



# Trans-Miss Transcript

*Serving Golf for More than 100 Years*

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Pinckney  
Wins With  
Unforgettable  
Shot...

becomes a name to remember.

*Cont'd on page 3*

# Greetings

## Dear Trans-Miss Golfers and Supporters,



Wow! How good was that?

The “new” Trans-Miss Championship at Denver Country Club was about as exciting a finish as you would ever see – even on a Sunday!

Three players had a chance to win the 107th Trans-Miss over the last three holes. Max Homa, despite having let a four-stroke lead get away from him on the back nine, lipped out a birdie putt on the 54th hole that would have put him into the play-off. Kevin Tway, needed a birdie on the final hole to avoid the play-off. His 15-footer lipped out! And Scott Pinckney, the eventual winner in the play-off bogeyed the 17th hole in regulation and then birdied it in the play-off.

The 2010 field of 96 collegians and mid-amateurs (with a few juniors added to the mix) was outstanding. Over a dozen conferences were represented, including a dozen players well up the list of national rankings. Another group of 60 highly ranked seniors rounded out

the field. While generally the golf course “won”, the quality of play and competition was the best in my memory of Trans-Miss championships.

My thanks to co-chairmen Steve Hatchett and Gary Potter for presenting such an outstanding event. Our intention was to bring the Trans-Miss back to its place of national prominence for amateur championships. I think we succeeded!

Denver Country Club was a beautiful venue for this return to excellence. The club membership was most welcoming and over 100 of them came out to watch the final day of play. The club’s staff made us feel at home and the facilities were enjoyed by all. A special thanks to Doug Brooks, the golf course superintendent, and his crew for presenting a wonderful golf course in prime condition. We could tell that is what he gives his members every day!

Enjoy the stories in this Transcript edition reprinted from local coverage of the event. “The Trans” is back and my fellow directors and I look forward to another step forward with the 108th Championship at Kansas City Country Club in July 2011.

On a closing note, please note the announcement regarding the changes in the Trans-Mississippi Turf Scholarship program. Scholarship applications are now being accepted through September 15th for a new slate of awards, the largest of which will be \$8,000.

Thank you to all of our member clubs and participating golfers. You help make it possible to stage an important national amateur championship and to fund significant college scholarships for turfgrass students.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Coon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard Coon  
TMGA President

A photograph of a golfer, Scott Pinckney, captured in the middle of a golf swing. He is wearing a dark blue polo shirt, dark shorts, a black belt, and a dark baseball cap with a white logo. The background is a lush green golf course with trees and a clear sky. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

**A** rizona State University's Scott Pinckney nailed a spectacular birdie on the second playoff hole Thursday to turn back Oklahoma State's Kevin Tway for the championship of the 107th Trans-Mississippi Golf Tournament at the storied 115-year-old Denver Country Club.

The two 21-year-old college seniors-to-be matched six-under-par 206 totals in steamy 90-degree temperatures in the 54-hole championship as the Trans-Miss made a highly popular switch to three rounds of no-cut stroke play after a quarter century of match play and an age limit of 25 and over that left the collegiate stars outside looking in.

Pinkney fashioned rounds of 69-66-69, while Tway carded 69-68-67. Both matched par fours on the first playoff hole, Pinkney staying alive with a par-saving 15-foot putt before Tway gave him life as he missed a 12-birdie try. The slender Scottsdale, AZ standout then nailed a 5-iron within a foot of the cup on 214-yard second hole (No. 17) and was a tap-in winner when Tway missed from 30. Tway, son of PGA Tour standout Bob Tway was the lone player besting DCC's deceptive greens improving every sub-par round.

Max Homa of Valencia, CA, had the early final lead after nine holes in the final round, standing eight-under-par at the turn only to implode to three over the back nine, lipping-out a 15-foot birdie putt to tie on 18. Homa's closing 71 left him tied third at 205 with Reno, Nevada's Jared Becher, whose closing 66 matched the best final round.

Stanford senior Steve Ziegler from Broomfield, CO., carded the only other 66 Thursday that earned him a tie 13 with defending champion Chris Kessler of Scottsdale,

AZ., who had three 71s for 213 total.

Denver's Gunner Wiebe, son of PGA Tour veteran Mark Wiebe, closed with a 70 that left the San Diego University junior tied ninth at 210 as he aimed for the Colorado Open next week with hopes of adding that title to the Colorado Match Play crown he captured two weeks ago.

Chip Lutz of Reading, Pa., led all three rounds to capture the Senior title with 69-73-74, 216 despite a bad back that nearly forced him to withdraw midway through the opening round. A stroke back at 217 were Bob Burton of Everett, WA., and Terry Greenbaum of Atlanta, GA.

Adding to the honors for top four finishers are valuable points toward Walker Cup berths. The new medal play, no-cut format is likely to draw an even more attractive field for the 2011 Trans-Miss scheduled for Kansas City Country Club.

*View the Championship photo gallery at [trans-miss.com](http://trans-miss.com) under the Championship tab*

# Supporting turfgrass students

Change is inevitable and the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association is making changes to its long-running scholarship program. But the organization's mission remains: To provide meaningful and significant financial assistance to the nation's very best turfgrass students in such a way that the importance of the program is widely known and understood in the golf industry.

"As in all things, as time goes by things need to modify and change," says John Goode, Trans scholarship chairman and a director since 2007. "The scholarship program that the Trans has operated has been highly successful and has awarded many students and given them an opportunity. With the cost of college and how it has risen, our scholarship program needed to be modified and adjusted to try to put a little more 'bang' out, more money to the students that we pick. We've tried to increase the value and make it something that is useable for the student in today's market."

## Continuing student support

The Trans-Mississippi Golf Association is one of the oldest and most prestigious golf organizations in the United States. Established in 1901, the Trans is composed of member clubs located throughout the country. The Association is governed by a board of independent directors and is headquartered in Lawrence, Kan. Since the Trans-Miss Scholarship Fund granted a \$600 scholarship in 1953 to Colorado State University (then Colorado A&M), the TMGA has become a national leader in assisting young men and women pursuing careers in turf management. More information about the Trans-Miss and the Trans-Miss Turf Scholarship Fund can be seen at [www.trans-miss.com](http://www.trans-miss.com).

After more than 20 years of faithful service to the Trans-Miss and its scholarship program, Si Russell has retired as chairman of the Trans-Miss Turf Scholarship Committee. Russell

will continue to be involved with the association as a director, but he will be enjoying a well-deserved break from administering the scholarship program. Trans-Mississippi Golf Association Executive Secretary Kim Richey will assume the administrative responsibilities of the scholarship program from Trans offices in Lawrence.

"There was a need to address a couple concerns, one is to make the process more manageable and more consistent. Before we had 19 or 20 schools and our administrator was administering 20 different programs and it became somewhat burdensome," says Richey. "Now we are streamlining the process in conjunction with the second concern: to make our scholarships as meaningful to the recipient as possible. By that I mean increasing the value. We're going to have fewer awards, but they're going to be much more helpful to the recipients than they have in the past."

The TMGA wants to provide financial assistance to the very best turfgrass students to complete their education so that they can pursue a career in the golf industry. As a result these award recipients will lend their personal support to the scholarship program through enhancing member club roster, serving on scholarship selection committee, and promoting TMGA events and programs, Richey adds.

Any bona fide undergraduate turfgrass student may apply for consideration. The winners will be selected by the TMGA without regard to any historical allocation to certain schools or areas of the country. Professors may support and advocate for students in their program.



According to Richey, no school will be guaranteed to have a Trans-Miss scholar in any one year and having a Trans-Miss scholar in the school's program should be considered a point of accomplishment for the school.

"What we've tried to do is put more responsibility directly in the hands of the student no matter what university he or she is at...for them to take charge, to take responsibility, fill out their application, and make their presentation which is reviewed by the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association now," says Goode, a Killen, Texas native who graduated from Texas Tech University in 1972. "So that we can pick students whether it be by their (GPA), their job orientation, (or) what their goals and skill sets are. We are looking for the student that can be a benefit to golf, their turf management program and the Trans-Miss. I think the quality of our applicants will increase and the quality of our program will increase."

# nts still Association's goal.



## Determining the scholars

After a review of the Trans-Miss Turf Scholarship Program, it has been determined that the annual awards and the process for determining the scholars should be modified to make the awards more significant and helpful to the scholar. This will mean that the total number of scholarships annually awarded will decrease and the process of naming the scholars will become the prerogative of the Trans-Miss Turf Scholarship Committee.

In the past, the participating schools and universities were annually allocated a certain number and value of scholarships with the faculty identifying the scholars (subject to Trans-Miss approval). That structure is now replaced by the following program:

1. On July 15 the Trans-Miss will announce the number and financial value of each scholarship award and invite undergraduate turfgrass degree students to apply for a scholarship

award.

2. Scholarship applications will be due on Sept. 15 and must be complete and submitted to the Trans-Miss at the address stated on the application form. The form will be available on the TMGA website.

3. The 16 finalists for the 2010-2011 scholarships will be announced by the Trans-Miss on Oct. 15. The finalists will then participate in an interview process with the Trans-Miss Turf Scholarship Committee with interviews concluding by Nov. 15.

4. The Trans-Miss will announce the final awards on Nov. 25 with distribution of awards by Dec. 31.

5. Other award ceremonies and award fulfillments will take place between Jan. 15 and Feb. 15 (depending on the location and people involved).

## Ties to the Trans

The amount of annual awards will be subject to change based on prior year revenue flow. As a target, awards should be a minimum total of \$63,000 annually.

Sixteen annual awards will include: The Vickers Scholar \$8,000; Five Named Scholars \$5,000 each (\$25,000 total); Ten Trans-Mississippi Directors' Scholars \$3,000 each (\$30,000 total). The total of these 16 awards would be \$63,000 in 2010-11 and is subject to annual adjustment.

"Times are tough, but as we go through them we feel like we've got ourselves on a budget where we can fund these scholarships for the next two or three years," says Goode, a real estate investor in Killeen. "But simultaneously we're trying to enhance and increase our funds so

that hopefully we can increase the number of scholarships. Funding those scholarships is always going to be a difficulty. There are many, many great causes and charities out there. The American public and the business community just don't have the funds that they had a few years back. It's a challenge and we continually direct ourselves to meet that challenge."

The 16 scholars will enjoy added benefits including: The Vickers Scholar would receive a bronze sculpture of Old Tom Morris, a TMGA logo-ed laptop briefcase, a writing pen, a TMGA golf hat and shirt, and a framed certificate. The named scholars would receive a TMGA logo-ed laptop briefcase, a writing pen, a TMGA golf hat and golf shirt, and a framed certificate. The Trans-Mississippi Director scholars would receive a writing pen, TMGA golf hat and golf shirt, and a framed certificate.

"We're hoping to build a network, a brotherhood of people from the Trans directors' side of the table as well as the students," Goode explained. "Our scholarship recipients, we want those young men and women to go forward and improve and enhance the golf business. We want them to enhance their university through student involvement and I think a continuing network going forward where our recipients are more involved with the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association will accomplish that."

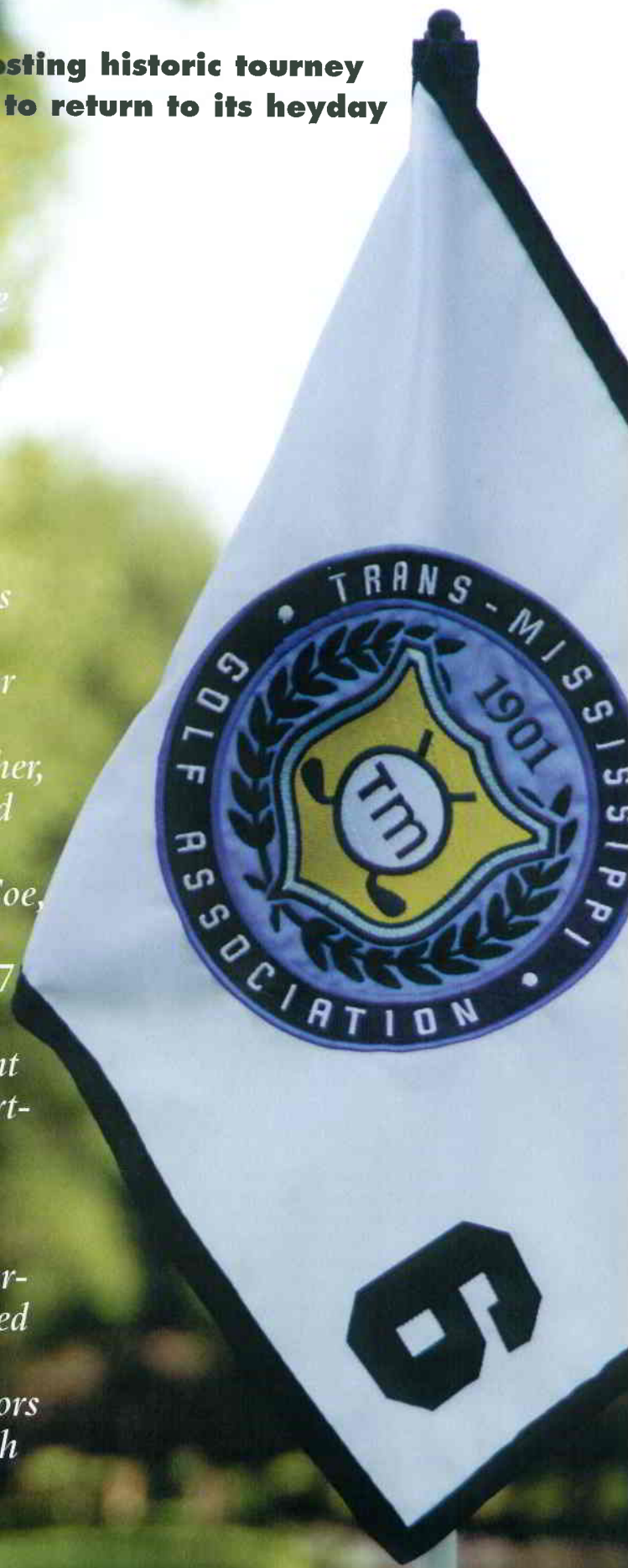
# Trans-Miss Making Transition

**Denver CC hosting historic tourney  
that's trying to return to its heyday**

*When the Trans-Mississippi Championship last allowed college-age golfers to compete, Steve Ziegler and Gunner Wiebe weren't yet born, so it's not easy for the two Coloradans to think of the tournament as one of the premier amateur events in the nation.*

*But if there's any doubt, a look at past champions will confirm the status the Trans-Miss once held. Several players who would go on to win major championships -- including Jack Nicklaus, Ben Crenshaw, George Archer, Mark Brooks and Bob Tway -- earned Trans-Miss titles, as did others who made a big impact in golf (Charlie Coe, Deane Beman, etc.).*

*And now, after 23 summers - 1987 through 2009 - of limiting the Trans-Miss to players 25 and older, the event will try to regain its former luster starting this year. Denver Country Club, which hosted its first Trans-Miss Championship exactly 100 years ago, will have the honor of helping the tournament add a new chapter to its storied history. The 2010 event, which also includes a senior division for competitors 55 and older, will run Tuesday through Thursday (July 13-15) at DCC.*



A photograph of a golf course green with a hole and a flag. The green is well-maintained with a distinct mowed pattern. A white flag with a blue number '1' is on a tall pole in the center of the hole. The surrounding area is a mix of green grass and brown earth, suggesting a recent renovation or maintenance project.

But the transformation back to the good old days certainly won't be immediate.

"I think it will be a top-notch event (this year), but it will take some time for the (college) players to be conscious of it because right now they don't really know what the Trans-Miss is," said Broomfield's Steve Ziegler, a Stanford golfer and quarterfinalist in the 2009 U.S. Amateur. "I'm telling them what I'm playing in and they don't know it right off the bat. It's not one of those events that's been around (for college-age players) year in and year out."

This year's championship field will include a smattering of the world's top amateurs. Kevin Tway of Edmond, Okla., ranked 20th in the World Amateur Rankings, will be competing. And at least a half-dozen others ranked among the top 200 amateurs in the world also will be playing: Ziegler (70), Gunner Wiebe of Aurora (103), Jared Becher of Reno, Nev. (124), Nate Barbee of Dakota Dunes, S.D. (135), Scott Pinckney of Scottsdale, Ariz. (156) and Regis High School graduate Jamie Marshall of Fayetteville, Ark. (186).

A couple in that group, Tway (pictured) and Wiebe, have fathers who played in the Trans-Miss back in its heyday and who subsequently won on the PGA Tour. (Bob Tway won the 1978 Trans-Miss in which Mark Wiebe also competed.) Those sons may have more appreciation for the event than most.

"I remember looking at the Trans-Miss when I was a freshman in high school and wishing I could play in it," said Gunner Wiebe, a University of San Diego

golfer who won the CGA Match Play Championship on Friday. "It's nice that it's been changed from a mid-amateur (25 and older) to an amateur event. You get a nice field, good talent."

"Obviously for Kevin to come to Denver, that's a big deal, being where he's ranked in the world. When people see that Kevin Tway is coming, they'll think it must be a big deal. And hopefully that will extend to the college players who don't know much about the Trans-Miss. Over the next five or six years, I think it will kind of regenerate and get that name going a little bit more."

Nicklaus won the Trans-Miss in 1958 and 1959 as an 18- and 19-year-old, while Archer prevailed in 1963, Crenshaw in 1972, Tway in 1978 and Brooks in 1979 — all before age 25. From after World War II through 1986, familiar names are sprinkled through the list of Trans-Miss champions. Besides the aforementioned major championship winners, there's Coe (four times), Beman, Gary Koch, Robert Wrenn and Bob Estes, to name several.

Whether the transformed Trans-Miss can get the depth of talent, the tournament had in its heyday remains to be seen. The world of amateur golf has changed markedly over the decades, so it will take some work for the Trans-Miss to have a chance to return to its former stature.

"The problem is, it's so competitive now on the amateur golf scene," Ziegler said. "From the time Nicklaus and those guys were winning the tournament (to now), there's a lot more competition to get the top amateurs at certain events — and there's a lot more events. The Trans-Miss could

(become a top-level amateur tournament again), but the odds are kind of against it because there are so many well-established amateur tournaments already there."

Allowing players under 25 to compete isn't the only major change the Trans-Miss made starting with this year's event at Denver Country Club. It'll also switch from match play to 54 holes of individual stroke play.

As for Denver Country Club, it has a long history with the Trans-Miss. As one of the 15 original clubs in the Trans-Mississippi Golf Association, it's previously hosted the Trans-Miss Championship in 1910, 1921, 1946 and 1980. The Trans-Miss also has been held six times at the Broadmoor Golf Club in Colorado Springs, four times at Cherry Hills Country Club in Cherry Hills Village and once at Lakewood Country Club.

Even though Denver Country Club will play only about 6,800 yards (par-70) for the Trans-Miss, don't look for the college players to outmuscle it. It's considered a shorthanded course.

"It's going to be a great site to host that tournament," Wiebe said. "I remember playing there and hitting a lot of irons off the tee. There's maybe four or five holes where you hit driver. The point of an old, traditional course like that is position. It's all strategy. You want to be up the right side of the fairway if the pin is left."

"You can't overpower DCC. You can overpower a lot of courses in Colorado, but you cannot do that there. I've tried and failed miserably. I'll be playing that very conservatively, for sure. Par is a great score on pretty much every hole."