

Texan Collins wins Ill. Women's Open • Remembering Jim Moore

ILLINOIS GOLFER

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Western Am: Hossler wins;
3 Illini make Sweet 16

The Grill Room by Tim Cronin

PGA of America should save the Publinx

The news floated out of Far Hills, N.J., the other day that 2,234 teams had entered next year's inaugural U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship, the latest offering of the United States Golf Association.

This team event, building on a rise in interest in team play, especially in the western U.S., replaces the U.S. Public Links Championship, the venerable tournament that was the fourth-oldest in the USGA quiver, behind the U.S. Amateur, U.S. Open and U.S. Women's Amateur.

The Publinx began in 1922. The USGA killed it off this year, never mind that 2,848 individuals entered (the record, 6,300, was set in 1988). Doug Ghim of Arlington Heights was the runner-up, falling in the final final, as it were, to Byron Meth. (The U.S. Women's Public Links Championship is likewise over, replaced by a Women's Four-Ball.)

The reason for the homicide: Too much crossover between players in the Publinx and the U.S. Amateur (you too, ladies). Since the USGA saw the light in 1979 and



Tim Cronin / Illinois Golfer

GHIM AND BEAR IT Doug Ghim made to the championship match of the final U.S. Publinx. eliminated the caste system, opening the U.S. Amateur to public golfers – believe it or not, one had to belong to a club to play for the national amateur title before that – more

and more Publinxers were also playing in the U.S. Am. What's more, more and more players in the Publinx had regular access to private clubs, which is a no-no.

Mind you, virtually all of those interlopers were college players who, by virtue of being on a college team, now had access to private clubs where their colleges played and practiced. (Think Northwestern: access to Conway Farms, Evanston and other posh picture-postcard places on the North Shore. How neat for a Wildcat who might have grown up playing public golf to get to tee it up where divots are a rumor.)

The invasion of the Publinx by the fortunate collegians could have been stopped by a simple rule change: Disallow entries by those with temporary access to private clubs because of their presence on a college team. Problem solved, and the Publinx is back to butchers, bakers and candlestick makers, one of which will, upon winning, get an invitation to The Masters.

Instead, the USGA just went and killed the whole shooting match.

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How Hossler won the Western Am

His steady play, Schauffele's miscues create 2 up victory

BY TIM CRONIN
REPORTING FROM CHICAGO

Beverly Country Club exemplifies man's wish to get away from it all. In this case, the getaway is for golf. But when your course straddles the city limits of Chicago, getting away is more a concept than a reality. At least aurally, and sometimes visually, the city makes its presence known.



Ask those who played in this year's Western Amateur, which wrapped up on Saturday, Aug. 2. At various times, and sometimes simultaneously, thanks to its Southwest Side location, one might hear jets coming in for a landing at nearby Midway Airport, sirens from ambulances and fire trucks zooming about, trains rumbling by on the Baltimore & Ohio line, 100-decibel boom boxes playing classic blues from revelers in the Dan Ryan Woods, and the general cacophony of the city.

The jingle of an ice cream truck completed the masterpiece of sound when Saturday's championship match between Beau Hossler



Tim Cronin / Illinois Golfer

MISSION VIEJO'S MAIN MAN Beau Hossler starts his title journey just steps from 87th Street.



Tim Cronin / Illinois Golfer

FADED FINISH Xander Schauffele was 3 up after 11 holes, and couldn't hang on.

and Xander Schauffele was on the 13th hole.

At that juncture, Schauffele still held a 1 up lead on his compatriot from California. But he had been 3 up after 10, when he two-putted the treacherous green on the par 3 while Hossler had three-putted.

The bells of the ice cream truck tolled particularly for the senior from San Diego State, for from the middle of the 11th hole on, Hossler was the better of the two. The Texas sophomore would escape the 11th with a halve via a birdie, and win six of the last seven holes to claim the title of champion in the 112th Western Amateur.

Hossler's 2 up victory could not have been foreseen when he shoved his tee shot to the right on the 11th hole. He was fortunate to not have gone out of bounds, as he had been on Friday afternoon, when a limb of a tree to the right of the 13th kept his ball from going out-of-bounds and kept him in his quarterfinal match with Arlington Heights' Doug Ghim. Hossler birdied to win that hole and eventually knocked off Ghim on the 19th.

"I was just trying not to lose 6 and 5," Hossler said of his predicament in the championship match.

The 11th against Schauffele, Hossler would not win, but the halve, coming on a sliding 15-footer after Schauffele had run down a 22-foot putt for a birdie 4, was the bedrock upon which Hossler constructed his comeback.

Hossler won the 12th when Schauffele shoved his tee shot into a bunker to the right of the par-3 green, and couldn't get up and down. He won the 13th with a booming drive down the middle – there were no shortage of those from him and most of the leading contenders – and a 25-foot two-putt par, while Schauffele, having bunkered his approach, again couldn't save par. And Hossler won the 14th to square the match, sinking a 16-footer for birdie and then watching Schauffele unable to match the bird from about a foot closer.

At this point, Hossler looked every bit like the prodigy who led the U.S. Open at age 17 at the Olympic Club in San Francisco two years ago. For Schauffele, after a smart start that saw him 3 up after 7 holes and 2 up at the turn, it appeared his tank was empty.

It was. He knew it, and Hossler knew as well.

"Fatigue and exhaustion definitely kicked in," Schauffele said. "You have to be fresh, be all there physically and mentally. I definitely fell asleep at some point and woke up on 15 to try and make it interesting.

"That's all I had in the tank."

His last outburst came on the 15th, a demonic par-4 that tumbles downhill to the north and, even after considerable tree clearing, has enough hardwoods to either side to make one pay for an errant drive.

Schauffele hit such a drive, into a copse of trees on the right, but didn't have to pay.

He cashed in with a marvelous approach that swung hard to the right and rolled to within five feet of the cup for a kick-in birdie. Hossler, after an approach to 14 feet, was again 1 down.

But it was all Hossler from that point. His approach on the par-4 15th stopped five feet from the hole, while Schauffele's was up on the hill to the right, making for an impossible recovery, and the match was square again.

Hossler took the lead on the par-3 17th, the hole that has brought so many to ruin over the decades. With the pin back right, he played a safe approach to the front of the green. Schauffele went for the bundle and saw his shot stop on the back collar, leaving him a difficult chip or putt or belly-wedge or something to get the ball to the hole, and, with the right prayer, not too far beyond.

He grabbed a wedge and, after too many mini-practice swings to count, tried to hit the ball at its equator. It moved forward all of 30 inches.

"I left it short and looked silly," Schauffele admitted. A wry smile at that moment didn't really mask the pain.

So Hossler, who usually needed birdies to win holes against Ghim on Friday, and had romped over Northbrook's Nick Hardy 4 and 3 in Saturday's semifinal, had won a hole with par and was Dormie 1.

He would take the match with a conceded birdie on the par-5 18th after a smart layup and



SILVER STAR Beau Hossler with the George R. Thorne Trophy.

Charles Cherney / Western Golf Association



Tim Cronin / Illinois Golfer

CLASSIC BACKDROP Nick Hardy tees off on the 16th hole during the final round of stroke play qualifying, the gothic Beverly clubhouse in the background.

wedge on while the wheels fell off Schaufele. He drove deep into the woods between the 18th and 16th fairways, played his second down the 16th, and thought he had a clear shot to the 18th green. He did, except for the 50-foot tree to the front left of the green that caught his ball and dropped it into some of the heaviest rough on the course.

His next shot was into a bunker, and his next move after that was to shake hands with the winner.

Make no mistake. As much as Schaufele

faded, Hossler played winning golf.

“I had to go out there and get it,” Hossler said. “I’m proud of the way I was managing myself around the golf course. I was able to scramble, miss in the correct places a lot of times, as well as make key putts.

“I’m fortunate to come out on top. The difficult holes for him came at the wrong time.”

Hossler is the first Texas Longhorn to win the Western Am since John Klauk in 2002. Other recent winners representing Texas: Justin Leonard (1992 and 1993) and Ben Cren-

shaw (1973).

The result in the championship match was a reversal of this year’s California Amateur, which Schaufele captured 2 up at La Costa in June. They first played each other as juniors in home state competitions. One has the feeling they’ll be playing each other, mostly in stroke play but often high on the leader board, for decades to come.

Hossler was not only the winner, but the better player in the championship match, especially on approach shots.

Neither player set records for hitting fairways – each hit 5 of 13 – but Hossler hit 14 greens in regulation, including all nine on the inward nine, while Schauffele hit only 11, and just four after the turn.

Hossler played the final 18 in 2-under, including the usual concessions, while Schauffele was even. He'd been 2-under through 11 holes. Then came Hossler's rise and Schauffele's fall.

Hardy, Campbell fall in semifinals

Nick Hardy is headed to Illinois this fall. Brian Campbell, a senior from Irvine, Calif., is on the welcoming committee.

They'll be able to commiserate with each other over their semifinal losses. (A third Fighting Illini squad member, Charlie Damielson, also made the Sweet Sixteen, matching the number of Texas Longhorns in the field.) Hardy's 4 and 3 loss to Beau Hossler was pretty cut and dried, but Campbell stretched the battle with Xander Schauffele to the 18th hole before yielding. Putting, Campbell said, was the problem.

"I opened by missing a 4-footer for birdie on the first," he groused. "But eventually I realized I was still in it."

Campbell trailed from the third through the 14th hole before dropping an 8-footer for birdie on the par-4 15th. His 9-foot birdie miss on the par-4 16th was the big miss. Schauffele



Tim Cronin / Illinois Golfer

AN EYELASH AWAY Northbrook's Nick Hardy roots for his birdie chip to fall on the 15th in the semifinals. It didn't, and Beau Hossler closed him out, 4 and 3.

sank a 7-footer for a 3 on the hole to go 1 up, and stayed there. The players matched par on the 17th and birdie on the 18th.

Hardy complimented Hossler, knowing he was up against someone with his A-plus game, but was still pleased with his accomplishment for the week.

"I knew I could do this," Hardy said of reaching the Final Four. "I'm pretty please

with how I played."

What ended the match earlier than Hardy hoped was putting. Hossler's, that is.

"Beau made a lot of big putts," Hardy said. "The birdie at the first, that set the tone for him. Another on No. 9, and the putt on 15 to win it."

It was only an 8-footer, but it was true, and Hossler was easily into the final match.



HAPPY DAYS Doug Ghim is engulfed by caddy / coach / father Jeff after Doug's bunker shot on the par-3 17th one-hops into the cup for a birdie in his quarterfinal match against Beau Hossler. Hossler won on the 19th.

Patrick Donohue / Western Golf Association

His path to the semifinals was considerably more arduous, and because of another Illinoisan, but one who will soon be his teammate at Texas: Doug Ghim of Arlington Heights.

The match of the championship

Birdie followed birdie as naturally water flows downstream.

Doug Ghim would sink a putt, and Beau Hossler would answer.

Hossler would drop a bomb from across the green, and Ghim would fashion a miracle from a bunker.

On and on it went across Beverly's back nine on Friday afternoon, a semifinal berth at stake, until the 19th hole, Beverly's 10th, when Ghim's three-putt bogey opened the door for Hossler to win the hole and the match with a par.

"You weren't going to win a hole with par in this match," Hossler said. "He's clutch and solid."

It wasn't going to happen on the back nine, at least. Not with each player scoring 5-under-par 30, matching birdies on the 10th, 14th and 17th holes and each getting two more birds to win other holes. It was the most exciting match of the 112th Western Am, and one of the best in any amateur match play tournament since Matt Kuchar and Sergio Garcia threw birdies around like penny candy in the

1998 U.S. Amateur quarterfinal at Oak Hill in New York.

“It’s up there,” Ghim said of his personal ranking of matches he’d played in. “I was playing to win the whole thing.”

Ghim had survived squandering a 4-up lead against Matt Hansen in the morning’s Round of 16 match, taking a 1-up victory with a birdie on the 18th hole, his fifth 4 on the par-5 in as many visits to the hole. But he two-putted the final hole for par against Hossler, who also parred after hammering his tee shot closer to the 16th fairway than the 18th.

The fireworks between the future Texas teammates began at the 10th hole, with Ghim dropping a 25-foot birdie putt and Hossler answering from 18 feet for a matching deuce to keep the match all square.

“The birdie on 10 to halve the hole was key,” Hossler said.

Ghim went ahead with a 4-foot birdie on the par-5 11th, and after matching pars at the 12th, Hossler went from goat to hero in the space of a few minutes. His tee shot on the par-4 13th floated to the right, flirting with the fence along 91st Street. It clipped a tree and stayed in bounds, allowing him a recovery shot. That low slash finished on the left side of the green, with the cup far right. After Ghim’s approach went into the fronting bunker, Hossler smacked his putt. It traveled 63 feet, and would have run 15 more and off the



Tim Cronin / Illinois Golfer

FOUR AND OUT

Defending champion Jordan Niebrugge’s approach shot on Beverly’s 18th in the final round of stroke-play qualifying. He missed the Sweet Sixteen.



Tim Cronin / Illinois Golfer

SURREAL MCCOY Des Moines' Michael McCoy, the 51-year-old defending U.S. Mid-Amateur champion, didn't make match play, but made some early noise, and was one of the few to employ a Beverly caddie.

green except that the hole got in the way, allowing him to square the match once more.

"Honestly, I felt I was going to win with a two-putt, because he was shortsided in the bunker," Hossler said.

That stacked up as the most spectacular win of the match, but not for long. They matched birdies on the par-4 14th. Hossler birdied the par-4 15th to go 1 up after an approach to four feet. Ghim birdied the par-4 16th to return to all square after his approach from the right rough somehow stopped 18 inches from the cup.

The par-3 17th bordered on surreal. Ghim, with the honor, splashed his tee shot into the right greenside bunker. Hossler went for the pin, which was back left, and almost flew the green. Instead, the ball checked up and began to trundle and trickle its way downhill. Eighteen seconds after Hossler swung, the ball stopped two feet from the cup.

That would seemingly be a gimme birdie, but Ghim was up first, again trying to hole out from a bunker, as he had failed to do on the 13th. The bunker shot floated in the air, landed a foot from the hole, caromed off the pin and dropped into the cup. Ghim jumped in the air, his caddie-teacher-father Jeff ran over and high-fived and chest-bumped him, and Hossler suddenly had to make his two-footer to keep the match square. He did, and, with 10 birdies between them in eight holes, they went to the last.

Pars would result, each player missing a short birdie putt. And it was off to the 19th, where Hossler would survive.

“I used to struggle in match play,” Hossler said. “I’ve finally come to realize you should expect anything, because anything can happen.”

Northbrook’s Nick Hardy dismissed Geoff Drakeford 6 and 4 in his morning match and Scottie Scheffler, the third Texas player, 5 and 4 in the afternoon.

On the other side of the draw, Illinois senior Brian Campbell, the Big Ten player of the year, knocked off Joshua Munn 2 and 1 in the morning.

Campbell then outlasted Cory Crawford in a 23-hole marathon, matching the second-longest match in the Western Am since the Sweet Sixteen format went to 18-hole matches in 1961.

Getting to match play half the fun

Doug Ghim all but admitted it.

He took Thursday morning off, which is why and how he scored 2-over 73 in the third stroke-play round.

But there was an extenuating circumstance: The course-record 63 the 18-year-old Arlington Heights standout chalked up at Beverly Country Club the day before.

“I never quite got acclimated in the morning,” Ghim said. “The 63 put pressure on me.”

WESTERN AMATEUR · ROUND 2 · BEVERLY CC

DOUG GHIM’S 63

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Par	4	5	3	4	4	3	5	4	4	36	3	5	3	4	4	4	3	5	35 71
Ghim	4	5	3	4	4	2	4	4	3	33	2	4	3	3	3	4	4	3	4 30 63

Apparently, the 73 took the pressure off, for Ghim, who went from leader to pursuer, fired a 6-under-par 65 in the afternoon round, with birdies on the first two holes and an eagle on the seventh to light the way. That resounding rebound, punctuated by a two-putt birdie at the last, brought Ghim the stroke play victory at 14-under-par 270, an honor which meant only that he was the biggest target when match play commenced.

Matt Hansen, Ghim’s first round victim, advanced with a 25-foot birdie putt on the second hole of a sudden-death playoff. He, Nicholas Echavarria and Adam Schenk tied for 16th at 5-under 279, all three scoring even-par 71 in their final round to force extra holes. The trio parred the par-3 10th, and that took them to the par-4 16th, where all three hit the green in two, and Hansen found the cup first.

Ghim’s closing 65 came with him paired with third-round leader Bryson DeChambeau, who stood at 11-under 202, a stroke ahead of Joshua Mann. Ghim was tied for third, three

strokes in arrears.

Not for long. A few encouraging words from his sister at lunch buoyed the incoming Texas freshman, and he went to the first tee with vigor.

“It was right off the bat,” Ghim said. “Birdied the first hole and on No. 2, I had a tough 6-footer for birdie. I had it going.”

Golf’s a funny game that way. But when Ghim’s going, look out. DeChambeau opened bogey-bogey, and the four-stroke swing, coupled with Mann parring every hole on the front nine, put Ghim back in control. His big drive and equally stout second left him about 12 feet for eagle on the par-5 seventh. It might as well have been a gimme, so confidently did he stroke it home.

“I got to the point I felt confident the rest of the round,” Ghim said.

Nine-under on the par-5s this week, he wanted to be 10-under with an eagle on the par-5 18th. It was possible after his 350-yard drive on the 599-yard hole, but his 240-yard 4-iron went a hair too far.

“I wanted it to come up on the collar,” Ghim said. “Past the pin on that hole is not a good spot, and I was 20 feet past the pin. But it wasn’t too stressful.”

He looked at the scoreboard to see where he stood, and calmly two-putted for birdie.

He was sublime in the second round, the 63 knocking Tom Weiskopf’s record 64 off the top of Beverly’s chart. Set in the 1967 Chick Evans Pro-Am the day before the Western Open began, it had been matched, but not surpassed.

Ghim surpassed it.

“We just played smart all day,” Ghim said. “My dad (Jeff, his caddie and teacher) and I made sure, especially after yesterday, seeing how important having uphill putts is here, that pin high was about as far as we’re going to go into the green. For most of the day I was below the hole, and made a couple of putts along the way.”

More than a couple, actually. After opening with five pars, Ghim birdied the sixth, seventh and ninth holes, then added birds on Nos. 10, 11, 13 and 14 for seven in nine holes, and one more for good measure on the par-5 18th. That one, a 10-foot left-to-right sidehill adventure, added a back nine 30 to his front nine 33.

Ghim, who tied for 11th in the Western Junior at Beverly three years ago. He rides home with his dad every night. The feeling of familiarity and neighborliness has created a

cocoon of comfort for him.

“It’s a little bit easier when a tournament this big is at home,” Ghim said. “Sleeping in your own bed, I’m not really that tired.”

Defending champion Jordan Niebrugge didn’t make it to match play. Neither did 15-year-old sensation Tianlang Guan, the kid from China who played and made the cut in last year’s Masters. But he hung around for the weekend anyway.

Niebrugge was in the mix for a Sweet Sixteen berth at lunchtime Thursday but shot 3-over 74 in the afternoon to miss the play-

112TH WESTERN AMATEUR · JULY 29-AUG. 2

BEVERLY COUNTRY CLUB · 7,016 YARDS, PAR 71

Round of 16

Doug Ghim (270), 18, Arlington Heights, Ill., d. Matt Hansen (279*), 22, Los Osos, Calif., 1 up
 Beau Hossler (276), 19, Mission Viejo, Calif., d. Cheng-Tsung Pan (276), 22, Mialoi, Taiwan, 3 & 2
 Scottie Scheffler (278), 18, Dallas, d. Taylor Macdonald (274), 22, Brisbane, Australia, 3 & 1
 Nick Hardy (278), 18, Northbrook, Ill., d. Geoff Drakeford (274), 22, Traralgon South, Australia, 6 & 4
 Brian Campbell (278), 21, Irvine, Calif., d. Joshua Mann (272), 23, Palmerston North, New Zealand, 2 & 1
 Cory Crawford (276), 21, Sanctuary Cove, Australia, d. Lucas Herbert (276), 18, Ravenswood, Australia, 1 up
 Xander Schauffele (278), 20, San Diego, Calif., d. Bryson DeChambeau (272), 20, Clovis, Calif., 1 up
 Hunter Stewart (275), 21, Nicholasville, Ky., d. Charlie Danielson (277), 20, Osceola, Wis., 2 & 1

Quarterfinals

Beau Hossler d. Doug Ghim, 19 holes
 Nick Hardy d. Scottie Scheffler, 5 & 4
 Brian Campbell d. Cory Crawford, 23 holes
 Xander Schauffele d. Hunter Stewart, 3 & 2

Semifinals

Beau Hossler d. Nick Hardy, 4 & 3
 Xander Schauffele d. Brian Campbell, 1 up

Final

Beau Hossler d. Schauffele, 2 up

Stroke Play Qualifying Leaders

Doug Ghim	69-63-73-65-270	-14
Joshua Munn	67-69-67-69-272	-12
Bryson DeChambeau	67-68-67-70-272	-12
Geoff Drakeford	65-71-70-68-274	-10
Taylor Macdonald	69-71-70-68-274	-10
Hunter Stewart	71-69-69-66-275	-9
Cheng-Tsung Pan	70-69-70-67-276	-8
Cory Crawford	73-68-67-68-276	-8
Lucas Herbert	69-68-69-70-276	-8
Beau Hossler	67-71-68-70-276	-8

off by three strokes. Other notables going home included Frankfort’s Brian Bullington, China’s Zecheng Dou, 32-year-old Andrew Price of Lake Bluff, and 51-year-old Michael McCoy, last year’s U.S. Mid-Amateur champion, who needed a final-round 68 to make the playoff and posted a 78 instead.

The qualifying score of 279 matched the low set at Point O’Woods Golf and Country Club in 2004.

There were several other 30s besides Ghim’s, but his 63 stands alone. As does Hossler, the champion.

Texan Collins cops Illinois Women's Open

Dominates at Mistwood, crushing quartet by 9 strokes

BY TIM CRONIN

REPORTING FROM ROMEOVILLE

It's a good feeling to have a five-stroke lead entering the final round of a tournament.

Emily Collins had that feeling going into the finish of the 20th Phil Kolin Illinois Women's Open on Wednesday, July 30.

She had an even better feeling down the stretch, when she led by as many as 10 strokes.

Collins, a recent graduate of Oklahoma who hails from Colleyville, Tex., scored a nine-stroke victory and collected the first prize of \$5,000 with a final round of 1-under-par 71 and a 54-hole aggregate of 4-under 212 at Mistwood Golf Club, her first victory as a professional.

"I had won a couple other little things (as an amateur) in Texas," Collins said. "I wouldn't say I was surprised (at the final round). This is definitely exciting."

Knotted in fourth place were a quartet at 5-over 221: amateurs Ashley Armstrong of Flossmoor, who hadn't played since representing Notre Dame in the NCAA regionals, Ember Schuldt of Sterling, and Lisbeth



Erik Czupryn / Mistwood Golf Club

COLLINS CRUISES Emily Collins aims for the pin in the final round at Mistwood Golf Club.

Brooks of Waunakee, Wis., and professional Allyssa Ferrell of Edgerton, Wis.

"It was boring today, one bogey, one birdie," said Armstrong, whose summer golf has been truncated by internships the last two years. "I could have had four or five more birdies."

Including one at the par-5 18th, where her curling uphill 10-footer stopped on the lip.

Still, not bad for someone who's barely playing these days. An engineering major, Armstrong has spent most of the summer interning at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, working on developing new prosthetics.

"Design engineering," Armstrong said. "It's been an incredible experience."

Armstrong, who qualified for the U.S. Women's Open two years ago, will be a senior in the fall and play one more season for the Irish, and after that, she doesn't know.

Two-time champion Nicole Jeray tied for 10th, a spate of late bogeys dropping her back.

Collins, who graduated from Oklahoma with a communications degree, has her sights set on the LPGA circuit. She attempted to qualify for the new tour tournament at Bylthefield Country Club, near Grand Rapids, Mich., but missed making the show.

Moore mourned by scholar family of thousands

Longtime WGA education leader lost to cancer at 73

BY TIM CRONIN

To thousands of college hopefuls from the 1960s until 2008, Jim Moore was the man who opened the door to their future.

More often than not, they walked through that door and went on to successful careers.

Today, it's Jeff Harrison who opens the door that was once held open for him by Moore, the longtime educational director of the Western Golf Association.

And Moore will no longer be there with a smile and a suggestion. Moore, 73, died on Tuesday, Aug. 12, of pancreatic cancer.

A teacher at Rich Central High School, he had joined the WGA as assistant educational director to Roland "Mac" McGuigan in 1967. McGuigan had set the standard on selecting scholars, and Moore, succeeding him as head of the department in 1989, exceeded that standard.

An already-high graduation rate and grade-point average went up. Moore helped lead the program into the world of co-ed living, widened the diversity of the scholars, and added a philanthropic goal to chapter living.

More than that, he knew and remembered



Western Golf Association

JIM MOORE AND FRIENDS Jim Moore (second from left), with Evans Scholars George (left) and Geoff Solich (right), and Jack Nicklaus at the 2013 WGA gala honoring Moore in Chicago.

virtually everyone connected with the program, from the current students to long-ago graduates. He'd greet one and all by name with a firm handshake and a wide smile.

"Without question, the greatest reward is (that) I have been the first person from the WGA to talk to these young people in a one-on-one interview about the scholarship," Moore said recently. "When I see them as frightened, nervous youngsters coming in for that preliminary interview and then, years later, to know them as successful men and

women in their careers, there's a great deal of satisfaction in seeing that transformation and hopefully to being a part of it, to have assisted in a small way."

Tributes to Moore were uniformly glowing. This one, by Evans alum Jeff Rude of *Golfweek*, was typical: "Golf legend Chick Evans may have been the founder and namesake of the Evans Scholars Foundation ... but Jim Moore was the face of the program."

A smiling face. A friendly face.

A face all will miss.

PGA should save the Publinx

Continued from page 1

They don't need no stinking Public Links Championship, played on a public course, with guys changing their shoes in the parking lot. Just like Tiger Woods did at Valhalla.

Instead, it's been replaced with a team championship, the stuff of weekend invitations at private clubs. The first three FBCs will be played at the Olympic Club, Bandon Dunes and Streamsong. The latter two are public, but pricey. This isn't Waveland the USGA is hanging out at. You half expect the winners will get a set of wine glasses as their reward. And bet that many of the finalists will have also qualified for other USGA soirees.

So what of the rest of us? Where's the common man's championship?

Nowhere, unless someone steps up.

That someone should be the PGA of America.

Any properly-run golf course, private or public, has a PGA pro in its shop. That pro, one of about 27,000 from coast to coast, is the point of contact for every player.

What better organization to take over the operation of a championship for public amateur golfers, the guys and dolls who take so many lessons and beat so many balls, and have for decades?

This is a natural. The PGA Public Links

Championships, one for men, one for women.

For all the "grow the game" campaigns the last several years, none of which have even kept the game at an even keel, here's one that could work.

Take some of that quadrennial Ryder Cup windfall and finance sectional qualifying in each of the 41 PGA sections to create a buzz and generate a competitive field.

Send the qualifiers to the PGA Publinx. Ask the USGA for the old Publinx trophies. Ask Augusta National to invite the men's winner to The Masters. Prod the LPGA – partnering with the PGA in the revamped Women's PGA Championship beginning next year – to invite the women's winner to the Dinah Shore. Twist Golf Channel's arm to prompt television coverage of the tournaments.

PGA of America president Ted Bishop, an innovator from Indiana who built a public course and wants new players in the game, is in his last months before turning the reins over to Derek Sprague, head pro at an upstate New York course with both membership and public play. Here's a chance for both Bishop and Sprague to open the doors to thousands of disenfranchised players who once were allowed to dream big, but have been cast aside by the return of the caste system.

THE BUZZ

Hossler, Ghim among U.S. Am match play losers

The vagaries of match play were on display in the first round of the U.S. Amateur, where four of the six Western Amateur Sweet Sixteen players who advanced to the Round of 64 were unceremoniously bounced. Western Am champ **Beau Hossler** barely got on television before missing his last putt and taking his hat off. **Doug Ghim**, **Xander Schauffele** and **Scottie Sheffler** didn't even make it to TV. Roselle's Daniel Stringfellow, co-low am in the Illinois Open, also lost his first match. ... The new PGA Tour schedule keeps the John Deere Classic in its pre-British Open week, but the Champions Tour shifted the Encompass Championship, headquartered at North Shore CC in Glenview, to the same weekend. ... Bolstered by a 3-0 victory by amateurs **Vance Antoniou** and **Dan Houlihan** over pros **Mike Harrigan** and **Jim Holmes**, the ams won the Thompson Cup 7 1/2-4 1/2. It's the senior version of the Radix Cup.

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