

Sports

MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2019

SANTA BARBARA GOLF CLASSIC

CLASSIC COMEBACK

Schaeffer and Crawford use final-round 61, including an ace, to win SB Classic in a playoff



NICK MASUDA / NEWS-PRESS PHOTOS

Bobby Schaeffer hits a gap wedge into the green on the first playoff hole, sticking it to about eight feet, setting up a putt that he would drain to secure the Santa Barbara Classic title with partner Tyler Crawford, below. Crawford would catapult the duo with a clutch birdie at No. 11 and an ace on No. 13 at Santa Barbara Golf Club.

By NICK MASUDA
DIRECTOR OF NEWS

Through 28 holes of the Santa Barbara Classic, things weren't exactly looking up for Bobby Schaeffer and Tyler Crawford.

A bogey on the par-3 10th at the Santa Barbara Golf Club was undoubtedly deflating.

"It was almost time to throw the white towel up," Crawford said.

But, it also allowed the duo to throw caution into the wind.

"Don't leave anything short, just let it rip and it just so happened that everything started falling," Crawford said.

After Crawford drained a 12-footer for birdie on No. 11, he followed with an ace on the par-3 13th and then the duo went birdie-birdie-eagle — the latter a 35-footer that Schaeffer drained from the front of the green — to fire a 9-under 61 to go from four shots back at the beginning of the day to into the clubhouse at 13 under, sharing the lead with Mark Pavletich and Stephen Hale.

Schaeffer, a former UCSB player and standout on the local amateur circuit, would birdie the first playoff hole with his sidesaddle putting style, putting his bright-yellow ball into the heart of the hole from eight feet.

"We didn't play our best early on, but we hung in there," Schaeffer said. "We weren't thinking about winning, hoping to get Top 3 and get in Randy (Shannon's) pro shop."

Schaeffer beat one of his former caddies, as Pavletich met him when he was 14 and carried his sticks early on.

"I don't like to lose, but losing to Bobby isn't anything to be ashamed of," Pavletich said.

Crawford's hole-in-one wasn't heard anywhere on the course, almost by design. Facing just a 98-yard shot, the stock sand wedge did exactly what it was supposed to, go a bit long and right, working its way back into the hole.

"I'm the only one that saw it go in, no one in the group saw it," said Crawford, 45, who has six aces in his standout amateur career. "I knew it was in."

Yet, despite the fast finish, the duo wasn't convinced that they'd win, with Crawford even

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Taggart, Foresters stymie Bat Cats

By NICK MASUDA
DIRECTOR OF NEWS

It's no secret that pitching wins championships.

If the first two games at the National Baseball Congress World Series are any indication, the Santa Barbara Foresters should be the odds-on favorites to defend their national title.

Luke Taggart recovered from a rough first inning to retire 16 consecutive batters, striking out 10 of them to lead the Foresters to a 6-1 win over the Great Bend Bat Cats.

Santa Barbara starters have given up only one run over 12 innings thus far in Wichita, while the bullpen has worked six scoreless innings.

Carson Carter, Clayton Beeter and Brad Demco surrendered only a single hit to close things out.

The Foresters offense got going in the second inning, with Zach Presno smashing his seventh home run of the summer to tie the game and Blake Hall following with a ground-rule double, eventually scoring on Quentin Selma's infield single to shortstop.

Santa Barbara added a run in the third on a bases-loaded walk by Ross Cadena.

Jacob Katzfey drove home two with a triple in the fourth inning, scoring moments later on a Nick Bellafronto sacrifice fly.

Santa Barbara will complete pool play on Tuesday against the Gameday Saints, at a time yet to be determined.

The Foresters sit atop the Pool B standings, one game ahead of the Bat Cats and Saints. A victory on Tuesday would give Santa Barbara an automatic berth into the quarterfinals on Thursday.

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Muncy, Dodgers rally past Padres, 11-10

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

LOS ANGELES — Max Muncy struck the final blow in a slugfest Sunday afternoon at Dodger Stadium, as his double to right field off Kirby Yates walked off the Padres 11-10 in the ninth inning.

To that point, both teams had held the lead twice and were tied once in the middle. Four times, one scored and the other answered in the next half-inning.

The Dodgers went up 3-0 in the bottom of the second; the Padres scored five in the top of the third. The Padres added a run in the fourth; the Dodgers scored three in the inning's bottom half to tie it 6-6. The Dodgers went up 7-6 in the bottom of the sixth; the Padres took back the lead in the top of the seventh and added two runs in the eighth.

Craig Stammen stranded the runner on first base he inherited from starter Chris Paddack with no outs in the fifth inning and allowed A.J. Pollock's solo homer in the sixth. After Trey Wingenter pitched a perfect

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