

AL IS TOURNEY'S FIRST REPEATING CHAMPION

Watrous Keeps Quarter-Century Crown

Special To The Eccentric
By BOB RUSSELL

PGA Public Relations Director
DUNEDIN, Fla.—Al Watrous is the first repeating champion in the history of the PGA Quarter-Century club tournament.

The husky 58-year-old professional from Birmingham, Mich., clinched just about every record in the competition co-sponsored by the Professional Golfers Association of America and the Professional Golf Club of Chattanooga, Tenn. When Watrous won his first Quarter-Century championship a year ago, he shot 67-69—136—the lowest score in the history of the event. This year his 70-74—144 was the only par total turned in by the more than 100 veteran professionals in the field.

Raw north winds, with gusts up to 40 miles an hour, buffeted the PGA National golf club here during the two days

of the fifth annual tournament for PGA members of 25 years of service. Temperatures in the 40's sent most scores soaring.

HOWEVER, EXCEPT FOR three of the first four holes of the second round, Watrous played steady golf. Oddly enough, he won the championship without shooting the low score for either round of the 36-hole tournament. The first-round leader was Charley Sheppard, the small veteran from West Newton, Mass., who was a quarterfinalist in the PGA Championship last summer and runnerup to Gene Sarazen of Germantown, N. Y., in the recent PGA Seniors' Championship.

Sheppard could do no wrong the first round, as he put together a 34-55—89, three shots under par. He had a happy five on the fourth hole, but overcame it with birdies on the

eighth and ninth, for a 34, one under regulation figures, at the turn.

Combining seven pars with birdies on the 15th and 17th holes, Sheppard took a one-stroke lead at the end of the first day of play. Watrous led him by one, shooting a 35 for the front nine, but slipped to an even par-37 in the afternoon.

TIED WITH WATROUS for second place after 18 holes was Gunnard Johnson of Minneapolis, with 35-35—70. One stroke behind then, with 32-39—71, was Dave Ogilvie of South Euclid, Ohio.

Five consecutive birdies at the end of the first nine gave Ogilvie the low nine of the tournament. However, he lost his chance to take the lead when he took a 39 coming in.

Winds were higher and so were scores the second round. Not one of the more than 100 veteran professionals could match par.

The two who came closest were Dick Metz of Val Verde Ranch, Ala., and Eddie Williams of Louisville, Ky. Metz, an official in the Professional Golf Club, added a 73 to his opening round 72, for 145 and a share of second place. If he could have knocked out stroke of his score, he'd have tied Watrous for first place and forced a playoff for—all things!—the Dick Metz Trophy. But, as it was, he had to settle for a second-place tie with Sheppard.

METZ, FOR WHOM the Quarter-Century club trophy was named, played the steadiest golf of the tournament. The youthful-looking Texas native shot a 29, an all-time record for the front nine of the PGA National golf club, in pre-tournament practice.

He matched par in the first round, then went one over, in miserable weather, for a 73 the second round. An identical 73 the second day made Eddie Williams, a three-time PGA Seniors' champion, the low man in the 65-69 age group. His 36-hole total was 151.

Watrous was one of three who shot 74 in the second round. The others were Bill Graham of Bloomfield Hills, Mich., and George Smith of Lake Forest, Ill. Graham finished far down the list at 154.

Smith, almost as steady as Metz, topped the 59-64 age group with 147. He shot a 74 on opening day and a 73 in the last round. He was one of the few who lowered his score as the weather grew worse.

IN THE BATTLE between the real "old pros," in the 70 and over age bracket, Mike Brady of Dunedin was the winner, with a fine two-day card of 155. His 76 Wednesday and his 79 Thursday would have given him a place well up the list had he played against the younger veterans.

Watrous had to overcome a shaky start to become the first man in history to win the Quarter-Century club championship twice, much less twice in two years. He was guilty of bogeys on the first, second and fourth holes, but he had a birdie on the third.

Right there it looked like Al might blow himself out of contention early. But he negotiated the next five holes in even par to finish the front nine two over. Metz and Sheppard matched his outgoing 37.

After that, Watrous was in charge. He toured the last nine in even par 37, despite chilling temperatures and a biting wind out of the northwest. Sheppard slipped to a 39 and Watrous was home free, in spite of a fine last-nine 36 by Metz.

WATROUS WON the \$300 top prize in the tournament in which the manufacturers of First Flight golf equipment provide \$1,000 in cash and \$2,500 in merchandise for the contestants. He also received the Metz trophy for one year and a replica of it to keep permanently.

Assign Teams For District Court Meets

By LES LINE
Sports Editor

Southfield and Troy high schools have been assigned district basketball tournaments, while Birmingham high will be the site of two regional tournaments and possibly a state quarter-final game.

Dates for district play are March 5-8. Regionals will be held March 11-15. District drawings will be held next week.

Nine teams will compete in Southfield's class A district, from which four district champions will emerge under rules governing district play for the larger schools.

COMPETING besides the host Bluebirds will be Detroit Catholic Central, Redford Union, Farmington, Bentley, Pontiac, Waterford, Utica and Walled Lake.

According to Monte Charles, Southfield tournament manager, each team but Southfield—or the one that defeats it—will play just one game. Each winner four in all—will be awarded district championship trophy and advance to regional play at Bentley.

For its first year in Michigan's history that districts are being held for class A schools. The elimination format for district tournaments in classes B, C and D will not be changed.

TROY WILL BE host to three other class B schools—Clawson, East Farmington and Eastman—in district play. The winner will advance to the Pontiac regional.

Birmingham's eagles, meanwhile, will compete in a nine-school class A district at Farmington. Others entered are Berkeley, Hamtramck, Hazel Park, Highland Park, Royal Oak, Dorado and Kimball and Warren. Farmington will play twice if victorious in its first game.

Four district champions will be crowned at Farmington and all four will move on to the class A regional to be played at Birmingham.

BIRMINGHAM will also be host to a class C regional, according to Frank Whitney, athletic director. Birmingham's eagles, meanwhile, will compete in a nine-school class A district at Farmington. Others entered are Berkeley, Hamtramck, Hazel Park, Highland Park, Royal Oak, Dorado and Kimball and Warren. Farmington will play twice if victorious in its first game.

CRANE GRAPPLERS Decision S'field

SOUTHFIELD—Cranebrook failed to score a pin, but decided in eight of the 12 bouts gave the Crane wrestlers a 24-16 triumph over Southfield's matmen here last Thursday afternoon.

They grapplers, now sporting a 7-3 record, matched the match's only two pins. Cranbrook has won four mat outings, lost two and tied one this season.

Their Second Win

VAN DYKE—Southfield high's swimmers notched their second win of the season here Friday night, taking seven first places in a 57-20 drubbing of Fitzgerald.

BIRMINGHAM captured all 10

The Birmingham Eccentric

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FEBRUARY 20, 1958

a line . . . from les

Chess Fan?
Here's a Club
Just for You

If you're a chess enthusiast and would like some competition, there's a chance we may have just the thing for you. And your skill at the game doesn't really matter.

Polished player or tyro, all are welcome in a relatively new group in our city, the Birmingham chess club, now meeting Thursday nights at the Community House.

The club had a rather unimpressive beginning. The fact is it didn't even start out as such, but rather as occasional competition between two chess playing clubs. Then other friends became interested and joined the weekly play at the homes of members. Things were really organized in the strictly male club, however, until about four weeks ago when the club picked a secretary, its first elected officer, and decided to meet at the Community House and seek more members.

Right now the club's membership numbers nine. Tom Cummings, its secretary, reports, included in the chess group are Richard Olin, David DeVosky, Charles Olin, Dale Churchill, Arnold Grooms, Neal McLeod and Lee Goss. Frank Lyndall is the newest member. He joined at the club's first Community House gathering last Thursday.

Cummings, who lives in Clawson but works in Birmingham, says the club will be glad to teach novices. Competition with chess

clubs from other cities is listed among the organization's future plans, and its members will begin Avondale Friday night, 7 to 9, with guard Wayne Figley meshing \$2 to pace the win. It is the second outright championship for Troy, cottish with Lake Orion last season.

THE BULL, introduced by Rep. William I. Bowman of Ingham county, has been referred to the house judiciary committee, of which Rep. Roberts is a member.

MICHIGAN house bill No. 57, which would have banned the use of certain types of firearms within one mile of cities of 25,000 or more population, has been killed in committee. Farrell E. Roberts, Birmingham's state representative, reported to The Eccentric by phone Tuesday afternoon.

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WALLY BURKOMO failed to qualify for the final two rounds of last week's \$15,000 Texas Open at San Antonio. The Franklin Hills pro's wife reports he came down with the flu, possibly because of the bitter cold the first day of the tourney.

BURKOMO'S 71 on the first 18 holes last Thursday stood for eighth but he slipped far down the list with a 77 the second round and a 79 the third.

JOHN JOHNSON of Provo, Utah, won the \$2,000 first-place purse with a 274 card.

THE TEXAS is only the second tournament in seven '58 winter circuit outings in which Burkomo has failed to finish the money. It is the first time he has failed to qualify this year.

THE BIRMINGHAM area can boast of having the largest number of keeshond champions in Michigan. The third championship was completed this month by Mike Snook's 15-month-old female owned by Mrs. Pauline Nichols of 25191 McAllister.

SOUTHFIELD St. Michaels will now go to Toronto in March to compete for her Canadian championship.

TWO OTHER keeshond champions are owned by Mrs. E. H. Apey, 29010 Franklin, Southfield town ship.

—LES LINE, SPORTS EDITOR

Sports Calendar

Basketball
Friday, Feb. 21
Port Huron at Birmingham, 8:30 p.m.
Clarencville at Bloomfield Hills, 7 p.m.
VanDyke at Southfield, 7 p.m.
Troy at Clawson, 6:45 p.m.
Country Day vs. Indianapolis Park (Maumee, Ohio, Invitational), 7 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 22
Nichols at Cranbrook, 9 p.m.
Wrestling
Thursday, Feb. 20
Inter-Lakes conference meet at Berkley, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 21
Cranbrook at Flint Center, 4 p.m.
Hockey
Saturday, Feb. 22
Nichols at Cranbrook, 7 p.m.



Maple swim coach Jay Myers, relaxing during Birmingham-Mount Clemens diving competition.



Members of Birmingham's 200-yard medley relay team, before start of successful onslaught against school and pool records in Mount Clemens riot Friday night.

EML Meet Next For Undefeated B'ham Tankers

Coach Jay Myers' undefeated Birmingham high swimmers racked up their 21st consecutive dual victory Friday night and set their sights on the upcoming Eastern Michigan league tank meet.

The Maples have already wrapped up their 16th straight EML district championship.

The league preliminaries are scheduled for next Thursday at 7 p.m. The final will be held March 7, at 7:45 p.m. Birmingham will be the host of both.

MOUNT CLEMENS was the victim of Friday night's 76-20 routing in the Birmingham pool, the most decisive Maple win of the season.

Three pool records and one school mark tumbled. The 200-yard medley relay team of Jim Wall, Dave Rider, Tom Bechtel and Pete Sirtz saved four-tenths of a second off the school and pool standard in that event, lowering it to 1:31.4. Rider, Bechtel, Sirtz and Dave Smith had set the former record of 1:51.7 three days earlier.

Bechtel smashed his own 200-yard freestyle pool record of 2:01.5 with a 1:59.7 clocking while Sirtz was timed at 2:24 in the 100-yard freestyle, bettering his own pool mark of :53.2.

BIRMINGHAM captured all 10

Subdivision Still Plenty Wild, Youngsters Find

A couple of lads up North Adams way have proved there is at least one subdivision that hasn't been completely "tamed" by suburbia's encroachment.

The youngsters, Skip McCurdy and Bill Beddow, a pair of Lanergan lane 13-year-olds, have parlayed a trampoline virtually in their own back yards into a rich profitable hobby.

And surprising as it may seem to residents of Leonard Lane subdivision, there's quite a variety of wildlife still existing within a stone's throw of their homes.

SKIP, son of Mr. and Mrs. William C. McCurdy, 2880 Lanergan, and a seventh-grader at Harlan school, and Bill, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney B. Beddow, 2921 Lanergan, and an eighth-grader at Derby junior high, became interested in trapping last fall.

The boys spent several evenings reading up on the subject in library books and outdoor magazines and then, feeling well briefed on the skill of successfully snaring fur-sundry fur-bearing friends, invested their allowances in 25 steel traps of assorted sizes.

They apparently did a good job of research. This winter three not-

so-very red foxes have stepped in the wrong place at the wrong time and are now being sold for \$15 in bounty payments from the commonwealth of Michigan.

THE FOX, although its fur has little value, is considered one of the hardest animals to trap.

That isn't all the youths' trappings, set in the undeveloped area immediately behind Leonard Lane subdivision, has produced. So far 32 muskrats, four raccoons and six possums have wandered into the boys' traps.

The animals were carefully skinned and all but the three foxes and a coon shipped to fur companies in Illinois and Pennsylvania for sale.

Note to Leonard Lane residents: If you should discover a hole dug in your back yard, or find your garage can has been raided, don't blame your neighbor's dog. Chances are the fault lies with one of your seldom seen wildlife friends.



Skip McCurdy (left) and Bill Beddow, with pelts of three foxes and a raccoon snared in "backyard" trappings.

It's All Over In Oakland 'B' Cage Chase

Only two games remain between the Peyton Goodwin-coached Troy hoopers and a perfect season, with 14 triumphs and the Oakland "B" loop's uncontested championship already salted away by the Colts.

The Troy cage powerhouse annexed its third conference cage title under Goodwin's tutelage last Avondale Friday night, 7 to 32, with guard Wayne Figley meshing \$2 to pace the win. It is the second outright championship for Troy, cottish with Lake Orion last season.

SOUTHFIELD, now well out of the inter-lakes title picture, handed a 65-53 jolting at Farmington Friday night. Dave Krause hit 15 to lead the successful Jay effort. The loss at the hands of the league's last-place club was Southfield's sixth in 15 outings.

BOB ELSTON and Jim McGuire tossed in 16 points apiece to spark Bloomfield Hills to a 61-50 victory Friday night at Milford, a win that pulled the Barons out of the Wayne-Oakland basement. Coach Hal Trotts' Hills preppers have won three of their last five starts. They hold a 4-10 overall record.

COUNTRY DAY was handed its ninth defeat in 10 games Friday night at Flint Rock Huron, 52 to 32.

RESERVE RESULTS: Avondale 38, Troy 36; Farmington, 54, Southfield 47; Bloomfield Hills 58, Milford 36; Country Day 50, Flint Rock Huron 19.

VARSITY HOCKEY has been on the intercollegiate athletic program at Michigan Tech since 1919-1920.

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All-star squads from Birmingham's three recreation leagues proved much too tough for the champions of their respective loops in last weekend's puck finals at Eton rink.

All three newly-crowned titlists bowed. The Oaks of the senior league fell, 3 to 0, Sunday morning, while in Saturday morning's scrums, the Green Hornets of the junior loop were upended by a 6-4 count and the intermediate-level Princeton Prep Tigers suffered a 5-2 reversal.

JAY HENGELMANN and John Cauler notched goals to give the Hornets a 2-0 edge in the first period, but Jim Stephenson and Doug Moore tied things up for the junior league all-stars before the end of the stanza.

Two second-period goals by Gordy Joritz put the all-stars ahead to stay. Stephenson and Bill Paulsen tied it 6-2 in the third period before Fred Glasford and Dave Jensen scored the Hornets' final two goals.

A pair of scores by Ron Cornia gave the Tigers an early 2-0 lead, but Dave Bartush and Ken Maurer knocked the score for the intermediate stars in the second period.

THE TIE FIELD under the last stanza when George Forrest, Cleve King and Bill Phillips notched goals for the stars to turn the affair into a rout.

The senior circuit's all-stars had goals for D. Bird, Wayne Grelau and Larry Warner in their blanking of the Oaks.