

# Policeman's tournament takes aim at deadly disease



**HARLESS WADE**

## AREA GOLF

MPS. And Lt. Dant is determined to help find a cure.

He is beginning his effort by staging a tournament on April 26 at Los Rios Country Club in Plano. An auction will be held a night earlier. Proceeds will go to the Ryan Foundation to help find a cure for MPS.

"Ryan was a healthy kid until we found out he had MPS last Thanksgiving," Dent said. "We took him for what we thought was a simple physical for a school. It led to the discovery. Since, we've learned about 2,000 other kids in the U.S. face a similar uncertainty. We've got to find a cure for this."

Dant has help, including from the Carrollton Police Department, Los Rios owner Jeff Silverstein, pro Jerry Cryer, Glenagles pro Eldridge Miles, and Tom Craft, former PR chief at the Mandalay Hotel. Craft knows something about adver-

sity; he recently lost a leg to diabetes. You've probably never heard the name Ryan Dant, but it's a one to remember.

Ryan is the 4-year-old son of Mark Dant, a detective lieutenant in the Carrollton Police Department.

Mark is healthy. Ryan is not. He has mucopolysaccharidosis, a little-known, deadly illness involving the blood, best known as

Entry fee for the golf event is \$100.

## New mixed event coming

A new tournament is set for July 9-10, thanks to Kathy Mankowski, one of the area's top women amateurs. It's the Texas Mixed-Gross Championship.

"It's been a dream of mine for a long time," she said. "We've needed a good mixed event for better players."

A player must have no more than a 10.2 handicap index. Though it will carry a Texas title, out of state players are welcome. The field will be limited to 60 teams. Entry fee is \$200 per team for the 36-hole event, scheduled for Prestonwood CC's Creek Course on Preston Road.

## Celebrity event set

Jim Bob Moffett, CEO of Freeport-McMoRan and one of Darrell Royal's old Longhorn football players, has guaranteed \$500,000 to underwrite the Celebrity Golf Association's East Austin Youth Classic at Barton Creek, March 25.

The Celebrity GA is composed of more than 50 sports and entertainment figures, including Johnny Bench, Frankie Avalon and John Elway. For \$3,000, you can get a spot in the pro-am, plus eight clubhouse badges and special parking. More information's available at 512-329-4598.

## Briefly . . .

Dallas businessman Mike Ward has signed

Bruce Lietzke to perform design work at his new White Bluff Golf Club at Lake Whitney. The front nine, under architect Lee Singletary, is open. Glen Sockwell is the new pro. Ward said he plans a grand opening in April . . . From Janice Lee: The annual Ladies Kickoff Luncheon for the GTE Byron Nelson Classic is slated for Royal Oaks CC on Saturday at 10:30 a.m. . . . John Flanagan has been elected president of the North Texas Senior GA for 1993. Other new officers: Buck Lochridge, vice-president; Shay Johnson, secretary; Bud Schleiter, treasurer; Curtis Thompson, tournament chairman; Ron Miller, handicap chairman . . . SMU's Barry Rodenhaver, Texas' Jimmy Clayton and Oklahoma's Greg Grost have been named to the staff of the *Golfweek* College Academy & Championship, a series of four events starting June 23 at Grenelefe in Florida. The third session, open to boys and girls ages 13-17, is slated for the Hyatt Bear Creek Resort at D/FW Airport, Aug. 4-8. Call 817-294-5511 . . . USGA representative Frank Anglim of Dallas has set local qualifying for the 1993 U.S. Open at Thorntree CC on May 17 and Canyon Creek CC on May 18. The sectional qualifying follows at Buffalo Creek GC on the east side of Lake Ray Hubbard . . . James McAfee, executive director of the Northern Texas PGA, said if you think the golf economy in Texas is down, consider this: "Our annual Las Vegas Pro-Am is sold out for the first time with 28 full teams." Action is slated March 15-17.

Staff Writer Harless Wade covers area golf for The News. His column appears Wednesday.