THE GOLF PAPER

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THE GOLF PAPER

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Tiger Mark II is looking ready for fresh kills – Page 10

I'm up for Ryder Cup, ace Casey tells Clarke

By Paul Mahoney

PAUL CASEY has handed Darren Clarke a massive boost as he looks to lead Europe's Ryder Cup defence next year.

The in-form Englishman's availability to play under captain Clarke at Hazeltine is not in doubt.

But the pair met at Augusta during The Masters and Casey said: "There's a sense you learned in me to be part of the Ryder Cup again. I've spoke to Darren about it."

Earlier this year, Casey resigned from the European Tour after he and his ex-wife Polyanna decided that he should live and play full-time in America.

Casey has yet to mental when he will return the European Tour, but he will have to play at least 15 events on this side of the Atlantic to qualify for his five Ryder Cup caps he played in the defeat at Valhalla in 2008.

In-form: Paul Casey

If he can, Hastings his current form, the world ranking extra he gains in America will help him qualify for Clarke's team and his fourth Ryder Cup cap should be a formality.

In the build-up to Augusta Casey produced some top ten finishes in five events, including falling narrowly short at the Northern Trust Open.

And Clarke must have been impressed when Casey finished tied for ninth in the year's first Major.

Talking about the way he played, Casey said: "I haven't gone that in a long time, ever since Tiger was taking courses to pieces.

"It was pleasant and I feel like I'm doing things the way I used to, so with some good world ranking points here I'm moving in the right direction.

"The three Ryder Cups I played in were wonderful, but I wasn't going to make the last one with the golf I was playing.

"It was brilliant to watch the last two at Gleneagles and Medinah and I desperately want to be part of it that again.

"I think I can play a major rule in the team. I've already talked to Clarke about it. I've told him I will be a part of it. I'll be there."

Clarke has urged the 37-year-old Casey to prioritise the European swing before the May 1 deadline this week and is clearly keen to have him in the line-up.

"Each a team point of view I would love him to return the year's first Major.

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Top of the world: Masters champion Jordan Spieth takes a selfie on top of the Empire State Building yesterday PICTURE: Getty Images

THE DIFFERENCE IS HISTORIC. Titleist

An exciting new addition to the golf world arrived on April 8 with the publication of *The Golf Paper*, the first weekly newspaper dedicated to golf.

Containing top-line writers and guest columnists such as David Howell and Oliver Wilson, ***The Golf Paper*** presents a unique package of information, ranging from breaking news stories, in-depth interviews, analysis and gossip.

The Golf Paper covers all the tournament play throughout the world from the Majors, through the women's tour to the junior competitions.

There ise a special section at the back of the newspaper dedicated to the amateur game, focussing on county unions, club medals and inter-club tournaments.

The Golf Paper comes from the same proven stable that publishes *The Rugby Paper, The Cricket Paper* (ECB Newspaper of the Year for the past two years), *The Non League Paper* and *The Football League Paper.*

Editorial content will be led by editor at large Graham Otway, well known in the sport for his work with *The Sunday Times and Mail on Sunday.* He is joined by Martin Johnson, Nick Pitt, Peter Higgs, John Huggan and current Specialist Writer of the Year Paul Mahoney.

The paper is a 48-page all-colour tabloid, printed by Newsquest at Oxford and distributed by Associated Newspapers for sale in UK retailers – newsagents and supermarkets every Wednesday morning at £1.50.

Editor in chief David Emery, former head of sport at Express Newspapers, said: "This is a thrilling time for golf fans in the UK with Rory McIlroy and Jordan Spieth heading a host of young stars in the game. We believe ***The Golf Paper*** can tap into that new wave of interest and reflect the ever-growing status of the game."

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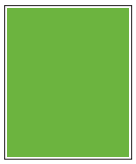

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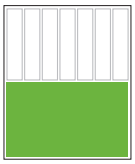

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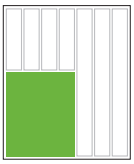

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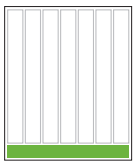

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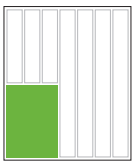

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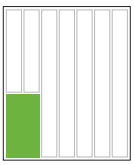

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