

Jobe adds stroke-play title

By Mike Monroe
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EDWARDS — Brandt Jobe is too young to remember when Hale Irwin, Bob Byman and Gary Longfellow were amateur golfers, but Sunday he took his place alongside them as one of the finest amateurs Colorado has produced.

Jobe, of Littleton, came from a shot behind entering Sunday's final round of the 49th N.C. "Tub" Morris Colorado Stroke-Play Championship at Singletree Golf Club and became only the third golfer to win both the Colorado stroke-play and match-play championships in the same year. Longfellow was the first, in 1974; Rick Cramer the second, in 1982.

The 20-year-old shot a 72-hole score of 289 and thus captured the only Colorado title that had eluded him. The UCLA junior-to-be last year won the Colorado junior match-play and stroke-play titles, and in July won the men's match-play championship.

"This was nice," said Jobe, whose 69 was one of only two sub-par rounds recorded in the four days of play on a Singletree course that was toughened all week by high winds. "This was the last one I needed to complete the whole thing. I really wanted to win, and I'm happy I did, because this one meant a lot to me."

Jobe said he did not know if he should be compared with Irwin (stroke-play champ in 1963, 1964 and 1965) or Byman (stroke-play champ in 1971, 1972 and 1973), or Longfellow,

COLORADO STROKE-PLAY SUMMARIES

Al Edwards FINAL ROUND PAR 71			
Brandt Jobe	72-72-76-69—289	Bill Loeffler	74-76-79-70—299
Shawn Bellis	73-76-71-72—292	Randy Winn	73-74-79-74—300
Bill Fowler	72-73-74-75—294	M.J. Mastalir	78-72-77-74—301
Paul Brown	72-73-76-73—294	Kevin Bolles	79-76-72-74—301
Tom McGraw	77-73-76-71—297	George Andrews	76-85-68-73—302
Marc Hendricks	75-77-71-75—298	Gary Polumbus	75-76-77-74—302
		Dave Holobaugh	74-76-78-74—302
		Brad Penfold	74-78-76-74—302
		Dave Brown	77-76-75-75—303
		Steve Vanscoy	81-75-75-72—303
		Doug Wherry	73-80-75-75—303
		Chip Ramsey	77-80-76-71—304
		Matt Potter	79-75-78-72—304
		Mark Simpson	76-76-78-75—305
		Kent Moore	82-77-74-73—306
		Paul Gagnon	79-75-79-76—309
		John Schabacker	73-81-80-75—309
		Bill Veigele	81-79-77-73—310
		Pete Churm	78-80-76-76—310
		Ron Kosmalke	80-80-76-74—310

the only golfer ever to win the match- and stroke-play titles and the Colorado Open in the same year.

"I don't know how I rank with them," Jobe said. "I didn't even know what golf was when they were amateurs."

Ah, youth. But Jobe played like a seasoned veteran Sunday as he first overtook 54-hole leader Bill Fowler and then fought off a challenge from 30-year-old Shawn Bellis before claiming the title.

Fowler shot himself out of title contention when he made triple-bogey 6 on the par-3 14th hole. Bellis got within two shots with four holes to play, but a bogey at the 15th gave Jobe a three-shot lead with three to play, and Jobe was not about to make any mistakes.

"All I had to do at that point was make par and go on to the next hole," Jobe said. That is exactly what he did.

Bellis finished second at 292. Fowler tied for third with Paul Brown, at 294.

"Brandt won it," said Fowler, a 22-year-old Denver accountant who had a 75 Sunday. "I didn't give it up. He played very well. A 69 is a very good score on this course."

Jobe said he will leave Saturday for Montclair, N.J., where he will compete Aug. 29-Sept. 6 in the United States Amateur.

"I'd really like to qualify for the match play back there," Jobe said. "I seem to do well when it's just me and one other player and the course."

Jobe had some good news for the rest of Colorado's amateurs: Sunday's round may have been one of his last in state tournaments.

"I'd like to play in some of the national (amateur) tournaments next summer," he said. "I hope I can be successful in some of them, too."