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Cassini wins Porter Cup

Georgia graduate fires final round 65

It couldn't have been more exhilarating for Nick Cassini on the 18th hole at NFCC. He knew he was going to win the Porter Cup, the biggest victory of his golf career, because he had a two-stroke lead and his ball was in the center of the green on the tricky par-3 hole.

All the 22-year-old University of Georgia star had to do was par, or even bogey, and the green jacket would be his. Instead, he put a little pizzazz into an already memora-



Chris Boron of M&T Bank (left) presents the Porter Cup to 2001 Champion Nick Cassini

ble day as he finished off a 5-under par 65 with a 25-foot birdie putt that brought a roar from the crowd as it creeped toward the hole and dropped in.



Cassini puts an exclamation point on his final round 65 with a birdie at the 18th

"I was trying to get it close with a chance to go in," Cassini said. "At that point, I was more excited than I was nervous. I had three putts to win. I just tried to put a good roll on it and picked a good line and it went in."

The birdie capped off a three-stroke

victory over Sean Knapp, a 39-year-old financial advisor from Oakmont, PA. Knapp burned up the front nine in a 5-under 30 and held the lead by the ninth hole. However, he bogeyed 17 and 18 to fall back.

CHIP SHOT... At age 12, Erik Compton received a heart transplant. There was no guarantee he would see his 13th birthday but he grew up to become the top junior player in the country.

Nick Cassini, Athens, GA 70-71-69-65-275 -2 Sean Knapp, Oakmont, PA 72-69-71-66-278 Michael Beard, Palm Desert, CA 68-74-72-66-280 D.J. Trahan, Inman, SC 71-73-69-67-280 Kevin Haefner, Pittsford, NY 70-69-73-69-281 +1 t5 t5 Michael Sims, Southampton, Bermuda 73-69-70-69-281 Tripp Davis, Norman, OK 70-70-73-68-281 +1 t5 John Engler, Augusta, GA 69-69-73-70-281 t5 James Driscoll, Chestnut Hill, MA 73-73-68-67-281 t5 Lee Curry, Kemptville, ONT 70-71-71-69-281 t5 Chris Wisler, Dover, DE 67-74-73-67-281 t12 Steve Sokol, Oxford, CT 68-72-73-69-282 +2 t12 Bryant Odom, Athens, GA 68-70-72-72-282 +2 t14 David Bennett, Stowe, VT 68-74-72-69-283 +3 t14 Wilhelm Schauman, Sweden 72-69-68-74-283 +3 t14 Chris Mundorf, Raleigh, NC 71-72-73-67-283 +3 Erik Compton, Miami, FL 68-75-69-71-283 +3 t14 t14 John Klauk, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 72-71-68-72-283 +3 t14 Chris Nallen, Hackettstown, NJ 69-77-67-70-283 +3 t20 Jason Hartwick, Sacramento, CA 75-72-66-71-284 t20 Matt McQuillan, Kingston, ONT 68-70-70-76-284 +4 72-69-72-71-284 t20 Matt Krauss, Dumfries, VA +4 t20 Adam Groom, Sydney NSW, Aust. 68-76-69-71-284 +4 24 Danny Green, Jackson, TN 70-71-71-73-285 +5 t25 Alan Fadel, Toledo, OH 73-74-70-69-286 t25 Matt Abbott, Endwell, NY 70-75-72-69-286 +6 70-71-70-75-286 t25 Jon Mills, Brooklin, ONT +6 t25 Hunter Mahan, McKinney, TX 72-67-76-71-286 t25 Kyle Thompson, Columbia, SC 68-73-76-69-286 +6 t25 Brent Wanner, South Chatham, MA 68-70-70-78-286 73-69-71-73-286 t25 David Hearn, Holstein, ONT +6 t32 Scott Lander, Las Vegas, NV 72-74-67-74-287 t32 Duke Delcher, Bluffton, SC 70-75-73-69-287 Jerry Courville, Milford, CT 68-80-70-69-287 t32 t32 Greg Puga, Los Angeles, CA 73-75-69-70-287 Brock Mackenzie, Yakima, WA 71-75-69-72-287 t32 t32 Wayne Raath, Johannesburg, South Africa 71-76-68-72-287 t38 Jason King, Malabar NSW, Aust. 72-70-72-74-288 +8 t38 Mike McCoy, West DesMoines, IA 72-72-70-74-288 +8 t38 Andrew Pratt, Bartlett, TN 70-72-78-68-288 t41 Billy Harvey, Las Vegas, NV 67-72-77-73-289 +9 72-70-74-73-289 t41 Simon Nash, Brisbane QLD, Aust. Steve Sheehan, Reno, NV 73-76-69-71-289 t41 +9 t41 Philip Worthington, Reading, England 74-82-63-70-289 t41 Nathan T. Smith, Brookville, PA 71-77-72-69-289 +9 t41 Marcus Fraser, Black Rock VIC, Aust. 72-75-72-70-289 +9 David Sanchez, Charlotte, NC 73-72-77-67-289 t41 Luke Hickmott, Melton VIC, Aust. 71-71-77-70-289 t49 James Oh, Lakewood, CA 71-72-74-73-290 +10 t49 Chez Reavie, Mesa, AZ 71-73-77-69-290 +10 t49 Bubba Dickerson, Hilliard, FL 78-70-70-72-290 +10 Robert Hamilton, Carmichael, CA 71-76-73-70-290 +10 t49 John Harris, Minneapolis, MN 74-71-70-75-290 +10 t54 Chan Wongluekiet, Bradenton, Fl. 70-75-66-81-292 +17 t54 Andrew Webster, East Malvern VIC, Aust. 67-74-79-72-292 +17 t54 Tom Johnson, Fair Oaks, CA 69-75-70-78-292 +12 Nick Rousey, Pensacola, FL 71-73-79-70-293 +13 t57 Ricky Barnes, Stockton, CA 71-68-76-78-293 +13 Gene Elliott, West DesMoines, IA 71-80-69-73-293 t57 +13 Reid Hatley, Spokane, WA 75-78-70-71-294 60 +14t61 David Lea, Waterloo, ONT 75-77-72-71-295 +15 Trip Kuehne, Dallas, TX 71-72-79-73-295 +15 t61 Franklin Hatchett, Dallas, TX 74-74-75-73-296 t63 t63 Steven Bowditch, Peresian QLD, Aust. 70-73-75-78-296 +16 t65 Andrew Buckle, Brackenridge QLD, Aust. 69-75-77-76-297 +17 Michael Cocking, Mt. Eliza VIC, Aust. t65 73-77-74-73-297 +17 t65 Calvin Kupeyan, Tecumseh, ONT 74-76-75-72-297 +17 t68 Rob Oppenheim, Andover, MA 71-78-76-74-299 +19 77-75-71-76-299 t68 Michael McDermott, Newtown Square, PA +19 t70 Dustin Cone, Bennington, VT 76-74-72-78-300 +20 Jeff Brynski, North Tonawanda, NY t70 76-79-72-73-300 +20 Tim Hume, Williamsville, NY t70 75-73-75-77-300 +20 Timothy Smith, Buffalo, NY 78-77-75-78-308 Matthew Ion Young, Burlington, ONT 73-72-67-w/d James Chan, Hamilton, ONT 74-73-72-w/d Patrick Tallent, Vienna, VA 74-73-w/d

Erik suffered a heart attack last fall and is presently undergoing treatment. Please join the Porter Cup in wishing him a speedy recovery.