

The Hayter Cup

Continued from page 30

summer had made for poor growing conditions on the close cropped fairways. All of these factors suggested the superb West Lincs course would provide a stern enough test, gales or no. View the description "pussycat" in a purely relative sense. . .

The range of playing ability was wide, from plus-1 handicap to more than 12. This in mind, the opportunity for some one-sided matches was very real. As this would have been contrary to the spirit of the contest, organizers and team captains agreed to avoid such a scenario by the implementation of two devices: First, the matches would be played full handicap; second, the captains would, as near as possible, order their players in roughly ascending handicaps.

As the results show, this was a successful move with only five matches out of 18 being reasonably described as "comfortable victories/uncomfortable defeats."

The morning four-balls were extremely closely contested, four of six went to the 18th, one to the 17th, with only Dean Morrison and George Renault of the Americas cruising to a 6 and 5 victory (see complete scoring results on page 30).

Opening salvos were jocular and generous with 3-foot "gimmies" fairly commonplace. By about hole seven the *bonhomie* was a good deal thinner on the ground. "That's good, take it away," had been replaced with a calculating silence. Tension was mounting.

By hole 14, the sole Canadian, Thom Charters, had his shoe off decrying a mystery toe injury. Was this building an early excuse? If the ailment affected his putting, it might have explained his three-jack on the 18th — when two putts would have won the game. By his own admission, "The Canadian choked it!"

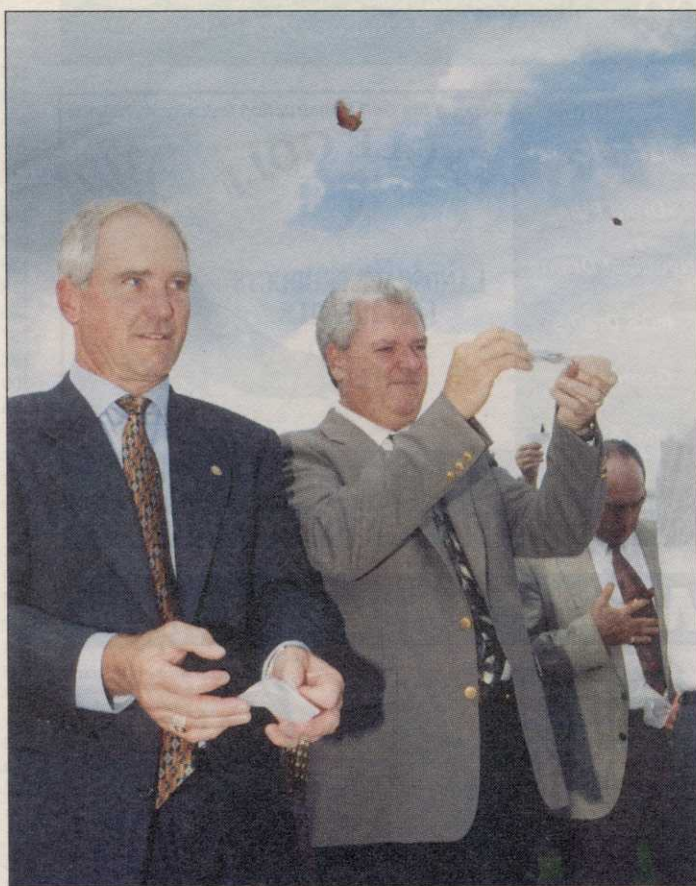
Charters was not alone in a nervous display on the last. Alex Reid of Scotland missed from 2 feet and thus achieved a half, instead of what might have been a vital win.

The Cup went down almost to the wire. If Ian Buckley had not been 3 off the tee at the 18th, the result may have been different.

However, in truth, the result was perhaps not as important as one might imagine. Surely the excitement was felt as both team captains were waiting on the 18th with information and encouragement for the final few matches. But the real buzz was felt by everyone by dint of being involved in such a brilliant event.

Hayter's Macfie was delighted with the way things panned out, declaring that even the weather was great: "This is everything I hoped it would be," he said.

This correspondent would go one better: The event surpassed all expectations.



PGA of America Secretary Will Mann (left) and PGA Chief Executive Officer Jim Awtrey let loose with their butterflies during the Audubon ceremony.

PGA's Reserve augments Fla. butterfly population

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. — Audubon International has presented its top award to the PGA Golf Club at The Reserve — only the fifth in the nation to receive Audubon's Signature Status for environmental excellence.

The award ceremony — complete with a live butterfly release — took place during The Reserve's opening dedication celebration attended by hundreds of PGA delegates from across the country, special guests and the news media.

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PARAMUS, N.J. — Ridgewood Country Club has become the second course in the state to achieve designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System.

"Our efforts and accomplishments are part of an overall plan to not only maintain The Ridgewood Country Club as one of the top

golfing facilities in the U.S. but also to make our club environmentally sound," said Ridgewood President Fred Nydegger.

"The club is extremely committed to preserving the natural habitat on its 275-acre complex," explained Ridgewood superintendent John J. Gasper, "and our long-range environmental plan was created so that RCC can improve and sustain our desired level of environmental quality for years to come."

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RYE, N.Y. — Westchester Country Club has been designated a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System. Westchester is the third course in New York to receive the honor. "We are proud to have reached this status and look forward to maintaining and further enhancing our Audubon program," said superintendent Joe Alonzi.

Emergency plan

Continued from page 37

along with worst-case scenario of a golfer — heart failure with a lack of oxygen — how much time is required to start immediate first aid, summon trained emergency personnel with equipment, and deliver the golfer to a hospital? Not hours, but minutes.

This scenario required a plan to coordinate all potential participants. Pat Vanderstine is general manager of the golf course. It was appropriate to discuss my concerns with her. She readily agreed from a humanitarian standpoint that I should proceed.

The beginning of the plan required traveling the golf course with paper and pencil viewing the course with an entirely new perspective. Example: The Hagen first hole has water crossing the fairway at 90 degrees

halfway between tee and green. The water is crossed by a bridge whose integrity is adequate for golf carts, but surely not for a heavy emergency vehicle. An emergency situation would require the exact location of a golfer needing assistance. Is the golfer between the tee box and the water or is the golfer between the water and the green?

This exercise started the creation of many pages of notes. It was now quite apparent a layout of the golf course, along with the adjacent city streets, would be needed. A trip to the fire department and the tax office located the needed street layout. The Fire Chief Darryl Platt was very enthusiastic about the development of this plan; he offered any needed cooperation by his department.

On one of the layouts the water, macadam paths tee boxes and greens were established and

colored. Water was blue, paths were black while tee boxes and greens were green. With the notes gathered prior, access points were established in red on the layout. This was accomplished after many meetings with the fire chief and deputy fire chief. The layout had a total of 12 access points.

The next order of business was to set forth a simple set of instructions for course personnel (see related story). Copies of these instructions and the course layout with the access point were reviewed with Chief Platt for his final approval. A copy was turned over to the police department. The fire department conducted training sessions with their personnel to familiarize them with it. At no cost to the golf course, Chief Platt offered to run training sessions on CPR and artificial respiration for all golf course personnel — paid and volunteer.

All golf courses should have an emergency evacuation plan. Just because a course has a number of holes that aren't close to public roads is no excuse. There should be a plan in place and personnel familiar with its operation.

Here, this issue has been discussed from the humanitarian standpoint. There is, I believe, a legal side to the question. A player goes down with a heart attack and dies on the course 15 minutes later. The only people in attendance were his fellow players who were untrained. A negligence suit is waiting to happen. An attorney for the deceased's heirs can and would raise many critical questions of the golf course and possibly the local emergency department. With my training in risk management I saw a potential problem, but I also saw a practical way to reduce and minimize the problem.

Buena Vista Golf Holdings

Continued from page 51

course management industry; and favorable indicators that the game will enjoy increased participation in nearly all market segments.

"Because of the demographics of the U.S. population, we view golf as a growth business from the demand side," Frost said. "With the increasing financial and environmental roadblocks to building new golf courses, it will be difficult for the supply side to keep up."

Along with its management arrangement for the 36-hole LPGA world headquarters, the company has been named the exclusive development and management company for the LPGA. "We're working on plans to expand the LPGA's golf course identity in other parts of the world," Frost said. "It won't be too dissimilar to the way the PGA Tour has developed the TPC (Tournament Players Club) concept."

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