

GOLF

FROM PAGE 1B

Starting times for the final round were moved up because of a forecast for bad weather.

Kodaira won \$1.206 million. He'll be exempt on the PGA Tour through the 2019-20 season.

The tournament appeared in steady hands with Kim, whose bulldog focus and shot-making held everyone off to win The Players Championship last May. But the 22-year-old from South Korea faltered over his final nine holes of regulation, with three bogeys to fall into the tie with Kodaira.

Kim had the chance to win in regulation but missed a six-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole. Kodaira said that was the most nervous he was during his wait of about an hour before the playoff.

Kodaira might have had a few butterflies on the final playoff hole as Kim had a 21-foot birdie try to extend things, but he came up short.

Kim thought the increased winds slowed down the greens, making putts more difficult on the final nine holes. "But I tried my best and the putts didn't drop," Kim said. "It is what it is."

Poulter, who dramatically won the Houston Open two weeks ago for his first tour win in more than five years, had six bogeys Sunday after making just two in his first three rounds.

Kodaira was the hardest charged and few even realized until the final threesome of Kim, Poulter and List all came back to the pack. Kodaira became the sixth straight RBC Heritage champion who was three strokes down or more at the start of the final round.

Playing Harbour Town for the first time, Kodaira opened with a 73, then followed with the tournament's best round of the week, 63, on Friday. That game kicked in once more in the final round, with six birdies on the way to the playoff.

DeChambeau, the 24-year-old second-round leader who fell apart with a Saturday 75, bounced back Sunday with a 66 to finish two shots back. His roller coaster of a tournament played out again in the final round as he rose three shots to 9-under, then fell back to 7-under before closing with consecutive birdies on the 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th holes.

Dustin Johnson finished with his best round of the week, a 67, and tied for 16th, ensuring that he will stay at No. 1 in the world for at least the next two weeks.

He will take the next three weeks off, starting with a vacation to the Bahamas — "I'm headed there right now," he said, smiling — until he returns to action at The Players Championship.

Johnson said his problem this season has been on the greens, calling his putting subpar from what he expects. He said he plans to work things out over the break and "will be ready for the Players."

Storms forecast for late Sunday afternoon and early evening forced the PGA Tour to move up start times to 7 a.m., with the leaders going off about two hours later. The weather, while overcast and windy at times, remained calm enough to get in the final round without disruption.

GREENEVILLE

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Shipley had a two-run double, Price had an RBI double and Lemons had an RBI single.

"I wanted to bring those girls in and give them some at bats," Restivo said. "A lot of them are younger and play JV, so I wanted to give them a chance to get an idea of what varsity pitching is like. For all those girls to step in and hit the ball hard somewhere like they did, it was great."

Greeneville right-hander Kaitlyn Foster went the distance for the win. She gave up five hits, walked one and struck out three. One of North Greene's two runs was earned.

On Friday, Foster pitched a four-inning perfect game against Cumberland Gap.

"In the past three games, she's really been hitting her spots and spinning and moving the ball," Restivo said. "As a pitcher, that's what you want to do. You want to try to fool the hitters and she's been able to keep them off balance. She's really doing a great job."

Greeneville finishes the week 4-0 and is now 9-8 overall. The Devils play at Claiborne on Monday.

North Greene falls to 4-9, but there were bright spots for the Lady Huskies.

While North Greene committed six errors that led to seven unearned runs, junior third baseman Abi Painter was error free while handling nine chances, including a diving stab of a hard-hit ground ball to her left. She also went 1-for-2 at the plate.

"Painter is a first-year third baseman," said North Greene coach Danny Weems. "She's getting better and better."

In the North Greene seventh, freshman pinch-hitters Haley Kirkpatrick and Emily Bowen each had doubles with Bowen driving in Kirkpatrick for the Huskies' second run.

"We're a young team that's making improvements every day," Weems said. "If we can put some things together offensively and score some runs and make the routine plays more consistently, we'll be competitive in our league."

North Greene will host Hampton on Monday.

ROBINSON

FROM PAGE 1B

guys coming up, if guys with 10 years or so in this league haven't really done much, you lean on those guys for advice. If you don't have anybody telling you one way or the other, you'll keep your mouth shut. You don't want to ruffle any feathers. If you don't have anybody to help you in that regard, you'll see a lot of guys be quiet."

"Guys feel it's a lose-lose situation for them," Harrison said. "It sucks because you want to have a voice, but some people feel they can't."

Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig retired Jackie Robinson's No. 42 throughout the major leagues in 1997, made Jackie Robinson Day an annual event in 2004 and five years later started asking all players to wear No. 42 each April 15.

NASCAR XFINITY SERIES



Ryan Preece (18) leads Brandon Jones (19) during a NASCAR Xfinity Series auto race on Saturday in Bristol.

AP PHOTO BY WADE PAYNE

Positive Cash Flow

Preece Earns Big Race Pay Day To Pay Debt

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BRISTOL — Ryan Preece was willing to risk just about anything in hopes of bolstering his racing career. That meant going into major debt last year for a chance to run a few races on the Xfinity Series.

But Preece's investment in himself paid off big time Saturday as the full-time NASCAR Modified Tour driver captured the Xfinity Series race at Bristol Motor Speedway and took home the Dash 4 Cash \$100,000 bonus prize.

"Would I advise somebody to do what I did? Probably not," Preece said of incurring debt. "But I wanted a chance. And it worked out. I guess if you want it bad enough it will all work out."

Preece, driving the Joe Gibbs Racing No. 18 Toyota, added "it's gratifying that when I leave here and I will be debt free."

He became the seventh different winner this year in the Xfinity Series in as many races, beating Justin Allgaier and Daniel Hemric to the finish line. Elliott Sadler finished fourth and Spencer Gallagher was fifth.

Cup Series regulars were not eligible to compete because of restrictions placed on the Dash 4 Cash races.

The 27-year-old Preece was racing in only his third Xfinity Series event of the year. It didn't bother the other Xfinity Series regulars that a non-reg-



Ryan Preece celebrates after winning a NASCAR Xfinity Series auto race on Saturday in Bristol.

AP PHOTO BY WADE PAYNE

ular like Preece won the money. In fact, they applauded his win.

"If you qualify for the show, you meet the criteria and you beat out 39 other dudes whose job it is to do this full time at a place like Bristol, well, congratulations you deserve it," Gallagher said. "And that's it."

Added Hemric: "He drove his tail off and put himself in position and stepped up when he had to."

Preece was strong all day, but it all came down to the final 10 laps.

Brandon Jones bemoaned the final caution that came out late. He gambled by taking on two tires. Preece, who took four tires, was able

to take him on the restart and he pulled away for an easy victory.

Preece was competing with three other qualifying drivers — pole sitter Cole Custer, Christopher Bell and Hemric — for the \$100,000 prize.

"I take every race as a chance to build a future for myself," Preece said. "Where I will be after this season I don't have a clue. But I won't be the one that prevents me from getting somewhere. I will do everything I can to make sure that I am not the weak link."

BELL'S CRASH: Bell was one of the pre-race favorites and the stage one winner, but crashed just near the midway point of the race when he couldn't avoid a collision between Vinnie Miller and Cody Ware. He car t-boned Miller, ending Bell's day on the track.

MORE CASH UP FOR GRABS: Next week Allgaier, Gallagher, Jones and Sadler will contend for the \$100,000 Dash 4 Cash prize at Richmond. Hemric would have been on that list but his car failed post-race inspection and he was replaced by Jones.

"It's a huge deal to be able to go for that," Allgaier said. "It was disheartening not to be able to (qualify) for it this weekend."

HOT FEET: Custer's gas man Andrew Miglozzi had the boot on his left foot catch on fire during a pit stop early in the race after the gas on the ground outside of the car caught fire. The fire was quickly extinguished and Miglozzi was not harmed.

TRADING PAINT: After a caution, Sadler and John Nemechek purposely banged in to each other.

PREP TRACK & FIELD

West's Lane Wins 110 Hurdles At Dale Legg Meet

The West Greene track and field team competed in the 20th Dale Legg Invitational at Anderson County High School on Friday.

The Buffaloes finished ninth out of 19 teams in the boys' meet with 31½ points, while Maryville took first with 125 points.

The Buffaloes finished sixth out of 17 teams in

the girls' meet with 40½ points, while Maryville took first with 150½ points.

West Greene's Julian Lane won the boys' 110-meter hurdles with a time of 16.6 seconds. He also finished second in boys' long jump with 20-00.75.

West Greene's Colton

Fulk took fifth in boys' pole vault with a vault of 9 feet, while Tristan Bidy finished sixth in the boys' 200-meter dash with a 24.12.

In the girls' meet, West Greene's Abbey King was second in the high jump with a jump of 4-08. Baileigh Teffeteller Malone was second in the triple jump

with a 30-05.75, Faith Julian was third in pole vault with a vault of 8 feet, and Madison Greenlee took fourth in discus with an 82-07.

West Greene's Haley Kells took seventh in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 18.74. She was also sixth in the triple jump at 30-01.

An educational consultant to Major League Baseball, Sharon Robinson attended the first-pitch ceremony before the Mets-Milwaukee game with her mom, 95-year-old Rachel Robinson, and brother David. On a chilly afternoon, the game time temperature was 42.

Sharon Robinson said action among African-American players is more an individual undertaking.

"They do it around their involvement in community themselves, and talk about why that's important," she said.

"Part of the protest with the NFL or the NBA is how do we funnel some of these proceeds from the games, where

we're helping to bring these proceeds, and funnel them into the African-American community? So some of the baseball players do that through their own charities or their own work within communities that they're playing (in)."

Edward Robinson, a son of Jackie's bother Mack, attended the Los Angeles Dodgers' game against Arizona and wouldn't address Sharon Robinson's comments.

"However, I will tell you that Jackie stood for strength and education. I've seen some progress," he said. "It comes and goes. What we need to do is maintain the high levels of progress and continue to show unity."

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