

Traub: No gripes about pro

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pants on one leg at a time just like any other golfer.

"The first three or four months are so intimidating, just getting used to the guys you're playing with, especially the big names," Traub said. "So I tried to get to know them as people as much as possible, just so I could feel more comfortable."

"But because of the galleries and stuff, there are pressures in playing with the big players."

Although he has played in pro tournaments from California to New York to Florida, Traub said the tour's highlight so far was last May's Memo-

rial Tournament at Jack Nicklaus' Muirfield Village Golf Club in Dublin, Ohio.

"It's probably one of my biggest thrills ever," Traub said. "And it's probably one of the best-run events on the tour. The field is very select; there are only 50 players, the best in the world. The condition of the course was the best. It was just unbelievable how it was run. They treated you very well."

While traveling around the country, Traub also has maintained his job at Great Oaks in an unusual way. He only makes it back to Rochester three or four days a month, so he conducts

much of his golf-course business by phone.

"I put in at least an hour a week over the phone to the shop to make sure everything's going all right," Traub said. "If you get everything set up right, you can get a lot done over the phone."

HIS WIFE, Jacquie, has only made some of the major steps on the tour because she has a job of her own in Birmingham. But between her tour trips and her husband's trips home, the Traubs get to see each other every two weeks at the very least.

At 30, Traub is much older than

most of the tour newcomers, who usually range in age from 22 to 25. All he can do, he said, is give the tour his best shot.

"I'm going to try it for at least two years to see what happens," he said.

And even if he shouldn't become a permanent fixture on the tour, Traub said he will not be too disappointed. After all, playing on the PGA Tour never was his primary goal anyway.

"I never really had any ambitions to play on the tour," Traub said. "I just kind of fell in there. My goal was to become a golf pro at one of the top private clubs in the country, preferably in Michigan, and I achieved that."

Playoff will decide legion title

After a 26-game regular-season schedule, the competitive 18th District American Legion Baseball circuit was still without a champion.

Troy-Clawson tied with Berkeley and Royal Oak for first place in the legion's final standings at 21-5. Bloomfield Hills was fourth with a 20-6 record, followed by Lake Orion.

The three-way first-place deadlock forced a special round-robin playoff tournament to determine the season's overall champion.

Royal Oak opened the playoff with a 2-1 win over Berkeley Monday at Kimball High School.

Troy-Clawson finished its season with a doubleheader sweep of 18th District American Legion rival Lake Orion, 15-2, 5-2, Sunday at Troy's Boulan Park.

Both Troy-Clawson and Royal Oak will represent the 18th District in the American Legion's zone playoffs that begin Aug. 8 at Memorial Field.

Bloomfield Hills, Berkeley and Lake Orion advance to the state's Connie Mack playoffs that begin this week. Bloomfield Hills opens tournament action 10 a.m. today at Saginaw's Eisenhower Field.

Berkeley will play in the Macomb

tournament in Sterling Heights and, Lake Orion resumes action in the Flint tournament.

Troy-Clawson, which drew a first-round bye, was rained out of its championship game Tuesday afternoon against Royal Oak. The game was rescheduled for 6 p.m. tomorrow evening at Kimball High School.

Against Lake Orion, Troy-Clawson sent 14 men to the plate and scored 10 runs in the bottom of the first inning.

Troy's keystone combination of Ron Yatooma and Brian Marzolf accounted for four RBIs.

Yatooma hit a two-run double as Troy-Clawson erupted for five more runs in the second inning.

Gordie Herbers hit a three-run home run in the second game to help preserve Dave Smith's string of seven consecutive victories. Yatooma also had an RBI-single in that game.

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