



SPORTS BRIEFS

Daly tied for 105th place after 1st round of GMO

BROWN DEER, Wis. — Tiger Woods and his huge gallery were absent from the 30th Greater Milwaukee Open on Thursday.

So was John Daly's game. He shot a 1-over-par 72, six shots off the lead, tied for 105th place.

Several other golfers were on top of their games, however.

A tournament-record seven golfers shared the lead after 18 holes, the first time that's happened on the PGA Tour since the 1993 Phoenix Open.

Ten golfers, including defending champion Loren Roberts and Curtis Strange, who's vying for his first tour victory since he won the 1989 U.S. Open, were one stroke back, and 32 players were within two strokes of the lead.

Daly, the biggest name in an otherwise ordinary field of 156 golfers, shot an even-par 36 on the back nine, then double-bogeyed No. 1, a 447-yard par-4, on his way back.

Afterwards, a pensive Daly refused to discuss his round.

Although there were no official attendance figures, the crowd was down from last year. Daly drew the biggest gallery by far and attendance will certainly be affected if he fails to make the 36-hole cut Friday.

Coach gave investigators \$10,000 to clear player

Mississippi State football coach Jackie Sherrill paid private investigators as much as \$10,000 to help Derrick Taite fight rape charges in 1993, the former quarterback's mother says in court documents.

The charges stemmed from an on-campus incident in November 1993 that resulted in a Mississippi State student filing charges against Taite and three other players.

A grand jury heard the case but never issued an indictment.

Documents obtained by The Mississippi Press in Pascagoula show that Sherrill paid \$10,000 to private investigators to help Taite, a former Moss Point High School standout, defend himself after he was charged with attempted rape.

Taite's mother, Gwendolyn Blackmon, testified in divorce proceedings earlier this year that at the time the rape case was under investigation by an Oktibbeha County grand jury, Sherrill paid two private investigators \$5,000 apiece.

In the court document, dated March 10, Ms. Blackmon testified that she and her then-husband, Johnny Blackmon, never had to incur any expenses for Taite's legal defense.

In response to questions from attorneys about Taite's legal defense, Ms. Blackmon said, "I didn't have to pay it. It didn't come out of our personal expenses because it was paid by coach Sherrill."

It was unclear that Sherrill's paying private investigators to help clear Taite's name violated NCAA rules concerning "extra benefits" for student athletes.

Clay Bolton, the NCAA compliance officer at Mississippi State University, claimed that the NCAA apparently knew of the matter and had thoroughly investigated it.

Bolton, who was not at Mississippi State at the time of the incident, said it was his understanding that the school had been cleared of any wrongdoing in the matter.

Bolton said it appeared that Sherrill had gotten a ruling from the Southeastern Conference that cleared the use of an investigator in the case.

Irvan to drive for Skittles on Winston Cup circuit

DARLINGTON, S.C. — Less than two months after he was let go by Robert Yates, Ernie Irvan decided to drive the colorful Skittles car on the Winston Cup circuit next season.

Irvan replaces Derrick Cope, who will finish the season with the first-year team.

"The Skittles team is a young team with tremendous potential," Irvan said. "I'm looking forward to the opportunity to grow with them."

Irvan, 38, has 15 Winston Cup victories and 18 poles but is most recognized for returning from a life-threatening crash at Michigan in 1994.

He was picked by Yates late in 1993 for the No. 28 Thunderbird formerly driven by Davey Allison, who died in a helicopter crash that year.

Irvan started strong that year with victories at Martinsville and Charlotte and followed that up with three wins (Richmond, Atlanta and Sonoma) the next season.

That August, he crashed during practice at Michigan International Speedway and suffered critical brain and chest injuries.

He was given only a 10 percent chance of surviving, but he recovered and rode in October 1995.

FROM WIRE REPORTS

Tar Heels, Lions revisit rivalry with Saturday's season opener

North Carolina will start its season for the third straight year against PSU.

BY FORREST EBER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

On paper, the North Carolina and Penn State field hockey teams seem to be opposites.

On the field, they are much closer to identical twins.

The Tar Heels begin their bid for history this weekend as both teams open their seasons Saturday at 1 p.m. at Navy Field.

North Carolina will open its season with a familiar foe as they attempt to become the first team other than Old Dominion to win three straight NCAA titles.

Penn State has opened its season against the Tar Heels for the past two years, and North Carolina has walked away with a victory each time. And, each of the last two seasons, North Carolina has walked away with a national championship. UNC defeated Princeton 3-0 in Chestnut Hill, Mass., in last season's national championship game.

The road to this year's finals in Storrs, Conn., starts this weekend, but none of the Tar Heels are looking past Saturday.

"I expect a very tight game," UNC coach Karen Shelton said.

The Nittany Lions are a very young team, a stark contrast to the senior-dominated Tar Heels. Penn State lost their leading scorer of last year, Tara Maguire, while the Tar Heels return with their top three scorers.

But, Shelton said, "There are a lot of similarities between the teams and the schools."

According to Shelton, the similarities start with the goalies. Two of the nation's finest will be on display this weekend. Penn State's Jamie Smith, a junior and national team member, and UNC's All-American Jana Withrow will be given the daunting task of stopping two wide-open offenses.

Still reeling from Maguire's departure, Penn State has patched together a makeshift front line.

Tracey Larson, the 1996 Big Ten Freshman of the Year, will be expected to lead the Penn State offense. Kim Hicks, one of Penn State's stronger for-



UNC coach KAREN SHELTON and the Tar Heels will begin their quest for a third straight NCAA title Saturday.

wards last year, will move back to her original midfield position, leaving the front line without much playing experience.

The North Carolina front line, though, has habitually worried opposing coaches.

The front line trio of Kate Barber, Nancy Pelligreen and Cindy Werley is on pace to break several UNC scoring marks. After playing together for over a year, they have become even more comfortable with one another.

"It is nice to play with them because we know where each other will be," Pelligreen said.

Confident in the Tar Heel offense, players and coach concentrate their efforts on an untested North Carolina defense.

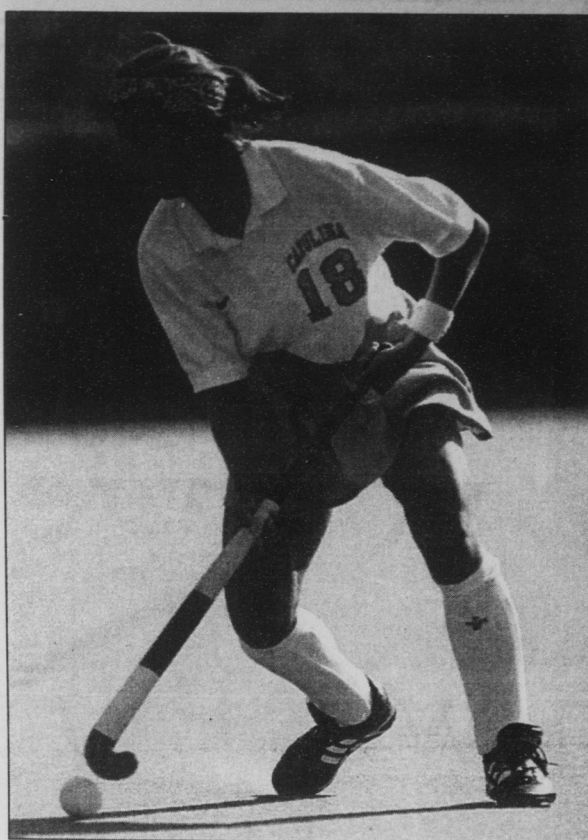
"This year with such a young defense, we might have some rough spots in the beginning," Withrow said.

UNC has passed the Nittany Lions' test for the past two seasons. The Tar Heels topped Penn State 3-0 last season and 6-0 in 1995.

UNC boasts an 9-3-1 record all-time against Penn State, including a thrilling 2-1 penalty shootout win in the national semi-finals in 1993.

But, as Shelton quickly pointed out, what has happened in years past doesn't affect this team. It is a new season. This is a new team.

Yet the goal remains the same.



Tar Heel forward Nancy Pelligreen returns to a front-line trio that has played together for more than a year. UNC has a 9-3-1 record against Penn State.

Pair of women's veterans survives wet afternoon at U.S. Open

Pete Sampras had his match delayed and moved to the grandstand court.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Forgotten figures amid all the talented teens, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Mary Joe Fernandez carved out victories in the only matches finished on a gloomy Thursday afternoon at the U.S. Open.

Miserably reminiscent of this summer's wet Wimbledon, rain soaked the Open as fans and players angrily waited four hours before the first ball was hit.

Matches were shifted all around the new National Tennis Center complex as officials scrambled to keep the singles competition rolling as long as the weather permitted.

Four-time champion Pete Sampras, scheduled to play in Arthur Ashe Stadium during the day, was sent to the old grandstand in the evening.

Weather postponed all mixed doubles and most doubles matches. Fans searching for their favorite players were left to wander around the complex with puzzled looks.

Sanchez Vicario, the champion in 1994 and now seeded No. 10, finished reading a book during the long wait,

then went out and looked like a lethargic, female version of her brother, Emilio. She rarely left the baseline in an uninspired, sloppy 6-2, 5-7, 6-2 victory over 19-year-old USTA prospect Meilen Tu.

Sanchez Vicario hit only 12 clean winners in the matches, while spraying 30 unforced errors.

Tu attacked more, hitting 25 winners, but paid for her aggressiveness with 61 unforced errors.

The top-ranked player during much of 1995, Sanchez Vicario said she was determined to overcome a slump that sent her plummeting this year.

"If I do the right things I will come

back in the rankings," said Sanchez Vicario, who won her second French Open in 1994. "I lost weight, but I feel fitter and I feel better. I played a lot the last couple of years, more than anyone, and maybe that's why I was tired in the beginning of the year."

"I'm not too happy the way I started the year. But I don't have to defend any (points). I don't have any pressure at all."

Fernandez, the No. 12 seed, also was pushed to three sets in a more interesting duel against No. 47 Rita Grande. Fernandez rushed the net more than usual and survived seven aces to win 4-6, 6-2, 6-2.

Fernandez, 26, put to rest rumors that she's thinking about retirement, saying she's still eager to pursue her dream of winning a major. She's come close a few times, reaching the final at the Australian Open in 1990 and 1992 and the French Open final in 1993.

"Every youngster dreams of winning a Grand Slam or being No. 1 in the world," Fernandez said.

"Those dreams are still there until you fulfill them. I still feel I have a good chance. I think a lot of things can happen in two weeks."

"If I'm playing well and I'm healthy, anything is possible. It's a matter of persevering."

Padres end skid by topping Angels

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN DIEGO — Paul Menhart earned his first National League win and John Flaherty and Ken Caminiti each had three hits as the San Diego Padres opened the third round of inter-league play with a 9-2 victory over the Anaheim Angels on Thursday.

San Diego snapped a four-game losing streak, all of which came against the Philadelphia Phillies, who have the worst record in baseball.

The Padres improved to 5-6 in inter-league play while the Angels fell to 2-9. Menhart (1-2) allowed only four hits in 7 2/3 innings. He gave up two runs, struck out four and walked two.

Menhart was making his fourth start since his contract was purchased from Triple-A Las Vegas on Aug. 11. He was acquired earlier this year in a trade with the Seattle Mariners.

Flaherty was 3-for-3 with three RBIs and Caminiti was 3-for-5 with two doubles, an RBI and two runs scored. Wally Joyner also scored twice.

Rickey Henderson returned to Qualcomm Stadium for the first time since he was traded from the Padres to the Angels on Aug. 13 for three prospects. He was honored in a pregame ceremony and came in as a defensive replacement in the seventh inning. Henderson grounded out in the eighth.

Greg Vaughn, who became the everyday left fielder when Henderson was traded, went 0-for-3 with a walk and a run. He is 5-for-54 with 16 strikeouts since Henderson was traded.

Jim Edmonds hit his 21st homer, a solo shot with two out in the Angels seventh. He also made a spectacular diving catch of Steve Finley's fly to the warning track in left-center in the sixth, landing on his stomach in a cloud of dust on the warning track.

The Angels were sloppy, with a wild pitch by Jason Dickson (13-6) allowing Caminiti to score in the fifth, and an error by first baseman Darin Erstad with two out in the fourth leading to two unearned runs.

SPORTS SHORTS

Coming up at Carolina...

Carolina/Nike Fall Volleyball Invitational

Friday and Saturday, August 29th & 30th at Carmichael Auditorium

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29th

Southern Illinois vs. Connecticut.....5:00pm
CAROLINA vs. VIRGINIA TECH.....7:00pm

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30th

Virginia Tech vs. Connecticut.....11:00am
CAROLINA vs. SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.....1:00pm
Southern Illinois vs. Virginia Tech.....5:00pm
CAROLINA vs. CONNECTICUT7:00PM

ALSO... Sat., Aug. 30...Field Hockey vs. Penn State...1pm at Navy Field
Sun., Aug. 31...Volleyball vs. Akron...2pm at Carmichael Aud.

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