

## A DAY WITH THE GREATS

Fans were treated to more than just golf as 12 of the game's legends brought more than 300 PGA TOUR victories and 50 major championships with them to the first tee for this year's 3M Oil & Gas Greats of Golf scramble-style competition at the Insperity Invitational.

A crystal clear blue bird day put a sunny spotlight on not only great golf, but also Lee Trevino, Gary Player, and Jack Nicklaus, who put on a one-of-a-kind comedy tour that stretched 18 holes at The Woodlands Country Club's Tournament Course.

Thousands of spectators lined the ropes – from the driving range to the scoring tent – with hats, flags, and framed photos waiting patiently for autographs. And if their souvenirs were not signed, Trevino kept everyone entertained with plenty of jokes.

Even former President George H.W. Bush, his wife, Barbara, were not going to miss this event. Forty one and the First Lady showed up in dramatic fashion on a golf cart parked beside the tee blocks to catch the opening tee shots, adding to the stir amongst the gallery that anxiously awaited the arrival of the golfing greats on the first hole.

Nicklaus teed off last after the announcer rattled off his many accomplishments and considered him “the greatest golfer in the history of the game.” With a wave to the crowd and a grin on his face, he planted his feet and lined up the drive.

“Here goes nothing,” he said before bombing one of his traditional high-fades down the first fairway.

And they were off...



## *Drives and Jives*

Nobody was safe of being on the receiving end of a jab on this round that will be forever etched in the memory books of fans and players alike. The Big Three, consisting of Trevino, Player, and Nicklaus, wasted little time poking fun at the wide-eyed fans, and of course each other.

“Okay guys, I’ll show you one last time,” joked Nicklaus before adding to his collection of clutch putts as the ball rolled right in following near-misses from Trevino and Player on the first green,

As if the golf gods wrote the day’s script, the Greats found themselves in the same scenario on the next hole.

“Show me one more time,” Trevino urged. And so he did. The Golden Bear demonstrated why he boasts 18 major victories and the title as the best to ever play the game after effortlessly sinking a snaking putt to the delight of the fans.

Spectators eagerly followed the Greats throughout the course, ensuring quite a work out to stay ahead of the golf carts, cameras and media cruising around the greens. Perhaps the only thing burning more than their legs were their cheeks from constant laughter.

It was difficult to tell which was smoother: the quick jabs to entertain the crowd, or Player’s natural swing. While the Golden Bear told his group to just drive it far enough to get him to the green, Trevino reminded the spectators that he was the group’s token guinea pig.

“I’m glad I’m hitting the putts enough to show you the breaks,” Trevino quipped.



## *Just Having Fun*

Long known for playing to their galleries on the PGA TOUR, the Big Three did not disappoint on Saturday afternoon, giving the round everything they had with their golf skills and personalities. Trevino, Player, and Nicklaus did their very best, from laughing with one another to hitting a one perfect shot after the other.

“I don’t think anyone is having more fun than we are,” said Trevino with a smile.

While getting air time with the Merry Mex around is a challenge at best, golf fans may have had the last word on that one.

Walking “10 feet from greatness” and soaking up every putt, drive, and precious moment, everyone in attendance, from toddlers to Champions Tour professionals racing out after their round, and lifelong fans in between, watched in admiration as three of the game’s greatest shot 13-under to win the 3M Oil & Gas Greats of Golf Challenge.

With the thought that these golfers may not play together again in this arena, the day became extra special for the more than 20,000 fans.

As the crowd dispersed with the eventful afternoon coming to end, one thing was mutual amongst the hopeful spectators circling the 18<sup>th</sup> green.



Can't wait to see you again next year!