

# Met amateurs' goal: U.S. win

By Rick Remsnyder  
Staff Writer

The United States hasn't fared too well this year in international golf matches, losing possession of both the Ryder Cup and the Walker Cup. Ten metropolitan-area amateurs look to make amends for those losses Friday and Saturday in the sixth annual French/American Challenge Matches at The Creek Club on Long Island.

U.S. Mid-Amateur and Met Amateur champion Jerry Courville Jr. will lead a strong metropolitan-area team seeking to regain the Fred's Cup, which is given to the winning team.

The two-day international matches will have teams from the Metropolitan Golf Association and the Women's Metropolitan Golf Association competing against men and women amateurs from the Ligue de Paris in France. The French lead the series 4-1, with the sole victory by American golfers coming in 1991 at Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J.

Teams of six men and four women compete against one another in Ryder Cup-style matches. Courville, of Shorehaven Golf Club in East Norwalk, Conn., will be joined on the men's team by Ken Bakst of Sunningdale Country Club, Joe Sommers of Mount Kisco Country Club, two-time MGA Player of the Year Jeff Thomas of New Jersey and Long Islanders Malcolm Smith and Ed Gibstein.

The women's contingent will be led by 1995 WMGA stroke-play champion Gail Flanagan of Westchester Country Club. The other women are 1994 Women's Met Open champion Lisa Griffin of Greenwich Country Club,

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## LOCAL NOTES

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Burning Tree Country Club's Shirley Budden of Greenwich and New Jersey Women's Amateur titlist Sherry Herman.

Jerry Courville Sr. will serve as the MGA's non-playing captain, with WMGA president Valerie Lazar of Ridgeway Country Club heading the women's team.

The French team includes 1995 NCAA individual champion Kristel Mourgue D'Algue, a student at Arizona State.

