



A Touring Pro Now

Janet Coles of Aptos, who has qualified for her full-time LPGA National Tour playing card, pauses in a recent practice round to reflect on the sharpness of her game. She is a 1972 graduate of Watsonville High and a 1976 graduate of UCLA.

Janet Coles Earns LPGA Playing Card

SARASOTA, Fla. — Janet Coles, 22, of Aptos shot a 72-hole total of 307 to become one of only 12 qualifiers in the Ladies Professional Golf Association qualifying tournament at Bent Trees Country Club.

It means that Miss Coles, a 1972 graduate of Watsonville High School and a 1976 graduate of UCLA, majoring in kinesiology, now may compete fulltime on the nationwide women's professional golf tour. She has made it all the way to the big leagues.

Coles will begin play on the LPGA tour Feb. 11 in Miami. She plans to play for three weeks before returning home to Aptos.

Competition was tough in the qualifying school. Tour officials said only players with an average of 78 or better won cards.

Coles was seven strokes off the pace of leader Eva Chang of Taiwan, who finished Friday with a 12-over-par score of 300. Cold weather was a factor in keeping scores high.

Chang shot a final-round three-over-par 75 on the 6,300-yard Bent Tree Country Club course.

Two strokes behind with a 302 was Thursday's leader, Debbie Massey of Bethlehem, Pa., who shot an 80 Friday. Connie Chillemi of Orlando, Fla., winner of several tournaments on the California Group Fore Mini-Tour that had stops at Pasatiempo and DeLaveaga, recorded a 79 for a 304.

Coles tied with Crystal Pastore of Pinehurst, N.C., at 307.

Other qualifiers were Shinako Yoshimochi of Tokyo who finished at 309; Debby Skinner of Chula Vista, Signa Quandt of St. Petersburg, Fla., and Dale Shaw of Canda with 310s; Susan Lynn of Riverdale, N.J., with a 311; and Elizabeth McWillie of Las Vegas, Nev., and Alexandra Reinhardt of Albuquerque, N.M., with 314s. Quandt also played on the Group Fore Mini-Tour to sharpen her game.