

Coles just misses a victory

By The Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Janet Coles of Carmel grew up around the Santa Cruz area learning to make putts from inside 10 feet when she had to. Sunday, however, she missed an eight-footer on the final holes that would have forced a playoff in the \$200,000 S&H Classic.

And Pat Bradley, moving within \$3,079 of becoming the LPGA's first \$2 million winner, continued her domination of the 1986 tour with a one-stroke victory.

A veteran of 13 LPGA seasons, Bradley birdied the 18th hole from 25 feet to complete a near-flawless final round of 65 and outduel Coles.

The golfers were aggressive in their approach to the 18th green, but once they got there, both agreed that Bradley's experience in pressure situations was the difference.

Bradley calmly rolled in her long putt, but Coles was tentative and hooked the putt to the left of the cup.

"I was thinking all along that I was going to make it. Then when she (Bradley) made hers it just took the wind out of my sails," Coles said. "It was a nerve-racking day, but a lot of fun."

"The key to my day was I was able to birdie the first three holes," said Bradley, who took the lead

when Coles bogeyed No. 3. "That set the tone and let Janet know that I was going to be there the rest of the day."

Coles came back to make a 20-foot putt for birdie on No. 4 to tie Bradley. Both golfers birdied No. 5 to go 13 under par for the tournament.

"Janet didn't back up an inch," Bradley said. "I can't think of a hole she would want to play over."

A 15-foot putt on No. 8 gave Coles a lead that lasted two holes. After the co-leaders matched birdies on No. 11, Bradley matched par until the decisive 18th hole.



Janet Coles