

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Hall of Fame Shortstop Pee Wee Reese dead at 81

SPORTS TICKET
 LOS ANGELES—Harold "Pee Wee" Reese, the Hall of Fame shortstop of the Brooklyn Dodgers whose friendship helped Jackie Robinson break baseball's color line, died today in Louisville, Kentucky. He was 81. The Dodgers announced the death of one of their all-time greats but gave no other details. Reese spent his entire 16-year career with the Dodgers, appearing in seven World Series. He played 15 years in Brooklyn and followed the team to Los Angeles for one more season before retiring in 1958.

Sampras Defeats Champ

By TERRY KINNEY
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 MASON, Ohio — Pete Sampras avenged last year's loss to Patrick Rafter in the \$2.45 million ATP Championship, beating the Australian 7-6 (9-7), 6-3 on Sunday for his 60th tournament title. Sampras has won 22 consecutive matches and four tournaments, including the Queen's Cup, Wimbledon and Los Angeles, in the second longest streak of his career. He won 29 in a row in 1994. "Pete never let me play well, it's as simple as that," Rafter said.

"Couldn't get into the game. He just served too big and too hard. There weren't long points out there, and it's just too hard to play tough tennis."

Sampras served 12 aces, landing 67 percent of his first serves. "From the first couple of games, I felt like my rhythm was there," Sampras said. "I felt I was hitting big, and I was hitting close to the line. And you combine those two, I think he felt it was going to be tough to break me."

the Retirement of Steffi Graf

SPORTS TICKET
 Billie Jean King "An all-time great singles player, I'm glad that she was able to retire from women's tennis on her own terms. I hope she will keep some involvement and commitment to the sport for the rest of her life. We will miss her great athletic ability." Lindsay Davenport "It came as a little bit of a surprise. I was really expecting her to kind of end her career at the U.S. Open, so it is a little bit of a surprise. Also, a little bit of sadness. She's obviously one of the greatest players that has ever played and done so much for the sport. It's kind of amazing to think that she is gone. "What I thought was really great, was the older she got and the more she was winning, probably in the mid

1990s, the happier it seemed to make her. When she was playing in the 1980s and just dominating, she never looked that happy and I think she really learned to appreciate the game the older she got and the more she played. I definitely remember watching her when I was growing up and she was always dominating. She has a great place in the history of women's tennis.

Mets Complete What They Started

By IRA PODELL
 © THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
 The New York Mets came within one game of a record that few people cared about. Sammy Sosa is within one homer of Mark McGwire in the chase that everyone keeps talking about. Kenny Rogers pitched the Mets' first complete game of the season - stopping their streak of 139 games without one - and New York beat the San Francisco Giants 12-5 Sunday. Sosa meanwhile hit two-run homers in each of his first two at-bats, giving him 46 overall, but the Chicago Cubs lost to the St. Louis Cardinals 6-5. Sosa is now one home run behind McGwire for the major league lead. "I know they're 1 and 2 and they'll probably finish up that way," Cubs manager Jim Riggleman said. "There are so many variables, but nothing's changed, and they're doing it again."

Woods Takes Home Trophy After Thrilling Victory

By DOUG FERGUSON

© THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
 MEDINAH, Ill. — Tiger Woods wins another major championship and golf might finally have a real rivalry to carry well into the 21st century.

Leading the PGA Championship by four strokes Sunday, Woods stared down from the 13th tee box across Lake Kadajah at what must have looked like his reflection.

There was this kid — at least compared to the 23-year-old

Woods — full of everything but fear. He skipped and sprinted down fairways, smiled and tipped his cap to an adoring gallery and hit shots that players twice his age could never imagine.

"I'm sure he recognized me," said Sergio Garcia, the 19-year-old who is called "El Niño" and is often referred to as the European answer to Woods.

Woods surely recognized what followed. Garcia made the 15-foot birdie putt on the par-3 13th to

Championship.

"To come out of it on top took everything out of me," said Woods, the youngest player since Seve Ballesteros in 1980 to win two majors.

Woods, who had a five-stroke lead with seven holes to play, made a routine two-putt on the 18th hole to close with an even-par 72 and a one-stroke victory over Garcia. Woods finished at 11-under 277 and won \$630,000 for his fourth victory of the year.

Unlike his 12-stroke victory in the Masters two years ago, Woods wasn't all smiles over the final holes, and he didn't throw one of those windmill air punches that have become his trademark.

This was more a sigh of relief. And unlike that historic day at Augusta National, no one is willing to concede the future of golf belongs solely to Woods — least of all Garcia.

"I said when I turned pro that I wanted to be the No. 1 golfer in the world," Garcia said. "And so, I knew I was going to be a rival for Tiger." Woods has been deflecting talk of a rivalry the past two years, whether it was Ernie Els or Justin Leonard, Phil Mickelson or even David Duval, a four-time winner this year who was nowhere to be found Sunday.

There can be no denying what happened Sunday on a magical day at Medinah.



Tiger Woods

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