

## SPORTS

## GOLF



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Henrik Stenson tees off on the 18th hole in final round of the Houston Open golf tournament Sunday in Humble.

# Stenson plays his way into Masters

By Doug Ferguson  
Associated Press

HUMBLE—Henrik Stenson didn't get the trophy at the Houston Open. He gladly settled for an invitation to the Masters.

Stenson, who eight months ago was No. 133 in the world, closed with a 6-under 66 on Sunday in the Houston Open and was the leader in the clubhouse when the final round was delayed because of thunderstorms. D.A. Points closed with four pars and wound up with a one-shot victory.

Both were among four players added to the field at Augusta Na-

tional — Points as a PGA Tour winner, Stenson for getting into the top 50 in the world.

Stenson needed to finish at least in 13th place alone to break into the top 50, although he didn't know the math. Stenson figured a top 10 would do the trick, and he didn't feel comfortable until he blistered his tee shot on the 18th hole and hit his approach into about 10 feet for birdie.

"I said to my caddie walking up 18, 'No matter what, we're playing for a green jacket in a couple of weeks,'" Stenson said. "That will be nice. That was the main goal coming here. And when I played as well as I did, put myself in a good position."

On the other side of the Atlantic, Marcel Siem of Germany won the Hassan Trophy in Morocco. That moved him to the cusp of the top 50, but Siem fell short when Russell Henley closed with a 68 at the Houston Open to tie for 45th, just enough to earn points and stay a fraction of a point ahead of Siem, who went from No. 72 to No. 51.

Henley already is in the Masters from winning the Sony Open in January.

Fredrik Jacobson of Sweden and Richard Sterne of South Africa got

into the Masters by being in the top 50. Neither played this week.

Charles Howell III, the Augusta native who started the year outside the top 100, needed to finish no worse than fourth place alone at the Houston Open. He hurt himself with middle rounds of 72-70 at Redstone, but put together a late charge. Howell closed with a 66, but likely fell at least three shots short of having a chance.

"It was a nice finish," Howell said. "Probably not quite good enough for what I need to go to Augusta, but I played well. I gave myself a chance. It was a good effort, but good efforts don't get that invitation to Augusta."

Geoff Ogilvy, who played 10 out of 11 weeks trying to get into the Masters, started the week at No. 50 and missed the cut for the second straight week. Ogilvy withdrew Sunday from next week's Texas Open, ending his hopes of returning to the Masters. The winner of the Houston Open and Texas Open earn a trip to the Masters.

Ogilvy last year fell one shot short of ending the year in the top 50 and assuring his spot at Augusta.

Howell is not playing the Texas Open, either.

## GOLF

# Points weathers storm, captures Houston Open

■ Uses putter he borrowed from his mom

By Doug Ferguson  
Associated Press

HUMBLE — D.A. Points came back from a long rain delay and made four pars, the last one giving him a one-shot victory in the Houston Open and a trip to the Masters.

With a putter he once borrowed from his mother and never returned, Points rolled in a putt from just outside 12 feet on the final hole to polish off a 6-under 66 and avoid a sudden-death playoff with Masters-bound Henrik Stenson and Billy Horschel.

It was quite a turnaround for Points, whose only other PGA Tour win was at Pebble Beach two years ago with actor Billy Murray along for the laughs.

He started the year by missing the cut seven times in nine tournaments. He arrived at Redstone Golf Club having not broken 70 in last nine rounds. But he stayed in the hunt after opening with a 64, and he kept his calm when he returned to the golf course after a rain delay of nearly three hours.

"Thank you for staying," Points said to the sparse gallery in the bleachers as he walked off the green.

Stenson birdied his last two holes for a 66 before the storms rolled across Houston, and while he came up one shot short, he moved up to No. 42 in the world ranking to earn an invitation to the Masters. Horschel was on the 18th tee when play was halted, and then had to wait some more for his turn to hit on the tough driving hole. He split the middle, found the green and two-putted for par to join Stenson in the clubhouse lead.

They waited around for a playoff that wasn't necessary when Points saved par on his last two holes.

"I've been having a really tough year," Points said. "To have a putt to win, you want that starting out every week. I would have liked for it to have been closer."

Points picked up his final birdie on the par-5 13th when the hole got in the way of his chip and kept the ball from running well past. It instead stopped 3 feet away.

Then, he made it hard on himself.

His 5-iron to the 17th came up well short, and Points hit a beautiful pitch-and-run to tap-in range for his par. On the final hole, his hybrid began to sail right of the green toward the bunkers, but it caught just enough of the grass to hand up in the rough. He played a peculiar shot, lobbing the pitch instead of playing it closer to the ground, and the ball came



ASSOCIATED PRESS

D.A. Points came back from a long rain delay and made four pars, the last of which gave him a one-shot victory in the Houston Open.

up well short on the rain-softened green.

The putt dropped into the left corner, and Points screamed so loud it could be heard over the sparse applause.

Suddenly, his year is looking up.

He finished at 16-under 272, and the win gives him another two-year exemption. His exemption from the Pebble Beach would have expired this year. More important, the win gets him back to Augusta National in two weeks.

Twenty players were separated by four shots going into the final round, and it stayed that way for a while, with a dozen players poised to make a run and seize control as the storm clouds gathered.

Phil Mickelson opened his final round with four straight birdies, and he was still in the picture until a three-putt double bogey on the 14th hole. He had a 68, and wound up six shots behind.

Dustin Johnson had the lead at one point until he missed a short birdie putt on the 11th, and then hit his 5-wood into the water on the reachable par-4 12th hole, leading to bogey. He wound up with a 65 and finished two shots behind.

Ben Crane, who played alongside Points, had birdie chances on the last two holes that would have dropped if he had hit them hard enough. Crane had a 68 and tied for fourth with Johnson.

Kevin Chappell was briefly tied for the lead. He had a 68 and tied for sixth, along with Brian Davis (67) and Stewart Cink (70), who started the final round tied for the lead. Cink returned from the delay by making a 5-foot par putt, an 18-foot birdie putt and a 10-foot par save on the 17th to get within two shots of the lead.

Rory McIlroy was long gone, on his way west to San Antonio, when all this was going on. The world's No. 2 player closed out his week at the Houston Open by making a 25-foot birdie putt for a 70 and a tie for 45th. McIlroy will play the Texas Open next week before heading to the Masters.

## NHL

# Kings score twice in 3rd to top Stars

By The Associated Press

DALLAS—Brad Richardson and Justin Williams scored third-period goals just over a minute apart to help lift the Los Angeles Kings to a 3-2 victory over the Dallas Stars on Sunday night.

Jeff Carter also scored his 20th goal of the season for Los Angeles, which has lost just once in regulation in Dallas in its last 14 visits (11-1-2) and outshot the Stars 40-15.

Richardson's goal was particularly impressive, since the fourth-liner was playing his first game since Feb. 10 and third of the season overall after sitting out as a healthy scratch the other 32 contests. Jonathan Bernier needed to make just 15 saves for the Kings, and remained unbeaten — 8-0-0 in his starts this season.

Jamie Benn and Ray Whitney scored for Dallas, which had won both previous meetings between the Pacific Division rivals this season by



Kings forward Brad Richardson (15) celebrates a goal against Stars goalie Kari Lehtonen during the third period of Sunday's game in Dallas. Los Angeles won the game 3-2.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

a combined score of 7-2.

Whitney's goal came on the power play, which Dallas has converted on six of its last 15 opportunities over the past four games.

The Kings remained unbeaten in regulation after four stops on a five-game road trip (3-0-1).

Despite controlling much of the action and

outshooting Dallas 34-9 by the five-minute mark of the final period, the Kings were still tied 1-1, but two goals within a span of 1:09 propelled them to a 3-1 lead.

First, Richardson notched his first goal in exactly one calendar year at 5:40 of the third when he recovered a loose puck

following a Dallas defensive zone turnover and lifted a quick snap shot over Lehtonen's blocker.

Williams' seventh goal of the season came just 69 seconds later when he managed to nudge his own rebound home from the edge of the crease after Lehtonen denied his point-blank one-timer.

## 10 TO WATCH

Here are 10 former Coastal Bend high school athletes who excelled last week at the collegiate level:

## BASEBALL

**Missouri junior LHP Rob Zastryzny (Calallen):** Victimized by lack of run support in a 2-0 SEC loss to No. 2 LSU on Friday. Allowed just one earned run, five hits and struck out seven over 7.2 innings. Saw his record fall to 1-5 and improved his ERA to 3.51.

**Tarleton State junior RHP Garrett Kelly (King):** Improved to 3-2 by pitching two innings of scoreless relief in Friday's 7-2 LSC victory over Texas A&M-Kingsville. Has four saves and a 2.31 ERA in 15 appearances with

24 strikeouts over 35 innings.

**Texas A&M International senior OF Matt Garcia (Ray):** Helped the Dustdevils sweep three Heartland Conference games from Oklahoma Panhandle State by going 6 for 13 with five runs scored, four RBIs and a home run. Batting .312 (29 for 93) with 18 runs scored and 12 RBIs.

**Texas Lutheran sophomore RHP Aaron Aleman (IWA):** Improved to 6-3 by going 4.2 innings, allowing three earned runs and striking out five in Saturday's 6-3 American Southwest win over Sul Ross State. Has a 3.31 ERA with 36 strikeouts over 51.2 innings.

## SOFTBALL

**Houston Baptist junior UTIL Lauren Schwirtlich (Tuloso-Midway):** Went 10

for 19 with five runs scored and one RBI in helping the Huskies win two of five games. Batting a team-high .506 (41 for 81) with 29 runs scored and nine RBIs.

**Incarnate Word sophomore OF Alex Zepeda (Sinton):** Was 4 for 11 with three runs scored to help the Cardinals take two of three LSC games from Midwestern State. Batting .358 (39 for 109) with 20 runs scored and six RBIs.

## WOMEN'S TENNIS

**MIT junior Lauren Quisenberry (Gregory-Portland):** Teamed with Victoria Tam for a 9-7 win in No. 1 doubles to help the Engineers defeat Cal Tech 8-1 Thursday.

**Texas Lutheran freshman Sofia Vega (Flour Bluff):** Defeated Lewis & Clark

College's 6-2, 6-1 in No. 1 singles for the Bulldogs' only victory in an 8-1 loss Wednesday.

## MEN'S TRACK &amp; FIELD

**Incarnate Word senior sprinter/jumper Adan Narvaez (Incarnate Word Academy):** Part of the Cardinals' 400-meter relay team that finished second at Saturday's Trinity Tiger Invitational in 40.91 seconds.

## WOMEN'S TRACK &amp; FIELD

**Texas A&M-Kingsville junior jumper Amanda Haven (Calallen):** Captured second in the long jump at Saturday's Trinity Tiger Invitational with a mark of 18-6.

Compiled by Coy Slavik. If you have a Hometown Heroes suggestion, please email hometown.heroes@gmail.com.

## 100% Guaranteed Male Enhancement



mojo<sup>7</sup> only \$8

- 100% Guaranteed
- Works in 15min.
- Completely Safe
- Maximum Strength
- Last Longer



PURE LINE NUTRITION STORE

5638 Saratoga • Corpus Christi

361-994-5015

www.thepureline.com

CAL174778