

Golden Anniversary Afterglow

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A backward look at the USGA's Golden Anniversary Championships shows that they were happily named. No one could have planned that the 50th Open, Amateur and Women's Amateur events would be, from a competitive standpoint, as rich and handsome as they turned out.

It all started, you will remember, when Ben Hogan came back from the valley of the shadow and won the Open at Merion. There was a three-way tie, and in the playoff Hogan was victor over Lloyd Mangrum and George Fazio. Mangrum inadvertently lifted his ball while in play on the 16th green and

sustained a two-stroke penalty at a critical juncture. At the finish he was four strokes behind Hogan's 69.

Before all that, a young "unknown," Lee Mackey, Jr., set an all-time record for the Open with a 61.

Yes, it was an epic Open. The most memorable thing of all was the courage



Courtesy of Minneapolis Star and Tribune

Frank Stranahan blasting from a bunker on the 38th hole of the Amateur Championship final.



Courtesy of Minneapolis Star and Tribune
Sam Urzetta



Alex Bremner photo

Miss Mae Murray and Miss Fay Crocker, who set a record by playing nine extra holes in the Women's Amateur Championship.

and the faith of Hogan. The Open was won by a man who, by the standards of many medical experts, should not even have been walking, much less striving for the big prize.

Record Amateur Final

The two other golden anniversary tournaments came near the end of the season. Each in its own way provided a record.

Sam Urzetta and Frank Stranahan went more holes than any pair of finalists had ever previously gone before their final was decided on the 39th at the Minneapolis Golf Club. Back in 1923 Max Marston defeated Jess Sweetser on the 38th, and that was the longest final until this year.

Urzetta was every inch a Champion. You were perhaps most impressed with that quality on the 36th green. The match hung in the balance. Urzetta fluffed a delicate little chip behind the green, sending it only a few feet. But he came back to halve the hole and keep the match alive, after a long putt by Stranahan just missed.



Alex Bremner photo

Miss Beverly Hanson

The deciding shot was a drive out of bounds by Stranahan on the 39th. Frank's loss was naturally a sore disappointment, especially as he wanted to add the USGA Championship to the British title he won last spring. But Stranahan in defeat gained a host of well-wishers because of his sportsmanship.

The defeated semi-finalists were Robert W. Knowles, Jr., and John P. Ward.

There were many golden moments at East Lake in Atlanta when Miss Beverly

Winners of the Curtis Cup



Alex Bremner photo

The United States Team at the Country Club of Buffalo. Left to right: Front row — Miss Dorothy Kielty, Miss Beverly Hanson, Miss Peggy Kirk, Miss Dorothy Kirby. Back row — Miss Polly Riley, Miss Grace Lenczyk, Mrs. Edwin H. Vare, Jr., Captain; Mrs. Mark A. Porter, Miss Helen Sigel.

Hanson played through a tremendously strong field which included both British and American Curtis Cup Teams. Her ultimate opponent was Miss Mae Murray, and the final score was 6 and 4, the match being scheduled for 36 holes.

Miss Hanson was a most impressive player all week. After several years of trying, she has brought her game to a very high level and is a thoroughly deserving titleholder.

This 50th Women's Amateur Championship produced a record, too. Little Miss Murray had been scheduled to play 18 holes with Miss Fay Crocker, of Montevideo, Uruguay—a player of great capabilities. But 18 holes were not enough to settle it—they took 27 holes, the last three of which were played

the next day. They thus set a Women's Championship record for most extra holes.

There have twice been 24-hole matches—in 1929 Mrs. Leo Federman (now Mrs. Charles Leichner) defeated Mrs. H. B. Stetson at Oakland Hills, Detroit; in 1934 Mrs. O. S. Hill defeated Mrs. L. D. Cheney at Whitmarsh Valley, Philadelphia.

The defeated semi-finalists at East Lake were Miss Grace De Moss and Miss Helen Sigel. Miss DeMoss' game made a fine impression in her first Championship appearance.

Just before the East Lake party, a number of the young ladies convened for the Curtis Cup Match at the Country Club of Buffalo. It was the first women's

international team event in this country since 1938.

The superior long games of the Americans counted heavily, especially as the course played slow. They took a 2-to-1 lead in foursomes the first day and eventually won by $7\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ from their British Isles opponents.

Quite aside from the score, the flavor of the event was in keeping with the best in golf. Although our British visitors did not win the Cup, they gained hosts of friends, and the Match served one of its prime purposes in furthering international friendship.

The Girls' Junior

The youngest USGA Championship, the Girls' Junior, produced a worthy winner in Patricia Lesser, of Seattle, who triumphed in the final over Mary Kathryn Wright, of La Jolla, Cal., 4 and 2. The Wanakah Country Club, in Buffalo, was host.

The representatives of the new generation, all under 18 years of age, show great promise. They are always knock-

ing at par's door, their medalist turned in a 79 (Miss Barbara Romack, of Sacramento, Cal.), and in a special driving competition on a wet fairway Mickey Wright had a total of 680 yards for three balls and Pat Lesser had 643.

What's a Foursome?

A foursome is a match in which two players oppose two other players but each side plays only one ball. One member of each team plays from all the odd-numbered tees and his partner drives from all the even-numbered tees; after the tee shot, the partners alternate in striking the ball until the hole is finished.

Thus, a foursome is not to be confused with a four-ball match. In a four-ball there are also four players, two on a side, but each player plays a ball all the way. The better ball of each side is the score.

Definition 1 in the Rules of Golf has some other little known points, as follows:

Threesome: one playing against two, each side playing one ball.

Three-ball match: three playing against one another, each playing his own ball.

Single: one player playing against another.

The term "through the green" (Definition 3) means the entire course except the putting greens, teeing grounds and hazards.

So watch your language, please!



Contestants in the USGA Girls' Junior Championship. Left to right: Esther Reid, Secane, Pa.; Suzanne Nagell, Buffalo; Katherine McKinnon, West Palm Beach; Patricia Buell, Niagara Falls; Janet Mack, Niagara Falls; Alice Emhardt, Speedway, Ind.; Leila Fisher, Canton, Mass.; Patricia Bright, Niagara Falls; Barbara Romack, Sacramento (medalist with 79); Marlene Gesell, Winona, Minn.; Virginia Dennehy, Lake Forest, Ill.; Mary Kathryn Wright, La Jolla, Cal. (the runner-up); Anne McAvoy, Phoenixville, Pa.; Barbara Blakely, Anniston, Ala.; Patricia Lesser, Seattle, Wash. (the Champion); Ann Harvey, Niagara Falls; Barbara McIntire, Toledo.