

SPORTS BRIEFS

Sampras and Graf in action at the U.S. Open

Top seeds Pete Sampras of the United States and Steffi Graf of Germany play their first round matches while two-time champion Stefan Edberg makes, perhaps, his final appearance at the U.S. Open Tennis Championships today in Flushing Meadow, New York. Sampras will face Adrian Panaitescu of Romania in an early match while Steffi Graf of Germany opposes Yayuk Basuki of Indonesia later tonight.

Yankees' Cone looks sharp in second rehab start for Norwich

New York Yankees right-hander David Cone Monday night continued his remarkable comeback from an aneurysm in his pitching shoulder, allowing one unearned run over six innings for the Norwich Navigators of the Double-A Eastern League. Cone, who threw 58 of 83 pitches for strikes, allowed the Hardware City Rock Cats five hits and one walk while striking out six. In two rehabilitation starts, the former Cy Young Award winner has given up three runs — one earned — and nine hits in 10 innings, walking one and striking out 13.

Dennis Martinez to start tonight against Detroit

Dennis Martinez, the second-winningest Latin American pitcher of all time, will return from his second stint on the disabled list tonight with a start against the Detroit Tigers. The 41-year-old Martinez suffered a strained pronator tendon in his right elbow in a June 28th game against the Chicago White Sox and was placed on the disabled list the following day. He missed nearly a month before being activated on July 24th and pitched five scoreless innings in a 10-0 win at Toronto that night. Martinez started again six days later and pitched five-plus innings and allowed three runs in a 3-1 loss to Toronto.

SPORTS

FREE BIKE CLINIC

The Bicycle Transportation Alliance is sponsoring Legal clinics for bicyclists with Bike Lawyer Ray Thomas on the second Thursday of every month from 5:30-7:30 p.m., September 12 at Swanson, Thomas & Coon, 621 SW Morrison Street, Suite 900, Portland. It's free. Contact Karen Frost Mecey at 226-0676 to pre-

register or if you have questions.

There are also a pair of fast afternoon rides with lots of climbing from 12:10 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. Monday and Thursday. Meet at the southwest corner of Pioneer Courthouse Square between noon and 12:10 p.m. This is free too. Contact Ray Thomas at 228-5222, or meet at the start.

THIRD ANNUAL GOLF SCRAMBLE

The Mt. Hood Community College District Foundation holds its third annual golf scramble and dinner, "Par Excellence," September 10 at Persimmon Country Club, 500 S.E. Butler Road, in Gresham.

The cost is \$125 for golf and dinner, \$35 for dinner only.

The proceeds of this fund-raiser will be used to help meet special needs of the college, such as student scholarships, teaching and learning equipment and special projects not met by the college's traditional fund-

ing sources.

Check-in begins at 10:30 a.m. followed by a complimentary box lunch at 11:30 a.m. The scramble begins at 12:30 p.m. with dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m.

All golfers have two chances to win an automobile by scoring a hole-in-one on the third or 12th hole: a 1996 Buick donated by Weston-Pontiac-Buick-GMC and a 1996 Ford from Suburban Ford.

Last year, 124 people golfed for fun and prizes while helping raise over \$16,600 for the college's needs.

TIGER WOODS TURNS PRO

Tiger Woods, fresh off an unprecedented third consecutive U.S. Amateur Golf Championship, announced Tuesday that he is turning professional.

The 20-year-old Woods issued the following statement at the Greater Milwaukee Open, in which he will compete this week:

"This is to confirm that, as of now, I am a professional golfer. I will not answer any questions, or have any further comment, until tomorrow (Wednesday) at 2:30 p.m. (CDT) at my scheduled press conference."

On Sunday, Woods became the first golfer to win the U.S. Amateur title in three straight years. He also won U.S. Junior Amateurs in 1991, 1992 and

1993 and joined the legendary Bobby Jones as the only golfers to win USGA events in six straight years. Jones won the U.S. Amateur or U.S. Open in every year from 1923 to 1930.

Woods never led until sinking a short par putt after Steve Scott had missed a seven-footer on the 10th hole — the 38th of the day and 164th of the week-long tournament for both players. Woods trailed by as many as five holes during the 36-hole match-play final and by two holes with just three to play.

The New York Times reported this morning that Woods will sign a five-year, \$40 million contract with Nike, as well as a three-year, \$3 million agreement with Titleist. It would be the largest golf deal ever

for a rookie.

The story says that Woods will participate in seven tournaments before the end of the year, and will need to earn more than \$150,000 in the events for which he will get sponsor's exemptions to crack the top 125 and earn his 1997 PGA Tour card.

The Stanford student became the youngest U.S. Amateur champion in 1994 and edged Buddy Marucci last year in Newport, Rhode Island, to become the ninth back-to-back winner and first since Jay Sigel captured consecutive titles in 1982-83.

Woods has participated in 17 professional events since 1992, making seven cuts. His best finish was a tie for 22nd at July's British Open.

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DREAM TEAM—The Disney Institute at Walt Disney World Resort hosted Shaquille O'Neal, Charles Barkley, Karl Malone and the rest of the men's USA Basketball squad

The distance is nothing; it is only the first step that is difficult.
—Mme. Du Deffand

Courage is doing what you're afraid to do. There can be no courage unless you're scared.
—Eddie Rickenbacker

MODELL BREAKS HEARTS IN CLEVELAND

BY ALLEN COHEN

"I didn't get into this business to go bankrupt. I'm in it to win, and I can't continue to make the best effort to win in Cleveland with the current Stadium situation." — owner Art Modell to his Cleveland Browns, November 7th, 1995.

There are 16 letter "i"s in those two sentences — probably because team owners have to think of themselves first these days in the world of overpaid athletes, labor strife and salary cap restrictions. But when Modell officially announced his intention to move the team to Baltimore the day before, he was making a decision that affected quite a few more people than just himself.

First some background. Modell, a high school dropout, purchased the Browns in 1961 for \$4 million and quickly became one of the most respected owners in the league. He

chaired the television, labor and NFL-AFL merger committees and even served as NFL president for three years.

His teams made the playoffs 20 times in 35 years, including winning the 1964 World Championship and advancing to three other title games in the 1960's and three AFC Championship games in the 1980's.

However, Modell, who owns 51 percent of the team, is one of a few NFL owners whose main source of income is the football club. And with an average of \$450,000 in rent due every year, no parking or concession revenues and having to shell out over \$60 million over the years for refurbishments to the 64-year-old Cleveland Stadium, the Browns were reportedly over \$40 million in debt.

Plus, the city helped finance the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the new state-of-the-art facilities downtown for the Indians and Cavaliers,

something Modell had been after for years for the Browns.

But instead of playing hardball in negotiations with the city or perhaps selling the team — as others usually do when they have financial problems — Modell opted to move to Baltimore, leaving behind arguably the most loyal fans in the league.

His deal in Baltimore — where he is being treated as the next messiah, as opposed to Benedict Arnold in Cleveland — is sweet. He gets a new stadium in two years, pays no rent, keeps all parking and concession revenues and will be reimbursed by the league for moving expenses.

And why shouldn't the deal be sweet. Baltimore has been trying desperately to reacquire an NFL franchise since Bob Irsay moved the Colts to Indianapolis in the middle of the night in March 1984. There were rumors about other teams relocating there or receiving an expan-

sion club, but the best the city got was a CFL team for two years, which just wasn't the same.

Meanwhile in Cleveland, led by Mayor Michael White, the city put up a big fight to block the move with restraining orders, lawsuits and media campaigns. They eventually succumbed in a deal that grants the city a new team by 1999, a new stadium and the right to keep the nickname, colors and history.

That is little consolation for Cleveland, as this relocation fully eclipses that of the Colts or of the Raiders back and forth from Oakland. It even rivals the magnitude of baseball's Brooklyn Dodgers leaving for Los Angeles in 1957, as far

as the relationship of the team to its fans.

Dozens of stories have been done since November on reactions by the fans, past and present players as well as opposing teams. And sure every team from high school to the pros has their share of die-hard fans who have been to every game or can recall every player, game or down, but it's just different in this case.

The bond was indescribable, for what other team has some 200 chapters of booster clubs from Los Angeles to Australia, from England to Japan, totaling better than 63,000 members. And what other team would average more than 70,000 fans in the 1990's despite a cumulative record of 39-57.

NFL COLLECTIBLE BRINGS FANS CLOSER TO THE GAME

Sprint is helping football fans kick off the 1996 season with the hottest new NFL collectibles around: limited edition Spree(SM) NFL prepaid calling cards.

Certain to become collectors' items, the cards feature pre-recorded greetings from NFL stars like quarterbacks Dan Marino of the Miami Dolphins and the Buffalo Bills' Jim Kelly.

In addition to bearing official NFL and team insignias, each of the 30 versions of the card provides flexible and convenient prepaid calling from virtually anywhere in the world.

Sprint, the industry leader in prepaid calling cards, is also offering a special bonus for fans. Using the NFL card registers them automatically for a chance to win prizes including NFL-logged merchandise and Grand Prize tickets to Super Bowl XXXI(TM) and Pro Bowl(TM).

Diehard fans might collect the entire NFL series. Home team cards make perfect gifts for fans of all ages. For example, grandparents can send them to distant grandkids, who just might use the card to say "thank you" in a Sunday afternoon phone call.

The cards are in the shape of a helmet or a football with each version sporting a team's logo and colors along with the NFL Shield. They will be distributed through Spree retailers nationwide, including grocery, drug and convenience stores as well as gas stations and college bookstores.

The specially designed Spree cards will replace the regular \$10 and \$20

versions during the promotional period of Sept. 1 - Oct. 31. Fans can call 1-800-366-0707 to find their nearest Spree retailer.

"As the official telecommunications provider to the NFL, Sprint is the only carrier that can use the NFL shield and the logos and marks of the 30 clubs," said Marlene Waltz, Sprint's director of Prepaid Card Marketing and Sales. "And we're using our sponsorship to add even greater value to the most reliable, flexible and convenient prepaid calling card on the market."

The Spree prepaid card can be used to initiate international calls from any of 85 countries — more than any other competitor's product. Unique Offer Sure to Attract Serious Collectors.

Serious collectors can purchase a complete set of all 30 renditions of the \$10 card, or of the \$20 card, by calling 1-800-274-7740. The limited-edition sets are individually numbered and mounted in a frame or an album, at the discretion of the buyer.

Sprint is a global communications company — at the forefront in integrating long distance, local and wireless communications services, and the world's largest carrier of Internet traffic.

Sprint built and operates the United States' only nationwide all-digital, fiber-optic network and is the leader in advanced data communications services. Sprint has \$12.8 billion in annual revenues and serves more than 15 million business and residential customers.

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