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Dahlbender's Finishing 66 Bags Fifth Atlanta Open

Yates, Kelly Tie For Second

By GEORGE CUNNINGHAM

King Gene Dahlbender thwarted the usurpation of his throne Monday with a 66 that gave the burly amateur a 36-hole total of 138 and his fifth Atlanta Open golf championship.

Just like Masters champ Art Wall, Big Dolly overcame a six stroke deficit to capture his third straight tournament. The 208-pounder turned in 34, then birdied four of five holes down the stretch to storm into the lead and finish two shots ahead of 140-shooters Jim Yates and Lester Kelly.

The victory gave Dahlbender $100 in merchandise, Yates $42.50 and Kelly the same amount in merchandise.

After a 72 Friday, the 35-year-old slugger uncorked his 34-32—66 which tied the competitive record at the treacherous, par 70 Atlanta General Depot layout which first day leader Yates had established.

Dolly's victory dispelled all doubts to his right to the Atlanta diadem which might have cropped up after his poor showing in the Dogwood. The triumph came on the heels of championships in the Coosa and North Georgia opens and gave the sweet-swinger 14 victories in the city's top three tournaments.

He also has won five Dogwood and four City Amateur titles.

Yates, pro at Candler Park, suffered a quadruple bogey 9 on the sixth hole and never recovered to finish four over par with a 74. Amateur Kelly, who signed a 69 Friday, was the last player to yield to Dahlbender, posting a 71.

Professionals Ewing Pomeroy and Charlie Miller and amateur Louis McLennan, who had Monday's only other sub-par round (69), were next with 141s. Then came amateur Charlie Harrison, who was all alone at 143.

Dahlbender turned one under par without benefit of a birdie. After bogeying the first hole, he planted a 6-iron within 18 feet at No. 3, then holed the putt for an eagle.

With nine holes to play, Dolly trailed Miller by three strokes, Yates and Kelly by one and led Ansley Park pro Pomeroy by one.

Pomeroy got even with a bird at 11, then birdied the next two holes but didn't gain any more on Dahlbender. For the Marching Monster made his move at No. 12, birdying that hole, 13, 15 and 16 to surge into such a lead that a bogey on 18 didn't hurt him.

Pomeroy was the first to go when he three-putted for a bogey on 14. Yates and Miller went behind on No. 15, which Yates parred and the Druid Hills pro triple-bogeyed.

When Dahlbender braked his tee

GENE DAHLBENDER
Monster Marches On

shot four feet from the pin on the par three 16, the subsequent birdie wrote finis to the challenge of Kelly who bogeyed the hole.

On the 18th hole, Big Dolly's tee shot went into the woods and he had to waste a shot to get back into the fairway. Still if he had holed a five-foot putt, the Monster would have tallied a record-wrecking 65.

Dahlbender stoned his birdie on No. 12 with a sensational wedge shot. A 15-footer rolled in at 13, a 2-iron put him two putts away from a bird on 15, and he had only a four-footer to make at 16.

"The only thought I had when

Score Matches Course Record

I started today was to try and finish with a respectable score," Dolly said. "Then when Yates turned in 39 and I trailed Miller by three strokes, I thought maybe I could win it with a 33 coming in."

He shot a 32, a truly great finish . . . even for Dahlbender.

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

Gene Dahlbender, 72-66—138; Lester Kelly, 69-71—140; xJim Yates, 66-74—140; xEwing Pomeroy, 71-70—141; Louis McLennan, 72-69—141; xCharlie Miller, 67-74—141; Charles Harrison, 73-70—143; Wes Tucker, 73-71—144; Ralph James, 73-71—144; Bobby Lemming, 74-70—144; xBobby Pomeroy, 76-70—146; xFelton Lancaster, 70-76—146; xCharlie Edwards, 76-72—148; E. Foster, 75-73—148; Wilson Brooks, 75-75—150; J. Dwyer, 75-75—150; Wally Cochran, 74-76—150; J. Haipes, 74-74—150; H. Hopkins, 74-76—150; Irby Henderson, 76-74—150; A. J. Clark, 77-77—154; Bob Smith, 79-79—158; Ray Nelson, 76-78—154; Wallace, 74-79—153; Jim Farr, 74-80—154; xPete Cole, 75-78—154; Harold Baldwin, 74-80—154; Nig Estes, 75-80—155; Roy Adams, 76-81—157; E. B. Judge, 75-83—158; Barber, 74-84—158; W. Stephenson, 75-85—160; D. Darden, 75-86—161; xPaul Lavin, 76-withdrew; xHarry Ward, 75-no card.

B DIVISION

Jack Butler, 80-71—151; D. Morris, 77-74—151; Bob Giles, 78-73—151; Mack Adams, 80-withdrew; C. M. Bailey, 83-90—173; H. E. Beavers, 77-77—154; R. A. Bradford, 79-84—163; Vans Bradley, 78-80—158; J. Clendenen, 77-77—154; B. Dobbs, 79-81—160; George Duncan, 81-80—161; D. Gaulin, 77-77—154; Scot Hale, 82-80—162; Ed Welch, 77-75—152; H. E. Williams, 77-83—160; Wayne Yates, 79-77—156; Tommy Young, 80-no card; Ernest Bolding, 80-79—159; C. M. Mills, 74—153; G. E. Mills, 77-80—157; C. M. Mills, 79-79—158; H. Sanders, 79-82—161; P. L. Shansberry, 76-78—154; Jim Starr, 79-79—158; Dan Tarpley, 77-77—154; Bill Thurston, 77-83—160; R. Turner, 79-90—169; J. Ward, 81-73—154; W. E. Webb, 83-88—171.

C DIVISION

H. Cobb, 86-75—161; Lee Willingham, 86-77—141; Glenn Turner, 88-77—165; James Ledbetter, 85-80—165; L. Barnes, 86-87—172; C. R. Berry, 91-89—180; Glen Blackwell, 86-83—169; C. A. Boland, 85-81—166; J. L. Brooks, 86-88—174; H. D. Brown, 97-86—183; C. Coleson, 91-93—184; F. Crocker, 106-94—200; W. T. Dishroon, 86-88—174; Ralph Dobbins, 86-87—171; A. Ehlers, 87-no card; C. H. Freeman, 97-97—189; H. Hardy, 93-102—194; J. F. Hayes, 91-88—179; J. Hazlehorst, 97-93—190; M. G. Kelly, 98-no card; J. C. Knight, 85-withdrew; J. C. Martin, 92-no card; Bob McGee, 93-86—177; H. McWilliams, 89-88—176; H. E. Roberts, 91-no card; Randy Smith, 101-87—188; W. D. Smith, 106-no card; Dave Tarpley, 89-89—178; A. B. Troup, 101-99—200; F. Wiser, 84-84—168; P. Van Zandt, 99-92—191; Rover Valley, 84-84—168.

x—Denotes professional.