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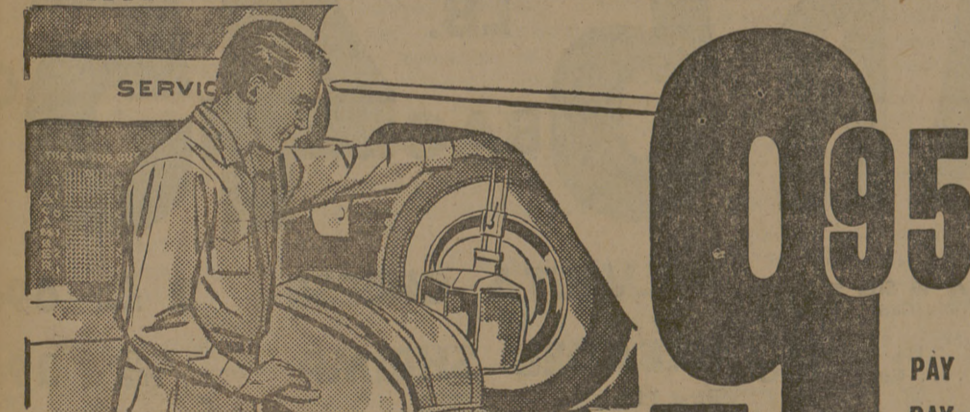
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**Tourney Skipping is Big Golf Problem**

By HAROLD V. RATLIFF  
Associated Press Sports Writer

A quarter of a century ago golf was trying to solve the problem of top players skipping its tournaments.

It's still trying and there appears small prospect of success unless the players are put under contract and told to play in certain tournaments.

This project seems too big to tackle. A golfer would have to get about \$25,000 a year as a guarantee and with the number of players that would have to be paid, the cost would run over \$1,000,000 a year. That's almost as much as the

tournaments put up as prize money.

The reason there is need for to guarantee the best players for the tournaments is this: a tournament can't draw the paying crowds if it has the lesser lights. Two big names that stay away can make the difference in profit and loss.

The PGA has some rules that help but don't accomplish the full objective. It tells the golfers in certain categories, such as being among the top money-winners, tournament winners, etc., that they can not play in a tournament that

conflicts with an approved tournament on penalty of suspension for six months and a fine of \$500. But it doesn't tell the golfer he has to play in the approved tournament. It can't do it.

The golfer pays his own expenses and entry fee and he claims the right to play whenever he pleases so long as he keeps his commitments. Which would appear to be correct.

But that puts the sponsor in a hole. It is up to him whether a golfer skips his tournament and plays in a tournament with conflicting dates. But the golfer doesn't have to play in his tournament unless he has committed himself to it. The golfer is forced only to skip the conflicting tournament.

The sponsor seldom invokes this rule because it not only won't help him but will actually hurt. The golfer won't play in his tournament anyway and will be so mad about being kept out of the other tournament that he won't ever come back.

The Memphis Open invoked the rule this year and it prevented Arnold Palmer and Gary Player playing in some international matches. But Palmer and Player also skipped Memphis, so Memphis didn't do itself any more good than

to show the PGA rule could and would be enforced.

If a golfer commits himself to a tournament he must play there or run the risk of a penalty. But he doesn't have to make his commitment until 30 days before the tournament. The golfer knows which tournament he wants to skip long before that.

The PGA adopted a plan several years ago of awarding points to players for participating in tournaments and these points meant that the fellow was paid a certain amount of money. It was felt that this would insure the players participating in more tournaments. But it didn't work out that way—the big money players didn't worry about a piddling amount like that; the players who would have played in the tournaments anyway got the money. This plan was adopted last year.

One other method was advanced to insure the top players for all tournaments—make the prize money so big the players can't afford to skip the tournament. Twice as much money now is offered as 10 years ago but it still hasn't worked. To make the amount so large even the rich boys wouldn't pass it up would break the sponsors.

**Texas U Added Depth in Talent**

Individual batting and pitching championships were won by the opposition, but the University of Texas baseball team that beat Arizona this week in the District 6 playoff had more depth in talent as it entered the throneroom for the 37th time in the 47-year history of the Southwest Conference.

Sophomores monopolized the hitting honors as the league developed into a hitting league in contrast to the 1960 campaign. Odessa's Ronnie Goodwin, Baylor's sophomore third baseman, won the individual batting championship in conference play with a .419 mark and also led for the full-season with a .391 figure.

Terry Cobb, Texas A&M's sophomore second baseman from Beaumont, crowded Goodwin for each honor. Cobb was runner-up in league play at .414 and had .388 over the full route.

Bob Barnett, senior righthander for Baylor's runner-up, led the pitching with a won-lost record of 5-0 and had the only impressive ERA figure at 2.55 for conference play and 2.13 for the full season. He was unbeaten over the route and carded eight victories.

Texas' Tom Belcher, last year's conference leader at 6-0, is still unbeaten in conference competition after posting a 4-0 mark this year. Teammate Terry Jackson and TCU's Phil Reynolds, the basketball star, were the only other undefeated pitchers as they achieved 2-0 records.

TCU's Don Schmidt, a southpaw, was the busiest pitcher as he worked 79 1/2 innings for the season and 54 1/2 in league play. A&M's Robert Collins worked fewer innings in league play but he appeared in 14 of A&M's 15 conference games and worked in 19 of the 25 over the full campaign.

Sophomore Chuck Knutson of Texas, Leon Baze of TCU and David Skinner of Texas dominated the individual departments. Skinner led in hits (26), runs scored (27) and triples (3). Knutson was

tops in runs batted in (27), total bases (54) and was runner-up to Baze, who led in home runs with 11, and shared runner-up honors with Teammate Bill Bethea in number of doubles. Cobb led with seven.

Team	SEASON				Pct.
	Ga	W	L	T	
Texas	26	20	4	2	.833
Baylor	23	18	4	1	.818
A&M	25	14	10	1	.583
Rice	21	9	12	0	.429
TCU	24	8	16	0	.333
SMU	21	5	16	0	.238

Team	SWC STANDINGS				Pct.
	Ga	W	L	T	
Texas	16	11	3	2	.786
Baylor	15	10	4	1	.714
Rice	12	6	6	0	.500
A&M	15	6	8	1	.429
TCU	15	6	8	0	.429
SMU	12	1	11	0	.083

**Two Aggie Baseballers Sign Contracts**

Dick Hickerson and Stuffey Davis who played on the 1961 A&M baseball team, have signed professional baseball contracts.

Davis signed with the new Houston Colt team and Hickerson is with the Baltimore Orioles. Both players are to report for training almost immediately.

Last season Hickerson hit .330 and Davis hit .370 which helped to land them in the All-Southwest Conference team. Hickerson also led the league in triples with four and Davis was the leading base stealer with 11.

Davis is an outfielder while Hickerson holds down the first base position.

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- 10-Oz. Pkgs.—Libbys Green Peas ..... 3 For 49c
- 10-Oz. Pkgs.—Libbys Chopped Turnip Greens 3 For 49c
- 6-Oz. Cans—Libbys LEMONADE ..... 3 For 29c

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  - T-Bone Steak ..... 1-lb. 79c
  - Pin Bone Loin Steak .... 1-lb. 65c
  - Meaty Short Ribs ..... 1-lb. 39c
  - Deckers—Tall Korn Sliced Bacon ..... 1-lb. 49c
  - Swift Premium All Meat Franks ..... 1-lb. 49c
  - Wisconsin—Medium Aged Cheddar Cheese ..... 1-lb. 59c
  - Hormels—Dairy Brand Sliced Bacon ..... 1-lb. 59c

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- Bananas ..... 2-lbs. 23c

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