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## Miller Unruffled In Crosby Wind

### ● Scores, D6

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Lanny Wadkins' string of sub-par rounds came to an end in cold, howling winds and Johnny Miller, with an elongated putter tucked under his elbow, took the first-round lead yesterday in the 44th Bing Crosby National Pro-Am.

"It was a tough, tough round of golf today," Miller said after he negotiated Spyglass Hill in 68. That is four under the listed par but, according to Miller, much, much better.

"It was a 3-club wind out there, maybe five or six on some holes. I'd say par, on any of the courses, was at least 74 today," said Miller. "Did you see the whitecaps the wind was kicking up out there (on Carmel Bay)? If you throw up some grass to check wind direction, and somebody gets hit with it, they get lacerations."

That may have been an exaggeration, but players and spectators were scoured by sand blown from the bunkers at Cypress Point.

It was at that course, the most exposed of the three Monterey Peninsula courses used for the first three rounds of this unique event, that the wind blunted and frustrated the efforts of some of the game's greatest names. These were some of the scores:

● Defending Crosby title-holder and two-time U.S. Open champion Hale Irwin, 77.

● Tom Watson, twice a Crosby winner who collected the U.S. Open title at Pebble Beach, 75.

● Jack Nicklaus, two under par early in the day, finishing at 76.

● Masters champion Ben Crenshaw, 79.

● Hal Sutton, runner-up in last week's Los Angeles Open, an incredi-

ble 87, the highest of his career.

● Host Nathaniel Crosby, playing as a pro for the first time, 76.

● Calvin Peete, who led the PGA Tour in scoring average last year and won the Phoenix Open a couple of weeks ago, 81. He later withdrew, pleading problems with contact lenses.

And Wadkins, a record-setting winner of two tournaments already this season, 73. It marked the first time in 14 rounds this year that Wadkins had gone over par.

He chipped in for a birdie on the third hole, reeled off an early string of three birdies in a row and was four under par after six holes.

But he played the 12th and 13th 7-6, triple bogey-double bogey, and had to work hard to break 40 on the back.

George Archer, who won this title in 1969, had a 69 at Pebble Beach and led the group one shot off Miller's pace.

Tie at 70, two under par, were Lee Elder at Spyglass, Mark O'Meara at Spyglass, and Mike Reid at Pebble Beach.

Miller, a former U.S. and British Open champion, credited a new putter, of his own manufacture, with a good part of his round.

"It's 46 inches long, the longest club in my bag," Miller said. "It has two grips on it, one at the standard position, one that I tuck under my left elbow. My posture is the same and the stroke is the same. The only thing is, I have the club along the inside of my left forearm. It keeps me from breaking down.

"It works good, believe me. I think it might really make me a factor again, so far as winning is concerned."



Loren Hosack/THE POST

**Janet Coles can't believe birdie putt stayed out**  
... despite miss at No. 9, she managed a 69, two strokes off lead