



Absorb Some Links Learning

California's First All-Golf Clinic for Teachers
Brings Them in from as Far Away as Oregon

THE first All-Golf coaching clinic, held July 12-15, attracted 97 sun-soaked students from the ranks of west coast physical education teachers, golf coaches and school administrators. Fresno (Calif.) State College was the scene of this first attempt to provide a clinic similar to those of football, basketball and track during school vacations.

Sponsored by the National Golf Foundation with the cooperation of the California Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, the clinic took a

In photo above, Pro Guy Bellitt stresses straight left arm as he teaches a teacher fine points of the swing.

page from the text of other clinics by bringing in top-drawer teaching talent to talk, tutor and demonstrate fundamentals.

Heading the staff were Les Bolstad, University of Minnesota golf coach, Charles E. "Bud" Finger, golf dir. of Stanford University and Guy Bellitt, pres. of the Southern California PGA. They received assistance from Fresno State College athletic dir. Hal Beatty, FSC golf coach, Larry Pape, and course architect, Bob Baldoock.

The sessions extended through three and a half days, enabling teachers who desired to receive a unit of credit in the school of physical education to do so. Subject material covered everything from fundamentals of the swing to physiological

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Small groups of school instructors gather around pros for closeup demonstrations of some of the points that had been covered in lectures.



Teachers didn't realize how interesting golf course design is until Architect Bob Baldock got warmed up on his favorite subject.

factors of coaching theory. Special movies and sound slidefilms were used. Football fields were changed to lesson tees as the staff demonstrated and manipulated clinic participants through fundamentals that would make them better qualified to introduce golf to their pupils.



Pro instructors crowd in a little practice before clinic sessions begin. From left, they are: Guy Bellitt, Bud Finger, Larry Pape, Hal Beatty, Baldock and Les Bolstad.

Foundation director, Rex McMorris, states: "We are not trying to make pros out of teachers. We are trying to give them enough information whereby they will be anxious to bring more golf to young people in the schools."

Bellitt, recently elected Southern California PGA pres., is enthusiastic about the progress made in school programming in just a few years.

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California Clinic

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"This winter the Los Angeles Open Committee of the LA Jaycees met with our group to plan a program whereby Open Funds could be directed toward a better youth program in LA high schools. We have received outstanding support from Larry Houston of the L.A. school system and have scheduled a series of instruction programs for teachers throughout the greater LA area."

Schools and golf are actually nothing new. Pros and school systems have been doing things like this for many years, but attempts in the past have been sporadic. Some school administrators have looked askance at well-intentioned pros who have offered their services to provide a beginning golf program.

Other areas have found the schools willing but the logical pro unable to set up a schedule that will not conflict with the demands of his job.

Now pros and the schools have set up a pattern whereby organizations such as CAHPER can work through local sections of the PGA to hold clinics for school areas.

The Fresno clinic drew participants from San Diego to Cottage Grove, Ore.

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