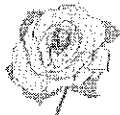


Opinion

OUR VIEW

Roses and thorns



A rose to Old Waverly Golf Club, which will be taking a well-deserved

trip down memory lane this week as host of the LPGA Legends Tour's "Handa Cup." The event, similar to the Ryder Cup, will pit 12 of the top U.S. senior women's golfers against a contingent from Europe. Among the competitors will Julie Inkster, who won the U.S. Women's Open when the tournament was held at Old Waverly in 1999. When Old Waverly was selected as the site for the 1999 event, it was considered a major coup for the young golf course. That the LPGA would seek to return to West Point for this

year's Handa Cup speaks volumes of the good impression the course made 15 years ago. We expect Old Waverly will again prove to be a great venue when the Handa Cup begins later this week.



A rose to Bridges out of Poverty, a non-profit in Starkville, which contin-

ues its unique and innovative techniques in combating poverty in Starkville and the Golden Triangle. Last week the group held a class educating the middle class on poverty and facilitating conversations about the best way to improve the overall well-being of the community. It should be

obvious by now if the solutions to poverty were simply a matter of shaming, brow-beating and demonizing the poor, the battle would have been won. The "Bridges" program seeks to close the gap between the poor and the rest of society with clear-eyed discussions of real solutions that uplift rather than demonize the poor.