

GOOLF

STYLE

VOL 6, NO. 4



A MEDIA TRANSASIA PUBLICATION
APRIL 2008 RS 150

JOHNNIE WALKER CLASSIC

Kiwi win at Gurgaon

AUGUSTA MASTERS 2008

Preview of the year's first Major

REFEREEING MATTERS

A day in the office

A TALE OF TWO PLAY-OFFS

ARJUN'S RESURGENCE AND JEEV'S ONE-STROKE LOSS



PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

2008

It is almost poetic justice for the man that he won in 2008 the tournament which had marked his arrival five years back.

other driver died on the spot. The media reports that followed made him look like the villain of a pre-meditated car race and he faced charges.

The sum total of these scenarios can be tough for anyone. But then the old adage that behind every successful man is a woman worked its magic on Arjun. He confesses that his wife, who is stronger than anyone he knows, egged him to keep on fighting and never lose focus. Sona provided clarity of thought and support to Arjun when nothing seemed to be working.

Arjun believes in the mantra of hard work and no sooner had he got to work, his back was cured with a three-pronged effort: a visit to the Bihar School of Yoga; a month-long session with back specialist Dr Mattia in Orlando on his back machine, which offers a stretch stronger than traction; and hard work with his trainer Dave Herman, who was also Leander Paes's trainer. The combination of these three have more or less fixed his back

Arjun's family was his biggest strength, specially his wife, who stood like a rock beside him in all trying times. She was his biggest support system.

and also put into place a discipline and routine which Arjun is clear, is mandatory for him now.

Hard work on the practice range followed. Focus on a better posture and rhythm helped in ball striking. Hours of short game practice have helped the scoring ability. The natural sanguinity, which he thanks his father for, is back. The birth of his second son Shiva in December 2007 brought a lot of joy to the family and perhaps a lot of good luck too.

Practising alongside the "player to beat" Tiger Woods, and the easy camaraderie they share, helped. Arjun is motivated by the hard work that he sees Tiger put in and tips from the great player have added to his game. Arjun also shares his belief that you cannot perfect this game, but you can certainly get better at it, by working harder on all elements of your game. And two months of all this over the winter break did all that was needed.

We saw a fit Arjun in India to compete in the EMAAR-MGF Indian Masters and also at the Johnnie Walker Classic. While he did not win, he was in contention and finished fairly well in both the events. However, the best news was that he was cleared of the accident charges just a week before the tournament in Malaysia.

A much-relieved Arjun fired a last round 64 to finish at 18-under, to tie with overnight leader Peter Hedblom of Sweden at 18-under-par 270. And this brings us back to the beginning of