

# Coles Is Only Bruin on Pro Tour

UCLA has had more football, basketball and baseball alums in professional sports than most major universities but its only representative on the pro golf tour is a woman. Janet Coles quickly proved she's an accomplished golfer. In only her second season on the LPGA tour, the green-eyed brunette this year has won one tournament, \$26,871 in only 16 tournaments and is perched comfortably in 28th place on the money list.

She compiled this impressive record despite missing the first seven tournaments in 1978 because of a knee injury suffered while playing basketball.

"I was very disappointed I couldn't play in the Sunstar at Rancho Park last March, so you can imagine how excited I am about playing in the Golden Lights Championship," she said.

"Some pros say it's extra pressure to play before your friends. I like that kind of situation. It gives me confidence. I hope all the Bruins are out there yelling and cheering for me."

The \$100,000 72-hole tournament will be held Sept. 28-Oct. 1 at Calabasas Park Country Club in the west San Fernando Valley.

Coles, who turned 24 last month and is 5-6½ and 125 pounds, was a two-sport athlete at UCLA, golf and basketball, but minimizes her basketball skills. "I played forward but that was before basketball became a big thing at UCLA," she said.

Golf was her strong suit. The Carmel native won four Northern California junior tournaments, placed very well in national events and was ranked fourth best amateur in the country in 1972.

The next year she moved to Westwood. "I was one of the first women to receive an athletic scholarship," she said. Janet subsequently proved she richly deserved the award, engaging in a spartan regimen to further her golf not many would undergo.

"I got up about 5 in the morning, pedaled my bike with four clubs strapped on the back to Riviera Country Club. When it got light at 6, I chipped and putted until 7:30, then pedaled back to UCLA to attend classes.

"I couldn't afford to pay \$2 for a bucket of balls for as many as I wanted to hit, so the head professional, Ron Rhoads (former USC golfer), let me work picking up balls on the driving range. Then I could hit balls for free. Later I became his secretary and received playing privileges on the course. I made many friends among the Riviera members and when I was ready for the tour, they sponsored me."

Before she joined the pros, Janet finished fourth individually and led the UCLA team to the runnerup spot in the women's national collegiate championship.

Janet's indomitable spirit manifests her desire to excel. "I've set some high goals for myself," she admits. "I'm not out there just to play, I want to win. After all my sacrifices and hard work, it's the only thing."

Janet's first win came in the Lady Tara in Atlanta in late April, only her third tournament of the year. She defeated U.S. Open champion Hollis Stacy and Gloria Ehret with a birdie on the third hole of a playoff.

Her reaction? "It was a neat thing and pretty exciting because I was still limping." She won \$11,250, exceeding her 1977 rookie earnings of \$10,322.

Janet's immediate goal is to win again soon. "It's not hard to win your first tournament because nobody expects you to," she said. "You've got to get No. 2 to prove No. 1 was no fluke."

## One Putts

Cathy Hanlon, former L.A. Junior champ; Sue Bennett, Long Beach match play champ; Jodie Martin, Candlewood club champion and Denise Strebig, Arrowhead club champ, are among the 20 amateurs who will try for five spots in the Golden Lights event Thursday at Calabasas Park . . . Donna Young reports there are plenty of spots open for amateurs who wish to play in the pro-am event on Sept. 27.

Dave Stockton played a scrambles event with nine different four-somes (one each hole). The best ball for nine holes was eight under par and Dave did it all himself. His partners didn't help a single stroke as the former Trojan had five birdies, three pars and a double eagle 2 on a 540-yard par 5 when he holed a 4-iron. Other perfect shots: Ken Iriart of Corona a 6-iron on the 145-yard No. 8 at Corona National for his first ace; Nils Stamps a 6-iron on 134-yard No. 4 at Red Hill; David Hamilton a drive, 3-wood and wedge for eagle on 475 No. 9 at Braemar West and Jim Dambach a drive and 7-iron on 350-yard No. 10 on Braemar West.

Dale Raper of El Monte defeated John Burri of Walnut by one stroke to win the Corona National club championship . . . Byron Snider won the boys' junior championship at Bel-Air CC, beating his brother Warren, 3-2 . . . David Games defeated Steve Bogan, 2-1 in the 36-hole final to win the men's championship at California CC.

Rancho Bernardo Golf Club will be the sight of the USGA Senior Women's Amateur, Sept. 27-29 . . . Oct. 1 is the entry deadline for the 10th Bob Crow Golf Tournament that will be played at the Brea Golf Course on Oct. 6-8. The event honors the longtime golf teacher who has spent the last 14 years at the Big Tee golf center in Buena Park .



Janet Coles

## GOLF