Brian Payne

A Driving Force Beyond Illinois

HOMETOWN: Chicago, Illinois
BIRTHDATE: 09/30/73
BIRTHPLACE: Greenwich, Connecticut
COLLEGE: Northwestern University
DEGREE: Communications
TURNED PROFESSIONAL: 1997
PROFESSIONAL TOUR VICTORIES: 2
2001 Aliant Cup Championship
2002 Illinois Open Championship

In Illinois golf circles, Brian Payne is known for his stellar drives and precise putts. This aspiring PGA tour player started making his mark on the course when he captured All-Big Ten Golfer honors and finished runner-up in the 1993 Big Ten Golf Championship as a member of the Northwestern University golf team. By 1997, Payne's success had propelled him to 22nd in the *Golfweek* World Amateur rankings.

After just one year of full-time professional experience on the Canadian tour, Payne won the prestigious 2001 Aliant Cup Championship in St. John's, Newfoundland. Combined with other top finishes, Payne's international victory vaulted him inside the top 275 in the *Golfweek*/Sagarin World Rankings of male professionals.

From 2001-2003, Payne turned in an incredible string of finishes with a 2nd, a 1st, and a 3rd place tie in the Illinois Open Championship, the preeminent tournament in Illinois golf.

Over the years, Payne's golf career has taken off with tournament play throughout the US, Canada, Mexico, Panama, Argentina, and Australia. It is Payne's burning desire to make the PGA Tour his next destination.

Payne's ability to take his game to a higher level is the result of key mentors such as Mental Skills Coach, David Breslow of Performance Success Strategies in Highland Park, IL; Strength/Conditioning Coach, Erik Pedersen of All-Star Fitness in Winnetka, IL; and Golf Instructor, Dr. Jim Suttie of Green Garden Country Club in Frankfurt, IL.

Payne's advice to aspiring professional golfers: *"Cultivate an awe-inspiring short-game, a world-class putting stroke, a long and accurate tee-game, precise iron play, mental strength beyond measure, and an unlimited supply of patience – that's all."*