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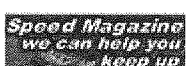
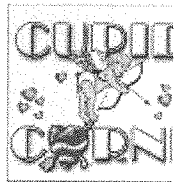


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Wednesday, June 20, 2001

Mainland High golfer finishes 1 out at state junior championship

By D.C. Williams News-Journal Correspondent



DAYTONA BEACH -- Matt Every had just stepped away from the scorers table after his last round in the 47th Florida State Golf Association Junior Tuesday when he muttered what so many golfers everywhere have said time and again, "If only I had made that putt, I would've won this thing."

"That putt" the Mainland High student was referring to was a 360-degree lip-out birdie try at the Par-4 Legends course at LPGA International.

Finishing only one stroke behind tournament champion Robert Gates Jr. of Gainesville, Every shot a two-day 71-74-145 and joined three others in a four-player logjam.

After finishing one stroke behind first-day leader Curtis Elliot on the Champions course, the action switched to its sister course across the street, and Every carried his momentum through the front nine, making the turn at even-par.

Even though recent heavy rains caused wetter-than-normal course conditions and made for longer play by limiting ball roll, Every felt his short game was his strong suit for the most part.

"On top of stopping very quickly, the balls would pick up some mud and made the following shots less predictable," said Every. "But I made putts here to keep myself in it."

Every had picked up two birdies by the time he finished No. 12, but then promptly gave them back with a double-bogey on the dogleg-left par-4 13th.

"I doubled 13 when I chipped from one hazard into another hazard across from the first," said Every.

Nonetheless, Every felt he had a chance to make it up, feeling as though he could make birdies on at least two of the last three holes.

However, a topped fairway bunker shot on No. 16 and the lip-out on No. 17 cast a pall on his hopes to this year see his name join those of past FSGA Junior state champions Matt Kuchar, Gary Koch, Josh McCumber and Len Mattiace.

"Hey, Gates played a good game and he came out on top," Every said of the tournament champion.

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Other area players and their tournament scores include Major Manning of Ormond Beach, who carded a 76-74-150 total; Bobby Harrington, Daytona 83-79-162; R.J. Cardell, New Smyrna Beach, who withdrew after posting an 84 for the first round; and Michael Stewart, the lone area representative in the 12-14-year-old age bracket, who shot a 126-101-227.

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Florida State Junior Championship

Final Scores

Regular Division (Top 50)

Robert Gates Jr., Gainesville 72-72-- 144

Gi Won Suh, Orlando 74-71-- 145

Tim Powell, Lake Worth 73-72-- 145

Hiland Sanders, Wauchula 72-73-- 145

Matthew Every, Daytona Beach 71-74-- 145

Alan Pereda, Miami Springs 72-74-- 146

Tommy Murray, Orange Park 73-74-- 147

Curtis Elliott, Winter Park 70-77-- 147

Tim Stieren, Palm Beach Gardens 72-75-- 147

Hayes Farley, Jacksonville 75-73-- 148

Chris Condello, Longwood 74-74-- 148

Ben Hartman, Jupiter 77-71-- 148

Jacob Davis, Deland 73-75-- 148

Garrett Runion, Orlando 73-75-- 148

Matt Berzovich, Longwood 72-76-- 148

Bill Dukes, Orlando 77-72-- 149

Joong Jo, Winter Springs 75-74-- 149

Blair Adams, Manalapan 75-74-- 149

Brett Alvarez, Orlando 78-72-- 150

Joe Green, Jacksonville 77-73-- 150

Riley Hitchcock, Orlando 76-74-- 150