



### Golfer Required to Know Placement of Mats

It is a tradition that a golfer knows every blade of grass on his home course. Now comes the Kentucky Court of Appeals with an additional requirement: he must also know the position of every mat and rug on the lockerroom floor. This ruling was made in the court's decision involving a suit by Dr. Clarence Humbert against the Audubon C.C., Louisville. Dr. Humbert came to the club one day to play golf. He entered the lockerroom by walking down some concrete steps into a vestibule and from there went to his locker, changed to his golfing clothes, including his spiked shoes, and retraced his steps towards the vestibule. Just before reaching it he slipped and fell and received the injuries for which he later sought damages. The locker room was divided into sections. Three long aisles separating the sections usually were covered by long rubber mats. On the day on which the accident occurred, the rubber runner leading to the vestibule door had been pulled back about four feet from the threshold leaving the asphalt tile surface exposed. It was on this exposed surface that Dr. Humbert slipped and fell.

#### Contributory Negligence

At the trial Dr. Humbert contended that the club was negligent in leaving this space uncovered. The club, in turn, contended that Dr. Humbert was guilty of contributory negligence because he failed to notice that the runner had been pulled back, either when he entered the lockerroom or when he attempted to leave. The trial court dismissed his complaint on the

ground of contributory negligence and Dr. Humbert appealed.

The Court of Appeals affirmed the decision of the trial court, pointing out that Dr. Humbert had ample opportunity to notice the changed position of the rubber mat and also the condition of the floor. The court said in part: "According to his testimony, if the plaintiff had looked down at the floor upon which he was walking he could have well observed not only the changed position of the runner but also the slick condition of the floor. He testified that he fell as he started to make a right turn to go into the vestibule. What was he doing when he made the turn? The following testimony answers the question:

Q. What were you looking at as you turned the corner?

A. Looking straight ahead.

Q. You weren't looking at the floor?

A. No one does when they are walking.

Plaintiff admits that he wasn't looking at the floor, the court decided. He admits that he could have seen the condition that caused his injury if he had been looking. Yet he contends that the question of his contributory negligence should have been submitted to the jury. We cannot agree." (Humbert v. Audubon CC, 313 S.W.2d 405. May 16, 1958.)

### Gets N. Y. Turf Scholarship

New York State Turf Assn. undergraduate scholarship for 1958-59 has been awarded to Richard Mitchell of Nassau County, L.I. His father, Henry, is supt. at Lake Success GC and his grandfather, Robert, was supt. for many years at Kernwood Club, Salem, Mass., where he developed the Kernwood strain of velvet bent.

### 1959 USGA Competitions

May 15-16	Walker Cup Match, Muirfield, Scotland
June 11-13	National Open, Winged Foot GC, Mamaroneck, N. Y.
25-27	Women's Open, Churchill Valley CC, Pittsburgh
July 13-18	Amateur Public Links, Wellshire GC, Denver
Aug. 5 - 8	Junior Amateur, Stanford University GC, Palo Alto, Calif.
17-21	Girls' Junior, Manor CC, Norbeck, Md.
24-29	Women's Amateur, Congressional CC, Washington, D. C.
Sept. 14-19	National Amateur, Broadmoor GC, Colorado Springs
Oct. 5 -10	Senior Amateur, Memphis (Tenn.) CC