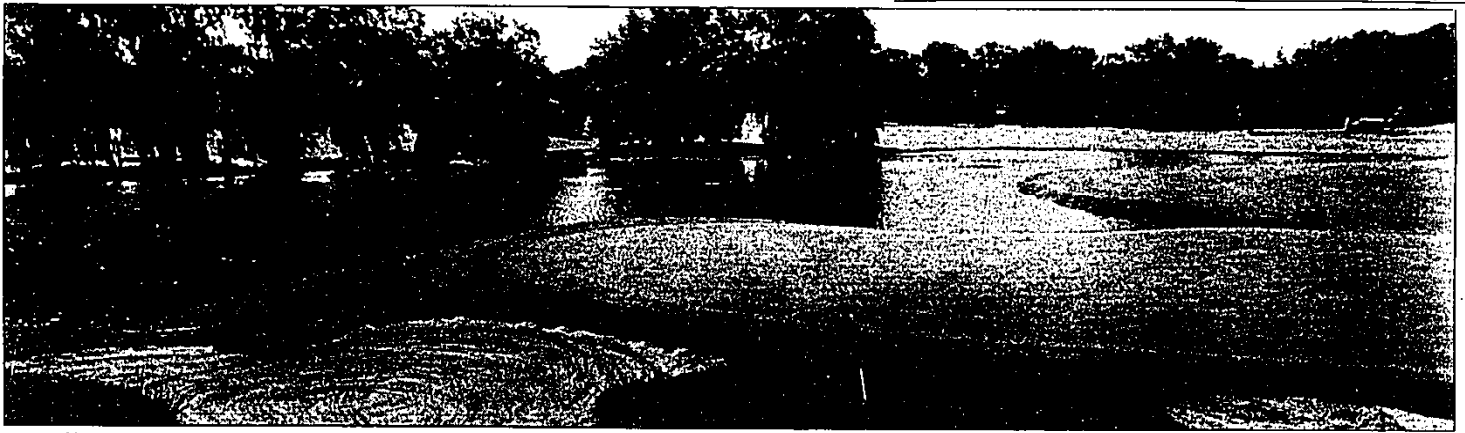




Here's one of the things that has made Oakland Hills famous, the 16th hole, where Gary Player made his "blind" 110-yard shot over the Willow trees to within three-feet of the cup in 1972. (Staff photo)

(Continued from page 16)

a third-round leader-board appearance, but lost momentum and was never in serious contention again.

Player faltered early in the final round.

On the 15th hole, he missed a short put, placing him two strokes behind Jamieson with only three holes left.

The 16th hole, which is considered one of the top 18 holes in the country by Sports Illustrated, was the tournament's turning point.

Jamieson bogeyed the par 4, 405-yard hole, lined by three bunkers on the left side and a lake on the right.

Player sliced his tee shot off to the right, and faced a 145-yard shot over a towering row of Willow trees, plus and a menacing lake to the course's smallest green. Player's chances for the title appeared remote.

In one of the greatest shots of his bril-

liant career, the little South African looped his ball four-feet short of the hole. He sunk the put for a birdie 3 that put him in a tie for the lead.

Player finished with a 281 for a \$45,000 victory.

His one-over par triumph kept Oakland Hills' infamous streak intact. In five major championships, not one golfer has been able to play par golf for the four rounds.

1961 U.S. OPEN

Gene Littler ended a personal slump by winning the U.S. Open with a four-round total of 281. Littler, a California native, had trailed throughout most of the tournament.

Littler picked up \$14,000 for the win.

1951 U.S. OPEN

This was the year Hogan tamed "The Monster."

In what he considered his greatest round of golf, Hogan shot a closing round of 67 for the victory. He totaled 287.

"I am glad I brought this course, this monster to its knees," were the famous words uttered by Hogan following the tournament.

The 67 carded by Hogan was one of only two sub-par rounds turned in on the 6,927-yard South Course. Clayton Heafner had a 69 on his final round for a second-place 289.

"This is the greatest test of golf I have ever played, and the toughest course," said Hogan, who won \$4,000 for the victory. "I'm sure it is the toughest course in the world, though I haven't played them all. If there is any tougher, I don't want to play it."

1937 U.S. OPEN

Ralph Guldahl overcame a spectator's

mistake and won the '37 Open.

At the 15th hole, someone from the gallery accidentally kicked Guldahl's shot into a trap, but he recovered for a par. He finished his final day with a 69, and a total of 281.

Sam Snead, who had a two-stroke lead on the final day, was runner-up. Guldahl collected \$1,000 for his efforts.

1927 U.S. OPEN

Cyril Walker, a 30-year-old English-born professional, shot a 297 for the victory. He carded rounds of 74, 74, 74 and 75.

Walker won by three strokes over defending champion Bobby Jones, who lost the title on the 450-yard 10th hole. Bill Mehlhorn was third, followed by Walter Hagen, MacDonald Smith and Bobby Cruickshank who tied at 303.

Walker won \$500.

Play our course tonite.

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