

sports

Golfers dread the rough

Nicklaus seeks victory

United Press International
DENVER — Because of the importance of Arnold Palmer's 1960 U.S. Open victory to the lore of golf, it is often forgotten that Jack Nicklaus — then a 20-year-old amateur — finished just two shots behind in second place.

But it is a cinch Nicklaus has not forgotten it.

And as golf's all-time leading money winner made his tour of the Cherry Hills Country Club course in preparation for this year's Open, his mind drifted back to the final nine holes of his first big chance in a major professional championship.

"There are courses that I've played yesterday that I can't tell you anything about," said Nicklaus.

"But as I played the back nine today I could remember where I hit every shot that day, where the pin was, and I had firmly in my mind what I did wrong."

"I was just a freewheeling kid of 20 years old and I played like it, I shot 39 on that last nine to lose."

"That was the year that Arnold won so much of his popularity. But it meant a lot, at the time, to me, too."

And does he feel some of the nostalgia about the return to Cherry Hills because of Palmer's popular victory here?

"Nope," Nicklaus said. "I kind of feel like I should have won."

Now, 18 years later, Nicklaus is

playing in his 22nd consecutive U.S. Open and going for his fourth win — something he has been trying for since he captured No. 3 at Pebble Beach in 1972.

Nicklaus has gone without a major title since he won the 1975 PGA. "I don't feel any more keyed up coming into this tournament because I haven't won one (a major title) lately," said Nicklaus. "I just know it's been a while and I would like to win another one soon."

He may win another one soon, but even if he doesn't, his record in major championships will likely remain unchallenged. He has won 16 of them — five Masters, three U.S. Opens, two British Opens, four PGA's and two U.S. Amateurs.

When Nicklaus arrived at Cherry Hills, he, like everyone else, found the rough to be very rough.

"The rough is the most uniform and most difficult I've seen in years," he said. "You can't expect to drive the ball off the fairway and make par."

In fact, the rough has been the main topic of conversation around the clubhouse this week.

And as the greats of golf make their warmup tours around the twisting, up-and-down course, one of their main chores is to try to figure out how to put a ball in the rough and live to tell about it.

"The rough is deep and severe and that's the way it ought to be."

chimed in Masters champion Gary Player, whose feelings on the subject have been well documented in the past.

The rough, in all likelihood, will be the deciding factor this week — as it often is at the world's most challenging golf tournament.

Because of the relative shortness of the course (even though it measures 7,083 it will not play that long because of the thin air) the players will be hitting short irons to any of the greens.

And when golfers with their talents can hit short irons they are thinking about birdies. But when they stray into the bluegrass rough, par becomes difficult to find. So the equation turns out to be fairly simple. Stay in the fairway a lot and you have a chance to win. Drift into the rough a lot and you have a great chance to lose.

"The course is playing fast and short and it's going to be difficult to chip and putt," Nicklaus said. "On the surface, it looks like the kind of course you could shoot low scores on. But if you miss it just a little bit you might see some high numbers out there."

"I don't think 280 (Palmer's winning score in 1960) will win, though. I think somebody will shoot better than that. There are a lot more good players now."

Sign up for meet

The Intramural Sports Office will have a cross country meet this summer session. Men and women runners are encouraged to enter. Entries will remain open until June 23 to allow all interested runners a chance to enter. Individuals as well as teams are encouraged to try the 3.1-mile course. Maps are available in the Intramural Office, DeWare Fieldhouse.

Men's and women's teams consist of a maximum of five participants, with the top three finishers scoring for the team. Co-rec competition consists of a maximum of six persons on a team (three men and three women) with the top two men and two women finishers scoring for the team.

The event will take place June 29 at 7:30 p.m. Any currently enrolled students, faculty or staff member may enter.

Pro basketball business

Braves have deadline

United Press International
CORONADO, Calif. — Owner John Y. Brown has been given 20 more days to work out a plan to move his Buffalo Braves to Dallas, National Basketball Association Commissioner Lawrence O'Brien announced Wednesday.

The extension came shortly before the Board of Governors convened for a meeting many thought would decide the fate of the Braves.

In addition to Dallas, O'Brien said Minneapolis-St. Paul and Louisville, Ky., also were being considered as a new home for the Braves.

And despite last-minute lobbying efforts locally, including an appeal by Mayor Pete Wilson, O'Brien said he could offer no encouragement to local fans hoping to see the NBA team moved to San Diego.

Brown said earlier in the week he was impressed with San Diego's bid for the team but said it was "too late."

Brown said, however, "I think San Diego's best chance for this franchise would be if the league

turns down our recommendation and tells us to take more time and study the alternatives."

O'Brien said at the end of the 20-day extension, a special meeting of the Board of Governors would be called.

The announcement came on the second day of the NBA's annual meeting, held this year at the Hotel Del Coronado.

Dallas Mayor Bob Folsom told reporters he wished that a decision would be made one way or another.

Folsom said he had learned that the NBA had made the delay not only to consider Browns' final decision, but to consider a possible league realignment, considering the fact that the New York Nets might also move.

In other NBA-related actions, a third referee may soon be calling the shots at NBA games in an effort to halt violence on the courts.

A committee of the NBA owners earlier this week proposed a tougher set of rules with the addition of a third referee instead of only two.

"We have rules," said Joe Axelson

of the Competition and Committee. "We're proposing the third pair of eyes will be

Axelson pointed out that the 10 and the Atlantic Coast Conference already use three referees in basketball.

"We're all upset that it isn't called," he said. "The sus of everyone is, Let's book."

The suggested change is one of 11 on the way to the governors. But they must clear other hurdles first — the and general managers, who on the proposals, but pure advisory manner.

Fifty-one percent of the Competition and Rules Committee must approve the changes they go to the board, who are thirds vote is required.

The anti-violence rule which suggested the third hand checking.

Other major changes would be a restraining line for three feet around each bench, and another calls for of the coach the second time is called. The first time would be in a technical foul.

"We all know the zones are played," Axelson said. "We to try and stop it."

Five teams bargaining for Carew's services

United Press International
BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — At least five American League teams are bidding for Rod Carew, baseball's leading hitter, but no one has come up with an offer that satisfies Minnesota Twins owner Calvin Griffith.

The prospects of a trade before the 2 a.m. Friday deadline appeared dim Wednesday for the Kansas City Royals, Boston Red Sox, California Angels, Texas Rangers and New York Yankees.

Twins Manager Gene Mauch said in Toronto, "A deal for a player of Carew's stature could not be put together in the short time before the deadline."

Griffith did not dispute the statement.

Carew, the American League batting champion six times and the first to threaten the .400 mark in three decades, is playing on the final year of a three-year contract. He earned about \$190,000 last year when he hit .388 and won just about every honor in baseball except the Golden Glove award, which he thought he had earned.

He also is bound to the Twins for an option year. After that the 32-year-old left-handed hitting first baseman will be a free agent.

Carew has refrained from comment.

"I'm just keeping my mouth shut. I don't want to create any prob-

lems," he said. "People can trade me and do what they want, but they have to realize I have the final say on the deal."

The Kansas City Royals were reported the leader in the Carew bidding race, but Griffith turned down the team's latest offer because it didn't include Clint Hurdle.

"The Royals gave us a list of six players and we can pick four of them," Griffith said. "But Clint Hurdle isn't on the list and if it wants Carew, Kansas City is going to have to give up Hurdle."

The Texas Rangers deal fell through when Juan Beniquez broke his hand. California Angels' General

Manager Buzzie Bavasi said he wouldn't tear up his team for Carew.

The Boston Red Sox offered first baseman George Scott. Griffith wasn't interested.

The Yankees' offer of pitcher Dick Tidrow and other players also didn't satisfy Griffith.

"I promised Carew I would make a strong effort to trade him," Griffith said. "But I'm not going to give Carew away or be stampeded into a trade."

"We'll sit down with Gene Mauch and everybody concerned and make a decision. Right now, there's nothing definite about anything."

Starting job with the Astros might go to rookie catcher

United Press International
HOUSTON — Reggie Baldwin, a Class AA player until three weeks ago, is on the verge of taking the Houston Astros starting catcher's job away from Joe Ferguson.

Ferguson, officially, is sidelined with a jammed right shoulder. But he was used in Monday's game after Baldwin was knocked unconscious on a play at the plate.

"Ferguson could be playing," a team source said.

Sentiment is high on the team for leaving the hustling rookie catcher in the lineup. He has hit only .214 in 14 games and has not thrown well since being called up from Columbus late last month. But he has struck out only twice in 42 at-bats and has displayed both toughness and power the past two nights.

His first major league home run off Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher Jim Bibby in Tuesday's Astros victory tied the score and Houston eventually took a 2-1 win on Cesar Cedeño's runcoring triple in the eighth inning.

More impressive than the home run, however, was Baldwin's ability to bounce back from his collision with the 6-foot-5, 230-pound Dave Parker Monday night. Baldwin, 6-foot-1 and 195 pounds, tried to block the plate as Parker, running

Cards sign A&I safe

United Press International
ST. LOUIS — The St. Louis Cardinals announced Wednesday they have signed safety Doug Green as their third round draft choice from A&I.

Greene is the first choice the Cardinals have since the NFL draft May 3.

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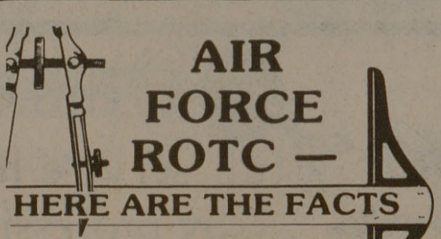
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