

Freedman, Messana, Loh among first-day winners

By Staff reports

The opening round of match play in the 87th Ione D. Jones/Doherty Women's Amateur Championship was notable for the strong winds whipping across Coral Ridge Country Club in Fort Lauderdale on Tuesday.

Seventh-seeded Jamie Freedman, who played four years on the golf team at Nova Southeastern Uni-

versity and now lives in Davie, managed to defeat No. 10 Amy Kennedy of Naples 5 and 3 in the Amateur Championship division.

Freedman was 3 up through eight holes, lost the ninth and 10th holes, then won four of the next five holes to close out Kennedy. Freedman faces second-seeded Alexa Pano of Lake Worth next at 8:16 a.m. Wednesday. Pano, the 2017

champion, was the medalist in Monday's qualifier with a 1-over-par 73 and had a bye for Tuesday's matches.

In other matches, Marisa Messana of Plantation defeated Dana Williams of Boca Raton 3 and 2 to advance to play defending champion Meghan Stasi of Oakland Park. Their match is Wednesday's first, starting at 8 a.m.

Melissa Loh of Dallas defeated Shirley Vaughan of

Canton, Ohio, 6 and 4. Loh plays Courtney McKim of Raleigh, N.C. in another Wednesday match.

Marie Arnoux of Miami, a 6-and-4 winner over No. 11 Diane Booth of Las Vegas, plays third-seeded Elle Nachmann of Boca Raton.

Lisa Schlesinger of Fort Myers defeated Ellie Large of Jupiter, 5 and 4, to stay on track in her quest for a three-peat in the Senior Championship division.