



# Metro/Sports

## Woods is no match for Clarke

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Not even Tiger Woods had an answer for Darren Clarke.

Clarke won the biggest prize of his career by taking down the No. 1 player in the world, a stunning 4-and-3 victory over Woods in the final of the Match Play Championship on Sunday.

It capped an incredible weekend for Clarke, the 31-year-old from Northern Ireland who defeated Ryder Cup star Hal Sutton, beat second-ranked David Duval, then handed Woods one of his worst losses ever in match play.

"Darren just flat outplayed me," Woods said.

Clarke earned \$1 million, nearly four

times his largest paycheck, and became the first international player to win a World Golf Championship event.

After a brilliant morning round that featured six birdies by each player and no lead changes over the final 11 holes, Clarke pulled away with a birdie blitz that no one has been able to throw at Woods during his domination of worldwide golf the past 10 months.

Clarke, who never trailed after the fourth hole of the 36-hole final, birdied four out of five holes early in the afternoon round to go 4-up with 10 holes to play, a deficit even Woods could not overcome.

"To play as solid as I did today against Tiger, it's fantastic," Clarke said.

Woods missed a 10-foot birdie putt on No. 7. He three-putted from 30 feet on No. 10.

In the end, the player who has made a career out of thrilling comebacks had no answer — not for Clarke, and not for his own swing problems.

It all fell apart on the par-5 12th. Woods was 3-down, in a greenside bunker in two and in great position to win the hole and perhaps start another great comeback.

But he hit his sand shot heavy and left it in the bunker, blasted out to four feet and missed the short par putt to give Clarke another 4-up lead with six holes left.

"He had to get it close, and there's always a risk of leaving it in there," Clarke said.

## NBA Standings

### Western Conference

Portland	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Stk.	Home	Away	Conf.	San Antonio	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Stk.	Home	Away	Conf.
Portland	45	11	.804	-	10-0	W-11	23-3	22-8	27-7	San Antonio	36	20	.643	-	6-4	L-1	21-5	15-15	22-13
L.A. Lakers	45	11	.804	-	10-0	W-11	25-4	20-7	25-9	Utah	35	20	.636	1/2	8-2	W-1	23-8	12-12	21-13
Phoenix	34	21	.618	10 1/2	8-2	L-2	23-5	11-16	17-15	Minnesota	32	23	.582	3/4	5-5	W-4	19-10	13-13	22-15
Seattle	35	22	.614	10 1/2	6-4	W-1	18-9	17-13	22-11	Denver	25	30	.455	10 1/2	4-6	L-1	19-10	6-20	14-22
Sacramento	31	24	.564	13 1/2	3-7	L-4	20-6	11-18	18-13	Dallas	24	31	.436	11 1/2	6-4	W-2	13-14	11-17	14-18
Golden State	16	40	.286	29	4-6	W-1	10-18	6-22	7-25	Houston	22	35	.386	14 1/2	3-7	W-1	14-15	8-20	14-22
L.A. Clippers	12	46	.207	34	1-9	L-1	9-17	3-29	5-29	Vancouver	18	37	.327	17 1/2	5-5	W-1	10-19	9-18	8-24

### Eastern Conference

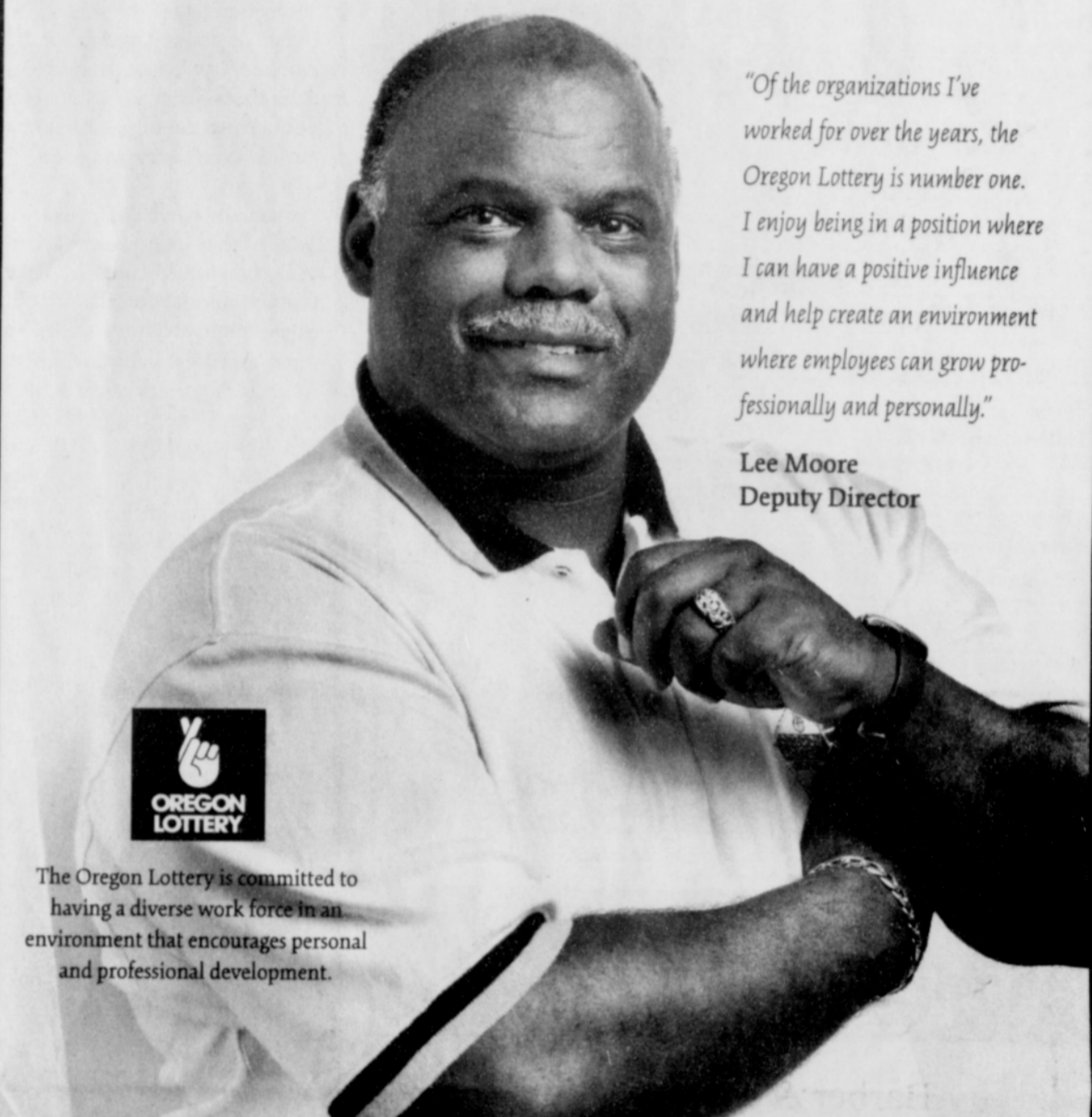
Miami	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Stk.	Home	Away	Conf.	Indiana	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Stk.	Home	Away	Conf.
Miami	36	20	.643	-	7-3	W-4	21-6	15-14	22-14	Indiana	38	17	.691	-	8-2	W-4	25-2	13-15	23-12
New York	34	21	.618	1/2	6-4	L-1	23-6	11-15	22-15	Charlotte	30	25	.545	8	5-5	L-3	22-7	8-18	20-12
Philadelphia	30	25	.545	5 1/2	5-5	L-1	19-10	11-15	21-13	Toronto	29	25	.537	8 1/2	5-5	W-1	18-11	11-14	19-15
Orlando	25	31	.446	11	5-5	L-5	13-13	12-18	15-17	Detroit	28	27	.509	10	6-4	W-2	20-8	8-19	22-17
Boston	23	33	.411	13	2-8	L-2	17-10	6-23	14-18	Milwaukee	28	29	.491	11	2-8	W-1	15-14	13-15	17-18
New Jersey	22	34	.393	14	5-5	L-1	17-12	5-22	15-21	Atlanta	22	32	.407	15 1/2	5-5	L-2	15-10	7-22	16-19
Washington	16	40	.286	20	1-9	L-2	11-16	5-24	11-26	Cleveland	22	33	.400	16	3-7	L-2	18-10	4-23	14-22
										Chicago	12	42	.222	25 1/2	3-7	L-4	8-19	4-23	9-21

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