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MUSTER April 21

Come by our table in the **MSC** this week

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Nicklaus has golden eye on Masters

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — The in the wake of a triumph in his first Olden Bear turned Golden again, start on the Senior PGA Tour, Nickand now he's on the prowl for still another Masters title.

Sam Snead was 52 when he won his eighth Greensboro Open in 1965. He was the oldest man to win on the PGA Tour.

Julius Boros was 48 when he won the 1958 PGA championship. He was the oldest man to win one of golf's Big Four events: the Masters, U.S. and British Opens and the

Jack Nicklaus was 46 when he won the 1986 Masters, the oldest man to win that title. Now he's 50.

And, confident and enthusiastic

laus says he's ready to take on the younger players in the 54th Masters that begins Thursday.

The Battalion

"I think my chances are pretty good," he said. "I really think they

The statement came in the cheerful, confident, rosy review of his victory in the Tradition at Desert Mountain. But that was against a field restricted to golf's over-50 set.

Gary Player, a three-time Masters winner and Nicklaus' playing companion over the last two rounds last week, thinks it is more than possible

"Extremely likely," Player said. 'He's playing very, very well. I thought his putting was excellent. He's doing the things you have to do to win. I don't care what they say about all those younger players. There's not a one of them can play anything like the way this man

At the core is his new-old swing. In the years since his sixth Masters victory, he said, his swing changed to accommodate back problems that, at one time, threatened his playing ca-

Those physical problems are cured, he said, and he has slowly worked his way back to the swing of

an earlier era, a swing that produ 70 American PGA Tour titles an

Wednesday, April 4, 199

record 18 major championships. "I'm very confident with what doing," he said after reaching halfway mark on a goal he'd set 1990: a victory on both the Sen

and regular tours."If I'm going win on the regular tour, the Mass is the tournament for me to win. "I've won there six times. I kn the course and the tournament a what it takes to win there. I'm co fortable there. I don't have strength I once had, but stren isn't a factor at Augusta. You do have the rough there you do at the

Open and the PGA.

Sports Focus: Pro Baseball

No place but Texas

Texas' ace to lead club in season opener

ARLINGTON (AP) - Nolan Ryan begins another season of destiny on Monday night, just 11 victories short of a milestone he The 43-year-old Ryan will be

11 wins short of 300 victories when he takes the mound at 7:35 p.m. against the Toronto Blue

There's some records I don't are that much about, but I do ant to win 300 games," Ryan id. "It's probably the only time The ever gone into a season shoting at a statistic."

tyan won 16 games for the Teas Rangers last year and recored his 5,000th strikeout whe he cut down Rickey Henderson of the Oakland A's. He pitchel two one-hitters, just missing hi sixth no-hitter going into the nith inning on both occa-

Ryan 301 strikeouts last year led the jajors by 66. Mark Langston ha 235 as the runner-up.

The Ringers will have a new centerfieler when they take the field in Arlington Stadium

against the ays.
Gary Pets, a Gold Glove outfielder from the Detroit Tigers, was signed s a free agent for about \$1 miles by the Rangers and will replace Cecil Espy, who was inconsister at bat and in the field last year Pettis hit .257 for the Tigers with ne homer.

"Gary will ru down a lot of balls that got though for hits in the alleys last yea," said Rangers manager Bobby alentine. "He's got great speed on he base paths,

The Rangers nished four games over .500 lasyear but finished 16 games behad eventual world champion Oak nd.

The A's look strong gain. "It looks tough on per," said general manager To Grieve. "Fortunately, we get to play the games on the field. The A's will be hard to beat.'

he Rangers lineup ncludes Geno Petralli at catcher Rafael Palmeiro at first base Julio Franco at second, Jeff Kukel at shortstop, Steve Buechele athird base, Pete Incaviglia in leftfield, and Ruben Sierra in rightfiel.

Sierra was runner-up in Aperican League most valuable plyer balloting, although he led the L

"It just makes me work hardr because I didn't get the MP award," Sierra said. "I want

have a big, big year. Sierra worked hard in the weight room in the off-season to improve his upper body strength.
"Ruben looks great," Valentine

said. "I believe this will be his best year ever. He has motivation because he didn't get the MVP. It should drive him to an excellent

Toronto and Texas meet on what had originally been scheduled as an open date.



Battalion file photo by J. Janner

Former Astro Nolan Ryan, shown signing autographs at Olsen Field in 1988, will pitch the Rangers' opening game in 1990.

Club offered new home,

DALLAS (AP) — A real estate broker has proposed a new home for the Texas Rangers in west Dallas as part of a complex that also might feature football, basketball, horse racing and auto racing, a newspaper reported

But Arlington officials say the proposal is not a serious attempt to lure the Rangers away from

their city.

Don Shackelford of Arlington said Prime Sports Partners Ltd. plans to build a sports complex on 1,017 acres about 10 miles east of Arlington Stadium, the Rangers current home.

"We're offering a sports com-lex for the Metroplex," Shackel-ard told the Fort Worth Star-legram Monday. "It's not basebal; it's not anything. It's just a

The site, which is just east of among the highest spots in Dallas County. It's about seven miles west of downtown Dallas and about five miles south of Texas Stadium, where the Dallas Cow-

boys play in suburban Irving.
Arlington Mayor Richard
Greene, who has led an effort to keep the Rangers in Arlington, dismissed Shackelford's an-nouncement as "a real estate speculator who is hyping his

property."
Ted Willis, president of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, called it "a joke."
"I would think the Rangers

would be more interested in Florida swamp land than this deal,

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (AP) — Texas Rangers rookie Kevin Brown thinks he's fortified against a power failure that short circuited his final four starts las

Brown was not seriously in jured but his arm had weakened enough for Manager Bobby Val entine to fear injury

"He never was really hurt last year," Rangers general manager Tom Grieve said. "It just got to the point, based on the strength tests we give periodically, he wasn't as strong as we wanted him

Brown was removed from the rotation with a 12-9 record, matching the club record for victories by a rookie. Edwin Correa set the record in 1986.

"I was disappointed that I couldn't finish stronger," Brown said. "But if you'd told me at the beginning of the season I'd have a chance to spend the whole seaso in the major leagues and be 12.9 I'd have jumped at it."
Brown filled a void in the

Rangers rotation last season earning a starting job with an outstanding spring.

He continued to prove himself

in the regular season. Brown wa at his best in a 19-game string starting May 3 when he went 10-5 with a 2.57 earned run average

But starting Aug. 17, he went 0-3 in his next four starts. He won his final game on Sept. 8 and finished with a 3.35 ERA.

Then, his season was over. "The tired arm thing was pre-cautionary," Rangers pitching coach Tom House said. "For a kid who has 20 years of pitching ahead of him, we just didn't want to push him to the wall."

Strength tests House uses may have prevented serious injury. You can't complete eliminat the risk of injuries and aches and

pains but ours are minimized be cause of the hard work we put in "We're going to be quick but

Brown and Nolan Ryan were the Rangers' most consistent per-Brown said he knew early in the season he had a problem with a particular shoulder muscle. "We noticed early in the year

that the strength in that muscle was unproportioned to the others," Brown said.

Off-season weight work has corrected the problem, Brown said, and he expects to resume his mid-season efficiency of 1989. Brown's spring performance has done nothing to indicate any

problems. He has thrown 14 innings yielded 12 hits, three walks and

struck out seven for a 1.29 ERA. "I feel as good now as I've eve felt about my arm," Brown said
"I was pleased with last year bu I'm not satisfied. I'm not ready to sit back and be satisfied with what

I did last year.'

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