Nosewicz Outduels English in Seniors

By RALPH MOORE

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Ed Nosewicz of the Aurora Golf Club broke the pattern of the match on the 11th hole Saturday at the Fitzsimons Golf Club and went on to defeat Jim English of the J.P. Kennedy Golf Club 3 and 2 in the finals of the Colorado Golf Association's senior finals.

The defending champion Nosewicz was 2-under-par and even against English through the first nine holes but the latter, who 10 days ago won the senior division of the Colorado Open, never gained the lead.

Nosewicz birdied the first hole with a 30-foot putt and the best English could do on the front nine was a 15-foot putt that came from behind three times to even the match.

Then Nosewicz birdied the 10th, par-4 10th to go three under par and he was back in first place.

The key hole came on the rugged 321-yard, par-3 11th.

While English had come back to tie the match at each nose in jumping ahead, this time Nosewicz salvaged a halving par to turn the match around.

"It's a short date with my tee shot at the 11th and the ball bounded behind a trap 90 feet from the pin," Nosewicz explained. "Then I hit my best shot of the tournament. I got the ball rolling up for a short putt to save my par." The putt measured three feet.

English's chance to deadlock the match for the fourth time crashed when he left a short putter for his par.

Nosewicz won 2 up when English went into the left rough on the 12th and closed his second shot short of the green from behind a tree and wound up with a bogey. Both got 2-putts on the 12th when English's birdie bid went wide right.

Neither could find the green on the 204-yard, par-3 14th and English's ball landed in the deep grass to the right. He chipped too hard and the ball finished on the back fringe.

Nosewicz saved his par and won the hole when he chipped in for eagle from the cup and made it. That put him 3 up with four to play, and Nosewicz credited any comeback hopes that English had with excellent driving on the next two holes.

English, who has won major amateur titles over a four-state area and was the leading amateur in the 1969 U.S. Open at Winged Foot, Mamaroneck, N.Y., tried too hard to generate a rally.

He hooked his drive on the par-four 415-yard 15th while Nosewicz was comfortably dead center in the fairway and a good 170 yards longer. Both bogeyed the No-3 handicap hole on the card. Nosewicz' 14-footer died on the lip for his only regret of the day.

Again Nosewicz drove beautifully on the dogleg 16th, and English again found the left rough under a sprawling tree. He bopped the ball out short of the green but still had life when Nosewicz pushed the ball into the trap adjacent to the green.

English pitched four feet short of the pin and then pocketed the match when Nosewicz blasted out six to eight inches from the cup.

Both competitors have one-half of Nosewicz' sons, Leonard and Jerry, caddied for him this week and three of his other sons, Tom, Jim and Ed are golf professionals.

English's son, Pat, caddied for him and brothers Matt and Jim, were excellent players as juniors. Pat English and Jerry Nosewicz are contenders for the title in the CGA's state junior match-play championship which will be played next week at Fitzsimons.

English won the senior stroke-play title a year ago but lost to Leo Fowler of Boulder earlier this summer.

"I've developed a loop in my backswing," English said of his play this week at Fitzsimons, "and I just couldn't get rid of it today. This makes me the runner-up in both senior events.

Nosewicz won the championship consolation title two years ago in his first senior test and now has two straight for back-to-back legs on the big trophy.

Nosewicz had to leave early after Saturday's match in order to be in time for another tournament event at City Park Golf Club.

In the special Masters flight, for players 50 and older, Sam Aulio defeated John Arlitch, the father of Al Arlitch the head club pro at the Fitzsimons Golf Club, 9 and 6.

Bob Springer repeated in the championship consolation, winning 8 and 5 over Gene Weinzinger.

In other flights, Jim Purhe defeated Scott Marshall 3 and 2 in the first, Howard Sikes defeated Art Stevens 1 up in the second, Jim Gwin defeated Ray Barry 2 and 1 in the third, and J.C. Craig defeated George Schildberg 6 and 5 in the fourth flight.