

AMATEUR  
1999

Andy Thompson D.C.

Overbrook

8:00 Thompson

3 & 2

Darrell Clayton 150

Cavaliers

12:30 Thompson

Carl Everett 148

3 & 1

Merion

8:07 Everett

5 & 4

John Quirk 148

Overbrook

Kania

Robert Bechtold 144

Cavaliers

8:00 2 & 1

8:15 Bechtold

4 & 3

Rob Dziak 149

Spring-Ford

Kania

12:37 5 & 4

Chris Lange 144

Overbrook

8:22 Kania

2 & 1

James Kania 149

Overbrook

Frie

Michael Hyland 142

Little Mill

12:30 5

8:30 Hyland

3 & 2

Michael Minter 150

Trenton

12:45 Hyland

Eric Olinick 147

Spring-Ford

2 & 1

8:37 Olinick

3 & 2

Steven Marcozzi 148

Riverton

Friedman

Glenn Smeraglio 142

Yardley

8:07 3 & 2

8:45 Gregor

1 up

Michael Gregor 150

Huntingdon Valley

12:52 Friedman

George Petrellis 147

LuLu

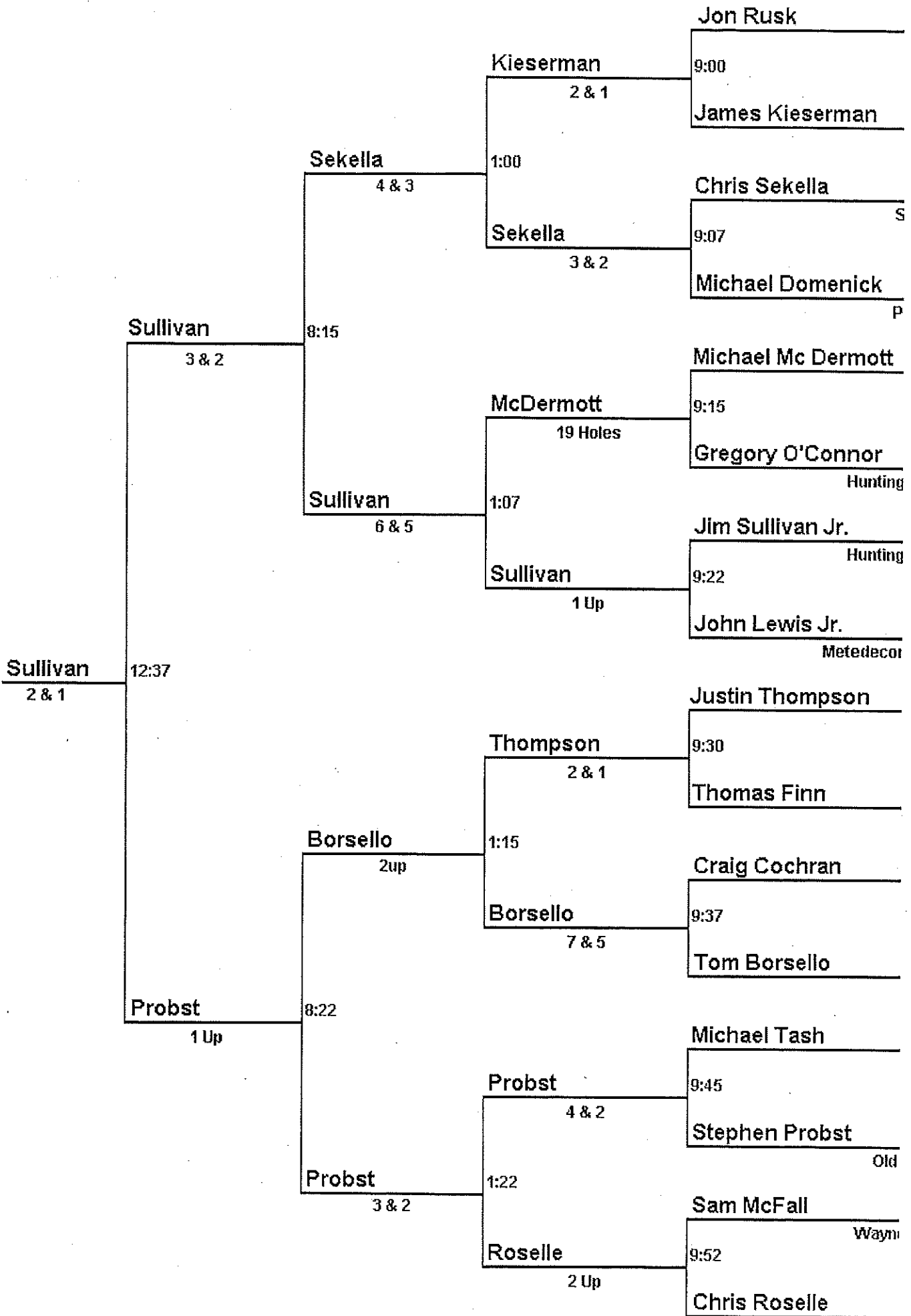
1 Up

8:52 Friedman

20 Holes

Aaron Friedman 149

Meadowlands



Philadelphia  
Amateur

Gulph Mills G.C.

# Amateur showdown caps golf-filled weekend

By Joe Logan  
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

With a little planning, you can completely fill up next Sunday by watching golf.

By late afternoon, you'll want to be situated in front of a TV for the conclusion of the U.S. Open. If you like your golf a little more up close and personal, the final match of the 99th Philadelphia Amateur will be played that morning and early afternoon.

This year's Amateur, set for Gulph Mills Golf Club in King of Prussia, kicks off tomorrow, with 144 of the best amateurs in the region playing a 36-hole qualifier over Gulph Mills and nearby St. Davids Golf Club.

The low 31 players then move to Gulph Mills for first- and second-round matches, beginning Tuesday

at 8 a.m. Defending champion Andy Thompson, the only golfer exempted from the qualifier, rounds out the initial match-play field of 32.

Eight players will advance to Wednesday morning's quarterfinal matches, and the field will be winnowed to four players for the two semifinal matches that afternoon.

The champion will be decided in a 36-hole match, scheduled to begin at 8 a.m. next Sunday at Gulph Mills.

"There's a whole lot of golf played in this thing," said Jim Sykes, executive director of the Golf Association of Philadelphia, which runs the event. "Because it's four days, stamina is important, as well as skill. And match play is the true amateur game."

In addition to bragging rights, the winner gets his name inscribed in the

the J. Wood Platt trophy, as well as a keepsake crystal loving cup.

Most of the usual suspects will be on hand, among them three-time winner Chris Lange of Overbrook, fresh from his win in the Patterson Cup; Robin McCool of Saucon Valley; Chuck Dowds of North Hills; Rob Savarese Jr. of Philadelphia Cricket; Michael Brown of Old York Road; and promising youngster Michael Hyland of Little Mill.

Thompson, a Newtown Square resident who plays out of Overbrook, is obviously another player to watch. At 50, the reinstated amateur (he played the PGA Tour with "moderate success" for a couple of years in the 1970s) is coming off a banner year in 1998, during which he won the Amateur, the Pennsylvania Mid-Am and the Golf Association's pres-

tigious Silver Cross.

Now a telemarketing executive, Thompson had been tuning up his game for the past couple of years for a possible run at the Senior Tour. Alas, he ultimately decided against it. "I'm a fairly realistic person," he said. "I'm a competitive regional and local player, not one to go on to the next level."

Gulph Mills, an old Donald Ross design, should make for a good test of the amateurs.

"It's a wonderful course," Sykes said. "It's not terribly long, but it has [up-and-down] terrain, a lot of trees and small greens — and it's always in good shape."

The public is welcome to come out to the matches, free of charge. Gulph Mills Golf Club is at 200 Swed-

# Philadelphia Amateur

Gulph Mills G.C.

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St. Davids G.C.

## Rusk leads amateur match-play qualifiers

By Doug Hadden  
FOR THE INQUIRER

Yardley Country Club's Jon Rusk shot a 71 at St. Davids and a 68 at Gulph Mills en route to being the medalist yesterday in the qualifying rounds of the Golf Association of Philadelphia's Amateur championship.

The 31 golfers with the lowest scores from the field of 144 players will join defending champion and top-seeded Andy Thompson of Overbrook in the match-play competition, which begins this morning at Gulph Mills.

The second round will be played this afternoon, with the quarterfinals and semifinals tomorrow to determine the pairing for Sunday's 36-hole final.

### The qualifiers

Andy Thompson, Overbrook, defending champion	
Jon Rusk, Yardley	68-71—139
Justin Thompson, Overbrook	69-71—140
Mike Hyland, Little Mill	73-69—142
Glenn Smeraglio, Yardley	73-69—142
Michael Tash, Tavistock	73-70—143
Robert Bechtold, Cavaliers	75-69—144
Christopher Lange, Overbrook	72-72—144

Michael McDermott, Llanerch	73-71—144
Jim Sullivan Jr., Huntingdon Valley	72-73—145
Sam McFall, Waynesborough	72-74—146
Eric Olinick, Spring-Ford	74-73—147
George Petrellis, LuLu	74-73—147
Tom Borsello, Concord	76-72—148
Craig Cochran, Merion	73-75—148
Michael Domenick, Phoenixville	72-76—148
Carl Everett, Merion	70-78—148
Steven Marozzi, Riverton	76-72—148
John Quirk, Overbrook	71-77—148
Chris Sekella, Spring-Ford	75-73—148
Rob Dziak, Spring-Ford	72-77—149
Aaron Friedman, Meadowlands	70-79—149
James Kania, Overbrook	73-76—149
John Lewis Jr., Metedeconk	71-78—149
Gregory O'Connor, Huntingdon Valley	74-75—149
Christopher Roselle, Overbrook	75-74—149
Darrell Clayton, Cavaliers	73-77—150
Thomas Finn, Cavaliers	76-74—150
Michael Gregor, Huntingdon Valley	74-76—150
James Kieserman, Philmont	76-74—150
Michael Minter, Trenton	77-73—150
Steven Probst, Old York Road	68-82—150

### Philadelphia PGA

Dave Quinn added an even-par 70 to his first-round 66 and the Indian Spring Golf Club professional captured the 14th annual Burlington Classic at Burlington Country Club yesterday.

Quinn's 136 total edged three other pros, including Quinn's assist-

ant, Vince Ramagli, by 1 stroke in a field of 93 area pros on the 6,212-yard course. Bellewood's Tony Perla won the senior competition.

### The results

#### Leading professionals

Dave Quinn, Indian Spring	66-70—136
Pete Oakley, Kings Creek	72-65—137
Dave Linkhorst, Blackwood	69-68—137
Vince Ramagli, Indian Spring	68-69—137
George Forster, Radnor Valley	71-67—138
Greg Farrow, Deerwood	66-73—139
Jason Lamp, Blue Heron Pines	72-67—139
Ben Lesniak, Llanerch	70-69—139
Dave Seeman Jr., Wilmington	70-69—139
Rob Shuey, Felicita	65-74—139
George Frake, Little Mill	71-69—140
Russ Davis, Cape May National	69-71—140
Paul Oglesby, Bent Creek	68-72—140
Tom Ryan, Hershey's Mill	73-67—140
Mark Hall, Somerton Springs	71-69—140

#### Seniors

Tony Perla, Bellewood	71-69—140
Ken Peyre-Ferry, Little Mill	71-70—141
John Lubin, Sand Barrens	69-72—141

#### Pro-Am

Blue Bell (Tom Kelly, Rusty Martensen, Bob White, Bill Lynch, Bill Harris)	114
Indian Spring (Dave Quinn, Bill Papa, Jim Renzi, Joe Tymash, Rich Carragher)	117
Little Mill (George Frake, Pat Sweetra, John Dusak, Bruce Jones, Tom Dickinson)	117
Growcraft (Jim Booros, Jack Eckenrode, George Brown, George Hill, George Kozub)	117
Deerwood (Greg Farrow, Joe Makowski, Bruce Dove, Cliff Burtoft, Paul Elstone)	118

# Philadelphia Amateur Gulph Mills G.C.

## Thompson advances in amateur golf

By Joe Fite  
FOR THE INQUIRER

Andy Thompson of Overbrook moved a couple of steps closer to defending his Golf Association of Philadelphia amateur title yesterday at Gulph Mills Golf Club.

In the first round, Thompson beat Darrell Clayton of Cavaliers in match play, 3 and 2. In the second, he downed Carl Everett of Merion, 3 and 1.

He will meet James Kania of Overbrook in the quarterfinals today at Gulph Mills with hopes of advancing to today's semifinals. There will be a 36-hole championship round on Sunday.

Kania, the 1995 champion, downed Chris Lange of Overbrook

and Robert Bechtold of Cavaliers. Aaron Friedman of Meadowlands, a 1998 semifinalist, stayed in the hunt with wins over George Petrellis of LuLu and Michael Gregor of Huntingdon Valley.

James Sullivan Jr. of Huntingdon Valley defeated John Lewis Jr. of Metedeconk National and Michael McDermott of Llanerch. Sullivan won the 1999 Hugh Wilson Invitational at Merion. Chris Lange, the 1999 Patterson Cup champion, failed in his bid for a third amateur title.

### The results

#### First round

Andy Thompson, Overbrook, def. Darrell Clayton, Cavaliers, 3 and 2; Carl Everett, Merion, def. John Quirk, Overbrook, 5 and 4; Robert Bechtold, Cava-

liers, def. Rob Dziak, Spring-Ford, 4 and 3; James Kania, Overbrook, def. Chris Lange, Overbrook, 2 and 1; Michael Hyland, Little Mill, def. Michael Minter, Trenton, 3 and 2; Eric Olinick, Spring-Ford, def. Steven Marozzi, Riverton, 4 and 2; Michael Gregor, Huntingdon Valley, def. Glenn Smeraglio, Yardley, 1 up; Aaron Friedman, Meadowlands, def. George Petrellis, LuLu, 20th; James Kieserman, Philmont, def. Jon Rusk, Yardley, 2 and 1; Chris Sekella, Spring-Ford, def. Michael Domenick, Phoenixville, 3 and 2; Michael McDermott, Llanerch, def. Gregory O'Connor, Huntingdon Valley, 19th; Jim Sullivan Jr., Huntingdon Valley, def. John Lewis Jr., Metedeconk National, 1 up; Justin Thompson, Overbrook, def. Thomas Finn, Cavaliers, 2 and 1; Tom Borsello, Concord, def. Craig Cochran, Merion, 7 and 5; Stephen Probst, Old York Road, def. Michael Tash, Tavistock, 4 and 2; Chris Roselle, Overbrook, def. Sam McFail, Waynesborough, 2 up.

#### Second round

Thompson def. Everett, 3 and 1; Kania def. Bechtold, 5 and 4; Hyland def. Olinick, 2 and 1; Friedman def. Gregor, 1 up; Sekella def. Kieserman, 4 and 3; Sullivan def. McDermott, 6 and 5; Borsello def. Thompson, 2 up; Probst def. Roselle, 3 and 2.

# Young golfers turn heads in Phila. Am

The 50-year-old defending champ lost as two 20-year-olds advanced to the finals.

By Joe Logan  
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

Jim Sullivan Jr. rolled in a 25-foot birdie putt on the 17th hole yesterday to earn a spot in Sunday's final round of the 98th Golf Association of Philadelphia's Amateur championship at Gulph Mills Golf Club.

Sullivan's putt was a show-stopper. It came just as his opponent, former Temple teammate Steve Probst, was about to bring the match back to within reach with a kick-in birdie of his own. Instead he walked away a 2 and 1 loser.

"When he was standing over it, I was thinking, 'He could make this,' because he'd been making them all day," said Probst, 21, who plays out of Old York Road Country Club.

Sullivan, 24, advanced to Sunday's 36-hole title match against Aaron Friedman, a long-hitter from the University of Arizona and son of Meadowlands Country Club pro Jay Friedman.

Friedman, 21, earned his finals berth by turning back Michael Hyland of Little Mill Country Club 3 and 2 in the morning quarter-finals, then Jim Kania of Overbrook Golf Club 5 and 4 in the afternoon semi-finals.

"I got slaughtered," said Kania, the '95 Amateur champion and, at 39, by far the oldest of the four players to make it to the semi-finals. "Aaron was striping the ball."

Come Sunday, no matter whether Sullivan or Friedman emerges the winner, one thing seems inescapably obvious — with the cast of former Amateur champions in their 30s and 40s who fell victim to the youthful golfing steamrollers yesterday and Tuesday, the torch is clearly being passed to the next generation.

Kania, for one, wasn't about to dispute that after two grueling matches yesterday. "I ran out of body before I ran out of golf," he said.

Defending champion Andy Thompson, 50, also went down yesterday, losing 2 and 1 in the quarters to Kania. "I got off to a bad start and Jim putted superbly," said Thompson.

In the afternoon, however, Kania hit a wall in the youthful Friedman. Back-to-back birdies by Friedman at the 3rd and 4th holes put him 2-up

early, and he never looked back.

A birdie at the 8th gave Kania hope, but he ran into trouble again at the 9th, missing the fairway, pulling his approach shot onto a slope left of the green, then pitching 25 feet past the hole. When he missed the putt, he conceded Friedman's 10-footer for birdie. At that point, Kania was playing even par golf, yet he was still 2-down.

Fatigue was a factor. Kania bogied the 10th, 12th and 13th to finish off any chances he had of mounting a comeback.

"He played pretty good, I just played better," said Friedman. "Other than the first hole (bogey), I didn't make any mistakes."

The match between Sullivan and Probst provided considerably more drama.

Both players sprayed their tee shots and bogied the first hole. Probst quickly settled down. Sullivan didn't. Missing fairways and putts he should have made, Sullivan didn't so much lose holes as he gave them away. As much as 3-down through seven, Sullivan managed a birdie at the 8th to make the turn at 2-down.

On the back nine, Sullivan, who was a senior at Temple when Probst was a freshman, cleared his head and went to work like a veteran.

He birdied the 11th to go to 1-down, then, after a lousy chip at the par 5 12th, drained a 20-foot birdie to bring the match back to all even. At the 13th, after a wayward tee shot, Sullivan hit a great recovery shot, sank the 15-footer for his third straight birdie and went 1-up.

Only at the 211-yard 17th, when Probst stiffed his tee shot to inside three feet, did it look like there may have been yet another twist left in the match.

Sullivan would have none of that. He wasted no time before stepping up and dropping the putt.

"I had a feeling about that one," he said, grinning.

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# Philadelphia Amateur

## Gulph Mills G.C.

PHILIA INQUIRER

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# At Gulph Mills, a game of long ball

Jim Sullivan Jr. and Aaron Friedman will go the distance to win Phila. Amateur title.

By Joe Logan  
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

One is a student-athlete at the University of Arizona. The other is a former Temple player who has been caddying at Pine Valley while he figures out what to do with the rest of his life.

Last week, in the preliminary matches of the 98th Philadelphia Amateur, one rattled eight birdies in the 13 holes. The other rode the bogey train, then recovered and dropped a clutch 25-foot birdie putt when he absolutely, positively had to.

One hits the ball a long, long way. The other hits the ball ... well, probably just as long. Thank you, youth and limber backs.

For those reasons, as well as the intangibles that come with any good player and a heated match, it's hard to predict who will prevail today when Aaron Friedman of Meadowlands Country Club and Jim Sullivan Jr. of Huntingdon Valley Country Club square off at Gulph Mills Golf Club in the 36-hole championship match.

About the only thing for sure is that the winner will be young. Sullivan is 24; Friedman is 21.

"If I play like I have for the last couple of days, I should be OK,"

Friedman, the senior at Arizona, said Wednesday after a convincing semifinal win over 1995 champion Jim Kania.

Sullivan could say the same. After a fairly disappointing season last year, the former Owl seems to be finding his game again.

Last month, he won the Hugh Wilson at Merion Golf Club, a prestigious invitational that attracts top amateurs from across the nation. He also recently made it to the third round of match play in the British Amateur.

Last week in the Philadelphia Amateur, when it looked as if he was about to choke in a semifinal match against Steve Probst, Sullivan gathered himself and went on to win with that 25-foot birdie putt on the 17th.

"I've got to give him all the credit in the world," said Probst, who was a freshman at Temple when Sullivan was a senior. "He came out of the gate awful and hung in there. That's what makes him such a good player."

Even Sullivan and Friedman aren't quite sure what to expect from each other. Because Sullivan is older and played area junior golf ahead of Friedman, and because Friedman now spends nine months of the year in Tucson, they don't really know each other, or each other's golf game.

"Never played with Aaron," Sullivan said. "I do know he makes a lot of birdies." That's true. Friedman birdied four holes on the front side against Kania on Wednesday.

Actually, Probst, who is also 21 and played junior golf against Friedman, probably knows both of them better. With Friedman away, even Probst hasn't seen much of his game in the last three years.

"They are two very good players," Probst said. "Aaron hits it a long way, and he must be making putts to be winning matches.

"Jim is Jim. He can do it all when he gets it going. If he plays like he did against me on the back nine today, he shouldn't have a problem. My guess is, it'll be whoever's putter is working."

For Sullivan, an amateur title could be the kind of boost he's been looking for. Since playing out his eligibility at Temple a couple of years ago, he has been mulling his career options: try to play golf for a living — no doubt suffering on the mini-tour circuit — or go back to Temple and finish his degree in preparation for an ordinary and mundane job.

"It's still up in the air about golf as a career," Sullivan said. "We'll see where my game is at the end of the summer."

For now, Sullivan is a caddie — "independent contractor," as he prefers to call it — at Pine Valley.

Friedman, a walk-on at Arizona and the son of Meadowlands head pro Jay Friedman, readily concedes that he has designs on a career as a PGA Tour professional. Failing that, he said, he'd probably teach golf somewhere. But the life of a club pro? No thanks.

"Lot of hours," he said.

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Gulph Mills G.C.

# Sullivan captures Philadelphia Amateur

By Jay Nagle  
FOR THE INQUIRER

Big drives. Crisp irons. Deft putting.

Jim Sullivan Jr. had important elements of his "A" game working yesterday long enough to post one of the biggest victories of his young career.

Sullivan, who played his high school golf at Abington and collegiately at Temple, defeated Aaron Friedman, 4 and 3, to capture the 98th Philadelphia Amateur golf championship at Gulph Mills Golf Club.

Sullivan, strong and steady from the first tee to the final green of the 36-hole, match-play affair, hit fairway after fairway and green after

green to keep relentless pressure on Friedman, a former PIAA state champion from Upper Dublin.

The victory capped a magical tournament for Sullivan, who entered the competition playing some of his best golf of the season and exited feeling he's capable of even more.

"This gives me a lot of personal confidence," Sullivan said. "It's one thing to be playing well and come in second or third in a tournament.

"But it's just so much better for your confidence when you're playing well and you're the best player in the tournament that week. That helps you so much."

Sullivan, 24, who plays out of Hun-

tingdon Valley Country Club, threatened to make the match a runaway early under ideal playing conditions.

With the two players even through the first six holes, Sullivan, capitalizing on some nifty shotmaking, won six of the next eight to go 5-up through 14.

But Friedman, 21, who plays out of Meadowlands Country Club, responded by taking 16, 17 and 18 to pull within 2-down after the morning session. The players then paused for a 30-minute lunch break.

"At that point, I think I would have liked to have kept playing," said Friedman, who will be a senior at the University of Arizona this

fall. "It seemed like I had a little momentum going."

Said Sullivan: "The break came at just the right time. Another 15 minutes, he might have got me."

Sullivan moved to 3-up with a par on the first hole of the afternoon round and to 4-up with another par at No. 3.

He eventually stretched his advantage to 6-up through 11 holes. Highlighting that run was a spectacular eagle on the par-5, 464-yard seventh hole, where Sullivan holed out from a greenside bunker from about 50 feet.

Friedman bounced back to take the 12th and 14th holes, but it wasn't enough.