



A major champion at last, Angela Stanford celebrates after winning at Evian Resort.

Evian Les Bains, France - It wasn't supposed to take this long. For Angela

Stanford who finished runner-up at the 2003 U.S Women's Open in just

her third season, the majors would surely come. After 18 years on tour,

and 13 top tens in majors without a win - it went from likely to unlikely.

Sometimes the unlikely occurs when you least expect it, for Stanford it

happened at 40 years old.

Stanford started the day five strokes back of 54 hole leader Amy Olson,

who led Sei Young Kim by two. Coming down the stretch, Olson and Stanford

were knotted up when a double bogey on the par-3 16th took Stanford out

of a tie for the lead. Stanford was emotional after missing her birdie attempt

on the 72nd hole, her final round 68 ended in up and down fashion, eagle-

double bogey-birdie-par to apparently finish just short, but leader Amy Olson's

double bogey at the last handed the title to Stanford.

If you had told Angela Stanford years ago, that she would be 40 when she

broke through for her 1st major what would she have said? "I would have

laughed, (and said) 'No way, it's going to happen before', Stanford said.

Stanford's finished at 12 under par (272 total) earning \$577,500.

Olson's gaffe at the last put her in a four-way tie with Americans Austin

Earnst, Mo Martin and South Korea's Sei Young Kim.

Leaderboard: <http://www.lpga.com/leaderboard>

