

Downpour Robs Reed Of Hot 67

AGA To Decide
New Open Date

By BERT PRATHER

A heavy downpour shortly after noon yesterday turned North Fulton's golf course into a chain of lakes and caused officials of the Atlanta Golf Association to cancel the 36-hole Atlanta Open tournament.

The washout was a tough break for Defending Champion Elmer Reed, who had already completed his first 18 in 76, four under par. Eastern Airlines pilot seemed well on his way to a third AGA Open title, but now it all goes for naught.

AGA officials will set a new date for the tournament at their annual meeting, scheduled for June 9 at Capital City Country Club during the holding of the City Amateur. The new date probably will be sometime in August or September.

There is such a heavy schedule for May, June and July that it would not be possible to work in the tournament without conflicting with other established meets.

Next Wednesday, for instance, Reed along with several others will seek to qualify for the National PGA in the Southeastern Sectional at East Lake's No. 1 course. The following Monday, Elmer and others will be in Birmingham for the U. S. Open qualifying. If successful, they will move on to the National PGA, scheduled for Columbus, Ohio, at the Scioto Country Club starting June 21, and the National Open at Merion Cricket Club, Philadelphia, June 8-10.

Add to this the Southern Amateur at New Orleans and the City Amateur during the month of June and one can readily see that the calendar is full to the brim.

Reed's 67 was the five strokes better than the next lowest man to finish the first 18 before the clouds unzipped. James Yates posted a 34-38-72 to hold second, while City Junior champ, Lester Kelly, had a 73 on the score to stand third among the fourteen first-round finishers.

Gordon Clay, who shot a practice round of 67 Wednesday, was two under at nine and was going good when play was halted. Aaron Jackson was three under through 17 and possibly would have finished with a 68 for the first round. Others were strung out all over the course, and it is doubtful if some of them could have completed the 36 before dark even if the course had drained properly after the cloudburst.

While Reed was a big loser, Gene Gaillard received a lucky gift. He picked up when the lightning started. Now he has a reprieve.

DAHLBENDER WINS OPEN

**Golfing Monster
On March Again**

By ED MILES

Atlanta's golfing monster is on the march again. Gene Dahlbender Jr. shot a two-under-par 69 Friday morning to win the Atlanta Open championship for the third time. He first won it 10 years ago at East Lake when he was but 16 years of age, shooting 135, lowest score with which it has been won.

He won it again in 1948 at the Capital City Country Club with a tally of 137.

He started off Friday morning with a score of 73 held over from Aug. 18, when one round was played, the other washed out to mark the second time this important local event had to be postponed on account of the weather.

Gene met with his toughest competition from a somewhat unexpected source. Second-place player and first amateur was Gus Novotny with a 143. Gus, like Gene, had done a 73 two weeks ago when the second round was called off. Gus might have tied Dahlbender for first place, had he not missed an 18-inch putt on the 15th hole. As it was he finished birdie-birdie for second place, a stroke behind the winner.

Elmer Reed, the first-day leader with an even par 71, had been the favorite to retain the title he won in 1949. But Elmer had finishing trouble similar to that which Thursday cost him the Georgia State PGA title at Rome.

He required 77 strokes on the second 18 of his city open title defense, after having been out front after the first day with 71. Elmer was out in 39, back in 38, whereas Dahlbender did the front nine in even par to catch up and was two under coming in to take the title.

Nothing can be done about the Monster when he's on the march.



MILES

Being behind him in a golf competition is a lot like trying to out-print a stamping machine. You know he is going to be putting for those birdies and you start pressing—to your disadvantage.

Dahlbender showed his championship characteristics after the fourth hole on which he hooked his drive, caught the lake with his second and had a two-over-par six. He hit close and knocked in a birdie two on the fifth and rammed home a 15-footer on the sixth to go even with the card again.

After that it was a case of coasting for the Monster. With his distance the par fives were set-ups for birdies, and his opposition knew it.

Novotny, the low amateur, struck a blow for the middle-aged. He was runner-up in the Western Amateur of 1928, which is 22 years ago. But he showed that he still can shoot with the best.

Bill Brooker, with a loose swing but fine muscular control, added a 76 to his 73 for a 149 and second place among the amateurs.

Louis McLennan was third among the amateurs with 150 and Reed shared second place among the pros with Darwin White at 148.

The scores:

xGene Dahlbender, Jr. 73-69-142 (175); Gus Novotny, 73-70-143; xElmer Reed, 71-77-148 (140); xDarwin White, 76-72-148 (140); Bill Brooker, 73-76-149; Louis McLennan, 73-77-150; Dr. John Ridley, 77-74-151; Aaron Jackson, 74-77-151; B. A. Hawkins, 76-76-152; Charlie Ormer, 78-74-153; Gordon Clay, 74-78-153; xCharlie Edwards, 77-78-155; Bobby Tutwiler, 80-78-156; Ray Traylor, 77-79-156; Tommy Mathews, 78-79-157; George Edwards, 79-80-159; Lester Kelly, 84-78-162; Gene Hay, 87-85-162; Wallace Cochran, 85-78-161; Dick Clark, 85-79-164; Bobby Stumman, 86-83-169.

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