



Tom Rex, an amateur golfer from Franklin, watches an iron shot during the opening round of the U.S. Senior Open.

Rough Oakland Hills stymies amateur golfer

By Tom Baer
staff writer

Tom Rex didn't head for the air-conditioned men's grill after finishing his round of golf Thursday in the U.S. Senior Open at steamy, sultry Oakland Hills Country Club.

Rex, a 54-year-old amateur playing in his first national tournament, preferred to sit in the noonday sun back of the clubhouse and discuss his game.

Unlike some in the starting field of 150 seniors, Rex claims to play his best golf in the hot weather. But there were times Thursday when Rex's game was as cold as the weather was warm.

The Franklin resident, who has a

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amateur golfer

reputation for good golf around Southfield's Plum Hollow Golf Club, shot a disappointing 82 — 12 strokes over par on Oakland Hills' championship South Course in Bloomfield Township.

"I came a little unglued," said Rex, admitting that he may have bowed to the pressure of playing in the same tournament with the likes of Arnold Palmer and Sam Snead.

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Rex started strong with pars on the first three holes before bogeys on the next two. He finished the front nine with a very respectable four-over 39.

THE NO. 10 HOLE, a par-four and 440 yards, was a disaster for Rex, who put his tee shot in the rough, made the apron in three and then three-putted for a double bogey to go six strokes over. He three-putted the 11th for a bogey

five, picked up another unwanted stroke on the par-five 12th before finally getting back to par on the short (173 yard) 13th.

By the 16th hole, generally regarded as the course's most difficult because of its water and sand hazards, Rex was up 11. But he parred that tough 16th thanks to a nice third shot to the green just six feet from the pin.

"This course just fools you," said Rex, who owns a Southfield business which manufactures concrete sewer pipe.

"You have to play tough on every shot. You lose your concentration, you let down just once. . . ."

Some golfers have complained about Oakland Hills being too hard on the seniors, and you can add Rex's voice to that chorus.

"The course is great," said Rex, who is no stranger to the Oakland Hills layout. "But in my opinion, it's set up just a little too tough for the seniors."

"It's tough, just plain tough. We're not getting much of a roll on the fairways and those roughs are so thick. The greens at Franklin Hills (where Rex qualified for the Open with a 75) are just as fast as here, but certainly not as undulating."

REX HAD PLENTY of fan support during his trek over the 6,798-yard course. In addition to his wife, Betty, and several old friends going back to his college days at Michigan State Uni-



Nancy Rex, daughter of golfer Tom Rex, leaves no doubt about who she's cheering for in the U.S. Senior Open at Oakland Hills Country Club in Bloomfield Township.

versity, daughter Nancy was there decked out in a T-shirt labeled, "He's My Dad."

"Golf is a big part of Tom's life," Betty Rex said. "His office is located on Nine Mile (near Lahser), close to the third hole at Plum Hollow, and he stops in almost every day after work to practice chip shots."

Bloomfield Legion rolls

BLOOMFIELD HILLS 12
WATERFORD 2

Winning pitcher Mike Rom pitched a six-hitter and struck out eight last week as Bloomfield Hills belted Waterford 12-2 in an 18th District American Legion baseball game, which was halted after five innings on a mercy rule.

Rom, a graduate of Bloomfield Hills Lahser, owns a 2-0 Legion pitching record. Bloomfield Hills climbed to 13-

2 with the win. Bill Rankin, who played baseball at Birmingham Groves, went two for three at the plate, scored two runs and knocked in two more. Teammate Tim Jones drove in two more runs with a base hit.

Bloomfield took advantage of seven Waterford errors and 12 walks.

TROY-CLAWSON 12
FARMINGTON 4

Mike McClear, a graduate of Troy High School, was the winning pitcher in Troy-Clawson's 12-4 mauling of Farmington in an American Legion 18th District contest at Troy Athens last week.

McClear gave up a hit and fanned six in 2 1/2 innings of relief of Dave Scott. Scott Dugan had a home run and a triple and drove in four runs for Troy-Clawson. Teammate Gordie Hershiser had two hits and drove in a run.

CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ENACTED BUDGET

All interested persons are hereby notified that a summary of the Fiscal Year 81/82 Budget of the City of Farmington Hills including the intended uses of federal revenue sharing funds is available for public inspection.

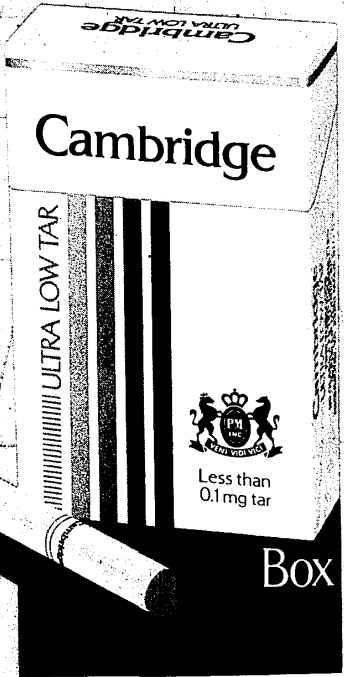
The budget summary and documentation necessary to support the summary are available at Farmington Hills City Hall, 21555 West Eleven Mile Road, Office of the City Clerk, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. They also are on file at the Farmington Community Library, 23500 Liberty, Farmington, Michigan and the Farmington Hills Branch Library, at 32737 West Twelve Mile, Farmington Hills, Michigan during their normal business hours.

FLOYD CAIRNS, City Clerk

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Cambridge

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