

Three Visits Precede Holdup Try At Vass; Hopley Fires As Robber Flees

A holdup man who paid three early-morning visits before attempting robbery was foiled Monday by Charlie Hopley, formerly of Southern Pines, who now has a service station near the underpass at Vass.

Hopley told Sheriff C. J. Mc-

Donald that he was waked up about 5:30 o'clock by the Negro who came to his station—which is also his home—wanting to buy gas. He bought 93 cents worth of gas and drove away, and Hopley went back to bed.

Soon the Negro was back, wanting matches and cigarettes. Again the station manager obliged, opening up his store. Again the customer departed.

For the third time, back came the Negro. This time he wanted "the cheapest flour you have" and Hopley showed him a five-pound bag. "How about a 100-pound bag?" the man wanted to know.

As Hopley went around the counter the Negro followed him and suddenly stuck his hands in the cash drawer and started scooping out the money. Hopley reached for a pistol he kept under the counter, but the man jumped on him and grabbed it away.

Tussling with the Negro, Hopley called for his wife, who was in the adjoining bedroom, to bring him his shotgun. As she came out of the door the would-be robber suddenly broke and ran, dropping the money he had picked up, and showing Mrs. Hopley aside as he went.

Running across the highway and dodging behind the pillars of the underpass on the way to his car, which he had parked some distance away, the colored man was followed by shots from Hopley's gun. The station manager fired from the bedroom window until the man was out of sight. "I don't know whether I hit him or not," he said.

Hopley, told Sheriff McDonald who is investigating the affair, that he will be able to identify the man if he sees him.

"ARCie" Says:

Mary! Mary! Quite Contrary, We know that your horn will blow,

Now try your brakes and, for goodness sakes, See that your lights do glow.

FOR RESULTS USE THE PILOT'S CLASSIFIED COLUMN.

Golf Is Good - And So's Money, Says Peggy Kirk, Visiting At Mid Pines

By Bud Harvey

"There's nothing like women's amateur golf, but it's a wonderful feeling when you get that money . . ."

In so many words, Peggy Kirk, latest recruit to the ranks of professional women's golf, summed up the difference between amateur and pro golf. Peg and her Ohio colleague, Carol Diringer, another familiar figure on the women's big league tournament circuit, are spending a couple of pre-Christmas weeks at Mid Pines, sharpening up their games for the opening of the Florida circuit in January.

"I don't know yet what pro golf is actually like," went on Peggy, who just joined the Spalding staff a couple of weeks ago. "And I'll miss not being able to play in the amateur tournaments. But I wanted to go to work and it was either pro golf or an office job where I wouldn't be able to play much golf . . ."

Miss Kirk, a veteran Curtis Cupper and holder of several important amateur titles, is delighted with the arrangement which makes it possible for her to earn a living without forsaking the sport she loves.

"The cost of playing amateur golf is terrific," she went on. "To play a schedule of about 20 tournaments a year, it costs a girl about \$3,000—if she scrimps. Caddy fees alone cost her about five dollars a day."

As a member of the Spalding pro staff, Peggy draws a regular weekly salary that will pay this freight during 1951, with enough left over so there won't have to be any scrimping.

"They're paying me more than I'm worth," said Peggy modestly.

This, of course, is a point of view that is open to argument. Golf equipment manufacturers are not in the habit of throwing their dollars around carelessly and the Spalding people must figure Miss Kirk is a very sound investment, indeed.

"I'd like to see the women's pro circuit built up," she said, expressing a wish that is shared by others in her position. "If we could build up a year-round circuit like the men's, then you'd see the girls popping into the pro ranks by the dozens. . ."

As it stands, Peg figures to spend her most profitable Florida winter since she started swinging

a golf club back in Findlay, Ohio. In addition to her Spalding subsidy, she'll be shooting for a chunk of prize money in at least three pay-off tournaments in Florida. Every gal pro who starts in one of these tournaments can do no worse than pick up a \$100 minimum prize. And the check can range up to four figures.

Meanwhile, Peggy and Carol are getting in their licks over the rugged Mid Pines course.

"This is a wonderful place to practice," exclaimed Peggy. "It's a course that never lets you up—and never lets you let up."

But prepping for the Florida campaign isn't the rollicking holiday that it used to be for Peggy who is by nature a blithe spirit. It's a grim bit of business this year, because the gal will be playing for blue chips this year instead of plated baubles.

However, it pleases golf's fledgling pro. It's a nice feeling to cash that Spalding check each week and not have to tap the paternal wallet.

Cub Party Tonight: Awards Will Be Made

Cub Pack No. 73, sponsored by the Men's club of the Brownson Memorial Presbyterian church, will hold its Christmas party and first Achievement night of the year, at 7:30 tonight (Friday) in the basement of the church.

All parents of the members are cordially invited, said W. S. Thomasson, cubmaster, also any boys of Cub Scout age (eight to 11) interested in joining a den. A few more can still be taken in, he reports.

At tonight's event the hall will be decorated with a bare tree—until the Cub Scouts start decorating it, as part of the program, with ornaments they have made themselves in their den work.

They will bring gifts to put under the tree for a gift exchange, and also toys which they have repaired to be passed on to children of less fortunate families.

Achievement and rank awards will be presented.

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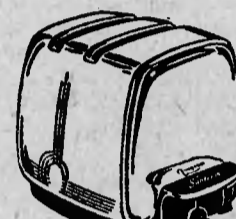
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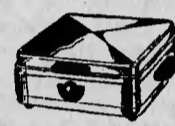


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