



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 28, 2009

**Max McKay ties for 17<sup>th</sup> at the 2009 USGA Junior Amateur**

Max McKay, of St. Augustine Florida, tied for 17<sup>th</sup> at the Prestigious 2009 USGA Junior Amateur, hosted by Donald Trump, at Trump National in Bedminster, New Jersey, the week of July 20-26.

The Amateur attracts 156 of the finest junior golfers in the world. Max qualified locally and made the trip with his family and his Coach, Dale Claussen. Mr. Claussen, founder and Owner of THE Golf Academy explained Max's accomplishment, "Tiger Woods won this event 3 times, just getting here is a great feat, but for Max to play so well is a testament to his hard work and dedication!"

The first 2 days of the event, are a qualifier to make it to Match play. Only the TOP 64 players made it and Max shot 75-74 for a 149 total and made the cut by 5 strokes. The second round of qualifying had its tense moments, not only was the round played in a steady downpour, and on the very difficult 'OLD Course', but after making the nine hole turn at 41, Max shot an incredible 33 to breeze his way into Match Play. Dale Claussen, "I really enjoyed caddying for Max, and the 33 shot on his last nine holes for qualifying was the finest nine holes I have ever seen, It was amazing, and something he will remember for the rest of his life. To shoot that score when his back was up against a wall was just great!"

In the first round of Match Play, Max was seeded #37 and played the #26 seed, a young man from Wisconsin. After going 4 holes up in the match the youngster from Wisconsin made a charge, and Max needed 2 great pars to hold him off for a 3 & 2 victory.

The second round, Max's draw was the #6 seed from Bogata, Columbia. Even though Max played well he ended up losing the match but held his head up high and demonstrated great sportsmanship. Dale Claussen says, "Max is a true Champion, and to see how he handled himself when he wasn't playing well, was a very proud moment for me!"

Congratulations Max and best of luck at Liberty University next year!

To learn more about the Full Time Academy visit our website at [www.the-golfacademy.com](http://www.the-golfacademy.com)

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### **About THE Golf Academy**

THE Golf Academy of Florida, Three locations: The Golf Club at South Hampton, The Golf Club at Fleming Island and in South Florida: Boca Raton Resort

North Florida's #1 Junior Golf Academy.

Academy Director: Dale Claussen

Dale has been recognized by *Golf World Magazine* as “one of the top 40 golf instructors in the USA under the age of 40.” He was also named “one of the top 50 junior golf instructors in the USA for 2005, 2006 and 2007,” by *US Kids Golf*.

Head Teaching Professional: Elliott LaVercombe, former Executive Director of The First Tee of St. Johns County from 2001-2007.

[www.the-golfacademy.com](http://www.the-golfacademy.com)