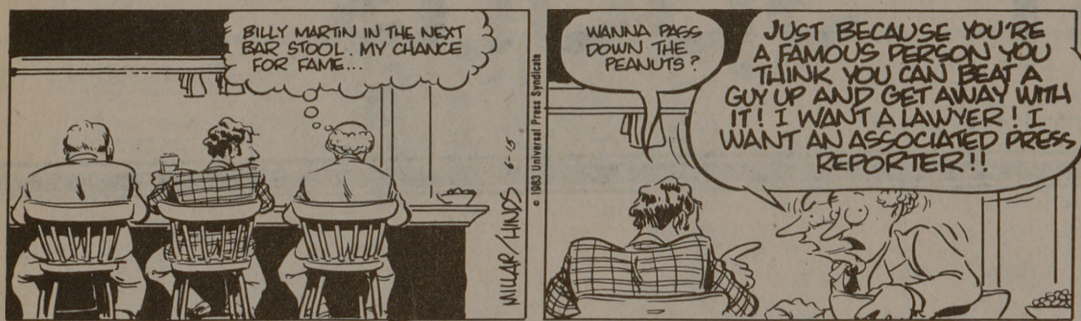


TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Golfers say Open course is one of toughest in country

United Press International
OAKMONT, Pa. — If the Oakmont Country Club course really were the "she" the golfers call it, she'd talk like some tough, sultry blonde on the arm of a gumshoe or a gangster in a 1940s B-grade movie, always re-

peating, "Bet you say that to all the girls."

And maybe "she" would be right. Maybe the pro golfers on hand for the U.S. Open that begins here Thursday do say the same thing to all the "girls."

Maybe it's just good manners for them to come off a practice round on the host course of a major tournament, wipe the sweat from their brows and compliment the course as the toughest or most challenging they've ever played.

If those aren't the standard lines issued automatically at Open courses, then Oakmont must really be something — a 15 on a scale of 10, a combination Ursula Andress-Linda Evans-Bo Derek of golf. Because that's all you've been hearing around the course.

"I've played here a lot, and this is the toughest Oakmont I've ever seen," defending Open champion Tom Watson said after his practice round Tuesday.

"The rough is the deepest I've ever seen — deeper even than Winged Foot (Mamaroneck, N.Y.). With this rough, if you land in it, you have a 20 percent chance you'll have a play to the green. This rough makes it almost impossible for chip shots."

Rave reviews

Rice, Evans help Bosox overcome Detroit

United Press International
Kirk Gibson's one-man show got rave reviews but the Boston Red Sox returned the curtain call.

Gibson put on an exhibition of strength and speed Tuesday night that demonstrated just how awesome his individual talents are but Jim Rice and Dwight Evans proved once again that baseball is, above all, a team game. The Detroit Tiger outfielder hit one of the longest home runs in the history of Tiger Stadium and also made a bid for a dramatic inside-the-park homer on a play that resulted in an injury to home plate umpire Larry Barnett. However, his efforts were wasted when Rice and Evans hit two-run homers to lead the Red Sox to a 6-2 triumph over Detroit.

Gibson hit only the 16th ball out of Tiger Stadium in its history with one out in the fourth inning when his blast off Mike Brown cleared the right field roof and hit the roof of a lumber store across Trumbull Avenue — an estimated 540 feet from home plate.

It was his fourth home run of the season and only the fourth ball to clear the right field roof, which juts out 94 feet from the ground. Only three balls have cleared the barrier since 1969.

"I saw Reggie Jackson's home run in the 1971 All-Star game and I saw Jason Thompson hit

one (in 1977)," Boston Manager Ralph Houk said, "but I think that's the longest home run I've ever seen in the Detroit ballpark. But it only counts as one run."

Gibson also had the fans applauding in the sixth inning when he hit a ball 440 feet to center field that caromed off the glove of Tony Armas. Gibson, one of the fastest runners in baseball, raced around the bases and nearly caught up to the runner in front of him, Lou Whitaker. A perfect relay throw from Armas to shortstop Glenn Hoffman got Whitaker at the plate but Gibson scored after colliding with Barnett and dislodging the ball from Gedman.

Umpire Dale Ford said the ball was an inside-the-park homer because there was no interference, but official scorer Ed Bro-walski of the Polish Daily News later overruled the decision after consulting the baseball rule book. Gibson was credited with a double, ruled to have advanced to third on Armas' throw home and scored when Gedman was charged with an error for not hanging onto the ball.

"It was a great relay," Gibson said, "I was surprised it was there. It was an exciting play. I was going as fast as I can. I can't just stop on a dime, you know — it's like trying to stop an 18-wheeler on a wet road. Maybe some day I can hit one like that

to win a game. It's nice to hit a barr edt long.

"But we lost the game and the umpire got hurt. Everything was overshadowed by those two things."

Rice hit his 14th homer of the season after Evans walked in the third to give Boston a 3-0 lead as the Red Sox took advantage of starter Dan Petry's wildness to score four runs on two hits.

Evans hit his 11th homer after Jerry Remy singled off reliever Howard Baily in the fourth to give Boston a 6-0 lead before Gibson put on his hardhitting display.

Brown, making his first start since May 28, gave up just four hits in 7 2-3 innings to get the victory before Bob Stanley relieved and earned his 12th save.

Elsewhere in the American League, Toronto outslugged Oakland 13-7, Cleveland beat New York 9-6, Texas defeated Seattle 7-1 and Minnesota topped Kansas City 8-1. Baltimore at Milwaukee and California at Chicago were rained out.

In National League games, Montreal defeated Pittsburgh 7-3, New York edged Chicago 4-3 in 10 innings, St. Louis nipped Philadelphia 5-4, Cincinnati topped San Diego 4-3, Los Angeles turned back Atlanta 4-3 and Houston beat San Francisco 3-2 in 12 innings.

BLUE JAYS 13, A'S 7 — At

Toronto, Jesse Barfield, two homers and drove in four runs and Buck Martinez, 4-for-4 and drove in three runs to spark a 16-hit attack. Barfield, who had not batted or driven in a run since 17, belted a three-run homer to cap a four-run first-inning two-run homer to high-five-run third inning.

INDIANS 9, YANKEES 3 — At Cleveland, Julio Lugo, Pat Tabler drove in three with a pair of doubles as the Indians to victory. Indians pitched pitcher led by six runs in the ninth.

RANGERS 7, MARINERS 4 — At Arlington, Texas, Bittner's two-run double led a four-run third-inning enabled the Rangers to win their winning streak of games — their longest years. Knuckleballer Tom Hough, 4-6, went the distance for the second time this year, giving up three hits, three and striking out three.

TWINS 8, ORIOLES 3 — At Minneapolis, Gary Nault solo homer and John Lacey laced a two-run double as the Twins to victory. Willie Williams, 3-7, walked struck out five and hit Royals to six hits in the distance for the first time



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Connors, Navritalova claim top seeds at Wimbledon tournament

United Press International
LONDON — Jimmy Connors will defend two titles when the Wimbledon tennis championships open next Monday; his title as champion and his honor. Connors, who was eliminated in a bid for his first French Open two weeks ago when he was upset by Christophe Roger-Vasselin of France, has a chance for revenge. The two could face each other in a third-round Wimbledon match.

The 30-year-old defending

champion, who won last week's Queen's Club grass court championships, opens his defense on center court against South African Eddie Edwards. He is then drawn to meet the winner of the match between fellow American Lloyd Bourne and Australian Wally Masur.

Barring any major upset, Connors' revenge match will happen Tuesday, providing Roger-Vasselin overcomes Sweden's Stefan Edberg in the first round and then beats either

American Vince Van Pattor Sweden's Henrick Sundstroem. Roger-Vasselin, 128 places below world No. 2 Connors in its computer rankings, is essentially a clay court player and may fail to reach even the third-round stage.

John McEnroe, the No. 2 seed, wants very much to regain the crown he captured in 1981. He lost to Connors at the Queen's Club and Wimbledon last year and also at last Sunday's final at Queen's Club.

McEnroe opens his campaign against Ben Westerman, a hard-hitting Tennessean who provided Connors with some trying moments in Paris.

The No. 2 seed is then drawn to meet either Chilean Jaime Filol or Florin Segarceanu of Romania. American Bill Scanlon, seeded 14th, is McEnroe's first major hurdle en route to a scheduled quarterfinal clash against eighth-seeded compatriot Vitas Gerulaitis.

Third-seeded Czechoslova-

kian Ivan Lendl, who against one of the quarter of the draw, is a prospective semifinalist. McEnroe is seriously endangered by Sweden's Wilander.

Wilander meets John Fitzgerald in the round and is then lined up against Tim Maystedt or another American Alexander. The field, in which the top players are all American, sees champion Martina Navratilova start her title defense against young South African Beate Boulet before meeting compatriot Sherry Acker. Catherin Tanvier of France is second-seeded Chris Lloyd, who like Navratilova, three-time winner here, testing first round against the improving compatriot Moulé, runner-up in last year's grass court tournament in Ingham, England.

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Schlichter says he's 'getting better'

United Press International
COLUMBUS, Ohio — Suspended Baltimore Colts quarterback Art Schlichter said he had "no regrets" about going to the FBI with the story of his involvement with four Baltimore-area gamblers.

Schlichter, discussing his gambling in an exclusive interview with Lee Vlisides of WBNS-TV in Columbus, said, "At times there's no control over what you do."

Schlichter turned the four men over the FBI earlier this year and they were subsequently

indicted on several related charges which he bargained in U.S. District Court in Columbus.

He said he was "sick" with "gambling disease" and added he was "getting better" since going to therapy to help his gambling habit.

He said after he began treatment at Long Island's Ochs Hospital, he gained self-knowledge and made his gambling problem a recovering alcoholic. Schlichter said, he'll never be cured of his disease.



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