

# PAT LESSER HARBOTTLE



One of the greatest female golfers to ever come out of the Pacific Northwest. As the daughter in an Army family, Pat attended six elementary schools in five states and was in Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 when the Japanese attacked. There was a close father and daughter relationship when Pat was advancing in her teens and Colonel Lesser often took her to ball games and many sporting events. Finally she tagged along with him to the golf course and liked the sport. It was not until she won the Seattle City title at age 14 that she took much interest in practicing. She is a graduate of Seattle University and was the first female to play on a collegiate men's golf team. In four years she won 32 matches, lost 8 and tied 7 as the number 6 player. There is one story that might indicate how her fellow competitors she met in college matches felt. The teammates of a man player who had lost to Pat, who had shot 71, was being razzed for losing to a girl. His reply to the hecklers was: "I didn't lose to a

girl. I lost to a 71." She is the only player ever to win the US Juniors, National Collegiate and US Amateur championships and first to hold The National Amateur, Western Amateur, Doherty Cup and South Atlantic titles the same year.

## Career Highlights:

- U.S. Women's Amateur Champion 1955
- U.S. Women's Open – Low Amateur 1951 & 1953
- U.S. Girls' Junior Champion 1950
- Canadian Women's Amateur Medalist 1953; Finalist 1956
- NCAA Champion 1953; Finalist 1954; Medalist 1952
- Women's Western Am. Champion 1955; Medalist 1954; Finalist 1956
- Western Junior Girls' Champion 1950
- PPGA Women's Am. Champion 1952, 1953 & 1965; Finalist 1961; Medalist 1955, 1963 & 1964
- PPGA Senior Women's Team Champion (with Ann Swanson) 1998
- North & South Women's Amateur Finalist 1955
- South Atlantic Women's Amateur Champion 1954 & 1955
- Helen Lee Doherty Invitational Champion 1955
- Titleholders Low Amateur 1955
- Washington State Women's Golf Association \*Champion 1952 & 1974; Finalist 1950; Medalist 1950 & 1952
- Oregon Am. Champion 1952; Finalist 1951; Medalist 1951 & 1952
- Curtis Cup Team Member 1954 & 1956
- Inducted into State of Washington Sports Hall of Fame 1999
- Inducted into Pacific Northwest Golf Hall of Fame 1985
- Seattle City Champion 1948, 1949
- SEATTLE POST INTELLIGENCER "MAN OF THE YEAR" 1955
- PPGA Hall of Fame Member
- WASHINGTON State sports Hall of Fame 1999
- SEATTLE UNIVERSITY HALL OF FAME

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=2&v=P2Oq\\_t-nuqc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=2&v=P2Oq_t-nuqc)