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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Palm Beach State College Foundation raises \$105,000+ at annual Golf Classic

A helicopter hovered over the 18th green at BallenIsles Country Club and unleashed dozens of numbered golf balls as one of the fundraising contests at the Palm Beach State College Foundation annual Golf Classic May 4. The "copter drop" contest winner, Josh Long, won an HP Pavilion laptop computer for having the ball closest to the pin.

With the theme, "get in the game and make a difference," it was a fitting end to a successful tournament, as the Palm Beach State College Foundation successfully raised more than \$105,000 for student scholarships and programs. A field of 27 foursomes got their putts in gear at the East Course, where legendary greats such as Jack Nicklaus, Lee Trevino and Arnold Palmer have competed.

"The support for this year's golf tournament was phenomenal. Our community partners demonstrated their commitment to our students by funding scholarships and programs," said Suellen Mann, Foundation executive director. "BallenIsles was a great host, and the players enjoyed a beautifully prepared course, perfect weather and a real spirit of fun and giving."

Major sponsors of the Golf Classic included Balfour Beatty Construction, Bobby Resciniti Healing Hearts Foundation, Honda Classic Golf Exchange Radio, Lotspeich Co. of Florida, McDonalds North County, PepsiCo and Suffolk Construction.

"Being involved in young people's lives and helping them achieve a college degree- there is no better place we can spend our dollars. We are very proud and honored to be involved in this tournament," said Clint Glass, Balfour Beatty senior vice president.

The Golf Classic ended with a cocktail reception, award ceremony and prizes. The golfers were visibly moved when former student trustee Faith Proper spoke on behalf of the scholarship recipients; Ricky Wade responded by giving the computer he had just won to Proper. "When I heard Faith share her academic success in spite of the obstacles she faced along the way, I knew then it was the right thing to do. It is students who work hard that inspire me to give back," he said.

Serving more than 52,000 students annually, Palm Beach State College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing bachelor's degrees, associate degrees, professional certificates, career training and lifelong learning. Established in 1933 as Florida's first public community college, it offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

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Editor's note: Photo files attached.



Ricky Wade, right, McDonalds North County Group franchisee, generously gifted the laptop computer he won at the Golf Classic to new Palm Beach State graduate Faith Proper, who plans to attend Emory University.



The McDonalds North County Group team took first place with a score of 56. The winning foursome consisted of, from left, Alex Hustos, Matthew Dodson, Richard Terga and Chris Cole.

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