More than 50 cars were still mired in the fairways of the Brookside Park GC in Pasadena, Calif. the morning following the Rose Bowl game. Fairways were cut to muddy ribbons as cars were pushed or pulled out of the mud caused by the rain which fell during the Ohio vs Southern California game.

Rain and Rose Bowl Aftermath Ruin Pasadena Course

While sport page punsters were calling the Rose Bowl the Mud Bowl, golfers were calling the Brookside Park golf course in Pasadena, Calif., the “Divot Bowl”. The more than 1500 automobiles parked on the golf course, in the shadow of the Rose Bowl on New Years day, gave the ground crew a real man-sized headache. In fact about a $25,000 headache. The two courses are turned into a huge parking lot for Rose Bowl spectators each New Years day. But, this year the rains came.

When the motorists returned to their cars after the Ohio-USC game they found the lush fairways turned into a mass of twisting spinning cars as the drivers tried to get out over the muddy fairways. Spinning wheels were soon tearing out huge hunks of turf as the motorists darted and skidded here and there looking for a way out. (Like a USC backfield man trying to find a hole in the Ohio line). Into this wet and muddy madhouse moved several tow cars and jeeps pulling the stranded cars out at five-bucks a copy. Long after dark hundreds of cars were being pushed or towed out of the quagmire and more than 50 cars were still mired-down on the course the next morning.

The Brookside layout consists of two 18-hole courses operating out of a single club and pro shop. The worst damage was done to nine holes of the old course and ten holes of the new course. Superintendent of Parks Ronald B. Townsend and his staff worked out an emergency 18-hole course using portions of each course and in a few days play got under way again on the abbreviated layout. Much reseeding will be needed and most repair work will be hand-work, since the soil was too soft to allow equipment to be used.

No greens were damaged since it has been the habit at Brookside for many years, while the fairways are turned into parking for the Rose Bowl game, to fence off the greens and traps. Townsend estimated the cost of getting the course back in shape at $25,000, not including the loss of revenue which will be substantial since normal green fees at Brookside's two courses runs close to $4000 weekly for a yearly total of more than $206,000.

Workman in rubber boots trudges through what the day before had been one of the lush fairways of the Brookside Park GC after 1500 cars, parked for the Rose Bowl game had slipped and skidded off the course.