HOUSTON, Tex. (AP) — Downing Gray, a Florida State senior, held a three-stroke lead today as 80 players from 20 schools began the second round of the All-America Intercollegiate Golf Tournament.

North Texas State held the team medal lead as pre-tournament, favarites challenged the lead Gray, 22, compiled in Wednesday's opening round with a four-under-par 68.

The par-breaking performance by the low amateur of the recent Pensacola Open left the favorites three to eight strokes off the pace.

FSU's Frank Malara came in with a 73 and the Seminoles' Dick Dunlap and Roch Fraleigh both had 80s.

Gray and Malara teamed for a tournament - leading best 2-ball with 64. The FSU team also leads in 4-ball play with 62.

Homero Blancas, Houston junior who shared the individual title last year, had a 71. Frank Beard of Florida, winner of the Florida Intercollegiate title two weeks ago, shot a 73. Richard Crawford, Houston senior who won the NCAA championship in 1959 and 1960, took a 76.

Tied with Blancas at 71 were Frank Luke of North Texas and Chris Blocker of Texas Tech. Posting par 72s for the 6,785-yard Pine Forest Country Club course were Dickie, Duble of Texas A&M and

Sam Carmichael of Louisiana State.

North Texas, with a 294, held a two-stroke lead over Texas A&M in team medal play. LSU had 300, Florida and Florida State 301, Houston 302, Alabama 304, Oklahoma State, New Mexico and Oklahoma 305, Texas 306, Texas Tech 307, Baylor 309, Texas Wesleyan 314, Southern Methodist 315, Stephen F. Austin (Texas) 317, Hardin-Simmons 329, Western Illinois 321, Rice 328, And Yale 352.

HOUSTON, Tex. (A)—Homero Blancas of Houston and Downing Gray of Florida State moved in the third round of the 72-hole All-America Intercollegiate Golf Tournament today sharing a two-stroke lead.

Blancas, a Houston junior who was a strong pretournament favorite, scored a par 72 Thursday for a 36-hole 143 that permitted him to catch the surprising Gray, who remained one under par despite a second round 75.

FSU's Rock Fraleigh matched Gray's 75 yesterday, as Dick Dunlap fired a 77 and Frank Malara had a 79. In four-ball play FSU is tied with LSU at 129 and Gray and Malara are one shot behind Oklahoma State at 135 in two-ball.

A four-under-par 68 for the 6,785-yard Pine Forest Country Club course earned Gray a three-stroke lead after Wednesday's opening round.

Entering the third round two strokes off the pace were Dickie Duble of Texas A&M with a 72-73—145 and Chris Blocker of Texas Tech with a 71-74—145.

Joel Goldstrand of Houston headed a five-way tie at 146. Goldstrand was the only player to break par Thursday, posting a three-under 69 that enabled Houston to take the team medal lead at 597.

Houston also moved into the championship team match semifinals by defeating Texas A&M 5-1. North Texas defeated Florida 5-1 and Louisiana State defeated Alabama 4½-1½. Oklahoma State edged Florida State on medal scores, 302-306, while playing to a 3-3 tie.

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North Texas State and Texas A&M shared second place in team medal play with 598. Next, in order, were Louisiana State 606, Oklahoma State and Florida State 607, Florida 612, New Mexico 616, Texas Tech and Wesleyan 632, Alabama and Baylor 626, Southern Methodist 629, Texas Wesleyan 632, Western Illinois 634, Stephen F. Austin (Texas) 644, Hardin-Simmons 650, Rice 651 and Yale 700.