

Sports Coaches' Schools Reveal a Job for Golf

By SAL DI BUONO

Professional, Bonnie Briar Country Club, Larchmont, N. Y.

There is an angle to the growing association of professional golfers with high school and college sports coaching staffs that is bound to have a beneficial effect on pro golf.

That is the manner in which the high school and college coaches make a study of instruction. We in pro golf have seen in the greenkeeping short courses examples of how methods can be improved by the planned and collective study of men in that work. We have benefited by getting more of the open-minded attitude toward our problems that the greenkeepers have acquired as a result of their short course schooling.

The parallel between the pros and greenkeepers in their attitudes toward the development and adoption of new methods is close. Without reaching too far back in our memories we can recall when there

was a general tendency for greenkeepers to be reluctant about the exchange of knowledge. Greenkeepers have grown out of that. Today they'll tell you that the old attitude of regarding knowledge as private property and retention of what was considered an exclusive and valuable secret retarded greenkeepers as it did greenkeeping.

We professionals have acquired the new attitude of being eager to exchange information on methods we have used with success in our instruction and our shop operations. Possibly there still is a rather strong questioning attitude—almost suspicion—among some of us when somewhat revolutionary ideas are presented. But I have noticed that the objections haven't the personal basis they often used to have. We have made good progress for golf in getting to the point where we appraise

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ideas on the sole grounds of whether the ideas will help our clubs and our members. If the new ideas do mean personal credit to their originators, what of it? The improvements build the whole profession and that's what we, as intelligent businessmen, must consider.

Coaching Schools Popular

In various sections and at our annual PGA national meeting we have clinics. I doubt that many of us have looked into a dictionary to make sure of the meaning of "clinic." The dictionary gives clinic as "A medical institution in which a group of physicians jointly examine and treat patients; also the examination and treatment of patients in the presence of medical students."

Obviously from those definitions we professionals can use considerable more professional schooling before we reach the physician status qualifying us to get and give the most good out of the clinic sessions.

Our study of instruction and our clinics generally are informal affairs although we are getting ahead in making use of outside experts. The first golf clinic that was conducted for pros was put on at Chicago ten or more years ago under the auspices of the Illinois PGA. The late R. W. Treacy,

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then sec. of the national PGA, and others arranged a program which brought in such authorities as Dr. Robert Dyer, lecturer at the University of Illinois medical school, store designers, merchandising experts and physical training specialists.

The two-day session was a definite success and was attended by about 50 pros from Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana. Then, for various reasons—none of them that a bit of concerted energy couldn't have overcome—the clinic idea lagged until the Minnesota PGA in collaboration with the athletic department of the University of Minnesota revived it and has conducted two very valuable, practical schools.

As golf pros get more into the coaching of high school and university teams they are going to see how the other coaches of other sports are progressing by attending coaching schools.

We pros are going to look over that situation and compare our results with pupils with the results coaches in other sports achieve. Most of our pupils are older and past the stage of quick physical response and present more of an instructional problem than the material the high school and college coaches get, but that's the greater reason why our capacities should be de-

veloped to solve a more difficult coaching problem.

I notice in the May issue of Scholastic Coach there is a directory of 43 coaching schools to be conducted this summer. Main subjects are football and basketball. Other subjects include track, wrestling, 6-man football, officiating, training, baseball, soccer, health and physical education, gymnastics, swimming, and tennis.

Why No Golf?

You will note that golf is not listed in the announced programs of any of the schools. Why that should be is something that the PGA should investigate. It should be a matter of serious concern to us that golf is omitted from programs presented to the men responsible for the sports instructions of hundreds of thousands of students.

Some of the schools, especially that of the Wisconsin High School Coaches association, advertise that golf can be played by coaches who attend the school.

Our PGA educational program has been the subject of much investigation and discussion but, unfortunately, not much action despite the conscientious work of the committee. It seems plain that getting golf into these coaching schools is a matter

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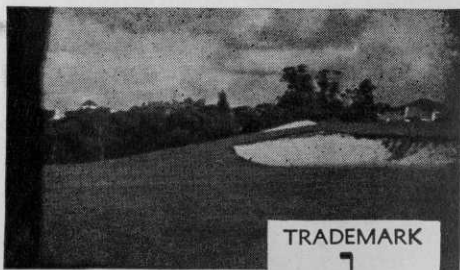


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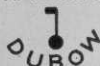
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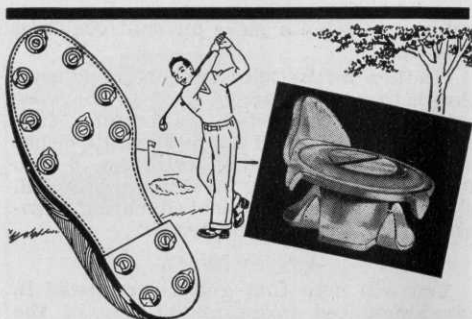
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calling for the fullest and smartest sort of a selling campaign by the PGA. Neglect of that would be something for which we could not excuse ourselves.

These coaching schools run from 2 days to about 3 weeks. In the majority of them the proceedings are mimeographed and distributed to those attending. Tuition ranges from \$1 to members of the associations conducting the schools up to \$25 for a week's school. Non-members attending schools conducted by associations are charged higher tuition fees.

Faculties of the schools include such football coaching celebrities as Dana Bible, Bernie Bierman, Wallie Butts, Fritz Crisler, Ray Eliot, Wes Fesler, Don Faurot, Dick Harlow, Frank Leahy, Bo McMillan, Jess Neely, Howie Odell, Red Sanders, Carl Snavelly and Harry Stulhdreher. The basketball men include Clair Bee, Lou Alexander, Chick Davies, Bruce Drake, Bud Foster, Hank Iba, Dave MacMillan, Lee Patton and Adolph Rupp.

The whole picture of these established and successful coaching schools is something that pro golf must investigate for it's from this field that we are certain to get a pattern that will help us greatly in speeding our own advancement and the service of professional golf.

Golf Architects' Service Saves Money for Clubs

By William B. Langford

A newly organized golf club, having limited funds at its disposal, must be extremely careful that nothing is wasted. Since the greatest possible cause of waste in the development of golf property is faulty planning it is thrifty to retain the best golf architect available, not judging him by the size of his fee, but by his reputation and experience. Money saved on the architect's charges can easily be lost many times over, not only in the excessive cost of executing faulty plans, but also in the intangible expense of playing for possibly many years over a course which does not make the best use of the club's property, and the very real cost and inconvenience of correcting its deficiencies.

If an architect is to be retained, let him help select the property to be acquired. Do not go off halfcocked and do any work before plans are made and without his approval. Such operations are usually badly timed, and may even injure future development of the grounds by destroying natural beauty.

While each golf site presents a different problem to the designer, an experienced architect rarely encounters a question that does not have its solution suggested by some past difficulty. This wealth of ex-

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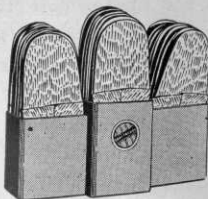
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perience gives him his principal advantage over those who have not specialized as he has. Golf, in a broad sense, comprises many divergent activities: playing, instruction, course design, greenkeeping, clubhouse design, engineering, conduct of competitions, landscaping, catering, etc. Proficiency in any one department does not imply competence in any other.

Architects Have the Answers

As they are constantly working with problems of golf design golf architects should have most of the answers to questions of layout on their tongues' tips, and be familiar with the many details which must be considered in planning the course and in taking care of the myriad interlocking essentials to the development of a completely usable, economical and beautiful country club.

The golf architect is not only a craftsman or artist who takes pride in the completion of a good job, but also one whose reputation and livelihood depend on his ability to produce courses which please all types of golfers, layouts which are tests of skill for the expert and, at the same time, attractive, enjoyable and possible recreation fields for those who are less adept. His goal is the creation of courses which will develop the duffer, hold the interest of the rank and file, and challenge the expert; courses which are fun to play, and economical to build and operate.

One of the most general errors in judgment in golf club organization is that of the smaller clubs which pass up or misuse available land that an experienced architect could see has superb natural possibilities as golf terrain. Topography as well as soil condition facilitating economical maintenance in first class condition at locations near smaller towns frequently are overlooked by inexpert eyes and sites of considerably inferior possibilities are chosen. This mistake will become a more serious

one as the travel of golfers increases and the opportunities for guest green fees at the attractive small course increase.

Fees Within Reach

The inexperienced organizers of the new small town clubs may suspect, without any investigation, that the fee for competent architectural service may be forbidding when, as a matter of fact, it probably would be well within the limited means of the new club.

However, the smaller club organizers are not alone in wasting funds that sound architectural advice would save for the club. Many metropolitan district clubs present glaring exhibits of costly and unsatisfactory revisions, especially in trapping, dictated by unqualified parties at the club. Eventually these faults are corrected by the employment of authoritative architectural service, but only after needless expense, loss of time and loss of interest in playing the course.

But, in fairness, it must be said that primarily the waste is the result of the competent architects' inability—or neglect—in educating golf club officials to the wisdom of securing the service of qualified golf course architects. The solution of that problem is made difficult by the shifting official personnel of golf clubs and the constant influx of enthusiastic men who are given the responsibility of experimenting with the club's money. It is a responsibility that not many of them regard as any high favor to them after they've been on the job and get an idea of the demands and pitfalls in golf course design and construction.

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Jones Trophy Event Shows Amateur Revival Signs

By **BOB HALL**

Revival of the Catalina Island Bobby Jones Trophy tournament, one-time headline feature of far western resort golfing classics, after 6 years' lapse has set the pulse beating for a return of many fine events which in the past have been the proving grounds for development of first class talent in professional and amateur golf in Southern California.

The Jones tournament, Catalina's event, won for the third time by Frankie Hixen of San Gabriel CC, drew a near-record field of 161.

This tournament was established in 1931 as a fitting gesture to the Jones Grand Slam. Phil Wrigley, the chewing gum king, owner of Santa Catalina Island, the Chicago Cubs and a few other sporting and business enterprises, posted the mammoth trophy, to be played for at 36-holes medal each spring on this semi-tropical isle. A replica in marble, sometimes termed the "Oscar of Resort Golf" in California by Hollywood-conscious fans, is presented to the winner.

This year's classic, brought back to the tournament agenda for the first time since 1941, is being viewed as the stepping stone to the renewal of many of the finest competitive events in the far west: week-end tournaments at Del Monte and Pebble Beach, the Invitational cycle of the major clubs of the Southern and Northern California Golf associations, similar events in the Pacific Northwest, the Craven Cup men's scotch foursomes, one of the oldest competitions in California golf, and a host of others, were all allowed to lapse during the war years.

True, the veterans of the Pacific Coast golf—Hixon, Bud Taylor, Bruce McCormick, Ray Sleppy, Ralph Wolf and others—carried away the lion's share of the spoils this year, but like future events, the young players gave them enough trouble to warrant hardened golf officials to raise an eyebrow or two.

There were the two golfing sons of Wilkie Hunter, pro at Riviera, for one example. Mac Hunter, 17-year-old National junior



Catalina island's Visitors' Country club gets back into the picture with revival of an enjoyable resort tournament.

champion, was well among the leaders, as also was his older brother just out of the marines, Willie, Jr. Willie, Jr. is one of the longest driving young golfers on the Pacific Coast, and with a bit more tournament experience is going to be mighty hard to keep down.

Still others were Julie Bescos of the Virginia CC, Long Beach, whose 73-67-140 got him into the money; Pardee Erdman, making a return to golf competition after his navy chaplain duties; Jimmy McLarnin of Lakeside, the ex-boxing champion; Johnny Weismuller, John Carroll, Richard Arlen and others of the movie colony, all contributing to the color and glamour of this revival of pleasure resort golf cycle.

Larry Gleason, new pro-manager of the Island's Visitors' course, was hardly ready for the influx of the "gang" this year, having only recently taken over his chores at Avalon and completing a much-needed renovation and remodeling, but he and the new Mrs. Gleason—Alice to all the golfers—did a grand job, as also did Alma Overholt, Floyd Gillette, J. A. "Pat" Patterson, Otis Sheppard and others of the Catalina official staff.

Only 9 holes were opened for play, making four trips over the links necessary. The fact that Hixon, who is, incidentally, the only golfer ever to win the title more than once, won the "Oscar" with a score 6 over



Larry Gleason, pro at Catalina, and his wife, post the scores in competition for the island's "Oscar."

par is indicative of the test of golf it contains.

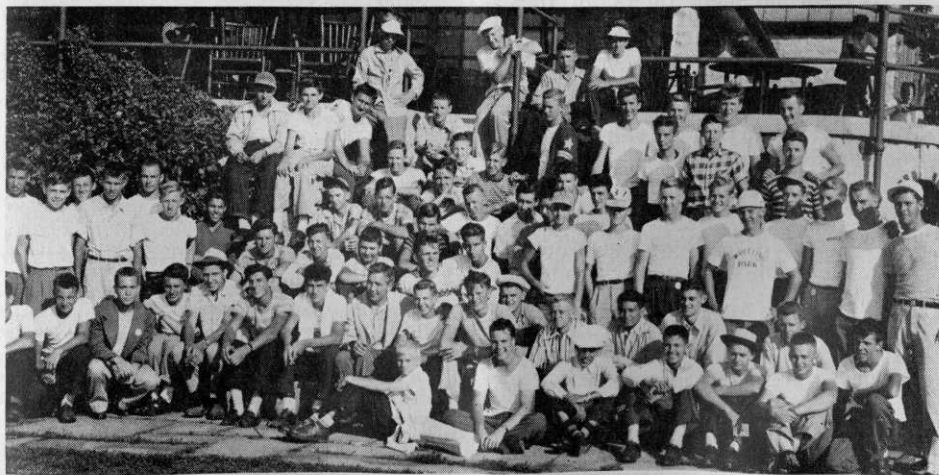
Hixon shot 70-64-134 over the par 64-64-128 course for the 36-holes. Frank (Bud) Taylor, 37-year-old dentist from Pomona, making his first competitive appearance since returning from service as an Army dental surgeon in the European theater of war, finished second with 67-68-135, while song-writer Ralph Wolf of Hollywood grabbed the show money with 68-68-136.

NATIONAL CADDIE CHAMPIONSHIP AT COLUMBUS, O., AUG. 27-31

E. Hugh Davis, Executive Director, National Caddie Assn., 216 Huntington Bank Bldg., Columbus, O., is supplying PGA sectional officials and newspapers with details of the 2d national caddie championship which will be played at Columbus, O.,

Aug. 27-31. Any bona fide caddie under 18 on Aug. 27 and certified by his local pro as a caddie and amateur is eligible. There is no entry fee. Entries close Aug. 24.

As many clubs have caddie championships Davis suggests that district qualifying rounds bringing together club caddie champions be held. In districts where the



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district associations do not conduct district-wide caddie championships PGA sections and newspapers have an excellent golf promotion opportunity.

Davis says that \$5 a day expense should be sufficient for each contestant as the National Caddie Assn. furnishes food at the course and transportation and has made arrangements for supervised rooming of the contestants at the Deshler-Wallick hotel. Provisions have been made by the association to receive the boys and care for their wholesome and interesting entertainment during the tournament period.

The winner of the event which again will be played at the Ohio State university course, gets a \$1500 4-year scholarship at Ohio State. The runner-up gets a 2-year scholarship. Numerous merchandise prizes are given others in the field.

The event was conceived by a former caddie, Mayor James A. Rhodes of Columbus. It was the outgrowth of a Columbus city caddie tournament. Rhodes found that the keen interest of the Columbus caddie tournament was a definite factor in counteracting juvenile delinquency. He had learned that the cash cost was about \$700 annually for each juvenile delinquent who had to be handled by the law and that in far too many cases the cash expenditure after the unfortunate kid had been put away by law was a waste in attempting to straighten out the boy.

He and others got together to make a caddie tournament a national event as an influence to focus the interest and energy of lively kids on an advancing activity. Pro and newspaper cooperation accounted for the initial event in 1946 being a decided success. There were 91 boys from 22 states and Honolulu. One youngster from Ohio's hills played barefooted and cross-handed and survived until the second round. Chick Hendrickson of Sandusky, O., won the title.

PGA sections interested in serving in this rapidly-growing and well publicized event may secure complete details by writing Davis and are asked by the National Caddie Assn. to discuss the tournament with local newspaper sports editors and promotion managers.

CARNOUSTIE PROS RAISING FUND FOR OLD CLUB

Francis Gallett, pro at Blue Mound G&CC, Wauwatosa 13, Wis., and George Fotheringham, pro at Hollywood GC, W. Roseld Ave., Deal, N.J., met during the winter at Carnoustie while both of them were on a visit to their birthplace.

Francis and George found that the Carnoustie club needed considerable help in modernizing its clubhouse. Among other facilities needed are showers. The numerous and urgent requirements of the club

were recognized with special keenness by the two home-comers to The Crow's Nestie especially in view of the fact that Carnoustie was to be host to this year's British amateur and it looked likely to them that an American amateur would win.

The 1931 British Open was played at Carnoustie and won by Tommy Armour. The 1937 British Open was played there and won by Henry Cotton. Charley Lacey was 3 strokes back in third place and Byron Nelson was 6 strokes back of Cotton. Nelson's 296 gave him fifth place.

Rather than present another trophy in the name of the more than 250 professionals who emigrated from Carnoustie to the U.S., Gallett and Fotheringham decided that it would be much more practical to raise a fund among the Carnoustie wanderers and have the fund applied to the modernization of the home-town clubhouse.

Upon their return to their adopted land Gallett and Fotheringham discussed the idea with other Carnoustians and the plan met with enthusiastic approval.

The Carnoustie pros have had tremendous and beneficial effect on American golf. As near as can be estimated pros at almost 1000 U.S. golf clubs are Carnoustie-born men or men who graduated into pro jobs after being trained as assistants by Carnoustians. The Carnoustians have become the finest, most loyal type of Americans. Their sons, born in the U.S., fought with distinction in Yank uniforms during World War II, in maintaining the valorous tradition of their fathers.

It strikes GOLFDOM that Gallett and Fotheringham and their fellow pros of Carnoustie origin have a fine thought in this hands-across-the-sea action. GOLFDOM's publishers have spent so many pleasant days and nights with the Carnoustie immigrants that they are sending Gallett a check as a token of two American golfers' gratitude for the high class of the Carnoustie export.

The Carnoustie clansmen, and others who are interested, are asked to send their contributions to the Carnoustie-Yanks fund to either Gallett or Fotheringham.

PLUM HOLLOW LENGTHENED FOR PGA—Last fall Plum Hollow GC added 207 yards to course length and altered construction of several tees and greens in bringing the course to 6907 yardage for the PGA championship. Work was done in time to receive full benefit of fine fall growing season. The lengthened course is in condition that Detroit district pros believe will provide the finest turf conditions ever seen by PGA championship contestants.

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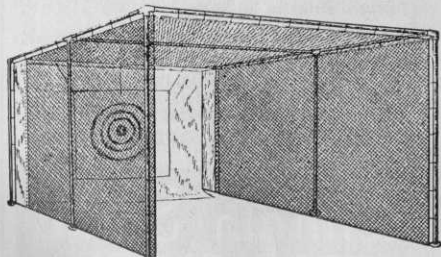
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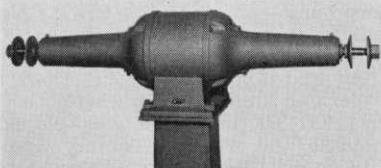
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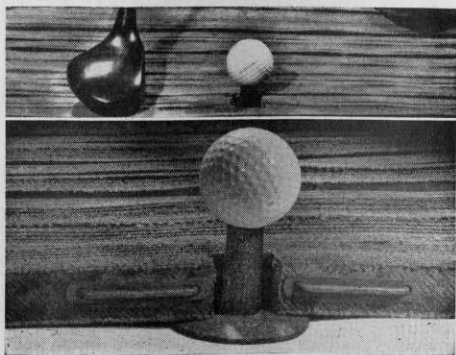
STANDARD'S "CLUB MASTER" — The Standard Electrical Tool Co., 2488 River Rd., Cincinnati 4, O., in its Club Master club cleaning outfit has an item of equipment in high favor at pro shops. The motor is 1 hp. Distance of 37 in. between the wheels is ample to allow two boys to clean clubs at the same time. The spindle is mounted on 4 ball bearings. Spindle height is 39½ in. Size of base at bottom is 13 in. by 16 in. Price of the Club Master is \$150 FOB, Cincinnati. When ordering pros should specify voltage, cycles and phase.

FARQUHAR SPRAY EQUIPMENT — A. B. Farquhar Co., York, Pa., has bulletins describing its new engine-driven golf course sprayers and booms. The sprayers, in several types, are of particular interest to greenkeepers. Bulletins on the sprayers and booms will be sent free on request.

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