



## REPORT

### The 10<sup>th</sup> World Deaf Golf Championships

July 15 – 18, 2014



### The Bear and The Wolverine Grand Traverse Resort and Spa Traverse City, Michigan USA



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### The Beginning

Because the USDGA (United States Deaf Golf Association) made unsuccessful bids for 2010 and 2012, they were not planning to bid for 2014. However, no other country was planning to bid for 2014 either. Rob Cundy, WDGf Board member at the time, asked Susan Zupnik whether the USDGA Board would consider hosting. They received bids from Florida (Jacksonville), Arizona (Tucson) and Nevada (Las Vegas).

About a week before the bid deadline, the Grand Traverse Resort management contacted the USDGA Board and inquired into the bid for 2014. The Arizona and Las Vegas bids were for October/November dates, while the Florida and Michigan bids were for July. After a double round of voting, Michigan was selected as the site of the 2014 WDGC. In Scotland, during the 2010 WDGC, the member countries accepted the USA bid.

### Fundraising and Preparations

It was very difficult to raise public funds between 2010 and 2013 because the event is in 2014. As a result, the only source of early funds was found within the USA deaf golf communities and WDGC 2014 OC fundraising. We raised enough funds to meet the financial obligations to the Grand Traverse Resort. Therefore, we did not have the funds to build a professional website and we were not able to find anyone willing to do this as a donation, so we had to build the website internally.

Thanks to the WDGf Board, we received a sizeable grant from R&A even though the event was held in the USA. This was unexpected and we are very grateful to R&A for supporting us. We did not receive any support from the USGA (United States Golf Association). This money from R&A was given to the players as a return of the cost for one round of green fees. It also was used for the official tournament shirt.

In 2014, donations were coming in, but at first, it was slow going. It was starting to look like we would have to use the USDGA funds to help support the Championships. In other words, it looked like the USDGA may have to operate at a loss. Fortunately, about three months before the event, we received another sizeable donation from another unlikely source, this time an anonymous Canadian from the other side of the Detroit River in Windsor, Ontario. America and Canada are good neighbors! This would not have been possible without the assistance of Liz Bystrycki who pitched in and helped Dan Nawrocki with additional last-minute fundraising!

The WDGC OC had the brilliant idea of building editable PDF files so everyone could fill in their forms on the computer and e-mail them to us. Well, brilliant in theory, not so brilliant in practice. Even with a worldwide format such as PDF, not every computer was able to edit American-built PDF files, so quite a few forms had to be filled out by hand, defeating the purpose of creating electronic forms. Needless to say, it was more work to process the forms than we expected. This is one area improvements can be made. It seems like each host is re-inventing the wheel. Why not develop a standard form and re-use it for all future WDGC Championships instead of having each host build their own?

The Grand Traverse Resort is an excellent location capable of hosting very large events such as ours. However, all of our requirements could not be met. We were unable to find or build a flagpole close by the scoreboard area or clubhouse area for the display of the WDGf flag, and so had to use the only possible flagpole near the tennis courts. It was not visible from the golf areas. It was visible only during the opening ceremony. An unfortunate outcome, but one that could not be avoided.

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More than enough hotel rooms and Condominiums were available for us to use. Our contract with the resort required that we use 85% of the contracted room nights, we had to guarantee that number. This led us to be conservative in our estimates, too conservative as it turned out. Fortunately, all the room reservations were made early enough, we were able to request more rooms and condos as demand kept rising. This was a potential problem, but it all worked out in the end.

### Transportation

This was not expected to be a concern. The Grand Traverse Resort provides transportation to and from the airport. The Bay Area Transportation Authority (BATA) provided busing in the Traverse City area for a nominal fee. The WDGC OC felt everything would go smoothly here. As it turned out, not quite! We were surprised to find out that some of the flight numbers given to us were not the actual flight numbers arriving at Traverse City. In addition, the arrival times did not always match either. It was extra work for us to coordinate with the Grand Traverse Resort staff and make certain they were able to meet every person at the airport. As far as we know, every arrival was picked up within an acceptable time frame, except for one weary and unhappy traveler who arrived late on the Friday evening.

### Audiology Tests

Four golfers were selected at random to undergo audiology testing. One of the selected golfers had cochlear implants in both ears. People with cochlear implants do not have any measurable hearing activity. Another selected golfer was very profoundly deaf, he also did not have any measurable hearing activity. They both were shocked they were selected, saying there were many other new golfers with much better hearing. It was unfortunate, but we have to choose golfers at random for these tests.

### Golf Courses

The original plan was to use The Wolverine for all golfers, men, women and seniors. It was challenging enough for all golfers. The Bear was deemed too difficult to use and Spruce Run was the third course at the resort. As we moved closer and closer to the event, and the expected number of golfers exceeded 110, it was necessary to use a second course. The only way to fit 110+ golfers on one course is via the shotgun start which was not an option. Either we use The Bear or we use Spruce Run. Moving the men to The Bear was the better and wiser decision as the location of the 18<sup>th</sup> hole, right in front of the clubhouse, brought everybody together to watch the golf, especially the last few groups on the last two rounds.

### Caddies and Motorized Carts

For the general public and resort guests, the Resort does not allow walkers on their courses. Therefore, they did not have the pull (or push) carts necessary to help support the walking-only policy of these Championships. The OC had two options. Purchase about 50 pull carts and figure out a way to sell them afterward, or provide the golfers with caddies who would drive the motorized carts. We chose to use the caddies. In addition, quite a few golfers brought their own caddies, some golfers brought their own pull carts. The unexpected side effect was that golfers who liked their caddy the first day requested the same caddy the remaining three days, so it made the scheduling easier. By the way, one of the caddies gave a driver to her player on the tee of a short par-three hole. Fortunately, the golfer was a very good sport about this, and asked for her to caddy again the final three rounds.

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### Opening Ceremony

On the day of the opening ceremony, the World Cup Final between Germany and Argentina was televised. It was an unavoidable scheduling conflict and, of course, there was a lot of interest there. Germany won, so it was a good day for the Europeans. Prior to the beginning of the opening ceremony, everybody gathered outdoors in the Pavilion area between the hotel and the condominium buildings for a very enjoyable social gathering. The weather was absolutely delightful.

From there, each country was brought to the hotel lobby for the team photos.



Australia



Canada



Denmark



England



Finland



Ireland

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Japan



The Netherlands



Scotland



South Africa



Sweden



United States of America

### Special Recognition

During the opening ceremony, four golfers were singled out for participating in all 10 of these World Deaf Golf Championships. They are, in alphabetical order, Don Conway of Ireland, Rob Cundy of Canada, Ian Kennedy and Mark Lothian, both of Scotland. Congratulations! Which of them will have the longest streak when it is down to just one last golfer?

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Norway



Wales



ICSD – WDGf Board – WdGC OC

After the team photos were completed, the group photo was taken and while the entire group was waiting for the photographer to come outside, they noticed the first flying drone in WdGC history, called the DJI Phantom, which held a GoPro camera. Greg Frohriep, one of the media volunteers, piloted the videocamera. You can see how blue the sky was that day, not a cloud in sight.



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### Shootout

After the Monday practice round, we had the Shootout, which was sponsored by the Grand Traverse Resort. Women teed off first, followed by the Seniors, and lastly the Men. It was a very enjoyable outing as there was quite a crowd watching the golfers. Each country nominated one person in each category to represent them. The high scorer of the hole is eliminated from competition until the last two players compete on the final hole. It would be nice if future hosts could continue to use this format, but the suggestion is to eliminate the two high scorers on each hole so that the contest lasts at most five holes instead of the usual nine holes. It was a very long day. The last hole was played in the early evening, about 12 hours after the early-bird golfers showed up at the course to prepare for the practice round.



The crowd watching the Seniors tee off in the Shootout with the Clubhouse in background

### Pace of Play

The first round, the weather was downright horrible. The high temperatures for the day was LOWER than the average low temperature for that time of year. That's how cold it was. It rained, and the wind was blowing a little bit. It was a tough day to be playing golf. Only the World Deaf Golf Championship participants were playing golf at the Resort on the day of the first round. The grounds crew did a wonderful job keeping the course playable throughout the rain, although there were a few areas of concern, but we got the round completed! The resort was not concerned with pace of play this round.

While watching the golfers finish their rounds on the 18<sup>th</sup> hole of the Bear, it was determined that golfers were taking up too much time. The tournament referee, Dan Hall - the first deaf tournament referee in WDGC history, and the WDGf Technical Director, Gavin Balharrie, both decided to call a quick team captains meeting that evening to discuss the pace of play the next three rounds. Dan was out on the courses intently watching the pace of play the final three rounds, and he had a warning system to alert golfers they were behind and needed to speed up. There was no excuse, the weather the last three days was again absolutely delightful.

It worked! The resort was very happy with our pace of play! We played in an average of around 4.5 hours the last three rounds.

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### The Bear

There was some nervousness about the difficulty of The Bear. Golf Digest once called it the 18<sup>th</sup> toughest course in America (both public and private). However, the pace of play was moving along quite nicely, so even though it was a tough course, still it was very playable. One golfer, who shall remain nameless, said, "Why did you have to pick such a tough golf course?" After completing the final round and turning in his scorecard, Scotland's Mark Lothian, one of only four golfers who participated in every WDGC from 1995 to 2014 (therefore he knows what he is talking about) said, "THIS IS THE TOUGHEST GOLF COURSE IN WDGC HISTORY!" He did not say this via sign language, he said it with his voice.

The Tournament Rules Committee recognized the difficulty of The Bear and set it up to play much shorter than the previous four WDGC's. The Bear was played at around 6,400 yards. The previous four WDGC championships averaged about 6,800-6,900 yards. For the Michigan Open, an annual event for the best amateurs and professionals of Michigan (maximum handicap 2.4), the Resort usually sets up The Bear at about 6,800 yards even though it can be played between 7,000-7,100 yards. It would have been too difficult even for the best of the golfers from the very back tees.

### The Story (as narrated by Mark Hansen, the event photographer)

The 2014 World Deaf Golf Championships took place at Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City, Michigan on July 15-18, 2014. Fourteen nations altogether had sent off a total of 111 registered golfers descending upon a quaint bay town of about 15 thousand, but swollen to about half a million visitors still lingering at the tail's end of the annual National Cherry Festival marking its 86th year. The golfers probably have not noticed either the festive crowd or the lights of the Ferris wheel and similar riding apparatus from the comfort of their seats of in a complimentary airport shuttle ride to the resort tucked away nearby in the tiny bucolic town of Acme.

This venue marks the second time the US Deaf Golf Association has hosted the international occasion. The last time was in 1998 at the Bridges Golf Club in Abbottstown, Pennsylvania that drew ten nations and a total of 65 players, all men. This time with the WDGC reputation rising up, the Open competition in turn assembled some of world's best deaf golfers and was considered one of the if not the strongest field in recent memory.

Of the three resort golf courses nestled among the cherry orchards thriving in the air-conditioned peninsular climate, the flagship Bear course is considered as one of United States' toughest golf courses according to some polling sources. The Open competition fielding 64 men golfers would take on this Jack Nicklaus-designed course where the tees were set at 6400 to 6500 total yards long. USA Team captain, Bill Roberts in his long golf career finds this course one of the toughest he has ever played on where it wasn't set up as a very long course. He finds the course's conditioning immaculate and the greenskeepers obviously have done an exceptional job keeping the course primed to challenge the world's best deaf golfers.

The second course of three, the Wolverine golf course was added in 1999 and designed by South African Gary Player. This layout provides a completely different golfing experience than the Bear. The Wolverine golf course is a links style providing ample recovery room along the rolling fairways and manicured green complexes as long as you keep your ball out of the tall native grass. The course is well bunkered with 79 sand traps and provides some good challenges for the 31 senior and 16 women players.

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For the first round of the Championships, the area was visited by a rare summer arctic blast called 'Polar Vortex 2', named after the first one that came down hard back last winter. This one pocket of frigid air overwhelmed the typically warm daytime temperatures, plunging temperatures into the mid-50's all day long and brought some unpleasant showers. Upon scanning the leaderboard, one cannot help noticing the scores little higher. However for the balance of the tournament, both the weather and scores were back to normal and thusly heartening.

The thesis of a Shootout in each pool is to have a friendly competition between nations to see how one is measured against each other on a practice day before the start of the event. The captain of each nation is to choose one player willing to go for the single elimination format by the highest strokes a player make on a hole by hole basis.

The men's group had 11 players ready for it. They are listed by the actual order of elimination. 10. Seamus McHugh (ZAF) and Waltteri Waris (FIN), 9. Tetsuro Sodeyama (JAP), 8. Mike Tweedie (SCO), 7. Luke Ellis (AUS), 6. Ryan Mobberley (CAN), 5. Hans Elgaard (DNK), 4. Don Conway (IRE), 3. Andreas Nilsson (SWE).

By the time the drizzle that begun in the previous hole has come down a bit harder with a couple of survivors, Bill Roberts (USA) and Paul Waring (ENG) teeing off the Par-3 9th Hole green guarded by water all around. Under the darkening overcast skies, Waring's tee shot bit the green on the right side by about 14 feet while Roberts' errant shot looked like lost into the water hazard. After a hard search by a few helpers, the referee Dan Nawrocki found the ball drilled deep in a thick rough grass a mere half foot above the water line.

With a pitching iron and one bare foot in the pond, Roberts made "the shot of the week" landing with a wonderfully fuzzy feeling about 2 feet from the cup in this increasingly cooling air. He went on to sink his par putt while Waring two-putted for a tie. This forced for a chip-off closest to the pin as a tiebreaker, where Nawrocki chose a tight fairway spot at the backside of the green separated from the tight pin spot by a bunker. Waring chipped first and his ball ended about 3 feet (1m) in front of the cup. Facing the wet conditions from this unrelenting drizzle, Roberts with his typically strong short game skill deftly chipped his ball yet closer to the cup and a grateful smile came across on his face.



Roberts was thus proclaimed the "king of the hill" there. He admitted his recovery shot out of the hazard is one of ten best of his life. Thinking if he had dropped 100 balls in the same spot, and probably would not chip one any closer. A shocked Waring must be thinking how a victory within his grasp was snatched away twice in the same hole yet was graceful in accepting his defeat. Sadly, only a few brave souls left witnessing the epic shots as most had already scurried away for the shelter at clubhouse or hotel, probably thinking Waring had it all wrapped up for an easy victory. The event photographer, Mark Hansen was right there, feeling protective of his brand new Canon 70D camera and in a disbelieving state for not taking any still or video shots in this drizzling rain.

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The women's group had 7 and again in the order of elimination has to brave the monster in the Bear course. They were; 7. Miku Oshima (JAP), 6. Vanessa McIlroy (ZAF), 5. Donna Cross (ENG), 4. Chantell Greaves (AUS), and 3. Leonie Warringa (NED). The last two standing survivors, Patty Lopez (USA) and Andrea Hjellegjerde (NOR) moved on for a showdown at the treacherous handicap-1 Hole #5. The winner can be found somewhere under the Women's Division comments when you read on below.

The seniors' group had 10, also playing in the Bear course. They were 10. David Wilson (SCO), 9. Jurek Brown (WAL), 8. Herman Bear (ZAF), 7. long-time WDGC veteran Jonnie Hammenfors (SWE), 6. Wayne Parsons (AUS), 5. Charles Mikkers (NED). Both Mikkers and Worek had to re-hit from the tee box on the Par-5 6th hole. 4. Kenneth Hoffman (CAN). He scrambled to survive the elimination on the very first hole. 3. Keith Worek (USA). This leaves the steady Katsutoshi Yamada (JAP) and the diminutive Keith Wilkinson (ENG) at the Par-3 water hazard Hole #9. Wilkinson had trouble pitching out of the back bunker thus conceded the hole and the crown to Yamada.

We shall go by the order of the pools determined by the WDGF Board in the crowning of the winners. Let us begin with the seniors. The winner was a former Canadian hockey player turned golfer named Kenneth Hoffman by sinking a long improbable putt in the first hole of sudden death playoff, beating an American stalwart in Keith Worek. It also marks his third consecutive WDGC win as a champion, matching Linda Davis of Australia who won three consecutive Women's championships from 2004 - 2008.

A Saskatchewan native, Hoffman had seen enough of the temperature fluctuations and brushed off the chilly weather to shoot a 79 in the first round, the lone senior to break under 80 that day. There were about 7 senior players behind him by up to 4 strokes away. On the second round, with the cold front moved away past us. Hoffman seemed to play in a funk and shot for an 80 while Worek and Charles Mikkers of the Netherlands shot 77 each, easily the lowest of the day against the rest of the pack. This puts Worek back in the lead by a mere stroke.

The third round finds three top challengers, Hoffman, Mikkers, and Worek playing in the last tee group. Mikkers played so well. Hoffman and Worek didn't get what they expect. Unfortunately, Mikkers' best low score of 76 was negated by a four-stroke penalty for riding a cart for first three holes without a medical clearance. However with Worek's worst outing of 84 caused him to settle back into second place, three strokes behind the now leading Mikkers. Gerald Isobe (USA) made a surprisingly big move with a 77 to tie Hoffman now in third place with 5 strokes behind.

Under intense pressure facing the final round and inquiring questions among fans about which senior golfer would claim the Championship? The story had yet taken an unexpected twist. Mikkers didn't shoot well enough, settling with an 80. With his solid playing, Hoffman made the lowest overall Seniors score of 74 and primed at worst for a possible second place finish or at best a title win.

Many golfers had a hard time reading the Wolverine's 18th cup and sure enough, Worek did not redeem himself by three-putting this last hole for a 76, falling into a tie with Hoffman. That triggered the technical rule for a sudden death playoff starting at the Wolverine's first hole. With a throng of mostly American and Canadian fans looking down at the first tee box, Hoffman with a flip of coin started the sudden death playoff teeing off first and landed in a fairway bunker. His second shot bit just inside the green leaving

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about 55 feet (23m) in front of the pin. Worek mishit his second shot from the right side rough, where it ended up at bottom of the slope about 8 feet below the green level. Undeterred, Worek was able to chip the ball nice and high where the ball rolled on the fast green past the pin to a rest about 2 and half feet away, still good for an easy par finish. Yet, the defending champion coolly iced for his third title with a long birdie putt that landed strongly dead center into the cup.

Seven countries – Australia, England, the Netherlands, Japan, Norway, South Africa, and the USA – participated in the women's division. The defending champion from the Netherlands, 24-year old Leonie Warringa has returned still in form. However the golf gods in us were abetting for an epic battle between the 21-year old svelte Norse Andrea Hjellegjerde, with a most blonde mane and an athletic golf swing against the grizzled American Patty Lopez, a veteran of several missed LPGA cuts of the years past. This was their first time participating in the WDGC, and yet a study of style contrasts between them.

The Shootout on Monday although was a recreational thing however conveniently the litmus test to see which woman comes out the victor in the initial duel. It fell into Hjellegjerde's lap by concession. Andrea struggled in the early going and got better with time until only both were left alive for the Par-4 final hole. Patty found her tee shot landed into a fairway bunker. Trying to layup for the green well-guarded by a large body of water for most of the distance from her position, she hit an errant shot twice into the water effectively ending the contest. Andrea did not feel like it was a well-earned victory and thereby looked forward to the real challenge in a regulated tournament the next day.

The first day seemed to catch most women golfers off guard about not bringing enough warm clothes to handle that inclement weather. However, it didn't seem to faze the top three leaders as Lopez and Hjellegjerde both shot 76 for the lead with Warringa just one stroke behind. Melissa Stockton (USA), the 2010 Women's champion, shot 86 and tied for 4th place along with Vanessa McIlroy (South Africa), who shot her lifetime best-ever score. Hjellegjerde posted 4 birdies while Lopez and Stockton each posted 3 birdies for the day. For the second round, Lopez continued to play solid golf by shooting 78 (154) with 12 pars and 6 birdies. Warringa moved to second place with an 80 (157) while Hjellegjerde struggled for much of the day with an 87, thus dropping to third place (163). Stockton and McIlroy both shot 89 (175) and remained still tied for 4th place.

The third round found many scores higher for women due to the difficulty of pin placements. Lopez continued to play flawless golf, making 76 (230) however had her lead shrunk to 7 strokes over the charging Hjellegjerde. As if she dusted off her poor outing the day before, Hjellegjerde answered back with a satisfying round of 74 (237), posting 4 birdies. With an 88 (245), Leonie found herself fading fast into third place. Stockton battling a stomach virus for three days, shot 91 and found herself stuck still at 4th with Australia's Jennifer Maric as she made a 90 (266).

For the final round, Patty Lopez continued to amaze herself and for the fans! She recorded an ace on the 135-yard Par-3 5th hole using a 7-iron suggested by her caddie, becoming the first woman to achieve such a feat in WDGC competition. Since the green was higher than everyone's eye level so no one knew the historic feat until arriving upon at the green. That was followed by consecutive birdies on the 6th and 7th holes. She finished the day with 8 pars, 5 birdies, 1 ace, 3 bogeys and 1 double bogey for a score of 70, the lone female to break the course par for the entire event.

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Not only how she blew open the Women's pool by 13 strokes, her series total of 300 is the second lowest only after the Open champion, Jack Besley's 295. Hjellegjerde paced herself well enough with a 76 (313) however the margin was still too much to overcome with Lopez's exceptional pursuit for the title. Thanks to her subpar putting, Warringa shot an 85 (330) for a 3rd place finish. Out from 7th place Susan Zupnik (USA) vaulted to 4th place with a reinvigorating round of 84 (353). Three golfers, Patty Sue Ploya (USA), Maric and Stockton ended up all tied at fifth place.

The men's division is showing a healthy number with eleven participating nations comprising of Australia, Canada, Denmark, England, Finland, Ireland, Japan, Scotland, South Africa, Sweden and the United States.

On that bone-chilling first day that was better suited for the ducks, lefty Jack Besley of Australia jumped out with a strong starting round of 75 for a shot lead over Paul Waring of England with Hans Elgaard of Denmark another shot behind. Only 6 golfers broke 80. The United States with a team score of 322 leads England by 3 shots. Pono Tokioka and Dano Aldaz lead the team with 80, with Michael Mabashov and Bill Roberts a shot behind.

Golfers woke up to much nicer and sunny weather for the 2nd round with temperatures on the cool side in the mid-to-high 60's. The scores heated up with better play, Jack Besley held on to the lead with 2 day score of 151, Michael Burris of England with day's best score of 73 was a shot behind along with Hans Elgaard and Paul Waring standing another shot behind. The USA team increased the team lead to 12 with a good team score of 308.

The third day found golfers facing a monster golf course with devilish pin placements that many agreed as difficult however fair pin placements they have seen. Jack Besley increased his lead to 2 over Hans Elgaard with day's low score of 76. Paul Waring stood 3 shots behind. The USA men stumbled and saw their team lead shrink to just 5 shots over the English team.

The last round of competition was greeted with a golf-perfect day and calming winds with temps in the 70's, peaking at 81°F (25°C). It appeared that many golfers were very determined to prove their mettle with lower scores. Many excellent scores were carded in with Jack Besley proving to be the best golfer of this competition with an outstanding score of 68, a 4 under par! Hans Elgaard recorded a 73 to finish 7 shots behind. Michael Burris and Paul Waring tied for third with 11 shots behind. However in exercising a technical tie-breaking rule looking for the low score of the round, Michael Burris gets the nod for the third-place trophy. Besley's 68 and Bill Roberts' 71, both on the final round were the only scores breaking under par for the entire Open competition.

A very strong finish for the American men with team's best round score of 302 to cement firmly the top spot in team's competition by 14 strokes over England with Denmark grabbing 3rd place 26 strokes back. However, if you take the full complement of players from USA and England, pick the best four out of all the players on both teams, the USA would have won by only 4 strokes. Watch out for England in the 2016 WDGC Men's Team competition!

The historic triple team sweep by the Americans is the first by a representative nation since implementing the Senior team division in 2012. Will this ever happen again?

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### Additional Special Mentions

Two items produced for this tournament would not have been possible without the absolutely outstanding professional work of two Deaf individuals. Here are special thank you's to Lika Rau-Reece from Frankenmuth, Michigan for designing and completing the WDGC 2014 Program Book, and to Mark Hansen from Tucson, Arizona for designing and completing the WDGC 2014 Official Scoreboard which is pictured on the front cover of this report.

### The Closing Ceremony

Among all the pomp and circumstance during the closing ceremony, there was one special presentation very worthy of mention in this report. Twenty years prior, in 1994, there were eight representatives from five countries who travelled to Battle Creek, Michigan and agreed to form the World Deaf Golf Federation during the 1994 NDGA (National Deaf Golf Association) tournament in the USA. Six of those eight were able to travel to Michigan again and were deservedly given a full standing ovation from the members of the audience. Here we present the WDGF founders!



Jonathon Rose    Rob Cundy    Jim Hynes    Tony Klimek    Howard Elson    Kevin Whalley

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### Men's Individual Results

Pos	Name	Country	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	BESLEY, Jack	Australia	75	76	76	68	<b>295</b>
2	ELGAARD, Hans	Denmark	77	75	77	73	<b>302</b>
3	BURRIS, Michael	England	79	73	79	75	<b>306</b>
3	WARING, Paul	England	76	77	77	76	<b>306</b>
5	ROBERTS, Bill	United States	81	76	83	71	<b>311</b>
6	NILSSON, Andreas	Sweden	83	79	78	74	<b>314</b>
7	TOKIOKA, Pono	United States	80	76	87	75	<b>318</b>
7	TOUZARD, Cedric	South Africa	79	79	78	82	<b>318</b>
9	NEILSEN, Lasse Emil	Denmark	81	85	75	78	<b>319</b>
10	PROCTOR, Dale	Canada	81	81	83	77	<b>322</b>
10	MABASHOV, Michael	United States	81	79	85	77	<b>322</b>
12	MOBBERLEY, Ryan	Canada	82	85	80	77	<b>324</b>
12	BRUMM, Eric	United States	83	79	83	79	<b>324</b>
12	ALDAZ, Dano	United States	80	77	87	80	<b>324</b>
15	ROSE, Jonathon	Canada	83	85	80	77	<b>325</b>
16	CONWAY, Don	Ireland	89	82	84	75	<b>330</b>
16	GRANBERRY, Doren	United States	88	83	81	78	<b>330</b>
18	NYMAN, Robert	Sweden	81	87	91	75	<b>334</b>
18	McLEOD, Jack	Australia	80	83	85	86	<b>334</b>
20	STALLY, Jay	England	95	84	79	77	<b>335</b>
20	CLAUSEN, Soren	Denmark	85	87	86	77	<b>335</b>
22	OUELLET, Alexandre	Canada	87	81	83	85	<b>336</b>
23	CAFFERTY, Steven	Scotland	89	85	85	80	<b>339</b>
23	BARBER, David	Finland	84	76	90	89	<b>339</b>
25	ELLIS, Luke	Australia	91	79	88	82	<b>340</b>
26	HONEYSETT, Andy	Australia	89	83	89	81	<b>342</b>
27	JORGENSEN, Morten	Denmark	84	87	89	83	<b>343</b>
27	ANDERSON, Martin	England	84	83	93	83	<b>343</b>
27	MURPHY, Marc	England	79	93	87	84	<b>343</b>
30	LOTZ, Ryan	South Africa	90	86	83	85	<b>344</b>
30	DYHR, Troels	Denmark	85	89	83	87	<b>344</b>
32	SJODIN, Hans	Sweden	91	86	81	87	<b>345</b>
33	GILBERT, Benjamin	Canada	84	90	82	90	<b>346</b>
34	SODEYAMA, Tetsuro	Japan	89	85	94	79	<b>347</b>
35	GARDINER, Steven	Scotland	91	85	90	83	<b>349</b>
35	TWEEDIE, Mike	Scotland	88	79	89	93	<b>349</b>
37	AIRD, Mark	Australia	84	86	95	85	<b>350</b>
38	WAHLGREN, Gustav	Sweden	96	90	83	84	<b>353</b>

## The 10<sup>th</sup> World Deaf Golf Championships

### Men's Individual Results (cont)

Pos	Name	Country	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
39	LOTHIAN, Mark	Scotland	86	94	91	83	<b>354</b>
39	PEDROZA, Louis	United States	101	83	84	86	<b>354</b>
41	LePAGE, Richard	England	86	94	94	84	<b>358</b>
41	DALTON, Peter	Ireland	92	89	88	89	<b>358</b>
43	TAYLOR, Daryn	United States	88	86	93	94	<b>361</b>
44	McHUGH, Seamus	South Africa	87	89	103	84	<b>363</b>
45	ROBERTS, Michael	England	96	90	98	81	<b>365</b>
46	CARSTENS, Marius	South Africa	87	81	90	108	<b>366</b>
47	USUI, Masahiro	Japan	98	87	93	89	<b>367</b>
48	McCORMACK, Geoffrey	Ireland	96	100	85	88	<b>369</b>
48	KENNEDY, Ian	Scotland	91	95	93	90	<b>369</b>
50	HOLOSE, Given	South Africa	107	96	88	79	<b>370</b>
50	WARIS, Walteri	Finland	91	98	86	95	<b>370</b>
52	FRANSSON, Johan	Sweden	93	90	94	94	<b>371</b>
52	QUEARNEY, Philip	Ireland	97	90	86	98	<b>371</b>
54	WILKIE, Jason	Canada	98	85	107	85	<b>375</b>
55	OTAKA, Ryosuke	Japan	93	94	101	93	<b>381</b>
56	DOUGLAS, Craig	Australia	97	96	92	98	<b>383</b>
57	MUSTONEN, Markku	Finland	102	98	99	88	<b>387</b>
57	YOSHIDA, Yasuhiro	Japan	92	91	101	103	<b>387</b>
59	BROWNE, James	Ireland	108	95	93	95	<b>391</b>
60	MARAIS, Danie	South Africa	112	105	83	99	<b>399</b>
60	SUKEGAWA, Mitsunori	Japan	94	95	108	102	<b>399</b>
62	YAMAGIWA, Hisashi	Japan	101	104	98	99	<b>402</b>
63	ALA-MARTTILA, Jukka	Finland	105	103	100	102	<b>410</b>
	FORREST, Mark	England	WD				<b>WD</b>

### Golfers with the most top 10 finishes in WDC History (10 Men's Championships)

1. Hans Elgaard (Denmark) – 7 (2000, 02, 04, 08, 10, 12, 14) – Six Top 5's
2. Dale Proctor (Canada) – 6 (1995, 98, 2002, 08, 12, 14)
2. Bill Roberts (United States) – 6 (1995, 98, 2000, 04, 06, 14) – Six Top 5's
2. Don Conway (Ireland) – 6 (1995, 98, 2002, 04, 08, 10)
2. Doren Granberry (United States) – 6 (**1995**, 98, 2000, 04, 06, 10) – Five Top 5's
6. Cedric Touzard (South Africa) – 5 (2000, **2002**, **2004**, 06, 14)
6. Denver Magnusson (Australia) – 5 (1995, 98, 2000, **2008**, 10) – Five Top 5's
8. Rob Cundy (Canada) – 4 (1995, 2000, 02, 06)
9. Jack Besley (Australia) – 3 (2010, 12, **2014**)
10. Tetsuro Sodeyama (Japan) – 3 (2006, 08, 10)

## The 10<sup>th</sup> World Deaf Golf Championships

### Women's Individual Results

Pos	Name	Country	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	LOPEZ, Patty	United States	76	78	76	70	<b>300</b>
2	HJELLEGJERDE, Andrea	Norway	76	87	74	76	<b>313</b>
3	WARRINGA, Leonie	The Netherlands	77	80	88	85	<b>330</b>
4	ZUPNIK, Susan	United States	92	85	92	84	<b>353</b>
5	PLOYSA, Patty Sue	United States	92	85	91	86	<b>354</b>
5	MARIC, Jennifer	Sweden	87	89	90	88	<b>354</b>
5	STOCKTON, Melissa	United States	86	89	91	88	<b>354</b>
8	GREAVES, Chantell	Australia	91	91	88	88	<b>358</b>
9	PONIKIEWSKI, Lauri	United States	97	85	92	85	<b>359</b>
10	McILROY, Vanessa	South Africa	86	89	96	93	<b>364</b>
11	CROSS, Donna	England	90	97	93	97	<b>377</b>
12	KLICHOWICZ, Gail	South Africa	98	94	99	94	<b>385</b>
13	PIERCE, Therese	Australia	98	96	98	101	<b>393</b>
14	TOMIKAWA, Miyuki	Japan	97	99	104	96	<b>396</b>
15	OSHIMA, Miku	Japan	99	104	110	99	<b>412</b>
	IIDA, Kazuko	Japan	102	110	WD		<b>WD</b>

### Seniors Individual Results

(Hoffman won on the first playoff hole with 50-foot birdie putt)

Pos	Name	Country	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	HOFFMAN, Kenneth	Canada	79	80	84	74	<b>317</b>
2	WOREK, Keith	United States	80	77	84	76	<b>317</b>
3	MIKKERS, Charles	The Netherlands	81	77	80	80	<b>318</b>
4	RUSH, John	United States	80	82	81	79	<b>322</b>
5	DAPP, Tim	United States	83	86	77	78	<b>324</b>
6	KLIMEK, Tony	Australia	86	86	81	75	<b>328</b>
6	HAMMENFORS, Jonnie	Sweden	81	81	86	80	<b>328</b>
8	CUNDY, Rob	Canada	85	85	78	86	<b>334</b>
8	ISOBE, Gerald	United States	82	84	77	91	<b>334</b>
10	FINNERAN, Mike	United States	91	85	82	78	<b>336</b>
11	WILKINSON, Keith	England	82	93	86	76	<b>337</b>
12	GRAAFF, Raymond	South Africa	84	82	86	90	<b>342</b>
13	PARSONS, Wayne	Australia	87	85	94	82	<b>348</b>
14	OISHI, Jun	Japan	91	92	90	86	<b>359</b>
14	YAMADA, Katsutoshi	Japan	91	89	91	88	<b>359</b>
14	LOUW, Albie	South Africa	84	91	93	91	<b>359</b>
17	BROWN, Jurek	Wales	89	92	93	86	<b>360</b>

## The 10<sup>th</sup> World Deaf Golf Championships

### Seniors Individual Results (cont)

Pos	Name	Country	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
17	TANAKA, Shingo	Japan	92	88	93	87	<b>360</b>
19	JOHNSTON, Brian	Canada	84	91	94	92	<b>361</b>
20	HAYDEN, Kevin	Australia	97	85	93	88	<b>363</b>
21	WILSON, David	Scotland	99	94	87	84	<b>364</b>
21	BEAR, Herman	South Africa	96	93	89	86	<b>364</b>
23	MARCHAND, Denis	Canada	94	88	94	89	<b>365</b>
24	BRIDGES, Derek	England	95	89	90	92	<b>366</b>
24	KURAHASHI, Katsuji	Japan	89	94	91	92	<b>366</b>
26	GEYER, Casper	South Africa	95	90	93	93	<b>371</b>
27	HYNES, Jim	United States	96	100	93	87	<b>376</b>
28	LEISHMAN, John	England	103	93	101	82	<b>379</b>
29	UNDERSCHULTZ, Grant	Canada	90	98	91	101	<b>380</b>
30	WHALLEY, Kevin	England	98	91	98	99	<b>386</b>
	CARROLL, Reggie	Ireland	WD				<b>WD</b>

### Men's Team Results

Pos	Country	Name	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	UNITED STATES	ALDAZ, Dano	80	77	87	80	
		BRUMM, Eric	83	79	83	79	
		MABASHOV, Michael	81	79	85	77	
		PEDROZA, Louis	101	83	84	86	
		ROBERTS, Bill	81	76	83	71	
		TOKIOKA, Pono	80	76	87	75	
			<b>322</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>1267</b>

2	ENGLAND	ANDERSON, Martin	84	83	93	83	
		BURRIS, Michael	79	73	79	75	
		FORREST, Mark	WD				
		LePAGE, Richard	86	94	94	84	
		STALLY, Jay	95	84	79	77	
		WARING, Paul	76	77	77	76	
			<b>325</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>1281</b>

## The 10<sup>th</sup> World Deaf Golf Championships

### Men's Team Results (cont)

Pos	Country	Name	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
3	DENMARK	CLAUSEN, Soren	85	87	86	77	
		DYHR, Troels	85	89	83	87	
		ELGAARD, Hans	77	75	77	73	
		JORGENSEN, Morten	84	87	89	83	
		NEILSEN, Lasse Emil	81	85	75	78	
			<b>327</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>1293</b>

4	AUSTRALIA	AIRD, Mark	84	86	95	85	
		BESLEY, Jack	75	76	76	68	
		DOUGLAS, Craig	97	96	92	98	
		ELLIS, Luke	91	79	88	82	
		HONEYSETT, Andy	89	83	89	81	
		McLEOD, Jack	80	83	85	86	
			<b>328</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>1303</b>

4	CANADA	GILBERT, Benjamin	84	90	82	90	
		MOBBERLEY, Ryan	82	85	80	77	
		OUELLET, Alexandre	87	81	83	85	
		PROCTOR, Dale	81	81	83	77	
		ROSE, Jonathon	83	85	80	77	
		WILKIE, Jason	98	85	107	85	
			<b>330</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>1303</b>

6	SOUTH AFRICA	CARSTENS, Marius	87	81	90	108	
		HOLOSE, Given	107	96	88	79	
		LOTZ, Ryan	90	86	83	85	
		MARAIS, Danie	112	105	83	99	
		McHUGH, Seamus	87	89	103	84	
		TOUZARD, Cedric	79	79	78	82	
			<b>343</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>1340</b>

7	SWEDEN	FRANSSON, Johan	93	90	94	94	
		NILSSON, Andreas	83	79	78	74	
		NYMAN, Robert	81	87	91	75	
		SJODIN, Hans	91	86	81	87	
		WAHLGREN, Gustav	96	90	83	84	
			<b>348</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>1343</b>

## The 10<sup>th</sup> World Deaf Golf Championships

### Men's Team Results (cont)

Pos	Country	Name	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
8	SCOTLAND	CAFFERTY, Steven	89	85	85	80	
		GARDINER, Steven	91	85	90	83	
		KENNEDY, Ian	91	95	93	90	
		LOTHIAN, Mark	86	94	91	83	
		TWEEDIE, Mike	88	79	89	93	
			<b>354</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>1388</b>

9	IRELAND	BROWNE, James	108	95	93	95	
		CONWAY, Don	89	82	84	75	
		DALTON, Peter	92	89	88	89	
		McCORMACK, Geoffrey	96	100	85	88	
		QUEARNEY, Philip	97	90	86	98	
			<b>374</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>1420</b>

10	JAPAN	OTAKA, Ryosuke	93	94	101	93	
		SODEYAMA, Tetsuro	89	85	94	79	
		SUKEGAWA, Mitsunori	94	95	108	102	
		USUI, Masahiro	98	87	93	89	
		YAMAGIWA, Hisashi	101	104	98	99	
		YOSHIDA, Yasuhiro	92	91	101	103	
			<b>368</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>1471</b>

11	FINLAND	ALA-MARTTILA, Jukka	105	103	100	102	
		BARBER, David	84	76	90	89	
		MUSTONEN, Markku	102	98	99	88	
		WARIS, Waltteri	91	98	86	95	
			<b>382</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>1506</b>

### Note: Incredible Improvement

In the first round, South African Given Holose shot in the 100's, then improved to the 90's the second round, then the 80's in the third round before finishing up with a 79 the final round. Six other golfers have improved their rounds each day during these Championships, but none had this much improvement (28 strokes from worst to best), an average of more than 9 strokes per round. Also, this is the first time in WDGC history someone shot in the 100's the first round and the 70's the final round, and on a very difficult and challenging golf course. **Well done, Given!** Hope you are able to bring your fourth round game to the beginning of future championships.

## The 10<sup>th</sup> World Deaf Golf Championships

### Women's Team Results

Pos	Country	Name	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	UNITED STATES	LOPEZ, Patty	76	78	76	70	
		PONIKIEWSKI, Lauri	97	85	92	85	
		PLOYSA, Patty Sue	92	85	91	86	
		STOCKTON, Melissa	86	89	91	88	
		ZUPNIK, Susan	92	85	92	84	
			<b>162</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>646</b>

2	AUSTRALIA	GREAVES, Chantell	91	91	88	88	
		MARIC, Jennifer	87	89	90	88	
		PIERCE, Therese	98	96	98	101	
			<b>178</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>712</b>

3	SOUTH AFRICA	KLICHOWICZ, Gail	98	94	99	94	
		McILROY, Vanessa	86	89	96	93	
			<b>184</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>749</b>

4	JAPAN	IIDA, Kazuko	102	110	WD		
		OSHIMA, Miku	99	104	110	99	
		TOMIKAWA, Miyuki	97	99	104	96	
			<b>196</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>808</b>

### True Sportsmanship, or rather Sportswomanship

Not very often is the runner-up and third place finisher as excited as the champion, but it appears this is what happened this year. We want to single out runner-up Andrea Hjellegjerde and third-place finisher Leonie Warringa for displaying excellent sportswomanship after playing together the final two rounds.



## The 10<sup>th</sup> World Deaf Golf Championships

### Seniors Team Results

Pos	Country	Name	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	UNITED STATES	DAPP, Tim	83	86	77	78	
		FINNERAN, Mike	91	85	82	78	
		ISOBE, Gerald	82	84	77	91	
		RUSH, John	80	82	81	79	
		WOREK, Keith	80	77	84	76	
			<b>160</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>627</b>

2	CANADA	CUNDY, Rob	85	85	78	86	
		HOFFMAN, Kenneth	79	80	84	74	
		JOHNSTON, Brian	84	91	94	92	
		MARCHAND, Denis	94	88	94	89	
		UNDERSCHULTZ, Grant	90	98	91	101	
			<b>163</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>650</b>

3	AUSTRALIA	HAYDEN, Kevin	97	85	93	88	
		KLIMEK, Tony	86	86	81	75	
		PARSONS, Wayne	87	85	94	82	
			<b>173</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>674</b>

4	ENGLAND	BRIDGES, Derek	95	89	90	92	
		LEISHMAN, John	103	93	101	82	
		WHALLEY, Kevin	98	91	98	99	
		WILKINSON, Keith	82	93	86	76	
			<b>177</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>691</b>

4	SOUTH AFRICA	BEAR, Herman	96	93	89	86	
		GEYER, Casper	95	90	93	93	
		GRAAFF, Raymond	84	82	86	90	
		LOUW, Albie	84	91	93	91	
			<b>168</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>691</b>

6	JAPAN	KURAHASHI, Katsuji	89	94	91	92	
		OISHI, Jun	91	92	90	86	
		TANAKA, Shingo	92	88	93	87	
		YAMADA, Katsutoshi	91	89	91	88	
			<b>180</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>711</b>

# The 10<sup>th</sup> World Deaf Golf Championships

## The Individual Champions



Jack Besley, wearing a green shirt and a blue and white star-patterned scarf, is pointing to his score on the men's leaderboard. The leaderboard lists the following players and their scores:

Player	Score
DAVID BARBER	84 76 160 90 250 89 339
JACK BESLEY 20 <sup>th</sup> CHAMPION	75 76 151 76 227 68 295
JAMES BROWNE	108 95 203 93 296 95 391
ERIC BRUMM	83 79 162 83 245 79 324
MICHAEL BURRIS	79 73 152 79 231 79 306
STEVEN CAFFERTY	89 85 174 85 259 85 333
MARIUS CARSTENS	87 81 168 90 258 100 358
SOREN CLAUSEN	85 87 172 86 258 77 335
DON CONWAY	89 82 171 84 255 75 330
PETER DALTON	92 89 181 88 269 89 358
GRAIG DOUGLAS	97 94 191 90 285 88 373

Men's – Jack Besley – AUS



Patty Lopez, wearing a blue shirt and a white cap, is holding her championship trophy. The trophy is a white flag with a blue and red star and the text "20<sup>th</sup> CHAMPION". The women's leaderboard lists the following players and their scores:

Player	Score
KAZUKO IIDA	98 94 192 99 291 70 300
GAIL KLICHOWICZ	76 78 154 76 230 88 354
PATTY LOPEZ 20 <sup>th</sup> CHAMPION	87 89 176 90 266 93 364
PATTY SUE PLOYSA	86 89 175 96 271 99 412
LAURI PONIKIEWSKI	104 203 110 313 101 393
MELISSA STOCKTON	92 85 177 91 268 86 354
MIYUKI TOMIKAWA	97 85 182 92 274 85 359
MELISSA STOCKTON	86 89 175 91 266 88 354
MIYUKI TOMIKAWA	97 99 196 104 300 96 396

Women's – Patty Lopez – USA



Kenneth Hoffman, wearing a red shirt and a red cap, is holding his championship trophy. The trophy is a white flag with a blue and red star and the text "20<sup>th</sup> CHAMPION". The seniors leaderboard lists the following players and their scores:

Player	Score
ROB CUNNY	83 86 169 111 335
TIM DAPP	91 85 176 82 353
MIKE FINNERAN	95 90 185 93 368
CASPER GEYER	84 82 166 86 336
RAYMOND GRAAFF	81 81 162 86 329
JONNIE HAMMENFORS	97 85 182 93 360
KEVIN HAYDEN	79 80 159 84 323
KENNETH HOFFMAN	96 100 196 93 392
JIM HYNES	82 84 166 77 329
GERALD ISOBE	84 91 175 94 360
BRIAN JOHNSTON	86 86 173 81 345
TONY KLIMEK	86 86 173 81 345

Seniors – Kenneth Hoffman – CAN

## The 10<sup>th</sup> World Deaf Golf Championships

### The Team Champions



Men's – USA



Women's – USA



Seniors – USA

# The 10<sup>th</sup> World Deaf Golf Championships

## Sponsors

Many thanks to all! This event would not have been possible otherwise!



Michigan Deaf Athletic Club

## Individual Sponsors

Jim Gurney  
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Bill Roberts  
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## The 10<sup>th</sup> World Deaf Golf Championships

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Every donation helps, even those as little as \$10. Thank you all for helping out!

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### Volunteers

The Organizing Committee wishes to express their heartfelt gratitude to all the volunteers who gave their time and effort to making these 10<sup>th</sup> World Deaf Golf Championships go as smoothly as possible. Your much-appreciated assistance was just as important as the financial help from the sponsors and boosters.

Kandace Anderson  
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