



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Audra Burks named Director of Sales & Marketing for LPGA State Farm Classic

LPGA Veteran brings 20 years of professional golf experience to Tournament

SPRINGFIELD, IL – LPGA Veteran Audra Burks will join the team at the State Farm Classic, Executive Director Kate Peters announced today. Burks has been hired as Director of Sales & Marketing for the tournament to develop new sales and sponsorship opportunities, enhance promotion and expand the regional and national partnerships for the LPGA State Farm Classic leading into the 35th Anniversary Tournament.

“We are excited to welcome Audra to Springfield and to the State Farm Classic team,” Peters said. “Her dynamic personality and passion for the game will bring a fresh face and new ideas to our sales and sponsorship outreach efforts. We look forward to working with her.”

Burks plans to retire from full time play at the end of the 2009 LPGA season. During her time on the LPGA Tour, she competed in eight *U.S. Women’s Open Championships* and achieved a career best finish (T-8th) at The First Union Betsy King Classic. Burks has also served as a recruiter for unofficial LPGA Pro-Ams since 2008, establishing relationships with LPGA tournament directors, sponsors and event coordinators to provide LPGA Tour Professionals for corporate golf outings and top quality LPGA Tour players for Pro-Am events.

“During my time on the Tour, I always enjoyed playing in the State Farm Classic and shot some of the best rounds of my professional career in Springfield.” Burks said. “I’m looking forward to the opportunity to take a more active role in the continued growth of one of the longest running stops on the Tour and celebrating 35 years of the LPGA in Springfield.”

Burks will begin her role in January of 2010. The 2010 LPGA State Farm Classic will be held June 10-13 at Panther Creek Country Club in Springfield. For more information, please visit www.lpgastatefarmclassic.com

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