

No troubled Waters in women's qualifying

By JOHN RUYZAM

After a "disappointing" 11th-place tie in the Women's Met Stroke-Play Championship last week, Maura Waters of Raritan Valley developed a very simple strategy for the next big women's golf event.

"Just step up to the tee and rip it," the 27-year-old Branchburg resident said yesterday after rolling in a 4-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole for an even-par 75 and the medal in stroke-play qualifying for the New Jersey State Women's Golf Committee Amateur Championship at the Rock Spring Club's 6,126-yard course in West Orange. The qualifiers will be seeded and paired in four flights for today's start of match-play.

Finishing second to Waters in the Championship Flight was 30-year-old Carolyn Forcina of Yardley (Pa.), who shot 76. Sue DeKalb of Bamm Hollow, the head women's basketball coach at Monmouth College, and Tracy Brush of Tamarack shared third place with 78s.

Defending champion Allison Wojnas of Plainfield, a recent graduate of the University of Notre Dame, was exempt from qualifying and will head the field of 16 in the Championship Flight. Wojnas teed it up with the qualifiers today and shot an informal 83.

The tournament will run through Friday, ending with a 36-hole final in the Championship Flight and 18-hole finals in Flights A, B and C.

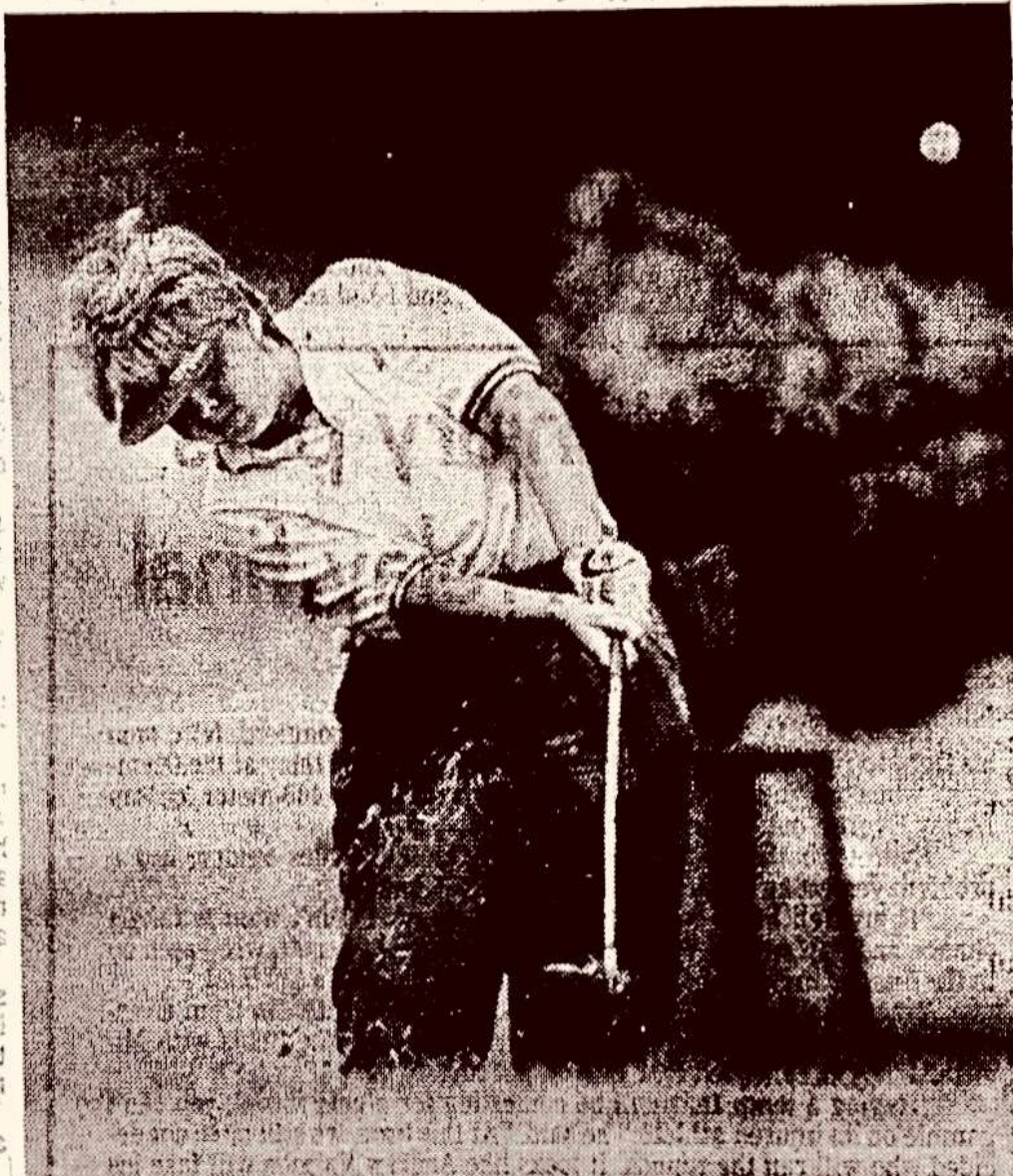


Photo by Joe Gigli
Michelle Melia of Edison chips onto the 18th green during the N.J. Women's Amateur Championship in West Orange.

Waters, who starred for the Rutgers women's golf team, shot 166 in the Women's Met Stroke-Play to fall 15 strokes behind winner Gail Flanagan of Westchester in the 36-hole championship that ended Wednesday at Morris County.

"I had a better mental attitude today than I did last week," Waters said. "In the Stroke-Play, I was thinking too much about my swing mechanics and that really threw off my game.

"I trust my swing, and this (Rock Spring) is a wide-open, big-driving course, not like Morris County. So I just got up there and ripped it. I hit the ball well and was getting my approaches close, but my putting could have been better."

In 1988, Waters captured the Garden State Women's Stroke-Play title and was runner-up to current LPGA tourist Karen Noble in both the state Amateur and the WMGA Match-Play Championship.

Yesterday, Waters, who makes her living selling golf equipment, knocked in a 15-foot birdie putt on the first hole, bogeyed the second and fifth and then rolled in a 9-footer for a birdie on the seventh to turn even.

She rode a roller coaster home as she bogeyed the 11th, birdied the par-five 12th after reaching in two, bogeyed the 13th and 15th and then had the birdie capper at 18.

"I was in a slump last week, but I was satisfied with the way I played today and I'm looking forward to the match-play competition," Waters said. "It should be a lot of fun."

Forcina, who participated in two LPGA events this season, captured the 1990 Trenton District Women's Amateur and was the low amateur with a three-round total of 230 in the Florida Women's Open last December.

Forcina said she wished she had been given an opportunity to play a practice round at Rock Spring before yesterday's test.

"I'm not happy with the way I played," she said. "I never played here before and I mis-clubbed a lot and threw away some shots."

Forcina scored five birdies, including a 30-foot chip-in at the 14th hole, but stumbled with six bogeys, including three in a row at the 11th, 12th and 13th.

CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT QUALIFIERS

Maura Waters, Raritan Valley	38-37-75
Carolyn Forcina, Yardley (Pa.)	38-38-76
Sue DeKalb, Bamm Hollow	39-39-78
Tracy Brush, Tamarack	40-38-78
Helen Aitken, Montclair	40-39-79
Frances Gacos, Copper Hill	38-41-79
Liu Ferreirinha, Suburban	41-38-79
Maura Quinn, Spring Brook	42-38-80
Kristen Welse, Princeton Meadows	44-36-80
Bernice Slezak, Knickerbocker	42-38-80
Lisa Rogers, Plainfield	41-39-80
Bobbi Roth, Mountain Ridge	43-38-81
Barbara Hulka, Roxitcus	41-40-81
p-Donna Young, Springdale	43-39-82
p-Laura Perneski, Beaver Brook	43-39-82
p-Qualified In a playoff	

QUALIFIERS FOR REMAINING THREE FLIGHTS

Michelle Mella, Rutgers	43-39-82
Sue Shankland, Bamm Hollow	43-39-82
Betty Halloran, Haworth	43-41-84
Cathy Reynolds, Glenwood	44-41-85
Marcia Podvey, Green Brook	43-42-85
Shirley Loud, Metuchen	44-42-86
Adele Russo, Alpine	43-43-86
Cynnle Rogers, Somerset Hills	44-42-86
Sandy Rose, Echo Lake	43-43-86
Christine Crockett, Plainfield	44-42-86
Donna Anderson, Copper Hill	47-40-87
Leanne Leonard, Flanders Valley	44-43-87
Nancy Gitkin, Preakness Hills	44-43-87
Beth Demane, White Beeches	46-41-87
Jane Sexton, Manasquan River	44-44-88
Bette Zorn, Alpine	47-41-88
Andrea Siegel, Mendham	50-38-88
Lynn Schonbraun, Mountain Ridge	42-46-88
Elizabeth Granahan, Flanders Valley	43-45-88
Jean Hazen, Spring Lake	42-47-89
Paula Yeager, Brooklake	47-42-89
Ruth Salmon, Newton	44-45-89
Mary Eichhorn, Spring Lake	46-43-89
Barbara Donnelly, Rockland	48-41-89
Wendy Roccamonte, Oak Ridge	45-45-90
Carole Browne, Plainfield	46-44-90
Suzanne Moro, Flanders Valley	47-43-90
Gail Dunn, Essex Fells	44-46-90
Judy Nesbit-Wilson, Hopewell Valley	48-45-93
Honey Miller, Crestmont	48-43-91
Celeste Marquis, Flanders Valley	54-38-92
Sandy Silver, Shackamaxon	47-45-92
Pat Tencredi, Rockaway River	46-47-93
Louise Cash, Haworth	45-48-93
Claire O'Brien, Ridgewood	51-42-93
Jami Godino, Indian Springs	50-43-93
Celeste Tyrrell, Metuchen	47-46-93
Phyllis Siegel, Shackamaxon	48-45-93
Kumiko Fujii, Rutgers	45-48-93
Barbara Kraft, Rock Springs	48-46-94
Jo Friebele, Bamm Hollow	47-47-94
Ann Lanyi, Roxitcus	48-46-94
Mary Burniston, Roxitcus	48-47-95
Kyoko Shimo, Oak Hill	50-45-95
Noreen Healy, Arcola	49-46-95
Eileen Bottari, Crystal Springs	49-46-95
Helen Willmerding, Bedens Brook	51-45-96
Robin Rombough, Montclair	47-49-96
Donna Neas, Bedens Brook	48-48-96
Judith Lynch, Newton	52-45-97
Aloyse Holman, Hopewell Valley	49-48-97
Elizabeth Liebold, Montclair	49-48-97
Yvonne Kim, Haworth	51-46-97
Roberta Lonoff, Green Brook	49-49-98
Betty Newman, Green Brook	50-49-99
Theresa Gnoza, Francis Byrne	53-46-99
Leslie Mozulay, Packanack	53-56-99
Nancy Ullrich, Woodlake	50-50-100
Regina O'Neill, Arcola	52-48-100
Marilyn Taormina, Bowling Green	50-51-101
Joy McGavisk, Rutgers	50-51-101
Millie Sellinger, Shore Oaks	53-49-102
Jane McGee, Galloping Hill	52-50-102
Florence Simon, East Orange	54-48-102
Laura Lessman, Flanders Valley	48-55-103
Barbara Chepak, Rockland	53-51-104
Aurelia Kates, Seaview	53-53-106
Jean Keleher, Green Knoll	61-48-109