

Golf

Yang holds one-stroke lead

RANCHO MIRAGE, Calif. (AP) — An opening-round 67 at the Kraft Nabisco Championship is just a bonus to Lindsey Wright. After fighting her way back from depression and anxiety to rejoin the LPGA Tour, she's grateful for every good day on the links and every peaceful night away from golf.

Wright began the first major of the year one stroke behind leader Amy Yang, who shot a 6-under 66 on Thursday. Wright even outplayed top-ranked Yani Tseng, whose 68 ended her streak of eight consecutive rounds with a lead.

With five birdies on the back nine of the Dinah Shore Tournament Course, Wright took another positive step in her revitalization. After quitting golf for the final four months of last year, the 32-year-old Australian returned with a victory in the New Zealand Women's Open last month, followed by this strong start at Mission Hills.

"I'm really enjoying my golf," Wright said. "It's not a grind anymore. I'm actually enjoying it, the good and the bad."

Wright, a Pepperdine graduate who lives in Florida, has earned more than \$2.2 million despite never winning an LPGA Tour event. She was outstanding in 2009, earning top-four finishes in two majors, but success didn't provide the happiness she



Amy Yang hits from the 18th tee during the first round of the Kraft Nabisco Championship on Thursday in Rancho Mirage, Ca.

expected.

Wright said she felt "smothered" by the nonstop travel and pressure of a pro golfer's life. She sometimes needed two bottles of red wine to cure her chronic insomnia, and her homesickness for Australia was accentuated by her depression, which she didn't identify until she recognized her symptoms on a television program about the disease.

"It wasn't a great time, and I just couldn't really get through it," Wright said. "It's hard to explain other than from a physical standpoint. People think, 'Depression, oh, just get

over it.' It really impacts you physically, and playing on this tour, grinding it out each week when you're not sleeping and you can't concentrate or focus, it just gets you down, and it's a bit of a nightmare."

Wright went home to Albury, in New South Wales also the hometown of basketball star Lauren Jackson and worked in media and administration at various tournaments. She already had spent a couple of years thinking about walking away from golf entirely.

"I started going home, and my best mates were having families," Wright

said. "Everybody seemed to be growing up, and I was out here doing this which is nothing wrong. It's a great lifestyle if you have a healthy balance. I haven't really had a healthy balance. I've always pushed myself, and in retrospect, I should have taken four or five months off (in 2009), but I didn't."

• Houston Open
HUMBLE, Texas — Angel Cabrera and Carl Pettersson shot 7-under 65 in calm morning conditions to top the Houston Open leaderboard before first-round play was suspended because of a thunderstorm..

Major League Baseball

Chapman strong in starting role

PHOENIX (AP) — Aroldis Chapman is looking more and more like a savvy pitcher and not just a hard thrower. It could earn him a spot in Cincinnati's starting rotation.

The Cuban left-hander didn't walk a batter in his second straight start covering 10 innings and pitched five solid innings Thursday as the Reds defeated the Milwaukee Brewers 9-3.

Chapman scattered seven hits and struck out six, throwing 89 pitches. He also hit a run-scoring double in the fourth inning.

"I think I can be in the rotation," Chapman said through a translator. "I don't know, that's not my decision. We have to wait until the end of camp."

That also was the word from Reds manager Dusty Baker.

"We haven't decided yet who will be in the starting rotation. We'll let you know. Quit asking, please," Baker said. "Honestly, we have not decided yet. There's more people involved here than just Chapman."

Chapman gave up his runs in the fourth inning, and escaped further trouble by leaving the bases loaded.

"I feel really happy about the way things have gone in camp," Chapman said. "It was my goal to

have fewer walks. I'm happy with my command."

Chapman, who has had his fastball clocked over 100 mph, said his speed is down at the moment.

"I don't know if I can throw harder than 94-96 right now," he said. "Right now, I'm concentrating on my command. I try to be ahead in the count. Maybe later, the velocity, the speed will come back."

D'Backs 5, Indians 4
SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Miquel Montero hit a three-run homer to carry the Arizona Diamondbacks to a 5-4 spring training win over a Cleveland Indians split squad on Thursday.

Arizona starter Tyler Skaggs picked up the win, allowing two runs on six hits in 4 2/3 innings. He struck out five and walked two. Jensen Lewis pitched a scoreless ninth for his second save.

Rockies 6, Indians 3
GOODYEAR, Ariz. — Chris Perez pitched a perfect inning in his spring debut for Cleveland as the Colorado Rockies beat an Indians split squad 6-3 Thursday.

Perez, out since February with a strained left oblique, said he feels better than when he was an AL All-Star last year. Perez revealed for the first time that he hurt his arm last spring.

Baseball
Baseball

CONTINUED FROM 17
better today."

Nick Antonides and Devin Blakely both went 2 for 3 for Troy, with Blakely scoring twice.

The Trojans, now 4-0, travel to Fairmont for a doubleheader Saturday.

Troy.....101 600 0 — 8 7 0
Tec.....011 000 0 — 2 8 0
Alexander and Nadolny. Nicewarner, Cantrell (4) and C. Evans. WP — Alexander. LP — Nicewarner. HR — Helke 2 (Troy).
Records: Troy 4-0, Tecumseh 4-1.

Miami East 5, Versailles 1
VERSAILLES — Luke Clark kept Miami East in the game.

Long enough for Bradley Coomes to put it away.

Clark pitched a complete game two-hitter, striking out eight, walking four and giving up only one run at Versailles. The Vikings took a 2-1 lead for him in the top of the sixth, and Coomes hit a bases-clearing three-run triple in the top of the seventh to seal a 5-1 victory Thursday.

"Both teams had a couple of hard hits but right at people," Miami East coach Barry Coomes said. "It was going to come down to who got a break. Luke pitched an outstanding game, and we hung around long enough to get the breaks."

Colton Bowling hit an RBI sac fly in the sixth, part of a rally that gave the Vikings the lead. And in the seventh, Brandon Kirk got a bunt down with two strikes — a play that loaded the bases and set the table for Coomes.

Miami East (2-0) travels to Tri-Village Tuesday.

ME.....000 002 3 — 5 5 1
Ver.....000 100 0 — 1 2 2
Clark and Mitchell. Niekamp, Richards (7) and Gigandet. WP — Clark. LP — Niekamp. 3B — Coomes (M).
Records: Miami East 2-0.

Newton 7, Ponitz 3
PLEASANT HILL — The day after committing nine errors, the Newton Indians had one focus.

"No errors, no error, no errors," Newton coach Gregg Carnes said.

And while they were

taking care of that, they got a number of other little things taken care of, as well.

Newton (1-2) was flawless in the field Thursday against Ponitz. Rob Maxwell threw a complete game as a result and the Indians got their first win with a 7-3 victory.

"We weren't looking at anything else but where we stood defensively," Carnes said. "That was all we concentrated on. That was our goal. And I was proud of the kids for making that happen."

Maxwell struck out 10 and allowed three hits in the win.

Luke Stall had two RBIs and scored twice, Brian Schwartz had two RBIs, Brandon Delcamp scored two runs and Gavin Alexander was 2 for 3 in the game.

Newton hosts National Trail Tuesday.

Pon.....000 300 0 — 3 3 2
New.....340 000 0 — 7 6 0
WP — Maxwell. Records: Ponitz 0-2, Newton 1-2.

Softball
Softball

CONTINUED FROM 17
issues the next day.

Milton-Union scored four times in both the first and second innings, taking control early and putting away Oakwood in a 10-0 run-rule victory Thursday at home.

"We played a lot better today. We played our game and didn't play down to them," Milton-Union coach Curt Schaefer said. "We came out hitting right off the bat. We didn't do that yesterday."

And the Bulldogs didn't stop.

Monica Burke was 2 for 2 with three RBIs, Christine Heisey had two RBIs, Chloe Smith was 2 for 2 with a double and Ashley Smith hit a home run. Kayla Smith doubled and Andrea Fetters — who also pitched the first three innings for the win — and Jessica Booher were each 2 for 3.

"Our pitching was good and the defense did its job," Schaefer said. "We had our heads on straight today. When we do that, we're going to be hard to beat."

Milton-Union travels to Troy Saturday for a tri-match with Triad.

Oak.....000 00 — 0 3 4
M-U.....441 1x — 10 12 1

A. Fetters, A. Smith (4) and Booher, Courtright (4). WP — A. Fetters. Records: Milton-Union 4-1.

Miami East 7, Versailles 0

VERSAILLES — They may get all of their runs in bunches, but the Miami East Vikings can count on Paige Kiesewetter from start to finish.

Kiesewetter pitched a three-hitter for Miami East (3-0), striking out 13 and walking two and leading the Vikings to a 7-0 victory over Versailles Thursday.

"It was another great performance by Paige on the mound," Miami East coach Brian Kadel said. "We played great defense behind her — and made some plays to get out of some jams."

With Miami East leading 2-0 in the bottom of the sixth, Versailles loaded the bases with one out — but Kiesewetter and the Viking defense worked their way out unscathed. And in the top of the seventh, the Vikings hammered out five runs to put the game away.

"It'd be good to get that from the beginning," Kadel said with a laugh. "We do have a tendency to do that, though. One person hits the ball hard and everyone else

falls in line after that."

Jeni Accurso was 3 for 4 with one RBI and a run scored. Christy Brown doubled and had two RBIs, while Kiesewetter helped herself by going 2 for 3 with two RBIs and a double. Paige Mullen was 2 for 4 with two runs scored, while Lindsay Brookhart was 1 for 4 with an RBI.

Miami East travels to Lakota West Saturday for a tri-match with Cincinnati Turpin.

ME.....000 020 5 — 7 11 2
Ver.....000 000 0 — 0 3 0
Kiesewetter and Accurso. McEldowney and York. WP — Kiesewetter. LP — McEldowney. 2B — Kiesewetter (M).
Records: Miami East 3-0, Versailles 0-3.

Fairborn 6, Piqua 0

FAIRBORN — Piqua couldn't cash in on opportunities — and Fairborn was able to score four runs late for a 6-0 victory over the Indians Thursday.

Piqua (0-4) was limited to singles by Alex Cox, Alanna Maier and Megan Wright.

Piqua had only two errors and Cox hurled a nine-hitter.

Piqua will play two games at home Saturday. The Indians play St. Ursula at 10 a.m. and Springfield Shawnee at 1 p.m.

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