

Sports

THE DAILY NEWS
2019 ALL-AREA
TENNIS TEAMS
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Olympian Smith to challenge, inspire Lee athletes

Adam Regan
Fort Myers News-Press
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Tommie Smith joked that he hoped the organizers of the Rotary of Fort Myers Scholar-Athlete Awards banquet would play an introduction video before his keynote speech Wednesday.

To many, the civil rights pioneer and gold medal sprinter whose silent protest



Smith

It was an iconic moment etched in American history followed by 50-plus years of activism he hopes lends him a

— gloved fist raised — of inequality, poverty, lynching and a lack of regard for human rights atop the medal stand at the 1968 Summer Olympics in Mexico City needs no introduction.

While he planned to address aspects of his stand for human rights, the most important part will be the ongoing challenge he laid out for that generation he hopes strives for a life of happiness.

"They're leaving an area where they have to sit, take tests and devour back

what the teacher wants to hear," Smith said. "Now, they're going to have a world audience in no time at all because they're our next generation."

"A speech should leave something behind. Something the students would understand and be challenged with."

Smith was 24 years old when he represented the United States in Mexico

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Alabama quarterback
Tua Tagovailoa

Miami coach
Manny Diaz

Auburn running back
Ja'Tarvious Whitlow

OPENING ACTS

It's never too early to look ahead to the best matchups of college football's 1st week

Paul Myerberg
USA TODAY

Week 1 of the college football season is ripe with overreactions, many of which demand a quick correction as the Bowl Subdivision returns to the status quo before the start of conference play.

Not that there aren't real takeaways to take from the year's opening weekend. Think back to last season, for example: Florida State really was as bad as it looked against Virginia Tech; the Pac-12 really had a College Football Playoff issue after Washington lost to Auburn; and there really was something cooking at Notre Dame after the Irish kicked off with a win against Michigan.

As for 2019, Week 1 will inevitably yield a few dozen hot takes — prepare yourself in case Clemson doesn't win by 35-plus points, or if Tua Tagovailoa doesn't complete every pass — and provide legitimate insight into what to expect from several teams over the course of the regular season. Here are the 10 games that will decide the weekend:

1. Auburn vs. Oregon, Aug. 31 (in Arlington, Texas).
Much like Auburn's non-conference matchup with the Huskies to open last season, this has the potential to be a tipping point for the Pac-12 and its Playoff hopes. On the flip side, an Oregon win against Auburn could impact the national perception of the SEC, though that's highly unlikely. What's assured: Oregon winning this game would vault the Ducks in the polls and set up what could be a highly successful season.

2. Florida vs. Miami (Fla.), Aug. 24 (in Orlando).
While Florida aims to build on Dan Mullen's successful debut — the Gators will have to get through a rocky offseason first — Miami looks to use its in-state rival as a springboard into the Manny Diaz era. Will Tate Martell start the opener? That's just one question the Hurricanes must address before meeting the Gators. The rivalry gets bonus points for coming first: Miami and Florida will meet on Aug. 24. (That's Week 0, technically.)

3. Fresno State at Southern California, Aug. 31.
Two programs headed in opposite directions. While Fresno State has exploded under Jeff Tedford, USC has undergone a troubling slide under Clay Helton. Talent favors the Trojans; execution favors the Bulldogs. A loss for USC would be a disaster for Helton, who will hope JT Daniels is ready to emerge at quarterback in his sophomore season.

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PGA will bring new challenge for Woods with a familiar look

Doug Ferguson
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FARMINGDALE, N.Y. — Tiger Woods, the Masters champion, going for the second leg of the Grand Slam on a long, wet course at Bethpage Black.

It all sounds so familiar. For Woods, it feels entirely different.

The PGA Championship now occupies the second slot in the major championship schedule given its move to May for the first time since 1949, and with only a month between majors, Woods chose not to play an event since winning his fifth green jacket.

He is every bit the global superstar he was in 2002 when he followed a Masters victory with a U.S. Open title at Bethpage Black, but he is not No. 1 in the world.

And along with being 43, he is two years removed from fusion surgery on his lower back, and some days he doesn't move as well as others.

"There's more days I feel older than my age than I do younger than my age," Woods said.

The new version of an older Tiger is more than capable.

He showed that last September when he won the Tour Championship at East Lake, his first victory since going through four back surgeries. And he showed in April,

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Quail Creek getting ready to host USGA 2020 U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball

Greg Hardwig
Naples Daily News
USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Quail Creek Country Club is in the midst of preparing for Collier County's first-ever United States Golf Association event. Again.

This time, following the unenviable twist of Hurricane Irma that took away the 2017 U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur, the North Naples club is getting ready for the 2020 U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball Championship with a new general manager and a new director of golf.

While that may sound daunting, Zack Wygant and Jon Balyeat are more than familiar with USGA and top-flight events.

"It's nice that being in the position I am now to kind of make the

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USA TODAY SPORTS PHOTOS; ILLUSTRATION BY JEREMY GUSTAFSON/USA TODAY NETWORK; GETTY IMAGES

MLB



STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	Strk.	10	Home	Away
Tampa Bay	25	15	.625	-	W-1	6-4	12-10	13-5
New York	24	16	.600	1	W-1	7-3	13-9	11-7
Boston	22	19	.537	3½	W-5	8-2	11-7	11-12
Toronto	16	24	.400	9	L-2	8-8	8-13	8-11
Baltimore	14	26	.350	11	W-1	4-6	6-15	8-11

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	Strk.	10	Home	Away
Minnesota	25	15	.625	-	L-2	6-4	13-8	12-7
Cleveland	22	19	.537	3½	W-1	4-6	11-7	11-12
Chicago	19	22	.463	6½	L-1	5-5	9-11	10-11
Detroit	18	22	.450	7	L-2	4-6	9-10	9-12
Kansas City	14	27	.341	11½	L-2	3-7	9-13	5-14

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	Strk.	10	Home	Away
Houston	28	15	.651	-	W-7	9-1	16-4	12-11
Los Angeles	20	21	.488	7	W-1	4-6	11-9	9-12
Seattle	21	23	.477	7½	W-1	3-7	8-11	13-12
Texas	17	21	.447	8½	L-4	3-7	12-7	5-14
Oakland	19	24	.442	9	L-2	5-5	14-10	5-14

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	Strk.	10	Home	Away
Philadelphia	24	16	.600	-	W-3	7-3	15-7	9-9
Atlanta	21	20	.512	3½	W-3	6-4	10-10	11-10
New York	20	20	.500	4	W-3	5-5	9-8	11-12
Washington	18	25	.420	8½	L-2	3-7	7-12	9-13
Miami	10	30	.250	14	L-6	1-9	6-16	4-14

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	Strk.	10	Home	Away
Chicago	25	14	.641	-	W-3	8-2	15-6	10-8
Milwaukee	24	19	.558	3	L-3	7-3	16-8	8-11
St. Louis	22	19	.537	4	L-2	8-8	14-9	8-10
Pittsburgh	20	19	.512	5	L-1	4-4	9-9	11-9
Cincinnati	18	24	.429	8½	L-2	5-5	9-9	9-15

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	Strk.	10	Home	Away
Los Angeles	27	16	.625	-	W-1	7-3	17-6	10-10
Arizona	23	19	.548	3½	W-1	4-6	9-10	14-9
San Diego	22	19	.537	4	L-1	5-5	10-11	12-8
Colorado	19	21	.475	6½	W-1	6-4	9-11	10-10
San Francisco	17	23	.425	8½	W-1	5-5	8-11	9-12

AMERICAN LEAGUE LEADERS

Through Monday
PITCHING—German, New York, 7-4; Berrios, Minnesota, 6-2; Glasnow, Tampa Bay, 6-1; Verlander, Houston, 5-1; Clinton, Tampa Bay, 5-1; Gonzales, Seattle, 5-2; Means, Baltimore, 5-3; Odrizak, Minnesota, 5-2; Perez, Minnesota, 5-0; Walden, Boston, 5-0.
ERA—Glasnow, Tampa Bay, 1.86; Odrizak, Minnesota, 2.32; Turnbull, Detroit, 2.42; Verlander, Houston, 2.35; Morton, Tampa Bay, 2.64; Minor, Texas, 2.68; German, New York, 2.70; Montes, Oakland, 2.78; Bauer, Cleveland, 3.02; Berrios, Minnesota, 3.05.
STRIKEOUTS—Cole, Houston, 86; Bauer, Cleveland, 72; Verlander, Houston, 68; Boyd, Detroit, 65; Snell, Tampa Bay, 62; Carrasco, Cleveland, 50; Morton, Tampa Bay, 56; Sale, Boston, 56; Glasnow, Tampa Bay, 55, 2 tied at 54.

NATIONAL LEAGUE LEADERS

Through Monday
PITCHING—Ellin, Philadelphia, 5-3; Fried, Atlanta, 5-2; Goetzke, Arizona, 5-1; Ryu, Los Angeles, 5-1; Woodruff, Milwaukee, 5-1, 9 tied at 4.
ERA—Lester, Chicago, 1.95; Davies, Milwaukee, 1.54; Ryu, Los Angeles, 1.72; Castillo, Cincinnati, 1.76; Lyles, Pittsburgh, 2.00; Smith, Miami, 2.31; Eflin, Philadelphia, 2.47; Weaver, Arizona, 2.86; Hames, Chicago, 3.08; Ray, Arizona, 3.14.
STRIKEOUTS—Scherzer, Washington, 75; Strasberg, Washington, 75; Castillo, Cincinnati, 70; deGrom, New York, 64; Ryu, Los Angeles, 61; Marquez, Colorado, 59; Bumgarner, San Francisco, 58; Corbin, Washington, 58; Wheeler, New York, 58; Greinke, Arizona, 57.

GAME SUMMARIES

HOME team in caps

Orleans at YANKEES, ppd.: Baltimore and New York were rained out for the second straight day.

Indians 9, WHITE SOX 0: Jordan Luplow hit two of Cleveland's five homers, and Carlos Carrasco cruised through seven innings.

Cubs 3, REDS 1: Kyle Hendricks had three hits, including a two-run double, and pitched into the ninth inning.

Mets 6, NATIONALS 2: Wilson Ramos hit a first-inning grand slam after Washington failed to complete what should have been a routine double play.

Astros 11, TIGERS 4: Carlos Correa started another Houston onslaught with a three-run homer in the first inning.

Rays 4, MARLINS 0: Charlie Morton pitched six strong innings, and Avisail Garcia homered and drove in three runs.

Rockies at RED SOX (late): Boston's team on-base percentage of .336 is fourth in the league. Rafael Devers leads with an OBP of .405.

Brewers at PHILLIES (late): Philadelphia has hit 45 home runs as a team this season. Rhys Hoskins leads the club with 11.

Cardinals at BRAVES (late): Atlanta's team on-base percentage of .332 is eighth in the majors. Freddie Freeman leads with an OBP of .400.

Angels at TWINS (late): Minnesota has slugged .405, the best mark in the AL. Jorge Polanco leads the team with a .620 slugging percentage.

Rangers at ROYALS (late): Kansas City hitters have posted a team on-base percentage of .311 this season, led by Hunter Dozier with .409.

Pirates at D-BACKS (late): Arizona has hit 60 home runs this season, sixth in the NL. Ketel Marte leads them with nine.

Blue Jays at GIANTS (late): The San Francisco pitching staff has a team ERA of 4.48. Jeff Samardzija leads with a mark of 3.51.

Athletics at MARINERS (late): Seattle has slugged .460, good for second in the AL. Daniel Vogelbach leads with a .587 slugging percentage, including 17 extra-base hits and 10 homers.

Padres at DODGERS (late): Los Angeles has a team on-base percentage of .341, good for first in the NL. Cody Bellinger leads with .473.

TODAY'S PROBABLE PITCHERS

All times Eastern

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Pitcher	GS	W	L	Pct.	WHIP	ERA	IP	K
L.A. Angels at Minnesota, 1:10 p.m. (Line: MIN -138)								
LA: Cole (R)	9	25	400	1.34	6.59	35.2	32	
MIN: Odrizak (R)	8	5-2	7-14	0.84	2.32	42.3	43	
Baltimore at N.Y. Yankees (Game 1), 3:05 p.m. (Line: NY -259)								
BAL: Trish (R)	8	4-1	500	1.21	4.25	42.1	32	
NY: Harp (L)	8	2-3	400	1.22	4.36	43.1	34	
Baltimore at N.Y. Yankees (Game 2), 6:35 p.m. (Line: OFF)								
BAL: Trish (R)	0	0-0	500	.00	.00	.00	0	
NY: German (R)	7	7-1	875	0.95	2.70	43.1	44	
Houston at Detroit, 7:10 p.m. (Line: OFF)								
HOU: Verlander (R)	9	4-1	887	0.82	2.51	57.1	68	
DET: Trish (R)	0	0-0	000	.00	.00	.00	0	
Texas at Kansas City, 8:15 p.m. (Line: TEX -123)								
TEX: Moore (L)	8	3-3	500	1.04	2.68	53.2	53	
KC: Lopez (R)	8	0-4	000	1.49	6.07	43.0	39	

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Pitcher	GS	W	L	Pct.	WHIP	ERA	IP	K
Pittsburgh at Arizona, 3:40 p.m. (Line: ARI -158)								
ARI: Archer (R)	5	1-2	233	1.89	6.15	27.0	29	
PIT: Skyles (R)	8	5-1	833	0.30	1.86	57.0	57	
Chi. Cubs at Cincinnati, 6:40 p.m. (Line: CHI -304)								
CHI: Carrasco (R)	8	2-3	400	1.72	5.40	36.2	44	
CIN: Gray (R)	8	0-4	000	1.21	4.35	39.0	41	
Milwaukee at Philadelphia, 7:05 p.m. (Line: PHI -125)								
MIL: Corbin (L)	3	1-0	1000	0.84	1.69	16.0	12	
PHI: Arnesen (R)	8	0-4	271	1.32	3.78	50.0	42	
N.Y. Mets at Washington, 7:05 p.m. (Line: WAS -160)								
NY: Soto (R)	1	0-0	NA	0.15	4.50	4.0	1	
WAS: Corbin (R)	8	3-1	750	1.31	3.20	50.2	58	
St. Louis at Atlanta, 7:20 p.m. (Line: ATL -140)								
STL: Wacha (R)	7	3-0	1000	1.60	3.50	35.0	35	
ATL: Polanco (R)	5	1-0	750	1.04	1.21	25.2	31	
San Diego at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m. (Line: LAD -150)								
SD: Stripling (L)	7	1-0	233	1.18	2.00	39.0	24	
LAD: Medea (R)	8	4-2	667	1.30	4.03	44.2	40	

INTERLEAGUE

Pitcher	GS	W	L	Pct.	WHIP	ERA	IP	K
Toronto at San Francisco, 3:45 p.m. (Line: OFF)								
TOR: Trish (R)	0	0-0	000	.00	.00	.00	0	
SF: Trish (R)	0	0-0	000	.00	.00	.00	0	
Colorado at Boston, 7:10 p.m. (Line: BOS -141)								
COL: Marzino (R)	9	4-2	667	1.34	2.43	57.2	59	
BOS: Trish (R)	0	0-0	000	.00	.00	.00	0	
Tampa Bay at Miami, 7:10 p.m. (Line: OFF)								
TB: Trish (R)	0	0-0	000	.00	.00	.00	0	
MIA: Linares (R)	8	1-5	167	1.48	4.82	46.2	32	

Odds provided by Pregame.com.



Starting Indians pitcher Carlos Carrasco delivers against the White Sox on Tuesday at Guaranteed Rate Field in Chicago. MATT MARTON/USA TODAY SPORTS

Quail Creek

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comeback story here and bring it back to Collier County," Wygant said, "and to be able to give our membership and this community here the chance at a championship that they should've had in 2017."

"It's the best of the best," Balyeat said, "and we're both very excited to add Quail Creek's name to that list."

Balyeat and Quail Creek's tournament committee took the opportunity to check out the Women's Amateur Four-Ball up at Timuquana Country Club in Jacksonville from April 27 to May 1.

"I don't think until you're in the mix of it that anybody truly realizes how important that is and how fortunate we are to be able to host one," he said.

"It's really hard to replicate one of these championships unless you've been there and you've felt it, and you've understood it," Wygant said.

Duke incoming freshmen Megan Furtney and Erica Shepherd, both 18, made a combined 11 birdies to win their semifinal and championship matches to win the fifth annual tournament.

The sixth will be April 25-29 at Quail Creek. "It's an exciting and fresh new one," Balyeat said. "I think the excitement is still building around it. I think players are really starting to buy into what that is and how cool of an event that it is."

Wygant was assistant general manager, and was promoted after Don Hunter left to take the GM/COO role at The Country Club of North Carolina in Pinehurst earlier this year. Balyeat was named head professional at Quail Creek — his original retirement was postponed while he was in the airport getting ready to come down to Florida, and Irma began its trek through the state. Then when longtime director of golf Mike Dero retired, Balyeat also was promoted.

Getting ready for the Women's Amateur Four-Ball isn't the only big project Wygant and the club are undertaking. Quail Creek is completing a \$18.5 million renovation that includes a new sports center and renovation of the clubhouse. The project is scheduled to be completed sometime in November. After that, work will start on croquet and bocce ball courts.

"It's kind of one continuous project," Wygant said. The sports center blends dynamic fitness training with top-level golf, tennis and pickleball instruction. The entire golf, tennis, fitness and leisure operations will be interfaced under the direction of certified physical trainers working in concert with the club's PGA, LPGA and USPTA instructors.



Brittany Shin tees off during the first round of the U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball Championship at Timuquana Country Club in Jacksonville on April 27. Shin is from Cape Coral and committed to Florida State. The 2020 event will be at Quail Creek Country Club in Naples. H. LEO KIM/NAPLES DAILY NEWS

The clubhouse renovation has forced the club to give up hosting this fall's Florida Women's Open and Women's Senior Open after doing so last year.

"That was a very tough decision and one that was extremely hard for myself and everybody to kind of come to that conclusion," said Wygant, who said the club will host both championships in the fall of 2020.

Wygant and Balyeat haven't had to learn to work together at Quail Creek. That's because they both did that already, at Sycamore Hills Golf Club in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where Wygant was food and beverage director for 14 years before coming to Quail Creek in August 2017 — three weeks before Irma. Balyeat was an assistant pro there from 2013-2017, arriving at Quail Creek three months after Wygant.

"My first vision of Quail Creek was utter chaos, debris and everything," Balyeat said.

The USGA remembered, and also took note of all of the work Quail Creek had done to get ready for the Women's Mid-Amateur.

"Being able to host a USGA championship at this location is very special for us given what the club went through with Hurricane Irma and the relocation of the 2017 U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Championship," the USGA's Rachel Sadowski said. "The team at Quail Creek had worked tirelessly leading up to the 2017 U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur and the course was in fantastic shape as a result."

"We knew we had to find another opportunity for them to host a Championship and showcase their facility. The club and the Naples community have continued to support the championship and we know that our players, volunteers and guests will enjoy their experience next April. We are excited for our team to continue to plan and build this championship."

Wygant and Balyeat know what it means to be a part of such an event.

Wygant has been through nine of them, beginning with the U.S. Women's State Team Championship in 2009, and Junior PGA Championships from 2010-12, the U.S. Girls Junior in 2013, and a Web.com Tour Finals event.

It also will help that Quail Creek got more than a run-through for the Women's Mid-Amateur, which was supposed to be Oct. 7-12.

The tournament was officially moved on Sept. 19 to Houston.

"Having to go through everything from what the USGA expects out of the golf course, how they're going to set it up, transportation and evacuation plans, parking plans, all of that's in place," Wygant said. "Food and beverage plans are all relatively in place."

It brings a sense of calmness to everybody knowing that basically we put in all of the work and just never got to execute the championship." The Women's Mid-Amateur is for women 25 and older, and skews toward the older side.

But the Women's Mid-Amateur Four-Ball features a wide range of ages. "This is a totally different field than we would've seen at the Mid-Am," Wygant said. "The average age was just under 21. You had college teammates playing together, mothers and daughters, people from just so many different walks of life. It brings just an extra sense of camaraderie to everybody. That's really makes this championship unique."

Perhaps fitting then, that it'll be Collier County's first.

"We want everybody to know that this is not just a Quail Creek event, it's a Collier County event," Wygant said.