

10-D The Atlanta Journal Wednesday, June 27, 1973



AP Photo-Heinz Covert

Wayne Yates (L), Second Place Finisher Mike Ray Relax After Atlanta Open

Yates Limp In To Win Atlanta Open

By MIKE MCKENZIE

The U.S. Open, acclaimed as the most prestigious golf tournament in the world, will be played at Atlanta Athletic Club Country Club in 1974.

Already plans are being laid, and the resident pro, Harold Sargent, offered a sample Tuesday, he lengthened the course to over 7,200 yards (approximately 30 yards extra per hole) and, according to Wayne Yates, "tucked the pins in unbelievable places."

"But I like it that way," Yates said. Yates, who survived the heat with a 75 to win the Atlanta Open for the fourth time, "I prevents somebody from making it."

Yates himself came limping to the home pro at Indian Wells Country Club bogged three of the last five holes to finish two strokes up on first

round leader Mike Ray of Standard Club and low amateur Charles Harrison.

"I've always wondered what that felt like, a five stroke lead with five holes to go," said Yates with a grin. "I kept going for par (he was three over for the day) and the tournament, but you know a win is a win. If it's by one stroke or 18."

"This is a good tournament to win, and I'd be disappointed if I didn't... although it's one of those things if you do people say you're supposed to, and if you don't they ask what happened."

Yates won it in 1962-66-68, as a player along with Harrison to DeWet Weaver in 1969 and finished third three other years. George Johnson was defending champion, but is now on the PGA tour full-time.

Ray started the day with berles on the first two holes and appeared ready to take charge, but the rest of the day was uphill for him. He won the state assistant pro tournament recently.

Amateur Dick Hatley and Louisiana State player DeLo Clark tied for fourth behind Yates' 117, a stroke out of second at 150.

Reflecting the toughness of the Highlands course, 74 was the low score of the final round by sixth-place Billy Hartz on his home course and Georgia State student John Inhof. They tied with Gary Hullman of Peachtree Golf Club and Bert Seagraves of Kenosha at 111.

Players had praise for the condition of the relatively new course, but as Harrison put it, "The pin placements were ultra-overs."

Yates, who pocketed 150 of the \$5,000 purse posted by new sponsor Days Inn of America, commented, "Some of them, you couldn't have touched the ball close with your hand, they were tucked in so tight to the bunker."

But that offers a better bet... miss a shot, and it's a bogey, no way to hack back into par.

Harrison, continuing an impressive winning record at age 42 which could qualify him for the U.S. Walker Cup team, mentioned 120 in merchandise (the maximum allowed) by an amateur by the U.S. Golf Association) and a silver cup which he said "didn't mean a whole lot when you don't win." He is president of the Atlanta Golf Association.

Yates must now return to a busy week at his own club where the Lady Tara Open began with a pro-am Wednesday. The women pro will be on his course for 34 holes

Friday through Sunday. Called "Warrior" for his rangy build and son of Mystery Valley Country Club pro

Jim Yates, Wayne played the PGA tour three years full-time and still competes in four events a year.

ATLANTA OPEN GOLF SCOREBOARD

Player	Score	Player	Score	Player	Score	Player	Score
Wayne Yates	117	Mike Ray	120	DeWet Weaver	120	Charles Harrison	120
Harold Sargent	121	George Johnson	121	Bert Seagraves	121	Dick Hatley	121
DeLo Clark	121	John Inhof	121	Gary Hullman	121	Billy Hartz	121
Bill Hartz	122	Bill Hartz	122	Bill Hartz	122	Bill Hartz	122
Bill Hartz	123	Bill Hartz	123	Bill Hartz	123	Bill Hartz	123
Bill Hartz	124	Bill Hartz	124	Bill Hartz	124	Bill Hartz	124
Bill Hartz	125	Bill Hartz	125	Bill Hartz	125	Bill Hartz	125
Bill Hartz	126	Bill Hartz	126	Bill Hartz	126	Bill Hartz	126
Bill Hartz	127	Bill Hartz	127	Bill Hartz	127	Bill Hartz	127
Bill Hartz	128	Bill Hartz	128	Bill Hartz	128	Bill Hartz	128
Bill Hartz	129	Bill Hartz	129	Bill Hartz	129	Bill Hartz	129
Bill Hartz	130	Bill Hartz	130	Bill Hartz	130	Bill Hartz	130

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