

# Women's Open will try again today

Free Press Wire Reports

EDISON TOWNSHIP, N.J. — Because "it would be tacky to have the leaders playing in the dark," the final round of the U.S. Women's Open was suspended Sunday by a torrent of rain.

The final 18 holes will be completed today. ABC (Channel 7 in Detroit) will begin its coverage at 4 p.m.

None of the leaders had teed off when rain began at 11:46 a.m. The storm let up at 1:05 p.m., but U.S. Golf Association tournament directors decided not to resume play at the Plainfield Country Club until 11:23 a.m. today.

Frank Hannigan, USGA senior executive director, said: "The earliest play could have been resumed was 3:30. There was a lot of water, a lot of casual water, water in the bunkers; it

## roundup

was a mess. If we started at 3:30, the leaders would have gone off about 5:30 and there would be no way of them finishing.

"As a matter of principle, we won't start a round if there is no possible way of finishing. We felt it would be tacky to have the leaders play in the dark."

Only eight pairs had reached nine holes when play was suspended and 40 players were on the course. Of the 16 players who reached the turn Sunday, only Janet Coles equaled par of 36. Silvia Bertolaccini, Juli Inkster, Mary Beth Zimmerman and Lauri Peterson shot 37 for nine holes.

Japan's Ayako Okamoto, at three-under-par 213, entered the final round

leading Briton Lauren Davies by one shot. Martha Nause, at 215, is the only other player under par for 54 holes.

JoAnne Carner, a two-time Open champion, and Deedee Roberts were tied for fourth at 216. Jody Rosenthal, Rosie Jones and Sally Quinlan were at 217.

If there is a tie for the lead following today's round, there will be an 18-hole playoff Tuesday.

Defending champion Jane Geddes, 10 shots back at 223, had just hit her tee shot on the first hole when play was stopped. She was disappointed when the round was suspended.

"It's Sunday and we want to get it done," she said. "It's been a long week. When Sunday comes around you always want to get out. Players have commitments and you want to go home."

Some said they considered quitting after three rounds but didn't want to earn the wrath of the USGA.

"Yes, I thought about withdrawing, but that was only for a minute," said Marci Bozarth, who was 11 over par with 11 holes left to play.

Bozarth, who was 13 strokes behind the leader after three rounds, will complete her round with a new caddie. Sunday night, her regular caddie flew to Denver — where the National Pro-Am will begin Thursday — because he had a reduced airfare.

**Senior British Open:** Neil Coles withstood a late charge from New Zealand's Bob Charles to win the inaugural championship at Turnberry, Scotland, and give England its second Open title in successive weeks. Nick Faldo won the British Open last Sunday

at Muirfield, Scotland.

"Things are finally starting to look up for British golf," Coles said.

Coles shot a three-over-par 73 for a 279, one under par. Charles surged into late contention with three birdies in a row from the 15th hole to finish at par 280 after a 67.

**Japan PGA:** David Ishii of Hawaii won by one stroke at Ichihara on his 32d birthday. He shot a one-under-par 71 and finished with 280 to defeat Brian Jones of Australia and Seichi Kanai of Japan by one shot.

**Dutch Open:** Gordon Brand Jr. of Scotland won by one stroke with a 16-under-par 272 after a three-under-par 69 in the final round at Hilversum, Netherlands. David Russell of Britain was second at 273.