

# Professional Coaching Brings Winning Golf to College

By VERNE WICKHAM

When wiry little Bobby Harris of San Jose State college nursed his long putt dead to the hole on the eighteenth at Stanford University golf course for a gimme-putt and the National Collegiate championship it gave San Jose a grand slam in the 1948 NCAA event, something that has happened only once before since the event was started in 1897. Ohio State had done the trick in 1945 when John Lorms, son of the veteran Columbus (O.) CC pro, won the individual title.

The San Jose feat sent gallerites and sport writers scurrying around for more information on Eddie Duino, coach of the San Jose State team.

For Eddie had taken a group of California youngsters from San Jose to Ann Arbor, Mich., the year before and the team finished a good fourth. San Jose had been known for its high-scoring football teams; its boxers had done well in the national picture and so had some of its track stars but it was the first time San Jose State college had shown at the top in the national golf picture.

Now with Bobby Harris winning the championship, the team setting a new team record of 579 for the team championship and Morgan Fottrell, Jr. taking the medalist honors with a 70-69-139 San Jose State had very definitely scored in the national golf picture. So this Eddie Duino must know something about coaching college golf. If you think differently you'll have to settle with the whole San Jose State golf squad and most all of San Jose. They like Eddie Duino.

Eddie is a fixture in San Jose. He has been golf professional at the San Jose G&CC for 17 years and was assistant to Arthur Brooks for five years before that. He has been president of the Northern California section of the PGA since 1940.

Teaching and executive duties of the PGA take a lot of time and so last year Eddie welcomed the opportunity offered him to accompany the San Jose State college team back to Ann Arbor for the national varsity championship. It was his first experience as a full-fledged golf coach of a college team and his tips and wise counsel turned a gang of California youngsters into a team that just missed first place by a few shots and supplied

the co-medalist (Bobby Harris). His success on that trip prompted officials to ask him to coach the team this year on a part time basis, so he devoted one afternoon each week to the college team.

## Gets Pro-trained Kids

Eddie is the first to tell you that he is very lucky in the type of youngsters he gets at San Jose. The great California golf center of Del Monte is just over the coast range and the golf centers on the Monterey peninsula and Northern California send him good material. He knows that and will tell you that the many fine professionals in the Northern California sector are more responsible for his success than he is—Eddie is that kind of a guy.

But many a strong-backed boy with a good swing needs the kind of advice and sage golf supervision that Eddie Duino or any good golf professional can give them.

Eddie checks the swing of the candidate and if the boy has a fairly sound swing Eddie doesn't try to make it over but may give such advice as maybe a little straighter left arm, or maybe hitting more against the left side through the ball or better balance in weight shifting—or tips on timing.

He tests to see if the boy knows how to play various lies. In wind shots he teaches them how to punch the ball low to the green or how to get the elevation needed for high shots.

## Makes Them Gentlemen Golfers

Then Eddie drills on the finesse that a young fellow needs in good tournament play. Gives tips on the proper clothes and conduct—after all there is more to this tournament golf than just hitting the golf ball. He teaches good golf etiquette at all times.

Youth always wants to slug the ball—take an 8-iron and hit a 6-iron shot with it. They brag about getting terrific distances with their lofted clubs. Eddie likes to have a boy hit a firm strong shot at all times but not to force distance out of his clubs. There is a club made for every shot, Eddie tells the boy—use it!

The San Jose State golf squad numbers about 30 at the start of the season. They hold medal play ladder events and cut the

squad to 12 men. The first six are the varsity and the next six form the junior varsity. Some hot team matches develop between the two teams. All this, of course, under the watchful eyes of Coach Eddie.

Eddie's home club extends playing courtesies and other assistance to the golf teams—plus a heap of moral support. All practice and tune-up games are played right in Eddie's front yard and he is continually checking.

### Strong on Basic Training

Eddie, like a good football coach, believes in fundamentals. His advice to fellow-coaches is to drill, drill and drill on fundamentals. The proper grip, swing and follow-through are fundamentals without which no golfer can develop a golf swing that will stand up in stiff competition. Also you can take a good golf swing with you when you leave college!

Eddie spends plenty of time on and around the putting green with his boys. He stresses perfection in the shots from 150 yards on in. Most young golfers can hit them a mile. Their full swings are naturally well developed for they love to pound the ball. Eddie shows them the fine art of scrambling successfully when they need to. He spends lots of time on the putting green. Matches are won and lost around the greens, as Eddie tells his boys, and that is the place to deliver the coup de grace in any golf match.

Team play, as such, isn't the main characteristic of a golf team. You can't throw a good down-field block to ease the way of a teammate in this game of greens and fairways—but team spirit is important, Eddie knows. He teaches his boys to practice and play together. They pull for

each other and esprit de corps is a great factor in the success Eddie has enjoyed at San Jose State.

During that final match with Ed Hopkins, of Texas, the San Jose team trailed Bobby Harris all the way. They puffed and huffed during that final 18 holes when



Members of San Jose team proudly display trophies won in the NCAA championship. Standing (L to R) Ross Smith, captain; Eddie Duino, coach; Bobby Harris, champion; Morgan Fottrell, Jr., medalist; and Howard Veruh. Kneeling (L to R) Eli Bariteau, Jr. and Warren McCarthy.

Eddie—six up at lunch and a shoo-in—had to stand off a determined rally by Hopkins that saw the Texan square the match on 17. Eddie, with the moral support of his team, had enough golf left to play perfect golf on the 18th and win.

But Eddie isn't only interested in turning out championship teams. As president of his PGA section he has been preaching golf as a major school and college sport for many years. He would like to see the day come when school officials will have to provide golf facilities in the same manner they provide other athletic facilities. That day can't come too soon for Eddie, for he believes golf to be the greatest sport on any college campus. The weak, the strong, the fat and the thin can play golf in school and after they leave school and that isn't true of football, baseball or any of the sports which only attract a few of the physically strong.

Eddie is proud of his team's "grand slam" and doesn't think it will happen very soon again. He says competition is getting too strong in the college ranks for any school to make a run-away event of the NCAA.

Three members of his 1948 team plan to make golf a career job. They are Bobby Harris, Morgan Fottrell and Warren McCarty and with Eddie Duino as an example of a successful American-style golf professional you can't blame them much.



San Jose CC officers and members honor the winning college team with appropriate party and celebration. (L to R) Professional Eddie Duino; T. J. McWhorter, pres.; champion Bobby Harris; captain Ross Smith and Roy P. Emerson, master of ceremonies.