

## Inside this Issue

AJGA finalizes plans to move to Chateau Elan, page 2

Magee, McGann named National Chairmen, page 2

1999 AJGA Tournament Schedule, page 3

Easter Weekend news, page 4-5



## While we were away . . .

The months between November's Polo Golf Junior Classic and Easter Weekend are the AJGA's "off-season." However, some players were very much "on" their game:

### Hunter Mahan, McKinney, Texas

1st Polo Golf Junior Classic  
1st Scottsdale Junior Classic  
T9th Doral Publix Junior Classic

### Sean O'Hair, Bradenton, Fla.

1st Doral Publix Junior Classic  
T5th Polo Golf Junior Classic  
T7th Orange Bowl International

### Candie Kung, Fountain Valley, Calif.

1st Taylor Made Woodlands Jr. Classic  
1st Doral Publix Junior Classic  
1st MCI Junior Classic

featured in Sports Illustrated's "Faces in the Crowd"

### Jimin Kang, Edmonds, Wash.

1st Orange Bowl International  
T3rd Doral Publix Junior Classic  
T5th Polo Golf Junior Classic

featured in Sports Illustrated's "Faces in the Crowd"

## Easter Weekend offers traditional start to new year

New Scottsdale tournament joins Taylor Made PineIsle, Woodlands as the AJGA swings into spring

Nearly 900 AJGA juniors (roughly 20 percent of the Association membership) participated in the annual Easter Weekend tournaments or corresponding Ashworth Qualifiers.

The Taylor Made Woodlands Junior Classic and the Taylor Made PineIsle Junior Classic have long been favorites among members who wish to take advantage of the first AJGA tournaments of the year.

Due to the AJGA's tremendous growth, the Scottsdale Junior Classic was added to this year's schedule, providing even more chances for the junior

## The Hottest Juniors in Golf



Candie Kung and Hunter Mahan capped off superb winter/spring seasons with Easter Weekend victories (see info. box at left).

membership to play.

As usual, the Easter tournaments offered memorable competition among the best junior golfers in the world. For tournament results and summaries, see pages 4-5.

## Inside the AJGA gets makeover

The editorial staff of *Inside the AJGA* hopes you enjoy the new format of the AJGA's monthly newsletter. The full-color layout allows us to present the news of the Association in a more visually appealing format.

It also prepares us for the upcoming posting of the newsletter on the AJGA Web site.

In other changes, due to the increased number of tournaments,

we have re-evaluated the goals and purposes of our newsletter.

With tournament information and results readily available on the AJGA Web site, we will dedicate more newsletter space to the news, achievements and plans of the Association.

We welcome suggestions and contributions from all of our members regarding the revised format.

### Inside the AJGA Editorial Staff:

Editor

Rob Coleman

Assistant Editors

Alan Cooper, Kevin Floyd,

Joel Schuchmann, Mark Stevens

# At the Top of the News

## AJGA finalizes plans for Chateau Elan move

The American Junior Golf Association anticipates moving into its new National Headquarters at Chateau Elan in Autumn 2000.

Located in Braselton, Ga., about 40 miles northwest of Atlanta, Chateau Elan is a world-class winery and resort, whose Legends Golf Course has served as host of the Sarazen World Open and the AJGA's IZZO Cup.

"We anxiously await the completion of our new headquarters at Chateau Elan," said Stephen Hamblin, AJGA executive director. "With the swift growth of the AJGA, it is time to upgrade our office. There's no better place to do that than Chateau Elan."

The new office will more than quadruple the amount of floor space that exists in the AJGA's current headquarters in Roswell, Ga., where the AJGA has resided since 1982.

"In the last 17 years, we have grown from a staff of six to a staff of more than 30," Hamblin explained. "This is a vital step that will take us into 21st century."

It is anticipated that ground will be broken in September and construction will take approximately one year.



Chateau Elan Resort

## Andrew Magee, Michelle McGann named new AJGA National Chairmen

A pair of AJGA alumni who have since found great success on the PGA and LPGA Tours have returned to their roots to serve as the AJGA National Chairmen. Andrew Magee and Michelle McGann have accepted invitations to serve a two-year stint for the AJGA.

"The AJGA is excited about having two class individuals such as Andrew Magee and Michelle McGann serve as AJGA National Chairmen," said Stephen Hamblin, AJGA executive director. "Both Andrew and Michelle are outstanding professionals, but more importantly, tremendous role models for today's junior golfers."

Magee was a top junior in the AJGA's formative years, earning AJGA All-America honors in 1979 and 1980. Since turning pro in 1984, Magee has four PGA TOUR



ANDREW MAGEE



MICHELLE MCGANN

victories and more than \$5.5 million in official PGA TOUR earnings, including a career-best \$964,302 in 1998. He recently finished runner-up to Jeff Maggert at the Andersen Consulting Match Play Championship.

Magee is involved with the Scottsdale Junior Classic as the honorary tournament chairman and as a contributing sponsor through the Santa Claus Classic, a charity pro-am conducted by Magee and CBS Golf Commentator Gary McCord. Magee is also a long-time member of the AJGA 1% Club, donating one percent of his official PGA TOUR earnings to the AJGA Foundation.

McGann was the 1987 AJGA Player of the Year, earning first-team AJGA All-American status in 1986 and 1987. McGann joined the LPGA Tour in 1988 at the age of 18, bypassing college due to diabetes. McGann has since served as a spokesperson for the American Diabetes Association to further research and awareness of the condition. One of the most popular and talented players on the LPGA Tour, she has amassed seven career LPGA Tour victories and ranked 24th on the career-earnings list entering the 1999 season. McGann is a faithful member of the AJGA 1% Club.

### AJGA National Chairmen

Current	Andrew Magee Michelle McGann
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1995 - 1998	Davis Love III Betsy Rawls
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1993 - 1994	Ray Floyd
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1982 - 1992	Ben Crenshaw
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1978 - 1982	Tom Watson
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## Austin tournament changes course, name

With The Hills Country Club losing its greens during the winter, the AJGA was forced to find a new home for its Austin, Texas, tournament. Fortunately, the AJGA has secured a site that is just as fitting

for a first-class event. The Slickrock Course at Horseshoe Bay Resort in Horseshoe Bay will be the new site of the tournament, whose name has also been modified to be called the Chrysler Junior Classic.



# AJGA plans 55 tournaments for 1999

The AJGA is off and running with the three Easter tournaments now complete, but there are still 52 to go. For the second straight year, the AJGA has increased its schedule by eight tournaments, meaning there will be four events nearly every week this summer.

"We are striving to provide weekly

tournaments in every region of the country," said Mark Brazil, AJGA director of development.

"Eventually, the majority of our members will be just a short drive away from an AJGA tournament, reducing the cost to them, as well as opening doors for even more players to compete. This

year, we made great strides toward achieving these goals."

The 13- and 14-year-old members are beneficiaries of three new additions. The David Leadbetter Junior All-Star Series has doubled in size by adding events in Ohio, Texas and Delaware.

For the open age division, tournaments have been added in Arizona, New Jersey, Washington, Florida, Kansas and Alberta, Canada.

## 1999 AJGA Tournament Schedule

<b>1. SCOTTSDALE JUNIOR CLASSIC ★</b> Grayhawk Golf Club, Raptor Course, Scottsdale, Ariz.	<b>APRIL 2-4</b>	<b>30. SACRAMENTO JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP at TWELVE BRIDGES ★</b> Twelve Bridges Golf Club, Lincoln, Calif.	<b>JULY 12-15</b>
<b>2. TAYLOR MADE PINEISLE JUNIOR CLASSIC ★</b> Renaissance Pinelsle Resort, Lake Lanier Islands, Ga.	<b>APRIL 2-4</b>	<b>31. ABILENE REPORTER-NEWS JUNIOR ★</b> Abilene Country Club, Abilene, Texas	<b>JULY 19-22</b>
<b>3. TAYLOR MADE WOODLANDS JUNIOR CLASSIC ★</b> The Woodlands, North Course, The Woodlands, Texas	<b>APRIL 2-4</b>	<b>32. ASHWORTH/GOLF DESIGN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP ★</b> Coto de Caza Golf and Racquet Club, Coto de Caza, Calif.	<b>JULY 19-22</b>
<b>4. CLUBCORP JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP ★ ✓</b> Daufuskie Island Club & Resort, Daufuskie Island, S.C.	<b>MAY 28-31</b>	<b>33. LUCENT EASTERN CANADIAN JUNIOR ★</b> Horseshoe Resort, Valley Course, Barrie, Ontario, Canada	<b>JULY 20-23</b>
<b>5. LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES GIRLS JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP ✕</b> Randolph Park, North Course, Tucson, Ariz.	<b>MAY 28-31</b>	<b>34. CLUBCORP JUNIOR PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP</b> The Homestead Resort, Lower Cascades Course, Hot Springs, Va.	<b>JULY 26-29</b>
<b>6. JUNIOR ALL-STAR CLASSIC AT MAUMEE BAY ●</b> Maumee Bay Resort, Oregon, Ohio	<b>MAY 29-31</b>	<b>35. MCDONALD'S BETSY RAWLS GIRLS NAT'L CHAMPIONSHIP ✕</b> DuPont Country Club, DuPont GC, Wilmington, Del.	<b>JULY 26-29</b>
<b>7. CLASSIC FOUNDATION JUNIOR at ENGLISH TURN ★</b> English Turn Golf & Country Club, New Orleans, La.	<b>JUNE 1-4</b>	<b>36. DIRECTV® JUNIOR CLASSIC ★</b> Turnberry Isle Resort & Club, Aventura, Fla.	<b>AUG. 2-5</b>
<b>8. ASPEN JUNIOR CLASSIC</b> Aspen Golf Course, Aspen, Colo.	<b>JUNE 7-10</b>	<b>37. SOUTHWESTERN JUNIOR CLASSIC</b> The Championship Golf Course at UNM, Albuquerque, N.M.	<b>AUG. 2-5</b>
<b>9. IZZO JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP AT SAND BARRENS ★</b> Sand Barrens Golf Club, Atlantic City, N.J.	<b>JUNE 7-10</b>	<b>38. LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES BOYS JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP ★ ✓</b> Gleneagles Country Club, Queens Course, Plano, Texas	<b>AUG. 2-6</b>
<b>10. JUSTIN LEONARD/DELOITTE &amp; TOUCHE JUNIOR TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP</b> Northwood Club, Dallas, Texas	<b>JUNE 7-10</b>	<b>39. JUNIOR ALL-STAR CLASSIC at FIELDSTONE ●</b> Fieldstone Golf Club, Greenville, Del.	<b>AUG. 9-11</b>
<b>11. GREATER GREENSBORO CHRYSLER JUNIOR ★</b> The Cardinal Golf Club, Greensboro, N.C.	<b>JUNE 14-17</b>	<b>40. ASHWORTH CAROLINA JUNIOR CLASSIC ★</b> Stonebridge Golf Club, Mineral Springs, N.C.	<b>AUG. 9-12</b>
<b>12. LAS VEGAS FOUNDERS' LEGACY JUNIOR ★</b> Legacy Golf Club, Henderson, Nev.	<b>JUNE 14-17</b>	<b>41. CANON CUP</b> Long Cove Club, Hilton Head Island, S.C.	<b>AUG. 9-12</b>
<b>13. TEXACE SAN ANTONIO SHOOTOUT ★</b> San Antonio Country Club, San Antonio, Texas	<b>JUNE 14-17</b>	<b>42. IZZO COLORADO JUNIOR ROUNDUP ★</b> Legacy Ridge Golf Course, Westminster, Colo.	<b>AUG. 10-13</b>
<b>14. GOLF WEEK/KRAFT WINDY CITY JUNIOR ★</b> Winnetka Golf Club, Winnetka, Ill.	<b>JUNE 15-18</b>	<b>43. JCPENNEY JUNIOR CLASSIC</b> Westin Innisbrook Resort, Tarpon Springs, Fla.	<b>AUG. 15-18</b>
<b>15. COMPAQ JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP at TROPHY LAKE</b> Trophy Lake Golf & Casting Club, Seattle, Wash.	<b>JUNE 21-24</b>	<b>44. BOISE JUNIOR CLASSIC at WARM SPRINGS</b> Warm Springs Golf Club, Boise, Idaho	<b>AUG. 16-19</b>
<b>16. NABISCO MISSION HILLS DESERT JUNIOR ★ ▼</b> Mission Hills CC, Dinah Shore Course, Rancho Mirage, Calif.	<b>JUNE 21-24</b>	<b>45. MARSH JUNIOR at ARDSLEY ★</b> Ardsley Country Club, Ardsley-on-Hudson, N.Y.	<b>AUG. 16-19</b>
<b>17. PATTERSON CLUB JUNIOR ★</b> The Patterson Club, Fairfield, Conn.	<b>JUNE 21-24</b>	<b>46. J&amp;H MARSH &amp; MCLENNAN KANSAS CITY JUNIOR ★</b> Oakwood Country Club, Kansas City, Mo.	<b>AUG. 16-19</b>
<b>18. CHRYSLER JUNIOR CLASSIC ★</b> Horseshoe Bay Resort, Slickrock Course, Horseshoe Bay, Texas	<b>JUNE 21-24</b>	<b>47. ROME JUNIOR CLASSIC at STONEBRIDGE</b> Stonebridge Golf Club, Rome, Ga.	<b>AUG. 20-22</b>
<b>19. ASHWORTH BLUEGRASS JUNIOR INVITATIONAL ★</b> Bellefonte Country Club, Ashland, Ky.	<b>JUNE 22-25</b>	<b>48. GREATER HARTFORD JAYCEES JUNIOR CLASSIC ★</b> Golf Club of Avon, Avon, Conn.	<b>AUG. 23-26</b>
<b>20. ASHWORTH OKLAHOMA JUNIOR CLASSIC ★</b> Oak Tree Country Club, East Course, Edmond, Okla.	<b>JUNE 28-JULY 1</b>	<b>49. LUCENT WESTERN CANADIAN JUNIOR</b> Glencoe Golf and Country Club, Calgary, Alberta, Canada	<b>AUG. 23-26</b>
<b>21. BUICK JUNIOR OPEN ★</b> The Captain's Club, Grand Blanc, Mich.	<b>JUNE 28-JULY 1</b>	<b>50. MUSIC CITY JUNIOR presented by Henry-Griffitts ★</b> Springhouse Golf Club at Opryland USA, Nashville, Tenn.	<b>AUG. 26-29</b>
<b>22. PING LANGDON FARMS JUNIOR CLASSIC</b> Langdon Farms Golf Club, Portland, Ore.	<b>JUNE 28-JULY 1</b>	<b>51. PING PHOENIX JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP ★</b> Karsten Golf Course at ASU, Tempe, Ariz.	<b>AUG. 26-29</b>
<b>23. HARGRAY JUNIOR CLASSIC at INDIGO RUN ★</b> The Golden Bear at Indigo Run, Hilton Head Island, S.C.	<b>JUNE 29-JULY 2</b>	<b>52. AJGA TUCKER ANTHONY JUNIOR</b> New Seabury Country Club, Green Course, Mashpee, Mass.	<b>AUG. 30-SEPT. 2</b>
<b>24. JOS. A. BANK JUNIOR ALL-STAR CLASSIC ●</b> Kissimmee Bay Country Club, Kissimmee, Fla.	<b>JULY 5-7</b>	<b>53. ROBERT TRENT JONES GOLF TRAIL JUNIOR CLASSIC ▼</b> Magnolia Grove, Falls and Crossings Courses, Mobile, Ala.	<b>SEPT. 3-6</b>
<b>25. IZZO/COMPAQ JUNIOR at RUSH CREEK</b> Rush Creek Golf Club, Maple Grove, Minn.	<b>JULY 5-8</b>	<b>54. THE JUNIOR MATCH</b> New Seabury Country Club, Blue Course, Mashpee, Mass.	<b>SEPT. 20-23</b>
<b>26. ROLEX TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS ★</b> Ohio State University Golf Course, Scarlet Course, Columbus, Ohio	<b>JULY 6-10</b>	<b>55. POLO GOLF JUNIOR CLASSIC</b> Walt Disney World Resort, Palm & Magnolia Courses, Lake Buena Vista, Fla.	<b>NOV. 22-27</b>
<b>27. JUNIOR ALL-STAR CLASSIC at KINGWOOD ●</b> Kingwood Country Club, Kingwood, Texas	<b>JULY 12-14</b>		
<b>28. ASHWORTH JUNIOR CLASSIC at WINDSOR PARKE ★</b> Windsor Parke Golf Club, Jacksonville, Fla.	<b>JULY 12-15</b>		
<b>29. PING MYRTLE BEACH JUNIOR CLASSIC ★</b> Myrtlewood Golf Club, PineHills Course, Myrtle Beach, S.C.	<b>JULY 12-15</b>		

★ — Ashworth Qualifier will be conducted for players not selected into the tournament

● — David Leadbetter Junior All-Star Series event (13- and 14-year-olds only)

▼ — Includes open age division and 13-14 age division

✓ — Boys only; ✕ — Girls only

RED — New tournaments; BLUE — Existing tournaments that have been renamed

# AJGA Scoreboard

## Defending champion Kung outlasts Hardin in marathon at Taylor Made Woodlands

### Schroeder tops Boys Division in rain-shortened tournament

#### Scottsdale Junior Classic Grayhawk Golf Club, Raptor Course — Par 72 April 2-4, 1999

##### Boys Division

1	Hunter Mahan, McKinney, Texas	.68-76—144
T2	Ricky Barnes, Stockton, Calif.	.74-72—146
	Donald Jackson II, Scottsdale, Ariz.	.74-72—146
	Adam Geis, Phoenix, Ariz.	.72-74—146
T5	Ryan Dwight, Dove Canyon, Calif.	.75-72—147
	Nico Bollini, Yorba Linda, Calif.	.74-73—147
T7	Steve Conway, Irvine, Calif.	.73-76—149
	Jesse Mueller, Mesa, Ariz.	.72-77—149
	Reid Hatley, Spokane, Wash.	.77-72—149
T10	Sean Deacon, Scottsdale, Ariz.	.72-78—150

##### Girls Division

1	Yunny Cho, Diamond Bar, Calif.	.77-73—150
2	Kristin Thompson, Napa, Calif.	.80-79—159
3	Candy Herrera, Apple Valley, Calif.	.79-81—160
4	Young Pak, Cerritos, Calif.	.79-83—162
T5	Ina Kim, Encino, Calif.	.82-82—164
	Angela Rho, Fullerton, Calif.	.81-83—164

#### Taylor Made Woodlands Junior Classic The Woodlands CC, North Course — Par 72 April 2-4, 1999

##### Boys Division

1	Walt Schroeder, Pflugerville, Texas	.70-35—105
2	Chris Stroud, Groves, Texas	.71-35—106
T3	Ron Won, Irvine, Calif.	.74-34—108
	Jeff Lanier, Austin, Texas	.72-36—108
	Michael Covington, Richardson, Texas	.71-37—108
	Jeff Bell, Plano, Texas	.72-36—108
	Kyle Flodder, Katy, Texas	.73-35—108
	Alan Beers, Biloxi, Miss.	.74-34—108
	Chris Kwon, Arcadia, Calif.	.73-35—108

T10 Six players tied at 109

##### Girls Division

1	**Candle Kung, Fountain Valley, Calif.	.70-37—107
2	Leigh Anne Hardin, Martinsville, Ind.	.72-35—107
3	Janice Olivencia, Gurabo, Puerto Rico	.74-35—109
4	Kim Rowton, San Antonio, Texas	.75-36—111
5	Christi Cano, San Antonio, Texas	.77-37—114
6	Courtney Jones, Lake Quivira, Kan.	.74-41—115

\*\* won on sixth hole of sudden-death playoff

#### Taylor Made Pinelsle Junior Classic Renaissance Pinelsle Resort — Par 71 April 2-4, 1999

##### Boys Division

1	Christo Greyling, Durban, S. Africa	.68-67—135
2	Ramon Bescansa, Santiago, Spain	.69-69—138
3	Ty Tryon, Orlando, Fla.	.68-72—140
4	Ken Lewis, South Dennis, Mass.	.70-71—141
5	Michael Maness, Galivants Ferry, S.C.	.71-71—142
T6	Lee Stroever, Jupiter, Fla.	.71-72—143
	Matt Gallant, Lebanon, Tenn.	.70-73—143
T8	Mike Barbosa, St. Petersburg, Fla.	.73-71—144
	Chris Yoder, Ashland, Ohio	.71-73—144
T10	Charles Hong, Bethesda, Md.	.73-72—145
	Justin Miers, Brentwood, Tenn.	.75-70—145
	Bradley Beverly, Leesburg, Ga.	.71-74—145
	Jay Mundy, Augusta, Ga.	.69-76—145

##### Girls Division

1	Virada Nirapathpongorn, Bangkok, Thailand	.72-68—140
2	Diana Ramage, Fayetteville, Ga.	.74-74—148
3	Courtney Wood, Brentwood, Tenn.	.76-74—150
4	Jessica Krasny, Summerville, S.C.	.76-76—152
5	Jeanne Cho, Boulogne, France	.77-76—153

Uncooperative weather could not take the excitement away from the 15th annual Taylor Made Woodlands Junior Classic. While the final round was shortened to nine holes due to severe weather, Candie Kung of Fountain Valley, Calif., and Leigh Anne Hardin of Martinsville, Ind., had ideas of their own.

Rated 1-2 respectively in the *Golfweek*/Titleist rankings, the first-team Polo Golf Junior All-Americans Kung and Hardin played six extra holes before Kung earned her second consecutive Woodlands title.

Severe weather forced a suspension of first-round play with 81 Boys Division players still on the course.

These juniors completed their first round early Sunday morning and a nine-hole stipulated round followed, reducing the championship from 36 to 27 holes in both divisions.

Entering the final nine holes with a two-stroke lead over Hardin, Kung remained two ahead until bogeying two of the last three holes to finish 1-under-par for the tournament with rounds of 70-37--107. Meanwhile, Hardin tied Kung with a birdie on No. 8, eventually firing a second-round 35.

After scrambling for pars on the first five sudden-death playoff holes, Kung skipped her approach shot to 10 feet on the eighth hole. Hardin's longer birdie putt fell

short, and Kung drilled her birdie putt to become the first Girls Division player to repeat as champion at The Woodlands since Kellee Booth in 1992-93.

"It feels great to win another tournament here," said Kung, who is on a hot streak with three national junior tournament wins so far in 1999. "I felt that if I played even-par golf today I would win. I stumbled on the final three holes and was

lucky to have the opportunity for a playoff.

After leaving several putts short in the playoff, I made sure to get that last one to the hole." Janice Olivencia of Gurabo, Puerto Rico, finished third at 109.

In the Boys

Division, Texas native Walt Schroeder of Pflugerville claimed the Boys Division title by one stroke over Chris Stroud of Groves, Texas.

The leader entering the final round after a first-round 70, Schroeder birdied his first hole and parred the rest for a 1-under 35. His 27-hole total of 3-under-par 105 topped the runner-up Stroud, who posted rounds of 71-35--106.

"Anything can happen in a nine-hole round," Schroeder said. "I didn't make any putts today, but didn't make any mistakes, either."

In earning the title in only his second AJGA event, Schroeder bogeyed only one of the 27 tournament holes.

"I felt comfortable out there both days," Schroeder said. "Consistency really paid off."

An amazing 22 players finished within five strokes of Schroeder.



Joel Schuchman/AJGA

Walt Schroeder, playing in his second AJGA tournament, received his trophy from Taylor Made's Amy Willett.



## Icy cold Grayhawk weather can't cool off Mahan, Cho

Although the weather in Scottsdale, Ariz., was far from desirable, 16-year-olds Hunter Mahan and Yunny Cho proved to be tougher than the frigid conditions as they captured titles at the inaugural Scottsdale Junior Classic.

The event, held at Grayhawk Golf Club's Raptor Course, proved to be a test of will as temperatures hovered in the 40s for most of Easter weekend. Assaulted with periods of rain, sleet, hail and even snow, the participants braved the conditions just minutes away from The Tradition, a Senior PGA Tour event that was reduced to 36 holes because of snow.

Mahan, of McKinney, Texas, won his second consecutive AJGA tournament with an even-par 68-76—144.

In November, Mahan was crowned champion at the Polo

Golf Junior Classic at Walt Disney World. Perhaps picking up where he left off, Mahan tore off birdies on the first three holes en route to a 4-under 68, the only sub-par round of the tournament, taking a commanding four-stroke lead into day two. Mahan's final-round 76 gave him a two-stroke victory over Ricky Barnes of

**Yunny Cho braved the cold in Scottsdale to run away with her first AJGA victory.**



Kevin Floyd/AJGA

## Local groups help bring AJGA to Scottsdale

Thanks to the efforts of the Scottsdale Charros, The Thunderbirds and the Santa Claus Classic, the AJGA was able to add a third Easter Weekend tournament to its schedule.

The Santa Claus Classic is a charity pro-am conducted by Andrew Magee

and Gary McCord. Magee, who is the new AJGA National co-Chairman, also served as honorary tournament chairman for the inaugural event.

The Scottsdale Charros and The Thunderbirds are civic organizations that serve and promote the Phoenix/Scottsdale area.



Stockton, Calif., Scottsdale's Donald Jackson and Phoenix's Adam Geis, who finished at 146.

In the girls contingent, Cho, of Diamond Bar, Calif., cruised to an impressive nine-stroke victory over the Girls Division field, capturing her first AJGA victory. Playing in her fifth AJGA event after moving to the United States from South Korea a year ago, Cho was the only Girls Division player to card two rounds in the 70s. Her 77-73—150 was tops in the brutal conditions that didn't allow many players to complete a practice round.

Cho, a sophomore, finished in the top seven at each of her four previous AJGA tournaments, including a sudden-death playoff loss last year at the Ashworth/Golfweek Junior.

Kristin Thompson of Napa, Calif., claimed runner-up honors at 159, while qualifier medalist Candy Herrera of Apple Valley, Calif., finished third at 160.

## Sun shines on Greyling, Nirapathpongporn at Taylor Made PineIsle

The weather wasn't bad everywhere on Easter Weekend.

In ideal conditions, a pair of first-team Polo Golf Junior All-Americans — Christo Greyling of Durban, South Africa, and Virada Nirapathpongporn of Bangkok, Thailand — played ideal golf, earning decisive victories at the Taylor Made PineIsle Junior Classic.

After an opening-round 68 placed him in a tie for the lead with Ty Tryon of Orlando, Fla., Greyling found a sizable crowd of players within a few strokes of him. Leaving no room for someone to sneak past him, he bettered his score by one stroke the next day, firing a 4-under 67 to set a boys tournament record and capture his first AJGA title.

Greyling's 7-under total bested Ryuji Imada's record of 5-under-par set in 1995.

Ramon Bescansa of Santiago, Spain, carded two rounds of 69 to finish three

► see *PineIsle*, page 7



Photos by Rob Coleman/AJGA

**Virada Nirapathpongporn (left) and Christo Greyling led wire-to-wire at the Taylor Made PineIsle Junior Classic.**

# The Voice Box

**Inside the AJGA welcomes golf-related guest columns, as well as letters or comments regarding your AJGA experience.**

*The following are excerpts from recent letters to AJGA Executive Director Stephen Hamblin:*

My son Chris played in his last AJGA tournament August 4-7; he left for the University of Oklahoma (where he is on golf scholarship) on Aug. 11th. Now that his junior career has come to a close, I felt it important to write a note of thanks to the AJGA for being such a positive influence in his personal growth. Your program is excellent and the tournaments are *always* first rate. Using each tournament as a benchmark, it was a pleasure and a revelation to watch Chris improve as an athlete and as a human being!

Parents are always grateful to those who are interested in their children and provide learning experiences and growth opportunities for them. The AJGA fulfilled a very significant role in Chris's strides in maturity and sportsmanship.

Finally, our other golfing son, Tim, has one more year with the AJGA and we are looking forward to the fulfillment of an equally rewarding chapter in his life. Again, my sincerest thanks for all you do for junior golf and its participants.

— Will Cureton

I just wanted to drop a note of thanks for all the experiences that I've had while being a part of the AJGA. I have had four wonderful summers traveling around and playing some of the great courses in the U.S. and being greeted by really cool people that run the tournaments. It is amazing how much I have matured through my travels and I have received a scholarship to the college of my choice in Boulder, Colo., to play golf for CU.

— Taya Battistella

## Guest Column

### There's more to this great game than hitting 'em down the middle

Golf is a game with which, I will admit, I have fallen in love. It is without question the greatest game in existence. Golf provides tremendous opportunities to a wealth of people and, as the adage goes, it is a game for a lifetime. But in order to ensure that golf remains the greatest game, we must protect its traditions to the highest standard.

Having been an AJGA member for nearly four years, I have gotten

to know a tremendous amount of junior golfers, as well as a handful of highly professional staff members. And when I take

time to reflect upon the past three summers that I have been competing in AJGA events, I can honestly say that the game is in good hands. All AJGA members are respectful, courteous and genuinely good people. Some of the golf games that these players possess are simply mind-boggling.

However, there is one pressing concern. I fear that junior golfers are losing touch with the history of the game. Over the past summer, in casual conversation amongst the players, I have made several references to the players of yesteryear and, unfailingly, those references have fallen upon deaf ears. I have come across very few AJGA members who could, if quizzed, give me the year that Bobby Jones completed the "impregnable quadrilateral." This needs to change. Golf has been fortunate enough to have been gifted with a beautiful history, and it is something that everyone should take advantage of. Not only will it benefit junior golfers in ways that

they could never dream of, but it is important to endure the legacy that some of the game's greatest figures have created.

When Ben Crenshaw was 16 years old, he was fortunate enough to qualify for the U.S. Junior Amateur Championship for the first time. That year, the championship was contested at The Country Club of Brookline in Brookline, Mass., site of this year's Ryder Cup.

Before Ben arrived at the U.S. Junior Amateur, he was never overly concerned with the game's history or tradition. But after he spent a week at a golf course so rich in history, the same golf course that a 20-

year-old

Francis

Ouimet

defeated two

of the game's

tyrants,

by

**Dusty Schmidt**

AJGA Member

Harry Vardon and Ted Ray, in an 18-hole playoff in 1913, he soon became enthralled with the game's history from that day forth, and he is now considered, perhaps, the most knowledgeable golfer on the face of this planet.

In his long career as a professional golfer, Ben has amassed an impressive 19 PGA TOUR victories, including two Masters titles. I can be most certain that taking time to learn more about the game certainly did not hurt his golf!

I tell you this story so you know that a precedent has been set, and that it is cool to know more about this game other than how to hit the ball straight. I do not think any of you, if offered, would turn down the career that Ben Crenshaw has enjoyed. So, next time you have the option of either watching television show or reading a book, do a great service to yourself and read up on the history of the game.

Take my word for it, it is something you will not regret.





► *PineIsle, continued from page 5*

shots off the pace, while first-round co-leader Tryon shot 68-72 to finish five strokes back.

In the Girls Division, Nirapathpongporn picked up steam in the second round, turning a one-stroke lead into an eight-stroke win, thanks to a closing 68.

In fact, she wasted little time cushioning her lead, making three consecutive birdies on holes 2, 3 and 4. After that hot start, she was able to coast home to the winners' circle.

Combined with her runner-up finishes at the Doral Publix Junior Classic and MCI Junior Classic during the winter, Nirapathpongporn's year is off to a spectacular start.

It was also Nirapathpongporn's third career AJGA win in only her second year of AJGA competition.

Diana Ramage of Fayetteville, Ga., put together two solid rounds of 74 to claim runner-up honors, eight shots back of the lead. Courtney Wood's 76-74 gave the Brentwood, Tenn., native a 150 total, good for third place.

**Taylor Made®**

Golf fans got a real treat Jan. 29 when *Golfweek*, America's Golf Newspaper and an Official AJGA Sponsor, launched its Web site. Located at [www.golfweek.com](http://www.golfweek.com), the Web site brings the same comprehensive results and up-to-date golf information as the weekly publication, only faster. AJGA results from Easter weekend were quickly made available at [golfweek.com](http://golfweek.com). Juniors may be particularly interested in the Polo Golf Junior All-America tournament schedule, along with results from each of those tournaments and updated national junior rankings.

**Golfweek**

## Teeing off

What sort of superstitions do you have when playing in a golf tournament?



**Bob Kirkham, 17**  
Cincinnati, Ohio

I must mark my ball with a coin from a foreign country.



**Hana Kim, 16**  
Encino, Ca.

1) I always have a Dave Matthews Band song in my head; 2) Never chew gum; 3) Fix ball marks; 4) Never use black tees; 5) I keep a pink Flying Lady in my bag.



**Mitch VandenBoom, 16**  
Quincy, Ill.

To always eat pancakes the morning of a competitive round.

## News & Notes

### NEW QUALIFIER SITE

The Ashworth/Golf Design Junior Championship will play its qualifier at the Palmer Course at Mission Hills Country Club, home of the AJGA's Junior All-Star Classic at Mission Hills.

The qualifier will take place July 17th at 9 a.m., while the tournament will run July 19-22.

### AJGA GOES BACK TO SCHOOL

The AJGA returned to rules school this winter after a month and a half of in-depth study. Tournament Director Todd Garten scored the highest on the exam among the AJGA staff, earning PGA/USGA certification in the Rules of Golf.

### ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

The AJGA welcomes aboard five new staff members in 1999. Four former summer interns — Andy Dawson (University of Florida), Elizabeth Gilley (Northwestern), Mark Oskarson (Colorado State), and Beth Reuter (University of Kansas) — join the staff as tournament directors. Linda Payne has taken a position in the tournament administration department.

The AJGA has said good-bye to staff members Michael Tothe and Stephen Nutt during the winter. Tothe, who hails from Canada, has taken a job as Director of Amateur Competitions with the Royal Canadian Golf Association, while Nutt has returned home to Texas as an Operations Manager with the PGA TOUR Championship in Houston.

### JUNIOR WORLD

The 1999 AJGA Calendar omitted the Junior World Golf Championships from its Polo Golf All-America schedule. The Junior World is scheduled for July 20-23, 1999, at Torrey Pines Golf Course in San Diego, Calif.

For information, contact:

Junior World Golf Championships  
3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 100  
San Diego, Calif. 92108  
\* phone (619) 280-8112

### KIDS KLUBS

Young children need not empty their parents' pocketbook to own a set of golf clubs. The Ball n' Stick company is offering their line of U.S. Kids Klubs at a discounted rate just over cost.

For example, a driver, 7-iron, wedge, putter and bag for a 6-8-year-old can be purchased for \$85. For more information, contact Ball n' Stick at 888-464-6777.

# AJGA: On Location

*Bellefonte Country Club*  
Ashland, Kentucky  
Par 70  
Yardage: Boys 6,094; Girls 5,308

Home of the Ashworth Bluegrass Junior Invitational, Bellefonte Country Club is one of the AJGA's longest-standing tournament venues. Since 1984, the AJGA has played this charming course located in northeastern Kentucky near the border of Ohio and West Virginia. Pictured at right is the unique par-4 sixth. At 433 yards, the sixth hole challenges players with a sharp dogleg right, requiring a precise long iron off the tee in order to establish good placement for the approach.

## *Bellefonte Country Club*



Tom Cooksey

Bellefonte is particularly notable for the juniors who have set records there. In 1997, Leigh Anne Hardin fired an AJGA record-low 62, while Jack Ferguson shot a 63 the following year, tying the boys AJGA all-time low. Don't be fooled by the low scores, however. Hardin is one of only two junior girls to break par at Bellefonte in the AJGA's 15-year history at the course.

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