Club pros pump big money game

Michigan's club golf professionals—heavily restricted by their duties at the local countred by their duties. Their day has arrived. It may not be the awssome cash rewards offered at prestigious tournaments like the British Open or PCA, but \$18,000 is still a stimulating stipend for the local club pro. And that's exactly what will be up for grabs Sept. 12-14 in the Michigan Beil Showdown at the Grand Traverse Resort Village. located six miles northeast of Traverse City. Only the winners of Michigan's miles or the still professional four individual match, placed and the sparking a Soacre Jack Nicklausdesigned course nicknamed The Bear, is a 'skins' type format where players compete for designated cash dividends on each hole.

dividends on each bole.

The lowest score per hole — or "skin" — will win the pre-determined amount of moey. The first in loics, for instance, will be played for \$300 each. The second six will be played for \$1000 each and the final six will pay \$1,500 per hole.

"Could you imagine a tie coming down to the last hole and having an \$18,000 put? That would be incredible." said Jeff Roth, head pro at the Birmingham Country Club and a Plymouth Salem graduate.

LOCAL PROS agree the 18-hole Showdown, which will be televised on major network affiliates throughout Michigan and in Toledo, Ohio will be a big plus for the Michigan PGA.

PGA.

It not only will give the Michigan
PGA some needed exposure, but will
shed some limelight on the often
overshadowed local pro. And Michigan's club pros generally velcome
the "skins" game with open pocket

be 'skins' game with open pocket book there is a mixed bag of feelings regarding the tournament site.

'Grand Traverse is a very, very nice place but I think the media attention would have been much better in the Metro Derroit area.' said John Traub, head pro at the Great Oaks Country Club in Robester and winner of the 1980 national Club Pro Championship.

'The Bear is a great course for a skin game,' he said. 'It's usually in very good shape and it's a very tough course. It's just not the best location to me. I'd be really surprised if they course. It's just not the best location to me. I'd be really surprised if they God had been to be the course of the course. The said also was skeptical about the Grand Traverse Resort course.

'Tim excited about the tournament. It's a great idea. I'm just not sure about The Bear at this time of year,' said Molenda. 'It gets a little cold up there in September. It's good cold up there in September. It's good

for golf but I don't think they'll get a good draw up there because it's so far from Metro Detroit.

The tournament's four participants will be the winners of the Michigan Open. The Yaman Classic. The Hall Industries Michigan PGA Championship and the Michigan PGA Championship and the Michigan PGA Match Play.

TIM MATTHEWS of the Pine View Country Club in Three Rivers and Buddy Whitten of the Blythfield Country Club in Belmont, have al-ready qualified by winning the Mich-igan Open and the Yamaha Classic, respectively.

Country Club in Belmont, have already qualified by winning the Michigan Open and the Yamaha Classic, respectively.

The Michigan PGA Championship was held at the Indianwood Country Club in Lake Orton this week. The season's final qualifier will be the Michigan Michigan Match Play scheduled for the Tecument Country Club Sept. 8-11.

In the qualifying tournaments some of the golfers may feel added pressure down the stretch, especially if the competition is close.

Coming into the finishing holes in the qualifying tournament you're going to think about that skins game, said Ken Allard, head pro at the Katke-Country Golf Course at Oakland University.

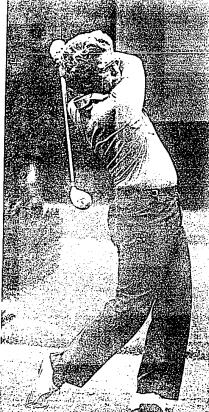
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You start thinking about qualifying, lose your concentration, get accupied by seme type of olders and eep bunkers. Most of the green and eep bunkers. Most of the green and eep bunkers. Most of the green and securacy off the green and saccuracy off the green and saccuracy off the green and securacy off the green and varying elevations. It's definately an exciting course. I see pars winning some of the skins.

Qualifying or not, you can bet most of the local pros will be anxiously awaiting the outcome of The Showdown, the first skins tournament on the Michigan circuit.

"I'll be tured in one way or another, said Allard." If m not up there playing I'll have it tured in on the I'V, and I'll watch the action from down here.



Plymouth Salem graduate Jeff Roth likes the idea of a skins game for local club golf professionals.

Men's golf tournament sponsors: O&E/Whispering Willows

Men's 36-hole medal play: Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 13-14, Entry fee is \$32. Handicap maximum is 36.

Entries close at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sopt. 6. Shotgun start on Saturday, Sunday mornings. For pairings and starting times, call 476-4493 after noon Thursday, Sept. 11. Rain make-up dates — Sept. 20-21.

Send entry blank with check (not cash) payable to tournament director Gary Whitener, Whispering Willows, 20500 Newburgh, Livonia 48152.

Pairings will be made by the tournament committee. No requests for individual pairings will be taken. No changes will be made.

Open to all residents of Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Garden City, Westland, Redirot Township, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Southfield, Lathrup Village, Birmingham, Bereily Hills, Bingham Farms, Frankin, West Bloomfield, Birdingham, Bereily Hills, Bingham Farms, Frankin, West Bloomfield, Bloomfield Township, Bloomfield Hills, 1709, Rochester and Avon Township, US, G.A. handledge or six 18-biol score cards are required.

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Registration is being held for those interested in participating in the Fifth Annual Rochester Apple Armbie Five-mile Road Run and Fromile Family Fun Walk.

While Family Fun Walk.

While Family Fun Walk.

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Cost for registration of the road run is 47 per person through Sept. 5 and 49 on race day. Cost for registration of the fun walk to 44 per person.

Entry procedures include checks payable to Oakland University and mailed to Rochester Apple Amble, Oakland University, Leptey Sports Center, Rochester, Mich. 4863.

The event is sponsored by the Oakland University Greater Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce and the Rochester Arta Commission.

OPEN HOUSE SET
 The Oakland Live Yers swim team of the Rochester YMCA will be hosting an open bouse 14 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7, in the lobby of the Lepley Sports Center at Oakland University.

For further information, call Jan Glbson at 651-1657 or Ann Lowe at 651-2651.

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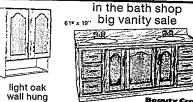


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