

On this golf course, par is in the hundreds

By SHAY GLICK
The Los Angeles Times

The rumor that a snake-bit kit is the prize for the Pioneer Pass Golf Challenge just isn't true. That's about all, though, that isn't true of the tales told about what is advertised as "the world's longest and most challenging golf tournament." And perhaps the most bizarre.

The "course" is 27 miles of sagebrush, Joshua trees, cactus, deep ravines and rocky ledges from Baldwin Lake (altitude 6,800 feet) in the San Bernardino mountains to Yucca Valley (3,300 feet) in the Mojave Desert.

Sixty-five players (45 men and 12 women), plus an entourage of close to 300 spectators, judges, scorers and rules committee, sponsors, vehicle drivers and believing friends, competed in this year's event recently, to the astonishment of deer hunters, motorcycle riders and forest rangers who also frequent that neck of the woods.

It's a tournament where:
• You tee up every shot on a speed shotgun shell, a rubber driving range hit, or a 6-inch steel club
• You are allowed six more holes, no nearer the hole, on every shot.
• Instead of yelling "fore" when you nearly hit someone, you smile at coming close. Players actually aim at spectators within 100 to 10 people, mostly youngsters, fanned out in the brush 100 to 200 yards from where the balls are hit.

Without spotters, players couldn't carry enough balls to finish the nine holes.
• It's 60 miles from the first hole, a 50-yard chip shot in front of the Yucca Valley Masonic Temple to second hole, a 600-yard monster near the eastern shores of Baldwin Lake. Players are transported in trucks, via Lacrosse Valley to the back road to Big Bear. It's 30 miles to the hole.
• The "course" is a puddle of water where Arrastrae Creek crosses a dirt road. All you need do is fly a ball out of dense scrub oak into the water.
• More players wear hiking boots than conventional golf shoes.
• Holes, in addition to Arrastrae Creek, are 20-foot circles of lime in the same sand, usually in a clump of cholla cactus, a Joshua tree or a pile of rocks.
• The hole is called the Blue Hole because a spallan can on an orthodox ½ inch club on the ninth green of the Blue Hole.

• The fourth hole requires a mile-long trek through tall meadow, liberally spotted with wild sagebrush flowers. When Gene Hardisty, who annually lays out the course, read in Guinness' Book of Records about a hole in the ground, he complained that "it's only a measly 765 yards," they ought to see ours."

• One hole calls for a 7-foot shot across a gully on the Pioneertrax ranch of Russell (Lucky) Hayden, a cowboy star of the Hopalong Cassidy era. One that sticks in a 20-foot circle perched on a parched hillside is rewarded by Hayden with a bottle of champagne. An errant hole, however, may end up as a road.

• "Don't you know this is a road?"
• "Can't you see I'm playing golf?" yelled Gene Hardisty.
• "What are you doing with my fairway?"
• For all its dusty difficulty, oldtimers claim the Pioneer Pass tournament has gone on six in its 16 years.
• In 1959, its first year, 15

holes—all out on the Pass—made a conventional 18 marks the following day at Blue Hill. Sam Gorgoniolo, 11 sounds simple but nine holes in the Pass still takes seven or eight hours.

The Golf Challenge was started by a group of citizens who wanted to draw attention to the need for a paved road down Pioneer Pass to complete a loop around Mt. Sam Gorgoniolo between Big Bear and the high desert. The road still isn't paved.

The spotters, checkers and judges are as important as the players. Most are youngsters from the Yucca Valley area, or offspring and friends of players. Few are sponsors, but they have a bludge to the PPGC that brings them back year after year.

As if that wasn't enough, Gene Van Hook, a Marine sergeant from Twentynine Palms, Calif., and Steve Quessida of Barrow, studied and played two entire holes before Van Hook became the inaugural champion.

The following year separate holes were laid out along the way, first up the down the Pass Baldwin Lake was dry then and one infamous hole was more than a two mile long-straight across the lake—and took four hours. Several years ago the rules committee advised it again, limiting play to nine

holes—only one hole, however. The final 18 holes on the Pass and 18 at Blue Skies, with full handicaps. This year's winner was a student of the forest who may take when a hole sometimes takes an hour to negotiate), helps the player find a place to swing without hitting a bush, and rates on lost balls.

Winners are determined by combined scores of holes on the Pass and 18 at Blue Skies, with full handicaps. This year's winner was a student of the forest who may take when a hole sometimes takes an hour to negotiate), helps the player find a place to swing without hitting a bush, and rates on lost balls.

One of the strangest aspects occurs on the final hole, 500 yards across two fairways on the Blue Skies course. Rules of the forest hole to the hole, which means a player gets six club lengths relief from behind trees, out of a trap or from the rough—and can tee up his ball for every fairway shot.

That lasts only one hole, however. The final 18 holes are played under strict USGA rules, with full handicaps, no picking it out of a trap, no teeing it up on the fourth.

From tee to green — 65 miles

Ducks, OSU: continue skid seen

Compiled from AP, UPI Southern California, UCLA and Stanford are the only unbeaten teams in the Pacific 8 Conference race, and if the oddsmakers prove right this weekend, the three will maintain their perfect records for another week.

Should USC beat California, UCLA down Washington and Stanford get by Oregon State's Trojan Cardinals match at Palo Alto will all but eliminate one of the Big Three and leave UCLA in good position because the Bruins' Nov. 9 opponent is Oregon.

But that's getting a little ahead of things. First there are this Saturday's games to be concerned about and in these 3-0 Trojans are 20-point favorites over California (2-1), the Ducks-1

are picked by eight over Washington (1-2) and the 2-1 Cardinals are favored by 13 on Oregon State (1-2). Washington State is at Oregon in the league's other game. The Cougars and Ducks have lost all three conference starts to date but WSU is the favorite Saturday by four points.

USC coach John McKay, discarding the odds, is concerned about California, even though the Bears were soundly beaten by UCLA last Saturday, 26-5.

"They have a lot of offensive speed and their quarterback is as good as any we'll see this year," McKay said. "They score quickly and often if things break their way. You never can be sure about a team like that. In my mind you will have to win it on the D-1,

Coach Dee Andros said is deeply concerned about Oregon State, even though the Beavers have lost three starters to injuries—quarterback Elvin Monson, fullback Charlie Smith and punter Tom McKenna.

"After watching films of their games, for the life of me I can't see how the Bears could win six games this year," said the Stanford coach. "I've seen them in 22 different offensive formations, so it's going to be tough to adjust to a game plan that contains them. Look, I don't even want to think about the following week (vs. USC). Oregon State is going to be tough enough."

Rick Vermel of UCLA also is worried about his team's opponent, Washington.

"Any team that can score 60 points with so many different people has to be respected," said Vermel, referring to Washington's roster of 100 players.

Prof. Dale Lewis and Jim Bailey squared off to a draw Saturday at Drayton and Rick Renoaldo in prelims.

Snuka keeps heavyweight belt

The Northwest heavyweight wrestling belt still is a part of Jimmy Snuka's wardrobe.

The champ kept his title last night with a win over challenger Rasputin in the main event at Grand Theater Arena.

Prof. Dale Lewis and Jim Bailey squared off to a draw Saturday at Drayton and Rick Renoaldo in prelims.

Coach Dee Andros said is deeply concerned about Oregon State, even though the Beavers have lost three starters to injuries—quarterback Elvin Monson, fullback Charlie Smith and punter Tom McKenna.

"After watching films of their games, for the life of me I can't see how the Bears could win six games this year," said the Stanford coach. "I've seen them in 22 different offensive formations, so it's going to be tough to adjust to a game plan that contains them. Look, I don't even want to think about the following week (vs. USC). Oregon State is going to be tough enough."

Rick Vermel of UCLA also is worried about his team's opponent, Washington.

"Any team that can score 60 points with so many different people has to be respected," said Vermel, referring to Washington's roster of 100 players.

Prof. Dale Lewis and Jim Bailey squared off to a draw Saturday at Drayton and Rick Renoaldo in prelims.

patented close to Stanford by two points. Both teams are 6-3 in the conference.

Laver-Borg win;
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. (AP) — Chris Evert defeated Virginia Wade 6-1, 6-3 in the women's tennis final. Rod Laver and Bjorn Borg won the men's doubles title, and Evert and Goolagong teamed with Virginia Wade to win the women's doubles title over Billie Jean King and Chris Evert 3-6, 6-3 in the \$15,000 World Invitation Tennis Classic.

"What is the devil are you doing?" screamed the driver.

Grand Opening

COMPLETELY REMODELED UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

- Georgia Pacific Panelling 15% off
- Pratt & Lambert Paint 20% off
- Monotherm Insulation 10% off
- Entire Stock (excluding fur trade & lumber) 10% off
- Pre-Finished Doors 2'x2'8" hollowcore, seconds \$3.00
- 2'x2'8" x10" Utility Grade, While They Last \$1.15

Free Prizes, Balloons, Coffee, Donuts

J.W. COPELAND YARDS
Retail Lumber & Building Materials
3901 State St. 363-8515

WINTER SPECIAL! STUDED ANY SIZE SNOW-CAPS

WHITE WALL or BLACKWALL

Price Includes:
• Both tires studded
• Expert mounting
• Free labor-off set pricing

FOR \$39.95 Plus Tax

PASSANGER CARS ONLY ANY SIZE NON-RADIAL

Dayton TIRES

With like refundable exchange passing

STUDED SNOW TIRES DAYTON INTERURBAN 78 ANY SIZE STUDED

2 FOR \$59.95 Plus Tax

678-13 678-14 678-14 678-15 678-15 678-14 678-15 678-15 678-15

WINTER RADIALS

SIZE	REPLACES	PRICE	F.E.T.
1555R-12	600-12	33.93	1.66
1555R-13	650-13	34.72	1.86
1655R-13	600-13	36.14	1.98
1755R-13	650-13	38.56	2.26
600-14	39.51	2.05	
1555R-15	560-15	38.20	1.97
600-15	40.58	2.48	
1555R-14	578-14	49.50	2.48
1955R-14	578-14	56.54	3.31
578-14	54.78	2.48	
1955R-15	578-15	59.98	3.61
2155R-15	578-15	65.49	3.77
178-15	67.60	3.10	

CASCADE TIRE WHOLESALE

665 Marion St. NE 581-3467

The Volvo Warranty: 12 MONTHS OR 999,999 MILES. WHICHEVER COMES FIRST.

Every new Volvo is warranted to be free of defects in materials and workmanship for 12 months (no matter how many miles you drive as long as the car has the recommended maintenance) from the date of delivery.

Warranty repairs must be made at an authorized Volvo dealer in the U.S. or Canada. There will be no charge for parts and labor.

Of course, a Volvo also comes with other warranties. Volvo's emission control system is warranted for five years or 50,000 miles (with recommended maintenance) whichever occurs first. Tires, naturally, are warranted separately by their manufacturer. Also, the addition and replacement of all lubricants, fluids and filters are at the owner's expense.

Now that we've shown you some protection in writing, drop by and we'll show you some protection in driving: our Volvo. **volvo** is a registered trademark of Volvo Cars of Sweden.

745 LIBERTY N.E. PHONE 581-1421

For more than 15 years DeLon Volvo has been a full-service Volvo dealership... maintaining complete parts, service and sales facilities for all Volvos!

SKI Pkg. #1	SKI Pkg. #2	SKI Pkg. #3	X COUNTRY SKI Pkg.	KIDS SKI Pkg.	KIDS X COUNTRY Pkg.
FIBERGLASS SKI UP TO 145.00	ERACHER FIBER 202 120.00	SALAMOR 444 BINDING 12.91	TRAK OR WAX SKI 62.00	HART FOAM CORE SKI UP TO 31.75	TRAK BINDING 9.95
SALAMOR 202 BINDING 34.95	SALAMOR 202 BINDING 34.95	TOMIC POLE 9.95	TOMIC POLE 9.95	SALAMOR 101 SKI BINDING 15.00	TRAK X COUNTRY POLE 55.00
TOMIC POLE 9.95	TOMIC POLE 9.95	BARROO POLE 8.75	BARROO POLE 8.75	TOMIC POLE 9.95	TRAK BINDING 9.95
MOUNTING 10.00	MOUNTING 10.00	MOUNTING 1.50	MOUNTING 1.50	HOT WAX 10.00	TRAK X COUNTRY BOOT 22.75
HOT WAX 10.00	HOT WAX 10.00	DOLBYMITE BOOT 40.00	DOLBYMITE BOOT 40.00	HOT WAX 10.00	TRAK X COUNTRY BOOT 22.75
DOLBYMITE BOOT 40.00	DOLBYMITE BOOT 40.00	TOTAL VALUE 222.90	TOTAL VALUE 175.90	TOTAL VALUE 270.00	TOTAL VALUE 111.45
TOTAL VALUE 222.90	TOTAL VALUE 175.90	LESS BOOT 90.00	LESS BOOT 135.00	LESS BOOT 150.00	LESS BOOT 90.00
LESS BOOT 90.00	LESS BOOT 135.00				

KIDS SKI Pkg.	KIDS X COUNTRY Pkg.
HART FOAM CORE SKI UP TO 31.75	TRAK BINDING 9.95
SALAMOR 101 SKI BINDING 15.00	TRAK X COUNTRY POLE 55.00
TOMIC POLE 9.95	TRAK BINDING 9.95
HOT WAX 10.00	TRAK X COUNTRY BOOT 22.75
DOLBYMITE BOOT 40.00	TRAK X COUNTRY BOOT 22.75
TOTAL VALUE 139.00	TOTAL VALUE 90.00
LESS BOOT 90.00	LESS BOOT 90.00