

# Venturi May Start 'Fabulous' Golf Career May 2 in Colonial

BI HAL WOOD  
United Press Sports Writer  
San Francisco —(U.P.)— Ken Venturi, calm and confident, leaves here next week for Ft. Worth, Tex., and the start of what may be one of the most fabulous professional golf careers of this era.

Venturi, who will be 26 years old next month, starts his "play for pay" career in the Colonial Invitational Tourney at Ft. Worth May 2.

Some were disappointed in Kenney's play in the Masters, where he faded somewhat from his sensational showing of a year ago. Then, as an amateur, he faded by one stroke to capture the crown.

"But I wasn't disappointed," he says. "I hit some of the finest shots of my life down there. It just happened that the putts wouldn't roll in for me."

**Not Money Hungry**  
"If I can continue to hit my woods and irons as I did there, I'll win some of the tournaments. Maybe a lot of them."

Ken isn't the cocky kid he was a couple of years ago. But he still is faithful to his belief that he has a championship caliber golf game.

"I've still got to prove that to myself," he says. "I'm not money hungry. If I was, I would have stayed in the automobile business, where I could have made a sure, good living."

"But I want those titles. I've got to prove it to myself that I can win the major championships." Venturi, despite his brilliance, never has won a really big crown. He came close at the Masters last year, leading for three days. He has won the California state championship twice, won his matches on the Walker Cup team; and he tied with Jimmy Demaret and Mike Souchak for the \$15,000 Palm Springs Invitational earlier this year, but lost in the play-off.

Actually, he doesn't figure he is taking much of a gamble going on the tour.

"I figure I turned professional at just the right age," he says. "I've got my college education; I've got experience as an auto salesman; and experience as an executive (he was vice president and manager of an auto agency)."

"I'm going on this tour with my wife and baby. We are going to live in hotels and live first class. "If I can't make it that way, then I can always come back here and make a good living."

"I'm not worried about winning the big purses. Of course, I'll take what money I can. But the major item as far as I'm concerned is winning the big titles. I turned professional so I could play golf every day — and that's what I plan to do."

So saying, Kenney went back

# SPORTS



**HOPPING HOME**—Egad, a one-legged baseball player? It's just Portland Beaver second baseman Bob McKee creating the illusion as he crosses home plate in San Francisco's Seals Stadium with one leg tucked up behind him. Bob is scoring one of the runs that downed the Seals, 2-1. Waiting for the late throw is catcher Eddie Sadowski.

## Killium Takes Cycle Trophy

Bob Killium, of Grants Pass, set the fastest time last Sunday in the class "C" hill climb of the Rogue Valley Motorcycle Club of Southern Oregon before several hundred spectators.

Killium's time was 23 seconds even, winning a trophy for the speed run.

Don Foose, of Medford, won the lightweight class; John Winkler, of Ashland, won the 30.50 middleweight class; and Richard Killium, of Grants Pass, won the open event.

Second place winners of each class were Bob Simmons, Harry Elledge and Bob Killium. MC

to the green to resume practicing his putting touch—a self-imposed putting lesson that lasted four hours. "I three-putted 12 greens at the Masters," he said. "But if practice means anything, I'll have my putting touch in shape for the Colonial."

## Orioles Tip Washington In Opener

By FRED DOWN  
United Press Sports Writer  
The major league pennant races start in earnest today after a presidential opener in which baseball put its worst foot forward.

Some 250,000 fans are expected at the eight openers with primary interest focusing on the New York Yankees' attempt to make a fast getaway in quest of a third straight American League pennant and the Brooklyn Dodgers' embarking on what is figured to be another season-long National League battle with the Milwaukee Braves and Cincinnati Redlegs.

**A Ragged Start**  
The season got off Monday to a somewhat ragged start when the Baltimore Orioles scored an 11-inning, 7-6 victory over the Washington Senators in a three-hour and 17-minute struggle marked by 26 hits and five errors. President Eisenhower tossed out two ceremonial "first balls" and looked like the best pitcher in the ball park until Billy Loes came along to pitch two scoreless innings and pick up the triumph.

**LINESCORE:**  
11 Innings  
Baltimore 110 020 200 01—7 15 3  
Wash. 000 500 010 00—6 11 2  
Brown, Fornieles (4), O'Dell (9), Loes (10) and Triandos. Chakales, Pascual (8) and Courtney. Winner—Loes (1-0). Loser—Pascual (0-1). HR—Triandos.

## Jack Coombs Said 'Richly Deserving' Of Hall of Fame

Trappe, Md. —(U.P.)— Frank (Home Run) Baker declared today that ex-Philadelphia Athletic teammate Jack Coombs, the pitcher for whom he hit one of baseball's most famous home runs, "richly deserves" being voted into the game's Hall of Fame.

"No better pitcher ever walked out onto a mound," said the 76-year-old Baker of Coombs, who died Monday of a heart attack in Palestine, Tex. "He was not only a great pitcher but a wonderful man. He certainly should be voted into the Hall of Fame."

Coombs, 74, was the most effective pitcher on an Athletic staff that included Eddie Plank and Chief Bender in 1910-11-12 and, with a 5-0 slate, was the most successful World Series hurler of the dead ball era.

**DAVE POPE SOLD**  
Cleveland —(U.P.)— The Cleveland Indians cut down to 28 players today when they sold outfielder Dave Pope and optioned pitchers Bud Daley and Hank Aguirre to San Diego in the Pacific Coast League. The Indians also signed outfielder Roger Maris, infielder Larry Raines and catcher Russ Nixon to major league contracts.

## Patterson May Fight McMurtry

Tacoma —(U.P.)— A telegram carrying \$100,000 worth of words was sent east Monday night asking heavyweight champion Floyd Patterson to defend his title against Pat McMurtry of Tacoma in an outdoor fight in the Pacific Northwest, presumably this summer.

Patterson's manager, read as follows: "A group of Tacoma sportsmen will guarantee you \$100,000

United Press that a group of Tacoma sportsmen offered to back the Elliot Bay Boxing club in bringing a title fight to the area. The telegram, signed and sent by Luchessi to Gus D'Amato, Patterson's manager, read as follows: "A group of Tacoma sportsmen will guarantee you \$100,000

providing I sign Floyd Patterson to box Pat McMurtry for the world title here in Northwest if latter wins in sensational manner over Edgardo Romero." McMurtry meets Romero, a 245-pound Argentinian who has never been knocked out, in the Civic Auditorium at Seattle on Thursday night.

## Sport Parade



By JACK CUDDY  
Sports Writer  
United Press

New York —(U.P.)—As certain as peanuts and soda pop—things that are bound to happen as the baseball season swings into high gear today:

As tradition demands, the ump's will yell "play ball" and then stow that phrase away for another year.

Casey Stengel will exude confidence and worry privately about Mickey Mantle's brittle legs.

Some guy who is "home sick" will get fired because his boss saw him at the ball park on television.

I'm a cinch to drop mustard on my one good necktie.

A player who goes for the horse collar will alibi that this early in the spring the pitchers still are ahead of the hitters.

**Ted Still Something**  
A pitcher who is shelled out will complain that there's more "jackrabbit" in the ball than ever.

Ted Williams still is something to see even if he strikes out four times.

A rookie will admit to all and mostly sundry that "they sure pitch different up here."

A rookie pitcher will admit in battered dejection that "the hitters sure are harder to fool up here."

**Wiffi Smith Wins Tourney**  
Dallas, Tex. —(U.P.)—Margaret Chamberlain (Wiffi) Smith, the freckled fledgling who was the latest of this country's top amateurs to join the play-for-pay golf brigade, has broken into the titlist class only four months after joining the tour.

The break-through for the husky former U.S. Curtis Cup ace came in the wind-blown \$7,500 Dallas Women's Open golf tournament Monday when she parlayed a new set of clubs into a 72-hole total of 285 that bested all the veterans and added \$1,316 to her bankroll.

That boosted her three notches, to fourth, among the money winners with \$3,990.42, one of the most auspicious starts of any of the lady amateurs who have chosen to play for keeps.

In posting her victory she beat off the challenge of top money winner Patty Berg, the 17-year-old veteran from St. Andrews, Ill., who hoisted her season pickings to \$4,979 with a 288 worth \$926.

## Hart Tallies 19th Kayo

New York —(U.P.)— Life was sweet again today for Garnet (Sugar) Hart.

The 21-year-old Philadelphia knockout artist regained his winning touch Monday night by stopping Willie (Pineapple) Stevenson of Boston in the seventh round of their widely-televised fight at St. Nicholas Arent.

It was Hart's 19th knockout in 23 fights and helped erase the memory of his sad Madison Square Garden debut last month when he was outpointed by Walter Byars, another Boston product.

Hart's heavier firepower started to take its toll in the sixth and just before the end of that session, Stevenson was flattened for a two-count by a wicked left hook. He hit the deck again for an eight-count midway in the seventh and, when another flurry of punches sent Willie reeling, referee Barney Felix halted the action at 2:53.

**NEW ZEALAND HOSS HERE**  
Inglewood, Calif. —(U.P.)— El Khobar, one of New Zealand's best thoroughbreds, is expected to arrive here Thursday for the forthcoming Hollywood Park meeting. The five-year-old horse will be trained by W. J. (Buddy) Hirsch during his American invasion.

**HOCKEY**  
Montreal —(U.P.)— Home ice and the scent of a second straight Stanley Cup title is expected to provide the Montreal Canadiens with added incentive tonight when they seek to eliminate the Boston Bruins in the fifth game of the best-of-seven final series.

The high-powered Canadians, the National Hockey League's most dangerous scoring machine, need only one victory to wrap up the series and keep the cup in Montreal for another year. After winning the first three games of the series, the Flying Frenchmen were blanked Sunday night at Boston, 2-0, marking the first time they have been held scoreless in 48 games.

## Softballers Set Thursday Meet

Jackson County Softball association has a meeting set for 8:30 p.m. Thursday at the YMCA here.

Whether there will be league play this season may hinge on the meeting. All groups who contemplate entering teams are advised to have representatives.

Vice president Gary Colton stated that unless there is a reasonably large turnout for the meeting, efforts to organize for 1957 league play will be abandoned.

Chicago —(U.P.)—Gene Fuller scheduled five rounds of sparring today and a day off Wednesday in training for his May 1 middleweight title defense against Sugar Ray Robinson.

## Giant Said In Need of Treatment

Portland —(U.P.)— Johan Eloff, manager of giant South African heavyweight Ewart Potgieter said today he was "surprised and shocked" to hear the Potgieter had been suspended by the Massachusetts Boxing Commission because he is in need of medical treatment.

Chairman Ray Smith of the Portland Boxing Commission said he had wired to Massachusetts asking for more details. Potgieter, a 7 foot 2 inch heavyweight, has been fighting out of Portland recently.

Potgieter was reported to have had a pituitary gland operation last December, in Boston. The suspension came after a doctor told the boxing commission there that further treatment is necessary.

Eloff said Potgieter was declared fit for boxing and that as far as he knew nothing was said about further examinations.

Dr. Clinton McGill, physician on the Portland Boxing Commission, said Potgieter had received a clean bill of health from the Massachusetts General hospital. Smith said "we have it on file and as far as we are concerned there is nothing wrong with Potgieter." He said he was wiring Massachusetts for more information.

fruit League pitching to win a spot on the Braves' classy staff. In other moves just before the openers, the New York Giants promoted rookie catcher Valmy Thomas to the varsity and optioned catcher Bob Schmidt to their Philadelphia Phillies sent pitcher Angelo LiPetri to Miami in the International League on 24-hour recall.



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