

# Portland Observer Auto Review

News and reviews on new motor vehicles

BY KATHLEEN CARR

The all-new Lincoln Zephyr is a near-luxury sedan that makes Lincoln-grade luxury and styling affordable to more people than ever. It's a welcome addition to the Lincoln lineup, with its youthful appearance and tidy packaging, the Zephyr provides some balance to the other vehicles in the Lincoln showroom.

There's just one engine, Ford's DOHC 24-valve Duratec 3.0 3.0-liter V-6. Perhaps befitting Zephyr's luxury Lincoln badge, the Fusion/Milan's base 2.3-liter is not available, and there's no higher-performance choice. Partly thanks to Intake Variable Cam Timing (i-VCT), it generates 221 hp and 205-pound feet of torque and a respectable 20 mpg city and 28 highway EPA economy (and

## 2006 Lincoln Zephyr

**Tested Vehicle Information:** Price: \$33,145; Engine: 3.0L 4V V6 Duratec; Transmission: 6-speed automatic.



ULEV II emissions) through its smooth-shifting wide-ratio six-speed automatic. It's not the smoothest engine around,

and the gearbox doesn't offer manual shift control, but the electronically controlled combination acquires

itself well and feels strong at all speeds in the 3400-lb. sedan.

With only one Zephyr model for 2006,

its standard equipment load is impressive. Included are dual-zone electronic climate control, six-speaker audio with MP3 and a six-disc in-dash CD changer, heated 10-way power front seats, heated power outside mirrors with memory and "security approach lamps" and much more. Our test car added heated/cooled front seats and HID headlamps at \$495 each, a \$2,495 navigation system and a \$665 destination and delivery charge, which boosted its sticker to \$33,145 from the \$28,995 base.

The 2006 Lincoln Zephyr is a classy, midsize luxury sedan that combines front-wheel-drive dynamics with contemporary styling, a terrific interior and good fuel economy. It is safe and easy to drive.

# SPORTS



Tiger Woods celebrates after winning the British Open Golf Championship at the Royal Liverpool Golf Course in Hoylake, England Sunday. (AP Photo)

## Strategic Win for Tiger at British Open

His emotions overflow in memory of father

(AP) -- Tiger Woods won his 11th major title Sunday while playing the final 56 holes without one of the most basic clubs.

Maybe next time he'll go barefooted. Or leave his putter at home. Or carry the bag himself.

This guy is that good. "He came up with a strategy that was unique to him," said his coach, Hank Haney.

It's hard to imagine anyone else winning a major without using a driver, but it took Woods only a couple of holes of practice to decide that he wouldn't need it at the British Open.

He'd stick with his 2-iron and 3-wood, which allowed him to keep the ball out of the treacherous bunkers and take advantage of the baked, brown fairways to get enough distance.

Once he was within sight of the greens, Woods honed in on the flag with precise iron shots that left his rivals shaking their heads. Haney figured that his star pupil had only three bad shots all week, a remarkable accomplishment that allowed him to win comfortably with an 18-under 270.

When it was over, Woods didn't follow his normal script. For once, he opened up and let everyone know what he was truly feeling. He broke down as he hugged his caddy, Steve Williams, in the center of the green. Then he sought out his wife, Elin, embracing her for a good minute while sobbing uncontrollably. His chest was

heaving as she rubbed the back of his head and whispered something in his ear.

Back in April, Woods desperately wanted to win the Masters for his dying father, knowing it would probably be the last chance in a major, but settled for third behind Phil Mickelson. Earl Woods passed away in May after a long battle with cancer, and his son was deeply affected by losing the man who steered him to golf, guided his career in the early days and provided myriad lessons that are still in use to this day.

"I'm kind of one who bottles things up a little bit and moves on, tries to deal with things in my own way," Woods said. "But at that moment it all came pouring out and all the things my father has meant to me and the game of golf. I just wish he

could have seen it one more time."

Woods wasn't the only one dealing with a loss. DiMarco finished two strokes back and struggled to hold back the tears as he remembered his mother, Norma, who died suddenly from a heart attack while vacationing on the Fourth of July.

"I know my mom would be very proud of me right now," DiMarco said.

DiMarco was the only player on a star-studded leaderboard who made a serious run at Woods. Sergio Garcia got to play with Woods in the final group but was out of it by the time he made the turn, having bogeyed four of the first nine holes. Ernie Els and Jim Furyk faded away, as well.

Woods became the first player since Tom Watson in 1982-83 to win golf's oldest championship in consecutive years.

## Sonics Gets Ultimatum with Buyout

New owners scoff at speculation team will move to Oklahoma

(AP) -- Members of an Oklahoma City business group that purchased the SuperSonics said they are disappointed many people have scoffed at the notion that their goal is to keep the team in Seattle.

Members of the group, Professional Basketball Club LLC, were instrumental in making Oklahoma City a temporary home to the New Orleans Hornets after Hurricane Katrina, and there has been much public speculation that their ultimate aim is to move the Sonics to Oklahoma City when the Hornets return to New Orleans after next season.

Not so, says Clay Bennett, the leader of the group, and Ed Evans, one of its members.

They view the \$350 million purchase as a solid business opportunity, they said in a



Oklahoma City businessman Clay Bennett is presented a Seattle SuperSonics NBA basketball jersey during an announcement ceremony in Seattle that he would take over ownership of the team with a group of other Oklahoma investors. (AP Photo)

news conference in Oklahoma City.

They said they are committed to the Sonics' success next year and will work in good faith to persuade Seattle officials to help them replace or renovate Key Arena, which Bennett has said is a prerequisite for the Sonics remaining in Seattle.

"We're going to give it our best shot," Evans said.

Bennett said members approached the purchase as a business deal, believing Seattle to be one of the great cities in the nation and one of the best sports venues.

He also defended outgoing Sonics owner Howard Schultz, chairman of Starbucks Corp., who has been unsuccessful in trying to get a new arena paid for in part by taxpayers.

Bennett said he would hire a chief operating officer to help in negotiations for a new basketball arena in the Seattle area and also will be heavily involved himself, traveling from Oklahoma City to Seattle for discussions and catching as many basketball games as he can.



## American Surprises Racing World

2006 Tour de France winner Floyd Landis of the U.S. tosses champagne as he rides down the Champs-Elysees avenue in Paris, after the final stage of the 93rd Tour de France cycling race between Antony, south of Paris, and Paris, Sunday. (AP photo)

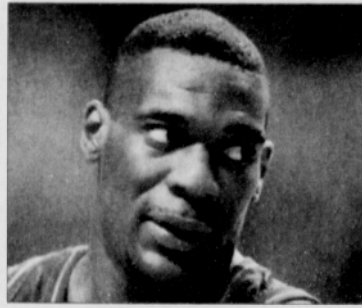
## Kemp Busted in Retirement

(AP) -- Shawn Kemp was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana, following a traffic stop after midnight Friday in Houston for driving without a license plate. The officer who pulled Kemp over said he noticed the smell of burning marijuana coming from Kemp's ve-

hicle. The officer later found less than two ounces of the illegal drug in Kemp's possession. The six-time NBA All-Star was released from the Harris County Jail after posting a \$500 cash bond and faces a July 28 court appearance.

Kemp checked into a rehabilitation clinic for cocaine use in 2001. In April 2005, he was arrested for possessing small amounts of cocaine and marijuana in his truck.

After 14 seasons Kemp retired from the league in 2003 and now lives in Houston.



Shawn Kemp

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