

# Schwab, Buczek top benefit

HOLMDEL — Pat Schwab, as the home pro, and Johnny Buczek, fresh from his sparkling performance in winning the State PGA championship, seem to be the shot-makers to beat in the first Garden State Pro-Am Celebrity Arts Center Fund Golf Tournament Wednesday on the Playboy Club course in Great Gorge, McAfee.

Schwab normally would be the heavy favorite because he not only is one of the State's best golfers but also knows the challenging course so well, but Buczek of the Plainfield Country Club had such a hot hand in the State PGA play at Ash Brook last week that he must be regarded as an exceptionally strong contender in the one-day tourney here.

Few golfers, pro or amateur, have been breaking par on the Playboy layout that will be used for the \$27,000 competition — the lake side with its par 36 and the rail side with its par 35. Schwab and his assistant, Chuck Layton, the pros most familiar with the well-trapped, three-year-old layout, are the only ones who have cracked the par 71 with any consistency.

When Buczek scorched the Ash Brook links with his sub-par 285 in the PGA play, he took good aim at the unique Playboy course, which was literally carved out of rock. If he maintains that form, he should finish well up among the 56 pros shooting for first prize of \$3,000 and other awards ranging from \$2,500 to \$100.

Some 160 amateurs and celebrities will vie for other awards — and Liberace will watch. The colorful Liberace, who will perform at the Garden State Arts Center next week, will tour the course as a spectator and add some of his showmanship to the occasion because of his interest in the Arts Center Cultural Fund, which will benefit from the golf play.

Celebrities who will compete include Matt Snell, for-

mer New York Jets fullback; Ralph Kiner, New York Mets broadcaster and former Pittsburgh Pirate great; Bill Melchionni, New York Nets basketball star; singers Billy Eckstine and Trini Lopez, and comedians Phil Foster, London Lee and Mickey Manners. TV and radio personalities in the field include Chip Cipolla, Tom McDonald and John Roland of WNEW, Jean Shepherd and Bert Wilson of WOR radio, and Tony Taylor and Tim Ryan of WNBC-TV.

In addition to Schwab and Buczek, among the top pros in the field are Ed Famula of the East Orange Golf Club, Dodge open champion; Babe Lichardus of Shackamaxon, State PGA player of the year in 1972; and former State open champions Lou Barbaro of the Hollywood Golf Club, Deal; Bob Shields of Cedar Hill, Livingston; Mike Burke of the Deal Golf Club, and Emory Thomas of Green Brook, also an ex-State PGA king.

Still others are former State PGA champions Dick Pearce of Echo Lake, Stan Mosel of Essex Fells and Lester Ward of Glen Ridge; State assistant-pro champion Russ Helwig of Echo Lake, who was runnerup in the Dodge open; ex-Dodge open winner Dick Sarta of Preakness Hills, and Lloyd Monroe of Upper Montclair, who was on the national pro tour last year.

General admission is a \$10 donation to the Arts Center Cultural Fund, which underwrites free shows for hundreds of thousands of New Jersey senior citizens, school children, disabled veterans and the blind. A \$50 contribution will entitle the donor to follow the play and then join the golfers, including the celebrities, at a cocktail hour and awards dinner after the tourney. Children under 12 will be admitted free to the course if accompanied by a ticket purchaser.

The first foursome will tee off at 8 a.m.