

PGA Official Sees Newcomer As Masters Tourney Winner

AUGUSTA, Ga., April 6.—Can a newcomer win the 20th Masters, a golf classic which opened today with the biggest and best field in its brief but brilliant history?

The records say no. The golfers say no. And the sportswriters say no. They lean toward the experience of a Cary Middlecoff, Sam Snead, Ben Hogan or Jimmy Demaret.

But Ray O'Brien, tournament director of the Professional Golfers Association, says Yes. "We have more fine young golfers on the tour this year than ever before, I believe," O'Brien said. "Several of them have the game to win the Masters, and I think one of them will."

He mentioned such circuit stars as Dow Finsterwald, Don Fairless, Ernie Vossler, Lionel Hebert, Mike Fitchick, Billy Maxwell, Gene Littler and Mike Souchak.

FOUR MONOPOLIZERS

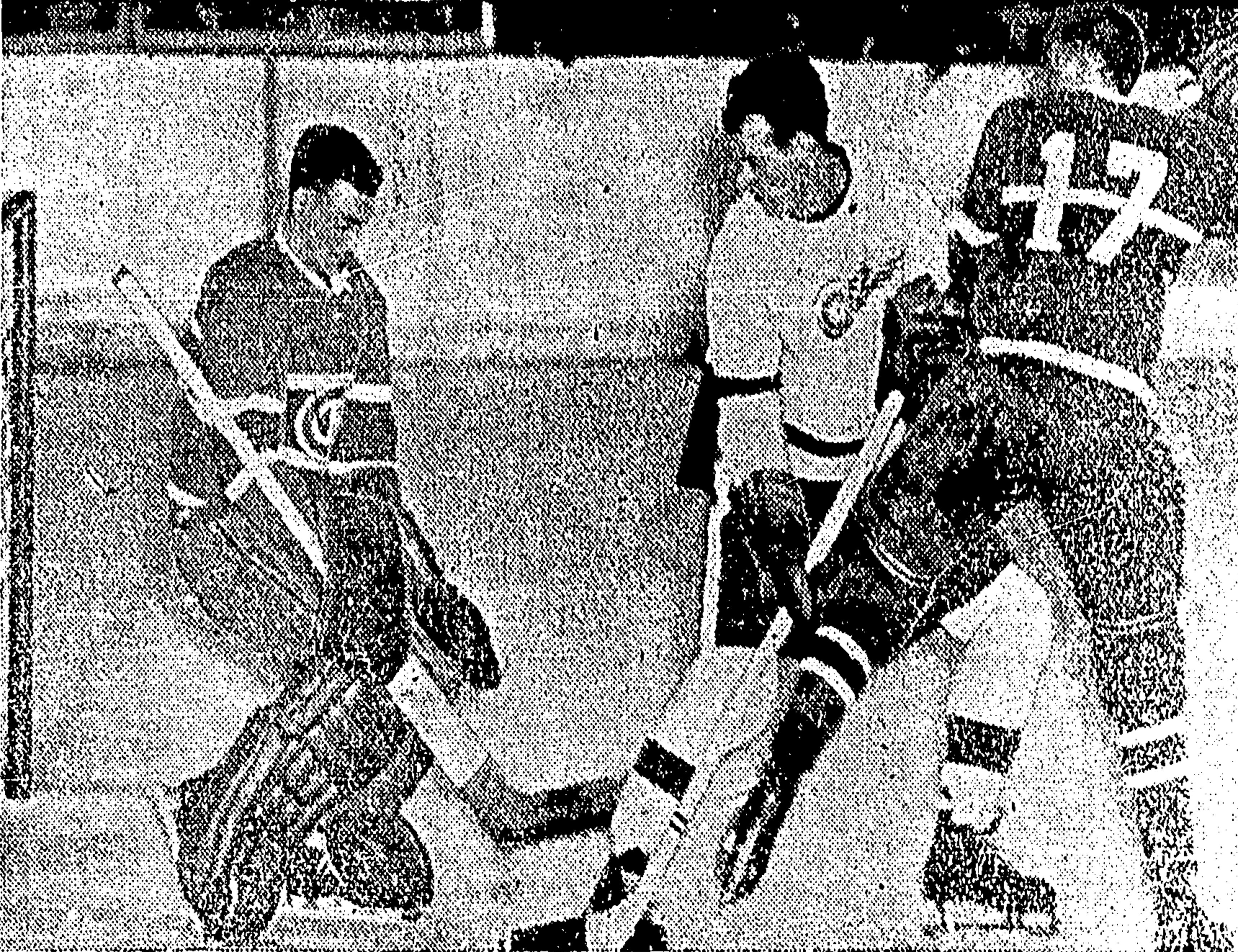
Middlecoff, the defending champion who would like to become the first to win Masters titles in successive years, said: "I don't believe any of the boys who haven't played this course several years stand much chance. This is a course you have to know to be able to score well."

He was talking about the exacting, 6,950-yard Augusta National course, with a par of 36-30-72.

A record field of 84 have entered for the opening round.

Middlecoff, Snead, Demaret and Hogan have monopolized this event since 1949. Snead and Demaret are three-time winners.

Hogan has won twice and has been runner-up four times, including two playoffs he lost.



GOALIE JACQUES PLANTE of Montreal Canadiens bobbles but stops a close-in drive from the stick of Detroit Red Wings' Gordie Howe in the first game of the Stanley Cup best-of-seven final playoffs at Montreal Saturday night. Howe is checked by Jean-Guy Talbot (17) of Montreal. Canadiens won 6-4. (CP Photo)

Past Performance Shows Red Wings With Good Chance for Win Tonight

Detroit, April 6—Over the long haul, past performances would seem to give Detroit Red Wings a good chance to get back into the Stanley Cup battle tonight after two straight losses to Montreal Canadiens on foreign ice.

Wings have an 11-game winning streak at home in Stanley Cup play, including six victories over Canadiens, since the Montrealers beat them 3-1 in the second game of the 1954 finals.

They've taken seven out of eight from Canadiens on home ice in their last two play-off meetings.

During the current season Wings have a 3-2 home record against Montreal with two ties.

NOT ENCOURAGING

The only trouble with all these encouraging statistics is that what has happened to the Wings lately hasn't been nearly as encouraging.

The defending cupholders have lost their last six to the current National Hockey League champions—at home and away, regular season and play-

offs. Five of their regulars—aren't tired, they just quit hunting."

Without mentioning names, Adams noted that some of his players have prospered by going into business for themselves and that hockey is no longer their main source of income. Detroit captain Ted Lindsay, ace right-winger Gordie Howe and penalty-killer Marty Pavelich are known to have formed a manufacturers representation firm in Detroit.

"The boys know that Detroit is a different team on Detroit ice," Blake said before leaving Montreal Wednesday. "I'm sure they are not at all complacent about our position."

TOO BUSY FOR HOCKEY

General manager Jack Adams tried to needle some life into his club Wednesday when he accused an unnamed number of the Wings of being "too busy with other interests to think about hockey." Speaking of Tuesday's

5-1 drubbing Adams said: "They

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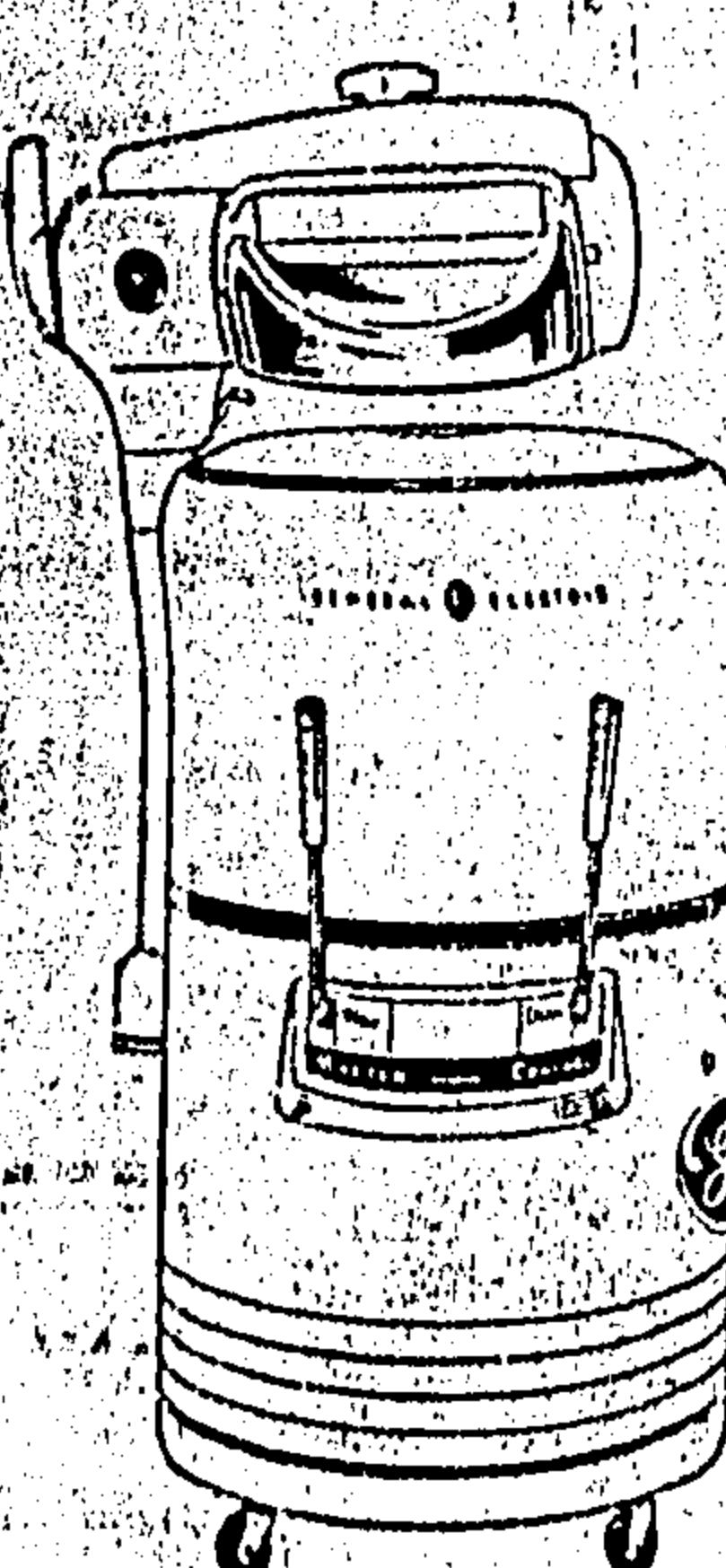
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HUNGARIAN VISIT

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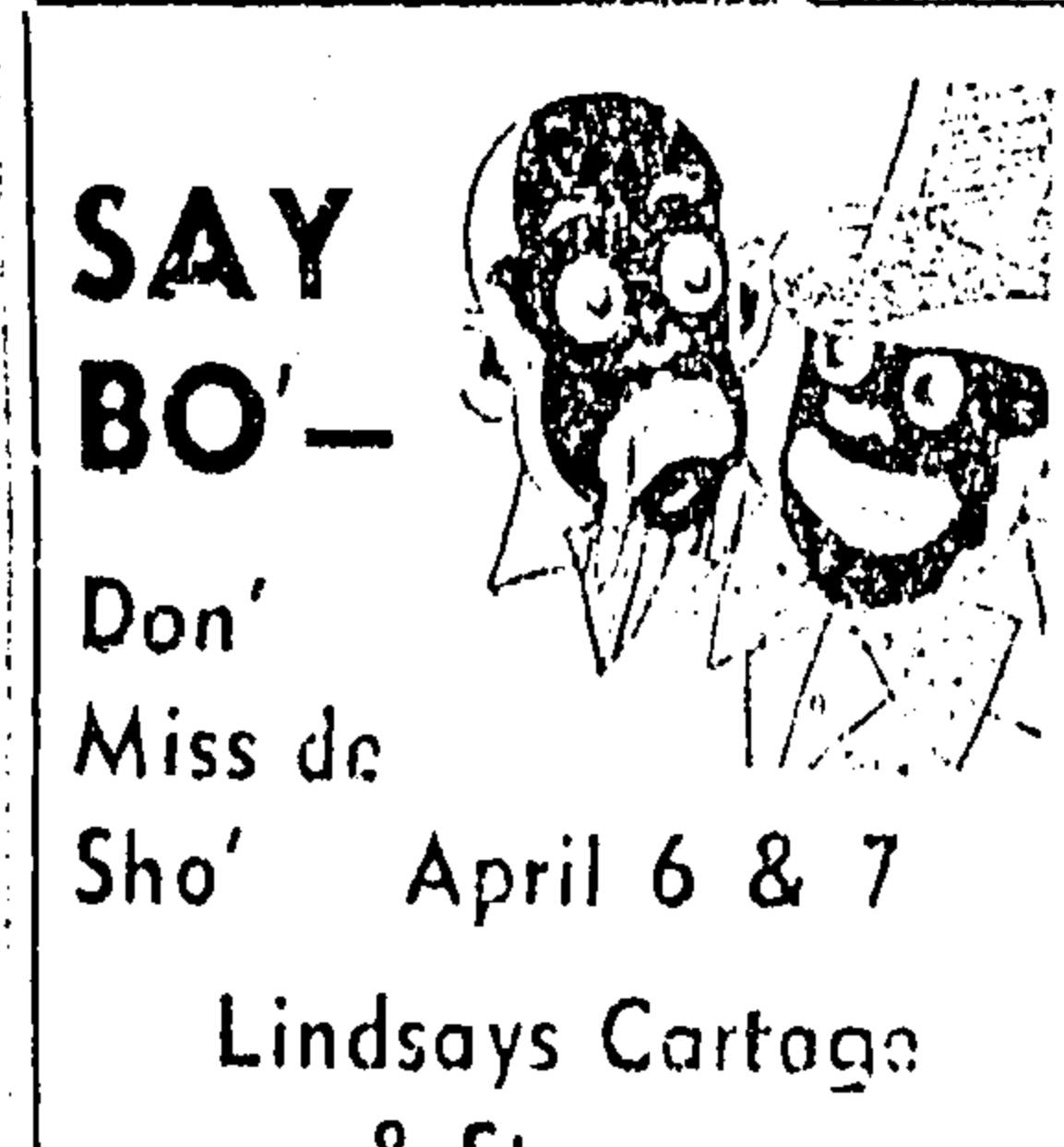
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