

THE COMMEMORATIVE COMES TO NEW YORK

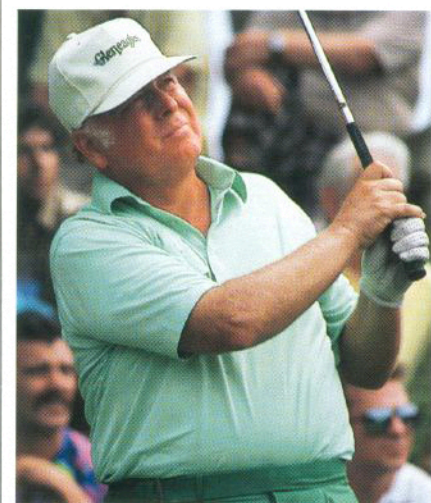
by Martin Davis

Picturesque Sleepy Hollow Country Club was recently the site of the Commemorative, a \$250,000 Senior PGA TOUR event.

Although the two-day Pro-Am was shortened to one-day due to heavy rains, the entire event—from the Wednesday evening “draw party” to the Friday awards dinner to the concluding putt on Sunday afternoon—was superbly conducted by the folks from *Golf Digest*.

Originally begun six years ago at the Newport Country Club (the site of the first U.S. Open), tournament sponsor Merrill Lynch agreed to move the event from Rhode Island to the New York area last year.

Lee Elder became the first person to complete the “Professional Met Slam”—winning both the Westchester Classic and this year’s Commemorative—by two strokes over crowd favorite Chi Chi Rodriguez (who made a forty foot birdie putt on the final hole) and by three strokes over sweet-swinging Gene Littler.

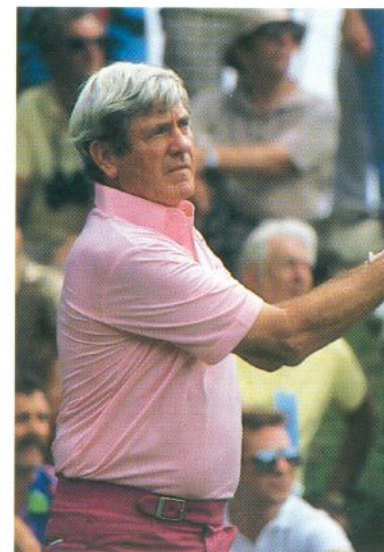
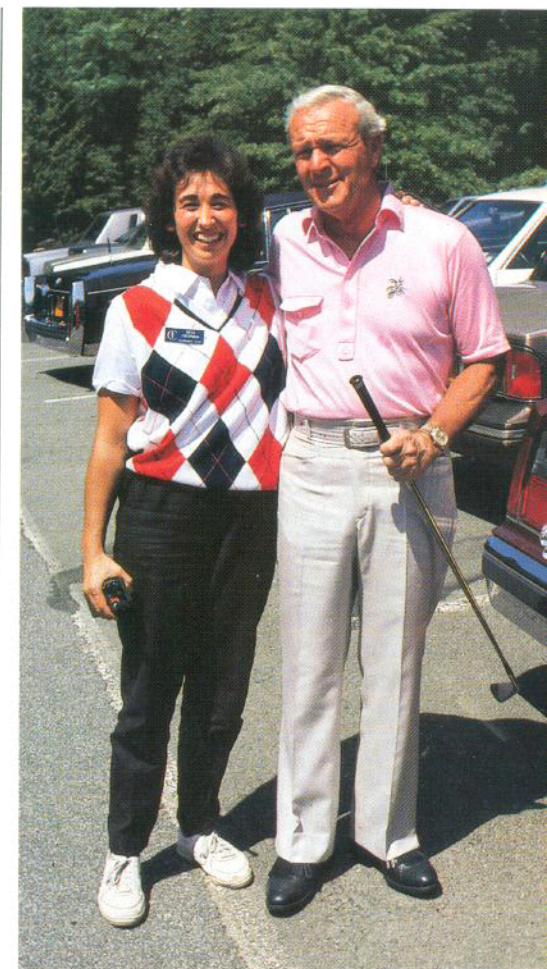
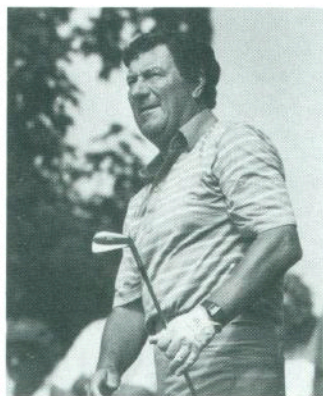


In keeping with their tradition of honoring the games greats, Dr. Cary Middlecoff was this year’s honoree. Not only did the tournament evoke an abundance of very pleasant memories of these wonderful players, but it also provided a glimpse of what professional golf was like in the “good old days.”

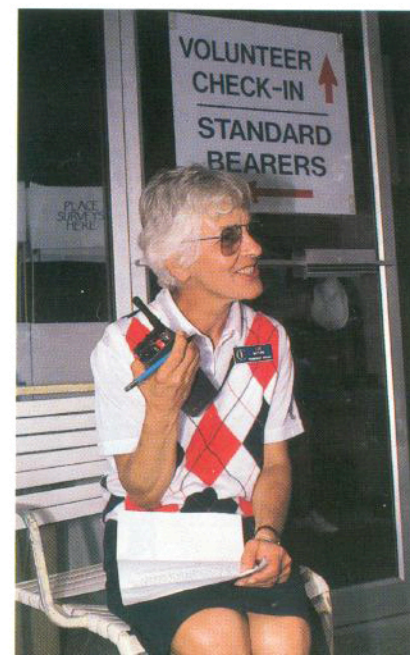


The scene greeting the players at the 18th green.

Competitors in the Commemorative included (above left) two-time U.S. Open Champion Billy Casper, (below left) *Golf Digest* instruction guru Bob Toski and (near left) five-time British Open Champion Peter Thomson.



Clockwise, from above right: Susan Crowder, Chairwoman of the Trashbusters; *Golf Digest*’s Reva Freshman and Arnold Palmer; Sleepy Hollow’s Lois McTurk coordinated the tournament volunteers; Doug Sanders brought his colorful attire and short back swing to the Commemorative.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY LARRY PETRILLO