

GRAFFIS from page 6

beneficial influence on American golf.

Maples' father and uncle, Frank, were early to show what a golf course builder could contribute to the fundamentals of golf course architecture.

When the famous Donald Ross was professional at Pinehurst—and its golf architect and golf director as well—Frank Maples was course builder, greenkeeper and pretty much in charge of the Pinehurst grounds.

Maples had a keen vision for beauty, a practical sense for construction that could be well maintained and an appreciation of what cunning ideas the excellent designer, Donald Ross, was trying to present to the thoughtful or thoughtless golfers.

The sandhills of the Pinehurst area invited Ross and Maples to sculpture the earth that made greens and fairways works of art.

When Pinehurst changed from those old oiled sand greens to grass, Maples was ready with the bermudagrass and the maintenance that

suited the Pinehurst course.

Contouring the greens and finishing the bunkers so they were picturesque and testing and not expensive to maintain was the Maples' part of the collaboration with Ross. Those deceptive swales guarding greens were some of the Ross-Maples teamwork that often was reflected in the approximate 500 courses Ross designed.

Age has not withered many of the holes Donald Ross designed with the Maples' brand of construction and maintenance. That pioneer team at Pinehurst discovered something you see today: A first-class golf architect becomes third-rate unless he's got a good builder working with him.

Mini tournament circuits are doing so well and growing so swiftly they're looming as competition to the Tournament Players' Division of the PGA. Somebody may come up with a sponsorship publicity angle of a charity tax deduction idea that could make the TPD satellite tournaments trail behind the mini tournaments like caddie contests. How to knock out

the mini tournaments is a delicate problem that could involve clashes with Federal laws.

Whatever there is to be said against women in golf course maintenance work, seldom has come to me. In the dozen or so cases I've heard about, superintendents say that women generally are the more careful workers and usually follow instructions better than men.

The women, of course, can't handle the very heavy jobs, but on mowing and operating other power equipment and in chemical applications, they are hard to beat, their employers testify.

Possibly the superintendent who employs the most women on course and grounds work is Arlin Grant, superintendent of the three superbly conditioned courses at Innisbrook, Tarpon Springs, Fla. There are 960 acres in the Innisbrook development. The apartment buildings and individual homes are framed by beautiful landscaping.

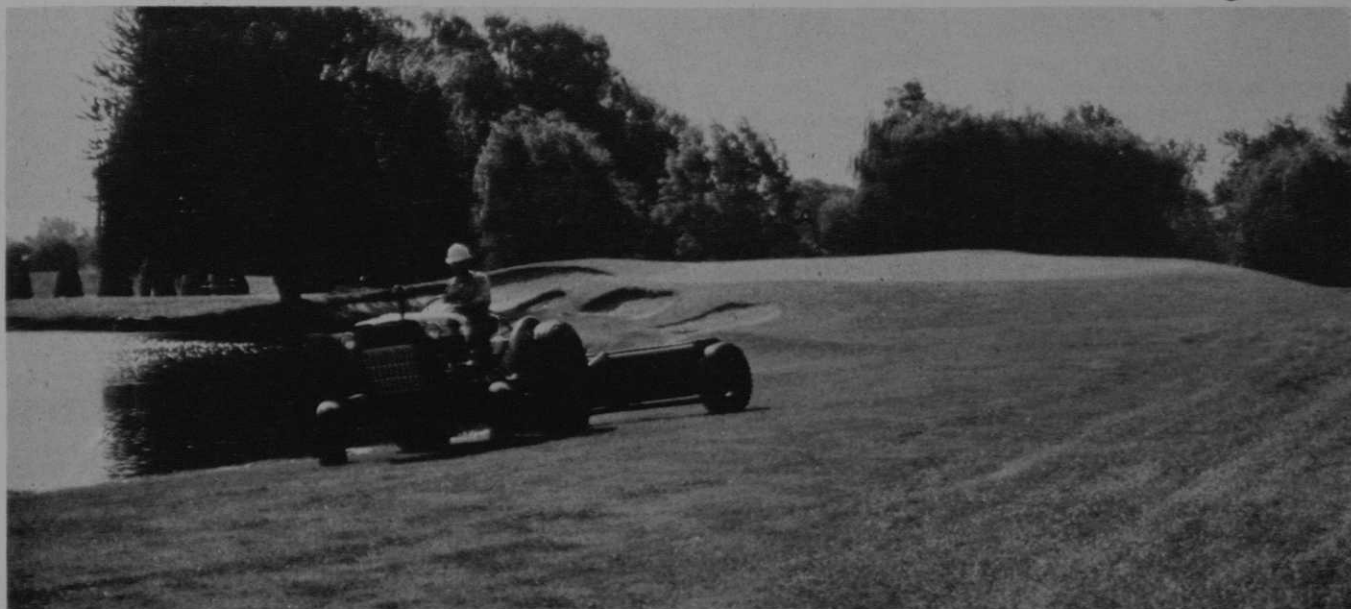
Grant came to Innisbrook two years ago from the Royal Poin-

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12 GOLFDOM MAGAZINE 6/73

DR. JAMES B. BEARD



TURFGRASS RESEARCH REVIEW

EFFECTS OF TEMPERATURES ON PENNCROSS GROWTH

Growth characteristics of Penncross creeping bentgrass (Agrostis palustris Huds.) at four soil temperatures and five fertility regimes. D.T. Hawes. 1972. Ph.D. Thesis, University of Maryland. 124 pp. (from the Department of Agronomy, University of Maryland, College Park, Md.).

The influence of three soil temperatures (50, 70 and 90° F) on shoot growth, root growth, carbohydrate reserves, recuperative rate, turfgrass color, tillering and thatch accumulation rate were evaluated on a Penncross creeping bentgrass turf moved at one-half inch. Evaluations were made during the summer of 1969 and the spring and summer of 1970. The three soil temperature levels were maintained by local, thermostatically controlled, constant temperature heat exchangers positioned at a soil depth of 3.5 inches. Thus, the exchangers established three distinct planes of nearly constant temperature in the zone where most root, crown and stolon growth occur.

Results of this investigation showed root growth to be most active at 50° with a decline at the higher 70 and 90° F soil temperature treatments. The carbohydrate reserves were also highest at 50° F soil temperatures. Both the shoot growth and recuperative rates were highest at 70° F soil temperatures and declined as the temperature was either raised or lowered. The visual turfgrass appearance in terms of color also ranked highest at 70° F. Tillering and stolon growth were not affected by the three distinctly different soil temperature treatments, but responded to seasonal variations in the environment other than

temperature.

Comparisons among several nitrogen levels showed that nitrogen increased turfgrass color, but decreased the shoot growth and recuperative rates of the turf. The effect of reduced recuperative rate and associated low carbohydrate reserves at higher nitrogen levels was most notable at the highest temperature treatment.

Comments: Temperature is a component of the turfgrass environment that affects most facets of turfgrass growth as well as disease development, thatch accumulation and seed germination of both weedy and desirable species. The temperature effect on shoot growth affects the mowing frequency, fertilization requirements and over-all turfgrass health. Temperature also affects the rooting depth and evapotranspiration rate, which are primary controls in the amount and frequency of water that must be applied by irrigation. Thus, temperatures are intimately related to the many day-to-day cultural practices on a golf course.

Temperatures vary on a seasonal cycle with the highest stress periods occurring in midsummer. Individual cultural practices must be adjusted in relation to temperature changes in order to maintain the desired level of turfgrass quality on the golf course. If adjustments are not made in relation to temperature changes, serious loss of turf may occur due to direct temperature effects or by the indirect effects of other related environmental components such as drought stress. The importance of adjusting turfgrass cultural practices is illustrated in this paper where high nitrogen levels drastically decreased the recuperative rate at the highest temperature treatment. A

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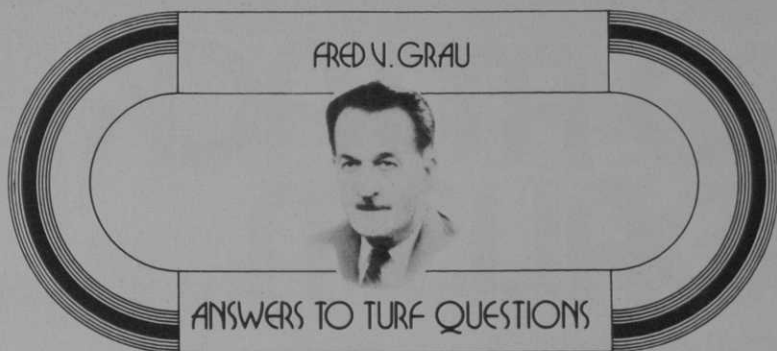
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LETTER WRITING

When was the last time that you sat down to write a letter to someone just for the joy of it? Some event occurred that was so interesting or unique that you were compelled to share it with a friend who could appreciate it and thus double your own enjoyment. The happening may have had such significance that you felt that this was the way to record it and to share it at the same time.

PROFESSIONAL LETTERS

Many of us who like to be known as professional turf managers certainly would not merit that appellation if we were judged by our propensity for letter writing. Frankly, I am amazed at the almost total lack of letter response that I get from letter communications that virtually demand a reply. There are exceptions, of course. There are a few people on my list who seem to enjoy jotting down a question, a few thoughts, an opinion and stuffing them into an envelope addressed to me. I don't care whether the note is scribbled on a salesman's note pad, on the back of an envelope or on a piece of club stationery; it's the message that counts with me.

This is not true when it comes to writing a letter of application for a position with a resume attached. In this case the letter must be neat, concise, factual, businesslike, everything to impress the prospective employer that *you* are the one for the job. I've seen some letters that have impressed me with their air of professionalism. Yes, you guessed it—there have been others that say in effect, "Forget it, bud, I want to stay a mower jockey." Anyone who wants to write a good letter can find abundant help from many

quarters. Chances are help can be found among one's fellow golf course superintendents.

This winter, out of the blue, came a letter from a prominent mid-western research scientist-teacher, who had benefited from financial aid he had received from a program of building leadership in which I was involved. The letter was beautiful in its simplicity. It said in effect, "Thank you for the help you gave me when I needed it most."

LETTERS TO AVOID

There are times when we become incensed over the things that someone has said to us, behind our backs or in print. The impulse is to write a red-hot hate letter with a poison pen to show that so-and-so where to head in. Don't do it. Go ahead and write the letter, but don't mail it. Lay it aside for a day or two until you cool off, then try it again. I've had controversial correspondence that could have erupted like Vesuvius. Instead I've had replies that said, "Thank you for being fair. We're still friends."

YOUR LETTER IS YOU

When you talk face-to-face with a person, the eyes have it. They are the windows of the soul. When you are apart and can't see the person through the eyes, the next best thing is a letter. Sure, it been said that a modern business letter costs \$3.50 by the time it has been mailed. Few of us are in that category. What does it cost to write a few sentences, address and stamp an envelope, stuff and mail it? Better, think of the pleasure that your note can bring to someone who holds you in high regard but wonders, "Has he forgotten me?"

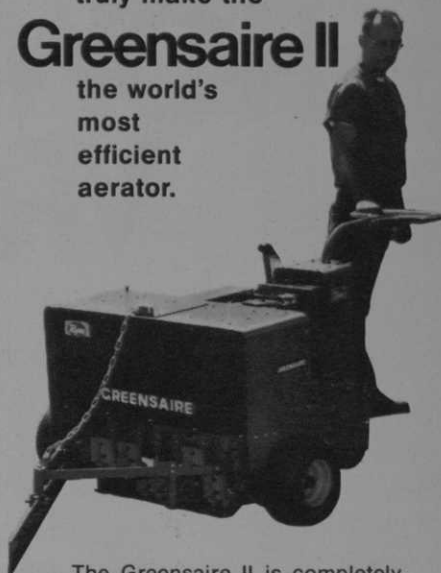
One more thing. When did you

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HOW TO ATTACK VANDALISM

by DOUGLAS LUTZ

Vandalism is making virtual prisons out of some golf courses—chain fences, burglar alarm systems, patrols, watchdogs—none of which seem to have helped reduce the incidents. Psychoanalysts say that to root out the problem requires an understanding of the motivations behind vandalism

The victims of vandalism, oddly enough, are frequently at the root causes of acts of destruction.

Symbolically, a city subway car represents authority that can be attacked by the simple application of a marking pen. Scrawling a nickname, with a numbered clue added, can be an "ego trip," an expression of contempt or an outright act of defiance against society and authority. It also can be, in a distorted, secretive way, a searching for recognition, even an appeal for love. Most assuredly anger and frustration are written into each quickly sketched name.

According to a leading psychoanalyst, whose primary concern is untwisting the hidden distortions leading to great unhappiness among teenagers, ghetto youth defacing subway cars are comparable to small town youth wantonly destroying the grounds at a private golf club. The parallels are easily drawn.

Country club life, the golf course scene, represents a frequently unattainable strata that causes frustration. Resentment is born in frustration. Striking out overcomes frustration.

The analyst explained that each case, although part of an over-all pattern of vandalism, must be honestly examined on its own evidence. Every act of vandalism stems from some hidden motivators. And they may be traced through many layers of conscious and unconscious thought, often to a single childhood incident that triggers destructive action in later life.

Impulsive vandalistic behavior, which may be expressed in moments of extreme frustration, is opportunistic in nature. Expedient action is generally coupled with an undetectable situation. Remote course areas, away from possible watchful eyes around the clubhouse, for instance, offer the best opportunities for impulsive attacks.

In discussing the motivations of vandalism the analyst was willing to generalize in terms of golf course destruction though holding to his own contention that each case was a separate issue. When specific instances were discussed, and we outlined reports from last year's article on vandalism (GOLF-

DOM, April, 1972, p. 54), he concurred with our findings that there were distinctive problems peculiar to golf courses. Having worked with young people from all financial levels and assorted family configurations, it was his feeling that course destruction might be anticipated at any location in the country.

He advanced some thoughts about the thrill of the chase, the excitement of the game. Sophisticated youth of today living close to jet travel, astronauts on the moon and almost daily doses of official corruption, are active thrill seekers. Living dangerously is not the exclusive province of adults these days. Fears of parental punishment can no longer be counted on the thwart acts of defiance. The days of "Life With Father" are long gone. The chase by a night patrol across the rolling hills of a golf course is the test of a young man's daring-do. His ultimate capture or detection, of being "busted," can lead to hero status from his peers, possibly to an awareness by adults of his presence and his need for attention from his parents. It is entirely possible that he may be seeking capture in the same sense that a runaway horse really wants someone to rein him in, to soothe his fears. Devices for getting attention are numerous.

Unfortunately, for the golfing community, vandalism leaves in its wake costly and sometimes irreparable damage. Facing continual financial losses makes it difficult for any club to have an understanding attitude toward the causes of vandalism.

We all recall the days when we were kids and vandalism, certainly on the scale evidenced today, was unheard of. More mischievous than malicious, acts of desecration on golf courses were prankster-oriented in years gone by. Instances of outright vandalism were rare. Private clubs, small town semi-private layouts and municipal facilities were wide open, inviting disaster. Patrol forces were hardly considered at all, yet there they stood in their magnificent greenery, unharmed, inviolate and in many instances, not even trespassed on.

Damage to courses hemmed in by large population centers occasionally consisted of ball hawks unaware of the tender turf of green surfaces running

across them while escaping pursuing park attendants. Tree climbing, a big pastime in the old days, accounted for occasional broken branches. Birch swinging, immortalized in Robert Frost's poem, "Birches," was the act of leaping into the top of a single birch from another tree and swinging to the ground in an arc and probably accounted for some snapped trunks. The damage to trees, mostly play oriented, could not be considered vandalism; not as we know it today. It never seemed willful.

There were, of course, isolated cases of planned destruction. Generally, though, the hallowed grounds of a city's courses escaped large-scale devastation. It was not uncommon to come upon groups of boys fishing in a course's lake or pond. Somehow they had learned to respond with a wary eye to a cry of "Fore" and still keep an eye on a bobbing float. Stern admonishments from annoyed golfers were listened to politely. The kids, however, always knew golfers had to keep moving, so the day's fishing could continue with only an occasional interruption to be endured from the more irate members of a club. The pastoral scenes of yesterday's golf are but distant memories now. By contrast the reality faced today by operators and superintendents is wanton, wholesale destruction.

In the past we have reported details from a cross section of the country on vandal attacks. Numerous stories have come to light since then, which have bolstered our contention that vandalism may be the number one problem superintendents face today. Certainly, this is true in many areas of the country.

Youthful frustrations leading to vandalism are matched by frustrations of coping with the problem. As we have noted, frustration on the part of youth often leads to action. It follows that action on the part of superintendents must be undertaken to overcome their own feelings of frustration. Specific actions to thwart vandalism or at least stem its tide can be found in programs undertaken at various locations.

"Lights are the answer," Larry Brandt said recently. Brandt is professional and manager at Reeves Memorial, one of Cincinnati's fine municipal courses. He was talking about controlling access to the course and extending daylight to 11 p.m. "We usually remain open until 11 p.m. and we open early each day, usually at 6 a.m., but it's the time between 11 and 6 we worry about. We are not fenced in, but we can and do lock the roadway gates. At least automobiles are excluded. To enter the course at night, you'd have to walk in. Lights are the answer."

Brandt felt that a night watchman could not cover the entire area. He reported that a few years ago a watchman was severely beaten by night time visitors. He said also recent rules had eliminated caddies, which he initially felt was a mistake.

Brandt grew up in caddie programs. "Golf made my life," as he put it. Coming from a poor family in Missouri, golf has had significant effects on his life, a lifetime appreciation of the game. Naturally, Brandt felt the demise of Cincinnati caddies was wrong, but he changed his mind when he realized it became a simple matter to identify un-

continued



VANDALISM *continued*

authorized persons, potential vandals, roaming Reeves and to have them removed. Unfortunately, the rule excluding non-players had to include caddies from whose ranks come dedicated golfers and damn few vandals.

Reeves Memorial, named for Will R. Reeves, first director of recreation for Cincinnati, who served in that capacity when the agency was formed in 1926 until his death in 1931, is unique, because it stretches 6,395 yards over flat terrain at the end of Lunken Airport, which used to be Cincinnati's Municipal. The vast acreage encompassing the airport as well as Reeves Memorial precludes fencing.

Possibly Cincinnati's most effective weapon against vandalism is their beginners' school program. Each May, new crops of golfers are introduced to the beauties of the Queen City's courses. According to Robert "Red" Strauss, superintendent of golf for the Cincinnati Recreation Commission, "The school wraps up in a nutshell all the basic techniques and information needed for a good start in the game." Group instruction at each course, including one session with film, is offered under the watchful eye of the professional. A package of six lessons is being offered this year for fees as low as \$3. The hours are flexible, too. The involvement of Cincinnati's youth in sports like golf, which could evolve into an avocation or a career, may be the city's best deterrent against future vandalism.

George Cosgrove, professional at Heatherwood GC on Long Island, utilizes a systematic control of potential vandalism. Any youngster found on the course who doesn't belong there is brought in and "booked." First offense, a warning and a listing of his name and address in Cosgrove's special ledger. Second time, apprehension and retention until a parent comes by to claim his delinquent and again on the list. Third offense and the youngster has run out of chances. The police are summoned. It now becomes a formal matter with charges covering trespassing and whatever acts of vandalism have been committed.

While protecting his superb executive layout by the use of his "list," Cosgrove believes also in involving youth.

He has another list—a caddie list—to encourage teenagers into becoming part of the Heatherwood scene. The opportunity to make a few dollars can also lead to an appreciation of a splendid golf course. Heatherwood, superbly operated as a business, is also vulnerable to vandalism. Cosgrove's "book" and his attempts to involve his youthful contingent go hand in hand toward coping with potential invaders.

Many communities, of course, have junior programs giving preferential rates to youngsters. Sacramento may be unique in its handling of the younger generation. To assure the proper kind of involvement and incidentally to insure against vandalism, Tommy Lo Presti, professional and manager at Haggin Oaks municipal, runs a series of three etiquette classes prior to issuing junior cards.

Juniors, aware of golf's unwritten rules about identifying one's ball, raking traps, fixing ball marks and not driving into people, feel no resentment from their elders. Frustration at not being accepted has no room in which to build. Hopefully, the young golfers have an influence on other young people of the Sacramento area. Ultimately, perhaps, leading to the elimination of vandalism.

There are no ready solutions to the vandalism problem. The get-tough attitude is fine and often necessary. It may solve an immediate local problem. It may serve notice on potential vandals that stern action follows destructive behavior. But it will never end vandalism's devastation of our golf course facilities.

It may be necessary to endure sneak attacks, property damage and the humiliation of being unable to pursue and prosecute vandals until such time as enough potential vandals are won over through alternative, meaningful activities.

Understanding the reasons behind vandalism and offering alternatives, in the long run, may be the only solution to this costly and deeply frustrating problem. □



CMAA CONTINUING EXECUTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM, Club Law and Internal Control, Vancouver, B.C., June 4-6.

RUTGERS TURFGRASS RESEARCH DAY, Dudley and College Farm Roads, College of Agriculture and Environmental Science, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J., June 12.

INTERNATIONAL SHADE TREE CONFERENCE, Hotel Utah, Salt Lake City, June 17-20.

TEXAS TURFGRASS FIELD DAYS, Agronomy Field Lab, Texas A & M University, College Station, Tex., June 27.

FOURTH ANNUAL SOUTH CAROLINA TURFGRASS CONFERENCE, Clemson House, Clemson, S.C., July 10-11.

CMAA CONTINUING EXECUTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM, Advanced Management Techniques, Denver, July 16-18.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY TURFGRASS FIELD DAY, Columbus, Ohio, August 7.

CMAA CONTINUING EXECUTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM, Personnel and Motivation Management, Haverford, Pa., August 13-15.

RHODE ISLAND TURFGRASS FIELD DAYS, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, R.I., August 22-23.

TURF AND LANDSCAPE DAY, Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, Wooster, Ohio, September 11.

TURFGRASS FIELD DAY, Ornamental Horticulture Research Center, Urbana, Ill., September 18.

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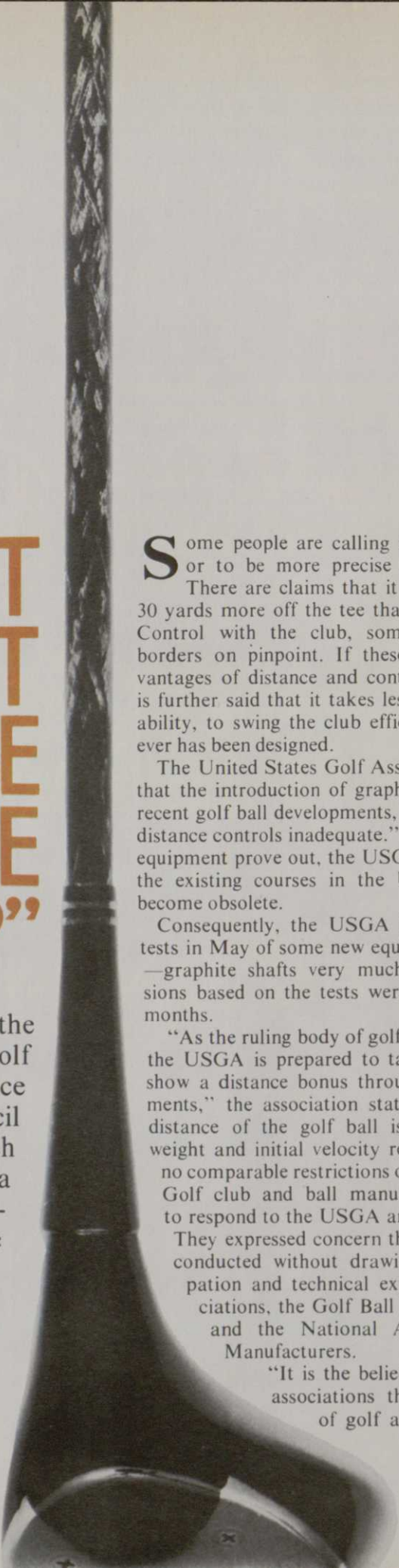
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by JOE DOAN

“WHAT ABOUT THOSE GRAPHITE SHAFTS?”

This is the common opener to the hottest topic of discussion in golf circles today. Probably not since the discovery of the lead pencil has graphite received so much attention. GOLFDOM takes a comprehensive look at the present and future state of the market

Some people are calling it the “wonder” club or to be more precise the “wonder” shaft. There are claims that it will give as much as 30 yards more off the tee than steel or aluminum. Control with the club, some professionals say, borders on pinpoint. If these newly-wrought advantages of distance and control aren’t enough, it is further said that it takes less energy, maybe less ability, to swing the club efficiently than any that ever has been designed.

The United States Golf Assn. has expressed fear that the introduction of graphite shafts, as well as recent golf ball developments, “may render existing distance controls inadequate.” If claims for the new equipment prove out, the USGA feels that many of the existing courses in the United States would become obsolete.

Consequently, the USGA launched a series of tests in May of some new equipment developments—graphite shafts very much included. No decisions based on the tests were expected for a few months.

“As the ruling body of golf in the United States, the USGA is prepared to take action if its tests show a distance bonus through the new developments,” the association stated. “At present, the distance of the golf ball is controlled by size, weight and initial velocity restrictions. There are no comparable restrictions on clubs.”

Golf club and ball manufacturers were quick to respond to the USGA announcement of tests.

They expressed concern that the tests would be conducted without drawing upon the participation and technical expertise of their associations, the Golf Ball Manufacturers Assn. and the National Assn. of Golf Club Manufacturers.

“It is the belief of the club and ball associations that the current rules of golf afford reasonable and