

Walter Emery, who will be a senior law student in the fall, won the state amateur golf title at Bartlesville, going back into the sports headlines.

## Emery Scores Again

WHEN the state amateur golf tournament late in June at Bartlesville squared around to the place that found only four fine golfers still in the running, three of them, it turned out, were University of Oklahoma students.

All of Oklahoma's best tee and green artists had dropped along the wayside and three Sooner juniors had control of the tournament.

They were Walter Emery, junior law student; Billy Simpson, junior business student; and Maurice Hankinson, another junior lawyer. Simpson, whose home is in Nowata, beat Hankinson, the Oklahoma City lad, and Emery, who now lives in Norman, came up as Simpson's opponent in the final round.

The hard-driving, sure-chipping Emery had little trouble beating Simpson, 6 up and 5 to go, in the championship match, but it was a great victory for Nowata's Billy to reach the finals. He is one of the state's youngest and most promising golfers.

When big Walt won the state amateur title, he set some sort of a modern record for golfing supremacy. Hanging alongside his state amateur title, he also has the open match play championship and the open medal title.

Then, the following week, he went to Wichita, Kansas, and won medalist honors at the Trans-Mississippi tournament, but was eliminated in the semi-final round by Johnny Dawson, Chicago.

Also listed on his sheet of links accomplishments is the fact that he is a member of the United States Walker Cup team and was runner-up to Lawson Little in 1935 at the national amateur tournament.

Along with all of this, Mr. Emery makes the study of law his major interest.

Should he ever take his golf really seriously, he would perhaps be a lot better or a lot worse.

Walter Emery has the type of personality that might find the rôle of a professional golfer rather to his dislike. He didn't touch a club for two months during April and May as he crammed for final examinations.

Then, he started playing again and it



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was a lot of fun. The layoff, undoubtedly, helped him. Of course, there are those who believe he would be even better should he play twelve months of golf a year.

But Walter Emery probably will never do that. The game of golf is fun and recreation to him. When he gets into a championship match, it becomes a little more serious, but never deadly enough that he tightens up.

He can smile and joke with the gallery and be relaxed through the best tournaments. He is a natural with the driver and the short approach shots and rarely steams himself into a do-or-die frame of mind.

Emery and Hankinson have both played out their eligibility on the Sooner team, but young Simpson has another year. He did not go to the national intercollegiate tournament this year because a lack of funds prevented the Sooner team from making the trip.

Emery won the national collegiate title in 1933 and the Sooner team last year tied for second place in team score.

## 'Precious Land'

FIRST performance of a full length play by Robert Whitehand, 33as, was an outstanding University Playhouse event this year. It was the first attempt in many seasons at doing a play that had not already been proved on Broadway.

The experiment proved so popular with Playhouse patrons that future original regional dramas may be included on the campus stage society's repertoire in seasons to come.

Mr. Whitehand's *Precious Land* is a strong dramatic piece. It takes its strength from the perversity of a pig-headed Oklahoma farmer who refuses to part with his farm land for liberal oil money. It concerns a farm wife's efforts to persuade him that better farm land may be had in another vicinity with that money.

Everyone on the stage and in the audience is convinced of that but Jason Hadley remains firm in his determination that nothing shall make him leave that strip, the claim to which his grand-pappy and paw staked during the run.

When oil is struck and flowing crude is blown across his orchard, he very nearly decides that perhaps Hecuba is right, but in the end he capitulates and remains rooted to his precious piece of land.

The dialogue throughout is given a tinge of Oklahoma flavor. There can be no doubt that the similes and metaphors of the characters are peculiar to rural Oklahoma. The play is not written in full dialect, however. Since Oklahomans were playing the principal parts, the dialect was well handled and was not given false twists as it probably would be in other states.

Jack Swineford, Enid, as Jason, and Ruth Bishop, Oklahoma City, as Hecuba, gave remarkably fine portrayals that proved highly satisfactory even to the author, who in all cases, remains the last to be satisfied by presentation of his manuscript.

The drama may be given presentation in Tulsa, Whitehand's home city, and is slated for a showing at the University of Iowa, where Whitehand is completing his second year of graduate work on a scholarship.

The play was aptly directed by Rupel J. Jones, director of the school of dramatic art. The sets, unusually faithful, were designed by Merwin Elwell and professionally executed by J. T. Burrage, who is assisting state dramatic groups through the WPA.