TRAVIS "TAB" HUDSON II

AB IS THE ELDEST SON OF,
LEGENDARY COACH AND GOLF
TEACHER, TRAVIS HUDSON AND HIS

wife Mae Johnsey Hudson. The Hudson family is considered the "First Family of Golf" in the state of Alabama, with Travis, Tab, Steve and Phillip all being either professional or college golfers. Tab was a great athlete at Walker High School, where he played basketball and golf. It is impossible to list all of his accomplishments, victories and awards in this biography, so we will just list a few of the hundreds he accomplished. At the age of 11, Alec Grant and "Scrappy" Edgeman took him to the Dixie Jr. (the largest tournament in the state) at Selma where he finished 2nd overall and was forever hooked on competitive golf. His dad introduced him to Dr. Truitt Mills Sr. (one of the top 5 putter designers in the world) who taught him the chipping and putting part of his game. His dad taught him mental toughness and a strong belief in God.

When Travis Sr. became the golf pro at Musgrove Country Club, Tab ran the pro shop, and did every job that arose. After he finished these jobs, he could practice all he wanted with unlimited access to the driving range. His dad would let him stay two hours after dark to practice his chipping and putting under a



street light on the practice green. Tab won his first State title at age 13, the Dixie Section Pro-Jr. Invitational Tournament, with a score of 65-69, beating Jerry Pate by one stroke. He won the Dixie Jr. at age 16, becoming the youngest player to win the overall against all State Pros and 3 Juniors. He went on to win the Florence Jr. and Vestavia Jr. Invitationals, and when only 18 he finished 3rd in the Alabama Open Invitational.

Tab originally signed with Florida, but after Coach Paul Bryant told him they were going to make the Alabama Golf Program one of the best in the nation; that was all he needed to decide to go to the University of Alabama. He was released by Coach Bishop from his Florida commitment, so he could play 4 years at 'Bama. Tab went on to letter all 4 years at Alabama, placing 2nd individually in 1976 SEC Championship, selected as co-captain of the 1976 team, 1st Team All-SEC, and helped his team finish 3rd in the NCAA. He was also selected as a finalist for the SEC Athlete-of-the-Year in 1976.

In 1977, he qualified for the PGA Tour as 1 of 25 out of 3,000 golfers. He played on the European Tour for 4 months (against players like Nick Faldo and Greg Norman). He had a serious hand injury at only 26 years of age, but tried the PGA Tour Schools and the South American Tour with only limited success. Just before his last PGA event, he was hired by Bill Nelson to work with the Nelson family business, where he rose to Vice President of the company which became one of the 2 top explosive companies in America. He then formed Tuscaloosa Resources Company, the 3rd largest surface mining company in the state. He has been, and is still active in many organizations to help others less fortunate. His last event was the Alabama Open, which he won, ending his professional career with a bang. He regained his amateur status in 1984 and went on to win 2 USGA Mid-Amateur titles, over 20 Invitationals, 21 Club Championships, captained 4 State Teams, 1 USGA Amateur, 1 British Amateur, and was selected to receive the prestigious "Joe King Award" (one of golf's highest awards). He and his younger brother Steve are the only brothers to be inducted into the BGA Hall-of-Fame, as well as the Walker High School Sports Hall-of-Fame.

He is married to the former Deb Wagner, an artist and former teacher at Curry and Parrish High Schools, where she was selected as Alabama's Economics Teacher-of-the-Year.