

Reed 2 ahead at Barclays as Ryder Cup spot looms

REUTERS

Patrick Reed moved one step closer in his bid for a fifth PGA Tour win and an automatic selection for next month's Ryder Cup as he seized a two-stroke lead after Friday's second round of The Barclays in Farmingdale, New York.

The burly American, co-leader with Scotland's Martin Laird overnight, mixed six birdies with three bogeys in bright sunshine to card a three-under-par 68 on the challenging layout at Bethpage Black.

That left Reed at eight-under 134, two ahead of Argentina's Emiliano Grillo (69) and American world number eight Rickie Fowler (69) midway through the first of the PGA Tour's four lucrative FedExCup playoff events.

Top-ranked Australian Jason Day, who triumphed by six shots last year when the tournament was held at Plainfield Country Club, carded a 70 to sit four strokes off the pace, level with Laird (72) and reigning FedExCup champion Jordan Spieth (67).

Among the other big names, four-time major winner Rory McIlroy (69) trailed by six shots, while American world number two Dustin Johnson (72) was eight back.

"Any time you're at the top of the

leaderboard, you feel good," Reed told reporters after recording four birdies in his first seven holes and two bogeys in his last three.

"I left some shots out there today, especially late in the round. It was just something I'm going to have to go back and fix a little bit."

While Reed has one eye on making the U.S. Ryder Cup team for a second time, his focus this week is on his victory bid.

"I'm not going into this week looking at it as, 'Oh, I need to do this for the Ryder Cup'. I'm going in thinking, 'All right, I need to go win a golf tournament, and everything else will take care of itself,'" he said.

Reed is scrambling for one of the last three automatic spots on the U.S. team to take on holders Europe at Hazeltine outside Minneapolis from Sept. 30-Oct. 2.

U.S. Open champion Johnson, Spieth, Phil Mickelson, PGA Championship winner Jimmy Walker and Ryder Cup rookie Brooks Koepka have already secured their berths, with the final three automatic selections to be decided after The Barclays.

Day, who has won seven tournaments over the past 12 months, made a sizzling start with five birdies in his first seven holes before dropping four shots over the next three.



Patrick Reed putts on the 11th green during the second round of The Barclays golf tournament at Bethpage State Park on Friday. ERIC SUCAR | USA TODAY

Dover-Foxcroft fighter set for CES 38 encore

BY ERNIE CLARK
BDN STAFF

Dover-Foxcroft's Derek Shorey, who fights out of the Shatterproof Combat Club in Dexter, will return to the cage at CES 38 on Sept. 23 at Foxwoods Resort Casino in Mashantucket, Connecticut.

Shorey will face Connecticut native Pete Rogers Jr. in a three-round featherweight mixed martial arts bout.

Shorey, a former wrestling state champion at Foxcroft Academy, is 3-7 in a professional MMA career in which nine of his bouts have been for New England Fights. This will mark his second fight for CES, following a submission loss to Kody Nordby at CES 32 in Lincoln, Rhode Island, on Jan. 8.

"I can't even describe how excited I am for this fight," said Shorey in a news re-

lease. "I've taken a lot of short-notice fights, yeah, but I haven't shown anything close to what I'm capable of. A win isn't just a win for me. To have a win over a veteran like Pete Rogers Jr., will prove that I belong here, and that I can put my faith in getting better. It'll be a huge night for me."

Rogers is 2-3 overall, 1-2 for Bellator MMA and 1-1 for CES. He is coming off a loss

to Marius Enache at Bellator 144 last October at the Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville, Connecticut.

CES 38 also will include a lightweight battle between UFC veterans Levan Makashvili (11-2-1) and Sean Soriano (9-4). Makashvili is coming off a unanimous-decision victory over Bangor's Ryan Sanders at CES 36 on June 10 in Lincoln, Rhode Island.

Oxford

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adjustment and it went the right way," Brackett said. "I think I can get up on the wheel on that and go pretty good."

Brackett might have to fend off his son TJ Brackett in order to win Sunday's race. The elder Brackett said he thinks his son has a "real good shot" to win the 250. Brackett's daughter Vanna raced in last year's 250, but will be spotting for her father this year.

Confidence in car and crew is a recipe for success in the 250. Just ask defending race winning Glen Luce.

"The equipment confidence was a big boost. We came out, unloaded Friday last year and we were pretty quick at every practice," the Turner native said. "It also helps when you're team is backing you. Had a couple

great pit stops."

Luce's confidence has wavered this season. He won the SLM season opener, but things haven't gone so smoothly since. He currently sits 12th in the SLM point standings.

Another confidence boost could come at just the right time. Luce said he tested last year's winning car this past weekend and he was happy with it.

Track owner Tom Mayberry said Wednesday he expects between 60 and 70 cars to attempt to qualify, with roughly 40 making the field. Robbins said he thinks any one of 30 cars could win. Brackett estimated 25 cars are strong enough to win.

Brackett and Luce both mentioned Florida native Dalton Sargeant as a favorite. Former winner Joey Polewarczyk Jr. was another name thrown around. Robbins said to not count out three-time winner Mike Rowe of Turner.

Rangers pitcher arrested on DWI charge

THE SPORTS XCHANGE

Texas Rangers right-handed relief pitcher Jeremy Jeffress

was arrested on a drunk-driving charge early Friday morning.

According to a Dallas County arrest warrant, the 28-year-old Jeffress was jailed at 5:13 a.m. and charged with DWI. He has not been arraigned. Bail was set at \$500 and he was released from jail about 11 a.m. after posting bond, the Dallas County sheriff's office said.

Police said an officer at 2:30 a.m. observed a black 2009 Mercedes Benz MC5 driven by Jeffress switch lanes without signaling, cut-

ting off another driver and almost hitting the car.

The Rangers issued a statement stating they were aware of the situation

"At this time, we are in the process of ... gathering information and have no further comment," the statement said.

Jeffress, who was acquired from the Milwaukee Brewers at the trade deadline, has a 2-2 record with a 2.52 ERA and 27 saves in 56 games this season. He has appeared in nine games for the Rangers, allowing four earned runs in nine innings for a 4.00 ERA.

Jeffress, who was the 16th overall selection in the 2006 draft, served a 100-game suspension in 2009 for a second positive drug test while in

the minor leagues. He would face a lifetime ban from Major League Baseball for another positive drug test.

Twins promote former first-round pick

The Minnesota Twins promoted right-handed pitcher Alex Wimmers to the major leagues on Friday for the first time since he was their 2010 first-round draft pick.

The Twins selected the contract of Wimmers from Triple-A Rochester and he will join the team for its series in Toronto starting Friday night.

The 27-year-old Wimmers is a combined 2-2 with a 3.97 ERA and 11 saves in 45 relief appearances over 56 2/3 innings with Double-A Chat-

tanooga and Rochester this season. He moved to the bullpen fulltime in 2016.

Wimmers, who was the No. 21 pick in the 2010 draft out of Ohio State, struggled through several of his seven minor league seasons.



ASHLEY L. CONTI | BDN

University of Maine's Sydney Veljacic (left) moves the ball around Providence's Adrienne Houle during their field hockey game on Friday in Orono. UMaine won 7-1.

UMaine

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through Cochran, Ricker closed out the half by deflecting Crowley's shot past Guilbert.

"I kind of put my stick there, and it went in," said Ricker, who just returned to the team earlier this week

after practicing with the Canadian National Team.

Cummings and Ricker added second-half goals.

Ricker called her debut "pretty exciting."

Babineau was pleased with her team's performance.

"We talked about our decision-making inside the circle because you're only going to get so many of those chances," said Babineau. "Goal scoring isn't just about putting your head down and striking the ball as hard as you can. It's about where you are in the circle, what is around you and having the composure to be able to look at all that. That was pretty good today."

UMaine hosts Sacred Heart (Connecticut) at 1 p.m. Sunday.

Combat

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son (3-2) for the vacant NEF MMA amateur lightweight title.

Five professional MMA bouts will include a rematch between veteran lightweights Jesse "The Viking" Erickson (7-5) and Jon Lemke (5-6).

Lemke, who trains out of Team Irish MMA Fitness

Academy in Brewer, won the earlier meeting via first-round stoppage at Bellator 93 on March 21, 2013, in Lewiston.

The Lemke-Erickson rematch was supposed to take place in Bangor last month but was postponed after Erickson suffered a training-camp injury.

The show also will feature three women's MMA bouts, including a 125-pound professional battle between Valerie "Valociraptor" Aspaas

and Invicta 16 veteran Sarah "SwitchKick" Click.

Among three scheduled boxing matches, undefeated North Anson native Brandon Montella (4-0) will meet Tollison Lewis in a four-round light-heavyweight contest while middleweight John Webster will return on the eve of his 48th birthday to battle Zenon Herrera at 160 pounds and Casey Kramlich will face John Ortolani in a 155-pound bout.

Where in the Woods?

Trail Identification Contest!

BDN
Aislinn Sarnacki
Bangor Daily News reporter for Outdoors

Online, visit:
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