

Atlanta, Georgia, setting for Gone with the Wind and the '96 Olympic Games, as well as home to Coca Cola and CNN, played host to the second Hayter International Cup and the occasion more than lived up to its surroundings...

Sweet Georgia greens

The second Hayter International Cup proved to be almost as tight as the first - when the Americas won on the final green in the final match. Extended to three days, with a series of foursomes joining the fourball and single matches, the result was in doubt until a handshake on the 16th green in the final match signalled the Americas' second win.

Below: With the water threatening, Al Pondel plays to the safe side of the green at Peachtree's picturesque par 3, 14th



While such a fine victory, by a score of 13.5 -10.5, was the cause for justified jubilation for the home team, losing was not a term which could easily be attached to the Rest of the World team. How could it when the 12 players had enjoyed the opportunity of playing over some of the finest, and most exclusive golf courses in all of America?

Under the non-playing Captaincy of BIGGA Chairman, Gordon Child, the 12 RoW players were drawn from 12 different countries but the way they gelled over the week says much for the power of greenkeeping as a bonding agent.

Players from Scotland, England, Ireland, Wales, Spain, France, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, Finland, Australia and Germany joined the Americas team made up of Americans, Canadians and Argentinians bringing 15 countries together and none of the players were slow to make friends and discuss matters greenkeeping.

While the play was serious, and keenly contested, events off the course were just as important to the success of the occasion.

In addition to the three courses used for the competition two others were tackled - the exclusive Golf Club of Georgia and Cherokee Country Club which is about to open a wonderful new 18 holes. Also on the schedule were two fine dinners, including the final banquet at the majestic Cherokee Town and Country Club a short distance from the Governor of Georgia's mansion, as well as a traditional southern "cook-out". Fine southern hospitality indeed!

"I cannot recall a more enjoyable five days," said RoW Captain, Gordon Child.

"The golf courses were of the highest possible quality, the golf unforgettable and the friendships formed everlasting. Our very special thanks must go to Hayter, and in particular Tony Bourke and Kim Macfie, for making such an event possible," said Gordon.

Those sentiments were echoed by BIGGA's Executive Director, Neil Thomas, who paid tribute to

Hayter's contribution.

"Hayter's support of the International Cup, as well as their five year sponsorship of the Hayter Challenge, has ensured many opportunities for BIGGA members and indeed greenkeepers throughout the world to meet, enjoy their golf and experience the true benefits of the fraternity of greenkeeping."

"The spirit, the friendship, the golf courses, the competition, the organisation - were all of the highest order. I do hope, and believe, that everyone who participated will have very fond recollections lasting a very long time. I know I certainly will.

The 24 players competed with true professionalism and sportsmanship which enhanced and set the right tone for such an important international event. I thank them all," said Hayter Sales and Marketing Director, Kim Macfie.

Day 1

The first day was the fourball event and was played over the Highland Course of the Atlanta Athletic Club - the home club of the great Bobby Jones. A magnificent course it has hosted the 1963 Ryder Cup, the 1976 US Open, won by Jerry Pate in spectacular fashion, and is shortly to welcome the USPGA Championship.

Andy Sheehan, of England, played the first shot - a fine drive down the middle of a tight fairway - but it was the Americas who were to have the better of the opening exchanges. Americans Al Pondel and Tommy Witt and Argentina's Ricardo de Udaeta and Alejandro Young won the second and third matches comfortably while a slice of luck down the final hole saw Canada's Doug Meyer and Sylvain Alarie edge out Jorma Eriksson, of Finland and Andy Sheehan.

After such a disappointing start it was good to see Remy Dorbeau, of France, and Derek Wilson, of Scotland, clinch the fourth match.

The last two matches went down the final hole with Eugenio Rezola, of Spain, having played a magnificent 7-iron to eight feet, watched his putt



Above: RoW Captain, Gordon Child ponders his pairings

Right: The Americas Team

Below: The RoW Team



for a win slide agonisingly by.

Martin Sternberg, of Sweden, went one better in the final match when he did hole a 20 footer to win the match.

Fourball: Americas 3.5 RoW 2.5

Day 2

The second day foursomes were played at the wonderful Peachtree Club, one of the most prestigious clubs in all America and venue for the 1989 Walker Cup. Indeed the current Chairman of Green is Danny Yates, next year's American Walker Cup Captain and he joined the party for the post foursomes lunch.

The course was designed by Bobby Jones and Robert Trent Jones and

Things didn't look too good for Atle Hansen, of Norway, and Andy Sheehan going down the last. One up, they made heavy weather of the up hill par four before Andy played a wedge to 15 feet above the hole to lie four. Doug Meyer and Dean Piller secured their five and Atle was left with one of the slickest putts on the course to halve the hole and win the match.

On line all the way the ball hit the hole, spun round before stopping, tantalisingly on the lip for a fraction of a second before dropping in.

Poor old Atle was faced with the sight of an elated Andy charging across the green and Atle had only

designed by Tom Fazio, is a public golf club at the top end of the market. It says much for its quality that following on from the Atlanta Athletic Club and Peachtree that it was still listed by some of the players as the course they'd most enjoyed.

Gordon Child decided he needed a fast start and he was rewarded with three big wins in the first four games from Andreas Kauler (6&5), Martin Sternberg (5&4) and Andy Sheehan (3&1).

The Americas were not to be shaken out of their stride, however, and with wins in the second game, by Ken Magnum, and the middle order they kept their noses in front.

Among the highlights was the battle between Mike Seuss and Nick Webber. Nip and tuck all the way round the quality of golf was stunning, as highlighted on the beautiful 15th hole. From a perfect tee shot Nick played over the water to three feet before Mike, who had possibly hit his tee shot a little too long found the green. He then holed his curling 15 footer, to the cheers of team members who had already finished, before Nick held his nerve to halve the hole in birdies. Mike eventually won the last to win by a hole a result which ensured at least a tied match and a retention of the trophy for the Americas.

Peter Frewin won a nail biter with Alexandro Young on the final green and Pierre Ambresin, of Switzerland, who played superbly throughout won his game.

The overall match result was sealed on the 16th green when Doug Meyer hit a superb approach to two feet to defeat Derek Wilson after an epic battle.

Singles: Americas 6.5 RoW 5.5

Overall Result: Americas 13.5, RoW 10.5.



there are many similarities to his other great design a couple of hours drive away at Augusta.

The RoW had the better of most of the matches for most of the day but struggled to win the decisive closing holes.

Australian Peter Frewin and Nick Webber, of Ireland, lost the final hole to halve their game while Remy Dorbeau and Jorma Eriksson lost it to go down by two holes. Al Pondel and Ricardo De Udaeta clinched their match on the 17th to give the Americas two and a half points from the first three games.

just braced himself for the impact when Andy threw himself into his arms. For such moments the Hayter International Cup will be remembered.

The final two matches saw Paul McGinnis and Tommy Witt defeat Derek Wilson and Russell Lewis, of Wales, on the 17th and Andreas Kauler, of Germany, and Eugenio Rezola win 6&5.

Foursomes: Americas 3.5 RoW 2.5

Two day total Americas 7 RoW 5

Final Day

White Columns Golf Club,

HAYTER



Andy Sheehan gets rather excited after foursomes partner Atle Hansen holes a tricky downhill on the final green at Peachtree, to clinch a vital win

Right: The two teams united, but only one has the Cup after three tough days of golf

Below: The match was clinched when Doug Meyer, right, defeated Derek Wilson in the bottom Singles Match at White Columns

Bottom: Americas Captain George Renault presents a dashing Kim Macfie and Tony Bourke of Hayters with a memento of a special occasion



Full Results

Fourball (Americas' Names First)

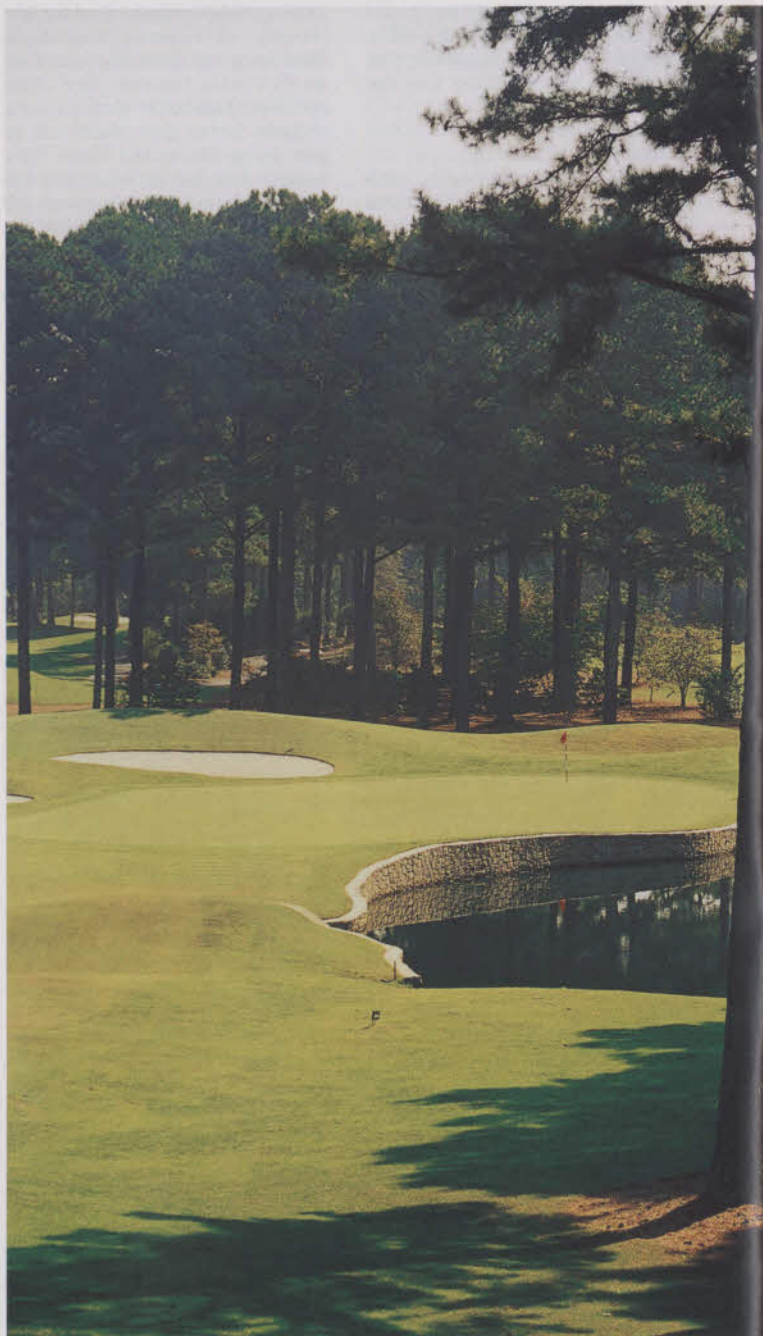
- Meyer & Alarie beat Eriksson & Sheehan 1 hole
- Pondel & Witt beat Hansen & Webber 3&2
- de Udaeta and Young beat Frewin & Lewis 5&4
- Fearis and McGinnis lost to Dorbeau & Wilson 3&1
- Piller & Suess halved with Kauler & Rezola
- Baden and Magnum lost to Ambresin & Sternberg 1 hole

Foursomes

- Seuss & Magnum halved with Frewin & Webber
- Pondel & de Udaeta beat Ambresin & Sternberg 2&1
- Baden & Alarie beat Dorbeau & Eriksson 2 holes
- Meyer & Piller lost to Hansen & Sheehan 1 hole
- McGinnis & Witt beat Wilson & Lewis 3&1
- Fearis & Young lost to Kauler & Rezola 6&5

Singles

- Piller lost to Kauler 6&5
- Magnum beat Lewis 2 holes
- Witt lost to Sternberg 5&4
- McGinnis lost to Sheehan 3&1
- Alarie beat Erriksson 8&6
- Baden beat Hansen 3&1
- Pondel beat Dorbeau 8&6
- Seuss beat Webber 1 hole
- Young lost to Frewin 1 hole
- Fearis lost to Ambresin 7&5
- de Udaeta halved with Rezola
- Meyer beat Wilson 4&2



The beautiful but deadly 11th hole at The Atlanta Athletic Club, confronted the players in the fourballs