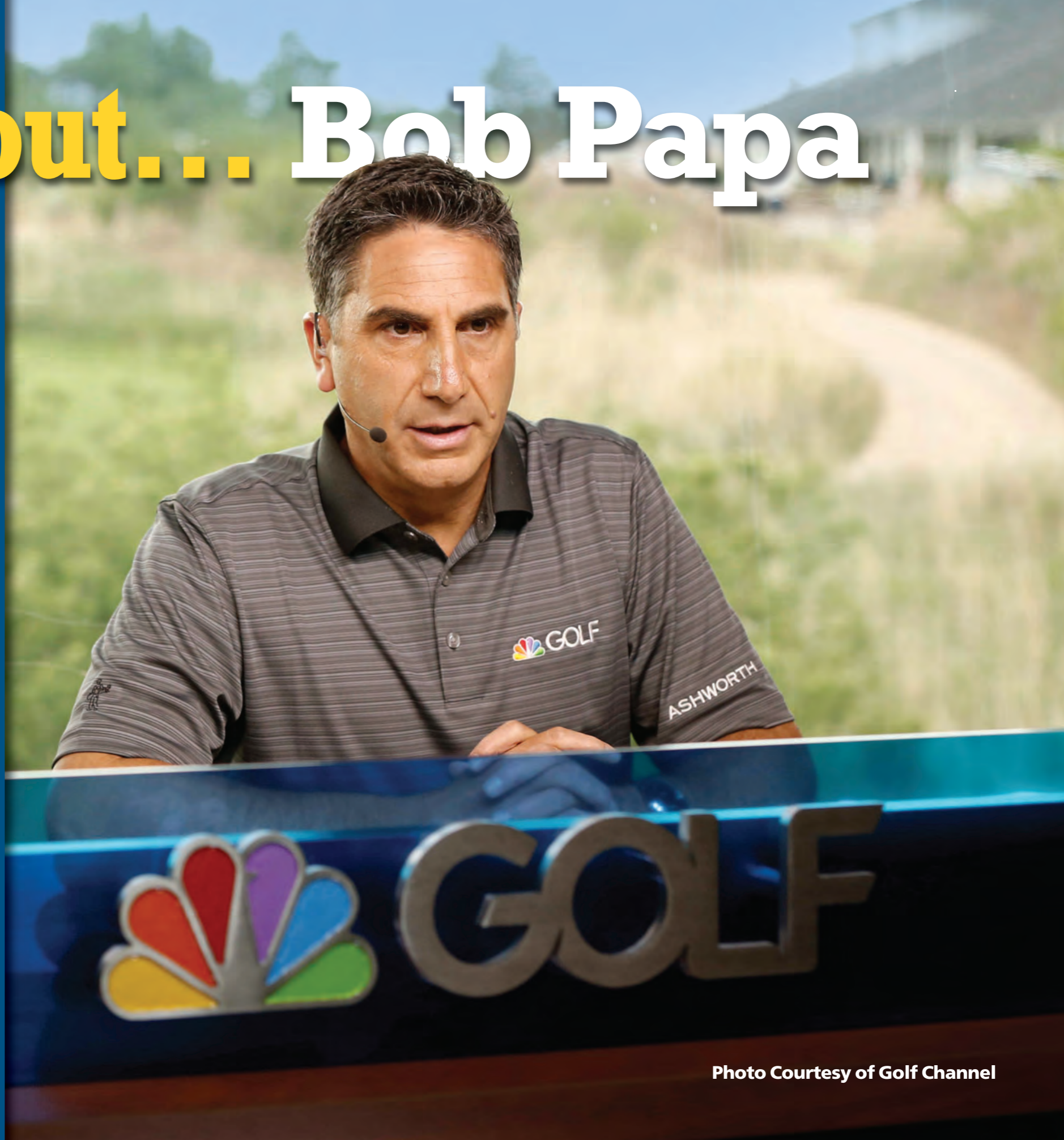


Photo Courtesy of Golf Channel

BIG HITTERS

in the **Big Apple**

BY CHRISTOPHER POWERS

Two multi-major champions made a stop on *The Tonight Show* with Jimmy Fallon in NYC. They talked Nike, played a game called “Facebreakers”, and had a little fun, as Fallon always does with his guests. The 14-time major champ Tiger Woods played the role of caddie for Fallon as he faced off with 4-time major champ Rory McIlroy and they tried to break each other’s faces. No, not literally. They each chipped towards glass planes with their faces on it and despite Fallon’s love for improving his golf game he was no match for McIlroy, who shockingly came out victorious. While Woods couldn’t participate due to injury, he and Rory did share some good-natured laughs with Fallon and the audience.



54 Holes in... Cape Cod

By Zack Alcorn

Cape Cod isn't one of the Northeast's favorite vacationing spots by mistake; the beautiful oceanside region is home to numerous golf destinations and other family activities. With affordable lodging options aplenty, and only a day's drive from the Met Area, Cape Cod is the perfect nearby escape.

COURSES

- 1 **Sandwich Hollows Golf Club** – Featuring breathtaking views of Cape Cod Bay from several holes, Sandwich Hollows is the best golfing deal on the Cape. The course is bordered by hundreds of acres of conservation area, so each hole is unique and isolated from one another.
- 2 **Falmouth Country Club** – A Cape Cod tradition for more than 50 years, Falmouth CC is a year-round public facility not far from the Atlantic beaches. With an 18-hole championship course and 9-hole "Talon" course, Falmouth offers a challenge for every level of skill.
- 3 **Highland Links** – A trip to the northern part of the Cape should include a stop at Highland Links. This throwback nine-holer is considered one of the few true links courses in America and dates back to the 1890s. It sits high above the ocean and gives an authentic taste of Scottish and Irish links golf.

LODGING

- **Lighthouse Inn** – The historic oceanfront Lighthouse Inn is home to the only privately owned and operated US Coast Guard-sanctioned lighthouse. Accommodations range from Cape Cod style homes to cottages and standard hotel rooms. The newly renovated Waterfront Restaurant overlooks the beautiful Nantucket Sound.

OFF-COURSE

- **Hyannis Whale Watching Cruises** – A Cape Cod staple, whale watching is a great family activity while vacationing on the cape. Not only thrilling but educational, Hyannis cruises entertain and teach their passengers as they get tours out of Barnstable harbor. Hyannis boasts the largest, fastest and safest whale watch vessel in Cape Cod, *The Whale Watcher*.

Highland Links is one of Cape Cod's oldest and most scenic golf courses.

FAMILY Ties

By Maddi Vetrano

There's a lot to be remembered over the past century, and throughout those years, each generation has its own unique culture and interests. With that being said, there is always the opportunity to find a common ground despite these generational differences. In the case of the Sloyer family, that common ground came in a quite literal sense on the grounds of Long Island's Tam O'Shanter Club.

In August, Ed Sloyer organized an outing at his home club that brought together four generations of Sloyers. The roster included his mother Shirlee, his son Adam, and his ever-eager five-year-old grandson AJ. Together, they set out for a day of friendly competition and laughs, but most-of-all a day to share in their passion for golf. Ed couldn't have been more thankful for such a great day. "It was a really special treasure playing with my parents when I was younger, so it was such a wonderful thing that AJ and his great-grandmother could get the chance to bond," he said.

Shirlee, an avid golfer, brought the sport into the family tree. She recalled when her sons used to mock the idea of playing golf when they were younger, calling it an "old timer's sport". We can say that irony prevails now that each of her sons are golf enthusiasts and the love of the game has trickled down to the youngest branch, AJ. It only proves that golf is indeed the game of a lifetime, bringing together the spirited enthusiasm of youth and the maturity of a fine wine.



THESE NEW DRIVERS WON'T DRAG YOU DOWN

BY SCOTT KRAMER

Speed demons, rejoice! Two fresh drivers strive to boost ball acceleration. Callaway's adjustable Big Bertha V Series driver (\$399) is billed as the company's fastest Bertha yet. It's constructed with lightweight materials (its head weighs just 290 grams), aerodynamic shaping that lowers drag, and refined components like a forged composite crown and hot face—a proven recipe for clubhead speed and thus ball velocity. Plus it's forgiving on mis-hits. The adjustable hosel can be set to eight different loft and lie angle combinations from the base lofts of 9, 10.5 and 13.5 degrees, for a neutral or draw-biased flight.

Meanwhile, turbulators on the crown of PING's adjustable G30 driver (\$385) reduce drag, which in turn increases clubhead and ball speed for additional tee shot length. The way they're spaced, the turbulators also help with aim. The clubface is strong, thin and hot, and the CG is located lower and further back than in any other PING driver—yielding a high launch, optimized spin and high MOI. Two standard lofts—9 and 10.5 degrees—can be adjusted \pm 6/10 or 1 degree. The driver is also offered in a draw-bias version.

