

PEOPLE, PLACES & THE SPIRIT OF THE GAME

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tee *it* up



HOT!

**You Bet. But
Natalie Gulbis is
Much More Than
Just a Pretty Face**

Q&A: Nick Price Opens
Up About His Years on
Tour and the "insipid"
Golf Channel

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From the popular **TEE IT UP** by Radio
Network comes a vital **tee it up**
magazine for golfers

Women in the Spotlight



Editor-in-Chief George Fuller with LPGA Hall of Famer Amy Alcott.

My wife is always ribbing me about how nice it is that we have so many good-looking guys on our covers. Indeed. But the distinguished gentlemen who have graced our front page over the past year—Malcolm McDowell, Dennis Farina, Kenny G and Charles Barkley—now need to step aside. Natalie Gulbis is in the house.

I've met Natalie several times over the past few years, and yes, gents, she is just as lovely in person. But what has always struck me about Natalie is her genuine charm, sense of fun, adventurous spirit and down-to-earth personality. She garners so much attention wherever she goes that it would be understandable if she were stand-offish.

But she's not. Despite the cheesecake calendars, television shows (both her own and this season's *Celebrity Apprentice*), personal appearances and demanding LPGA Tour schedule, she seems to take it all in stride. Of course, maybe I'm making all that up and she's just as stressed as the rest of us. But her demeanor is level and for someone with her star quality, that's unusual.

To go along with Natalie's image, we toyed with various cover lines before settling on, "Much More Than Just a Pretty Face." In the running was, "She Needs to Win Again, Now," and various incarnations of that theme. The fact is, she does need to win again and this is the season to do it. With all the economic challenges facing golf (see Jim Frank's insightful "State of the Game" piece on page 32 for more on that), and particularly the LPGA Tour, Natalie stepping up and winning a couple of tournaments would bring a much-needed spotlight on one of the most entertaining group of players in all of professional sports.

I've been a longtime fan of the LPGA. As much as I'd like to see Natalie have a great year, I'm also rooting for Michelle Wie, Morgan Pressel and other young players from around the world. Their influence on the next generation of golfers is already immense and their successes can perhaps do as much for women's golf as Tiger has done for all of golf.

And while we're on the subject of having influence on the next generation, LPGA Hall of Famer Amy Alcott has a new book just published, "The Leaderboard: Conversations on Golf & Life" (Simon & Schuster) and it's a great read. Written as a series of interviews with everyone from Bill Clinton to Dennis Hopper; from basketball great Jerry West to CBS president Leslie Moonves, the book ranges in topic from golf to politics to life lessons.

What makes Amy's book such a good read is that within the fascinating insights of their own career paths, challenges and successes, each of the celebrated interviewees provides nuggets of insight that we can all use, both on the golf course and off. And lest we miss something along the way, Alcott prefaces and sums up each interview with her own brand of uplifting wisdom.

Buy Amy's book, support the LPGA Tour and enjoy this issue. Oh and honey, you were right, it was about time we put a woman on the cover.

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