

# SPECTACULAR DE ANZA

*Ryder Cup players compared it to Pinehurst — praise enough perhaps for Tige Stanley who has it so handsomely groomed . . .*

By **HOWARD HAGEN**  
Golf Writer, San Diego Union

**"THIS** is the finest-kept course I have ever seen, priced, and you can quote me . . . The greens are wonderful . . . This place is wonderful. It's another Pinehurst . . . This is the finest conditioned course I have seen for some time . . . Beautiful, just beautiful . . . It's a shame to take a divot out of this place . . . It's a wonderful course . . . It's a beautiful place."

In those words members of the American and British Ryder Cup teams — Mike Souchak, Sam Snead, Julius Boros, Dai Rees, Harry Weetman, Art Wall — and U. S. Open champion Billy Casper, Jr. praised the De Anza Desert Country Club course at Borrego Springs, Calif., after a \$7,500 pro-amateur tournament last November.

It was high praise, indeed, for the lush, picturesque desert course, situated in Borrego Valley, San Diego's desert play-



(Above) Exquisitely groomed grass, exciting mountain backdrop dazzle golfers at DeAnza Desert CC. (Below) Car traffic on the first tee. Clubhouse is at right.



(Above) DeAnza members have diversions other than golf. Here, two of them cruise a man-made lake. (Right) Supt. Tige Stanley changes cup on one of the big greens. Mrs. Stanley isn't supervising, just helping.



ground, about 90 miles northeast of the California metropolis.

### Stanley Has Hand In It

The words were a tribute to W. H. (Tige) Stanley, course supt. for the De Anza CC development, and the group headed by De Anza president George (Bud) Kuhrts III, who planned and brought the project to fruition.

De Anza's emerald acres, dotted with palms, puddled by man-made lakes, with glistening white sand traps protecting the mammoth greens, roll gently through the desert flatlands through most of the first nine holes, then bend hard against the towering, sun-splashed San Ysidro mountains on the back side.

The course was built by the Borrego Valley Golf and Improvement Co., whose directors are Kuhrts, president; James S. Copley, Robert di Giorgio, Philip di Giorgio, William P. Burford, Stuart Haseltine, William Black, Sr., A. A. Burnand Jr., and Jack Benson.

Kuhrts points out that the course, small clubhouse, other buildings and maintenance equipment are owned by persons owning lots on and around the project. Each lot-owner holds one share of stock in the golf course company. There now are 30 homes or cabanas on the course and four or five more in the planning or construction stage. Of the 298 lots in the project, 126 have been sold.

### 160 Stockholders

There are 160 stockholder members, plus 30 associate members who pay a \$250 initiation fee which covers wives and children under 21. Both regular and associate members also pay dues of \$30 per

month. All funds are used for maintenance of the course and for general operation.

Low-lying, desert-type homes on the course range in value from \$30,000 to \$80,000. A new clubhouse, estimated cost \$200,000, is planned and may be completed by January, 1961. It will be of modern, brick, glass and steel construction.

Supt. Tige Stanley, 51, has surmounted many technical problems in making this one of the country's finest courses and a Southern California beauty spot.

The first nine was opened in January, 1957, and the second nine in February, 1959. Larry Hughes, veteran architect and builder of desert courses, laid out both sides. Par is 72 and yardage can be extended to 7,000.

On the front nine, Seaside was used on the greens. Pencross was seeded on the second-nine greens.

"It's too early to say which is superior," Stanley says. "A course planted only one year ago naturally will be in better shape than one planted three years ago, especially under the desert sun."

Fairways on both nines are seeded in heat-resistant Bermuda and rye is overseeded each October to give the fairways their vivid green color.

### Good Quality Water

"A combination of things makes this a pretty course," says Stanley. "Water is of good quality (130-foot underground table), and there's not much humidity in the

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point about which he thought there might be some doubt. His speech was so well received that he was given a standing ovation when it was completed.

In conjunction with the program, pro golf salesmen and manufacturers displayed their merchandise in one of the hotel's exhibition rooms.

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desert air. The course suffers somewhat in the July and August heat, of course, but that's the case both on the desert and off."

The brilliant trap sand was mined near Oceanside on the coast north of San Diego, and trucked to the valley. The sand is a sparkling color contrast to the fairways and greens. Its heavy texture exacts a special penalty for golfers who knock balls into it.

### Nine-Man Crew

Stanley, aided by a crew of nine men, maintains the course year-round. Fairways are mowed twice weekly, the greens six or seven times a week. The course is watered every night. The center-line

watering system was put into the front nine but a three-line system is used on the back nine. Quick coupling valve systems are used throughout the links.

Fairway divots are re-seeded and, as a special touch of grooming, divots on the greens are replaced with two-inch pluggers from the nursery.

As Billy Casper said, "it's a shame to take a divot out of this place."

## May Makes Slight Change in Tam Golf Car-Caddie Setup

There has been a slight change in George S. May's decision to dispense with caddies in favor of exclusive use of golf cars at his Tam O'Shanter CC, Niles, Ill. (Golfdom, Feb., p. 25). At the request of members, May is going to allow his golfers to directly hire their own caddies. The new plan is to allow a caddie to accompany a foursome in two cars. His fee will be paid to him at the conclusion of the round and not charged through the club. Members who employ caddies also will be required to sign forms releasing the club from liability for any personal injuries that a caddie may incur.

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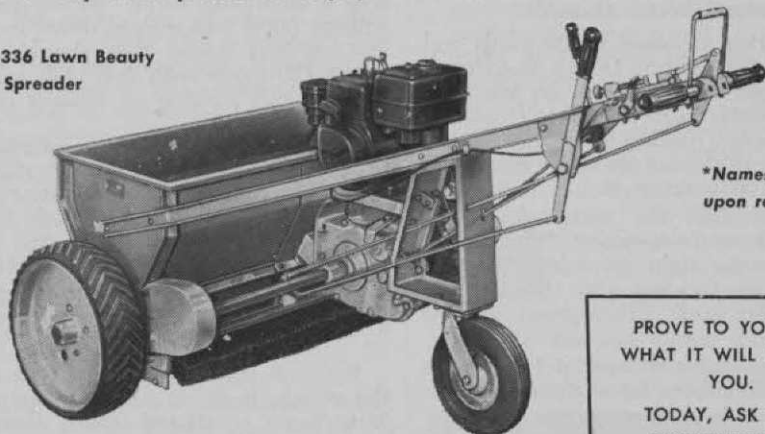
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