Dutch Harrison, 1961 National Senior winner, accepts A. K. Bourne Memorial trophy from Joe Moxel as some of the youngsters look on. Moxel is chairman of this year's tournament.

A Bit of Nostalgia

Plenty of Golf

That will be the story when the old eagles gather in November in Palm Springs for the sixth U.S. National Senior Open

By BILL SHERMAN

The first attraction to move center stage in Palm Springs, Calif., Haven of Winter spectacles, is the U. S. National Senior Open golf championship. Celebrating its sixth anniversary this autumn, the U. S. National Seniors will present a field of golfers whose names spell gallery magic.

There is the 1961 defending champion, E. J. "Dutch" Harrison of San Francisco's Olympic Club. There are other defending titleholders: Chuck Congdon, Tacoma C. C.; French Lick's Willie Coggin; and Vancouver's Fred Wood, winner of a playoff with Gene Sarazen in 1957. There are the Senior rookies in the persons of Jim Demaret, Byron Nelson, Ben Hogan and Sam Snead. Other notables are the world's Senior PGA champion of 1961 and '62, Paul Runyan, the Dutra brothers, Mortie and Olin, Dick Metz, Al Watrous, Ralph Hutchinson and Gene Sarazen.

The U. S. Seniors Open is a unique affair. It runs two basic competitions concurrently: a 54 hole medal pro-am tournament with low gross and low net winners in six separate age flights, plus a 72-hole medal open championship.

Activities begin on Nov. 5, with practice rounds on the competitive courses which are three of Palm Springs' finest — Indian Wells, Bermuda Dunes and La Quinta. The next day the chase begins with play scheduled in all flights whose age classifications are 50-55; 56-60; 61-65; 66-70; 71 and over.

An added prize payoff for the first day rewards best ball teams in the four-somes comprised of pro and amateur, plus another made up of amateurs alone. Pairings are determined on a handicap basis with

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Old Eagles Gather
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a professional assigned to an amateur partner from each division of low, medium and high handicaps.

Prizes from Entry Fees
Prize money of $22,000, collected solely from entry fees, is expected to be up for grabs. This handsome sum is made possible in part by the fact that National Senior officers and directors accept no salary or expense money for any of their duties.

In addition to all other prizes and awards, all contestants play for daily 18 hole prizes on the basis of low scores. Awards are made in the pro and amateur classifications and in all age divisions for each of the three days of play.

When the 54 hole stroke play ends Thursday, cash prizes and trophy awards are presented to all gross and net winners in a special ceremony at the Indian Wells Hotel's Diplomat Room, tournament headquarters. The low 50 places and ties, play a final 18 holes for the championship scheduled the following day at Indian Wells.

Non-qualifiers, who aren't ready to steal away, may enter a special 18 hole handicap competition at one of the other two courses for the president's Trophy.

All contestants are members of the U. S. National Senior Open golf association. Its primary purpose is to promote more interest in Senior golf activities in addition to conducting an annual championship. Membership in the association is $25 with entry fees for the Open running to $75. The Seniors president, Joe Mozel, reports the high entry fee was necessary to increase the prizes and limit the field which grew from 97 players in 1957 to 532 entrants in 1959. Current entries run between 350 and 400.

Missing from this year's Open scene will be the late Joe Albi, who as president of the Spokane Roundtable, provided both the push and the cash for the First Seniors Open in 1957 at Spokane's Esmeralda course. The Roundtable sponsored the event again in 1958 but was forced to withdraw when the playing list grew too large to accommodate play.

A new site had to be selected, and Palm Springs was voted as best suited. With no sponsor to provide cash, the Seniors elected Joe Mozel its new leader. A well-known promoter and organizer who was one of the association's founders, Mozel is widely recognized in the golf field. He is professional at Green Hills, Millbrae, Calif.
"The Seniors do a first-class job", Mozel says. "We have the experience and the most free time." With a quick smile, Mozel adds, "We also have a little money."

In addition to the customary tours and fashion shows, the ladies who accompany their husbands to the Open have their own 36-hole competition at the new Billy Bell designed Canyon Country Club. There are many social doings, too, with organized cocktail parties at the hotels following each day's play.

Direction of the Seniors is in the hands of a 15 man Board of governors whose names must have been taken from the pages of golf's Who's Who. Amateur directors include La Canada's Johnny Dawson, always a top-finisher in the championship; Portland department store magnate, Bob Hudson; former Southern California GA president, Tommy McMahon; and the famous "golfing congressman", Jack Westland, former Amateur champion.

The pro roster is equally impressive with Oceanside's Wilson Atkins, Palm Springs' Jimmy Hines, and the first U. S. Seniors president, Broadmoor's George Howard, on the board with Mozel, Dutra, Runyan, Sarazen and Metz.

Gift Wrapping

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416 feet, enough to wrap the 250 presents. The roll should be a basic red, green and gold Christmas design and mounted on a 30-inch paper cutter costing $6.30.

For banding ribbon, two or three bolts in red, gold and green, each containing 100 yards and costing about $2.25, are recommended. These should be one red and one gold and mounted on a bolt holder which sells for $1. The ¼ inch or 1¼ inch widths work best.

Pre-made bows come in a variety of sizes and in colors to match the banding ribbon. They are packed 120 of a size and color to a carton and sell for $6 per carton, or a total of $12 for enough to accompany the 250 packages. Figured on the basis of 250 packages the cost of materials will average about 15 cents for each package. This includes the spool holder and paper cutter.