

## **Women's Western Amateur Match Play Resumes after Delays**

ELMHURST, Ill. – The 117<sup>th</sup> Women's Western Amateur being held at River Forest Country Club has had its share of inclement weather this past week.

Lightning and thunderstorms delayed the second round of qualifying and first round of match play. There was a break in the weather and finally the sun appeared today.

The first-round match between Dylan Kim, Sachse, Tex. and Brenna Lervick, Chanhassen, Minn. would have been completed yesterday but had to be played this morning. They were on the 18<sup>th</sup> when play was suspended Wednesday afternoon. Returning this morning to finish, Kim said, "Both of us played steady golf," with Kim winning 1-up. Lervick's amateur days are about to end as she will be trying to qualify for the LPGA Tour. Kim will play Madison Kidd, Lake Jackson, Tex. in the second round.

"I was 2-up and just finished the 15<sup>th</sup> when the rain started (Wednesday)," said Mary Parsons, Delta, B.C., Canada whose opponent was Caroline Smith from Inverness, Ill. "Starting on 16 today (to finish their first round of match play), we both put it in the bunker and took pars, on the 17th I got it up and down for par and Caroline missed hers." Parsons defeated Smith 3 & 1 and will play Jackie Chulya from Oakland, Calif. in the second round.

"This morning I started on 10 (to complete round one), she had honors and my goal was to win honors back just as soon as I could and never lose it. We tied 10, I won 11 and 13," said Emily White from Saline, Mich. who defeated Shawn Rennegarbe, Addieville, Ill. 3 & 2. White will be a senior at University of Michigan where she is majoring in Political Science. Rennegarbe begins her junior year at University of Iowa with a major in Biomedical Engineering. White will meet Francesca Olivarez-Illas, Muntinlupa City, Philippines for the second round.

It took 20 holes for the Heather Ciskowski and Audrey Judd match to end with Ciskowski, who is from Barrington, Ill. to claim the victory. "Audrey played great, it was tough to have so many rain delays yesterday because it's hard to keep the momentum going and energy up but we both did a really good job of keeping it close throughout the entirety of the match," said Ciskowski.

"Going to extra holes, we both had our chances but Heather was able to pull through," said Judd who is from Olathe, Kan.

During Wednesday's delay, Ciskowski said, "I took a nap, ate and tried to stay positive." Judd commented, "I walked around a lot and kept refreshing social media which had nothing new, it was tough because you want to get out there and play."

When Ciskowski moves on to her second round match this afternoon, she will be playing one of her best friends, Lexi Harkins from Crystal Lake, Ill.

It took four extra holes for Grace St-Germain to defeat Angela Aung. "I won on the 22<sup>nd</sup> hole, it was a long day. During the match, no one was more than 1-up." St-Germain, whose nickname is "Gracie" is from Orleans, Ontario, Canada. She won the 2016 Ontario Amateur and was the runner-up the 2016 Quebec Amateur. In her 'down time' she figures skates and is attending Dayton State College.

Aung is from Yangon, SC, Myanmar and will be a freshman at Indiana University. She said her motto is, "Do the best I can whenever I can."

St-Germain will meet Maddy Rayner from Southlake, Tex. in today's second round match play. Rayner will be a junior at University of Houston majoring in Psychology.

The number 6 seed Sophia Schubert defeated Divya Manthena. Schubert who is from Oak Ridge, Tenn. will be a senior at the University of Texas/Austin with a major in Sports Management. "In the morning round (completing the first round of match play from Wednesday) I won 4 & 3 and this afternoon I was 2-up after 9 holes. It was a good match all day, we had a lot of pars with just a few birdies but consistency of pars wins it. Down the stretch on 14, I thought I was going to go up 4 & 3, she had to get it up and down from the fairway, I missed my birdie putt and then going into the last hole I didn't think I was going to win (that hole) as I was over in the rough on the right and had no shot to the green so hit out on to about 5 feet and made my putt, she bogeyed."

Manthena is from Moor, Park, Calif. and will be a junior at University of Southern Calif. She is founder of her own non-profit 501(c)(3) organization call 'Krishak' with a mission of helping people suffering around the year. Over the past five years she has organized five golf tournaments, raising over \$50,000 and donating the proceeds to different the organizations.

Schubert will meet Teri Doss, Paducah, Ky. in the second round this afternoon.

The Derby Cup was presented from 1929 to 1941 to the winner of the WWGA's 54-hole stroke play tournament. Since 1973 it is awarded to two players from the same member club with the lowest combined gross score from the 36-hole qualifying round. This year's winners are Hannah Kim, Chula Vista, Calif. and Stephanie Lau, Fullerton, Calif. who play from The Glen Club, Glenview, Ill. Their combined 2-day total was 294.

From 1925 to 1981 the trophy was awarded to four players from the same WWGA Member club with the lowest combined net score from the qualifying round. Beginning in 2007 the trophy has been awarded to four players from the same state or foreign country with the lowest combined gross score from the 36-hole qualifying round. This year's winners are Canada with a total gross score of 580, they include Naomi Ko, Victoria, B.C., Jaclyn Lee, Calgary, Alberta, Mary Parsons, Delta, B.C. Columbia and Maddie Szeryk, London, Ontario.

Many players technically played close to three matches today, finishing their first round, playing their second and then having to play a third round.

Championship flight players who won their third match will play the quarterfinals tomorrow morning, if they win their match, they will play again in the afternoon.

Sarah White, Southlake, Tex. will be a junior at Texas State University. She defeated Janet Mao, Johns Creek, Ga. who will be a junior at Northwestern. "I hit some great shots and think the match could have gone either way. We both made some clutch putts. It was very enduring as it shows a lot of mental and physical strength playing 36 or more holes, but it was fun and very competitive as we went all the way to 17," said White. "I got very lucky, I didn't get any kind of delay even in stroke play, I was the last in both times when the horn was blown," White said.

Mao commented, "I played just the way I always do, a lot of putts just didn't go in." She will start summer school next week and then head to the North/South tournament in Pinehurst.

Also advancing to the quarterfinal is Stephanie Lau from Fullerton, Calif. She defeated Kelly Anderson, Wheaton, Ill. 3 & 2.

“It was a great match, Kelly was making putts and pars, getting up and down. Beside the golf, we had a lot of good conversation, I like that because it’s great when we can go beyond golf,” said Lau who attends Northwestern. She was the 2016 Big Ten Freshman of the Year and second lowest single season scoring average (72.13) in program history, best every by a rookie.

Anderson will be a junior at Northern Illinois University. She received the Betty Ann Rich Award for Leadership and Character in 2017. She is majoring in Communicative Disorders with a minor in American Sign Language.

Final matches completed included Dylan Kim, Sachse, Tex. who defeated Lois Kaye Go, Cebu City, Philippines by a 4 & 3 margin. She will play Jackie Chulya, Oakland, Calif.

Maddie Szeryk, London, Ontario, Canada defeated Naomi Ko, Victoria B.C. Canada 2& 1 and will play 15-year-old Francesca Olivarez-Illas, Muntinlupa City, Philippines tomorrow.

YuWen “Tina is her American name” Lu, Shanghai, China defeated Maddie Rayner, Southlake, Tex. Rayner said, “I played 47 holes today and was eating cookies to get energy. My knee tweaked out yesterday but I continued to play,” said Rayner. Not too long ago she had knee surgery and was laid up for four months. Lu will play Sophia Schubert who defeated Valerie Tanguay, Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec, Canada.

Championship Flight quarterfinals will be played on Friday at 7:00 a.m. and semifinals in the afternoon. First through Fourth flights will have their semifinals in the morning and finals in the afternoon while the Fifth Flight will play its final in the morning.

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