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Plainview golfers rule at the Jerry Rawls Classic

Posted: June 6, 2010 - 2:01am

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By Don Williams

Put on a golf tournament in Lubbock and, as often as not, someone from Plainview will have a say in the outcome.

This weekend is no exception.

Shannon Allen and Shawn Reeves share the lead going into the final day of the Jerry Rawls Classic. Both are at 6-under-par after Allen shot a 6-under 66 Saturday at the Rawls

Course and Reeves carded a 4-under 68.

The 19-year-old Allen plays at Oral Roberts University, and the 33-year-old Reeves played at Midland College, but both developed their skills growing up in Plainview. There's a good golf culture there.

"Horne probably makes a difference," Reeves said, referring to long-time Plainview Country Club pro John Horne. "He's someone every one of us has a lot of respect for growing up."

And the Plainview Country Club course, even at less than 6,300 yards, has something to do with it, too.

"Plainview (Country Club) being pretty short, everybody's short game is pretty sharp," Reeves said.

"That course," Allen said, "is really good for short game."

Since 2003, Shawn Savage, J.D. Dickerson, Junior Ashmore and Reeves - all of whom have been long-time Plainview residents at some point - have won nine major Lubbock tournaments. Most of them have been tag-team jobs, so Dickerson has eight Lubbock titles, Ashmore four, Savage three and Reeves one.

One thing's for sure: Coming to a bigger town doesn't bother them.

"They have a great mentality," said Scott Rundell, a two-time Hillcrest Swinger champion. "They just know how to win."

The leaders drew five shots clear of the field Saturday morning, when it was hot and still, making their long drives bounce and roll longer. Former Tech golfer David Bolen

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(70) and Rundell (74) are at 1-under, hoping to make some noise on Sunday.

While their short games were sound Saturday, Reeves and Allen set it up by being solid from tee to green. Most of Allen's six birdies came from the middle of the fairway, and Reeves had to scramble only occasionally.

He said he got a lesson from local pro Leon Van Rensburg the day before the tournament, and it's paying off.

"I hit it really good," Reeves said. "I probably missed two greens today. I hit it good and missed everything (putt) in sight."

Playing in separate groups, Allen and Reeves both eagled the par-5 No. 2, having wedges into the green on the 521-yard hole. Reeves' eagle was maybe his best putt of the day, a 15-footer with several feet of right-to-left break.

A key birdie came at No. 12, when he had to look for a lost tee shot. He located the ball in sticky rough off the cart path, wedged it out and made a mid-range putt.

Allen was coming off an even-par 72 Friday in which he played the par-5s in 2-over. On Saturday, he covered the long holes in 3-under. He birdied No. 1, then eagled No. 2 with a wedge to 15 feet.

"I just started out really hot," he said. "I kind of got it going for the day and got to where I was hitting it pretty good. I put it in the right spots on the green and was able to make a few putts."

Friday's tee times were so late that Allen and Reeves didn't get to play 18 until 9 p.m., when darkness was falling. Allen hit his second shot into the lake between fairway and green and made bogey. On Saturday, he got to play the hole in noon-hour sun, knocked his 7 iron onto the green and two-putted for birdie.

"Eighteen was a little better to play when you could see the hole," he said.

Reeves made a bogey on the third hole, but didn't give anything back after that, holding the round together when he got up and down for pars around the 13th and 16th greens.

Now he and Allen will play together today, which probably won't hurt.

"It's more comfortable playing with him, somebody I've been around," Allen said. "It kind of brings out more competitiveness, I guess, because I like to play with some friends."

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AREA GOLF/Reeves, Allen share five-shot lead going into today's final round

at the Rawls Course

Par 72. Yardage: 7,349.

Saturday's Second Round

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

Shannon Allen 72-66-138

Shawn Reeves 70-68-138

David Bolen 73-70-143

Scott Rundell 69-74-143

Jason Staggs 72-72-144

Bill Ashley 73-75-148

Robert McKinney 74-75-149

Randy Richardson 71-82-153



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Sergio Franky 77-72-149

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Clayton Carnley 79-76-155

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Bryan Gay 91-82-173

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Justin Dickson 70-80-150

Tracy Witherspoon 76-76-152

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Scott Sonnenberg 88-73-161

Tom Perry 82-80-162

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Jeff Carter 83-77-160

Rick Lusk 83-80-163

Marty Faubus 81-82-163

Frank Morrison 83-90-173

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Jeremy Dickson 88-97-185

THIRD FLIGHT

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Mike Karon 85-80-165

Mike Trammel 88-83-171

Your views | Comments: 11

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Darrell Phillips 77-85-162
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TODAY'S TEE TIMES

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

10:51 a.m.: Richardson, McKinney. 11 a.m.: Ashley, Staggs, Rundell. 11:09 a.m.: Bolen, Reeves, Allen.

PRESIDENTS FLIGHT

10:24 a.m.: Gay, Carnley, Weast. 10:33 a.m.: King, Long, Tyler. 10:42 a.m.: Deitiker, Franky, Roberts.

FIRST FLIGHT

9:48 a.m.: Wallace, Eberhardt, Hancock, Roberts. 9:57 a.m.: Marquez, Copple, Perry. 10:06 a.m.: Hughes, Sonnenberg, Lukert. 10:15 a.m.: Witherspoon, Dickson, Borland.

SECOND FLIGHT

9:12 a.m.: Dickson, Thomas. 9:21 a.m.: Nunley, Morrison, Faubus. 9:30 a.m.: Lusk, Mykleby, Carter. 9:39 a.m.: Owen, Banire, Greenwood.

THIRD FLIGHT

8:45 a.m.: Davenport, Steinmetz, Strange, Chapman. 9:03 a.m.: Karon, Kirk, Trammel.

SENIOR FLIGHT

8 a.m.: McWilliams, Thomas. 8:09 a.m.: Smith, Flournoy, Phillips. 8:18 a.m.: Bentley, Hayden. 8:27 a.m.: Whitehead, North, Lusk. 8:36 a.m.: Davis, Beebe, Hallgarth.

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