# Swinging around golf

By HERB GRAFFIS

News of the Golf World in brief



Colonial Open's 21st annual "National Invitational" tournament had \$150,000 advance ticket sale and record gate sale, too . . . Couldn't have been a smootheroperated event. Tournament Chairman Frank Rogers and the brother and sister committee workers and club staff apparently had every detail covered in their planning . . . Colonial members, some tourney pros and golf writers regard Colonial's 7,132 yd. par 70 the toughest course on the tournament circuit . . . Bruce Devlin's par 280 won . . . Record is 272 set by Clayton Heafner in 1948 . . . Ben Hogan won in 1946, '47, '52, '53 and '59 . . . It's his home course . . . He shares record 65s with Chandler Harper, Mike Souchak, Arnold Palmer and Ken Nagle . . . Hogan one-putted three consecutive holes this year then got back to normal, missing "makeable" ones but tying for fourth at 284 . . . From tee to green Hogan, at 53, is as good as the best of them . . . Maybe he is the best . . . If he isn't, who is? . . . He knocks a lot of long shots from six to ten feet from the pin when the Old Yips grabs his putter.

Marvin Leonard, founder of Colonial and the man who brought major championships to Texas, has in his newer Shady Oaks CC at Fort Worth one of the most beautiful of all club houses and a grand course . . . Ben Hogan gave his annual dinner there and like everything else Hogan does, this was done with top class in every respect . . . Since Leonard got the USGA to put the 1941 National Open at Colonial (Wood won it with 284), there have been the 1952 Open at Northwood in Dallas, the 1963 PGA at Dallas AC CC and there'll be the 1967 Ryder Cup matches at the Champions'

Club in Houston . . . In 1927 when Walter Hagen won his fourth consecutive PGA championship and his fifth over-all, at Cedar Crest CC at Dallas, no campaign was necessary to get the championship for the club . . . The PGA was having difficulty placing its championships . . . PGA records still don't show what the prize money was for that event . . . It was Hagen who brought the PGA championship at match play into the Big Time.

Colonial's President Cecil A. Morgan, has the sort of a staff that club officials want . . . Manager Vergal Bourland, pro Roland Harper and Superintendent Joe Cano are an all-star line-up . . . Bourland presents epicurean meals and name dance bands for the Colonial Invitational . . . Harper and his assistants Bobby Maxwell, John T. Rhodes, Jr., and John Crow run the pro shops, indoors and out, as valuable supply stations, fashion centers and information booths . . . Joe Cano and his force, despite high heat, heavy rains and humidity manage to present a course in perfect condition . . . And with the framing of roses at the fences Colonial becomes a picture course . . . Cano started with the course when it was being built in 1935 . . . He was 14 years old then . . . John Bredemus was architect with Perry Maxwell as associate in the job for Leonard, and Ralph Plummer was doing the construction as John's man.

Bredemus was a good player, competing in the Open around 1919... He was pro at Texas clubs and branched into course architecture... Plummer started with him on the Edinburg, Tex. nine-hole course and was John's builder for

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# "WIZARD OF THE CLUBS" PAUL HAHN PREFERS THE MAGIC

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about nine years . . . Their top early job was Ridgelea CC at Fort Worth that cost about \$100,000 in 1930 when that sum was a tower of money . . . Bredemus had a dispute with the government about income tax . . . John was ag'in it and went to Mexico where he built five or six courses . . . Plummer went in on his own in Texas and has designed and built great courses, among them the two for the Dallas AC, Preston Trail, the new Adamless Eden at Dallas . . . Three 18s for Pollard Simmons at his big deluxe development, a second 18 for Ridgelea, rebuilding Northwood, 18 full-sized and a nine lighted par-3 for the Southwest CC are among Plummer's recent jobs in Texas . . . He's now designed and built 88 courses since he began with Bredemus . . . He recalls one of the toughest jobs being Memorial Park at Houston in 1932 . . . Bredemus got in a tall tree and Ralph walked through the brush with a flag on a long pole spotting green and tee sites . . . Plummer says Bredemus had been a mathematics teacher at an Ivy League university and was very careful about estimates and measurements.

Golf Rules in Pictures, new 1966 edition, an official publication of the USGA, compiled by Joe Dey, published by Grossett and Dunlap, New York, is issued at \$1.95 . . . Every pro shop ought to have a copy of it and every locker room of a first class club ought to have a copy around to officially settle disputes and to educate members in playing golf instead of whatever that game is when they make up their own rules . . . Every adult male and female who claims to be a golfer can get entertainment and enlightenment out of the Dev compilation which is clearly illustrated by George Kraynak . . . Dey has lectured on the rules of golf and diagrammed them more than anybody else, living or dead, and has explained them so some rules dummies, including myself, have rules staying with them.

This year the USGA Seniors is at Tucson National GC Sept. 26-Oct. 1 and next year the event will be played at Shinnecock Hills, Southampton, N. Y., Sept. 25-30—Second Open and Amateur championships of the USGA were played

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at Shinnecock Hills in July, 1896 . . . Shinnecock Hills was one of the earliest 18-hole courses in the U.S. . . . Iim Foulis of Chicago Golf won the 1896 Open with 78-74-152, played July 18 . . . It was a side-show to the Amateur which was played July 14, 15, 16, 17 and won by H. J. Whigham of Onwentsia who defeated W. R. Betts of the home club in the final, 8 and 6 . . . With winners of both USGA championships being from the Chicago area, there were New Yorkers who wondered if they'd done the right thing in starting the USGA.

Clubs that were hosts to collegiate championships this past spring have high commendation for the lads . . . Officials at two clubs told Golfdom that some of their members wanted the youths back next spring to present examples of cheerful good manners at the clubs for the benefit of members who could use that education . . . It's great to hear about the golf element of collegians supplying pleasant exhibits of class and brains when conspicuously unsavory campus kiddies have been showing off their grudges against soap and water.

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Fellows in their first years at pro jobs at their present clubs have given shops in the up-state New York territory fresh looks and pretty good spring business, Bert Purvis, veteran pro salesman, reports . . . Among the pros in new locations are Emmett Kelly to Cavalry CC, Manlius, N. Y., from Green Lakes GC, Fayetteville, N. Y.; Bucky Hewitt returning to his own course, Westvale GC, Camillus, N. Y.; Ken Sager moving to Willow Brook GC, Watertown, N. Y.; Al Stein, Jr., going to Glens Falls (N. Y.) CC: Joe Oliver at Maplehurst CC, Lakewood, N. Y., and Joe Swan at Walhalla CC, Rexford, N. Y. . . . Don (Ozzie) Osborne now is pro at Green Lakes GC, Fayetteville, N. Y., Dick Osborne to the pro job at Ponderosa CC, Duanesburg, N. Y.

S. T. (Ben) Sheets retiring as manager Algonquin GC, St. Louis and Paul Lampe, for past 15 years, manager, Norwood Hills CC, St. Louis will be his suc-

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cessor . . . Sheets began his managerial career in his home town of Madison, Ind. at the Country Club, then went to Crawfordsville (Ind.) CC, Meridian Hills CC, Indianapolis and Lake Shore CC, Glencoe, Ill. prior to his work at Algonquin . . . Robert M. Dorian from Scioto CC, Columbus, Ohio, to be manager at Bellerive CC, St. Louis . . . Dorian was at Wisconsin Club, Milwaukee, Braeburn CC, Boston; Salem (Mass.) CC and Pinecrest Lakes Club, Avon Park, Fla., prior to going to Scioto where he was in charge for ten years.

Paul Hahn honored by PGA . . . Trick shot star was presented with a plaque gratefully acknowledging handsome Hahn's "promotion of golf" and his "consideration of professional golfers' interests," . . . In unpaid performances and cash Hahn unquestionably is top giver for pro golf propaganda and golf promotion in general . . . And he's never taken a bow for it . . . Pro and golf writer comment on Hahn's 1966 show with added fresh trick shots and amusing, sophisticated patter rates this one as the most sparkling of all his routines . . . Bookings, as usual, are heavy.

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Hundreds of pros are happy about Bob Rickey being elevated to vice presidency, merchandising, of the MacGregor division of Brunswick Corp. . . . Bob was raised in pro golf . . . His father, the late Clarence H., was MacGregor president and brought Tommy Armour onto the staff as an early move in restoring Crawford, MacGregor and Canby to high level as one of the manufacturing companies that helped direct golf business into pro channels . . . Bob started as a sports writer while in Northwestern University and after the war worked in Mac-Gregor's repair dept., then as a salesman . . . For ten years he was MacGregor's advertising manager, then was made vp in charge of pro golf sales.

Great deal of credit for success of National Golf Day fund-raising May 30 goes to *Tom Crane*, executive consultant of the PGA, who was taking his last swing at the Golf Day tee before turning over

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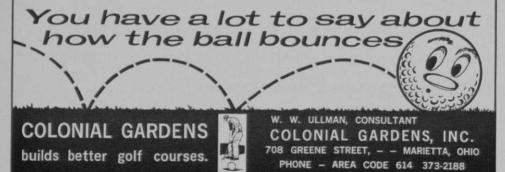
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his job to Robert T. Creasy who is Crane's successor as PGA Executive Director... Early indications are that 1966 Golf Day was the biggest in years getting money for the caddie funds, educational and welfare operations of golf... Golf Writers Association's vigorous participation helped a lot too.

O. J. Noer, noted turf authority who retired a couple of years ago from Milwaukee Sewerage Commission and who got USGA Green Section award is in Columbia hospital at Milwaukee . . . You can't see him or telephone him, but can send him cheers by mail.

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