

A COLUMN OF SPORTS

by Bus Ham

A CHAMPION AT 50?

TULSA (Indian Hills Country Club) —If you're 40 and wrapping them around the trees don't give up. Logan VanZandt of Tulsa won medals and honors in the state championship tourney here Monday at the age of 49 years.

It was only 11 years ago that "Van" swung a golf club for the first time, that is, seriously. He probably had played only a dozen games prior to about 1921. Today he is potential national champion. If such championships were based on age classifications. No less an authority than Bobby Jones told "Van" two years ago that there wasn't a man in the country of his age who could beat him.

Today "Van" admits he is playing the best golf of his life. He attributes his improvement this spring, a matter of five or six shots on the 18 to a "fortunate misfortune."

On a picnic with his family last fall, he broke his right arm just above the wrist. He didn't touch a golf club until February. Then he shot better than ever before. A few weeks ago he shot 66 over the tough Brook Hollow course in Dallas, recognized as one of the most exacting tests in the southwest.

THE MAN TO BEAT!

OVER the Indian Hills layout here "Van" has been right at 75 consistently and the last rounds has had 70 and 71. Par is 72.

"He'll be the man to beat," along with Henry Robertson, the defending champion in the match play starting Tuesday.

It is strange that "Van" as well as he plays has never won the state title. His nearest approach to the crown was in 1930 over the Twin Hills course in Oklahoma City. George Johnston, a fellow Tulsan, eliminated "Van" in the semifinals and Keefe Carter then defeated Johnston for the championship.

VanZandt's first state meet was the 1923 tourney. He made the championship flight with a 79 but was stricken that night and had to default.

Who can say that on the eve of 50, his black hair turning becomingly gray, "Van" will not become Oklahoma's golf champion?

A MAXWELL LAYOUT!

THIS golf course is another of Oklahoma's beauties. Clubhouse high up on a hill, the first tee facing the south, a wood shot sailing out and out and then tumbling down 225 yards away.

Uphill and downhill, all around with bends and decided dog-legs on almost every other hole.

A typical Perry Maxwell layout. He built it, you know. Much like Twin Hills in Oklahoma City, Dornick Hills in Ardmore, Nichols Hills in Oklahoma City and Hillcrest in Bartlesville, all laid by Maxwell. Well wooded this course, but not the primeval forest Twin Hills is. Plenty of trouble once you are off the fairway, excellent bent grass greens and so deucedly treacherous. All the strokes that were lost on the carpet Monday would fill a warehouse.