

# Yates Fires 71 To Clinch Open

## Young Tour Regular Has 141 To Win 3rd Crown by 3 Shots

By BILL CLARK

Wayne Yates, the homegrown circuit pro with the thin frame and fattening bankroll, fired a steady 71 Tuesday for a three-under 141 to capture the \$500 first prize in the Atlanta Open.

The 6-2, 155-pounder, now a three-time ruler of the event, shook off three contenders who had opened the round tied for the top at 70 and eventually won by three full shots.

Three pros plus the city's premier amateur, Charlie Harrison, came next at 144 as the two-day, medal-play event came to a close at East Lake No. 2. Sharing second professional money of \$188.33 each were the Atlanta Country Club's Davis Love, New Lincoln pro George Johnson and clever little James Williams of Lakeshore, himself a onetime tour hopeful.

Defending king Love got off badly and was three-over after six holes. The current State PGA champ righted himself swiftly and played the next nine holes in a blazing seven-under. He bogeyed 16 and 18, however, to end the blitz.

Yates' first-day challengers—tour pro Paul Bondeson, New Lincoln professional Carl Selden and onetime University of Georgia star Jimmy Gabrielsen—all fell off sharply. Bondeson triple-bogeyed the 12th and had missed a two-inch putt with a backhand swipe earlier to sky to 76.

Selden turned in par figures, but soared to a 40 on the closing nine and amateur Gabrielsen encountered even more trouble with a 77.

Johnson and Selden, however, both turned in solid showings in the first year that Negro players were permitted to compete. And integration of the event, as expected, came off without a hitch.

With Yates dominating the event just as he had done in 1962 and '66, about the only drama of the day was left for the amateurs. Harrison, a six-time winner of the Atlanta Amateur, was deadlocked with Waters coming to the final hole for the low amateur trophy.

Waters' second shot barely kicked onto the green some 60 feet from the pin. He needed three putts to get down while Harrison won with a regulation four.

Waters' strong 145 bunched

him with ex-Georgia Tech star Jimmy Cleveland and the latter then won a playoff for the second amateur berth.

Yates needed only 31 putts in touring the mid-town layout in one-under 35-36 figures. He canned a 20-foot birdie on the second hole and had two birdie putts fall on the front nine along with a pair of bogeys. On the back, he rolled in a 15-footer on the 10th, bogeyed 11 and made perhaps his finest shot of the day—a 35-footer for a par at the 14th.

Although known as an excellent putter, Yates feels his work on the greens has left something to be desired in his two years on the circuit. But Tuesday he used six fewer taps than necessary 24 hours earlier and the winning performance buoyed him for a return to the tour at Memphis next week.

The slim son of Mystery Valley pro Jim Yates earned almost \$11,000 in his first full year on the PGA trail in 1967 and now is pushing \$3,000 this season.

Standard Club pro Phil Kelnhofer recovered from an opening 76 with a fine 70 to share fifth pro money.

Undoubtedly the most-talked shot of the day was a "hole-in-one" by Georgia State golfer Ronnie Howington. Teeing off on the 17th hole, Howington's wood got off line, rolled down an embankment and ran into the cup on the 10th green. Non-plussed Ronnie got a free drop and parred No. 17, but wound up well back at 80-82-162.

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## CITY OPEN GOLF

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### THE PUTTERS

Wayne Yates, 70-71-141, 820; James Williams, 76-76-144, 818.33; George Johnson, 71-73-144, 818.33; Davis Love, 74-76-144, 818.33; a-Charlie Harrison, 73-71-144; a-Richard Waters, 71-74-145; a-Jimmy Cleveland, 75-76-145 (Cleveland won playoff for amateur runner-up); Phil Kelnhofer, 76-76-146, 828.33; Carl Selden, 70-76-146, 828.33; Paul Bondeson, 70-76-146, 828.33; a-Jimmy Gabrielsen, 70-77-147; Terry Adams, 77-71-148; a-David Rogers, 75-77-148; a-Kay Baker, 77-77-148; Teddy Hayes Jr., 77-77-148; David Cash, 75-78-150; Jack Koss Jr., 77-77-150; Clark Williamson, 75-78-150; a-Jack Callahan, 76-78-150; a-Jerry Shurtzoff, 77-78-150; a-Jimmy McCarty, 76-77-151; Darwin White, 73-78-151; Ed Brown, 75-76-151; Emory Lee, 76-77-151; Paul Crownover, 75-77-152; a-Alan Rose, 75-77-152; a-Tom Finney, 75-77-154; a-Tom C. Smith, 75-77-154; a-Jerry Gaudin, 76-77-155; Harold Lee, 77-77-155; a-T. C. McIntower, 76-78-156; a-Anastor.

A-Division winner—Harrison; B-Division winner—Cleveland; C-Division winner—Bruce Johnson; D-Division winner—Dewey Mobley.

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