

BLACK COLLEGE

Sports Review

November 1996

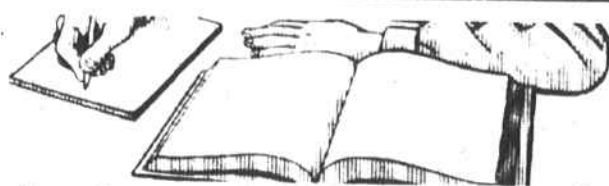
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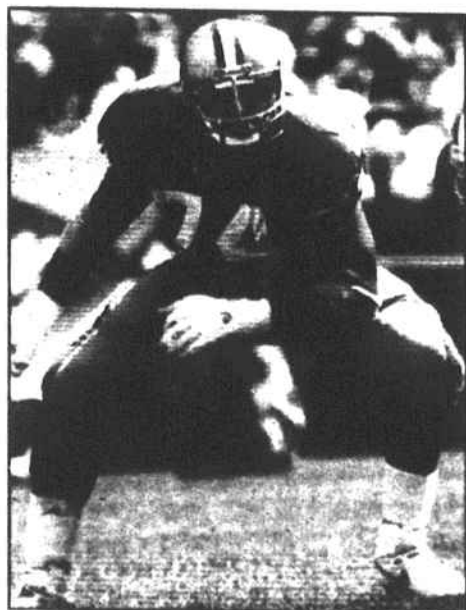
Langston Wertz, Jr



NOTEBOOK

AHEAD OF THE GAME

More than 2.5 million players will be taking the football field this season, and statistics show that over 200,000 of them will experience a serious head injury. Countless others will suffer concussions of varying degrees of severity. Of course the games will go on, but the question remains — is anything being done to help reduce the staggering number of head injuries?



Steve Wallace of the 49'ers

Recent studies conducted by the Pennsylvania State University Biomechanics Laboratory and the George Washington University Hospital Sports Medicine Department indicate a resounding "yes" — a formfitting soft helmet shell, called a "ProCap," easily attached to the top of conventional hard-shell helmets, can greatly reduce

the risk of serious head and neck injuries.

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Cover Photo: Central State Head Football Coach, Jack Bush, exhorts one of his team members during drills. Photo by Bill Reinke

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WOODS EARNS big bucks, FANS CHANT 'TIGER! TIGER!'

The commercial, as true as it was, seemed to shock so many people. But why were American columnists writing that Nike was crazy for making an ad for Tiger Woods that talked about him not being able to play at certain golf courses because his skin had color?

You can close your eyes to it, but it won't go away, and

Shoal

Creek, to a lot of people with skin color, still doesn't seem like so long ago.

Nike was right, and Tiger, so far, is looking like the prodigy the shoe company thought he was when they

signed him up.

Just six weeks after turning pro, Tiger Woods won the Las Vegas Invitational on Oct. 6 for his first PGA Tour title. Woods played the 90 holes in 27-under par, then beat Davis Love III on the first playoff hole.

The victory tripled Woods' earnings, gave him a shot at finishing top 30 on the money list, earned him a two-year exemption tour and got him back the Masters invitation he gave up by turning professional.

"It's been an unbelievable

experience," the three-time U.S. Amateur champion said. "It's just like winning the Amateur, though. I really can't say what it means until I think about it more."

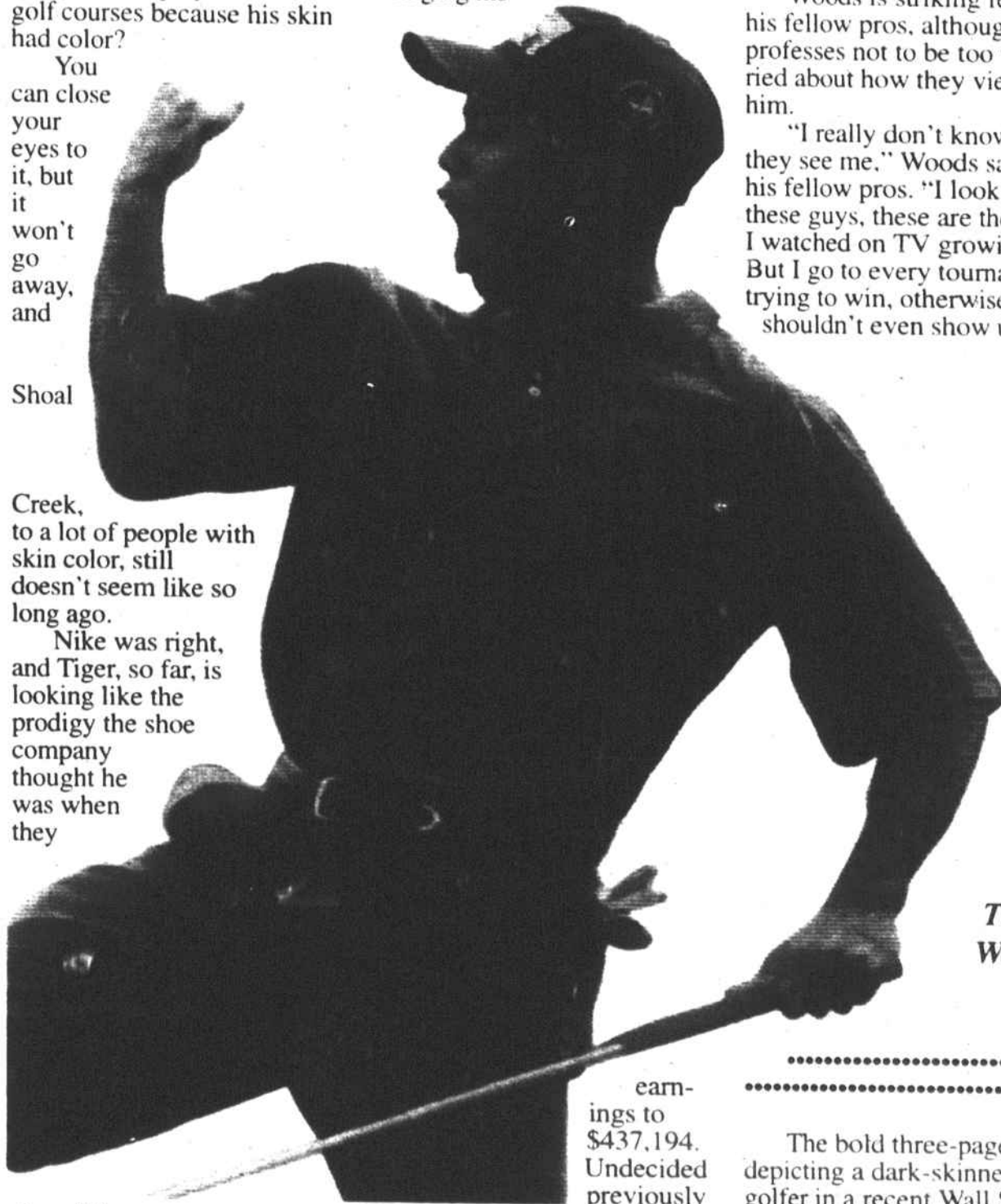
Woods earned \$297,000, bringing his

the world is ready or not, here comes Tiger.

The 20-year-old is clearly the favorite of fans who jam the fairways and crowd the greens. They chant "Tiger, Tiger," wherever he goes.

Woods is striking fear into his fellow pros, although he professes not to be too worried about how they view him.

"I really don't know how they see me," Woods said of his fellow pros. "I look up to these guys, these are the guys I watched on TV growing up. But I go to every tournament trying to win, otherwise you shouldn't even show up."



Tiger Woods

earnings to \$437,194. Undecided previously

about playing in the final two full-field tournaments of the year, Woods indicated he might play in the hopes of getting in the top 30 and a spot in the Tour Championship.

Incredibly, after only five tournaments, Woods is 40th on the money list and could make the top 30 with about another \$170,000.

Then he went out and won another tournament. On Oct. 20, he won the Disney/Oldsmobile Classic and won another \$216,000.

So all of sudden, whether

The bold three-page ad depicting a dark-skinned child golfer in a recent Wall Street Journal said it all:

"Hello World. There are still courses in the United States that I am not allowed to play because of the color of my skin.

"Hello World. I've heard I'm not ready for you. Are you ready for me?"

with that in-your-face flourish, Nike trumpeted to the world its new \$40-million superstar endorsement, golfing phenomenon Tiger Woods.

After the 20-year-old

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