

Seventh Home Pro Award Goes to Don Padgett

Don Padgett of Green Hills G&CC, Selma, Ind., named the PGA's home pro-of-the-year for 1961, has been in the golf business for only a little more than a decade but in that time has distinguished himself on several counts. His Junior program is considered one of the finest in Indiana, or the entire country, for that matter, and he has played a very active role in Boy's Club work in and around his home city. He is a member of the local Cancer Fund committee and having a good sense of public relations,



Don Padgett

he cooperated last year with Jerry Fennell, sports editor of the neighboring Muncie Evening News, in preparing a brochure containing biographical sketches of all the Indiana professionals. Padgett was picked for the home pro award after a committee of prominent anonymous amateur golfers had screened a list of 23 PGA section nominees before making its final selection. Six other pros have been similarly honored in recent years, the latest of them being Warren Orlick, Tam O'Shanter CC, Orchard Lake, Mich., who was named home pro for 1960.

Served in Navy

The 36-year old Padgett was born in New Castle, Ind. After serving in the Navy he worked at the American Legion GC in his home city for about four years and then moved to Green Hills. Don has been a Class A member of the PGA since 1955 and in recent years has served on its national hole-in-one, rules and special awards committees. From 1958 until 1961 he was pres. of the Indiana section of the PGA. At one time he doubled as pro-supt. at Green Hills when he was breaking into the game.

Padgett and his wife, Joan, are the parents of a son, Don II, a 12-year old who is one of the outstanding players among the 100 or more youngsters enrolled in the Junior golf program at Green Hills.



Chick Evans (center), the ageless amateur, accepts a \$2,600 contribution to the caddie scholarship fund named in his honor from Mark Cox (r), representing the Brunswick Foundation. At left is James M. Royer, retiring pres. of Western Golf Assn., which administers the Evans fund.

PGA to Play Its Richest Spring-Summer Schedule

Touring professionals will play for more than \$1 million on the 1962 spring and summer circuit. Starting with the Greater Greensboro Open in mid-April and continuing through the Dallas Open, scheduled for Aug. 31-Sept. 3, the pros will get a crack at the most money ever offered during the warm weather months. The most notable addition to the schedule is the Thunderbird Classic which will be staged at Upper Montclair (N.J.) CC, June 7-10, a week before the USGA Open. It is being sponsored by the Newark Dist. Ford dealers assn. The purse of \$100,000 is the largest offered for any 72-hole event since the 1957 World Championship, and the \$25,000 first prize tops all others since that tournament.

Nineteen of the 22 tournaments were on the spring-summer schedule in 1961. The \$835,000 Oklahoma City Open and the \$35,000 Motor City Open are back on the PGA card after an absence of one year. Five tournaments, the Greensboro Open, Tournament of Champions, Western Open, Houston Classic and Memphis Invitational have increased the prize ante for 1962. There will be prize money of \$50,000 or more in eight tourneys.

This year's National Open is being held June 14-16 at Oakmont in Pittsburgh, and the PGA Championship also will have a Pennsylvania setting, being played at Aronimink, near Philadelphia.

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