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Pranavi leads Indian pack

By **V Krishnaswamy**
in Gurugram

MYSORE teenager, amateur Pranavi Urs birdied her final two birdies of the day to emerge as the top Indian on the first day of the Hero Women's Indian Open. She shot one-under 71 to be Tied-10th, as England's Meghan MacLaren and Australian Whitney Hillier shared the honours on Day 1 with five-under 67 each.

The two were in the first two groups from the tenth tee and made use of the early starts in ideal conditions at the DLF Golf and Country Club.

The teenager impresses as MacLaren & Hillier share lead

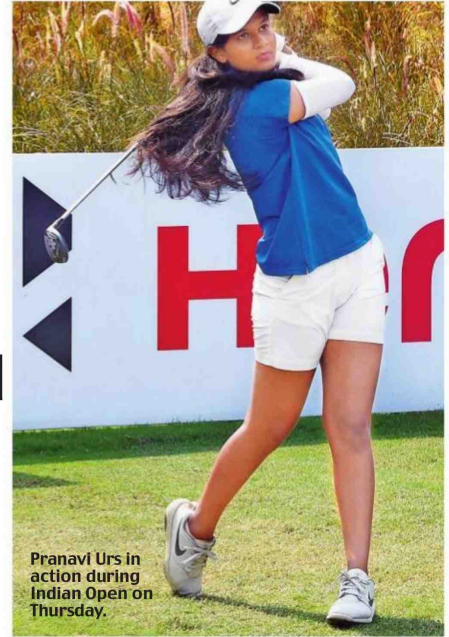
At 68 in Tied-third were Norwegian Marianne Skarpnord and England's Liz Young while Swede Linda Wessberg (69) was fifth. Four players, including Solheim Cup captain, Catriona Mathew, were Tied-sixth at 70.

Indian rookie, Jyotsna Singh (73), who got into the tournament late after being a reserve, made a hole-in-one on the 16th.

MacLaren, 25, who successfully defended

her NSW Open title in March, started from the tenth and holed four birdies on the back nine called the 'Quarry Nine' with birdies on the par-3 12th, par-4 14th and a third on the picturesque par-3 16th followed by one more on the intimidating par-4 17th. On the front nine, the 'Lake Nine', she added four more birdies but also dropped three shots. Hillier, 28 started with a bogey on 10 but got back with three birdies in a row.

Hits one-under 71 to be Tied-10th on Day 1 of Indian Open



Pranavi Urs in action during Indian Open on Thursday.