CENTERS OF POWER IN JUNIOR GOLF

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For the USGA's twelfth Junior Amateur Championship, the Association walked boldly into the lion's den and scheduled the affair on the Stanford University Golf Course, just south of San Francisco.

It was generally forecast that the outof-staters would be almost literally chewed up by Californians, and with some reason because Californians have, over the years, come into the Championship in quantity and with quality. California has been in the forefront in the breadth of its junior programs.

As so often happens in golf, however. the unexpected happened. Only two Californians survived to the quarter-final round, Mike Riley of San Diego and Dave Stockton of San Bernardino.

In the same round were two boys from the State of Washington, Kermit Zarley, Jr., of Seattle and Larry J. Lee of Spokane.

There were also two from Georgia, Michael V. McMahon of Atlanta and Jimmy Gabrielson of Athens.

The other states represented were Colorado, with Gary Polumbus of Denver, and Florida, with Fred Leffingwell, Jr., of Miami Beach.

The two boys from Washington both won and advanced to opposite brackets of the semi-final, where Kermit Zarley opposed Mike McMahon of Georgia and Larry Lee went against Fred Leffingwell, of Florida. The outcome for Georgia could hardly have been different, because the two Georgians, the only entrants for that state, unfortunately had been drawn together in the quarter-finals.

These are all fine young players of real promise, and even though one went on to win the Championship and the others fell short this time, it would be idle to speculate which may mature the fastest and go the furthest among the men.

An all-Washington final, such as occurred in the Girls' Junior Championship four years ago, was averted when Mike McMahon beat Kermit Zarley, 3 and 2.

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However, Zarley's fellow-Washingtonian, Larry Lee, won by the same margin over Fred Leffingwell to set up a Georgia-Washington final.

The final went down to the last hole, a tough 445-yarder, and there Lee, using his favorite club, a No. 5 wood, for the sixth time in the round, lofted his second shot to the middle of the green to set up a sure par 4 and close out McMahon, who over-shot the green, 2 up. He had earlier finished with a birdie 3 by the same means in the quarter-final to make a 69 and beat Mike Riley, 2 up.

The new Champion, succeeding Gordon (Buddy) Baker, of Florence, S. C., who was too old to defend, is also 17, so he too will be unable to defend next year at the Milburn Golf and Country Club, Overland Park, Kan. He was in the event for the first time this year.

A public-course player who practices long and seriously at the Indian Canyon course, Lee carried his own clubs until the final day and is accustomed to earning his own way and watching his pen-

AT THE FINISH OF THE JUNIOR



Two young men trom opposite ends of the country played off for the Junior Amateur Championship at the Stanford University Golf Course, in California. They were Michael V. McMahon, of Atlanta, Ga. (left), and Larry J. Lee, of Spokane, Wash. (right). The Cup went to Lee, but McMahon had earned his complete respect as a golfer in the process. The gentleman in the center is Hord W. Hardin, of St. Louis, the Chairman of the USGA Junior Championship Committee.

nies. He holds the City of Spokane junior and adu,t championships and will enter Seattle University this month.

McMahon took his defeat with a smile and great good grace, and fortunately will have another chance next year. He is only 16 and entering his senior year in Carrollton High School, a suburb of Atlanta. He is a junior member of the Druid Hills Golf Club in Atlanta.

The only other one of the last eight survivors who will be eligible to play again next year is Mike Riley, who is only 14 and a tenth grader in the Point Loma High School in San Diego. He is one of the youngest quarter-finalists the Championship has developed, and it took Lee's 69 to beat him, 2 up. Here is a name to be remembered.

The tournament drew a record entry for the eleventh successive year, and 1,368 boys vied for the 128 places in sectional qualifying. The pace was fast even in this early phase of play, and both Robert H. Droz, in Salt Lake City, Utah, and Tom Hornbuckle, in Albuquerque, N. M., paced their fields with 66s. Only one of every eleven entrants qualified to play at Stanford, but the 128 boys who were there represented 36 states.

It is not often that the juniors get a course of the dimensions of Stanford's.

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Although it measures only 6,665 yards the holes seem to be among the longest on the face of the globe and the course rambles and rolls through oak groves and back and forth across a heavily wooded ravine. The course rating is 72. It is beautiful to the eye and most demanding. It was not until the third round that a boy finally made a score under 70; Bob Small, of Long Beach, Cal., a strong driver, got around 69 to beat Tom Flory, of Annapolis, Md., 2 and 1, in one of the keenest contests of the week.

A dozen members of the USGA Junior Championship Committee conducted the play with the whole-hearted cooperation of the Stanford University Department of Athletics and members of the Stanford Golf Club.

The boys got a kick out of operating in the club locker room presided over so ably by big Chris Burford, Stanford's All-America football end and captain.

E. Harvie Ward, of San Francisco, the Amateur Champion of 1955 and 1956 and four times a member of the Walker Cup Team, analyzed the course hole by hole for the boys in a chalk-talk on the clubhouse lawn on the afternoon before play began. Harvie played the course in an almost incredible 64 during the Northern California stroke play championship in 1957.

"The key to this course is to be sure you're up," Ward told the boys. "The bunkers fan out in front of the greens, and the openings are narrow. Hit half a club more than you figure to need."

The smart boys ate it up. The less concerned failing to heed were gone after a round or two.

Of the 64 losers in the first round, 57 took advantage of the opportunity to play in the 18-hole stroke play consolation tournament at the Pebble Beach Links 75 miles down the coast. Bus transportation, lunch and dinner were provided by the Northern California Golf Association and the Stanford Golf Club.

The best score was a 36-39—75 turned in by Kenneth L. Folkes, of Concord, N. C., and he received a USGA medal. The runner-up was Robert B. Kostelecky, of La Jolla, Cal., with a 78, and the third medal went to Raiph Johnston of Garden City, N. Y., who won a one-hole play-off among four boys tied at 80.

Robert R. Kirouac, 16, of Sharon, Mass.,

shared the lead in the sectional qualifying in Boston with a 73, and earned a match play place for the fourth consecutive year. He was presented a USGA medal at the Players' Dinner in honor of the achievement.

If Bobby can qualify again next year in his fifth and final year of eligibility, he will join Jack Nicklaus, of Columbus, Ohio, and John P. Konsek, of Buffalo, N. Y., as the only five-time qualifiers. Nicklaus made the Walker Cup Team last spring, and Konsek recently won the New York State Amateur Championship for the second successive year.

Recording Scores at Home Club

Handicap Decision 59-3 References: Men: Sections 4-4 & 7-2 Women: Sections 14-4 & 17-2

Q: Is it permissible under the USGA Golf Handicap System for a player to add or subtract any differences in course ratings when posting, at his home club, scores made at other courses? The USGA system states in part that scores on all courses should be reported and that the following information should be given: name of course, score, course rating, handicap differential.

A: The USGA recommends use of "differentials" (scores minus course ratings) in computing handicaps. The USGA Handicap Record Form provides spaces for "scores," "course ratings" and "differentials," thereby making all adjustments automatic without chance of error, such as adding the course rating difference when it should be subtracted, or vice versa. However, there is no objection to recording "corrected" scores and computing handicaps from them. The end result is the same.

Whether handicap records are kept in "differentials" or "scores," it is desirable to note thereon which scores were made at other courses, including course names and course ratings, for possible future reference in the event any question arises.

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