

Champ De Vincenzo ready to defend.

U.S. Senior Open defending champion Roberto De Vincenzo turned professional at age 15 and has been competing at full swing ever since.

Neither his age — 58 — nor the miles between Oakland Hills Country Club and his Argentina residence are about to deter De Vincenzo from attempting to defend his title July 9-12.

An international golf fixture for three decades, the Buenos Aires-born golfer added to his more than 200 trophies by besting the field at the inaugural U.S. Senior Open last year at Winged Foot in Mamaroneck, N.Y.

De Vincenzo captured the win with a 72-hole score of 285 — four strokes ahead of his nearest challenger, amateur Bill Campbell.

Among the feathers in De Vincenzo's golf cap are the 1967 British Open Championship (a two-stroke victory over Jack Nicklaus); the Bob Jones award — the United States Golf Association's highest honor for distinguished sportsmanship in golf —

and induction into the American Golf Hall of Fame in 1974 and into the PGA Hall of Fame in 1979.

De Vincenzo has won the Brazil Open, the Belgian Open, the Chile Open, the Columbia Open — the list is almost as long as a roll call at a session of the United Nations' General Assembly.

It was the 1968 Masters tournament, however, that etched the Argentinian into many Americans' memories.

De Vincenzo had apparently completed 72 holes in a tie at 277 with Bob Goalby. But De Vincenzo had signed an incorrect scorecard, giving himself a four on the 17th hole instead of his actual three.

Goalby became the Masters' champion by one stroke.

De Vincenzo and his wife Della have two sons, Roberto and Eduardo, and two grandsons as well.

De Vincenzo is from a golfing family — several of his brothers are also professional golfers.

Ford remembered as tour terror in 1950s

Doug Ford's claim to fame is winning the 1955 PGA Championship — the year he was named PGA player of the year.

Ford, 58, has 19 tour victories to his credit, earning \$414,054 in his career. He finished second on the leading money list

twice — 1953 (\$26,815) and 1957 (\$45,378). He was third on the list in 1955 (\$33,503).

A Connecticut native, Ford joined the tour in 1950, but waited until the 1952 Jacksonville Open to claim his first tour victory.

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