

# 100th WMGA Match Play Championship

Fairmount Country Club, Chathan, NJ • June 9-12, 2003

With the 2002 champion electing not to defend her title, competition among the 54 qualifiers for the top seed in the 16-person Championship Flight—as well as for the 16 places in the Sanford Cup Flight—was intense.

There was no clear favorite. The field included the 2002 Player of the Year, Adrienne MacLean, who in her teens captured two WMGA Junior Girls' titles (nee Gilmartin, 1982 and 1983); several past champions—Barbara Israel (1975), Ann Probert (1985), Lee Ann Lewis (nee Vogel, 1993 and 2000) and Gail Flanagan (1998); previous Stroke Play champions—Probert and Flanagan, each with 4 titles; as well as two other former Junior champions—Probert (nee Linen, 1956) and Becky Pernicone (2000). Little notice was taken of a late entry—Valerie Melvin, playing out of a new member club, Hamilton Farm, who had a starting time deep in the field.

The night before the qualifying round, an additional 2 inches of rain fell on the already-saturated, par-75 Fairmount course, which was set at 6,038 yards, about 105 yards longer than it normally plays. Twelve inches of rain in two weeks and the added yardage proved to be an exhausting combination. Even with "preferred lies," generally anathema for the WMGA, it was difficult to find a clean lie. It was so wet, in fact, that the ground crew had to squeegee several fairways.

Nonetheless, play progressed under gray skies and several impressive scores were returned early—an 84 by Maura Waters, a pair of 83s by MacLean and Probert—and then, an absolutely unexpected round of 78 by the newcomer Melvin, playing in her first WMGA event.

As it turned out her impressive showing was no fluke. A native of Scotland, who moved to the US two years ago and who is affiliated with the putter manufacturer, Frankly Golf, Melvin recently qualified as the third seed in Scotland's Women's Amateur and advanced to the second round of Match Play. Undaunted by the conditions, saying she



(l to r): Match Play Runner-Up Valerie Melvin with Match Play Champion Adrienne MacLean

for Tuesday, which dawned in a shroud of fog—but fortunately no rain—and by the end of the day the semi-finals were set: Melvin would meet Flanagan in the upper bracket and MacLean would face Mary Eichhorn in the lower. In the Sanford Cup, it would be Gacos versus Young in the upper bracket and Lisa Jame against WMGA Board member Laurie White.

Perhaps the most heroic effort of the day was put in by MacLean, whose husband John is an assistant coach with the New Jersey Devils ice hockey team that captured the Stanley Cup the previous evening. On only two hours of sleep following a night of celebration, MacLean recorded decisive wins over Sheila Wall in the morning and Allison

## Match Play Championship

1 Melvin, V vs 16 Israel, B	Melvin, 4 & 3	Melvin, 4 & 2	Melvin, 2 & 1
8 Budden, S vs 9 Lewis, L	Budden, 6 & 5		
4 Waters, M vs 13 Hoffman, S	Hoffman, 1 up	Flanagan, 3 & 2	
5 Flanagan, G vs 17 Gerndt, K	Flanagan, 3 & 2		
2 MacLean, A vs 15 Wall, S	MacLean, 8 & 6	MacLean, 6 & 4	MacLean, 6 & 5
7 Kucinski, A vs 10 Hershberger, M	Kucinski, 3 & 1		
3 Probert, A vs 14 Brudner, G	Probert, 5 & 4	Eichhorn, 2 & 1	
6 DeKalb, S vs 11 Eichhorn, M	Eichhorn, 2 & 1		
			<b>CHAMPION</b> Adrienne MacLean 5 & 3

was "used to playing wet conditions which made the greens very receptive," Melvin's round included 7 one-putt greens.

With the top seed identified, Fran Gacos, Barbara Israel, and Kathleen Doyle Sullivan, who had returned scores of 90, began a play-off for the final spot. After tying the 502-yard, par-5 first hole, all three hit the fairway on the 357-yard, par-4 2nd. Israel hit last, using a fairway metal from 170 yards, her ball landed 12 feet from the flagstick and she holed the putt for a birdie to claim the 16th slot. Based on their order of finish in the qualifying round, Gacos was the first seed and Sullivan the second in the Sanford Cup Flight.

Two rounds of Match Play were scheduled

Kucinski in the afternoon.

In the semi-finals, MacLean continued her stellar play, rarely missing a fairway or a putt, and subdued Mary Eichhorn 6 & 5. A rueful Eichhorn commented about MacLean's 3-under par effort, "It's hard to win when you need birdies to tie." Despite needing roadside assistance to reach the course in time for her match, Flanagan gave Melvin a good run for her money before succumbing 2 & 1. And, while White required three extra holes to shake the tenacious Jame, Young posted a 3 & 2 decision over Gacos in Sanford Cup competition.

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(l to r): Sanford Cup Champion Donna Young with Kathy Light, WMGA 1st Vice President and Competitions Committee Chairman, and Sanford Cup Runner-Up Laurie White

## Sanford Cup

1 Gacos, F vs 16 Brucker, D	Gacos, 3 & 2	Gacos, 7 & 6	
8 McGorrry, K vs 9 Hulke, B	McGorrry, 2 & 1		
4 Young, D vs 13 Bernstein, H	Young, 2 & 1	Young, 3 & 2	
5 Pernicone, B vs 17 Lederman, D	Pernicone, 5 & 4		
2 Sullivan, K vs 15 Rogers, C	Sullivan, 3 & 1	Jame, 19 holes	
7 Jame, L vs 10 Lamb, B	Jame, 5 & 3		
3 White, L vs 14 Pura, S	White, 2 & 1	White, 7 & 5	
6 Siipola, L vs 11 Daniels, C	Siipola, 3 & 2		
			<b>CHAMPION</b> Donna Young 4 & 2

# 97th Intercity Team Matches for the Griscom Cup

Hyannisport Club, Hyannisport, MA  
May 28-29, 2003

The WMGA competed in the 97th Intercity Team Matches for the Griscom Cup against the Women's Golf Associations of Massachusetts and Philadelphia at Hyannisport Club in beautiful Cape Cod. At 5,693 yards, par 73, the course was a test of two completely different golf courses. One with the fog and 30 mile an hour winds in the morning and sunshine and 70 degree weather in the afternoon. The course was hilly and overlooking scenic Nantucket Bay.

Philadelphia took an early lead in the 2-women alternate shot contest with 17 points. The WMGA scored 9½ points, and Massachusetts scored 9 points. The eight single matches the following day found Philadelphia too hard to catch as they increased their lead by accumulating 32 points. New Jersey added 22 points and Massachusetts gained 18 more.

The team of Gail Flanagan and Fran Gacos did quite well by scoring 5½ points out of 6 in their alternate shot match. In single matches, Lee Ann Lewis and Adrienne MacLean scored 4½ points each and Gail Flanagan added 5½ points.

Next year the competition will be held at Rolling Green in Philadelphia on June 1st and 2nd, where the WMGA will try to regain the trophy.

Susan DeKalb  
Team Competitions Chairman

## NEW YORK TEAM RESULTS

WMGA	Vs.	
	MA	PA
Sherry Herman	0	0
Adrienne MacLean	3	1 1/2
Gail Flanagan	2 1/2	3
Susan DeKalb	2	0
Sheila Torgan	2	1 1/2
Fran Gacos	0	0
Lee Ann Lewis	2 1/2	2
Ann Probert	1	1
<b>Second Day Totals</b>	<b>13 + 9</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>First Day Totals</b>	<b>9 1/2</b>	
<b>FINAL RESULTS</b>	<b>31 1/2</b>	



(l to r): Gerri Scarpa, WMGA President; Shirley Budden, Sheila Torgan, Fran Gacos, Adrienne MacLean, Ann Probert, Susan DeKalb, Gail Flanagan, Sherry Herman, Lee Ann Lewis, Kathy Light, WMGA 1st Vice President and Compellitions Committee Chairman

## Match Play Championship

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It rained again—torrentially—the night before the finals. The 36-hole Championship match went out first and the players—Melvin and MacLean—were well matched. While MacLean was never down over the first 18 holes, she was never up by more than 2 and completed the 18th at 1 up. Each player—given concessions—recorded a score of 78, according to Phyllis Siegel, the official in charge of the match.

In the 18-hole Sanford Cup final, ably referred by Phyllis Schofield, Young got off to a

shaky start, missed the first fairway, and was immediately 1 down, but she steadied her game and closed out White on the 16th hole, 4 & 2, to claim her second Sanford Cup.

After a short break for lunch, the Championship match resumed with WMGA 1st VP Kathy Light officiating. As the players reached the green of the 370-yard, par-5 3rd hole, MacLean was conceded an eagle 3. She then hit a beautiful shot on the 161-yard, par-3 4th hole to within 20 feet. Unfazed, Melvin smoothly stroked her 4-iron into the hole. The game was on....!

Holes 5 through 9 were tied although Melvin had putts for wins on 8 and 9 that

lipped out. As the day progressed, the temperature and humidity rose making the course a virtual sauna, and that proved Melvin's undoing, she later admitted. She missed the next three fairways, and MacLean took full advantage with wins on 10 and 12 to go 3 up. After posting a birdie on the 170-yard, par-3 13th hole to move to 4 up, MacLean seemed to have the match in hand. Despite clutch putting for halves on 14 and 15, Melvin ran out of holes and MacLean took her first Match Play Championship 4 & 3.

Carol Graybeal  
Met Rep & Contributing Editor