

Waters outduels Young in Women's Amateur

By JOHN RUYZAM

Providing the kind of drama usually anticipated for a tournament final, Maura Waters of Raritan Valley and Donna Young of Springdale yesterday fought a memorable battle in the opening round of the New Jersey State Women's Golf Committee Amateur Championship.

It took 20 holes to resolve the issue between the two former Rutgers University standouts, with the 27-year-old Waters prevailing after saving par from the bunker at the 374-yard second hole of the Rock Spring Club in West Orange.

The 33-year-old Young, who had drawn even by winning the 16th hole and held on by halving the last two regulation holes and the 19th, was eliminated after missing a 15-footer for par at No. 20.

The match pitted two outstanding golfers. Waters, who had played for Rutgers six years ago and then served as an assistant coach after graduation, is the 1988 Garden State Women's Stroke-Play titleist. That year, she also finished runner-up to current LPGA tour-ist Karen Noble in both the Amateur and the Women's Metropolitan Match-

Play Championship.

Two days ago, Waters earned the medal in the stroke-play qualifying for the Amateur with an even-par 75 on the 6,126-yard course.

Young, 33, has won three consecutive Stroke-Play and two Elizabeth Goss Round-Robin crowns in Garden State Women's Golf Association play, and finished second to Noble in the Amateur two years ago.

Also advancing to today's quarterfinals was defending champion Allison Wojnas of Plainfield, a 5-and-3 winner over Laura Perneski of Beaver Brook.

The semifinals will be conducted tomorrow, with the 36-hole final Friday.

"Playing Donna in the first round was about the toughest draw I could get," said Waters, who shot 78 for the regulation 18 holes. "This match was very intense. It should have been the semis or even the final."

Waters battled back from an early deficit, winning the ninth with a 7-foot birdie putt, the 10th with a par and the 402-yard, par-five 12th with a two-putt birdie to go 1-up. However, the match was even after Waters three-putted the

16th for a bogey.

"On the front side, I was very tentative, but I shook it off and played better coming in," said Waters.

The blonde, blue-eyed Wojnas, 22, who was graduated from Immaculata High in Somerville and earned her degree in accounting from the University of Notre Dame in May, finished third last Wednesday in the Women's Metropolitan Stroke-Play Championship won by Gail Flanagan of New York's Westchester.

Yesterday, Wojnas won the first three holes and the sixth to vault to 4-up. Perneski cut the deficit in half by winning the ninth with a par and the 10th with a birdie, but Wojnas responded with winning pars at the 12th and 14th, and a two-putt birdie at the 405-yard, par-five 15th.

Wojnas, however, said her putting will have to improve if she's to continue moving forward in the championship. She three-putted three times yesterday.

"Last year in this event, I putted better," Wojnas said. "It's a little weak right now, but my putter is going to have to get hot and I'll have to start making more birdies."



Photo by Lisa Bauso
Maura Waters watches her putt during the New Jersey Women's Amateur Golf Tournament at Rock Spring Club in West Orange

Women's Amateur

FIRST ROUND CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT

Allison Wojnas, Plainfield, def. Laura Perneski, Beaver Brook, 5 and 3.

Maura Quinn, Spring Brook, def. Liu Ferreirinha, Suburban, 4 and 2.

Tracy Brush, Tamarack, def. Barbara Hulke, Roxillicus, 4 and 2.

Lisa Rogers, Plainfield, def. Sue DeKalb, Bamm Hollow, 3 and 2.

Maura Waters, Raritan Valley, def. Donna Young, Springdale, 20 holes.

Helen Aitken, Montclair, def. Bernice Slezak, Knickerbocker, 5 and 4.

Carolyn Forcina, Yardley, Pa., def. Bobbi Roth, Mountain Ridge, 1 up.

Kristen Welse, Princeton Meadow, def. Frances Gacos, Copper Hill, 5 and 3.

FLIGHT A

Michelle Mella, Rutgers, def. Lynn Schonbraun, Mountain Ridge, 19 holes.

Shirley Loud, Metuchen, def. Adele Russo, Alpine, 4 and 3.

Marcia Podvey, Green Brook, def. Beth Demane, White Beeches, 3 and 2.

Cathy Reynolds, Glenwood, def. Leanne Leonard, Flanders Valley, 4 and 3.

Sue Shankland, Bamm Hollow, def. Andrea Siegel, Mendham, 4 and 2.

Cynnle Rogers, Somerset Hills, def. Chris Crockett, Plainfield, 3 and 2.

Donna Anderson, Copper Hill, def. Beth Halloran, Haworth, 4 and 3.

Nancy Gitkin, Preakness Hills, def. Sandy Rose, Echo Lake, 4 and 3.

FLIGHT B

Phyllis Siegel, Shackamaxon, def. Elizabeth Granahan, Flanders Valley, 2 and 1.

Gail Dunn, Essex Fells, def. Paula Yeager, Brooklake, 19 holes.

Barbara Donnelly, Rockland, def. Honey Miller, Crestmont, 6 and 5.

Ruth Salmon, Newton, def. Wendy Roccamonte, Oak Ridge, 1 up.

Cathy Marquis, Flanders Valley, def. Jane Sexton, Manasquan River, 5 and 4.

Jean Hezen, Spring Lake, def. Suzanne Moro, Flanders Valley, 2 and 1.

Bette Zorn, Alpine, def. Sandy Silver, Shackamaxon, 2 and 1.

Mary Eichhorn, Spring Lake, def. Carole Browne, Plainfield, 4 and 2.

FLIGHT C

Kumiko Fujii, Rutgers, def. Helen Wilmerding, Bedens Brook, 7 and 6.

Jo Friebeley, Bamm Hollow, def. Barbara Krall, Rock Spring, 1 up.

Claire O'Brien, Ridgewood, def. Kyoko Shimo, Oak Hill, 1 up.

Eileen Bottari, Crystal Springs, def. Jami Godino, Indian Spring, 1 up.

Celeste Tyrrell, Metuchen, def. Donna Neas, Bedens Brook, 19 holes.

Ann Lanyi, Roxillicus, def. Louise Cash, Haworth, 9 and 8.

Judy Nesbitt-Wilson, Hopewell Valley, def. Mary Burniston, Roxillicus, 7 and 6.

Pat Tancredi, Rockaway River, def. Noreen Healy, Arcola, 1 up.