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Sifford, George Johnson in U.S. Open; Elder out

Charley Sifford and Lee Elder took opposite routes early this week as qualifying for the U.S. Open golf tournament got under way.

Sifford quit the pro tour four months ago because he was discouraged over the first black to play in the Masters tournament.

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After 19 years on the Professional Golf Association (PGA) tour, the aging Sifford packed his tour regular and the broth- took a teaching job as club pro at Brecksville, Ohio. Three weeks ago, he made up his mind to take one more shot at the U.S. Open, scheduled June 19-22 at the Medinah Country Club near Chicago.

Charley will be there. Lee won't be there.

Sifford led 36 other golfers seeking berths in the national event with a 3-under-par 137 for the 36-hole test at Pittsburgh on Tuesday.

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On the same day, at Charlotte, N.C., however, Elder missed qualifying by two strokes. He had a card of 146.

George Johnson, a fellow tour regular and the brother of pro football tackle Walt Johnson, did succeed in beating the cutoff.

George tallied 137, to tie for second in the Charlotte elimination.

• • •

Falling by the wayside with Elder at Charlotte were several big names in PGA ranks.

Among these were Billy Casper, a former U.S. Open and Masters champion; Gay Brewer, another ex-Masters titlist; Chi Chi Rodriguez, Bob Charles and Bruce Devlin.

Ali-Frazier okay denied

KUALA LUMPUR (UPI)—The coordinator of the Muhammad Ali-Joe Bugner world heavyweight title bout to be held here July 1 has denied reports that arrangements were being made for Ali to fight Joe Frazier in Manila.

"There is no such arrangement for Ali to meet Frazier for a third fight in Manila or anywhere else," said Mike Ong. "I spoke to promotor Don King over the phone Monday night and he told me categorically that no such meeting has been arranged for.

"Don King is the only man in the world that Ali's camp trusts most. As such he will definitely be the first man to know if any fight is being arranged for Ali."

Ong said Ali's manager, Herbert Muhammad, had also said that no fight has been arranged for the champion after the Bugner bout.

Versatile Harper captures DH lead

NEW YORK (UPI)—Tommy Harper of the California Angels, whose 389 stolen bases places him third among active players behind Lou Brock and Bert Campaneris, has taken over the leadership of the American league designated hitter rankings with a .272 average, the league officially announced Tuesday.

Rookie Jim Rice of Boston was second at .269, and veteran Tony Oliva of Minnesota, who hit .438 as a DH last week, was third at .261.

Willie Horton of Detroit leads the DH's in home runs with 11 and in RBI with 35.

Baltimore and Texas tied for the team DH lead with identical .278 team averages.

Volunteers wanted

Mt. Washington Children's Hospital, located at 1708 W. Rogers Ave. is in need of volunteers. Adult volunteers are especially needed to accompany patients to various general hospitals for their clinic appointments.

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SKIN BECOMES COLT — Herb Mul-key, whose career average for treturning kicks stands at 27.8 yards over three years, was traded early this week by the Washington Redskins to the Baltimore Colts for an undisclosed high draft choice in 1977. New Colts coach Ted Marchibroda said the acquisition of Mulkey who was a walk-on at a Skin tryout camp in 1972, will solve a pressing need for the club.

AFRO Sports

Back to Prince Thou Art for AFRO pick in Belmont

by Sam Lacy

Flushed by the success of Master Derby, which was picked to win the Preakness, and did this desk is going back out on its private lim for Saturday's Belmont choice in an effort to make it two-for-three.

And, to emphasize its bravery, the same desk goes back to the same prediction that failed in the Kentucky Derby.

That is Prince Thou Art, which neglected to catch five horses at Churchill Downs, after the AFRO had predicted it would win.

Foolish Pleasure wont the Derby, it will be remembered, and because he is back on what amounts to his home grounds, he figures to be the betting choice again — as he was in the Derby and Preakness.

Master Derby, appears to be a solid runner, and could be as tough as he was at Pimlico. But this desk has to go elsewhere.

The return to the "Prince" as the projected winner of the third jewel in racings' Triple Crown is prompted by the colt's performance in the Preakness.

The Belmont, as a mile-and-a-half, is the longest of the three races, and that appears to favor the AFRO choice.

At Pimlico's Preakness, Prince Thou Art was 10 lengths behind the fiels after three-quarters of a mile. At the turn into the home stretch, he was six-and half lenghts back, but, at the finish he was only three-and-a-half lengths off the winner.

The evidence that the "Prince," a notoriously-slow starter, was gaining steadily as the race progressed, seems to justify the belief that the colt will benefit from the extra one-quarter mile of tomorrow's (Saturday) event.

Free tennis clinic set for youngsters

A free tennis clinic at Druid Hill Park will again be sponsored by the Junior League of Baltimore, Inc. this summer, in conjunction with the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks.

Open to all inner-city boys and girls ages 9 to 17, classes will be held June 30 to August 7, four mornings a week (Mon.-Thurs.) from 9 a.m. to noon.

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GR78-15	70.26	129.28	252.94	2.96
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'There' cash saves day at races for 2 moms

AFRO reporter-photographer Ben Phillips caught a couple of cute little tykes in focus at Pimlico on Preakness Day and thus began one of those warm, human interest stories which fall into the laps of news reporters from time to time.

The AFRO man was about his chore of snooting pictures at random at various local sports events, and to his surprise he found little seven-year-old Sonya Harper and four-year-old Tamy Owens among the milling throngs awaiting the $150,000 middle event of racing's Triple Crown.

But not far away, of course, were their elders, Ms. Eunice Harper and Ms. Linda Owens.

The latter brought the youngsters to the AFRO office on Tusday, in accordance with the rules governing the "Were You There" feature, and each collected a check for $5 for being in the right place at the right time.

Ms. Owens, who lives at 2509 West Belvedere, is in the upcoming graduating class at Comunity College of Baltimore. Ms. Harper will complete her work at CCB this winter.

The former attended Edmondson High School and the latter finished Forest Park before enrolling at CCB.

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Longtime friends since they met at Rehoboth Apostolic Church, the May 17 visit to Pimlico was the first time ever for both at the races.

"I waited all day for the Preakness," said Tammy's mom, Linda. "Then I bet on Foolish Peasure and Avatar, and lost on both."

Eunice, who also refused to risk her money before the big race, put $2 on Native Guest, which also was a losing cause.

Having spent $2 to get into the track and $4 on the race, Ms. Owens was only one buck behind after confiscating little Tammy's "Were You There" cash.

Ms. Harper's $2 admission, plus $2 investment on Native Guest, was bailed out by Sonya's $5 reward for being "there" when Phillips was. — SAM LACY

450 guides needed for retarded kids

Maryland Special Olympics is still in need of 450 guides for it's state meet to be held in Towson tomorrow (Saturday). Volunteers are needed to aid retarded athletes in getting to and from their Olympic events.

The only requirements for becoming a guide are that one must be 11 years of age or older and wants to help a retarded athlete participate and enjoy the Maryland State Olympics.

• • •

For further information on becoming a guide call: John DePauw, guide chairman, at 435-8660, or Maryland Special Olympics at 837-2000.

Tammy Owens, 4, and Sonya Harper, 7 bailed out elders Preakness Day

1250 'Olympians' await weekend meet at Towson

Approximately 1250 mentally retarded children and adults will be on hand today (Friday) and Saturday when the 6th annual Maryland Special Olympics competitions are run off.

The Friday events include team competition in volleyball and basketball, as well as the competitive swimming events. In the evening the 1250 participants will enjoy a mixer dance and dinner.

Saturday's track and field events will begin at 8:45 a.m. with the "Parade of Athletes" down Towson-towne Boulevard.

Events include the 50 and 220 yard dashes; 440 run and 440 relay; the standing broad jump; and softball throw for distance. The participants come from 18 counties in Maryland and range in age from 10 to 25.

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Former Colt star Lenny Moore will lead the Olympic oath which opens the games on Saturday. Archbishop Borders will deliver the invocation and State Comptroller Louis Goldstein will preside as honorary chairman.

Jack Dawson, sportscaster at WMAR, will again host the day long events.

August 7 through 11, 70 of the finalists from this meet will fly to Michigan to represent Maryland in the International Special Olympics at Central Michigan University.

Athletes from the United States, Candan France and Germany will participate in four days of competition.

Pitch 'n Putt golf set Sunday

Amateur golfers of the area will get their chance to vie for honors in the first tournament of its kind sponsortd by the Pitch-'n-Putt Golf Club on Sunday at Pine Ridge.

Prizes are scheduled for winners in four flights each of men and women competitors in the 18-hole medalplay.

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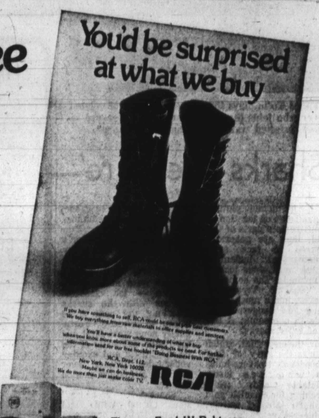

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