

**ASSISTANT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR**

*This award bestows special recognition on an assistant professional who, through a commitment to improving opportunities for assistants, has distinguished himself/herself in service to the Section, his/her peers and facility.*

**HOLLY E. ANDERSON, PGA - Columbia Country Club**

Holly Anderson, First Assistant at Columbia Country Club in Chevy Chase, MD, earned her PGA membership in 1995. Holly was born in Bridgeport, CT in 1966 to Bill and Berry Anderson who introduced her to the game of golf when she was fourteen years old. Holly became an accomplished golfer, and was a star player throughout her high school and college years. In 1988, she captured the Maine Amateur Championship. She was a four-time All American and Academic All American at Methodist College in Fayetteville, NC, where she and her teammates won four Division III National Team Championships. Holly graduated from Methodist College with a degree in Business Administration in 1989. In 2001, Methodist College honored Holly with induction into the Methodist College Sports Hall of Fame.

Holly has had the opportunity of working with two of the Section's finest PGA Professionals since the beginning of her golf career twelve years ago. She declared her professional status in 1989, when she accepted her first position as an Assistant Golf Professional at Columbia Country Club, working for PGA legend, Bill Strausbaugh. Holly worked under the tutelage of "Coach" Strausbaugh until 1994, and since then, has worked under the direction and guidance of former MAPGA Golf Professional of the Year, Bob Dolan, the current Head PGA Professional at Columbia Country Club.

Holly continues to be an accomplished player, receiving the 1997 MAPGA Women's Player of the Year award and, at the time of this writing, she is a strong contender for the 2001 award. In 1997, Holly became the first and only female PGA Professional to capture the Tom Strange Cup (MVP of Chapter Challenge Cup). In 2001, Holly was one of three PGA Professional women who made history by being the first women to ever qualify and play in the PGA Regional Club Professional Championship. Holly is also very active in the Section's Junior Golf programs. She has been an instructor at Camp Fantastic for the past five years and regularly volunteers for section sponsored junior clinics.

Over the past five years Holly has assumed an increasing level of responsibility at Columbia Country Club. Due to Head PGA Professional Bob Dolan's active involvement in Section and National governance, Holly has been responsible for many of the daily operations and activities at Columbia during his frequent absences. Bob Dolan expresses full confidence in Holly's ability as follows, *"Whatever success that I have achieved as a golf professional over the past seven years, is due in large part to the stability Holly maintains at Columbia, either as my representative or in my absence, and the professionalism that she always exhibits."*

Holly has willingly accepted the added responsibilities and continues to develop in her leadership role. Her dedication and commitment is an excellent example for all new apprentices entering

the membership program.