

THE Golf Newsweekly

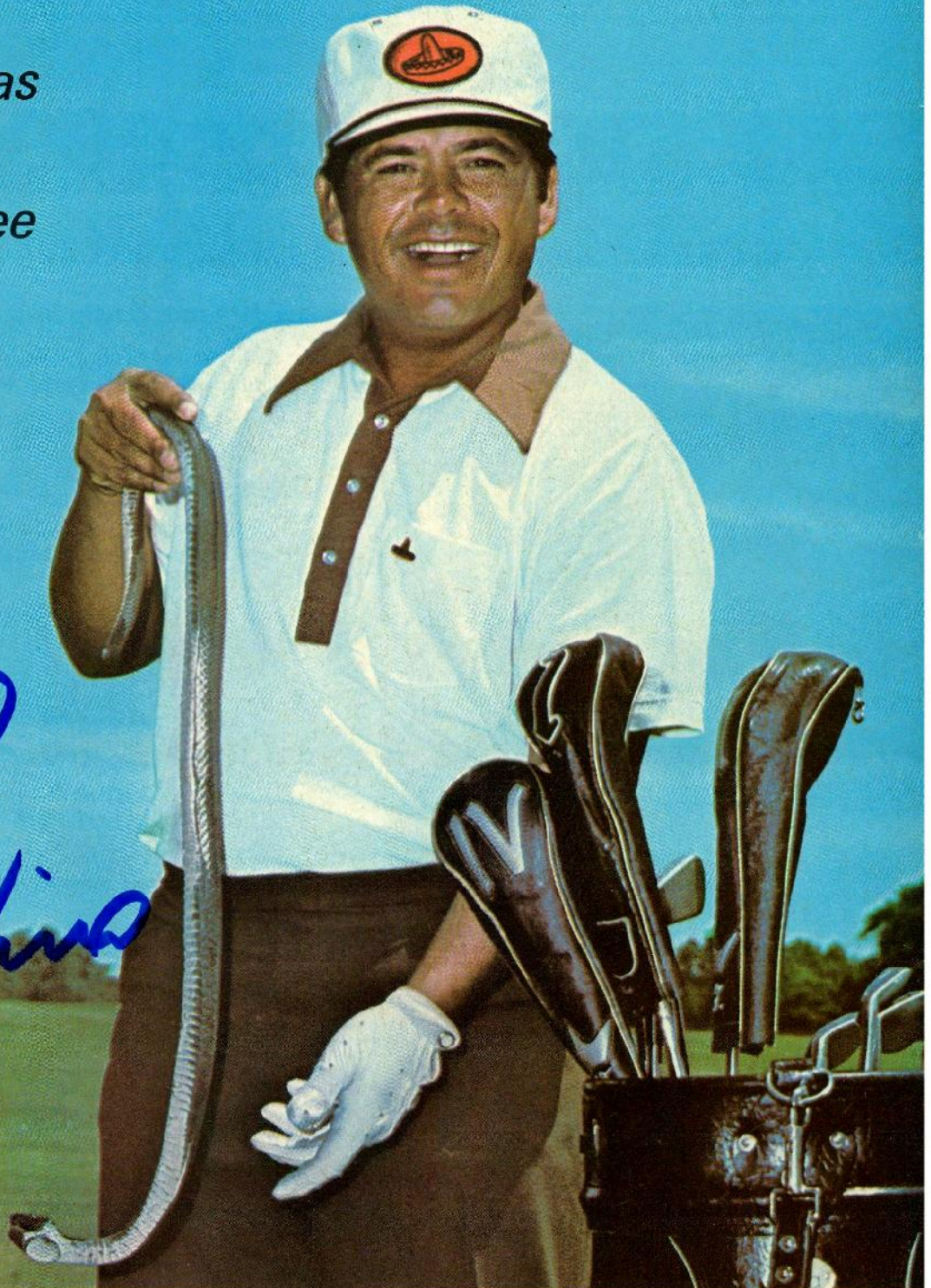
June 29, 1971

GOLF WORLD

35¢

*Just Who Was
Snakebit In
Open? Not Lee*

Lee Trevino



No photographer caught Trevino's snake toss before his 1971 playoff with Jack Nicklaus, but the Merry Mex had posed with his scary looking facsimile earlier in the week.

LEE TREVINO

1971, Merion

“I had picked up that rubber snake in the Fort Worth Zoo gift shop a few weeks earlier when I took some friends over there, and I had just stuck it in my golf bag. I wanted to use it to scare some of the caddies and other people. Earlier in the week, I had posed for some photos with it, including some for *Sports Illustrated*, wearing a helmet and holding an axe. I was pretty loose out there because nobody ever really expected me to win. Even if I lost, I won. I tell you, I would have gotten out of my sick bed to play Jack, because he stimulated me. The best always stimulate you, and Jack was the best. What most people don't understand is that Jack asked me to throw the snake over to him. I was swinging it around and you can see on the film Jack motions me to throw it over, so I did. The crowd got a big kick out of that.”



AP PHOTO/TREVINO; AP PHOTO/CHARLES BENNETT (IRVING)