Jemsek family being honored as 1st family of golf for '91

By Vern Putney

ORLANDO, Fla. — It's safe to say that no man in golf has received as much varied recognition in one year as Joe Jemsek, "Mr. Public Golf" in the Chicago area.

The newest accolade is selection of Jemsek and family to receive the 1991 National Golf Foundation's Jack Nicklaus Family Golf Award. Presentation will be made at the PGA Golf Show here Jan. 24-25.

First recipients, in 1986, were the Nicklauses. Then came the families of Nancy Lopez and Ray Knight, John Cook, Pat Bradley and Jim Gallagher.

Jemsek's star-studded year included these laurels: The PGA Association of America's and Illinois' Professional Golfer of the Year award; selection to the Chicago Sports Hall of Fame; winner of Golf Digest's junior development award for a junior program for 400-500 boys and girls.

Golf Digest also named Jemsek one of the 36 most powerful people in golf, and cited his Dubs辅导 course at Cog Hill Golf and Country Club as one of America's 100 greatest courses.

Cog Hill last summer hosted the Centel Western Open, and Jemsek said, "If there must be a feeling of wanting to help, of dedication, we believe our so-called empire, having been an assistant and teaching professional at private, public and resort clubs in Arizona. Joe's daughter, Marianne, has worked at Jemsek courses since she was 8. Her husband, Frank Boatwright, also works for Jemsek.

Jemsek was born Nov. 8, 1927, in Augusta, Ga. His mother was Anna Louise Hoke, a teacher, and his father, William Jemsek, a railroad executive. Joe's brothers and sisters (George, John, Adam, Helen, Mary and Annie), all have been involved in Jemsek golf properties.

Jemsek also has served as LPGA regional official and, in 1988, was selected as the president of the Teaching Division. In this capacity, she oversees the affairs and activities of the more than 600 club professionals, assistants, teaching professionals, college coaches and club managers. She also represents the Teaching Division on the LPGA's board of directors and assists with junior golf and public relations activities.

Kerry Graham received Joe Graffis Award

JUPITER, Fla. — Kerry Graham, president of the Ladies Professional Golfers Association's Teaching Division and teaching professional at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club in Scottsdale, Ariz., has been named the recipient of the National Golf Foundation's 1991 Herb Graffis Award.

Presented annually since 1977, the award is given for "outstanding service in the advancement of golf." Graham has been teaching golf for 24 years, having been an assistant and teaching professional at private, public and resort clubs in Arizona.

Since 1978, she's been the teaching professional at the McCormick Ranch.

She conceived and organized the LPGA's successful "Women in Golf" summits, the first of which was conducted in October in Orlando, Fla.

She also conducts national seminars, national teaching division championships and was the driving force behind the LPGA's study on women's golf that was presented at the NGF's Golf Summit 90.

The LPGA/AAF Junior Golf program, which has, since 1989, offered complete golf training to more than 950 Los Angeles area minority youths.