

GOLF

Roddy captures Atlanta Open

Win a breakthrough for East Point golfer

By Glenn Sheeley

STAFF WRITER

What transpired Tuesday at the Atlanta Athletic Club's famous Highlands Course could evolve as a crucial development in Tommy Roddy's career. Although there were moments of uneasiness for the 30-year-old from East Point, this was one that didn't get away.

As a result, Roddy secured his first Georgia PGA victory Tuesday with a 5-under-par total of 70-69—139, securing the Yamaha Atlanta Open by two strokes and earning \$7,500.

"I've been in position in so many events before, like the 1994 Georgia Open, and I kind of

gagged that away," Roddy said. "I've played a lot of minitour events that kind of slipped away on the last day. It's feel nice to finally win one. I've gotten nervous a lot in the past, and this should help me down the road."

Roddy started the day four shots behind Columbus' John Godwin, who shot a 76 Tuesday after an opening 66 and tied for third with Michael Buja of Mystery Valley.

Roddy passed Godwin on the front nine, shooting a 5-under 31, then tried to hold his game together on a 2-over-par back nine.

"I knew I had a chance to win today if I got off to a good start and could put some pressure on John early," Roddy said. "I was a little worried there for a while, though."

Hooking the ball off the tee

from the 11th hole on, Roddy made things slightly interesting at the finish, placing his second shot from the rough closer to the pond than he had planned.

"That," he said, "was a mistake."

Matt Russell of the Atlanta Athletic Club finished second at 3-under 141, concluding with a 70, and earning \$4,500.

A rain and lightning delay of just over two hours actually helped Roddy. He had just bogeyed the 11th hole and said, "I really needed that delay to get myself together."

Playing the Classic Tour in Florida and the Southeastern Golfers Association Tour in the Atlanta area, Roddy will make a sixth attempt at PGA Tour Qualifying School in December.

Local golf scores

C8

GEORGIA PGA	
YAMAHA ATLANTA OPEN	
at Duluth, Ga.	
Final-round leaders (par 72)	
Tommy Roddy, East Point	70-69—139
Matt Russell, Atlanta Athletic	71-70—141
Michael Buj, Mystery Valley GC	70-72—142
John Godwin, Bull Creek GC	66-76—142
Steve Ridge, Newman CC	71-72—143
Bill McDonald, Atlanta Golf Center	70-73—143
Randy Brooks, Lanier GC	70-73—143
Mike Cook, Sea Island GC	73-71—144
Kevin Blanton, Moultrie	72-72—144
Tommy Branwen, Atlanta Athletic	73-72—145
Craig Stevens, Brookstone CC	72-73—145
Jeff Amershadian, GC of Georgia	70-75—145
James Mason, Jimmy Mozley's G&B	75-71—146
Chan Reeves, Atlanta Athletic	69-77—146
Tim Weinhart, Mulligan's DR	74-73—147
Danny Ives, Lanier GC	73-74—147
David Bahr, Cherokee T&CC	75-72—147
Clark Spratlin, Atlanta National GC	73-74—147
Roger Keller, Horseshoe Bend CC	73-75—148
Was Helfrich, Jimmy Mozley's G&B	73-75—148
Rocky Costa, Settdown Creek GC	72-76—148
Wyatt Detmer, Orchard Hills GC	71-77—148
Jeff Hudson, Godwin Creek Golf	74-75—149
Jeff Belk, Rivermont G&CC	73-76—149
Drew Pittman Jr., Twin City CC	75-74—149
John Hough, Marietta CC	71-78—149
Todd Peterson, Eagle GC	70-79—149
Alan Segars, River Pines CC	77-72—149
Craig England, Southbridge GC	78-72—150
Bill Spannuth, Covington Plantation	73-77—150
Cutts Benedict, Jennings Mill CC	73-77—150
Scott Hamilton, Cartersville CC	73-77—150
William Lawis, River's Edge GC	76-74—150
Michael Butler, Southbridge GC	74-77—151
Russell Smith, Bent Tree CC	74-77—151
Scott Randolph, GC at Cuscowilla	75-76—151
Phil Taylor, Ansley GC	73-78—151
Richard Crawford, Druid Hills GC	76-75—151
Wendell Coffee, Wendell Coffee Golf	72-79—151
Roger Miller, Bent Tree CC	72-79—151
Danny Elkins, Georgia Golf Center	79-73—152
Tripp Kuhlke, Augusta CC	73-79—152
Brian Dixon, Douglas CC	74-78—152
Erik Martin, Crooked Creek GC	76-76—152
Brian Puterbaugh, N'crest Academy	76-76—152
Daryl Speegle, Pinetree CC	77-75—152
Charlie King, College Park Muni	70-82—152
Paul Sorel, Berkeley Hills CC	79-74—153
J. Stephen Sams, Cherokee T&CC	79-74—153
Bubba Gwyn, Berkeley Hills CC	79-74—153
Craig Hartle, Settdown Creek GC	74-79—153
Manny Delgado, Chateau Elan GC	76-77—153
Bill Connally, Ansley GC	76-77—153
Bobby Donellan, Landings/Oakridge	77-76—153
Jeff Hull, Peachtree Family Golf	71-82—153
Bill Robinson, Highland CC	81-73—154
Matthew L. Uhl, Lake Spivey GC	73-81—154
Derek M. Lafferty, Reynolds/National	75-79—154
Roger B. Cherico, Dunwoody CC	73-81—154
Ben T. Roberts, Mulligan's DR	76-78—154
Jim Arandt, Chocopee Woods GC	72-82—154
Chris Asbell, Georgia Golf Center	72-82—154
Dan Murphy, Swingtime	74-81—155
Rob Allen Jr., Stonebridge G&CC	73-82—155
Reno Ronci, CC of the South	76-79—155
Richard Korytoski, Green Island CC	77-78—155
Ed Everett, Doublegate CC	71-84—155
Frank L. Gasaway, South Lake Golf	77-78—155
Rob Riddle Jr., Glen Arven CC	77-78—155
Louis Brown, Legacy Golf Links	83-73—156
Kevin Clarke, Atlanta Athletic	79-77—156
R. Tevis Upton, Chapel Hills GC	78-78—156
Clint Smith, Apple Mountain GC	78-78—156
Gary Clark, River Point Golf	78-78—156
Toby Swartz, Gold Creek GC	76-80—156
Phil Wagner, Covington Plantation	77-79—156
Mark Bowen, Chocopee Woods GC	81-76—157