

Hold's Shots Decisive In Pros' Golf Victory

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Bobby Hold provided the deciding shots Sunday as the professionals defeated the amateurs 12-11½ in the eighth annual Governor's Cup matches played at the Lakewood Country Club.

Hold, 48, grew up on the Lakewood links first as a caddy and then as he entered the professional period of his life. He knows nearly every blade of grass there, and his fellow Colorado pros can thank the fact that he knows his own putting limitations.

The amateurs, paced by Bill Loeffler of Cherry Hills and captained by Les Fowler, former University of Colorado golf coach, appeared to have a lock on the title until the final four-ball pairing, featuring Hold and his partner Dan Hannagan of the Boulder Country Club.

THIS TWOSOME was 2-down through 11 holes to Rick Petri of the Hyland Hills Golf Club and former CU varsity player Mark Crabtree of the Collindale Golf Club in Fort Collins.

The cup matches are set up by the selection of the 12 best amateurs and the 12 best professionals determined over a season's point system.

The pros had won four times, the amateurs twice and one series ended in a tie.

Sunday the amateurs went up by one point, 61-5½ in the morning best-ball matches, which counted one point each.

This meant the pros would have to win four of the six four-ball tests, which count two points each.

As it turned out the Hold-Hannagan duo provided the winning margin when the Fowler-Mike Mulhern amateur team slipped and let the pro team of Ralph Haddad and Jim Johnson sneak in for a tie.

At this point, Hold and Hannagan trailed Crabtree and Petri by one hole, and it was precisely at this moment that Hold came through with a birdie-birdie-par-par finish that gave the pros the edge they needed to win.

Hold is a character who has spent most of his life on a golf course.

He dipped into his wealth of local knowledge, assessed his own capabilities and combined the two to produce the winning shots.

HANNAGAN HELPED with a par win on the 12th that cut the Crabtree-Petri lead to one hole, and the next three holes were halved in pars. Hold then drilled a 10-footer for a birdie win on the par-5 15th. On the par-5 16th he popped a sand wedge chip 60 feet into the cup for another birdie and his team was now in the lead for the first time.

Hold putts cross-handed and from either side of the ball. At the 17th he was deep in the back of the green and putted his lag putt right-handed. He then tapped it from the left side for the par his team needed to halve the hole.

The Hold-Hannagan team also needed a saving halve on the 18th, which Crabtree reached in two and was tight enough for an easy par.

Hannagan had gone into the bunker and was up against the lip. He failed to get out in two and wasn't a factor in the hole. Hold treed his tee shot and had to cut an 8-iron shot out of the rough and keep it low. His second shot hit a few tree limbs, and also was bunkered next to Hannagan. But Hold punched his shot out and was left with a seven-foot putt that would decide it all.

Crabtree had a cinch par, and a split in points on the match would give the amateurs the overall title.

Hold took one look at his seven-footer, took two practice swings and then let it go. The ball never wavered and curled slightly to the right into the cup.

"I knew which way it was going to go. I grew up out here," Hold said when asked why he didn't take a reading on the line of the putt. "But I've mis-hit many a putt, too. I can't putt the short ones right-handed. I get the yips on them, and I've been putting cross-handed for a long time. I'm a natural left-hander, so it doesn't bother me to go to the other side on the short one. I lag from the right side simply because it feels better."

BEST BALL RESULTS

Steve Satterstrom def. Gary Longfellow 4 and 3, Fred Wampler def. Steve Jones 4 and 3, David Lee def. Vic Kline 3 and 1 Paul McMullen def. Carter Mathies 2 and 1, Ralph Haddad and Mike Mulhern even, Jim Johnson def. Les Fowler 4 and 2, Pat Rea def. Mike Eggeling 2-up, Bill Loeffler def. Warren Smith 3 and 2, Tom Woodard def. Bob Reich 4 and 3, Dave Schey def. Rick Terrell 2 and 1, Rick Petri def. Bob Hold 4 and 2, Mark Crabtree def. Dan Hannagan 4 and 3. Amateurs 6½, professionals 5½.

FOUR-BALL RESULTS

Longfellow-Jones def. Satterstrom-Wampler 2-up, Kline-McMullen def. Lee-Mathies 2 and 1, Haddad-Johnson and Mulhern-Fowler even, Eggeling-Loeffler def. Rea-Smith 4 and 2, Reich-Terrell def. Woodard-Schey 3 and 2, Hold-Hannagan def. Petri-Crabtree 1-up. Professionals 7, amateurs 5. Professionals total, 12½ amateurs total, 11½.