

You always remember the first!

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Michael Thompson captured his first win and at the same time became a streak buster. He is the first American to win The Honda Classic since Mark Wilson in 2007 and therefore put a stop to international players winning the event. Thompson converted his first 54-hole lead in his second attempt. At the 2011 McGladrey Classic, he finished third after holding the lead after three rounds. "I remember McGladrey two years ago, I got pretty nervous coming down the stretch. And then the U.S. Open, the big lesson I learned was just to not look at the leaderboards. I think I looked at a leaderboard one time today, and even then I just kind of blocked it out of my mind. I didn't even give it any credit," Thompson said afterwards. "I know in the fairway on 18 was the only time I asked my caddie, what do we need to do. He went over and talked to Mark Rolfing about what Geoff was doing up ahead, but it didn't change our game plan, even before he hit his eagle putt, we were going for the green. I think all of the past experiences, all of the tournaments that I've won in the past, playing in front of crowds and just learning how to be Michael Thompson, you know, that all kind of led to what happened today."

Thompson picked up \$1,008,000 with his victory at the Honda Classic as well as a berth in this week's WGC Cadillac Championship, which doesn't have a cut. After his breakthrough victory at PGA National, Thompson rose from 114th to 45th in the latest world rankings, released Monday, which entitled him to a trip to Doral. "I get new experiences this year to play in the WGCs. That's been a goal ever since I got out on TOUR. And to do it in this fashion is unbelievable. There's going to be more down times that I'm going to have to fight through, and that's just the nature of golf. It's here one week, gone the next. Just keep working on what I'm working on and enjoy the process," he said.

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