



## *Inner City Youth Golfers' Incorporated*

Press Release

### *“Tiger Won The Last Buick Open Enroute To The WGA”*

By: Malachi Knowles, Golf Editor, Westside Gazette Newspaper

Riviera Beach, FL (USA), August 2, 2009: Eldrick “Tiger” Woods won the 51<sup>st</sup> Buick Open in Grand Blanc, Michigan on last Sunday and said, “We're not coming back here.” It's the first time anybody has said that with finality. Of course, his win was also the closing chapter. Do you agree? After making his putt on the 17<sup>th</sup> hole, Tiger tossed his ball to the fans. “I don't ever do that,” Woods said. “But this is different... I just want to say thanks to all the people here and that's one reason I tossed it on 18 as well. “They came out and supported this event over all the years, especially this year. As I said, with the economy, how it's going on in this region, for them to come out and still support this event, it's very special to us as players.” “I've never played in front of fans like this,” Woods said. “This has been incredible. Hopefully, we do get to come back here soon, this region, because the fans here are so excited about golf.”



Woods shot a 69 last Sunday and coasted to a three-shot victory with a 20-under 268 at the Buick Open for the 69<sup>th</sup> PGA TOUR title of his career. His career total trails Jack Nicklaus (73) and Sam Snead (82). Woods reached victory No. 69 at the age of 33 years and seven months -- almost 7 years quicker than Nicklaus and eight years sooner than Snead.

“This one feels good,” he said. Woods has four wins this season -- doubling the total of his nearest competitors -- in just 11 starts since returning from knee surgery. He also claimed 500 FedExCup points and moved to the top of the standings. He took home another beautiful trophy and a \$918,000.00 first place check but more importantly he leaves his golfing fans in Michigan very happy that he entered into the tournament that he had won twice and was predicted not to enter. Woods will play at the WGA (World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational) next before going to Hazeltine for the PGA Championship, his final chance to win a major this year.

#### **FOR THE RECORD:**

- With wins in 2002, 2006 & 2009, Tiger Woods joins Vijay Singh as the only three-time winners of the Buick Open and is one of five multiple winners of the tournament (3 wins-Singh, Woods; 2 wins- Tona Lema, Julius Boros, Kenny Perry).
- With rounds of 71-63-65-69 this week, Woods has now recorded all 36 rounds at Warwick Hills with par-or-better scores. He opened his career at the Buick Open with an even-par 72, and has since reeled off 35 under-par rounds.
- Woods has made the cut in all nine starts at the Buick Open, with a T11 finish in 2000 his worst outing. He now has seven top-4 finishes in nine starts (2009-1, 2006-1, 2005-T2, 2004-T3, 2003-T2, 2002-1, 1998-T4).
- Woods posted a 1-under 71 and was T95 on Thursday, representing his worst position after the opening round of any tournament he eventually won. Previously it was a T83 start en route to victory at the 1996 Las Vegas Invitational.
- Woods becomes the 50<sup>th</sup> winner of the Buick Open, a total which includes unofficial winners from 1972-76. Woods also recorded his 50<sup>th</sup> career win at the 2006 Buick Open.
- Woods now has four victories this season -- twice as many as the six other multiple winners on TOUR, Zach Johnson, Geoff Ogilvy, Brian Gay, Steve Stricker, Kenny Perry and Phil Mickelson, all with two wins.
- Woods has won 47 of 50 times when holding the 54-hole lead/co-lead. This includes the 1997 Mercedes Championships, when he slept on the 54-hole lead before weather forced the cancellation of the final round. Woods then defeated Tom Lehman on the first hole of a playoff. The three times he didn't win -- T5/1996 Quad City Open, 2/2000 and 2004 THE TOUR Championship.
- The 54-hole leader/co-leader has won 19 of 32 events on the 2009 PGA TOUR. At the Buick Open, the third-round leader/co-leader has won 21 of 45 times, including seven out of the last nine. This does not include unofficial events held from 1972-76.

Congratulations to “Tiger” from all of the South Florida golfers and the entire “Westside Gazette” newspaper family. As previously stated, “I am still a believer.”

Photo credit: The PGA Tour.