

EIGHT LOCAL GOLFERS WILL BATTLE TODAY ON PINE VALLEY LINKS

BY PERRY LEWIS

PINE VALLEY, N. J., June 8. THREE former Philadelphia champions, the holder of the championship of Quebec, the champion of Pennsylvania and three other crack Philadelphia golfers will fight it out tomorrow in the third and semi-final rounds of the district amateur championship now in progress on the famous course of the Pine Valley Golf Club.

The survivors of the first two rounds played today who are struggling for a title they have held before are J. Wood Platt, Whitehouse, the medalist; Cameron Buxton, of the entertaining organization; George W. Hoffman, of Bala; Marcus Greer, of Lanserch, is the Canadian champion, and Max Marston, Merion, the Keokuk titleholder, who are still among those present.

The others still in the race for Philadelphia's greatest golf honors are J. A. Brown, of the Cricket Club; S. E. Stokes, of Moorestown, and "Zimmer" Platt, brother of J. W. mentioned above.

It will be brother against brother in one of the four, third-round matches, for the two Platts, Zimmer and J. Wood, will present a private family quarrel in the lower bracket. Buxton and Hoffman meet in the other lower bracket match, while in the upper half, Greer takes on Brown and Marston mingles with Stokes.

Greer and Marston are generally picked to win and meet in the semi-final. J. Wood Platt has beaten his brother every time they have met in competition and will probably repeat, while the Buxton-Hoffner melee is another battle with your guess as good as your neighbors.

With balls flying from the clubs of such master linksmen as those who competed in 24 matches today, no single typewriter can tell it all. Every five minutes brought its thrill, particularly when the action warmed up in the afternoon and the victors of the morning were slugging away at each other. Flashing over the course were Max Marston and J. J. Beadle, the youthful Lanserch star. Here was an encore match to the Lynwood Hall final last year, and as was the case then, Marston emerged victorious.

This time the margin was 6 and 5. The winner, his infected finger much improved, shot the sort of golf which has made him one of the outstanding linksmen of America, while Beadle was far off his game and proved a comparatively easy victim.

Right behind this pair came Buxton and Charlie Doelp, the Lu Lu crack, who is showing better form with every tournament. Charlie wasn't quite good enough to hold Buxton, however, and raised the pallid pennant on the sixteenth green where he was four down.

Then followed Hoffman and L. M. Washburn, of Merion, a member of the Lesley Cup team and always a dangerous contender in the championship. These two spun around in the low eighties, but the Bala entry was a trifle sturdier than his opponent and emerged with a 3 and 2 decision.

Stokes had a battle on his hands with Richard Mott, the Pine Valley veteran, but eventually came to the board with a 2 and 1 victory. Greer had no trouble with J. H. Gamble, Merchantville winning 5 and 4, while "Zimmer" Platt stayed with the boys by virtue of a 3 and 2 triumph over R. S. Kammann, of the home talent.

But the piece de resistance of the day—the match which drew the gallery because of the past performances of the players and the fact that a keen rivalry exists between them, was the afternoon match between Eddie Clarey, the burly representative of the Forest View Club, and J. Wood Platt.

Spurring the thought of keeping the reader in suspense, we will at once record the fact that Platt won by the safe margin of 5 and 4; Clarey got away in the lead, winning the first two holes, couldn't stand prosperity, lost five straight holes, expired on the fourteenth carpet and then staggered to the clubhouse to receive condolences.

But the words of his friends fell on deaf ears. Eddie, who comes from Falls of the Schuylkill, wouldn't be comforted. "What a ride the boys will give me when I get to the Falls tonight. I'm afraid to go home in the dark."

Clarey owes his downfall to the fact that he became over anxious and could not resist the temptation to press from the tee. Using a spoon, he was either stepping or "skying" them, and one fine day to losing a golf match at Pine Valley is to be inacurate with the wood.

On the other hand, Platt, as usual, leveled off one tee shot after another which was perfect. He did not miss a drive. Only twice did he find a bunker, but on both occasions he got out nicely.

Lady Luck walked with Platt on the seventh when laid Clarey a styrie which the latter could not negotiate. On the thirteenth both lay 25 feet from the pin with their fourths. Then the pair of them holed out for a pair of fancy fives.

Here are the cards:
Platt—Out . . . 4 4 5 5 4 4 43
Clarey—Out . . . 4 4 4 4 4 5 6 6 43
Clarey—In . . . 4 4 2 5 4

The finest burst of golf of the day was furnished by Greer in his morning match with Doctor Hutton, Whitehouse. The Canadian titleholder went out in 38 strokes, just one over par. Hutton needed only ten more, with the result that, the thing was at no time a contest. Greer's remarkable card out follows:

Out 4 4 4 3 3 4 5 5 4—38

Fred Knight, the original Marathon Monarch, was the first popular favorite to pass out of the picture. In the first round Fred encountered Richard Mott, who knows no more about the Pine Valley course than Rockefeller knows about oil. Consequently, when the pair came in at noon time Mott was a winner, 4 and 3. Knight was no longer in the tournament.

All of the other contestants who are numbered among the chosen survived the first round handsly. As a rule they sent their opponents thundering down to overwhelming defeat. Only three of the sixteen first-round hits went to the home green. H. H. Francine, the Huntington Valley veteran, carried J. H. Gamble, Merchantville, to the eighteenth carpet before bending the knee, two down. This was one of the best of the early matches as the men were evenly matched.

Francine once won the Philadelphia title and although some of the skill has gone from his clubs, he was generally conceded an even chance against Gamble when they teed off.

Eddie Driggs, Merion, who several years ago was a dangerous claw in the football paw of the Princeton Tiger, gave "Zimmer" Platt, of White Marsh, brother of the distinguished medalist, a severe battle all the way, the match coming to an end on the eighteenth green with Zimmer one up.

The Rev. Dr. Simon Carr, playing on home loan, and L. M. Washburn, of Merion, furnished the other close one in the first round. Dr. Carr, who enjoys the lowest national handicap of any member of the clergy in America, offered strenuous resistance to his younger opponent from the first tee to the eighteenth green, where Washburn was two up.

But the real fireworks of the morning, the match generally picked by the

gallery as the choice morsel of the first round, was the battle introducing J. Wood Platt and Maurice Risley, Northfield's favorite golfer. These two have met frequently and always a rousing struggle has resulted with Platt usually the winner by a small margin. Today, however, Risley failed to hold the tremendous pace Platt is setting over the super-course, and was erased, 5 and 4.

This match might well be called the battle of the bunkers, for Risley was in so many of them he never had a chance. On the third, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth he was in, and in deep. He was only four down at the turn, however, owing to the fact that Platt pulled his second into trouble on the ninth and lost the hole. The ultimate winner also lost the tenth after he had found another of the million odd bunkers dotting this course.

Platt—Out . . . 4 4 5 5 4 4 4 43
Risley—Out . . . 4 4 4 4 5 7 3 43
Platt—In . . . 4 4 4 4 4

First Round—John Arthur Brown, Philadelphia Cricket Club, defeated J. M. Falls, U. of C. 4 and 2; Dr. J. P. Smith, Pine Valley, 4 and 2; J. H. Gamble, Merchantville, defeated H. H. Francine, Huntington Valley, 5 and 4; Greer, Lanserch, defeated F. C. Hutton, Whitehouse, 4 and 0; J. J. Beadle, Lanserch, defeated Robert Hoffman, Philadelphia, 7 and 6; Max Marston, Merion, defeated Charles A. Heyner, Cedar Brook, 3 and 4; Richard W. Hoffman, Merion, defeated Fred W. Hara, Whitehouse, 4 and 3; S. E. Stokes, Moorestown, defeated C. B. Mitchell, Woodbury, 4 and 2; E. C. Clarey, Forest View, defeated R. S. Kammann, Merion, 2 and 1; J. Wood Platt, Whitehouse, defeated Maurice Risley, Atlantic City, 2 and 4; R. S. Kammann, Pine Valley, defeated J. Zimmer, Platt, Whitehouse, 2 and 1; H. H. Francine, Huntington Valley, defeated J. H. Gamble, Merchantville, 5 and 4; George W. Hoffman, Merion, 3 and 4; L. M. Washburn, Merion, defeated E. J. Fisher, Merion, 4 and 2; L. M. Washburn, Merion, defeated Dr. Simon Carr, Pine Valley, 2 up.

Second Round—Brown defeated Smith, 4 and 3; Beadle defeated Gamble, 6 and 4; Marston defeated Heyner, 6 and 4; Marston defeated Hoffman, 4 and 3; Stokes defeated Clarey, 5 and 4; Zimmer Platt defeated Kammann, 5 and 4; Buxton defeated Doelp, 4 and 3; Hoffman defeated Washburn, 3 and 2.