

GOLF

Tim Weinhart edged out in playoff at Atlanta Open

By **MIKE BLUM**
For the Journal-Constitution

For the second time in the last three years, Duluth's Tim Weinhart lost in a playoff in the Yamaha Atlanta Open.

Two years ago at White Columns, Weinhart lost to Duluth native James Mason, who scored a stunning victory last week in the Senior PGA Tour NFL Classic after earning a spot in the field as a Monday qualifier.

Last week at Golf Club of Georgia, Weinhart was edged out by Ansley Golf Club's director of golf, Phil Taylor, who birdied the 18th hole on the Lakeside course for the third time in a row to win the event and \$6,500 first place prize.

Five players finished the tournament tied at 2-under 142, with Taylor, Weinhart and Mike Cook of Sea Island Golf Club all scoring birdies on the 18th, the first playoff hole. As the players were leaving the green to go back to the 18th tee, a bolt of lightning halted play, with a thunderstorm delaying the conclusion of the tournament until the following morning. Weinhart, an assistant at River Pines, looked to be the tournament winner on the first playoff hole when he reached the par-5 18th in two and left himself only a tap-in for birdie. But Taylor and Cook, both of whom birdied the 18th in regulation to earn spots in the playoff, holed birdie putts in the 15-foot range to extend the playoff until the next morning.

After both Weinhart and Cook hit their third shots on the second playoff hole into a bunker just behind the green, Taylor hit his third to less than a foot and tapped in for the winning birdie.

Weinhart, who had scores of 70 and 72, took the lead when he bird-

ied holes 10, 11 and 13 to get to 3-under for the tournament. But he missed a short par putt on the 17th and hit his second shot at the 18th well over the green into heavy rough, needing a nice chip to save par and get into the five-way playoff, which also included Cherokee assistant Russ Davis and Georgia Tech golfer Adam Cranford.

Coming up short

Former Brookwood and Georgia Tech golfer Michael Pearson qualified for last weekend's PGA Tour Kemper Open outside Washington, but missed the 36-hole cut. Pearson also came up short in sectional qualifying for the U.S. Open last week after making it through a local qualifier in Birmingham.

On Curtis Cup team

Courtney Swaim of Suwanee has been selected to compete on the U.S. Curtis Cup team, which will go against the top female amateurs from Great Britain this summer in Pittsburgh. Swaim is a recent Auburn graduate and member of the school's women's golf team, which finished second in the 2002 NCAA championship.

Also named to the U.S. team was Angela Jerman of Columbus, who recently completed her college career at Georgia.

Both were named first team All-Americans their senior year.

GSGA qualifiers

Qualifying begins Monday for the GSGA Championship, which will be played July 11-14 at Doublegate in Albany. Area qualifiers include Lanier Golf Club, Laurel Springs and Summer Grove on Monday, Jennings Mill on Tuesday, the Nicklaus Golf Club at Birch River on Thursday, and Pinetree on June 17.

GOLF

YAMAHA ATLANTA OPEN

Tuesday
at The Golf Club of Georgia,
Alpharetta

Par: 72

Second-round Results

(a) — amateur; (*) — ppd due to rain,
continues today, 8 a.m.

*Phil Taylor ...73-69-142

*Mike Cook ...73-69-142

*Tim Weinhart ...70-72-142

(a) Adam Cranford ...73-69-142

Russ Davis ...68-74-142

Craig Stevens ...74-70-144

David Robinson ...77-68-145

Tommy Schaff ...74-71-145

(a) Doug Green ...73-72-145

Adam Thomas ...73-72-145

Tim Conley ...71-74-145

Tommy Brannen ...69-76-145

(a) Rocky Costa ...72-74-146

Alan Segars ...71-75-146

(a) Randy Donahoo ...70-76-146

Stephen Keppler ...71-75-146

Clark Spratlin ...69-77-146

Jeff Amershadian ...74-73-147

Don Q. Williams, Jr. ...73-74-147

Jim Langham ...73-74-147

John Godwin ...73-74-147

(a) Paul Sorel ...72-75-147

(a) Adam Grodhaus ...72-75-147

Louis Brown ...76-71-147

Brian Dixon ...76-71-147

(a) Allen Peake ...74-74-148

Jon Hough ...73-75-148

Chan Reeves ...73-75-148

(a) Brad Clark ...71-77-148

Tom Sweeney ...71-77-148

Char Cormier ...76-72-148