



**DATE:** February 3, 2025

**MEMO TO:** Sara Knizhnik, Chair  
Operations Committee

**FROM:** Daniel E. Stearns  
Director of Facilities

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend approval of a Resolution awarding a Contract to Arends Hogan Walker LLC (AHW LLC) in the Contract Price of \$55,437.59 for the purchase of a John Deere 1575 TerrainCut with ComfortCab Commercial Front Mower with snow blower and broom attachments.

**STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUPPORTED:** Organizational Sustainability.

**FINANCIAL DATA:** The adopted FY 2025 Budget for Equipment Replacement is \$90,000.00, which included an allocation of \$50,000.00 for this piece of equipment. The actual cost of \$55,437.59 will be charged to the Equipment Replacement fund, account 92104100-804100. The annual user charge will be calculated based on the actual purchase price.

**BACKGROUND:** In accordance with the District's equipment replacement guidelines, staff has determined previously that a 2015 John Deere 1575 Front Cut Mower (Unit 384) with mower and blower attachments is due to be replaced.

Pursuant to the Illinois Governmental Joint Purchasing Act, 30 ILCS 525/1, et seq., any governmental unit may purchase personal property, supplies, and services jointly with one or more other governmental units, as provided in the Act. Staff determined that the new John Deere 1575 Mower is available under Sourcewell Grounds Maintenance Contract 031121-DAC (PG BT CG 76) with John Deere Shared Services LLC, with AHW LLC as the local agent.

The new equipment will be utilized by staff in the Central District of the Grounds Division and based at Greenbelt Forest Preserve.

The new equipment is expected to be in service for eight years per the District's equipment replacement guidelines.

**REVIEW BY OTHERS:** Chief Operations Officer, Director of Finance, Purchasing Manager, Manager of Board Operations, Corporate Counsel.



**LAKE COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT  
LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**A RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO ARENDS HOGAN WALKER, LLC  
FOR THE PURCHASE OF A JOHN DEERE FRONT MOWER**

**WHEREAS**, the Lake County Forest Preserve District (the “District”) desires to purchase one new John Deere 1575 TerrainCut Commercial Front Mower with snow blower and broom attachments, or approved equivalent (the “Equipment”); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Illinois Governmental Joint Purchasing Act, 30 ILCS 525/1, et seq., any governmental unit may purchase personal property, supplies, and services jointly with one or more other governmental units if one of the governmental units has publicly advertised for, and received, competitive, sealed bids or proposals, and has awarded a contract for such personal property, supplies, and services to the lowest responsible bidder or the highest ranking proposer, all in accordance with such Act; and

**WHEREAS**, Sourcewell has publicly advertised for, and received, competitive proposals for the Equipment, including a proposal by John Deere Shared Services, LLC; and

**WHEREAS**, Sourcewell has awarded contract #031121-DAC to John Deere Shared Services LLC as the highest-ranking proposer for the Equipment (the “Sourcewell Contract”), and the Sourcewell Contract provides that other units of local government may also enter into contracts with John Deere Shared Services, LLC on the same terms as provided in the Sourcewell Contract; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the District to award a contract for the Equipment to Arends Hogan Walker LLC as the agent of John Deere Shared Service, LLC on the same terms as provided in the Sourcewell Contract (the “Contract”) in a total price equal \$55,437.59 (the “Contract Price”);

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of the Lake County Forest Preserve District, Lake County, Illinois, **THAT**:

**Section 1. Recitals.** The recitals set forth above are incorporated as a part of this Resolution by this reference.

**Section 2. Award of Contract.** The proposal submitted by Arends Hogan Walker, LLC in the total amount of the Contract Price is hereby accepted and the Contract is hereby awarded to Arends Hogan Walker LLC.

**Section 3. Execution of Contract.** The Executive Director of the District is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Contract with Arends Hogan Walker LLC in the amount of the Contract Price.

**Section 4. Payments.** The District Treasurer shall make payments under the Contract only pursuant to and in accordance with the Contract terms.

**Section 5. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

PASSED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025

AYES:

NAYS:

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Vealitzek, President  
Lake County Forest Preserve District

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Gragnani, Secretary  
Lake County Forest Preserve District

Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL PURCHASE ORDERS MUST BE MADE OUT TO (VENDOR):**

AHW LLC  
 29626 N Highway 12  
 WAUCONDA, IL 60084  
 US

**ALL PURCHASE ORDERS MUST BE SENT TO DELIVERING DEALER:**

AHW LLC  
 29626 N Highway 12  
 Wauconda, IL 60084  
 847-487-4900  
 dlwauconda@ahwllc.com

### Quote Summary

**Prepared For:**

Lake County Forest Preserve  
 IL

**Delivering Dealer:**

**AHW LLC**  
 Darwin Lewis  
 29626 N Highway 12  
 Wauconda, IL 60084  
 Phone: 847-487-4900  
 dlewis@ahwllc.com

**Quote ID:** 32178203  
**Created On:** 06 January 2025  
**Last Modified On:** 06 January 2025  
**Expiration Date:** 06 February 2025

Equipment Summary	Suggested List	Selling Price	Qty	=	Extended
JOHN DEERE 1575 TerrainCut™ with ComfortCab Commercial Front Mower (Less Mower Deck) <b>Contract:</b> Sourcewell Grounds Maint 031121-DAC (PG BT CG 76) <b>Price Effective Date:</b> January 5, 2025	\$ 53,224.20	\$ 40,162.98	X 1	=	\$ 40,162.98
JOHN DEERE 72 In. 7-Iron PRO Commercial Side Discharge Mower Deck <b>Contract:</b> Sourcewell Grounds Maint 031121-DAC (PG BT CG 76) <b>Price Effective Date:</b> January 5, 2025	\$ 6,409.00	\$ 4,836.23	X 1	=	\$ 4,836.23
JOHN DEERE 60 In. Heavy-Duty Two-Stage Snow Blower <b>Contract:</b> Sourcewell Grounds Maint 031121-DAC (PG BT CG 76) <b>Price Effective Date:</b> January 5, 2025	\$ 7,192.00	\$ 5,427.08	X 1	=	\$ 5,427.08
JOHN DEERE 60 Heavy-Duty Rotary Broom (For 1500 TerrainCut, 1400/1500 Series II and Non- Series II Front Mowers) <b>Contract:</b> Sourcewell Grounds Maint 031121-DAC (PG BT CG 76) <b>Price Effective Date:</b> January 5, 2025	\$ 6,641.00	\$ 5,011.30	X 1	=	\$ 5,011.30
<b>Equipment Total</b>					<b>\$ 55,437.59</b>

Salesperson : X \_\_\_\_\_

Accepted By : X \_\_\_\_\_

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**ALL PURCHASE ORDERS MUST BE MADE OUT TO (VENDOR):**

AHW LLC  
29626 N Highway 12  
WAUCONDA, IL 60084  
US

**ALL PURCHASE ORDERS MUST BE SENT TO DELIVERING DEALER:**

AHW LLC  
29626 N Highway 12  
Wauconda, IL 60084  
847-487-4900  
dlwauconda@ahwllc.com

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\* Includes Fees and Non-contract items

**Quote Summary**

Equipment Total	\$ 55,437.59
Trade In	
SubTotal	<b>\$ 55,437.59</b>
Total	\$ 55,437.59
Down Payment	(0.00)
Rental Applied	(0.00)
<b>Balance Due</b>	<b>\$ 55,437.59</b>

Salesperson : X \_\_\_\_\_

Accepted By : X \_\_\_\_\_

# Selling Equipment

Quote Id: 32178203      Customer Name:

**ALL PURCHASE ORDERS MUST BE MADE OUT TO (VENDOR):**  
 AHW LLC  
 29626 N Highway 12  
 WAUCONDA, IL 60084  
 US

**ALL PURCHASE ORDERS MUST BE SENT TO DELIVERING DEALER:**  
 AHW LLC  
 29626 N Highway 12  
 Wauconda, IL 60084  
 847-487-4900  
 dlwauconda@ahwllc.com

<b>JOHN DEERE 1575 TerrainCut™ with ComfortCab Commercial Front Mower</b>							
<b>Hours:</b>							<b>Suggested List *</b>
<b>Stock Number:</b>							<b>\$ 53,224.20</b>
<b>Contract:</b> Sourcewell Grounds Maint 031121-DAC (PG BT CG 76)							<b>Selling Price *</b>
							<b>\$ 40,162.98</b>
<b>Price Effective Date:</b> January 5, 2025							
* Price per item - includes Fees and Non-contract items							
Code	Description	Qty	List Price	Discount%	Discount Amount	Contract Price	Extended Contract Price
244BTC	1575 TerrainCut™ with ComfortCab Commercial Front Mower (Less Mower Deck)	1	\$ 52,580.00	23.00	\$ 12,093.40	\$ 40,486.60	\$ 40,486.60
<b>Standard Options - Per Unit</b>							
001A	United States and Canada	1	\$ 0.00	23.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
183N	JDLink™ M Modem	1	\$ 0.00	23.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
<b>Standard Options Total</b>			<b>\$ 0.00</b>		<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
<b>Dealer Attachments/Non-Contract/Open Market</b>							
UC13263	Quik-Tatch Weight, 42 lb (19 kg)	6	\$ 80.26	23.00	\$ 18.46	\$ 370.80	\$ 370.80
TCB10303	Rear Weight Mounting Kit	1	\$ 162.64	23.00	\$ 37.41	\$ 125.23	\$ 125.23
<b>Dealer Attachments Total</b>			<b>\$ 644.20</b>		<b>\$ 148.17</b>	<b>\$ 496.03</b>	<b>\$ 496.03</b>
<b>Value Added Services Total</b>			<b>\$ 0.00</b>			<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
<b>Additional Discounts</b>							
Dealer Sponsored Discount		1			\$ 819.65	\$ -819.65	\$ -819.65
<b>Additional Discount Total</b>					<b>\$ 819.65</b>	<b>\$ -819.65</b>	<b>\$ -819.65</b>
<b>Total Selling Price</b>			<b>\$ 53,224.20</b>		<b>\$ 13,061.22</b>	<b>\$ 40,162.98</b>	<b>\$ 40,162.98</b>

**JOHN DEERE 72 In. 7-Iron PRO Commercial Side Discharge Mower Deck**

# Selling Equipment

Quote Id: 32178203      Customer Name:

**ALL PURCHASE ORDERS MUST BE MADE OUT TO (VENDOR):**  
 AHW LLC  
 29626 N Highway 12  
 WAUCONDA, IL 60084  
 US

**ALL PURCHASE ORDERS MUST BE SENT TO DELIVERING DEALER:**  
 AHW LLC  
 29626 N Highway 12  
 Wauconda, IL 60084  
 847-487-4900  
 dlwauconda@ahwllc.com

<b>Equipment Notes:</b>							<b>Suggested List *</b>
Hours:							\$ 6,409.00
<b>Stock Number:</b>							<b>Selling Price *</b>
Contract: Sourcewell Grounds Maint 031121-DAC (PG BT CG 76)							\$ 4,836.23
Price Effective Date: January 5, 2025							
* Price per item - includes Fees and Non-contract items							
Code	Description	Qty	List Price	Discount%	Discount Amount	Contract Price	Extended Contract Price
034NTC	72 In. 7-Iron PRO Commercial Side Discharge Mower Deck	1	\$ 6,409.00	23.00	\$ 1,474.07	\$ 4,934.93	\$ 4,934.93
<b>Standard Options - Per Unit</b>							
001A	United States and Canada	1	\$ 0.00	23.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
<b>Standard Options Total</b>			<b>\$ 0.00</b>		<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
<b>Additional Discounts</b>							
	Dealer Sponsored Discount	1			\$ 98.70	\$ -98.70	\$ -98.70
<b>Additional Discount Total</b>					<b>\$ 98.70</b>	<b>\$ -98.70</b>	<b>\$ -98.70</b>
<b>Total Selling Price</b>			<b>\$ 6,409.00</b>		<b>\$ 1,572.77</b>	<b>\$ 4,836.23</b>	<b>\$ 4,836.23</b>

<b>JOHN DEERE 60 In. Heavy-Duty Two-Stage Snow Blower</b>							
<b>Equipment Notes:</b>							<b>Suggested List *</b>
Hours:							\$ 7,192.00
<b>Stock Number:</b>							<b>Selling Price *</b>
Contract: Sourcewell Grounds Maint 031121-DAC (PG BT CG 76)							\$ 5,427.08
Price Effective Date: January 5, 2025							
* Price per item - includes Fees and Non-contract items							
Code	Description	Qty	List Price	Discount%	Discount Amount	Contract Price	Extended Contract Price
0381TC	60 In. Heavy-Duty Two-Stage Snow Blower	1	\$ 6,642.00	23.00	\$ 1,527.66	\$ 5,114.34	\$ 5,114.34
<b>Standard Options - Per Unit</b>							
001A	United States and Canada	1	\$ 0.00	23.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

# Selling Equipment

Quote Id: 32178203      Customer Name:

**ALL PURCHASE ORDERS MUST BE MADE OUT TO (VENDOR):**  
 AHW LLC  
 29626 N Highway 12  
 WAUCONDA, IL 60084  
 US

**ALL PURCHASE ORDERS MUST BE SENT TO DELIVERING DEALER:**  
 AHW LLC  
 29626 N Highway 12  
 Wauconda, IL 60084  
 847-487-4900  
 dlwauconda@ahwllc.com

1000	Lift Arms, Drive Shaft and Hardware	1	\$ 550.00	23.00	\$ 126.50	\$ 423.50	\$ 423.50
	<b>Standard Options Total</b>		<b>\$ 550.00</b>		<b>\$ 126.50</b>	<b>\$ 423.50</b>	<b>\$ 423.50</b>
<b>Additional Discounts</b>							
	Dealer Sponsored Discount	1			\$ 110.76	\$ -110.76	\$ -110.76
	<b>Additional Discount Total</b>				<b>\$ 110.76</b>	<b>\$ -110.76</b>	<b>\$ -110.76</b>
<b>Total Selling Price</b>			<b>\$ 7,192.00</b>		<b>\$ 1,764.92</b>	<b>\$ 5,427.08</b>	<b>\$ 5,427.08</b>

**JOHN DEERE 60 Heavy-Duty Rotary Broom (For 1500 TerrainCut, 1400/1500)**

**Equipment Notes:** Suggested List \*

Hours: \$ 6,641.00

**Stock Number:** Selling Price \*

**Contract:** Sourcewell Grounds Maint 031121-DAC (PG BT CG 76) \$ 5,011.30

**Price Effective Date:** January 5, 2025

\* Price per item - includes Fees and Non-contract items

Code	Description	Qty	List Price	Discount%	Discount Amount	Contract Price	Extended Contract Price
0501TC	60 Heavy-Duty Rotary Broom (For 1500 TerrainCut, 1400/1500 Series II and Non- Series II Front Mowers)	1	\$ 4,639.00	23.00	\$ 1,066.97	\$ 3,572.03	\$ 3,572.03
<b>Standard Options - Per Unit</b>							
001A	United States and Canada	1	\$ 0.00	23.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
1000	Lift Arms, Cylinders, Drive Shaft and Hardware	1	\$ 2,002.00	23.00	\$ 460.46	\$ 1,541.54	\$ 1,541.54
	<b>Standard Options Total</b>		<b>\$ 2,002.00</b>		<b>\$ 460.46</b>	<b>\$ 1,541.54</b>	<b>\$ 1,541.54</b>
<b>Additional Discounts</b>							
	Dealer Sponsored Discount	1			\$ 102.27	\$ -102.27	\$ -102.27
	<b>Additional Discount Total</b>				<b>\$ 102.27</b>	<b>\$ -102.27</b>	<b>\$ -102.27</b>
<b>Total Selling Price</b>			<b>\$ 6,641.00</b>		<b>\$ 1,629.70</b>	<b>\$ 5,011.30</b>	<b>\$ 5,011.30</b>

## Extended Repair Plan Proposal

## PowerGard™ Protection Plan Residential

**Date :** January 6, 2025

Machine/Use Information		Plan Description	Price	
Manufacturer	<b>JOHN DEERE</b>	Plan Type:	Deductible:	
Equipment Type	1575 TERRAIN CUT T4	Coverage:	Quoted Price	\$ 0.00
Model	1575 TERRAIN CUT T4	Total Months:		
		Total Hours:		

THIS PROPOSAL IS VALID FOR 30-DAYS FROM DATE ISSUED. GRACE pricing is offered only early during the Deere basic warranty period and has no surcharges. After this period, DELAYED PURCHASE pricing (surcharged) is offered later during the John Deere Basic Warranty. Many PowerGard quotes presented in the Delayed Purchase Period will require inspection/certification process and must also pass fluid testing. The Total Months and Total Hours listed above include the John Deere Basic Warranty terms (24 months / 2000 hours on Tractors, 24 months on Golf & Turf Products, 12 months for all AG Harvesting and Sprayer equipment, and 12 months/1000 hours on most Gator Utility Vehicles). "Limited" Plan coverage = Engine & Powertrain only. "Comprehensive" Plan coverage = Full Machine.

**Proposal Prepared for:**

*I have been offered this coverage and*

Customer Name - Please Print

**I ACCEPT** the Residential plan

**I DECLINE** the Residential plan

Customer Signature

*If declined, I fully understand that my equipment listed above is not covered for repair expenses due to component failures beyond the original basic warranty period provided by John Deere.*

**Note :** This is **not** a contract. For specific PowerGard™ Protection plan Residential coverage, please refer to the terms and conditions on John Deere's public website([www.JohnDeere.com](http://www.JohnDeere.com)) under Services & Support >Warranty > Extended Warranties > PowerGard protection plan Residential.

**PowerGard™ Protection Plan Residential (Residential plan) is:**

The PowerGard™ Protection Plan Residential is an extended repair plan that provides parts and labor coverage up to four years beyond the manufacturer's warranty. It is available on all riding lawn equipment, zero-turn radius mowers, utility vehicles, utility tractors and compact utility tractors. Your John Deere equipment will be in the hands of qualified, certified technicians from John Deere dealers using Genuine John Deere Parts.

**Not covered under a Residential plan:**

Residential plans do not cover routine maintenance services or items normally designed to be replaced by the purchaser due to normal wear and tear. They do not cover any product used for commercial or rental applications. They also do not cover repairs for damage from accident, misuse, fire, theft, or exposure to weather conditions such as lightning, hail, flood or water. See the actual PowerGard™ Protection Plan Residential Terms and Conditions for a complete listing of coverage, and limitations and conditions under the program.



## Benefits of a Residential plan:

- Offer the choice of adding up to 4 years of repair coverage beyond the machine's factory warranty.
- Do not require preapproval before repairs are made by the authorized John Deere dealership.
- Is transferable by the original purchaser for the balance of the original agreement period.
- Ensures higher resale value and makes equipment more marketable during sale or trade-in.
- Comprehensive Plans:
  - No deductibles and no out-of-pocket costs on covered repairs.
  - Free transportation for factory warranty and extended repair plan repairs for the term of the plan (Note: A surcharge may apply for machines located outside of the dealership's normal service area).
- Limited Powertrain Plans:
  - Low deductibles on covered repairs
  - Do not provide transportation coverage



**JOHN DEERE**

Adrienne Larson  
Sr. Strategic Account Manager  
John Deere Company  
10789 S. Ridgeview Rd.  
Olathe, Kansas 66061

January 24, 2025

To Whom it May Concern,

Deere & Company has worked with Sourcewell to allow Arens Hogan Walker LLC, a John Deere authorized dealer, to sell and invoice on behalf of John Deere for Sourcewell National Cooperative Contract Numbers: 082923-DAC and 031121-DAC ("Contract"). Arens Hogan Walker LLC has agreed to follow the same terms and conditions of the contract that Deere & Company abides by. Details on the Sourcewell contracts can be found on our public website at [www.johndeere.com/local](http://www.johndeere.com/local).

Please let me know if I can answer any additional questions. Thank you for your current business and future business. We and Arens Hogan Walker LLC are truly honored to serve customers like yourself.

Regards,

Adrienne Larson

Sr. Strategic Account Manager

# HBO finale details tawdry side of Tiger



**Mike Freeman**  
Columnist  
USA TODAY

When the National Enquirer is one of the stars of a documentary, you know what's going to follow is absolute trash.

The second and final part of HBO's documentary "Tiger" aired on Sunday and it's dramatically different from the first. The initial one was deep, thoughtful and fearlessly examined the issue of race in Woods' life.

The second one was ... none of those things.

If you were going to give part two a title it would be: *Επιπορευωμενη*. It's necessary to examine Woods, and how he created a phony image, and chronicle his downfall, his arrogance. That's all a part of the Woods story. It makes sense.

The Enquirer reporter being interviewed, and the tabloid's role in uncovering that Woods was having an affair, is just hard to take. It's Woods' fault. He played himself. He's in the wrong, but after watching the Enquirer part of the story you'll need a shower.

The reporter, for example, says in the documentary the tabloid took photographs of Woods having sex, and - this is insane to write but here we go - picked up a discarded tampon used by the woman Woods was having an affair with and kept it in their vault as some sort of proof.

Just imagine what the inside of that vault must have looked like.

Once Woods was caught, the documentary says, he and his camp cut a deal. They did a catch-and-kill with the story. This phenomenon became more generally known during the presidency of Donald Trump and it turns out Woods was ensnared by this as well. The Enquirer would kill the story if Woods appeared on the cover of Men's Fitness,



The new Tiger Woods documentary is streaming on HBO Max. HBO

which was owned by the same company. Woods agreed and appeared on the cover. It was all done in secret.

Other parts of the documentary deal with what people close to Woods say was his search for a substitute for his father's presence and approval. Earl Woods died in 2006 and after that Woods became an adrenaline junkie, once telling his caddie, Steve Williams, he wanted to quit golf and join the Navy SEALs.

Rachel Uchitel, who had an affair with Woods, gives a highly personal and honest interview to HBO, and the best part is how she describes how Woods could go on with his life but she never fully recovered.

"That was the end of my life as I knew it," she says in the documentary.

We don't hear from Woods' ex-wife, Elin Nordegren, the real victim in this story.

What Woods either didn't know, or he didn't care about, was that the Enquirer had been tracking him all along. Then came the infamous driveway car crash. After that, everything else in Woods' life crashed, too, until the comeback in 2019

when he won the Masters. It was his first major championship win in 11 years.

The second installment does chronicle other things besides the scandals, including Woods coming back from a series of injuries.

But there's so much scandal it overwhelms everything else about the second part of the doc.

The Enquirer tends to have this effect.

And for those who waited to view both parts together, here are observations from Part One:

It was after Tiger's historic 1997 Masters win that in many corners of the country, particularly the conservative ones, Woods' accomplishment was presented as proof that America wasn't racist.

Woods was a way for some to say: see, how bad could racism be? A Black dude just won the Masters.

Says Gary Smith, senior writer for Sports Illustrated, in the doc and speaking about Woods' Masters win: "It was like white America almost patting itself on the back. Like, 'Look, this is the promise that America makes. That any-

one can use the tools that this country offers and make it to the highest levels. Regardless of race, color creed."

"We like to believe we're this place without racism, but that's a great American myth."

Broadcaster Bryant Gumbel puts it even more bluntly: "It's a racial society."

Again, as people then were trying to use Woods as proof that America had a Black friend, Gumbel, like many others, knew better. Gumbel in the documentary told a poignant story about how he felt when Woods first publicly referred to himself as "Cablinasian."

"People of color had so much invested in him," Gumbel said. "I'd be lying if I said I wasn't disappointed. You know my grandkids are biracial. And somebody asked me, they said, 'Well, what do you tell them?' And I tell them, 'They're Black. They're African American.' They said, 'Why?' And I said that's how America is going to look at them."

We knew then how silly the notion of Woods as a racial healer was, and we particularly know it now, considering what's happening in the country at this moment.

What the documentary also shows is how the pressure on Woods to not just be an outstanding golfer, but to also be some type of unifying figure, was instigated by his father, Earl.

It should be noted the documentary absolutely savages Earl. He's portrayed as uber-controlling - and that's a nice way to put it.

Earl believed his son could flip the great American myth of a non-racist country on its head and transform it from myth to reality. He spoke about Woods after his Masters win like Woods was an Avenger.

"Other people now know what I knew all along," Earl said in the documentary. "They were just too stubborn to see it. He is just getting aware that he has this power. When he is in full control of that power, he can then make a difference in the world."

# Olympic gold is target for 5-time US champ



**Christine Brennan**  
Columnist  
USA TODAY

The greatest U.S. male figure skater in a generation had just decisively won another national title Sunday, his fifth in a row, when attention immediately turned to where it always turns for Nathan Chen.

The Olympics. The next Winter Olympic Games, now just 13 months away in Beijing.

Three years ago, Chen was an 18-year-old gold medal favorite at the 2018 Olympics in South Korea when his nerves got the best of him and he bombed in the men's short program, finishing a dismal 17th. Having no chance to win a medal, with the weight of the world lifted from his shoulders, Chen went on to win the long program and finish fifth overall.

He has not lost a competition since. World championships, national championships, Grand Prix events - Chen,



Nathan Chen poses with his medal at the 2021 U.S. Figure Skating Championships.

ORLANDO RAMIREZ/USA TODAY SPORTS

now 21, is undefeated since Pyeongchang, a remarkable achievement in any sport at any time, but especially now, at the most competitive time in his sport's history.

In the old days, with the 6.0 scoring system, competitions were more like coronations, with the skaters who possessed the most glowing résumés often getting preferential treatment from

judges who could get away with almost anything back in the day.

There will always be shenanigans in figure skating, but because the foundation of the sport's infamous judging system now is built on a rigid points system, the skaters truly have to deliver the goods to have a chance to win.

Skating also is a slippery sport, where athletes such as Chen land multiple quadruple jumps on a sliver of a blade of steel, on ice of course. So to do what Chen has done, to win over and over again on both the national and world stage, is extraordinary.

But he knows, as we all do, that the 2022 Olympic gold medal in men's figure skating is his ultimate prize.

"It's always been a dream of mine to be able to win a national title, to win a world title, to win an Olympic title," he said. "Easier said than done. I thought that I had a chance in 2018 and that didn't happen and I'm able to live with that."

"Of course I would love to be able to win the next Olympics, but if that doesn't happen, it's not like my legacy or who I am is ultimately diminished. I'm

still happy with everything that I've done. I'm proud of everything that I've already accomplished in skating. I still would love to improve and be better, but truthfully, I'm really happy with where I am and what I've already done, so whether or not I get that title at the Olympics is not going to define me as a person."

By easily defeating countrymen Vincent Zhou and Jason Brown on Sunday inside the skating bubble at Orleans Arena in Las Vegas, Chen became the first American man to win five consecutive national titles since the legendary Dick Button in the 1940s and 1950s. Brian Boitano never did it. Nor did Scott Hamilton. Michelle Kwan won eight national titles in a row, and nine overall, during her stellar career, but what Chen has accomplished is a rare feat indeed.

A rising junior at Yale, Chen is on a leave of absence from his studies during the pandemic to focus on this skating season, and, of course, the next, with all of its promise and pressure.

"The future will come," he said, "so right now, I'm just going to be happy in this moment."

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