

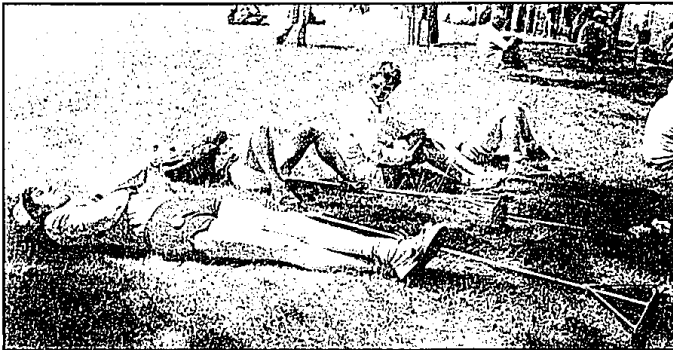
A 'Monster' of a week!



Craig Stadler, tabbed the "Walrus," blasts out of a bunker to the seventh green during first-round action Thursday. Stadler shot 70-80 for a two-day total of 150 and missed the cut for Saturday and Sunday rounds.

Staff photos
by Gary Caskey and
Stephen Cantrell

Oakland Hills Country Club
workers Ken Lindblom (fore-
ground) and Mike Olson take a
break during the tournament
while Darryl Strocker observes.



After sinking a hole-in-one on No. 9 Friday, Ben Crenshaw plants a kiss on the golf ball that found the mark.



Jack Nicklaus, who missed his first U.S. Open cut since 1963, chips to the eighth green in early action.

OAKLAND HILLS Country Club in Bloomfield Township was a busy place last week as the course labeled "The Monster" played host to the 85th U.S. Open golf championship.

The story of the tournament developed early and it was written by Taiwan's Tze-Chung Chen, who tied a 36-hole Open record with a two-day total of 134 (six-under par). Chen also tied the 18-hole competitive course record Thursday with a score of 65. He set the tone for the early lead by scoring an albatross (double-eagle) on the par-5, 527-yard second hole. It was the first double-eagle recorded in Open history.

One of the highlights of the early play was turned in by Ben Crenshaw. Thursday, Crenshaw had trouble with his putting game, but he solved that Friday on the ninth hole when he sank a hole-in-one. Thursday, Crenshaw missed his second putt on the ninth green, dropped his putter and made a gesture signaling, "What does it take?"

Crenshaw's ace was the first ever recorded in four previous Opens hosted by Oakland Hills. It was the 17th ace in Open history and the fourth in the last four Open tournaments.

Jack Nicklaus, the "Golden Bear" and the golfer most consider the last of the dominant players in the game, shot a nine-over-par 149 and missed the cut for the first time since 1963.

Earlier in the week, most players agreed the difficulty of the firm and un-

duating greens at Oakland Hills would make scores soar. Tom Watson, one of the tour's leading money winners, went as far to predict scores in the 80s.

Ironically, an Open record for most sub-par rounds for one day was set Friday when 24 golfers shot under 70. The old record was 22, which was set in the third round of the 1982 Open at Pebble Beach. It also set a record of most second-day sub-par rounds. The old mark was 20 in 1961 at Merion.

A record matched at this year's Open was the 36-hole cut at 146, which equaled the standard set in 1980 at Baltusrol.

For more information on the championship and for complete results, see page 1B.

—Jim Hughes



Brian Archuleta doubles up with periscopes in order to see over the crowd and get a better view of the golfers.



USGA official Dan Scoles of Ames, Iowa, yawns in between the two tee boxes at the par-4, 457-yard fifth tee.