

Experts Like Patty Berg in Women's Open

The U. S. Women's Open at Forest Lake country club near Birmingham is still three weeks away—the classic is scheduled for June 26-29—but the experts are ready to name the favorite.

That would be Patty Berg, of course. In any major LPGA tournament, the likeable red-head is almost the automatic choice as the gal to beat. Even Betty Rawls, the defending champion, or Jackie Pung, the hard-luck Hawaiian matron who came so close last year, are unlikely to muster such solid critical support.

The reasons for this attitude are obvious: Patty Berg is one of the great ladies of golf. She has won more tournaments, earned more money and shot more consistently first-class golf than any other gal now in the game. Although she cheerfully admits that she has been playing golf for almost a quarter of a century, she is at the top of her game today.

PATTY WILL HAVE special incentive to turn in a superior effort in the Open. For, strangely enough, she has captured this prized title only once and that was "way back in 1946. She defeated Betty Jameson for the honor in 1946, the first year the open was held. She hasn't won since, although she was runner-up to Miss Rawls last year. Just about every other honor in women's golf worth men-

tioning has come her way with some regularity. In all, she has captured approximately 30 major tournament championships, including an incredible string of seven triumphs on the rich Titleholders meet at Augusta, the scene of the men's Masters.

She has won the Vare trophy for the lowest scoring average three times—in 1953 with an average of 75, in 1955 with 74.47 and in 1956 with 74.47. Last year she slipped all the way to second with a 74.82 mark.

SHE IS OFFICIALLY credited with \$112,325 in winnings since the LPGA began to keep records in 1948. Last year she again topped the pretties in this department with earnings of \$16,272.

In seven tournaments on the winter tour this year, she scored two seconds, two thirds, two fourths and a seventh. None of her rivals approached her steadiness, week in and week out, under all conditions.

The entry in the Open of the nation's top women professionals can be taken for granted. If they are able to be up and about, they will be there. For this is the classic of the season, where victory carries a rich cash reward and immeasurable prestige. What's more, just about all the outstanding amateur golf-

ers in the country will be there, too. For this will be their last chance to show that they deserve a place on the Curtis Cup team which will meet the British team at West Newton, Mass., Aug. 8-9.

THE CHOICES for the team will be announced immediately after the Open. Final selections for the team are likely to depend, in great measure, on how the aspirants fare in the Open. Joseph C. Dey, Jr., executive director of the USGA, estimates that approximately 40 of the best amateur golfers in this country will participate in the Open.

Since the event was inaugurated in 1946, no amateur has ever won the Open, but Barbara Matrine almost made it in 1956. The Toledo amateur ace tied Kathy Cornelius after 72 holes of play with a 302 score. In the subsequent 18-hole playoff, Mrs. Cornelius won, 75-82.

Miss Rawls won the championship last year when Jackie Pung was disqualified for attesting an improper score card. The decision to disqualify Mrs. Pung precipitated one of the liveliest controversies of the year.

Mrs. Pung, determined to win beyond dispute this year, plans to be at Forest Lake a week early to familiarize herself with the course.



PATTY BERG

Real Golf Drama Comes AFTER Open

In Monday's Thrill-Packed Playoff for Berths in National

By HAL BUERGE

ROYAL OAK—Eight thousand golfing fans paid \$4 apiece to see the final round of the Western Open golf tournament at Red Run Sunday.

For their money they were privileged to stand in the rain and cold peering around each other's umbrellas to catch a glimpse of their favorites as they truffled through their torturous tours on the wet and soggy links.

They were rewarded when Doug Sanders, a real darkhorse champion, stepped off the 18th green 13 strokes under par with a total of 275.

It was a great show, but probably not as good as the one staged at 6:30 p.m. Monday afternoon at the same golf course.

Monday was qualifying day for the National Open golf championship which starts today at Dallas Texas. With all of the touring pros in Detroit, the state was handed a total of 29 qualifying places, and about 50 of the visiting pros joined 125 local pros and top-flight amateurs in quest of the available berths.

Red Run golf club was the scene of one 18-hole round, while Plum Hollow country club was used for the other 18 holes of the 36-hole event.

WHEN THE FIRING was finished, 13 of the tourists and the veteran Red Run amateur Chuck Kosciw were deadlocked at 148 for six remaining qualifying positions.

Never before in the history of golf in our area has so much drama been packed into a tournament playoff. Some of the world's top talent was fighting fiercely to gain the coveted spots in the greatest of all golf tournaments, the United States Open Championship. With less than 100 fans forming the gallery—many of them other top professionals who had either qualified or fallen by the wayside—the 14 golfers commenced the pressure-packed playoff.

BESIDES KOSCIW, the 14 included Mike Souckak, Don Fairfield, Ernie Vossler, Mike Fetschik, Jim Fesee, George Bayer, Howie Johnson, Al BesseLink, Ed Whaley, Jr., Art Wall, Jr., Walker Inman, Tony Lama and Frank Phillips.

Out of the first foursome to tee off, Vossler, Fetschik, and Fesee birdied the first hole for three of the fourth spot. Chuck Kosciw capped the places spot a few minutes later on the same hole.

Bayer and Phillips bogied number one and dropped out, while the remaining eight keyed-up players continued with seven of them gaining routine parts of the second hole. Inman bogied to cut the field to six.

AL BESSELINK ran in a short hole. (See GOLF, Page 8-E)



Birmingham's Tom Draper drives Red Run's 18th in third round of Western Open play Saturday. He carded a 78 after two earlier 71's to miss qualifying for the final round by a single stroke. Behind Draper is Ernie Vossler.

DRAPER B'HAM'S BEST

Area's Amateurs Have Their Day In Western Open

By HAL BUERGE

ROYAL OAK—When you think of golf in Detroit you think of Birmingham as the center of the activity—especially as far as the location of fine courses is concerned.

The Birmingham area, claiming a good share of the better players, was well represented in last week's Western Open at Red Run golf club here.

Of the 18 amateurs starting, eight were from the Birmingham area. Two—Tom Draper of Birmingham and Bob Whiting of Lakeland—were among four amateurs qualifying for the final two days.

OF THESE FOUR, only Royal Oak's Chuck Kosciw made the final day of competition. Draper, who put together a pair of 71's for a 142-stroke half-way total, missed qualifying for the last round by a single stroke.

He slipped to a 76 Saturday for a 218 total. But he had illustrious company. Franklin Hill's Wally Burkemo, Birmingham country club's Ray Maguire, Lloyd Mangrum, Dick Mayer and Jay Hebert were among the professionals who didn't make it past the 54-hole mark. Bob Whiting wound up with 223.

IN FACT, DRAPER, Red Run member, turned in the best 36-hole score in his threesome. And his partners were two well-known touring pros. Gay Brewer, winner of the tournament, and country club's Ray Maguire, Lloyd Mangrum, Dick Mayer and Jay Hebert were among the professionals who didn't make it past the 54-hole mark. Bob Whiting wound up with 223.

Birmingham's Ben Smith, former University of Michigan star and Detroit district veteran, had the honor of playing with the leader at the end of two rounds of play. He was paired with Tommy Jacobs of Whittier, Calif., who shot his way to a 64-71-134 to lead all qualifiers by two strokes.

SMITH PLAYED before one of the tournament's largest galleries on Friday, and although he shot a fair 77 to go along with his 72 on Thursday's round, it just wasn't good enough.

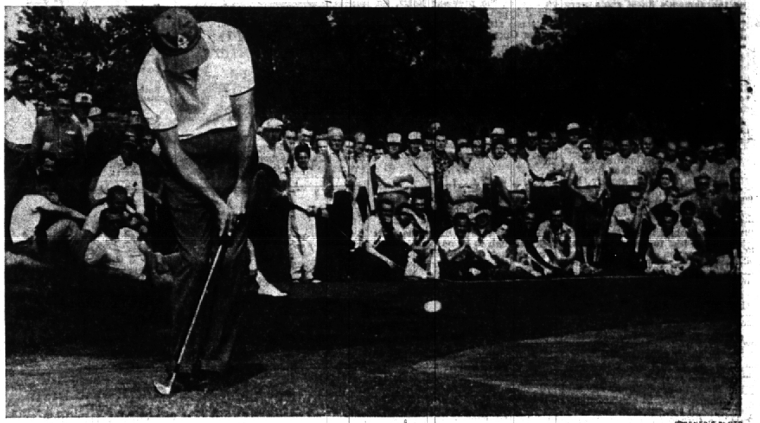
The third member of Ben's threesome was Bruce Crampton, of



Tommy Jacobs, the young Californian who led the Red Run field for 36 holes, watches the course in the drive from the 18th tee Saturday. His first-round 61 tied the course record.

hole. Inman bogied to cut the field to six.

AL BESSELINK ran in a short hole. (See GOLF, Page 8-E)



Golf fans pack the edge of Red Run's 17th green as Dow Finsterwald hits a short chip shot in Saturday's Western Open play. After a 69-68-68—205 total that tied for the

The Birmingham Eccentric

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a line . . . from les

Birmingham high means track prowess not only on the prep scene but at the college level, too.

Albion college recently swept to its fourth straight MIAA track championship and Briton junior Jim Taup played a very important role in that victory.

Taup, one of Coach Kermit Ambrose's outstanding Maple runners a few years back, set two new MIAA records—4:23.9 in the mile and 9:53.1 in the two-mile.

Albion considers Taup the greatest distance runner in the college's history—and probably the greatest in the history of the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic association. He was voted the Britons' most valuable player and named co-captain for 1959.

His MIAA record mile is also Albion's school mark. He holds the school's two-mile standard, too—9:42.2.

Franklin Hills pro Wally Burkemo is sixth in the latest Ryder Cup point standings issued by the PGA and 22nd among the leading money winners. His earnings total \$5,853.

Arnold Palmer tops the cash list with \$21,445. Ken Venturi's \$15,731 is second best. Jay Hebert leads the PGA's top-10 tournament point standings, with Burkemo out of the first 25 golfers on the TTT list.

Mike Heffernan, 608 Lakeview, Birmingham, is among Olivet college's baseball letterwinners this spring. He is a senior.

Attendance at last Thursday's baseball clinic at Derby was estimated at 400. Tigers Al Kaline and Paul Foytack gave Birmingham youngsters lessons on hitting, pitching and fielding. A lot of sports-minded girls showed up for the session.

Are you a racketeer . . . tennis type? If so, and if you'd like some organized play this summer, call the recreation department. The department is looking for members for a city tennis club now being formed. Free instruction will be offered at Eton park each weekday morning for eight weeks beginning June 23.

The recreation department is also planning an archery club, and will offer free instruction at the Eton range for eight weeks, also beginning June 23.

Pine Lake country club will hold its eighth annual invitational. (See A line from les, Page 8-E)

Maple Baseballers Drop Pair, 3-2, 5-1

By BILL OTOOLE

Sports Correspondent

Playing a tight schedule of three games in three days, the Birmingham high baseball squad dropped two games after beating Kimball, 2-1, behind Dick Cloonan's two-hit pitching in an Eastern Michigan league tournament game.

The first defeat came at the hands of Cranbrook there May 28 3-2. Sandy Barr, a newcomer to the Maple mound, pitched for four innings and took the loss.

The first game run came on a triple by Lloyd Asbury in the third, followed by Ed Mesarin's single. The run that chased Barr came on Dave Walsh's walk with two away. Another walk and a hit batsman loaded the bases and an error by Phil Russell accounted for the tally.

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BILL MUENCHINGER took over in the fifth for the Maples, but was chased in the sixth by a walk and a pair of singles, loading the sacks. Phil Isbell pitched the rest of the inning, allowing one run on a sacrifice by Neil Mesaris.

The first Maple run came in the fifth when Red Ruddy reached second on a throwing error, advanced to third on a passed ball and came home on Fred Buesser's sacrifice.

B'HAM THINCLADS Third at U of D

Birmingham set one new meet record Saturday as the Maples finished a close third in the second annual class A University of Detroit relay.

Redford won the title, edging runner-up Pontiac by a half point. Redford totaled 27 1/2, the state champion Chiefs 27 and Birmingham 23 1/2. Pershing, the defending champion, was 10 1/2.

The record came in the medley relay. Bob Stephenson (440), Les Danielson (220), Bob Kilow (220) and Dick Boyd (880) turned in a 3:39.1 clocking. Mackenzie held the old standard of 3:46.3.

THE TIME is also a new Birmingham school record, smashing the old mark of 3:23.2 set in 1937. Boyd had an unofficial half-mile clocking of 1:58.9.

Other Birmingham points came in the shortest relay (40), Broad jump relay (5th), high jump relay (5th), pole vault relay (1st), four mile relay (2nd) and two-mile relay (2nd).

Sked Practices For Legion Team
Three practice sessions have been scheduled for Birmingham's American Legion baseball team today at 4 p.m. and Saturday at 10 a.m. All sessions for boys 14 to 17—will be held at Pierce Field. Kirt Flinn and former Birmingham high baseball star, is this year's coach.