
Kaposta's amazing shot helps him win Senior City title

Minutes after shooting himself back into contention in the Romain Buick Senior City Golf Championship on Sunday, John Kaposta faced a shot that could take him right back out. Kaposta was on the par-4 16th hole at Fendrich, both one stroke and one hole ahead of first-round co-leader Dave Bates at 1-over par for the tournament. After clunking a tree off the tee, Kaposta watched his ball come straight back behind it and snuggle down in the rough, hard to see, let alone hit. All that he had to do was pull out a 4-iron and "punch fade" it 160 yards under and around a stately gum tree. Then he did it, keeping the ball low and landing it short, where it ran up on the green and stopped just four feet left of the hole. One putt later, Kaposta had all but won. Kaposta parred in for the day's only under-par around at 2-under 68, while Bates made a bogey and finished alone in second, his second straight Senior City runner-up finish. That left Kaposta even-par (141) for the tournament after a 2-over 73 Saturday at Helfrich. Bates finished at 143. Robin Rubrecht was third at 144 and three tied for fourth at 146: first-round co-leader Britt Reddington, Tony Hill and Jim Atkins. Kaposta said he was ready for the miracle shot at 16 because he'd already faced and executed two others like it earlier on the same nine holes. "I probably hit a better shot just like it on 12," said Kaposta. "That was a 180-yard punch fade with the hybrid (club). Then I had to do it again on the very next hole from 160 yards with the 4-iron. I was fortunate enough to par both of them." When Kaposta followed with a two-putt birdie at the par-5 14th, he was back to 1-over for the tournament while Bates was backing up with three bogeys in four holes behind him. "I couldn't get up-and-down when I missed the greens," said Bates, who made the turn at even-par for the tournament. "I had trouble chipping to them at 10, 12 and 13 and bogeyed. Then I got a couple back."

Bates did that with a two-putt birdie of his own at No. 14, before hitting it inside three feet at the par-3 15th to make a second straight birdie and get back to 1-over for the tourney. But that was almost the exact moment Kaposta hit the shot of the tournament one hole ahead. "That's when I saw John had a short putt on 17 (for birdie)," said Bates. "I just assumed he'd make it. I thought I had to birdie in and probably got a little too aggressive. "But I can't feel too bad. I'm an old baseball coach and I always tried to instill in my kids the importance of being a worthy adversary. I may not have won again, but at least they knew it was a battle." Kaposta agreed. "That's all I was trying to do, battle," he said. "I really didn't have confidence in my swing all weekend, but I managed to get it around. The thing was, when I needed a shot today, like on 16, I hit it."

Kaposta, 50, a former Evansville Courier & Press Men's City Golf Tournament champion, became the second player in three years to win the Senior City in his first year of eligibility after Paul Gentry won in 2006.

2008
Romain Buick Senior City Golf Championship
Scoreboard by Flight

		<u>Saturday Score</u>	<u>Sunday Score</u>	<u>Total Score</u>
<u>Overall Champion</u>				
John	Kaposta	73	68	141
<u>Frances Fleming Flight 50-54</u>				
Robin	Rubrecht	75	69	144
Britt	Reddington	70	76	146
Paul	Gentry	77	70	147
Steve	Vandiver	77	71	148
Mark	Adcock	76	73	149
Jim	Crumbaker	77	73	150
Tim	Heath	76	74	150
Mike	Small	73	77	150
Steve	Wassmer	77	73	150
Keith	Doubler	80	72	152
Neal	Boughton	81	72	153
Bob	Canada	74	79	153
Greg	Glisson	78	76	154
Tom	Haines	74	80	154
Robert	Pope	75	79	154
Jay	Ritter	76	79	155
Rick	Georgette	78	79	157
Lester	Grace	82	75	157
Brad	Johann	77	81	158
Gary	Lannert	80	78	158
Robert	Miller	82	78	160
Mike	Wingo	79	81	160
Randy	Bush	81	82	163
Rick	Wigginton	82	81	163
Harold	Miles	82	82	164
Jim	Mitchell	85	80	165
Ken	Baldwin	85	81	166
Blake	Oeth	85	81	166
Mark	Peters	84	82	166
Steve	Sallee	84	82	166
Gary	Sparks	83	84	167
Bill	Sutton	81	86	167
Craig	Spreng	91	80	171
Burl	Bredenkamp	92	88	180
Darrell	Parker	93	92	185
Tom	Deen	95	94	189

Mark	Fidler	87	WD	WD
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Billie Martin Flight 55-59

Dave	Bates	70	73	143
Jim	Atkins	75	71	146
Mike	Harding	77	70	147
Joe	Hahn	74	74	148
Jim	Cheaney	72	78	150
Tom	Alexander	75	76	151
Dave	DeLong	73	78	151
Keith	Bagby	79	73	152
Brad	Coole	77	75	152
Tony	Bradshaw	77	79	156
Ruben	Chavez	78	80	158
Pete	Weinert	83	75	158
Charles	Farmer	76	84	160
Butch	Racine	86	74	160
Chuck	Schimmell	81	79	160
Ron	Romain	83	78	161
Tom	Crance	77	85	162
Mike	Rhoades	80	83	163
John	Baburnich	80	84	164
Bob	Torrence	81	83	164
Mike	Hull	83	82	165
Roger	Evans	86	81	167
Mike	Piechocki	95	75	170
Jerry	Yezbick	85	86	171
Stan	Grimes	93	85	178
Charles	King	92	92	184
Robert	Gough	99	99	198
Stephen	Jones	112	100	212

Bob Hamilton Flight 60-64

Tony	Hill	74	72	146
Jack	Hrvatin	72	75	147
Norm	Leach	77	70	147
Mike	Hurt	72	76	148
Ken	Schreiber	74	76	150
Morris	Clark	73	78	151
Allen	Hite	76	75	151
Steve	Zehr	76	75	151
Paul	Keller	77	75	152
Bill	Osbourne	81	72	153
Dan	Hewins	79	75	154
Tom	Wirth	78	76	154
Maurice	Hildebrant	76	79	155
Bob	Loewen	80	77	157

Mike	Morris	84	73	157
Paul	Berryman	79	79	158
Dave	Ash	79	80	159
Jerry	White	89	73	162
Jim	Landmark	84	79	163
Leroy	Williams	86	83	169
Terry	Babb	85	87	172
Lynn	Blinzinger	89	84	173
Ron	Celesnik	90	95	185
Jerry	Clelow	103	88	191
Harvey	Head	105	91	196
Dannie	Wells	84	WD	WD

Richie Moore Flight 65-69

Don	Shull	76	73	149
Steve	Pritchett	75	76	151
Jerry	Sanders	80	74	154
George	Green	78	77	155
Bob	VanBritson	78	77	155
Tom	McNamara	83	76	159
Bob	Lewis	83	79	162
Gene	Ward	83	83	166
Gorman	Brothers	90	78	168
Jerry	Cravens	86	84	170
Michael	Virden	86	86	172
Tom	Mills	86	87	173
Ron	Gatewood	90	85	175
Sanford	Lee	93	84	177
Jerry	Scott	78	WD	WD

Ed Wolf Flight 70 +

Carroll	Schapker	76	82	158
Ken	Fisher	80	79	159
Bob	Gerst	79	83	162
Gerald	Jeffries	83	79	162
Jerry	Schreiber	83	79	162
Stan	Tillman	85	80	165
Ray	Bowen	89	77	166
Carl	Myers	87	80	167
Steve	Helfrich	86	82	168
Bobby	Ennis	86	84	170
Gene	Jarvis	92	100	192
Herb	Wilhite	105	93	198
Jim	Salmon	DQ		DQ