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SWINGING AROUND GOLF

NEWS OF THE GOLF WORLD IN BRIEF



By HERR GRAFFIS

Dan Sikes, U. of Florida law graduate, who won Doral Open, looked good again when he played in his first Masters . . . He came out with \$1,100 . . . He made expenses and then some at Houston, picking up \$625 for the pool that is split with the 50 Jacksonville, Fla., businessmen who finance his golf career.

Julius Goffo now pro at Vernon Hills CC (Chicago dist.) . . . Frank Acquino now pro at Juniper CC, Redmond, Ore. . . . Stuart Sirbaugh signed as pro at River Bend CC, Virginia, Minn. . . . Ernie Fortner, formerly field rep of National Golf Foundation, is Ogdensburg (N. Y.) CC pro . . . Dick Wolthers goes from Juniper CC, Redmond, Ore., to pro job at The Dalles (Ore.) CC succeeding Henry Kaiser who retired . . . Jim Porterfield now has pro assignment at Oak Knoll CC, Ashland, Ore.

The instant a guy pokes an arm into a sleeve of a Masters green coat golfers and writers begin talking about his chances of a Grand Slam . . . That puts added pressure on the Masters champion in the US and British Opens and the PGA . . . Jack Nicklaus, though, doesn't seem to be too sensitive to pressure . . . The lad is lucky and knows it and that may offset some pressure . . . Luck such as the free lifts out of casual water he got following poor shots on the Augusta National course, is the kind that only a champion has . . . Wasn't it Napoleon or his publicity guy who said: "Luck? I make my luck!" . . . With a little bit of luck Sam Snead could have won the Masters . . . Snead, in spite of his winning more tournaments than any other golfer, is the unluckiest of all at absolutely the worst time . . . Or, could it

be that he starts to think when instinct would do better?

That steady, heavy April shower, falling in bucketsful all Saturday at Augusta, showed that Nicklaus has the champion's shots under unfavorable conditions . . . In his fling at the National Open, Big Jack will find the Country Club of Brook-

FRONT COVER

The ninth green and the clubhouse of the Williams College GC, Williamstown, Mass. are seen in the photo. This historic course was built in 1896 by the Taconic Golf Club. It plays to about 6,500 yards. Dick Baxter, who is both pro and superintendent here, recently started his 40th year with the Club. The Taconic, as the course is known, was the site of the 1956 USGA Junior Championship and in 1958, the NCAA held its annual tournament here.

line about as he played it in the National Amateur of 1957 . . . Then he beat Bob Cardinal 3 and 2 in the first round, Douglas Sewall of England 2 and 1 in the second, Sam Koscis, 8 and 7, and was knocked out on the 18 hole of the fourth round, 3 and 2, by Dick Yost . . . At Royal Lytham and St. Anne's, in northwest England on the Irish Sea, where the British Open will be played, July 8-12, the course will measure about 6,657 . . . The pro record of 63 was made by Peter Thomson . . . Thomson won the British Open there in 1958.

Only U.S. win at Royal Lytham and St. Anne's was that of Bob Jones in 1926 . . .

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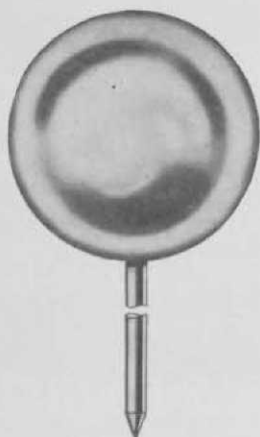
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Jones had a 291 . . . Next was Al Watrous with 293 . . . Hagen and the late George Von Elm tied for third at 295 . . . The course has a lot of sandhills and slanting lies that are not too much different from the lies at Scioto, Nicklaus' home course . . . The rough and the bushes off the fairways are something you won't see in the U.S. . . . The wind can play hell but usually dies down in late afternoon.

Roland Wingate, for 12 years pro at Fort Myers (Fla.) CC has resigned at his physician's suggestion . . . Wingate probably will be pro for three summer months at the Dublin (N. H.) Golf, Tennis and Racquet Club . . . Prior to his Ft. Myers location, Wingate was at Asheville (N. C.) CC for 10 years and before that at CC of Brookline, Mass. . . . The Wingates will winter at their home at Ft. Myers which Wingate has promoted into quite a golf community . . . Wingate has recommended to Ft. Myers mayor and recreation committee that his assistant, Al Patterson, be appointed his successor . . . Patterson has been very active in developing Junior golf in Fort Myers . . . Frank Sparks, formerly an aide to Claydon Attridge at Pensacola (Fla.) CC, now pro at Cypress Lake CC, Ft. Myers, Fla.

Carling beer's \$200,000 tournament wasn't first \$200,000 deal offered the PGA . . . A \$200,000 tournament was offered last year but was refused because sponsor wanted to give \$100,000 first money . . .

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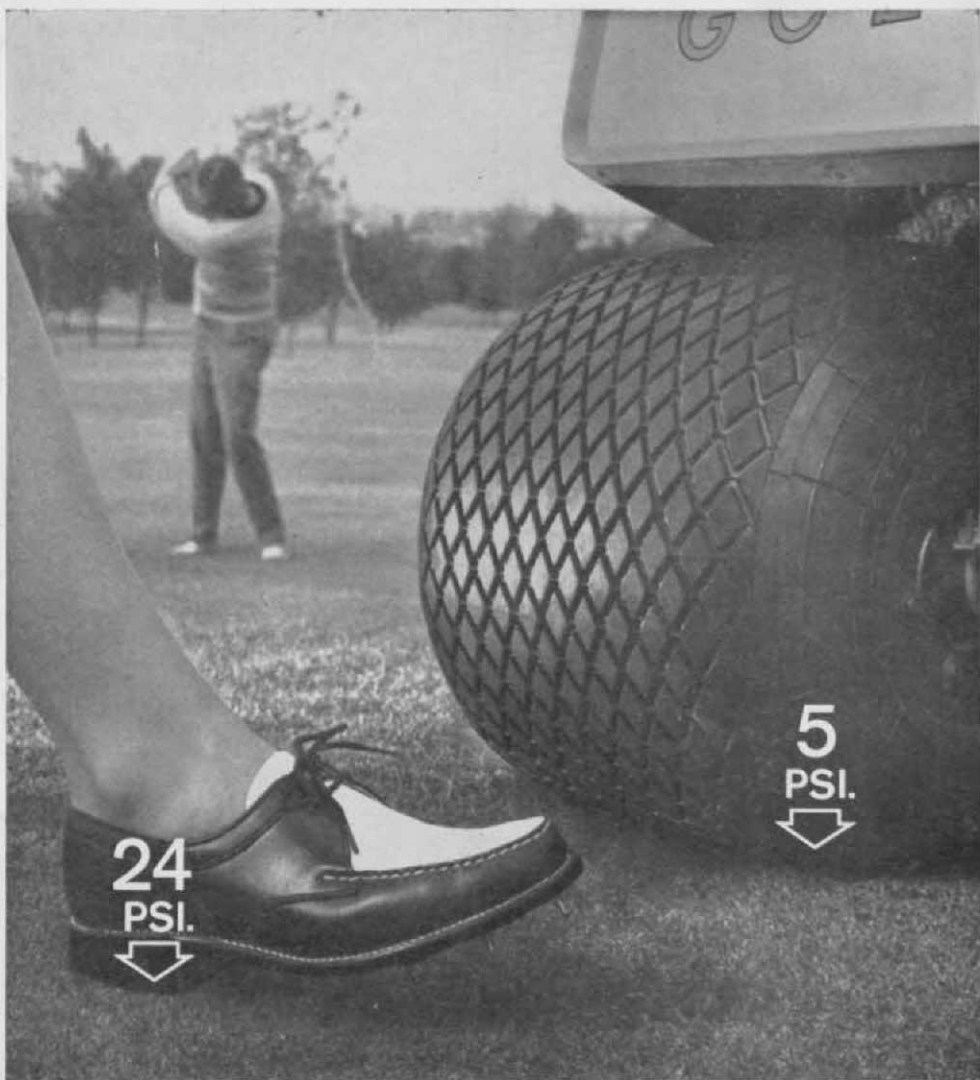


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The PGA said there was too much of a gap between proposed first and second place money . . . Golf tournament gamblers' story line that has been running in the Mac Divot "comic" strip is getting equal space on sports pages with pro football gambling expose . . . Mac Divot strip is fiction based on some facts . . . The USGA's persistent campaign against Calcuttas and hustlers, who pretend to be amateurs, undoubtedly has saved golf from gambling scandals . . . Younger pros now are smart and cautious about association with unsavory characters.

Bradford, Pa., area to have 18 at Marshburg near Kinzua dam project on Allegheny river . . . Jack Gallagher's story on "phenomenal" boost of golf by TV in Houston Post says River Oaks CC had 14,000 (25 per cent) more rounds of golf in 1962 than in 1961 . . . Piney Point (par 3) membership has increased from 150 to 360 in past six months . . . Ten years ago only two of Harris County high schools sponsored golf teams . . . Now 40 have them . . . Golf range business is up about 25 per cent . . . In comment on TV boost of golf, Joe Finger, golf architect, says Jimmy Demaret's show (All Star Golf) "has one more for golf than Eisenhower"

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