

## PICKED UP IN THE ROUGH

By HERB GRAFFIS

**JIM NORRIS** and Wert Headley, both 8 handicap men, played one hole each on eighteen of the Pacific Coast's golf courses one day recently, with Norris shooting 87 to the Headley 89. Par for the holes was 73.

J. A. (Pat) Patterson, secretary of the Southern California PGA, selected the courses which stretched from Culver City on the south to Pebble Beach on the north. The players motored between the courses and played the 18 holes in less than 16 hours.

It was a publicity stunt for the Gilmore Oil Co. The idea is one that can be used in other communities and is good for considerable public interests.

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**BIGGEST ENTRY** ever competing in the Women's Western Junior championship was that of the current year's event which ran at the Park Ridge CC (Chicago district) July 9-12. Shirley Ann Johnson of Sunset Ridge CC won the imposing trophy presented for the Junior title by L. B. Iccly, president of Wilson-Western.

The Johnson kid began golf under the tutelage of Al Bluhm who has several girl stars to his credit. To show you what this sort of development does for a pro, Bluhm who now is instructing at a driving range, gets enough income from women's lessons to make his income for the year very satisfactory. This bears out what we have been hammering—that some of these kid stars performing in a way to reflect their instruction are the most profitable advertising any pro can get these days.

Forty-six nice little girls whacked it out for this title.

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**JIM WILSON**, president of the Illinois PGA, on whose course the event was played, made this statement at the conclusion of the championship:

"The Junior championship will open the eyes of any professional and I say to the fellows in the Chicago district, don't miss it next year and boost its entry and gallery attendance.

"The way those little girls hit the ball is the greatest demonstration of the value of pro instruction that it is possible to present. Every one of them is a youngster

who has taken lessons and listened and practiced. They not only play far better than the average adult player but they get more fun out of the game.

"This is one of the greatest championships of the year for the professionals, if the boys will just realize it. Those able and enthusiastic women of the Women's Western Golf association have just put a million dollars in the hands of the pros, if the fellows will appreciate it and show interest in collecting."

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**DON GARDNER**, pro at Flossmoor, whose protege, a fine little lass named Livengood, lost out to the Johnson youngster, 2 and 1, in the finals, suffered more than his child wonder did when her shots broke wrong. The Livengood kid is a good trooper. All the kids took the bum breaks and defeats without crying or alibiing. They will get over that—too bad. Eddie Williams', pro at River Forest, had his daughter in the championship. She played well, but was nosed out.

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**THESE YOUNGSTERS** played surprisingly good golf. I've never seen such a convincing illustration of how much good it does to take golf lessons as those kids put on. For thrills, some fine golf, and unique interest, the Junior tournament was one of the greatest GOLFDOM's guy has covered.

I urge the fellows not to miss this event next year. It will send them away talking to themselves and more delighted with their work than anything else they can imagine.

Incidentally Jim Wilson said that in more than 25 years of association with golf tournaments, he'd never seen a better run tournament than the Women's Western Junior.

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**OLD ELMER BIGGS**, our rural correspondent from the Peoria (Ill.) CC, sends in a story from the Prairie Farmer on weather conditions. Farmer Biggs has 100 acres of nice golf course dependent on the weather and a barn full of clubs and balls he wants to plant in the happy hands of the members, so he is interested greatly in the weather.

This yarn starts out: "As usual, we're having unusual weather," and tells why you can't count on the weather. It tells why some popular weather proverbs have a sound basis. Among the weather proverbs the yarn mentions as being founded on science are:

"All signs fail in dry weather."

"In wet weather it can rain without half trying."

"Rainbow at night, sailor's delight; rainbow in the morning, sailors take warning."

"When the ditch and pond offend the nose; then look for rain and stormy blows."

"When a slack rope tightens, expect rain."

"When you hear a train whistle loud, look for rain."

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**MORE THAN** three times as many member and guest golfers have played Olympia Fields (Chicago district) this year than played at that club during the corresponding period of 1933.

Beverage net profit for June at Olympia Fields was in excess of \$3,000.

A press release of club news also mentions that Olympia Fields' membership prices have ranged from \$10 in 1915 when the club was started to \$1,210 in April, 1928. Present membership price is \$150.

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**HERE IS SOMETHING** that will interest managers, pros and greenkeepers—especially managers because they know how tough the employment situation has been in the hotel field:

A press bulletin of the Cornell university Department of Hotel Administration, dated July 16, reported: "One hundred per cent employment among all graduates was achieved by Cornell's hotel course last week when the last unattached graduate reported he had made a connection."

Write your own ticket of comment on the well-worn line, "Knowledge is power."

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**THE ITALIAN AMERICAN** Golf Association of Ohio ran its first invitation pro-amateur tournament at Manakiki the middle of July with 43 teams competing. Harry Rees, pro at Dover Bay and his amateur, George Enos, Jr., won first place in the \$300 tourney. The dough was split 80 per cent in cash for the pros and 20 per cent in trophies for the amateurs.

Next year the Association hopes to have \$1,000 as the prize money for its affair,

according to A. S. Trivison, secretary of the organization and the guiding spirit of the tournament. Carmen Bill is president of the Italian-American golfing group.

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**PROBABLY** after the orgy of gate-crashing at Merion during the National Open, the USGA and clubs holding tournaments will ask for a code having as its main provision the payment of a gallery fee.

It is estimated that about 1,500 admissions were unpaid. Of this number more than 500 were passes issued to PGA members and around 300 to the press. The PGA members with paid-up 1934 cards who got around for the last day found the supply of PGA oakleys exhausted by the early-comers who had used 1933 cards. This probably will result in a new ruling for future USGA tournaments limiting complimentary admissions to holders of current year paid-up PGA cards.

We'd say about 200 of the press tickets were for working press, with the other 100 riding wild.

The complimentary admission problem is one that possibly won't be solved as long as humans are human. If the association or club handling the tournament is tough on the deadheads then the officials are labeled as the vilest of mercenary rascals and if they are liberal they are suckers.

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**THE MANAGER** of a prominent mid-western country club resigned his job a few weeks ago. Yes, the guy resigned.

Why did he throw over a good job in mid-season?

Well, here's his story, which is not the first of its kind on record:

"When I went in there the club had a colored head-waiter who had been there 10 years. He thought he was Mr. Club. I couldn't get him to seat members. He would point out their tables and let them seat themselves.

"What a whipping he was giving the food cost percentage! The beating he was giving it came from practice. His relatives were on the pay-roll in droves as waiters. They took time off for sickness frequently without being docked. When I came in there I started docking them when they didn't work. We suddenly had an epidemic of good health among the waiters.

"But, when I tangled with the bull waiter of the herd, trying to get him to give the club a break, some of the officials

must have had the idea that when I was hired, I was not hired to manage the club for the members but for the waiters. It's hard enough to build up a fine reputation as a club manager, so rather than trust it to the slippery hands of a waiter, I signed off."

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**A**N INTERESTING detail of golf's revival is the amount of business done by the first-class driving ranges that survived the depression.

Practice establishments that never were much more than pastures with the grass cut are about out of the running, but the places with good tees, distance markers, lighting, reasonably good playing equipment and instructors are doing fine business.

Practice courses have adopted a smart idea from some resort course score-cards. The distance markers are from 10 to 15 yards shy of the actual distance and the customers thrill at the yardage they get. The location of the markers also helps to make up for the lack of distance in the practice balls.

Bob Macdonald turned down three private club offers at the start of this season to lease the Riverview Park practice range close-in on the north side of Chicago. Demand for his instruction is such that he could teach 24 hours a day, seven days a week, if he so desired. This season at the Riverview place will put Bob among the big-money pros of the country if the current pace continues.

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**T**OM GALVIN'S completion of 20 years' service at Rhode Island CC, was the subject of quite a story in the *Providence Journal*.

It looks like the deserved publicity given Tom and John Shanahan, and last year to Charley Erickson of Minikahda, is going to bring the greenkeepers out into the sunlight and air and keep their important position in golf from being attacked by fungus growth of public indifference.

We will hand the greenkeepers an idea that will get publicity for a lot of them. The hunch is simply this: get in touch with newspaper managing editors and offer to furnish material for articles on proper upkeep of lawns. Many of the papers will be glad to have a staff man come out and write the dope after talks with the greenkeepers. Many of the readers are tremendously interested in getting lawns like putting greens so a greenkeeper who would

like to see his own club given publicity because of the practices in maintenances and their result, and get some publicity himself, can work on his hunch.

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**B**OB HARLOW, interviewed by Arthur Sampson of the Boston (Mass.) *Herald*, said after the Massachusetts Open, several of the Bay State players would stand a good chance of ranking among the nation's stars if they had the benefit of winter tournament circuit experience.

Among the fellows in that field picked by the PGA tournament bureau manager as potential luminaries were Roy Bronsdon, Charley McAndrew, Bob Crowley, Jack Curley and Dave Hackney.

Harlow is making a lot of the ambitious younger pros itchy to get the training that will be provided by the next winter circuit.

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**S**OME OF THE wise boys in pro golf already are laying plans for continuing the golf season in full swing until the weather is too cold for action. They are talking things over with heads of their men's and women's golf committees and getting schedules of events set to run late into October.

It used to be that the golf season was considered to be at end after the Labor Day tournaments had been concluded. Now the players are realizing that the autumn has the finest golfing days of the year.

This summer's heat has been so intense that many who have had no liking for the blazing sun will be really getting into the most active play of the season during the early part of the fall.

#### NEW ENGLAND PGA TO HAVE \$2,500 MEDAL TOURNEY

The New England PGA sponsors a \$2,500 medal play tournament to be run off at Metacomet GC, East Providence, R. I., Sept. 17-19. President Lewis Meyers of the New England PGA and Bob Harlow, tournament bureau manager for the national association are working out details of the 72-hole event.

It will be open to members of the PGA and to amateurs belonging to clubs affiliated with the USGA.

**R**EDTOP RAPIDLY establishes itself from seed. In view of this it is frequently utilized in mixtures to provide a quick cover and to shelter the finer and more persistent, but slower developing species of grass included in the mixture.