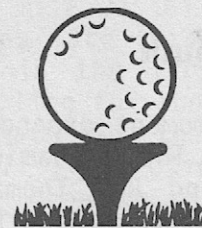
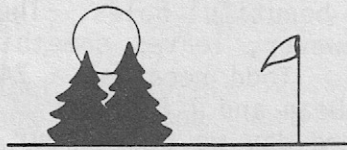


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GOLF NEWS



GOLF: The Game of a Lifetime

What's in the Pro's Bag?

Volume 3, Number 1

June, 1988

Have you ever wondered what the pros on Tour are actually playing clubwise? Here's what we've found out:

CURTIS STRANGE:

Taylor Made Driver
Taylor Made Brassy
Taylor Made Cleek

* The above clubs have X-100 dynamic gold shafts with crown grips.

Irons: 2 thru PW - MacGregor V.I.P. custom irons and Wilson sand wedge

* All irons have S-400 dynamic gold shafts with crown grips.

Putter: Ping Zing 2

Ball: Dunlap DDH 100 Balata

BEN CRENSHAW:

MacGregor M95 Driver
Toney Penna 3-Wood

* Both woods have S-500 dynamic gold shafts with Victory velvet cord grips.

Irons: 1984 Walter Hagen irons 1 thru PW, Wilson sand iron

* All irons have X-100 dynamic gold shafts with Victory velvet cord grips.

Putter: Wilson 8802 with bullseye shaft

Ball: Titleist 384 100

⁴ GREG NORMAN:

MacGregor Driver
Toney Penna 3-Wood

* Both woods have X-100 dynamic gold shafts with Victory grips.

Irons: 1 thru PW Spalding Tour Edition (1987) irons with various sand irons

* All irons have Victory grips.

Putter: Wilson 8802

Ball: Spalding Tour Edition

Have you ever wondered what a "Touring Pro" carries in those big bags--well, we've asked and here's what we found out:

- 9 golf balls
- 103 tees (white)
- 2 ball markers
- 4 yardage books
- 1 watch
- 1 ring
- 57 cents
- 12 pencils - various colors
- 1 tube sun screen lotion
- 1 black valuables bag
- 7 gloves (used)
- 5 gloves (new)
- 1 wallet
- 2 towels
- 1 rain suit
- 1 ½ roll of golftex tape
- 14 clubs, driver, 3 wood, 4 wood, 2-4-5-6-7-8-9 irons, pitching wedge, 56° pitching wedge, and a sand iron
- 3 fuzzy head covers

Snowmen go south

At the last moment expanding from 12 to 16 (Gary Theis, Jamie Simon, Cloyd Barnes, and Ron Thomas), the Myrtle Beach 12 spent another week refining even further the adult version of playing hockey. The last newsletter I gave you an estimate of the cost for one week for one person. In what follows, I'll report on the trip, including courses played, my actual cost, the play of others, and (keep your courage here--Bob) my scores. (Aggggh!)

We left Metro in good weather at 3 p.m., changed planes in Charlotte, and arrived on time--6 p.m.--in Myrtle Beach. Now here is the part only those who have gone believe: the week before we left, the temps. in MB were in the low 30's, the week after we left, the temps. were the same, and the week we were there--50, 60, 65, 73, 73, 77, 60--no wind, sunny all week except the last day. We've hit it lucky almost every year (for which I take credit). Early in the week, the frost delayed our tee times so we could only get 18 in.

The first day, we played Sea Trail. It is a good course to start on, since it's only 6,500 yards long. Even so, at sea level and in 50 degree temps., a 6 iron is better

from 150 than a 7. Colthorp knocked our socks off with a 73--next best - Red McIntyre with 77 and Doug Hankey with 78.

The second day it got tougher with play at Marsh Harbor. From the blue tees where we play, Marsh is one of the toughest. It also has some truly beautiful holes. The hospitality, however, leaves something to be desired. Todd recorded a 74, Red 76, Barry Dean and I 81.

The third day we played our first new course of this year--Brick Landing. Lots of water off the tee--but unlike any other course I have seen, there was water to the edge of most of the greens so that missing a green meant a penalty shot. The scores showed as much as they were the highest of the week. Again, Todd was low with 77, Red and Felix Ridsdale with 79. Tedd Bratschi played his best of the week on the toughest--83.

Our favorite new course turned out to be the fourth day's Heather Glen (voted by the golf magazines as best new public course). Todd dusted us again shooting 74. He got some competition from Jamie Simon and Doug in at 76's.

The fifth day, we played out of our back doors. Our Condos were on the second hole at Oyster Bay--probably still my favorite course in MB. The rooms were the best we have had

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in 12 years. In addition to 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, front room and wrap around balcony, kitchen and bar, each had a washer and dryer, dishwasher, and microwave. Maybe next year Hankey will cut down and only take 4 suitcases. Now imagine your worst fear--yep, Colthorp was low again at 75. Doug and Barry were at 75, and Red at 77.

Another new course laughed at our flailings (a good word since it incorporates the essence of golf in one--flailing and failing) the sixth day. Pearl seemed more open than others in MB, but scores did not come down. Maybe 6 straight days of golf and euchre were starting to get to us. Clearly, it was to Todd as he soared all the way up to 78. Barry and I were hot on his heels with 79. Four of our lot left before the last day, business, etc. The rest played Robbers Roost early in the morning, 7:30, in order to make our plane flight. Robbers is our favorite older course layout (the back nine is likely the toughest nine as a while in MB). It is also one of the longest, and it rained all night. Todd had flown to San Antonio or something, so Barry jumped to the fore with a 75, excellent under the conditions. Red had 79 and Cloyd Barnes played very well, shooting 79 with a couple of 7's.

We flew out at 3 p.m. and found Detroit in the middle of a snowstorm-- $\frac{1}{2}$ mile visibility. We landed 30 minutes late (6:30) after failing to land in the first attempt, and then circling for about 20.

So what did the trip actually cost? All I can give you is what it cost me. Remember, in the last newsletter I estimated the cost at between \$700 and \$900 for the week. My tab was \$828 plus or minus \$13 I can't account for. \$158-plane, \$380-golf package, \$290-the week's expenses. The \$290 looks about like this: car rental-\$50, gas for the week-\$7.25, dinners-\$84, drinks-\$51 (consumed and bought, they are \$3 per in MB), groceries-\$13, pop at course-\$4, show-\$4.50, new hat-\$12, scramble cost-\$23, scramble bets-\$8 (lost \$15, won \$7), individual bets (golf, euchre, super bowl) golf-\$9, super bowl-\$2, euchre plus-\$2--total down-\$9, team and skin bets (\$84 in, \$81.50 out) down \$2.50, tips-\$21.75.

Clearly, I did not play well enough to get some of the others to help me pay for the trip. I did find a correlation between late nights and golf. OK, no more stalling--82, 81, 88, 91, 84, 79, 87, and I putted and chipped probably the best of anyone (putts - 29, 32, 31, 32, 33, 35, 29)--of course when you don't hit greens, you have to. The correlations were most pro-



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nounced the 3rd, 4th, and last night. I think my drink costs correlated there too.

I'll end with a summary of the group's play and pay. The detail will give an idea of how well we mix in golfers of varying ability so that each has a chance at the money. And before you tsk tsk at the scores, remember, this is golf in mid-winter, with rusty swings on the world's toughest courses, under vacation conditions. Almost every rookie we take with us threatens to give up the game by Day 2.

NAME	AVG	LOW	SKIN	SM	TM	TOT
Colthorp	74	73	6	39	69	108
McIntyre	78	76	10	73	29	102
Hankey	79	76	7	46	31	77
Dean	80	75	7	55	56	111
Ridsdale	84	79	3	19	63	46
Aumaugher	84	79	3	19	63	82
Simon	85	76	9	63	33	96
Sharick M.	86	84	7	54	21	75
Thomas	87	83	4	26	51	77
Bratschi	88	83	7	60	65	125
Barnes	88	79	4	38	35	73
Sharick J.	90	87	1	6	30	36
Kostamo	90	89	6	43	25	68
Barber	91	90	2	14	15	29
Theis	92	88	3	23	55	78
Ignatovich	92	85	7	57	54	111

LOW is the low round for the week. SKIN is the number of skins won for the week. SM is skin money won, TM is team money won. Recall from the last newsletter that our group gets full handicap--adjusted as the week proceeds. We play natural and handicap skins. This year again, we put in 12 a day--6 for a skin pot and 6 for a four man team bet. The team

bet is best one and best two balls. Thus, there are 6 legs per day to win. This year, there was an average of 12 skins per day. We sort teams so as to have everybody play with everybody if possible. This year, we also sorted according to rooms, handicaps, age, and weight. The big money winner--Tedd Bratschi a 12 hcp--came out \$40 ahead for the week, the main loser lost \$50. Thus, no one got rich and no one got hurt in our system.

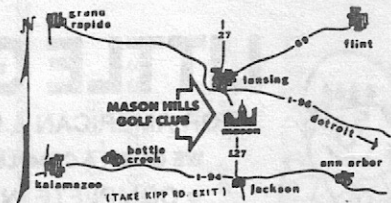
One highlight of the week was the making of four birdies on the 18th hole at Marsh Harbor by the foursome of Jamie, Mo, Red, and Tedd. The sand-bag award goes to Cloyd Barnes, scores from 79 to 100, with Iggy Ignatovich second, 85 to 102, and Jamie Simons third, 76 to 90. And if anyone flying around the country sees Todd, tell him we voted that anyone averaging 75 for the week is not invited back.

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Golf News checks on Equipment for 1988

In each issue of Golf News, we will take a specific club company (ball company, bag company, etc.) and go over the piece of equipment. We will tell what we like and don't like about it. We will endeavor to give information that may help you as you seek out new equipment for 1988.

In this month's issue, we will discuss the new Tommy Armour 845 Iron, the Spalding Tour Golf Ball, and the Sun Mountain Carry Bag.

TOMMY ARMOUR 845 IRONS FOR 1988

The very first thing that we noticed about these clubs was the traditional look of the short irons. This was incomplete to the long irons which were more "Ping" like in looks. It is our opinion that this is an attempt to make a club that will service both the good and below average player at the same time.

After hitting a few shots, we noticed an immediate improvement in distance. Upon a little further investigation, we discovered that the added distance was due to the fact that almost all the clubs in the set were set up one club stronger in

loft. Thus, you are hitting your six iron where you may have been hitting a five because your six iron now has the loft of a five but is $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch shorter in length.

The shot pattern seemed to be excellent and the feel pretty good for investment cost clubs. The flight of the ball was a little lower (probably because of the loft) than normal and seemed to bore into the wind well.

We found the long irons easy to hit and the short irons easy to line up. The main problem was the adjustment to the new-found distance.

The main thing that all of us didn't like about the club was the rather gaudy look of the back. It is our opinion that a simple looking back would have made the club look more like a pro-line club rather than something you might see at K-Mart.

The price of \$329 for a set of 3-9 and pitching wedge is very competitive and more than offsets the look of the back of the club.

THE SPALDING TOUR EDITION GOLF BALL

The Tour Edition has changed since it first hit the market a couple of years ago. The cover has been changed. The big complaint was that the ball would "spin" too much. The second biggest complaint was that the ball was too soft and didn't fly well

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enough. All this was supposed to have changed. With this in mind, we broke out the box.

The first thing that we noticed was that the ball traveled further. Not as far as we may have liked (no ball ever does), but nevertheless much further than before. The ball seemed to have a lower trajectory and rolled a little more off the driver. Other than that, the ball pretty much played like a 90 compression balata covered golf ball.

One of the better players who used it remarked that it didn't set down as well as the first ball did; the trade-off was that the ball traveled further.

We found that the ball lived up to all its claims. It does travel further, it doesn't cut or scuff, and it still bites on the green very similar to a balata ball. The "Zinthane" cover is the fore-runner to many new covers for golf balls. This two-piece ball is the best of this type of ball out--for the better player. The medium to high handicap player wouldn't notice enough difference to make it worth his while to change.

One point of interest--Greg Norman who plays this ball on "tour" used only 7 balls in 72 holes in a recent tournament. 2 of these 7 balls were lost in water hazards.

The "Tour Edition" is a good ball, but not worth the \$4 to \$5 difference that they ask in price for this

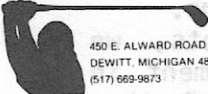
The Sun Mountain Golf Bag

This golf bag is very similar to the "Ping" carry bag. We have been told, although we can't prove it, that the Sun Mountain Company makes the "Ping" bag.

There are other differences besides the name. The price of the "Sun Mountain" bag is between \$10 and \$15 cheaper. The strap is different, especially from the 1988 model "Ping". The side pockets are different with no wallet pocket in the Sun Mountain bag. The umbrella holder is a lot cheaper made on the Sun Mountain bag.

At \$35 to \$45 dollars, the Sun Mountain bag is a great deal. It gives you the "Ping" look and lightness without the "Ping" name.

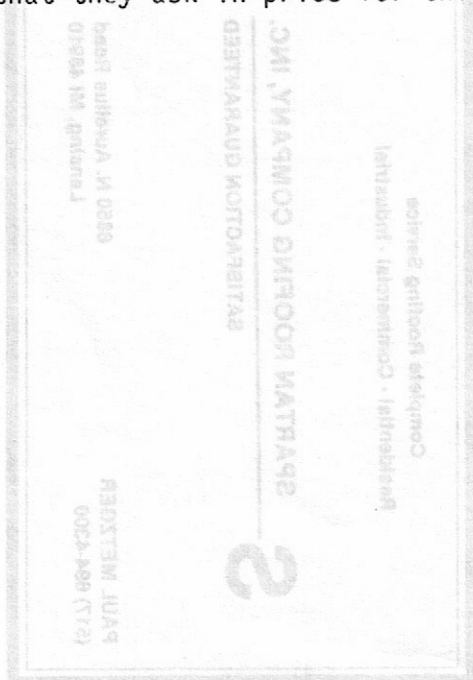
One thing about both of these bags--you must "Scotch-Gard" these bags. If you don't, the very first time you play in a slight rain, your clubs will be soaked.



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1988 Tournament Schedule

MAY	20-21	MICHIGAN MEDAL PLAY, DETROIT G.C., DETROIT
	20	MICHIGAN AMATEUR QUALIFYING - CLIO C.C., RODERICK FARMS
	20	NATIONAL LONG DRIVE - ALPINE AVE. GOLF CTR., HILL TOP, LOCH LOMOND
	21	"SPRING" OAK LANE BEST-BALL - OAK LANE G.C. WEBBERVILLE (NON-FLIGHTED)
	22	OAK LANE BEST-BALL
	23	U.S. OPEN QUALIFIER - LOCHMOOR & C.C. OF DETROIT
	24	KENNEY CUP - RED RUN C.C., U.S. OPEN QUALIFIER - INVERNESS CLUB - TOLEDO
	26	MICHIGAN AMATEUR QUALIFIER - KALAMAZOO G.C.
	27	ALL-CITY MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP - PLAYERS CLUB G.C.
	28	ALL-CITY MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP - PLAYERS CLUB (NON-FLIGHTED)
	29	ALL-CITY MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP - PLAYERS CLUB (NON-FLIGHTED)
	30	ALL-CITY MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP - PLAYERS CLUB (NON-FLIGHTED)
	31	MICHIGAN AMATEUR QUALIFIER - C.C. OF LANSING, MORAVIAN HILLS C.C.
JUNE	2	RALPH YOUNG GOLF OUTING - M.S.U. FOREST AKERS G.C.
	4	ALL-CITY BEST-BALL - GROESBECK G.C. (NON-FLIGHTED)
	5	ALL-CITY BEST-BALL - GROESBECK G.C. (NON-FLIGHTED)
	6	MICH. AMATEUR QUALIFIER - PLUM HOLLOW C.C., MICH. OPEN QUALIFIER -
	6	CHEMUNG HILLS, HILLTOP, SALEM HILLS, GRAND HAVEN, HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS
	6	FINALS (ALL CLASSES) - M.S.U. FOREST AKERS G.C.
	7	MICHIGAN OPEN QUALIFIER - MARQUETTE C.C.
	8	MICHIGAN AMATEUR QUALIFIER - MICHAYWE HILLS G.C.
	10	MICHIGAN AMATEUR QUALIFIER - MARQUETTE C.C.
	11	LEDGE MEADOWS JUNE NIGHT GOLF TOURNAMENT (2-PERSON) 10:00 P.M.,
	11	B.O.C. SUPERVISOR'S COUNCIL SCRAMBLE - OAK LANE G.C. - WEBBERVILLE -
	11	SUPPORTS JR. GOLF
	14-15	ALL-CITY JR. CHAMPIONSHIP - GROESBECK G.C.
	15	AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY GOLF OUTING - M.S.U. FOREST AKERS G.C.
	16-17-18-19	U.S. OPEN - THE COUNTRY CLUB - BROOKLINE, MA
	17	U.S.G.A. PUBLIC LINKS QUALIFIER - CASCADES G.C. JACKSON
	18	U.S.G.A. PUBLIC LINKS QUALIFIER - CASCADES G.C. JACKSON
	19	U.S.G.A. PUBLIC LINKS QUALIFIER - CASCADES G.C. JACKSON,
	19	THE 1988 FATHER/SON (18 HOLES) LEDGE MEADOWS G.C.

MICHIGAN OPEN - THE BELLEVILLE TRVERSE CITY
WORLD SERIES OF JUNIOR GOLF - M.S.U. FOREST AKERS G.C.

JULY

1-2-3 SYRON MEMORIAL - PONTIAC C.C.
8-9-10 ALL-CITY MEDAL PLAY - FOREST AKERS G.C.s (FLIGHTED)
11 THE 1988 EATON COUNTY AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY LADIES GOLF SCRAMBLE-9 A.M.
11-12-13-14 AMATEUR PUBLIC LINKS - JACKSON, WY
19 AG-EXPO GOLF OUTING - M.S.U. FOREST AKERS G.C.
19-20-21 CLASS B & C JR. GOLF TOURNAMENTS - RED CEDAR G.C. - CITY OF LANSING
19-20 WALNUT HILLS WOMEN'S INVITATIONAL - WALNUT HILLS C.C.
23 LEDGE MEADOWS MIXED DOUBLES TOURNAMENT (SCOTTISH SCRAMBLE)
23-24 B.O.C. CHAMPIONSHIP - FLIGHTED - FOREST AKERS G.C.
25-26-27-28 MPGA STATE MATCH PLAY - LAKE ISABELLA, MT. PLEASANT
26 G.L.A.G.A. JR. GOLF CLINIC - M.S.U. FOREST AKERS - JIM GALLAGHER JR.
27-28-29-30 WALNUT HILLS MEN'S INVITATIONAL - WALNUT HILLS C.C.
28-29-30-31 BUICK OPEN - WARWICK HILLS C.C. - GRAND BLANC
30 ALL-CITY SENIORS - GROESBECK G.C.
30 JULY NIGHT GOLF TOURNAMENT 2 PERSON SCRAMBLE - LEDGE MEADOWS - 10 P.M.
30-31 OAK LANE MEDAL PLAY - OAK LANE G.C. - WEBBERVILLE

AUGUST

1 OAK LANE YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP
9-10 CLASS A JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP - GROESBECK G.C.
10 BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA FUND RAISER - M.S.U. FOREST AKERS G.C.
13-14 NORTHERN MICHIGAN OPEN - CHEBOYGAN C.C. - CHEBOYGAN, MI
15-16 G.A.M. JR. CHAMPIONSHIP - WALNUT HILLS C.C.
20 THE JERRY LEWIS 1988 MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY NIGHT GOLF TOUR - LEDGE MEADOWS
20-21 CHISHOLM HILLS INVITATIONAL - CHISHOLM HILLS C.C.
27-28 ALL-CITY FALL BEST-BALL

SEPTEMBER

9-10 MICHIGAN MID-AMATEUR - C.C. OF JACKSON
11 M.S.U. WOMEN'S GOLF FUND RAISER - M.S.U. FOREST AKERS
17-18 OAK LANE FALL BEST-BALL - OAK LANE G.C. - WEBBERVILLE
24-25 RENIGER MEMORIAL - M.S.U. FOREST AKERS G.C.
25 AREA 8 SPECIAL OLYMPICS SCRAMBLE QUALIFIER - OAK LANE G.C. - WEBBERVILLE

OCTOBER

1 AREA 8 SPECIAL OLYMPICS SCRAMBLE QUALIFIER - OAK LANE G.C. - WEBBERVILLE
1-2 M.S.U. WOMEN'S FALL INVITATIONAL - FOREST AKERS G.C.
2 AREA 8 SPECIAL OLYMPICS SCRAMBLE FINALS - OAK LANE G.C. - WEBBERVILLE
9 OAK LANE SUNDAY SCRAMBLE - OAK LANE G.C. - WEBBERVILLE
15 OAK LANE SUNDAY SCRAMBLE - OAK LANE G.C. - WEBBERVILLE
22 OAK LANE SUNDAY SCRAMBLE - OAK LANE G.C. - WEBBERVILLE
29 OAK LANE SUNDAY SCRAMBLE - OAK LANE G.C. - WEBBERVILLE

Sandy's back again!

Well, like a bad penny, I'm back again. A year has gone by since my last set of predictions, and as you know, most of them were right. I don't know why, but I thought that by now most of you would be tired of knowing what's going to happen--but for once--I was wrong. I'll start this year with a bang, so here goes:

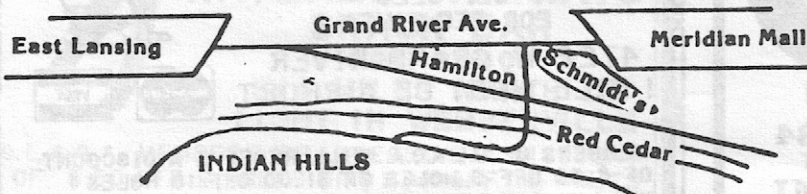
- A Lansing man will win the Michigan Amateur on his first venture up north.
- Dave Greeley will finally get a late tee time on the first and second day of the All City Medal Play Championship.
- Walnut Hills Country Club players will make an outstanding showing in the All-City, but will not win. The winner as has been the case for the last 10 years will be a public course player.
- Greg Norman will win the U.S. Open and shake his jinx in the major tournaments.
- The Portland Best-Ball will be won by two players who have never played there as a team before.

- The City of Lansing "Spring" Best-Ball will be won by a team whose combined age will be 90+ years.
- The Oak Lane Best-Ball will see some new teams forge an early lead, but the tournament will be won by a team composed of past winners.
- The All-City Match-Play will be won by a person who has never won an individual tournament before.
- The "Reniger" will begin its rise to prominence as the No. 1 tournament in the area. This year's winner will add even more prestige to this tournament.
- Payne Stewart will win the P.G.A. Championship.
- The British Open will be won by an American as the U.S. players begin to re-establish their dominance in golf.
- No one player will come forward to dominate the P.G.A. tour.
- The City of Lansing "Late Summer" Best Ball will be won by two players who have never won a City Tournament before.

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- The Oak Lane "Fall" Best Ball will be won by repeat winners from the past.
- A prominent Lansing player will leave the Lansing area for the south and will earn his playing card within two years.
- Jim Gallagher Jr. will get a sponsor's exemption into the Buick Open thanks to work with the G.L.A.G.A.'s Junior Golf Program and will finish in the top 10. This finish will propel him through the qualifying, and he will get his tour card back. He will then go on to great things on the P.G.A. tour. This new-found resurgence will be the result of changes in his putting stroke that he will make just before the Buick Open.
- The weather for this year's tournaments will be almost ideal.
- Players from the Lansing area will begin to dominate the Northern Michigan Open.

- An finally--the Lansing area golfers will start to regain their place as a hot-bed for good players in the state. They will begin to dominate tournaments in all areas of the state. This domination will begin to grow more every year and will have other areas of the state envious of the talent in this area.

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
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Golftrek!

I had gone to Atlanta three days early because I had some things I wanted to do there that I never could interest anyone else in. After all, Jimmy Carter's Presidential Library and Highland Hardware (the best woodworker's supply store in the southeast) are not high on everyone's sightseeing list. That day, April 6, 1987, those pursuits and the exhibit of Bobby Jone's clubs at the Atlanta Country Club had to wait. I was going to Augusta.

Walking among the famous Magnolia Trees that line the members' entrance, I could not believe it; after only nineteen years, I had finally made it back to the Masters. My last memory was standing along the roped pathway from the scorer's tent to the putting green, where the awarding of the famous Green Jacket was soon to begin. A long faced Roberto De Vincenzo walked just inches from me on his way to tell the world that he had done a "...stupid thing...". I had gotten into the final round of the 1968 Masters on a ticket purchased from an independent entrepreneur outside the gate for \$20.

Dubbed as "the hardest ticket in sports" with season passes on the black market going for a rumored \$800, I would settle for a practice round. Tickets for practice rounds are available at the gates, \$10 for

Monday, \$15 for Tuesday, and \$25 for Wednesday, which includes the par three tournament. You can't spend the money in a better way.

The first thing you will notice is television does not do the course justice. There is much more contour than the cameras show, and the course is tighter than you think. For instance, the 485 yard tenth hole is a good example. From the tee, the fairway drops probably 100 feet and then it's uphill to the green about 20 feet; the fairway is lined with trees and an assortment of bunkers await an errant approach. On eleven, you drive over a valley to a hilltop then hit down to the green. If you are not yet convinced of the contour, remember one final example: the seventeenth is a short 400 yard straight par four, but the elevation from tee to green is so steep it is a blind tee shot.

Probably the most dramatic demonstration of the hills of Augusta is the par three sixth which runs behind and almost parallel to the sixteenth. Spectators actually sit on the slope in front of the tee, and the pros drive over them. Neither can see the other. This is not a bad vantage point; in the right spot you can see fifteen green, sixteen tee and green, and the sixth green.

The greens are just incredible. On sixteen, Bernhard Langer, practicing from the bunker in the back right corner, hit a soft lob that bounced in the fringe and trickled on the green. He played the next shot from the fringe on the left side of the green. Speaking of the sixteenth, when you watch television, did you know there are little benches the spectators are sitting on all around the green? Who said stadium courses are new?

The surprising thing about the course is that there is almost no rough; it is either cut or trampled down. Also, the famous flowers were not in bloom, as a result of the severe winter, when I was there; however, in Sunday's telecast they showed up as it was warm enough that week to bring them out.

Refreshment and souvenir stands are around but inconspicuous. There



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are no hot dogs or hamburgers available, just cold meat sandwiches and soft drinks. The decision was made years ago that the smoke from frying foods and the rowdies created from excesses of beer were unwanted at Augusta National. Souvenir stands offer quality hats, visors, towels, and a multitude of other items at reasonable prices.

All in all, the trip back to Augusta was what I expected and more, a great course steeped in tradition, the world's greatest golfers, and a sunny day in Georgia. If the opportunity presents itself, do not hesitate--GO.

The Library Aumaugher

Read a golf mystery the other day. The title was, Dead on the Stick, by Robert Upton. Most other golf mysteries I have read aren't worth a stripped spike. And this one is not one of the best mysteries I have read. But as a golf mystery goes, it's about a 6 and is worth a read, if for no other reason than to get an idea of what a really good golf mystery might require.

Amos McGuffin, a San Francisco P.I. and resident security man aboard an SF ferryboat (converted to offices) is asked to investigate a shaky takeover of the world's most exclusive golf club. The club is on an island off the Coast of Florida. McGuffin, an 80 shooter, is flown to the club as a guest of one of the shareholders. His instructions are to find out what is going on by insinuating himself into the Skin Games of the club's best foursome.

Abrupt misfortune begins to befall some of the club members as more than their games go awry.

Throughout the book, McGuffin encounters a golf course with holes copied from the world's famous holes, a club pro (Cuppy Dunch) who was kicked off the PGA tour for cheating, Voodoo, a beautiful native woman, the club's best player--Al Balata, and an infamous 7th hole pot bunker that comes into play on more than one occasion.

The Skin Game is \$100 a hole, carry overs, par or better, double on birds, triple on eagles, and an extra skin for sandies. As usual, to find out who wins, who dies, and who kills, you've got to borrow, buy (paper \$3.50), or "liberate" the book, copyright 1986.



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Winter Best Ball!

Perhaps you did not know, but on January 3, 1988, a best ball was held at Ledge Meadows Golf Course. The team of Dan Neer and Doug Kelly won the event at 5 under par, for nine holes. On Pebble Beach that is not too bad. Second place went to Monte Litwiler and Mike Good, with third to Cary McGian and Jerry McGian.

The entry fee was \$10 per person, and a 40 team entry would have paid \$200 for first, \$100 for second, and \$20 for third. As it happened, only 21 teams played--still not bad for a first time tourney.

Wait a minute, did I say Pebble Beach? Yes I did. The tournament was played indoors. Players hit into a screen from a mat. Projected onto the screen is a picture of the shot facing you. Each hole at Pebble was photographed from 50 to 70 positions in an attempt to cover the most likely areas where one would hit a ball. Tee shot positions, approach positions, chip positions, etc., are placed on the screen as one plays. Infrared sensors record the speed of your shot, and the lateral and vertical direction. Using equations developed by testing actual ball striking results at Pebble, the computer calculates where your shot ended up. The screen then

shows you what the next shot looks like from that position to the green. Thus, for example, you cannot hit a ball hard on the face but duck hook it and expect the result to be 270 down the middle. Mere club-head speed is not enough to get a good shot. Proper swing path and club face angle are necessary, too. Also, one can hit the ball OB here. Putting is done on a turf carpet from lettered positions that match those on the screen. If you hit the green at Point C on the screen, you carry your ball to Point C on the carpet and putt to the hole in the carpet.

The non-best ball cost is \$12 per hour--and one person could play 18 holes in that hour. But, of course, 2 to 4 could play and split that cost, though the more that play the longer it takes.

The best ball clearly could not be played in one day. Therefore, a qualifier was held with the teams playing 9 holes at a time of their choice, between December 12 and January 1. The top four teams and ties were advanced to the finals on January 3. Qualifying for the finals were: John Peakes and Ian Peakes at 6 under, Litwiler--Good and Neer--Kelly at 4 under, and Chuck Bengle--Bill Hamilton, Russ Braman--Harold Weeks, and McGian--McGian at 3 under.

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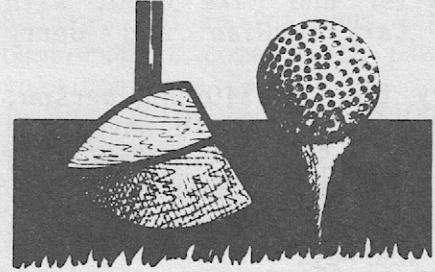
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