

Swing Science

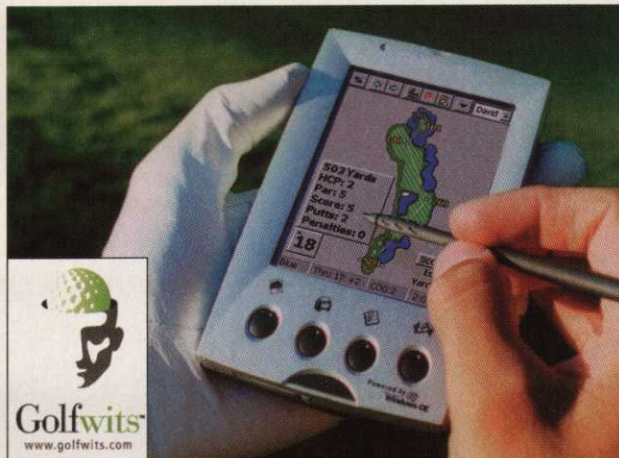
Forget the caddie. Let Golfwits software turn a palm-sized PC into a portable purveyor of all the information golfers could ever need about the courses they play.

The software contains digital maps of courses from around the country (and more courses are being added every day, says Lynden, Wash.-based Siscosoft, which created the software). Once golfers download the program, it allows them to check yardage, store personalized scorecards (with handicaps) and compile on-going statistics about their rounds on most palm PCs, with the notable exception of the Palm Pilot. Each round is stored for future reference, allowing golfers to return to old rounds to avoid the same mistakes they made the last time.

The program retails for \$49.95. Interested golfers can test the software's capabilities, as well as download it, at

<http://www.golfwits.com/main.php3>.

Now, instead of a caddie carrying the clubs, golfers will be able to carry their caddie. What a change a computer can make.



Scanning the Web

Anyone out there looking for a soon-to-be out-of-work associate editor (which I may be after all the heat I took after last month's ratings; see *Editor's Note*)? Here are some labor sites to check out as you search for workers (all sites start with <http://> unless otherwise noted):

**** – **Bookmark it and return frequently;**
* – **Look at only if absolutely necessary**

**** **www.usgolfjobs.com** – The comprehensive nature of this site allows users to have a full-service career consultant at the click of a mouse. It is a subscription service (\$29.95 to subscribe), but it has listings for a variety of jobs in the golf industry for the maintenance professional as well as on the consumer



side. Its career advice section is well-organized, and it features articles designed to help people gain more skills so they can move up. The green writing on a gray background is sometimes difficult on the eyes – but other than that, it's a great site.

**** **www.golftrade.com** – The site has a pleasing, if understated, look to it. Its best feature is its interactive job boards, which provide a forum both to post jobs as well as posting interest in jobs. The site also has a search engine that enables superintendents to find equipment manufacturers in their areas and other important golf industry vendors. It's not quite as comprehensive as other sites I've seen, but it certainly holds its own.

** **www.greengrads.com** – Greengrads is a division of executive search firm Stebbing and Associates that focuses on jobs in the green industry. It's not quite a recruiter, according to the site; it's hired on a case-by-case basis to help employers find employees. It contains some good, general career search advice (it's 10 commandments for a job search are great), but its thrust seems more directed at executive-level positions.

Editor's Note: By far, the best reaction to my two-star rating of www.golfclubatlas.com (March 2000) was, ironically, posted on www.golfclubatlas.com: "It (the rating) is especially ridiculous considering that a visit to the Golfdom site finds its November/December issue still posted on the first page and the "Breaking News" wire not working (at least on my computer).

"I have a funny feeling its own site would rate an 'incomplete' in its own method of ranking."

Frankly, I wouldn't even have rated our own site that high at that point (our first 0-star rating, perhaps, but I probably wouldn't have dignified it with an incomplete). It was rather embarrassing that we hadn't updated our site from the November/December issue by the time the March issue hit the streets, but by now it should actually be up-to-date.

If it isn't, please send the hate mail to me at fandorka@advanstar.com, since it will be my fault from here on out.

Scanning the Web is compiled by Frank H. Andorka Jr., Golfdom's associate editor, who as of the writing of this column is still gainfully employed. You may reach him, however temporarily, at fandorka@advanstar.com with future column suggestions or sites you think he should visit.