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## Top collegians commit to play in the 2011 Nationwide Children's Hospital Invitational

**Columbus, Ohio – July 15, 2011** – Tournament officials announced today that nine first-team All-Americans and three second-team All-Americans from the 2011 Golf Coaches Association of America award winners have committed to play in the Nationwide Children's Hospital Invitational. The fifth anniversary of the event continues to boast the largest number of collegiate invitations given in the history of the Nationwide Tour. The inaugural event in 2007 was won by BYU sophomore Daniel Summerhays, who became the first amateur to win on the Nationwide Tour and is now competing on the PGA TOUR.

The first –team All-Americans accepting invitations to compete in the 2011 Nationwide Children's Hospital Invitational are: Bud Cauley, Luke Guthrie, Morgan Hoffmann, John Peterson, Patrick Reed, Peter Uihlein, Arnold Vongvanij, James White and Andrew Yun. Second-team All-Americans include Harris English, J.T. Griffin, and Blayne Barber.

**Bud Cauley** finished his Alabama career as a Junior and was the school's first three-time first-team All-American. He is Alabama's career leader in scoring average at 71.39 and was a three-time first-team All-SEC selection and three-time Ben Hogan Award semifinalist. He played for the United States in the 2009 Walker Cup and won four career tournaments with the Tide.

Cauley turned professional in early June, 2011. He made his pro debut two weeks later at the U.S. Open Championship where he finished tied for 63<sup>rd</sup> place.

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**Luke Guthrie** completed his 2010-11 season by becoming the first Illinois player since 1999 to win the Big Ten title. He tied for 13<sup>th</sup> at the 2011 NCAA Championship and is a two time first-team All-Big Ten selection. The native of Quincy, Illinois won the 2009 Illinois State Amateur.

**Morgan Hoffmann** of Oklahoma State was the recipient of the Phil Mickelson Award in 2009 as the most outstanding freshman in Division I men's golf. The Wyckoff, New Jersey native was also named the Big 12 Player of the Year and led the Cowboy's in scoring average at 71.55. Hoffmann is a two-time first-team All-American and will be competing in the Nationwide Children's Hospital Invitational for a third straight year in 2011. He recorded two top-10 finishes in his two previous outings. He tied for 8<sup>th</sup> place in 2009 and ninth place in last year's event. Also in 2010 Hoffmann made his major championship debut at the United States Open.

**John Peterson** is one of the most decorated players in the History of LSU Men's Golf. He captured the 2011 NCAA Championship in dominate fashion and was the 2011 recipient of the Arnold Palmer Award. The Fort Worth, Texas native is a three-time All-American and a two-time first-team All-SEC selection. Peterson finished his college career with two victories as well as 12 top-five finishes, 19 top-10 finishes and 27 top-20 finishes in 49 appearances.

**Patrick Reed** was Augusta State's No. 1 golfer and helped lead the Jaguars to back to back NCAA Team Championships. The Georgia native turned professional in 2011 and made his pro debut that same year at the FedEx St. Jude Classic.

**Peter Uihlein** was a member of the 2009 Walker Cup Team for the United States and captured the 2010 U.S. Amateur Championship. He was a first-team All-Big 12 selection in 2010 for Oklahoma State University and is a two-time first-team All-American. So far in 2011 Uihlein has finished tied for 57<sup>th</sup> at the Transitions Championship and tied for 70<sup>th</sup> at AT&T National on the PGA TOUR. The Orlando, Florida native also played in the 2011 Masters and U.S. Open and is currently headed into the weekend at the British Open in a tie for 45<sup>th</sup> place.

**Anthony Bank Vongvanij** had an incredible season, recording three medalist honors, four top-five finishes, two in the top-10 and two more in the top-20. He was named the SEC Player of the Year, added to the Ben Hogan Watch List and received an invitation to play on the 2011 Palmer Cup Team. In addition, he finished the season with the third-highest single-season stroke average mark in Florida history.

**James White** is the highest ranked Georgia player to enroll at Georgia Tech since Roberto Castro. White is a 2011 first-team All-American and All-ACC performer. He is also the 2011 ACC Men's Golf Scholar-Athlete of the Year. The two-time All-ACC Academic and All-ACC team honoree was also the 2010 individual champion at the U.S. Collegiate.

**Andrew Yun** recorded his first collegiate victory as a sophomore for Stanford at the 2011 The Prestige at PGA West. The All-American from Arizona recorded seven top-10 finishes during the 2010-11 season. He was Stanford's top finisher in nine of the team's 11 events. Yun was also a first-team All-PAC-10 selection and semifinalist for the Hogan Award, which honors the top player in collegiate golf.

**Harris English** is a two-time second-team All-American for Georgia. He was a finalist for the 2011 Byron Nelson Award and finished tied for 18<sup>th</sup> in his first Nationwide Tour start at the Stadion Classic at UGA. The Georgia native is also a two-time first-team All-SEC selection for the Bulldogs.

**J.T. Griffin** is a two-time All-ACC conference selection for Georgia Tech. He led his team and ranked second in the ACC in scoring average during the 2010-11 season with a 71.54 stroke average. The North Carolina native finished the season with seven top-10 finishes.

**Blayne Barber** has finished inside the top-five in 6-of-9 events this season for Auburn, highlighted by a win at the 2010 Bridgestone Intercollegiate. Ranked 13th in the latest GolfWeek Sagarin ratings, Barber leads the team with a scoring average of 70.81. The Lake City, Fla., native also leads the Tigers in sub-par rounds and rounds in the 60s.

The fifth anniversary of the Nationwide Children's Hospital Invitational will feature a purse of \$800,000, the second largest on the Nationwide Tour. The Golf Channel will broadcast Tournament coverage from Thursday's opening round to the trophy presentation on Sunday. The Invitational will be played July 18 – 24, 2011 at The Ohio State University Golf Club - Scarlet Course, rated as the top collegiate golf course in the country by Golf Digest. The Tournament integrates the top professionals on the Nationwide Tour with the top players from the collegiate ranks to create a unique field of 144 of the best up and coming players from around the world.

For questions concerning ticket prices and availability, how to become a volunteer, and general Tournament information please call (614) 764-GOLF or visit [www.nchigolf.com](http://www.nchigolf.com).

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## 2011 Nationwide Children's Hospital Invitational Schedule of Events

Monday, July 18	Copart Celebrity Pro-Am Tournament hosted by Clark Kellogg <i>Muirfield Village Golf Club, Dublin, Ohio</i>	12:00pm Shotgun
	Women's Board of Nationwide Children's Hospital Junior Golf Classic <i>Ohio State University Golf Club - Gray Course</i>	All Day
	Professional Practice Rounds	All Day
Tuesday, July 20	Professional Practice Rounds	All Day
	Amateur Instructional Challenge <i>New Albany Country Club</i>	12:30pm Shotgun
Wednesday, July 21	Official Pro-Am Tournament (Scarlet course)	Morning Tee Times from 7:00am Afternoon Tee Times from 12:00pm
	Professional Practice Rounds	All Day
Thursday, July 22	First Round Official Tournament Competition	7:00am – 7:00pm
	First Shot to Fight Cancer	6:50am
	<b>Putting Challenge presented by Carrabba's</b>	11:00am – 4:00pm
	<b>Birdie Time Tastes Great!</b> - All day adjacent to the 13 <sup>th</sup> fairway. Miller Lite Beer specials for 15 minutes when a Tour Professional scores a birdie on the 13 <sup>th</sup> hole.	
Friday, July 23	Second Round Official Tournament Competition	7:00am – 7:00pm
	<b>Putting Challenge presented by Carrabba's</b>	11:00am – 4:00pm
	<b>Birdie Time Tastes Great!</b> - All day adjacent to the 13 <sup>th</sup> fairway. Miller Lite Beer specials for 15 minutes when a Tour Professional scores a birdie on the 13 <sup>th</sup> hole.	
Saturday, July 24	Third Round Official Tournament Competition	8:30am – 6:00pm
	<b>Putting Challenge presented by Carrabba's</b>	11:00am – 4:00pm
	<b>Jeni's Ice Creams Day</b> – Adjacent to the 18 <sup>th</sup> green FREE Ice Cream for ALL patrons	12:00pm-5:00pm
	<b>Birdie Time Tastes Great!</b> - All day adjacent to the 13 <sup>th</sup> fairway. Miller Lite Beer specials for 15 minutes when a Tour Professional scores a birdie on the 13 <sup>th</sup> hole.	
Sunday, July 25	Final Round Official Tournament Competition	8:30am – 6:00pm
	<i>Awards Ceremony Following Play of Final Round</i>	
	<b>Free Pancake Breakfast presented by Chris Cakes</b>	9:00am-12:00pm
	<b>Putting Challenge presented by Carrabba's</b>	11:00am – 4:00pm
	<b>Birdie Time Tastes Great!</b> - All day adjacent to the 13 <sup>th</sup> fairway. Miller Lite Beer specials for 15 minutes when a Tour Professional scores a birdie on the 13 <sup>th</sup> hole.	

*\*All times subject to change*

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## ABOUT THE NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL INVITATIONAL

The Nationwide Children's Hospital Invitational is owned and operated by Champions of the Community, Inc., an Ohio non-profit corporation. The event is the only tournament on the Nationwide Tour to operate as an "invitational", providing a unique platform in which the best players on the Nationwide Tour will be joined by a select number of the country's top collegian/amateur golfers in a limited field of 144 players. Featuring a purse of \$800,000 the Tournament is conducted to showcase the best golf on the Nationwide Tour on one of the most challenging venues in the world for the enjoyment of spectators and to benefit charitable organizations in central Ohio. For more information, call 614-764-GOLF or visit our website at [www.nchigolf.com](http://www.nchigolf.com).

## ABOUT NATIONWIDE

Nationwide, based in Columbus, Ohio, is one of the largest and strongest diversified insurance and financial services organizations in the U.S. and is rated A+ by A.M. Best. The company provides a full range of personalized insurance and financial services, including auto, motorcycle, boat, homeowners, life, farm, commercial insurance, administrative services, annuities, mortgages, mutual funds, pensions and long-term savings plans. For more information, visit [www.nationwide.com](http://www.nationwide.com). *Nationwide, On Your Side, and the Nationwide Framemark are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company.*

## ABOUT NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Ranked in the *U.S. News & World Report's* 2008 "America's Best Children's Hospitals" and *Parents* magazine's 2009 top ten "Best Children's Hospitals" lists, Nationwide Children's Hospital is one of the nation's largest not-for-profit freestanding pediatric healthcare networks providing wellness, preventive, diagnostic, treatment and rehabilitative care for infants, children, adolescents and adult patients with congenital disease. A medical staff of nearly 900 and a hospital staff of 6,500 provide state-of-the-art pediatric care for more than 750,000 patient visits annually. As home to the Department of Pediatrics of The Ohio State University College of Medicine, Nationwide Children's Hospital physicians train the next generation of pediatricians and pediatric specialists. The Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital is one of the top 10 National Institutes of Health-funded freestanding pediatric research facilities. Nationwide Children's remains true to the original mission since its founding in 1892 of providing care regardless of a family's ability to pay. More information is available at [NationwideChildrens.org](http://NationwideChildrens.org).

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## ABOUT THE NATIONWIDE TOUR

Founded (1990), owned and operated by the PGA TOUR, the Nationwide Tour identifies those players who are ready to compete and win on golf's biggest stage. As the official proving ground of the PGA TOUR, two out of three PGA TOUR members are Nationwide Tour alumni. Tour alumni have won 310 PGA TOUR titles, including 13 majors and four PLAYERS Championships. Twenty-five PGA TOUR cards will be at stake over the course of 26 events in 2011. Nationwide Insurance is the Tour's umbrella sponsor through 2012. The PGA TOUR, through the efforts of its three tours and their tournaments, sponsors, players and volunteers, supports over 2,000 local charities and has surpassed \$1.6 billion in charitable giving. To learn more about the PGA TOUR and Nationwide Tour and to follow the season-long quest for a PGA TOUR card, visit [PGATOUR.COM](http://PGATOUR.COM), Twitter and Facebook.

## ABOUT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT

The Ohio State University Department of Athletics is completely self supporting and receives no university monies, tax dollars or student fees. The Department of Athletics sponsors 36 fully funded varsity teams – 17 for women, 16 for men and three that are co-educational – and is committed to providing the very finest in academic and athletics support in an effort to provide its more than 1,000 student-athletes with a quality, life-changing experience at Ohio State.