Seattle Daily Times (published as The Seattle Times) - June 27, 1974 - page 39June 27, 1974 | Seattle Daily Times (published as The Seattle Times) | Seattle, Washington | Page 39

Canadian wins open golf title EIGHT PLAYERS either

By GIL LYONS Bill Wakeham thinks it is easier to come from behind on the final day of a golf tournar ent than to leadand his theory proved cor-rect in the Washington Open championship. The personable Canadian from Duncan, B. C., shot a sparkling, two-under-par 70 yesterday to edge Bob Johnson of Tacoma and Bob Duden of Portland by one stroke at Glendale Country

WAKEHAM, 33, winner of 11 Canadian tournaments over the past few years, leaped over as many as five players when he birdied three of the last seven holes.

"My last round always seems to be my best one," Wakeham said. "I think the ideal place to be is one shot behind. If you're one shot ahead, the pressure is really on you-then you play defensively." Wakeham birdied 12 and 14, then rolled in a 35-foot

putt for another birdie at 16 to push into the lead for the first time. "It was pretty thrilling out there," he said. "When I made those three birdies I went from two behind to two ahead. The whole ball game was on 16."

That putt moved Wake-ham one stroke ahead of Vaughn Trapp, a trans-planted Canadian who plays out of Port Angeles; Pat Welch of Spokane, and young Bill Sander, Seattle high-school and city cham-Duden and Johnson each slipped at the par-3 15th

with bogeys and were two strokes off the pace. BUT WAKEHAM had some anxious moments ahead. Duden dropped a 35-foot birdie putt at 17 and Johnson made a 3-footer at the same hole to trail by

Wakeham needed a fine wedge shot at 17 to avert potential trouble. Hitting off the 18th fairway, he carried the shot over a trap and onto a slick green, about 10 feet from the hole. there; and then Dude lowered that 35-footer on me to make it pretty tight," Wakeeham said. At 18, Wakeham needed

only to two-putt from 30 feet to wrap up the title and \$1,150 first prize money. He left himself a two-footer and tapped it into the cup.

"When I stood over that When I stood over that little putt I was nervous,"
Bill said. "I kept asking myself how Johnny Miller would feel if he had that putt to win the U. S. Open."
Wakeham entered the tournament as an alternate because the field was filled before his entry arrived. A former Canadian Amateur champion, he has finished third in Portland's Payless Open and shot a 67 in the Open and shot a 67 in the final round of the Northwest - Open last year at Overlake. He won the British Colum--bia Open in 1968 and 1969

and the Lilac City in 1970.

led or tied for the lead yesterday. Wakeham started the round in fifth place, two strokes behind Johnson and Mahlon Moe of Spokane. Johnson was in front by as many as two strokes, but dropped behind when he hit his tee shot far down a Moe was in trouble from the beginning, when - he knocked his drive out of bounds off the first tee. But

Mahlon fought back with a birdie at the second hole and trailed Johnson by one stroke until he again struck disaster with a double-bogey 6 at the 13th. There, Moe's second shot hit a tree and bounced straight back toward him. He had a 75 for 216, three

Sander, 18, birdied 16 to move but one stroke off the pace, but bogeyed the 18th. Lenny Brannen, 21, of Overlake and Arizona State University, was tied for the lead after 12 holes, then bogeyed three of the next five. Welch and Trapp each fired and fell back. Welch birdied the 7th, 9th, 12th and 15th to come from nowhere to take a one-stroke lead. But Pat bogeyed 16

Trapp stormed into contention with an eagle 3 at 12 and birdies at 14 and 15, then drove badly at 17 and endured a double-bogey 7.
Sander, who had a 69 Tuesday, wound up with a 70 for 215 to earn low amateur honors, four strokes ahead of Brannen, Bruce Richards of Overlake and Steve Johnsen of Ingle-

Bill Wakeham (\$1,150) ...73-70-70—213
Bob Duden (\$900)70-72-72—214
Bob Johnson (\$900)70-71-73—214
Vaughn Trapp (\$700)72-72-71—215
a-Bill Sander76-69-70—215 70-71-73-214 0)72-72-71--21576-69-70--21571-70-75-216

Todd Young, 78-71-79; Gary Robinson, 77-71-74.

229—Steve Gibson, 77-76-76; Jerry Asher, 75-77-77; Glenn Malm, 76-77-76; Tom Rudy, 73-76-80; Don Kirkpatrick 77-73-79; a-Russ Bloom, 75-79-75; a-Joe Runte, 73-79-77; a-Tom Tindall, 76-77-76.

230—a-Scott McBreen; 75-75-80; Al Mundle, 75-77-78; a-Charles Clark, 78-74-78; Bob Kelly, 74-79-77; Ken Roper, 78-76-76; Don Mojean, 75-72-73.

231—Jack Frel, 76-76-79; Jim Skaugstad, 73-80-78; Harvey Hixson, 78-76-77; Tom Utterstrom, 76-78-77; Don Williams, 77-77-77. 232—Keith Sundholm 74-78-80; Wayne Smiley, 78-75-79. 233—Bill Eggers, 75-77-81; Dave Alex-ander, 77-77-79; Jim Bourne 73-77-83. 234—a-Dick Williams, 74-77-83; Herm Mize, 77-76-81; Ernie Lucckenotte, 74-80-80. 236-Rod Harris, 76-76-82. 240-Dale Dempsey, 73-79-88.

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