

**Bartholomew outlasts Thiel  
to win WMGA Match Play**

## By Bob Glauber

Staff Writer

Yvonne Thiel knew it had to happen sooner or later.

The 25-year-old Armonk resident came into this week's Women's Metropolitan Golf Association's Match Play Championships with only seven rounds of golf under her belt since November. And until Friday, she got away with the relative inactivity, managing to reach the 36-hole final against 19-year-old Jean Bartholomew of Garden City, L.I.

But the lack of practice finally caught up, as Thiel lost to Bartholomew 10 and 9 at the Elmwood Country Club in White Plains.

"I couldn't expect to win the way I was swinging," said Thiel, who plays out of the Whippoorwill Country Club. "I just wasn't getting my drives in the fairways all day. I knew I had to do that, but I was hitting into the rough all day. You can't beat Jean like that."

Very little went right for Thiel, who qualified for the final with four match victories from Tuesday through Thursday. After the first 10 holes, she was already down four. And by the 18th hole, Thiel watched helplessly as Bartholomew went up by nine. Bartholomew closed out the match on the 27th hole.

"I couldn't key in on what I was doing," said Thiel. "I found I was getting farther and farther away from my drives, and I kept putting it into the woods."

Bartholomew took advantage of Thiel's troubles by cruising to victory in her first WMGA Match Play appearance. Bartholomew, who often drives the ball 275 yards, was consistent all day in both her driving and short games. She finished the first 18 holes by winning four consecutive holes. She went 10 up on the first hole of the afternoon round, slipped to nine up when Thiel birdied the par 3, 155-yard fifth hole, but went back to 10 up by parring the eighth hole.

"I didn't expect to win it. It just kind of happened," said Bartholomew, who became the youngest player to win the tournament. "I just wanted to swing easy and let what happens happen."

Bartholomew credited the excellent condition of the Elmwood course with helping her game.

"It was in beautiful condition," said Bartholomew. "It's one of the nicest courses I've ever seen."

Bartholomew, who is attending Duke University on a golf scholarship, will try to qualify for the LPGA United States Open later this month at the Essex County Country Club in New Jersey. She will also try to qualify for this year's United States Amateur Championships.

Thiel, who is studying toward a doctorate in mo-



Scott Daniels

**19-year-old Jean Bartholomew defeated Yvonne Thiel 10 and 9 Friday in the WMGA Match Play Championships.**

ecular chemistry at Yale, plans to enter next month's Tri County Match Play Championships. She also hopes to compete in the WMGA Stoke Play Championship.

**NOTES:** Norma Kugler of Alpine CC defeated Lee Berley of Edgewood CC 4 and 3 in the Sanford Cup competition for non-qualifiers.