



George Lake, chairman, PGA Junior Golf Program tells the 197 golfers attending the 5th annual Jaycee National Junior Tournament their faults and weaknesses, stresses the merit of consistent practice in his frank talk before nearly 500 golfers, Jaycees and friends at banquet held in Student Union Building on Iowa State College campus.

Jaycees Make National Event Big Week for Junior Golfers

By MARSHALL TOWNSEND

Championship trophies of the USJCC National Junior Amateur Golf Tournament have gone South this year, for the first time in the five-year history of the competition sponsored by the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce. Eddie Merrins, a trim little 18-year-old golfer from Meridian, Mississippi, who had previously won the 1950 Magnolia State Amateur championship, personally saw to it that the traveling trophy—now christened the Terry Boykin Memorial Trophy—came "home."

At Ames, Iowa, Merrins came through to win the title over Gay Brewer, Lexington, Kentucky, 1-up on 36 over the Iowa State College course. The little 140-pound Eddie was playing his heart out to "do it for Terry." Boykin's name was in the 1950 tournament only on the Championship trophy. He was killed in an automobile crash while returning from the 1949 Championship in Houston, Texas, with Merrins and three other Mississippi boys.

Eddie's determination was coupled with a quiet vow—and a pledge to himself. As a result, the trophy he won at Ames is going to go to Terry Boykin's widowed mother at Laurel, Mississippi. The Terry Boykin Trophy itself will pass along to the 1951 Champion next year, but Eddie

also won the 1950 individual trophy for permanent possession. He still will be eligible by 17 days to defend his championship next year.

A field of 197 contestants representing 145 towns from 39 states and the District of Columbia—the largest ever—had won the right to enter this year's championship play, August 13 through 19, by surviving local and state tournaments which had attracted nearly 20,000 entrants. Contestants had to be under 19 years of age as of July 15.

California took at least a share of honors to another section of the country, however, as it captured the Team Championship for the third year in a row with a 595 total for its low four men.

Contestants rolled into Ames and into the hands of Ames Jaycees' hospitality beginning Friday, August 11, and were allowed two practice rounds during Saturday and Sunday. The putting greens and driving practice got a heavy additional workout, and some of the contenders also kept in form by matching strokes over the Homewood golf course and the Ames Golf and Country Club links.

Johnny Revolva, former PGA champion, took center stage Sunday afternoon for the first scheduled event—a clinic for the juniors, but with spectators also permit-

ted. Nine hundred golf fans watched the pro's demonstration, heard his advice and followed him around a 9-hole exhibition. Then came even more serious business for the contenders—the Sunday night rules meeting where each golfer found out what was expected of him. Tee-off times for the Monday 18-hole qualifying rounds were assigned, and muffled groans came from those listed to be on the No. 1 tee at 6:30 a.m. Fortunately, the Ames Jaycees had organized the tournament efficiently. Contestants were being housed in Friley Hall, a spacious men's dormitory just a scant three blocks from the course.

Gene Sarazen took charge at the clinic arena Monday afternoon at 5 p.m.—late enough so that most of the juniors already had completed their qualifying rounds and were on deck. Response was as enthusiastic as it had been for Revolta the preceding day.

Major emphasis on the serious business of playing golf continued at the Hospitality Banquet staged by the Ames Jaycees Monday night. In addition to the juniors and their state escorts, guests included also the representatives of national units backing sports programs for youth, and the Ames residents who were backing the tournament through purchase of "Hospitality Bonds." In all, 467 persons rimmed the tables in the banquet area of the Iowa State College Memorial Union.

George Lake, Chairman of the PGA's Junior Golf program, was featured speaker for the occasion. Lake pulled no punches—talked directly to the golfers about their faults and their weaknesses. In particular, he stressed the merit of practice, practice, practice, along with course play.

Tee-off times were revolved Tuesday so the afternoon players of Monday took to the course in morning hours Tuesday. This arrangement permitted attendance at Jimmy Thomson's clinic in mid-afternoon by golfers who still had been on the course for Sarazen's Monday session. Thomson added still further valuable service to the sequence given the juniors by Revolta and Sarazen.

Wednesday night the whole golfing crowd was treated to a Harvest Dinner under the stars, at the Ames Golf and Country Club. The Ames Jaycees loaded the plates with Iowa specialties—including ham contributed by Wilson and Company Packing House, and corn-on-the-cob-in-the-husk from the Minnesota Valley Canning plant in Ames. A pleasant distraction to the seriousness of tournament play was afforded the juniors by an exhibition of synchronized team swimming, given by the North High School (Des

Moines) girls' swimming team. The team championship trophy was awarded at this affair, together with individual trophies for the California team members.



Tournament director Dean Knudson of the Ames Jaycees shares the spotlight with champion Eddie Merrins, Meridian, Miss. (R) and runner-up Gay Brewer, Lexington, Ky. (L) following completion of the final match of the Fifth Annual USJCC National Junior Amateur.

Other awards were presented in ceremonies at the Iowa State College course immediately following the completion of the final match Saturday, at which Merrins became the man of the moment. National Jaycee President Dick Kemler awarded the permanent trophy to Merrins, while Don Neer, national Jaycee chairman of sports and recreation, presented the traveling Terry Boykin Memorial Trophy. Roy Holland, Iowa representative nationally to the sports committee, did the honors with the runner-up trophy to Brewer. Also on hand were Tom Childers, national Jaycee vice president, and ever-present Hugh Egan, national Jaycee sports and recreation director who had been in Ames for a 2-week stint embodying preparations and actual staging of the event.

Responsibilities for the 5th annual National Jaycee Junior Amateur Tournament rested in the hands of the Ames Jaycees, representing the entire national organization. The Ames club figures it invested 3,000 man-hours during the week of actual play, in addition to advance work that had been going on for 15 months. Driving factor behind the successful handling was Ames Jaycee Dean Knudson, tournament director, who inspired the confidence not only of the local club which backed him 100 per cent, but also of the state and national organization.

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