



STATE OF ARKANSAS  
MIKE BEEBE  
GOVERNOR

May 5, 2008

It gives me great pleasure to send greetings to all those who have come to Fort Smith's Hardscrabble Country Club from across the nation for the eleventh-annual Fort Smith Classic presented by Stephens, Inc. and featuring some of the best golfers in the world. This annual competition, Arkansas's only PGA event, is a wonderful example of coming together in a spirit of fellowship to enjoy professional golf while helping to improve the lives of children in need. While "Making Champions," the Fort Smith Classic has donated more than \$1.25 million to 40 local charitable organizations that aid the area's youngsters.

Golf is one of the oldest and best-loved sports. I play as often as I can, and I know the discipline and passion it requires, as well as the pleasure and relaxation it brings as golf's beautiful landscapes unfold. As you take part in this exciting event, I hope that each of you will be able to say that you competed to the best of your abilities and formed long-lasting friendships while enjoying Arkansas hospitality and making life better for our kids. Best wishes for a memorable and successful tournament.

Good luck to all of the players!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MB", written over a horizontal line.

Mike Beebe

MB:jb