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Watch Your Language If You Play Black Mountain

By BOB COLLINS

Sports Editor, Asheville (N.C.) Times

The Black Mountain (N.C.) GC is a preacher's paradise. That is, if he is addicted to golf as are many ministers of the gospel.

More ministers and people connected with the work of God play this 9-hole course than any other in the world.

Why?

Because it is just a few minutes drive from the Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly, Montreat Presbyterian Assembly and Blue Ridge Assembly. During the summer months thousands upon thousands of ministers descend upon the picturesque course at the foothills of the Appalachians.

It's most renowned visitor is Billy Graham of Montreat, a close friend of club pro, Ross Taylor, a Class A PGA member for 23 years. When the tall, dashing evangelist is at his mountain home, which practically overlooks the course, he plays

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regularly; sometimes three times a week as his schedule permits.

"We probably have between 3,500 and 4,000 ministers and people connected with church work play our course during the summer season," says Ross.

"August is perhaps our biggest month because of the Bible study course for the Presbyterians. The chaplains of the U.S. Air Force, for example, met at Ridgecrest late last August and used our course for recreational activity. At one time or another many leading ministers in the U.S. have been guests here.

"I would say that we probably get more beginners than any other club in America," Ross adds. "Hardly a day goes by that we don't have someone from one of the church assemblies tell us that they played their first game of golf here."

He points out that many of the ministers are outstanding golfers. Dr. Bryant Quinn, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Miami, Fla., shot a 67 here recently. Dr. John A. Redhead of the First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, N.C., is around par figures every time he plays. Billy Graham is often in the 70s. It is

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Dr. Graham's desire to hold a Pastor's Invitation tournament here in September.

By that time a 9-hole addition will be completed and ready for use. The new nine will measure about 3,400 yards and will feature a par-6 hole stretching to 745 yards. That may be the longest in the world.

Dr. Graham is one of many who claims that the bentgrass greens at Black Mountain are the best in the country.

Advice Is Sought

Ross Taylor is a fanatic on grass. He is often sought out by supts. in surrounding areas for advice on ailing greens. As president of the Carolinas GCSA, Ross points out that the putter is the most used club in golf and the green is where the scoring is done. Thus, players relish working on well manicured and true greens.

Taylor and state representative, Gordon Greenwood of Black Mountain, worked for years to get the state legislature to appropriate money to N. C. State College agriculture department to set up experimental stations to test different strains of grass for golf courses, play grounds and highway roadsides. Taylor devotes

many hours every week to studying the effects of different types of fertilizers on various grasses as well as other aspects of turf growing.

Condon, Fawcett Sales Reps for Northwestern

Nat Rosasco, Jr., president of Northwestern Golf Co., 3505 N. Elston Ave., Chicago, Ill., has announced the appointment of Chet Condon



Condon



Fawcett

and Leon Fawcett as reps. for Northwestern's professional line of golf equipment. Both are golf professionals with wide experience as manufacturers' reps. selling to pro shops. Condon will cover the New England states while Fawcett, based in Garland, Tex., will cover Tex., La., and Ark.

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