

Recent victory provides incentive

Palmer eager about U.S. Open

by Milton Richman
UPI Sports Editor

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Victory is the greatest rejuvenator in the world. Maybe that's why Arnold Palmer looks so young and eager.

He still has fantasies at 52. He admits it. Would you believe he imagines himself winning the U.S. Open?

He confesses that, too, even though he has won it only once and that was 22 years ago at Cherry Hills in Denver. But, he's coming into this Open, his 30th, right off a magnificent victory in the Marlboro Seniors Open and you might have an idea of what something like that can do for a man's pride and imagination.

"Can you picture how crazy everybody would go if you went here and made it two in a row?" a friend of Palmer's asked him while he was getting in a few practice licks Tuesday on the putting green in preparation for Thursday's opening round.

"I can picture it," Palmer smiled. "I'll tell you a little story about that. A man came over to me for my autograph as I was registering in here. I gave it to him, then didn't see him for a while. I was getting in my car to leave the course when he came over to me again. He said, 'Do you do a lot of writing or drawing?' I said, 'No, why?' He said 'You should.' Then, he said, 'I'm a handwriting expert and you

show great imagination in yours.'"

He laughed, thinking about what the man had told him.

"What he doesn't know is that I've lived on imagination all my life," declared Palmer, who has in his time become a golfing institution who's made as much an impact on the game as any man that ever played it.

"I guess I'm the oldest person playing this week," he said. "It sure would be nice to be the oldest person ever to win. I honestly can't remember the first time I played here," he went on, looking skyward and smiling, doing his best to recollect.

He smiles a lot lately and

the \$25,000 first prize he picked up in the Marlboro obviously has something to do with that.

But it's not really the money, he says.

"It might have been back in 1957," he said, still not sure. "I played this course enough to know the emphasis has to be on iron play far more than on wood play. Don't get me wrong. Wood play always is important, but if I were told I had to excel in one thing or another this week, I'd want it to be my irons. That, plus my putting."

Hale Irwin, a two-time U.S. Open winner, strolled onto the putting green and offered his hand to Palmer.

"Congratulations," he said. "That was great."

"Well, thanks, Hale," Palmer answered, knowing Irwin was talking about Marlboro, where his 8-under-par 276 beat Bob Rosburg and Billy Casper by four strokes.

"You know," Palmer said to a couple of newsmen standing near him, "I went to that tournament thinking more about this one than that one. I was trying to get my thinking in a constant trend for the golf course."

"I was playing in anticipation of what I would have to do this week. I wanted to play four good rounds, put four good rounds together if I possibly could."

Raiders' owner meets in closed session on lease

United Press International

LOS ANGELES — Oakland Raiders' owner Al Davis closeted himself with three members of the Coliseum Commission Tuesday in a bid to iron out a lease agreement that could permit the NFL franchise to relocate this fall.

The meeting between Davis and the three-member negotiating team was held at a secret location, and officials declined to provide details of the talks.

"Progress is being made, they are optimistic all the arrangements can be satisfied," Glen Mon, a spokesman for the Coliseum Commission, said. "Things are going well, but they are not delineating any of the particulars of the discussions."

Davis won a significant victory in his fight to move the Raiders to Los Angeles on Monday, when U.S. District Court Judge Harry Pregerson refused a National Football League request to delay the transfer pending appeal of a jury verdict that cleared the way for the move.

Pregerson instead issued a permanent injunction barring the league from interfering with the transfer of the team to the Coliseum, which was left without a pro tenant when the Los Angeles Rams moved to Anaheim Stadium in suburban Orange County in 1980.

Baseball bosses discuss possible revenue-sharing as session ends

United Press International

CHICAGO — Major league baseball owners seeking a solution to the revenue inequity between rich and poor teams say they will consider a plan allowing poorer clubs to collect 25 percent of the gate for road games.

The owners Tuesday wrapped up a two-day session deciding to let a committee draw specific revenue-sharing proposals for their summer meeting.

The owners did not discuss the tenure of Commissioner Bowie Kuhn, who would serve his fourth seven-year term if he is re-elected. Monday, the owners split on plans to restructure baseball's corporate image and whether to augment or limit Kuhn's power.

Committees will work on revenue-sharing and restructuring before the owners meet Aug. 19 in San Diego, where they will likely discuss Kuhn's future.

"Baseball knows it has to restructure the way it obtains revenues," said Chicago White Sox owner Eddie Einhorn. But the inequity between clubs with a lot of money to spend and those which can barely attract fans creates another string of problems.

Some clubs, Einhorn said, emphasize "particular projects in spending their money while others, which own their own real estate, do not have as many costs."

Einhorn said: "Some clubs televise more games than others and get additional revenues

while other clubs have huge promotion gimmicks to bring in other revenue."

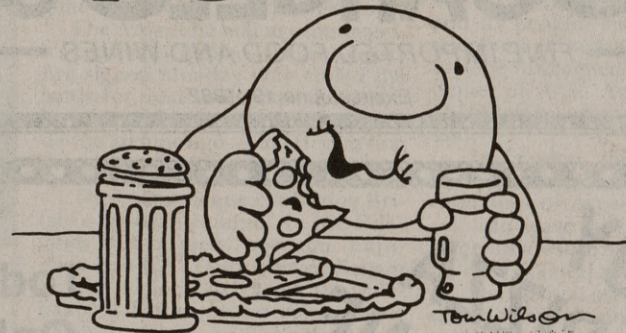
Figures released by the commissioner's office show that nearly \$184 million in salaries will be paid in 1982. The figure probably will jump over the \$200 million mark in 1983 because of deferred payments to

players and performance bonuses.

Cleveland President Gabe Paul said the problem is "how to introduce a revenue-sharing system that, while attempting to take care of less fortunate clubs, will not penalize the wealthier ones."

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