

Coles to top off year with her own tourney

Golf/Ed Vyeda

In the most eventful year of her professional golfing career, Janet Coles of Carmel figures she might as well organize an event of her own. So, the 29-year-old Coles has invited Kathy Whitworth, among others, to participate in the first annual Janet Coles Fellowship Pro-Am, Oct. 3 at the Carmel Valley Ranch.

"I want to put together a tournament that will be fun for the amateurs and have everyone go away with a good feeling," says Coles, the 1972 Watsonville High grad who has earned a career-high \$100,998 in 23 events in 1983, highlighted by a victory in the Lady Michelob tournament in May. The tournament is to be an all-day event, beginning with breakfast, followed by a golf clinic before the 20 pros and 80 amateurs tee off for the 18-hole competition.

Coles has had a good feeling through most of the season, with eight Top-10 finishes and her first victory since 1978. But the best feeling may have come when her van — stolen July 30 during the third round of the U.S. Women's Open in Tulsa, Okla. — was recovered. The thieves were tracked down after trying to sell Coles' clubs and golf bag (which had her name on it). Coles was able to recover all her belongings, despite having to play the final round of the Open with borrowed clubs.

Still, the ordeal wasn't completely finished. Even though the van was returned to her, Coles was stopped driving it around Tulsa a couple days later; the vehicle was still on the police "hot sheet."

Coles is taking some time off from tour play,



Rain at the U.S. Open was the least of Janet Coles' problems.

before competing in Portland, Seattle, San Diego and San Jose. She plans to travel to Japan, then take the rest of the winter off, she said.

Entry fee for the tournament is \$400. For entry information, call 625-0987 or 625-1010.

- Aptos Seascape assistant pro Jeff McMillian, who holds the course record of 64, is tuning his game for the 7th annual PGA-Footjoy National Assistants' Championship, to be played Sept. 12-16 in Brokton, Mass. McMillian qualified for the nationals by winning the Northern California tournament at Stockton Golf and Country Club, with a 68-69—137, 5-under-par. The national tournament is to feature the champions of the 40 PGA sections through the country in a 54-hole event, following a one-day pro-am. The tournament has a \$35,000 total purse.

- Seascape is coordinating plans for the Dominican Hospital Charity Pro-Am, Oct. 10, featuring players from the Group Fore Women's Professional Golf Tour. The event was originally to include a 54-hole WPGT tournament, as was planned, as a benefit for the hospital. For entry information, call 688-3213.

- One of the biggest annual local tournaments of the year is to be played Sunday at Spring Hills: the 11th Tavern Tourney. The team event, featuring players representing taverns from throughout Santa Cruz and Monterey counties, has raised over \$94,000 to benefit local charities, through the Pajaro Valley Fund. It's a sellout for the 11th consecutive year, but for more information, call 728-1773.

- Some of the other tournaments coming up: The 5th Santa Cruz Beverage Invitational is set

for Sept. 15 at Seascape, as a benefit for the Santa Cruz County Special Olympics. The scrambles tournament features a complete day of golf, prizes and dinner. Entry fee is \$70; call 338-2727 for more information.

- Also, on Sept. 26, Pasatiempo is to host the first Floyd Sluiter Memorial Tournament, to benefit a scholarship fund in the name of the late Harbor High golf coach. Foursome teams may play in either the scrambles flight or a best two-ball flight. A closest-to-the-hole prize (at No. 15) is to be four rooms at The Lodge at Pebble Beach for two nights, with one round of golf for four.

- Juli Inkster, the Santa Cruz product who has made her way out on the Ladies Professional Golf Association tour, will join good friend Patty Sheehan in the \$175,000 San Jose Classic, Sept. 26-Oct. 2 at the Almaden Golf and Country Club in San Jose. The tournament, which had been called the Inamori Classic, is again expected to draw the best of the LPGA, with Sheehan the defending champion. For ticket information, call 292-LPGA in San Jose.

- Over the last few weeks, there have been numerous holes-in-one:

- Dave Lompa of Santa Cruz aced the difficult, 203-yard No. 3 hole at Pasatiempo, hitting a 5-wood; Kip McGrooden holed out at the No. 4 hole, 83 yards, at the Aptos Par-3, hitting a pitching wedge; Alfie Smith of Soquel used a 5-wood to ace the 150-yard No. 8 hole at the Aptos Par-3, topping partner Joe Mathieu of Aptos, who moments before had dropped a shot only two feet from the cup; also at the Par-3's No. 8 hole, Bob Johnson of Aptos used an 8-iron for his third career ace at the Aptos course.