

100 YEARS OF MINNESOTA GOLF

OUR GREAT TRADITION

By George E. Brown, III

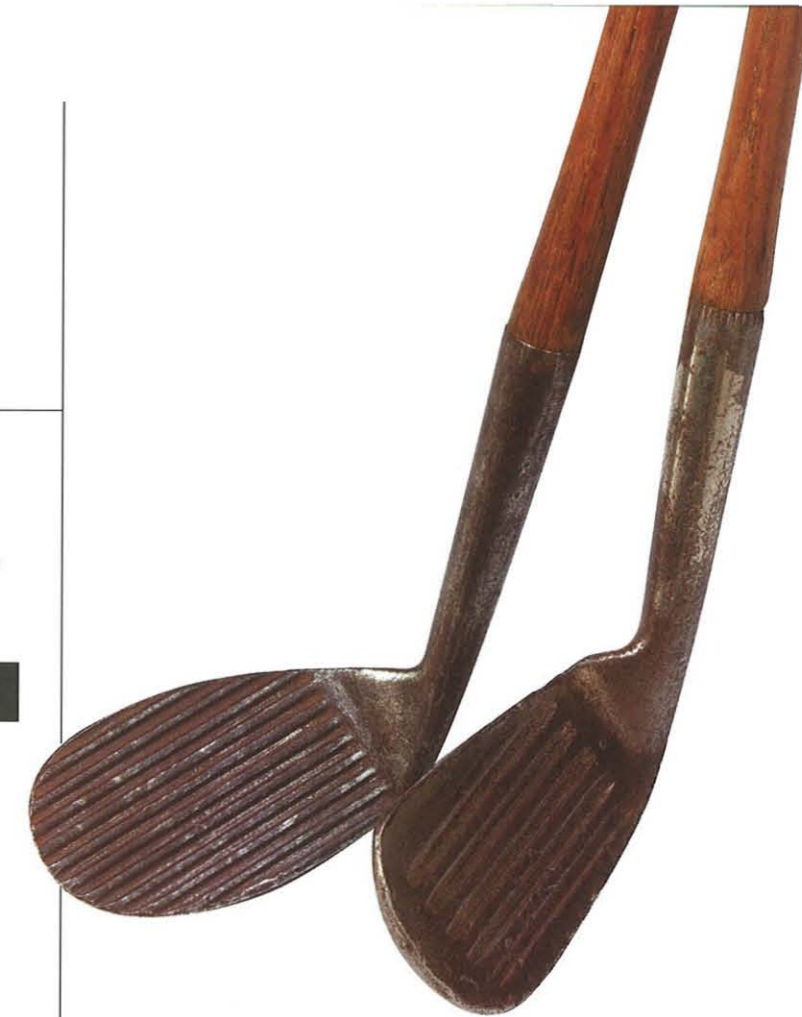
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A LEGACY OF GOLF

The year 2001 has been a momentous one for golf in Minnesota, as well for the Minnesota Golf Association.

And, what a privilege and an honor it has been to be involved in the development of the MGA's centennial year events. Working with the numerous volunteers and staff on the activities and projects celebrating this milestone has been rewarding and stimulating. We would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every person for their outstanding support and for donating their time and energy.

This book is the culmination of our efforts. Under the guidance of Centennial Book Chairman Charlie Mahar, author George E. Brown, III has crafted a work that accurately details Minnesota's grand golf history, as well as the MGA's dedication to preserving the history and traditions of the game we hold so dear. From insight into the legends of Minnesota golf to memorable tournaments held during the past 100 years to features on select historic clubs, "*100 Years of Minnesota Golf: Our Great Tradition*" is a tribute to all of the players, volunteers and administrators over the past century who have made Minnesota a leader in the game of golf in the United States. Each page is a singular salute to those whose love and devotion to the game deserves the highest praise.

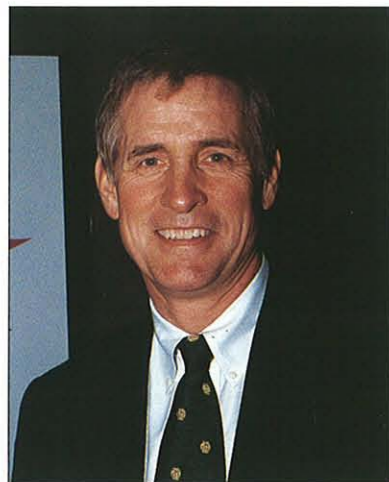
As stewards of this great game, we are mindful of the dedication of those individuals who have guided the MGA from its inception to today. As we endeavor to protect this great legacy, we embrace the opportunity to pass along this wonderful heritage to those dedicated individuals who will carry on Minnesota golf's great tradition in the future.

CAL SIMMONS

President, Minnesota Golf Association

DICK HARRIS

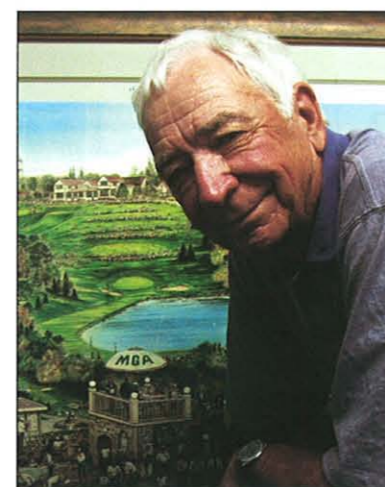
Chairman, Centennial Committee



Cal Simmons



Dick Harris



Bud Chapman

LOYAL H. "BUD" CHAPMAN, affectionately known as "Chappy," has two passions in life—golf and commercial art. He just so happens to be an exceptional practitioner of both.

Chapman, a native Minnesotan, seemingly grew up with a golf club in one hand and a paintbrush in the other. He went from shooting a 166 in his very first round as a youngster to capturing numerous MGA amateur titles en route to being inducted into the MGA-PGA Hall of Fame in 1994. His career as an accomplished commercial artist started taking shape in grade school eventually leading to his commercial success with his 18 "Infamous Golf Holes." He truly has the best of both worlds being able to, as he says, "play golf all day and work all night."

His most recent masterpiece entitled "One Hundred Years of Minnesota Golf," which was commissioned by the Minnesota Golf Association, captures in wonderful detail the people and historic events over the past century in Minnesota. For Chapman, this treasure was a true labor of love.



ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF MINNESOTA GOLF

GOLF IN MINNESOTA

A STORIED PAST

MINNESOTA AND THE SPORTING LIFE. The two have been inexorably linked for more than 100 years. However, back at the turn of the century, work was considered far more important than play.

For Americans, as well as Minnesotans, it was an era characterized by ingenuity, innovation, and industrialization. Orville and Wilbur Wright made their famous flight. The Spanish-American War was in the offing and the advent of the railroad system put rural parts of the country within a few hours of many growing cities. William McKinley was in the White House and songs such as “Meet

Me in St. Louis and *In the Good Old Summertime*, were playing on the Victrola.

As manufacturing became more prevalent, factories of all kinds sprung up. Henry Ford was hard at work on the development of the automobile, which eventually allowed three gentlemen to make the trip from Chicago to Minneapolis in a record six days and for the first cross-country trip to be completed in sixty-one days. This and other such accomplishments were splashed across newspapers from coast-to-coast.

In 1900, factories in Minnesota almost outnumbered family farms. Industries such as flour milling, lumber and iron-ore were king. At the time, the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul boasted a population of 260,000 with another 35,000 to 40,000 residing in the port town of Duluth on Lake Superior.

As commerce increased, a healthy rivalry grew between Minneapolis and St. Paul. History books note that St. Paul benefited from a strong banking industry and

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Caddieing has been an integral part of the golfing culture in Minnesota. The Minikahda Club. Circa 1900.

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Minneapolis was a bustling metropolis even back at the turn of the 20th century. Nicollet Avenue at Fifth Street looking towards the Mississippi River. Circa 1898.





Sweet's



1877. SEVENTH ST. LOOKING EAST FROM W. BARRIS

steamboat trade in the early 1900s. Minneapolis, on the other hand, was renowned for its lumber and flour milling, making it one of the United States' premier grain markets. Although these were important days in terms of business and commerce growth, not everyone had their nose to the grindstone. The old adage about "all work and no play" held true. And golf proved to be a popular outlet.

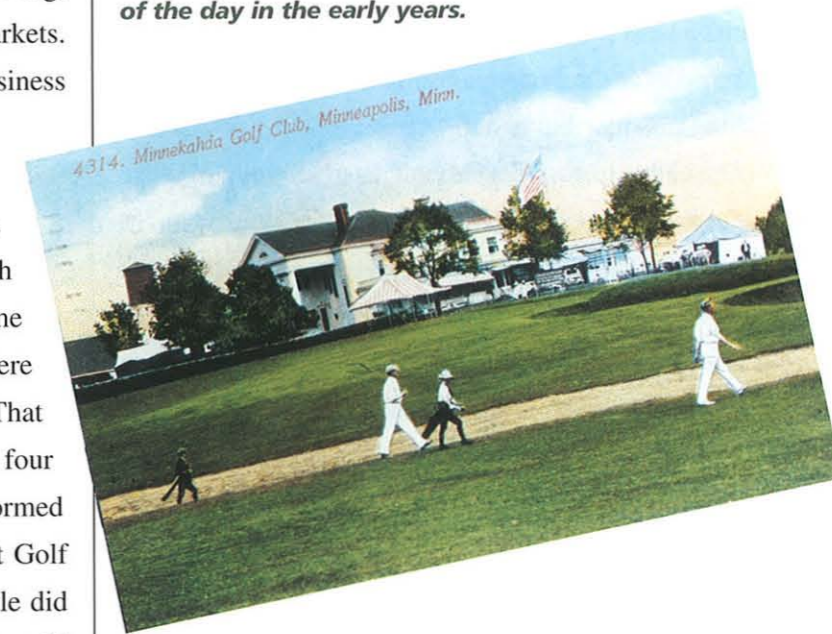
The turn of the century saw the rapid growth of the game of golf in the United States; a pastime introduced to this country by the Scots. In 1896, there were a mere 80 golf courses in the United States. That number increased more than twelve-fold to 980 just four years later. The United States Golf Association was formed in 1895, and held its first championship at Newport Golf Club in Newport, Rhode Island, that same year. Little did Minnesotans know at the time that one day they would play host to some of the fledgling association's most prestigious championships.

Prominent golfers of the day including Harry Vardon, Willie Park, Jr., Charles Blair MacDonald and Donald Ross also turned out to be some of the world's leading golf course architects. This talented group would eventually create numerous golf course masterpieces in the U.S., with many of them concentrated on the East Coast.

Although much of the design expertise at the time was being crafted some 2,000 miles from the grain belt, Minnesota would end up benefiting greatly from their design genius. In addition, designers such as Willie Watson, Robert and James Foulis and Tom Vardon would become household names in the state as the game proliferated and course designs that emanated from their drawing tables became reality.

Not that Minnesotans weren't already somewhat acquainted with the game. In fact, golf's origins in

Golfers dressed in white were the order of the day in the early years.



Although standard equipment in the game's formative years, wooden-shafted clubs are valuable collector's items today.



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An afternoon respite under the shade of a tree was a popular pastime at clubs such as Town and Country Club. Circa 1899.

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St. Paul boasted a strong banking and steamboat trade during the early 1900s. Circa 1900.

Minnesota dated back to 1893 when the membership at St. Paul's Town and Country Club, one of the oldest clubs in the country, voted to build a nine-hole course on the eastern banks of the Mississippi River in order to bolster a dwindling membership roster.

The club's history details how an avid group of some 60 men and women, who participated regularly in St. Paul's Winter Carnival, wanted to start a social club that would run year-round. They not only planned winter activities, but they were also determined to include numerous summer pastimes such as lawn tennis, croquet, picnics and ultimately golf. In 1893, the idea of constructing a golf course was a radical concept considering that the game was virtually unknown. And, if it weren't for an off-handed comment by a club member to a newspaper reporter, the course may have never been built.

According to the club's history, William F. Peet, one of Town and Country's charter members, happened to mention the game to a reporter for the *St. Paul Dispatch* who was looking for more news about the club for his social column. When the story appeared in the paper the following day, Scotsman and golf enthusiast George W. McCree contacted Peet and asked if he could help. McCree's altruistic gesture ignited the spark necessary for the game's beginnings in Minnesota.

Regarding the site for the proposed course, a local golf publication noted that, "Nature had laid out an ideal course, used for pasture ground, situated some little distance back of the clubhouse and over the hill. Equipped with a lawnmower, a spade, and a couple of brawny assistants, these two men laid out the first nine-hole golf course in the Midwest." Just weeks after Peet and McCree conceived of the idea, golf in Minnesota was born.

After playing on a rudimentary layout for the better part of five years, Town and Country Club members finally got to enjoy a more refined layout during the summer of 1898. For the record, the revamped course opened to much fanfare on June 9, 1898. Other founding members such as railroad magnate James J. Hill and Lucius P. Ordway helped inaugurate Minnesota's first course. The club's board hired St. Andrews-native Robert Foulis as its first



Judge Martin B. Koon was instrumental in helping organize The Minikahda Club in 1898.

professional and greenskeeper. Foulis would later become a well-respected architect in his own right, collaborating with his brother James on numerous golf course projects. None of this may have occurred, however, if not for George McCree whose pioneering spirit and determination made golf at Town and Country, as well as in Minnesota, a reality.

While the green's were being mowed that fall of 1898 at Town and Country Club, the first board meeting was underway at The Minikahda Club, located off Excelsior Boulevard overlooking Lake Calhoun. Minneapolis' only course at that time had been scouted out a couple of month's prior by six people who were out for an afternoon bicycle ride and picnic. Little did they know about the significance of the land they had stumbled upon.

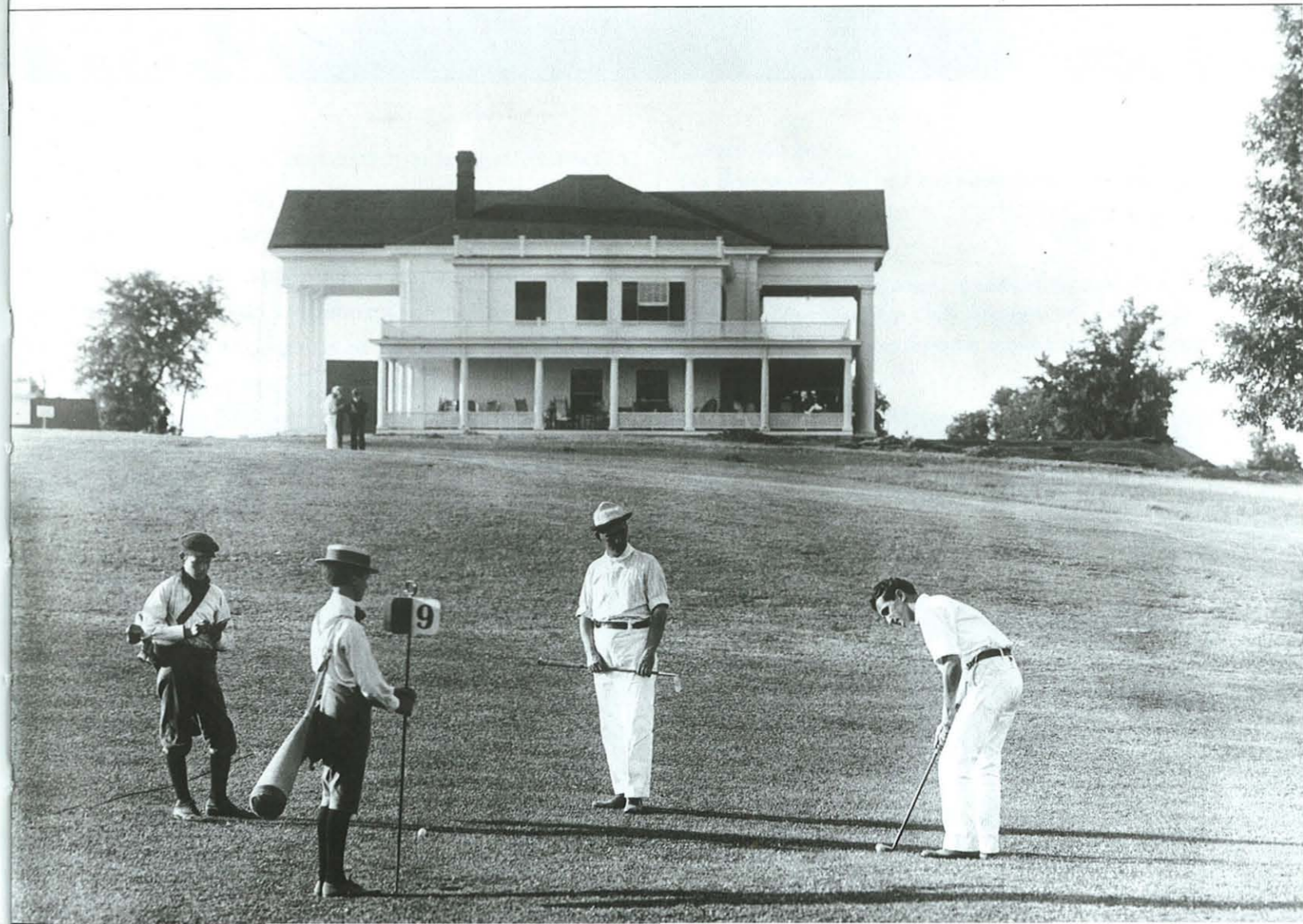
According to club historians, at one of the first board meetings, a sum of \$50,000 was authorized in order to purchase 56 acres and build a clubhouse. Another \$5,000

was approved to hire Scotland-natives Willie Watson and Robert Foulis to design the club's original nine holes.

By the summer of 1899, The Minikahda Club was open for play, and some of the 600 members, who had put up the \$10 to \$20 membership fee, were anxious to be the first to tee it up. The club's first president, Judge Martin B. Koon, received that honor on July 15, 1899. Since that summer day, Minikahada has gone on to establish itself as a premier club and is largely responsible for bringing the state numerous national tournaments and recognition over the past century.

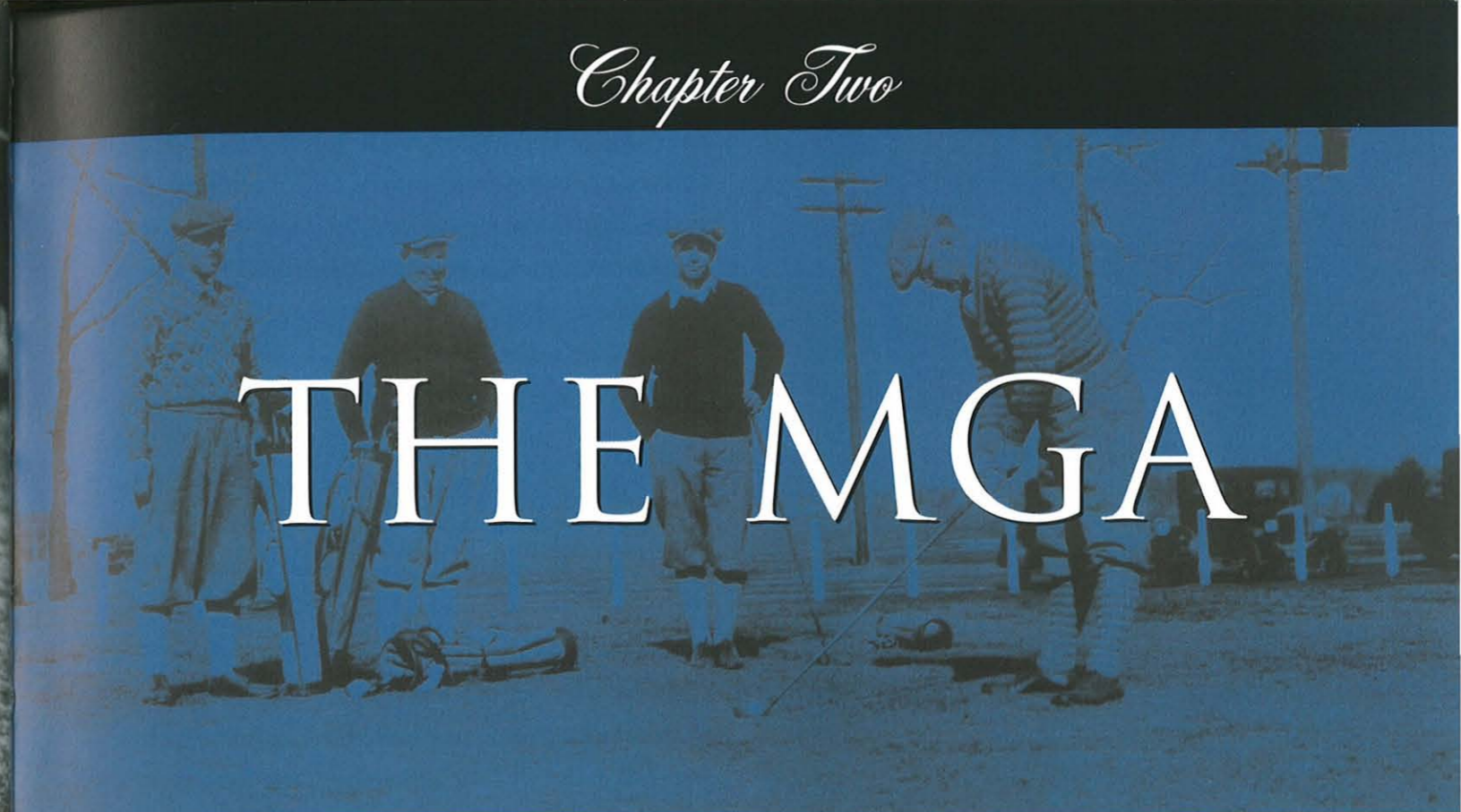
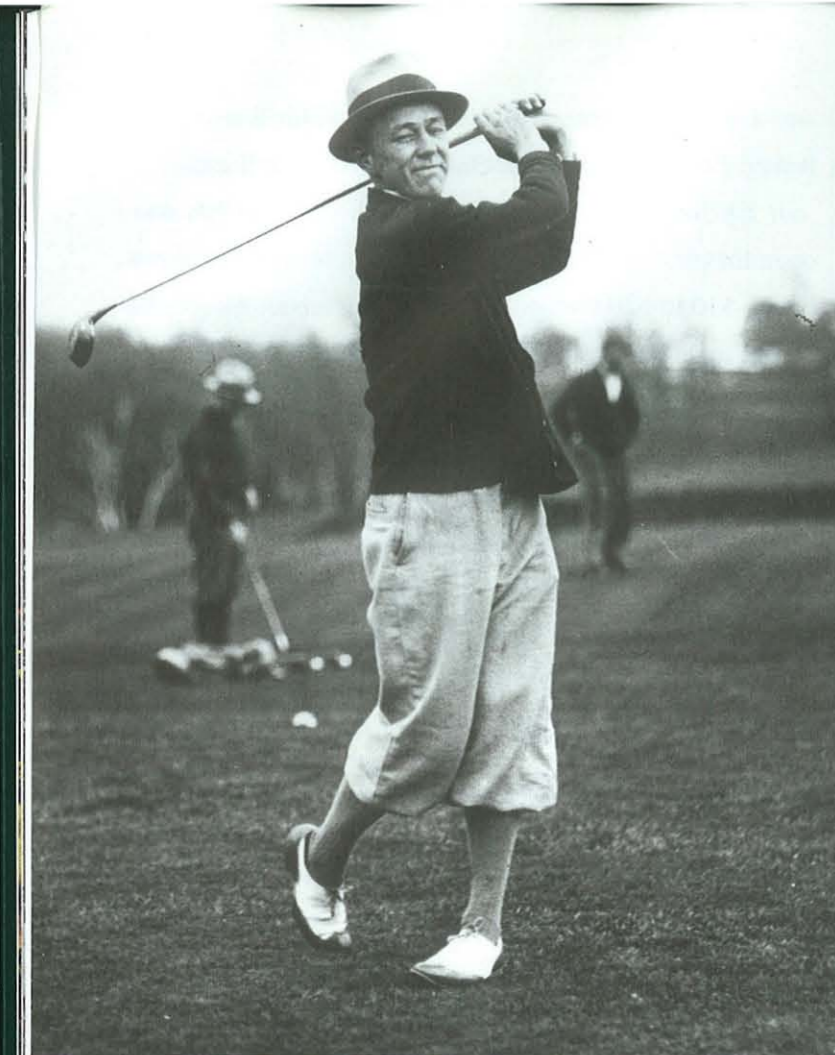
Source: Minnesota: A History of the State, University of Minnesota, 1975.

As the game's popularity increased in the United States, tee times became hard to come by. The Minikahda Club. Circa 1900.



THE MGA

THE FIRST 100 YEARS



AS GOLF BEGAN TO TAKE HOLD IN MINNESOTA, it was clear to many of the game's die-hards that it needed a governing body to oversee its growth. On August 29, 1901, a group of approximately 15 men took up the cause and decided to do something about it. That night at the now defunct Meadow-Brook Golf Club in Winona, the Minnesota Golf Association was born.

Wrote the Winona Republic and Herald the next morning, "*State Golf Association Organized Last Evening at the State Tournament.*" The story went on to say, "Minnesota now has a state golf association. This was organized at the clubhouse of the Meadow-Brook Golf Club last evening, delegates from seven clubs being present. The meeting was marked with much enthusiasm and the organization was launched under the most auspicious circumstances."

The seven founding clubs of the association were Town and Country Club of St. Paul, The Minikahda Club of Minneapolis, the Bryn Mawr Club of Minneapolis, the Tapeta Golf Club of Fairbault, The Rochester Golf Club,

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Les Bolstad was one of the most prolific teachers in Minnesota golf history.

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"Lighthorse" Harry Cooper, head professional at Golden Valley Country Club during WWII, helped start the Golden Valley Invitational during the war years.

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When Northland Country Club in Duluth was formed in 1899, the admission fee was \$15 and annual dues were \$10. Circa 1930s.

Merriam Park Club of St. Paul and Meadow-Brook Golf Club located in Winona. John R. Marfield of Meadow-Brook was resoundingly nominated as the organization's first president, B.F. Schurmeier as vice president and C.H. Hood as secretary and treasurer. The other directors voted on were W.A. Lawhead, H.C. Theopold, Dr. A. Henderson and J.A. Cole.

During the meeting the Association's constitution and bylaws were read and adopted. In part, the organization



On August 29, 1901, the day the Minnesota Golf Association was formed, John R. Marfield of Meadow-Brook Golf Club was named the organization's first president.

was to "provide for an amateur state championship tournament each year open to its members, to afford a convenient means of arranging dates of the annual tournaments of its members so that they shall not conflict, and to promote generally the interests of golf in Minnesota." Membership dues were pegged at \$10 per club per year, a far cry from what they are today.

Divine intervention may have decided the winner of the first state amateur tournament, which was held that same sunny day in August, as the Reverend Theodore P. Thurston of Meadow-Brook took home the title. Thurston, who fired a 94 in the qualifying round, besting fellow Meadow-Brook member W.M. Bolcom in the final. Prominent competitors of note in the field included Town and Country's Harold Bend and B.F. Schurmeier and Minikahda's C.T. Jaffray and Harold Legg. Every participant antied up the \$2 admission fee in order to compete.

The MGA amateur tournament at Meadow-Brook was a resounding success and has been contested on an annual basis ever since. In the early days, a trophy for the winner was donated by the host club with the value of the trophy being at the discretion of the club. The running of the event became a little more formal as well. Beginning in 1906, the MGA hired a golf professional to manage each year's tournament and paid him the amount of \$100. It was a prestigious event, so every effort was made to afford the participant's with a first-class experience.

After the association's first year in operation there were a total of nine member clubs. Northland Country Club and the Minnetonka Club were elected in 1902 followed by the Lafayette Club in 1903. The financial report of June 26, 1902, showed the organization had a bank balance of \$74.30 after expenses. Not exactly an enviable cash flow, but a start nonetheless.

Over the ensuing decades, new clubs were constructed and eventually added to the MGA's roster. Interlachen opened for play in 1911 followed by the White Bear Yacht Club in 1912, and Northwood and the Golf Club of Red Wing in 1916.

Even as World War I broke out, the emphasis on the sporting life continued. Men and women of all ages

became enthralled with the game of golf. In 1915, in order to meet the increasing participation of women in the game in Minnesota, the Minnesota Women's Golf Association was formed. A year later, the state hosted its first of six U.S. Open championships (men and women) and in 1917, the Minnesota PGA was organized only a year after the national office officially opened its doors.

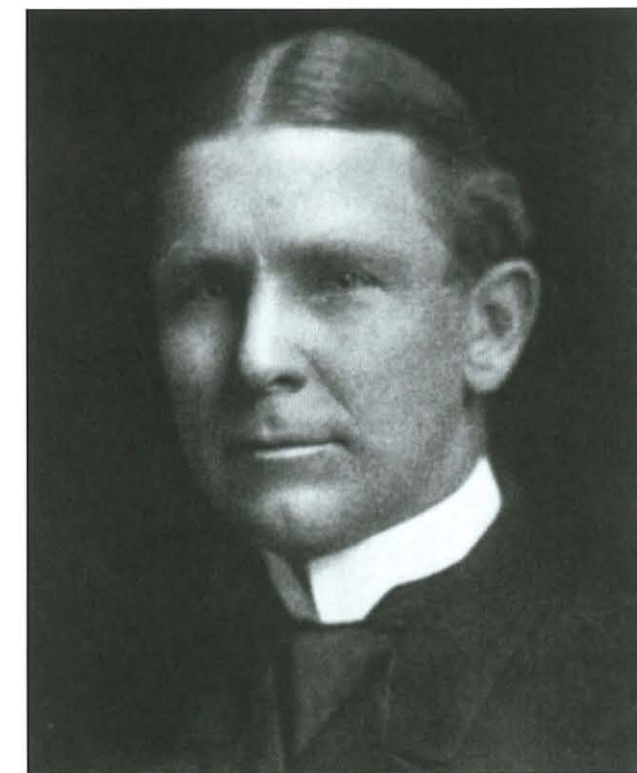
"The financial report of June 26, 1902, showed the organization had a bank balance of \$74.30 after expenses. Not exactly an enviable cash flow, but a start nonetheless."

The MGA continued to grow during this period and attracted clubs from all regions of the state. By 1919 there were 16 member clubs and a total of 21 in 1922. Alexandria, Bemidji, Detroit Lakes and Keller all jumped on board as early members of the association. Later, as golf started to become a game for the masses as opposed to a sport for simply the privileged few, the MGA, through its annual tournaments and promotion of Minnesota golf, wanted to ensure the game's traditions and integrity would be protected for years to come.

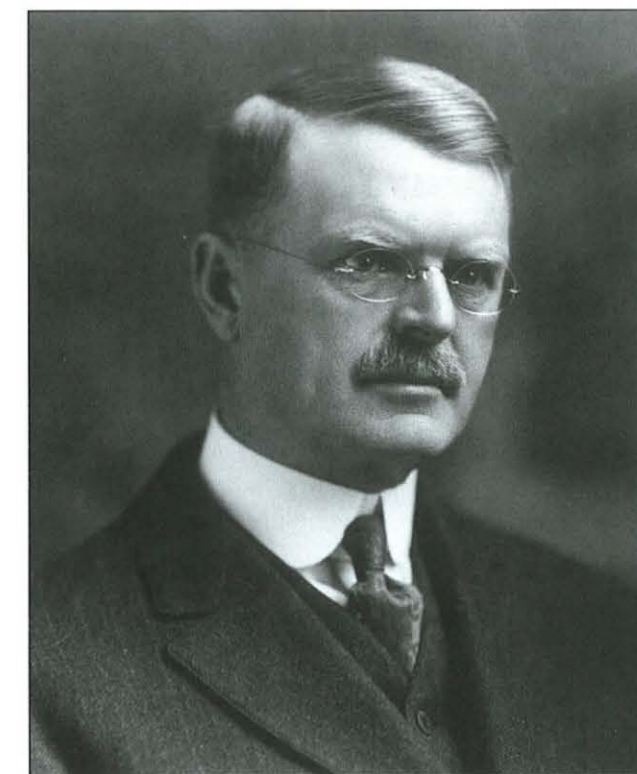
THE ROARING '20s

As the era of the 1920s dawned, America slowly recovered from the economic and emotional hardships of The Great War. It was a time ushered in by the wonderful jazz sounds of Louis Armstrong and Duke Ellington, witnessed the successful crossing of the Atlantic Ocean by Minnesotan Charles Lindbergh in The Spirit of St. Louis and then capped off with the stock market crash of 1929, which dropped a curtain on the good times.

In Minnesota, the economic outlook was even bleaker than most. Returning soldiers got back to work on the farm and in numerous other industries, but often the work proved sporadic. Farm foreclosures grew steadily and the banking industry was highly unstable. People couldn't



The Reverend Theodore P. Thurston came out on top at the MGA's inaugural Amateur championship in Winona. Circa 1917.



C.T. Jaffray was president of the MGA in 1903-1904.

Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh returned home to a hero's welcome at the Municipal Airport in St. Paul after making his historic crossing of the Atlantic Ocean.



even have a cocktail or two to steady their frayed nerves since Prohibition had just gone into effect. On the bright side, women were finally given the right to vote and their ban on smoking was also lifted. Additionally, the advent of the radio helped people keep up with world affairs.

Even as "The Golden Age of Golf Course Architecture" had run its course in the early '20s and despite tough economic times later on, golf continued to provide a much-needed diversion from daily life in Minnesota. The game not only grew in popularity in and around the major metropolitan areas of the state but it also blossomed in more rural locales as well. The MGA continued to bolster its roster of courses by making a concerted effort to include public courses

for the first time. Remember that the organization's membership base from its inception had been private clubs.

With the formation of the Minnesota Public Golf Association in 1922, public courses began to sprout up everywhere, giving enthusiasts who hadn't previously had a chance to experience the game their opportunity. Some of the public courses that came on line during this time included Columbia in 1920, Brookview (formerly Superior) in 1922, Highland Park, Meadowbrook and Mendakota (formerly Riverview) in 1926 and Western Hills and Keller in 1927.

The state remained in the golf spotlight during the decade as The Minikahda Club was selected by the United States Golf Association to host the 1927 U. S. Amateur, which featured a showdown between two of golf's greats in the final match: Bobby Jones and Chick Evans. And while not nearly the household names Evans and Jones were, Minikahda's Harry Legg and White Bear's Harrison "Jimmy" Johnston proved their prowess on the links by more than holding their own during tournament week. Two years later Johnston came home to a ticker-tape parade in St. Paul after capturing amateur golf's ultimate prize—the 1929 U.S. Amateur Championship at Pebble Beach.

The '20s also featured the birth of two long-standing

and extremely popular Minnesota "vacation" tournaments: the Resorters in Alexandria and the Birchmont International in Bemidji. Begun in 1922 and 1926 respectively, both these events offer the best golfers in the state an opportunity to showcase their golfing talent. A third tournament, the Pine-to-Palm in Detroit Lakes, got its start in 1931.

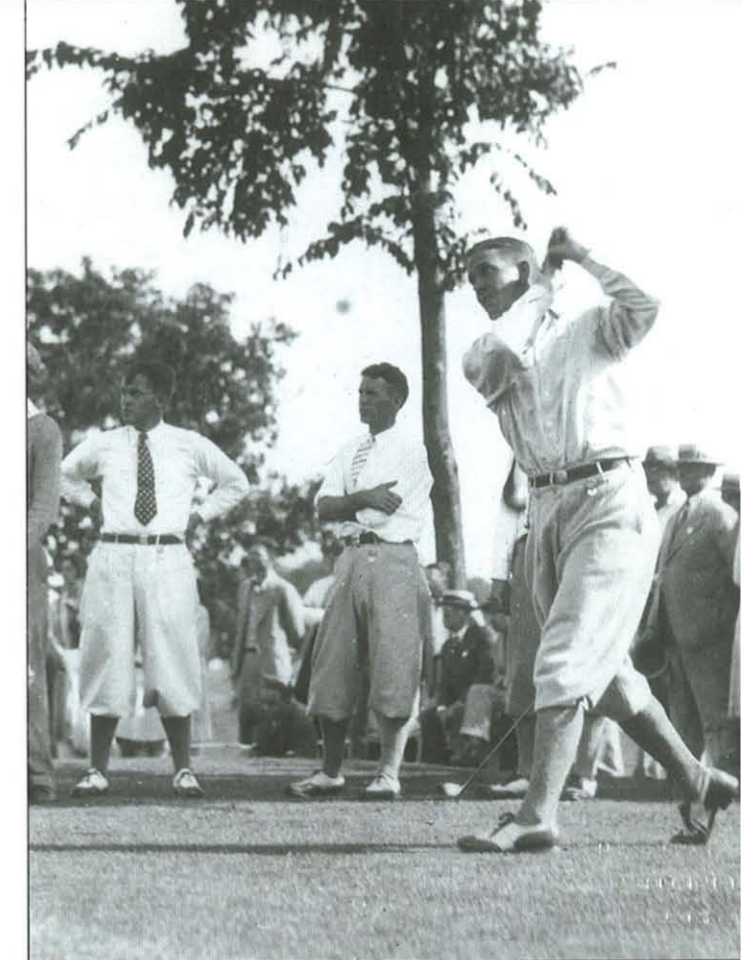
Past winners at the Resorters in the early years included Pat Sawyer, Bill Zieske, Neil Croonquist and Eleanor Lightner. In more recent years, the likes of Tom Lehman, Steve Herzog, Pat Herzog, and Betsy Croonquist have taken home the title. Likewise, the Birchmont has featured a stellar field that has grown stronger every year during its 75-year run. Past champions include Harry Legg, Dave Tallman, Bob Gammon, Bill Israelson and six-time female champion Jody Gumlia. These tourneys are "must play" events for the states low handicappers.

THE DEPRESSION AND WAR YEARS

As with every state in the union, Minnesota was not immune to the dire effects of The Depression that gripped the country during the 1930s. The state saw everything drop through the floor including farm prices and wheat production. Farm strikes, bank failures, drought and a grasshopper plague all combined to hit Minnesota especially hard.

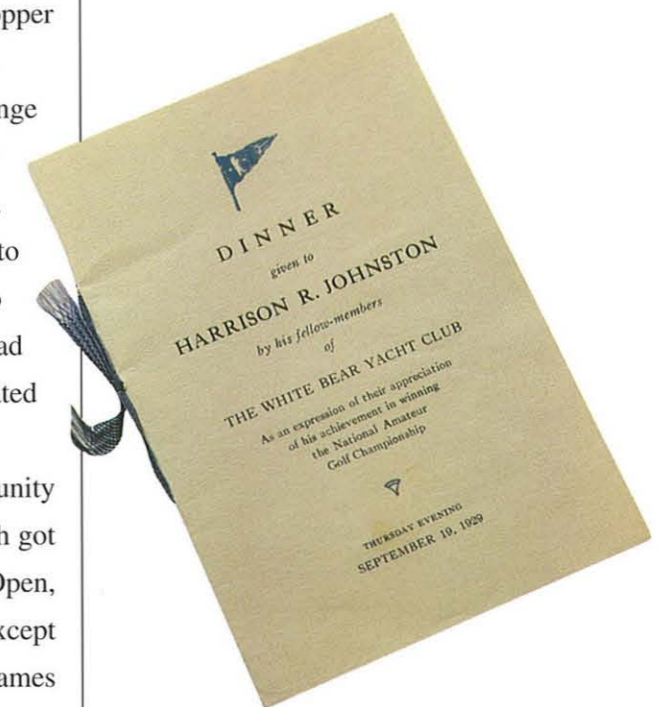
While some 70 percent of Minnesota's Iron-Range workers were jobless in 1932, help would come a year later in the form of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal. An effort by the government to get the country back to work, the New Deal provided a much-needed boost to the country's psyche, including Minnesota's, where road building and the creation of inland waterways emanated from engineers' drawing boards.

A much-needed boost for the state's golf community came in the form of the St. Paul Open at Keller, which got its start in 1930. Also known by some as the Keller Open, this hugely popular event which ran for 40 years, except from 1943-1944 and 1959, featured some illustrious names including Walter Hagen, Tommy Armour, Olin Dutra, Henry Picard, Sam Snead, Ben Hogan and in later years Arnold Palmer, Billy Casper and Gary Player.



Minnesotan Harrison R. "Jimmy" Johnston took the golf world by storm after winning the 1929 U.S. Amateur Championship contested at Pebble Beach.

Hennepin Avenue near 6th Street looking towards the Mississippi River in Minneapolis. Circa 1913.



The members of White Bear Yacht Club went all out in honoring fellow member "Jimmy" Johnston after his Amateur victory.



The Birchmont International, contested annually in Bemidji since 1926, continues to be a "must play" for the state's top golfers.



California pro Olin Dutra brought Keller Golf Club, as well as the field, to its knees in winning the 1932 PGA Championship.



The St. Paul Open was a favorite stop for many of the games heavyweights including the likes of Hagen, Armour, Picard, Hogan, Palmer and Player.



Totton P. Heffelfinger was a force in Minnesota, as well as national golf circles, for over four decades.

The competition in this annual star-studded event was fierce that first year for those vying for the top prize money. A published report of the day indicated that total prize money for that first event was a whopping \$10,000 put up by the St. Paul Jaycees—a large amount for that day. The title was taken home by "Lighthorse" Harry Cooper, who recently passed away at age 96. Cooper was the only three-time winner of the tournament as he went on to capture the crown again in '35 and '36. Local Minnesota standouts such as Pat Sawyer, Wally Ulrich and Joe Coria were regular participants in the tournament over the years. Beginning in 1966, the tournament was renamed the Minnesota Classic and moved around to various sites over the ensuing four years. The final Open was contested at Braemar in 1969.

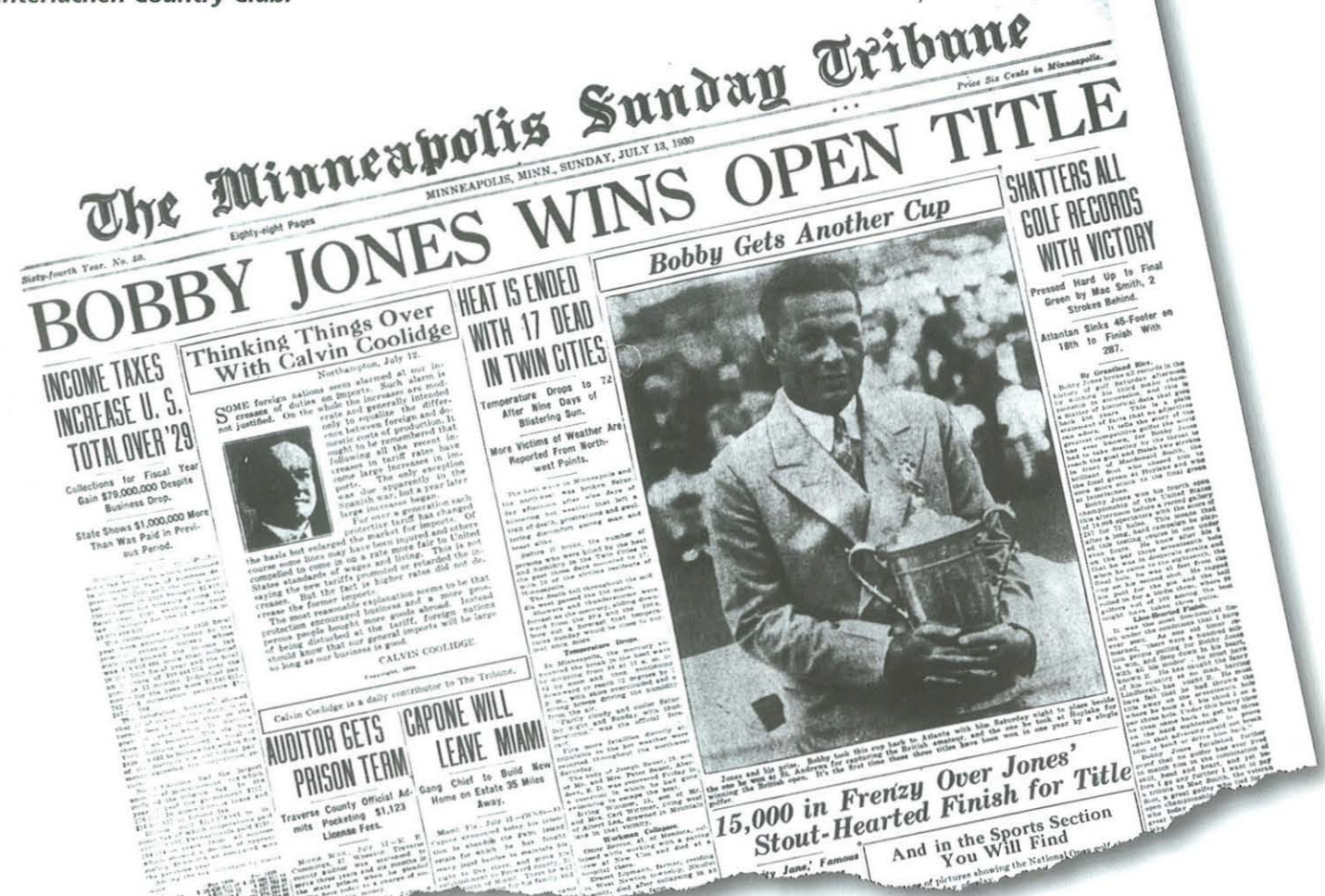
Although the game of golf was still enjoyed by the

lucky few, the fact it even survived in those brutal economic times was somewhat of a miracle. Many clubs were forced to close their doors, as discretionary income for most was non-existent. The MGA, however, under the able leadership of D.N. Tallman, Palmer Jaffray, Totton Heffelfinger and George Robbins ensured the association's survival and continued its mission to promote the game for the benefit of all Minnesota golfers.

Heffelfinger's accomplishments, on behalf of Minnesota, as well as the national golf community, were numerous. In 1932, through his efforts and those of the MGA's Board of Directors, the association voted to increase the number of directors from seven to twelve in order to ensure that every MGA member club in the Twin Cities would be represented.

Heffelfinger's term as president of the MGA ran from

In 1930, Bobby Jones captured the third leg of golf's Grand Slam with a thrilling victory at Interlachen Country Club.





Minneapolis native Patty Berg's rise to stardom began under the tutelage of Willie Kidd and Jim Pringle at Interlachen Country Club.

1931-1932. Later, he served on the board of the Western Golf Association from 1939-1946 and then was elected president of the United States Golf Association in 1952-1953 — the only Minnesotan to hold that office. Additionally, he was a longtime member of The Minikahda Club before founding Hazeltine National Golf Club in 1960, site of numerous national golf championships. Heffelfinger, who passed away at the age of 88 in 1987, left a lasting imprint on the game — both nationally and in the state.

One lasting imprint that some Minnesotans will not soon forget was when the state played host to one of the most remarkable feats in sports history — Bobby Jones capturing the third leg of golf's Grand Slam at the 1930 U.S. Open at Interlachen Country Club. Five years later, Minnesota and the rest of the golfing world were mesmerized by the game of young 17-year-old Minnesotan Patty Berg. She finished runner-up in 1935 to the legendary Glenna Collette Vare at the U.S. Women's Amateur Championship,



The MGA's first executive director, W.R. Smith, kept the association going through some very dark days.

which was also contested at Interlachen. It would take Berg just three short years to claim the Amateur title for her own.

By 1936, there were only 29 courses on the MGA's roster. Not exactly surprising considering the times. One gentleman who is credited with keeping the MGA together during this period was W.R. Smith, who was elected to the organization's board in the mid-thirties before becoming its first executive secretary. "Gentleman" and "Sportsman" were the words used to describe Smith by the many people interviewed for this history.

During the '30s, he operated the University of Minnesota's golf course under the auspices of the Twin Cities golf league. His efficiency and attention to detail were just two of the qualities that intrigued officials at the MGA. "W.R. Smith was a very astute, precise official," says Robert Morgan, president of the MGA from 1962-1964. "When you played in an MGA event, every player received a very official introduction as they stepped to the

first tee. He was soft-spoken and highly respected by all the players. He deserves much credit for keeping the MGA going during some very difficult times."

More rough times continued for the general populace in the 1940s as America found itself immersed in World War II. Minnesotans, like other Americans, were forced to use "A" cards, which limited leisure travel of any kind due to gas rationing. Golf competitions for the most part were put on hold for a few years so that the country could focus its attention on the war effort. Even courses and tournaments such as Augusta National and the Masters sat out the war years. In a show of extraordinary unity, people banded together to sell war bonds in order to aid the fighting men and women of the U.S.

Numerous Minnesota companies such as Minneapolis-

Honeywell, Minneapolis-Moline, Crown Iron Works and Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing did their part by developing everything from generators and airplane controls to portable pontoon bridges and gun mounts. While day-to-day life was a struggle, the government did take action to alleviate some of the problem by creating the WPA, which eventually put some 40,000 Minnesotans to work.

The war left the MGA in a state of flux as many of the roughly 300,000 Minnesotans who volunteered or were drafted into the armed forces traded in their golf clubs for rifles. Although board minutes from this period are non-existent, there are indications that activity in the organization was suspended during the war. Interviews suggest that W.R. Smith, however, did just enough on his own to make sure the association didn't dissolve. He

Four Minnesota legends including Jock Hendry, Willie Kidd, Wally Mund and Gunnard Johnson share a light moment.





Minnesota has hosted the USGA Amateur Public Links five times dating back to 1931.



Bob Morgan, president of the MGA from 1962-1964, was instrumental in getting the MGA back on solid footing during the '50s and '60s.

remained with the organization until the mid-'50s, whereupon he retired.

On the tournament front, Patty Berg captured her only U.S. Women's Open title in 1946, the inaugural Open, at the Spokane Country Club in Washington. The following year, Minnesota played host to the state's second national Amateur Public Links Championship at the Meadowbrook Golf Club in Minneapolis.

COMING OUT FROM UNDER – THE '50S AND '60S

With the secession of hostilities following World War II, optimism abounded. The post-war years witnessed the beginning of the "baby boom" generation, the advent of the television and a focus on family values. Television shows such as "The Honeymooners" kept the country in stitches—a good thing considering what America had just endured.

The '50s also witnessed a proliferation of golf course construction across the country following two decades of virtual inactivity. Beginning in the '50s and through the 1960s, Robert Trent Jones, among others, solidified his position as one of the preeminent golf course architects in the world eventually putting his stamp on over 450 projects. One of those courses was Hazeltine National in Chaska, which was completed in 1962.

While golf was growing rapidly in Minnesota both in terms of play and course construction, the MGA was in a state of disarray. The effects of the difficult war years seemed to keep a stranglehold on the organizations day-to-day operations. "During the time around 1952-1954, things with the MGA began to sort of fall apart," recalls Robert Morgan. "There wasn't any attendance and there wasn't any formal contact with the clubs around the state. The MGA did not completely fold but no one was paying attention to it and it wasn't an important thing. Finally, the association reached into some of the bigger name clubs in order to encourage people to donate some time to the cause." That plea brought the desired result.

One of these volunteers who dedicated most of his free time to promote golf in Minnesota and specifically the MGA was Fritz Corrigan. A past president of The Minikahda

Club, as well as member at Woodhill Country Club, Corrigan was determined to do whatever it took to not only get the MGA back on its feet again, but thriving as a vital part of Minnesota golf. The story of Corrigan's rise to prominence in Minnesota golf circles is truly inspirational.

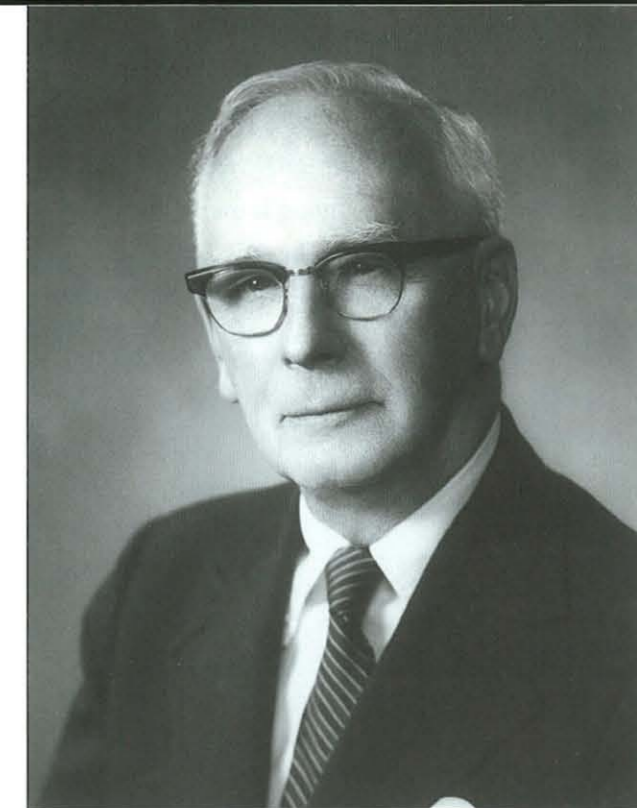
Corrigan grew up in a family of modest means and caddied as a youngster at The Minikahda Club in order to help his family make ends meet. One summer afternoon in

"The smartest decision the board made during those years was that there was not going to be any difference between a private club and a public club. Everybody is a golfer and any club can join the organization." —WARREN REBHOLZ

1930, Totton Heffelfinger was heading to Rochester Country Club to play in the State Amateur, but his caddie didn't show up. Reportedly, Heffelfinger said to Minikahda's head golf professional, Bob Taylor, "Get me a kid off the caddy bench over there." Fritz Corrigan was given the nod and his life would never be the same.

He not only ended up becoming Heffelfinger's regular caddie from that day forward, but the Heffelfinger family later helped put Corrigan through college at the University of Minnesota and then brought him up through the ranks of the family's business empire, the Peavy Company. He worked his way up at the company by honing his skills at the grain exchange on the trading floor before moving to Duluth to head the company's grain elevator division. He eventually moved back to Minneapolis and became president and later chairman of the board of the Peavy Company. He passed away recently, but his contributions to keeping the MGA a viable entity during some very dark days will not soon be forgotten.

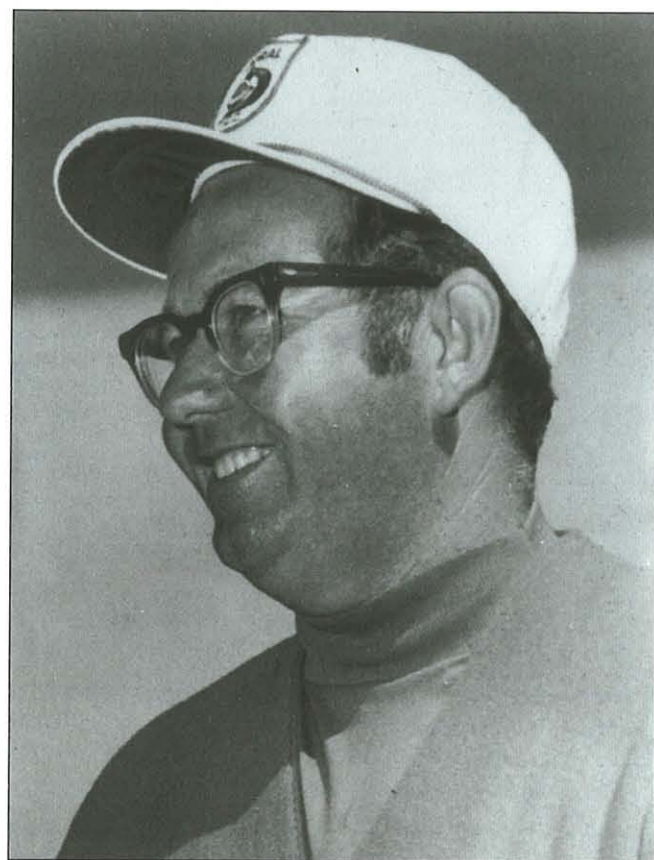
Corrigan was not the only one to step up to the plate in the latter part of the '50s in order to get the MGA back on track. Others included Heffelfinger, Morgan, Ed Rundell, Norm Anderson, the late Stewart McIntosh and former



Al Wareham, the MGA's second executive director, operated the association out of his office at the Milwaukee Railroad because the MGA couldn't afford office space of its own at the time.



Former MGA President John Turner, Fritz Corrigan, Gene Firmine and former MGA President Roger Gordon. Corrigan, who went from caddieing at The Minikahda Club to becoming CEO of the Peavy Company, was instrumental in getting the original Evans Scholars Chapter House built at the University of Minnesota in 1960.



Current ABC golf announcer, Bob Rosburg, captured the 1959 PGA Championship crown in exciting fashion at the Minneapolis Golf Club.

MGA Secretary Warren Rebholz. The board enacted major changes including establishing new bylaws. And, as mentioned previously, a concerted effort was made to build the association's membership by courting public courses and not just private entities. It was a critical initiative that helped the association stay afloat.

"During the middle '50s, we sat down and got this thing organized a lot tighter," says Rebholz, a longtime committeeman who got his start with the MGA in the late 1950s. "The smartest decision the board made during those years was that there was not going to be any difference between a private club and a public club. Everybody is a golfer and any club can join the organization. There wasn't going to be any 'private' in the organization. Every club would be treated the same." Their efforts worked. By the end of 1957 the association's roster had multiplied almost seven-fold from the year before to 53 member clubs. It was an impressive turnaround for an organization that had previously been on the edge of extinction because of lack of interest from the state's golf community.

As the MGA came out of hibernation, it was clear that the organization needed permanent office space, and someone to run the association on a daily basis. During prior years, the organization was literally run out of the trunk of Rebholz' car. His office was across the street from an MGA board member and the two used to get together in the parking lot to discuss golf business. In terms of finding a seasoned golf administrator, they found their man in Al Wareham, a native Minnesotan who brought nearly 30 years of experience to the board of directors.

Wareham, who initially served two terms as president of the MGA from 1958-1960 before becoming the organization's executive director, was born and raised in St. Paul. As a youngster, he caddied at Town and Country Club, which allowed him and other caddies to play on Mondays. Wareham, however, became a public course devotee, eventually honing his game at Glenwood Golf Club where he would later serve on the board of directors. In an article published some 25 years ago, Wareham jokingly recalled the funny looks he and his golfing buddies received when they hopped the streetcar with their golf bags slung over their



The former Evans Scholars Chapter House at the University of Minnesota was a home-away-from-home for numerous deserving caddies over the years. Ground was broken on a new chapter house in 2001.

shoulders en route to Glenwood for an afternoon round.

Wareham's career in the golf business was extensive prior to his involvement with the MGA. Beginning in 1931 he became secretary and then president of the Minnesota Public Links Association, as well as the state representative for the USGA. Then, in 1938, he was appointed to the board of the USGA's Public Links Committee, a position he would hold for 35 years. Remarkably, he attended 30 straight Public Links Championships.

When he took over as president of the MGA he was employed by the Milwaukee Railroad and ran the golf association out of his office. As mentioned, the MGA was operating on limited funds at the time, having little or no revenue stream. It was Wareham's job to try to come up with new avenues for the association to make money.

One means used was to raise membership rates for the over 50-plus member clubs. Private clubs with 18 holes of golf were charged \$20, up from \$10, while nine-hole private facilities and public courses were assessed \$10 by the MGA. Although not a drastic increase, it was a means to an end.

Three golf events of particular note highlighted the golf calendar during the late '50s. The first was the USA's 8-3 victory over the Great Britain and Ireland squad in the 1957 Walker Cup matches held at The Minikahda Club. Billy Joe Patton's exciting play helped Captain

Charlie Coe's team earn its eighth straight victory over the GB&I squad. The second was the Trans-Mississippi held in 1959 at Woodhill where a pudgy 19-year-old named Jack Nicklaus captured the title, defeating Deane Beman (who would go on to fame himself as a PGA tour player and later as commissioner of the PGA Tour) in the finals 3 & 2. Later that year, Nicklaus went on to capture the U.S. Amateur title at The Broadmoor in Colorado Springs by defeating, coincidentally, Charlie Coe. Finally, in 1959, 32-year-old Bob Rosburg overcame veteran Jerry Barber to capture the PGA Championship crown at the Minneapolis Golf Club. Rosburg carded a final round 66 to win by one stroke. A busy few years, indeed.

Those busy times continued into the 1960s. The state's annual tournaments drew full fields year after year and new courses, both public and private, came on line. While the MGA continually looked for additional ways to create revenues during this period, the organization held its

"Evans' dream of sending deserving caddies to college, which was fostered after his 1916 Open victory at Minikahda, finally became a reality in Minnesota."

own. In fact, any anxious moments at the beginning of the decade were forgotten momentarily as a much-anticipated ceremony took place.

On November 2, 1960, after considerable time and effort spent fund raising, the first Evans Scholar Chapter House was dedicated on the campus of the University of Minnesota. The college President, Dr. Wilson, Chick Evans and a number of dignitaries were on hand for the special occasion. Fritz Corrigan and Robert Morgan, Western Golf Association directors, were two people who had devoted a considerable amount of time and effort to see the chapter house become a reality. Evans' dream of sending deserving caddies to college, which was fostered four decades earlier after his 1916 Open victory at Minikahda, finally became a reality in Minnesota.



Minnesota's long tradition of hosting local and national amateur golf championships puts the state in a class by itself.



During the middle part of the '60s, the need to hire a full-time director clearly became a priority. And, although the association's membership roster topped out at 85 clubs by 1964, there was not enough money coming in the door to allow the association to achieve all that it desired. Board minutes indicate there was only a \$615 surplus at the end of the year.

After numerous committee meetings and much consideration, the board decided to bring on an executive director, who, coincidentally, was seated at their board table. On November 16, 1964, Al Wareham officially took over the reigns of the association. The board authorized a salary of \$100 per month with an expense limit of \$500 per year. His hiring proved to be an important step in keeping the association on track and helping it to follow through with its mission of promoting amateur golf in Minnesota.

MGA president Martin Stein started a program to increase revenues for the organization through a computerized handicap system. Prior to computerization, handicaps were calculated by using the old USGA slide rule. It was a tedious process that brought aggravated looks from handicap chairmen throughout the state. Remember, at that time there was no central handicap authority and clearing house.

Beginning in the mid-'60s, however, officials in Minnesota began to utilize the services of a Dallas-based corporation, Minimax, to calculate handicaps. Golf course members were charged an annual fee for the services with 50 percent of the proceeds going back to the MGA and the other half to Minimax. By July of 1966, nine Minnesota clubs and approximately 2,000 golfers had signed up for the program. Two years later that number had increased to 30 clubs and by 1970 some 55 clubs and over 12,500 individuals were on the system, bringing peace of mind to handicap chairmen and much-needed revenue to the MGA.

Tournament golf around the state continued to capture the headlines in local newspapers during this time. In 1964, Francis A. Gross Golf Club played host to the national Amateur Public Links Championship. Topeka's Bill McDonald captured the



title, besting Dean Wilson, Jr. of Omaha 5 & 3 in the finals. Of local note, six of the 15 Minnesotans entered in the tournament ended up qualifying for match play.

After officially opening its doors in 1962 and joining the MGA in 1963, Hazeltine National Golf Club hosted the 1965 Minnesota State Amateur championship. The tournament featured a stellar field including the likes of Interlachen's Neil Croonquist, Hazeltine's own Warren Rebholz, who made it to the quarterfinals before bowing to Ted Stark of Edina Country Club, and the eventual winner, Jim Archer. Archer, playing out of The Minikahda Club, topped Jim Hiniker of Hastings Country Club 3 & 2 in the finals.

A year later, Hazeltine National would be the focus of the entire golf world as it hosted the first of (to date) six USGA championships—the 1966 U.S. Women's Open Championship. The field included many of the day's top-ranked professionals including defending champion Carol Mann, Mickey Wright, Kathy Whitworth and Minnesota's own Patty Berg, who at age 48, was the oldest competitor in the field.



The name at the top of the leader board after the final round, however, was 29-year-old Sandra Spuzich, a native of Indiana. Fighting through intense heat, Spuzich conquered the long, arduous layout and Carol Mann by firing rounds of 75-74-76-72 for a four-round total 297—three over par. Only three players bested 300. For the record, Spuzich pocketed \$4,000 for the victory out of the \$20,680 pot—certainly a far cry from today's exorbitant purses.

By 1967, the State Amateur championship changed to a stroke-play format from match play. Additionally, Robert Magie, III of Northland Country Club, the winner of that year's tournament contested at Golden Valley Country Club, took home the first Totton P. Heffelfinger trophy. The trophy, given from that time forward to the winner of the MGA Amateur, was renamed in the honor of a man who helped put Minnesota golf on the map.

By 1968, the MGA was on the cutting edge of the





Warren Rebholz, affectionately known as "Rebbie," has done more for the game of golf in Minnesota and the MGA than probably anyone else in recent memory.

course rating business being the first to use the modified yardage rating system. According to Warren Rebholz, courses in Minnesota were rated on a total yardage basis versus a hole-by-hole standard. The system being used by the MGA was designed to be the most accurate of its kind. By the end of that year over 132 courses in the state had been rated. By 1969 membership dues were raised to \$25 per club and revenue for the year was approximately \$15,000—a vast increase from only a few years earlier. The MGA survived—and was now poised to thrive heading into the 1970s.

THE MODERN ERA — 1970-2001

While an exciting time for area golfers, the decade of the '70s proved to be one of change for the association on the management front. Warren J. Rebholz took over the reigns of the organization and left an indelible mark on the game of golf in Minnesota. More member clubs came on board, junior golf got a large boost and Minnesota again showed its commitment to showcasing the state and nation's top golfers as numerous local and national tournaments graced the golf calendar.

In 1970, the U.S. Open championship returned to Minnesota for the first time in 40 years when Hazeltine National was given the nod by the United States Golf Association. The record crowds that made their way to Chaska were rewarded with a terrific tournament that saw 25-year-old Englishman and reigning British Open champion Tony Jacklin capture the crown.

As the game grew in popularity in Minnesota, the MGA grew in stature, servicing the needs of legions of new golfers. The association's directors realized that new blood and a new vision were paramount for the organization in order for it to maintain its high level of service performance. The man they turned to was long-time committeeman Warren J. Rebholz. His passion for the game combined with his knowledge of the local golf community made him an ideal candidate.

Born and raised in St. Paul, Rebholz had the golf bug in his veins from an early age. Educated at St. Thomas

College and an avid baseball and basketball junkie, he turned to golf and honed his skills at Highland Park Golf Course, just two miles from his home. A fair competitor, he qualified for two U.S. Public Links Championships and

"As the game grew in popularity in Minnesota, the MGA grew in stature, servicing the needs of legions of new golfers."

one U.S. Mid-Amateur, as well as successfully competed on the local level at the State Public Links, Amateur and the MGA Four-Ball.

He eventually joined the men's club at Highland Park, became its president and then president of the Minnesota Public Golf Association. Although he spent 22 years in the publishing business, his true life's work has been helping the golfers of the Minnesota for half a century. "All my training for going to work for the golf association was with amateur golf," he says. "I became president of the Minnesota Public Golf Association and that's when I got on the board of the Minnesota Golf Association. It was kind of a series of events there."

In the early '70s, the size of the MGA operation and its annual budget were not near what it is today. "Back in those days this was not a big job," recalls Rebholz. "There were no big staffs, so it was myself, a secretary and a bunch of volunteers. They [MGA board] all recognized this was a small peanuts thing that had to be nurtured and brought along. My objective was to put it on a business-like basis as much as I could, organize it and bring in the service aspect with that small staff. We wanted to bring it to a point where we were recognized as the leader in golf in Minnesota."

By 1973, the association boasted 200 member clubs—a tribute to the dedication and sacrifice of a determined board of directors. That same year the very first issue of the *Minnesota Golfer* rolled off the press—a publication started



The University of Minnesota golf program proved to be a great training ground for many of the state's golf standouts including Les Bolstad, Pat Sawyer, John Harris, Tom Lehman and Dave Haberle, just to name a few.



The 70th U.S. Open, contested at Hazeltine National Golf Club, was the club's second major, following the 1966 U.S. Women's Open, in its young eight-year history to that point.



Without a doubt, Minnesota has been home to some of the nation's best women golfers and women's championships.

by Rebholz and designed to create a line of communication between the association and its members. He cajoled and convinced member clubs at the time to give him their mailing lists so he could "get the MGA's word out." Starting out with a distribution of only a few thousand, today the magazine, which is published bi-monthly, reaches more than 70,000 households and is a major marketing instrument for the MGA.

In 1974, Minnesota's junior golf program kicked into high gear. Sponsored in part by the MGA and member clubs, 114 boys teams and 65 girls teams were organized into a league that gave youngsters an opportunity to play the game while also learning the rules and golf etiquette. Two decades later, 192 teams composed of some 1,300 boys and girls were fortunate enough to be part of this unique program.

The youngsters were not the only ones having fun and success on the links. In 1975, Dr. Bob Harris and son John

took top honors at the National Father-Son Tournament at the Country Club of North Carolina in Pinehurst. Interestingly, the elder Harris, along with his four sons, captured 11 Father-Son titles at Town and Country Club in St. Paul—winning six consecutively at one point. Bunker Hills Golf Course in Coon Rapids was the site of the 51st National Amateur Public Links Championship in 1976, won by 22-year-old Eddie Mudd, brother of former PGA tour player Jodie Mudd. They are only one of two sets of brothers to ever win the APL Championship. In 1977, Georgian Hollis Stacy fended off veteran Jo Ann Carner and rookie sensation Nancy Lopez to capture the 1977 U.S. Women's Open crown at Hazeltine National—the first of Stacy's three Open titles. And not to be outdone, that same year Minnesotan Kathy Williams was a finalist in the very first National Women's Public Links Championship. Besides being named an All-American at the University of Minnesota in 1981 and the number one player on the

Gopher squad, she was also the first woman recipient of an Evans Scholarship at the University.

The decade culminated with Hawaiian Lori Castillo defeating former North Branch resident Becky Pearson at the 1979 U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links at Braemar. In June of that year, native Jerilyn "Jeri" Britz conquered the field and the course at Brooklawn Country Club in Fairfield, Connecticut, at the U.S. Women's Open. Not a bad decade on the tournament front for Minnesota and its top golfers.

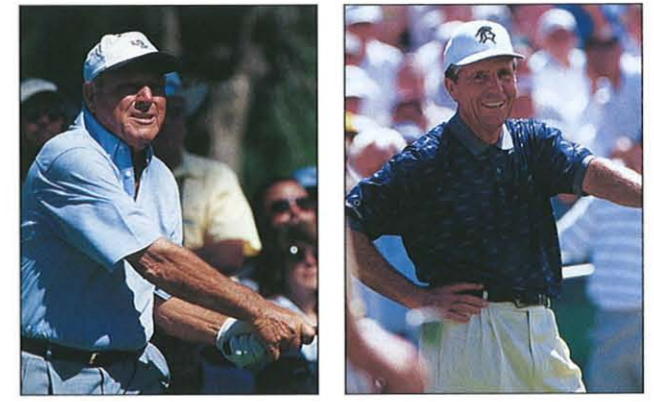
Minnesota has fostered its share of champion golfers over the years and few have shone more brightly than Tim Herron, who got his start competing in the inaugural Minnesota-Manitoba Junior Cup Matches in 1981. This annual event, contested alternately each year in either Minnesota or Canada, has showcased some truly outstanding golf talent during the past 20 years.

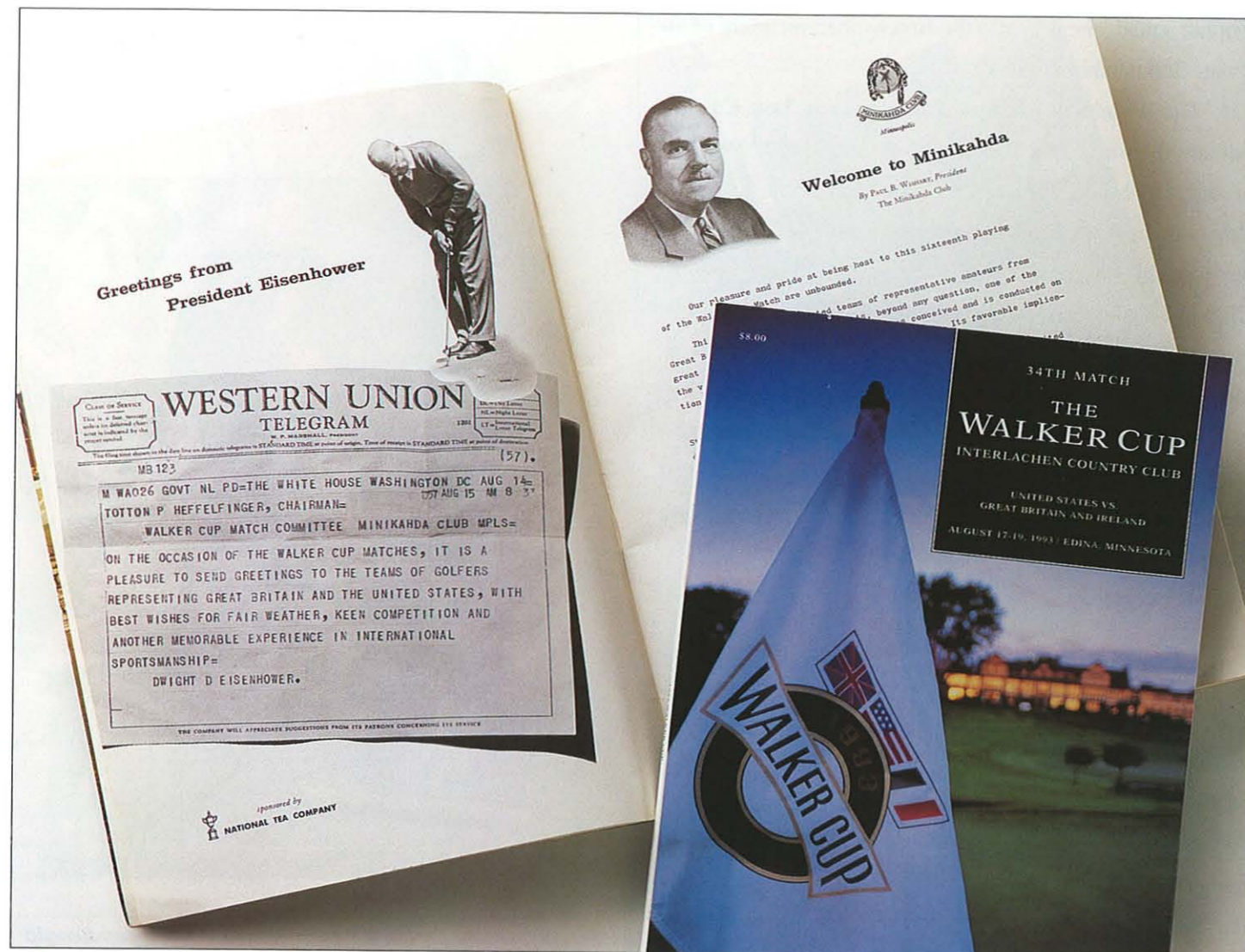
According to 1982 MGA board minutes, the organization was "in excellent financial condition." A total of 985 Minnesotans had contributed to the Par Club to benefit the Evans Scholarship program and 253 Evans scholars to date had graduated from the University of Minnesota. In addition the W.R. "Ray" Smith Award was officially established honoring the organization's first executive secretary. The award was given to that person (or persons) who made a significant contribution to the game of golf in Minnesota.

On the national tournament front in the '80s, Minnesota hosted five events—among them the 1983 U.S. Senior Open at Hazeltine National and the U.S. Women's Amateur at the Minikahda Club. Former U.S. Open and Masters champion Billy Casper survived the blistering heat and humidity to defeat Californian Rod Funseth in the 1983 U.S. Senior Open. Tied after 72 holes, an 18-hole playoff (in which each shot 75) failed to produce a winner and the duo went on to sudden death. On the 19th extra hole, Casper rolled in a birdie putt that ended the longest playoff in Senior Open history and gave Casper his only Senior Open title. Then, in 1988, Korea-native Pearl Sinn took Minnesota by storm as she cruised to a 6 & 5 victory over Karen Noble at the U.S. Women's Amateur, contested at The Minikahda Club.



Minnesotan Chris Perry, above, as well as Arnold Palmer and Gary Player, have been longtime supporters of the annual Dayton's Challenge hosted by Tom Lehman.





The state's golf enthusiasts have had the good fortune to witness some riveting international amateur competition at two Walker Cup's including in 1957 at The Minikahda Club and in 1993 at Interlachen Country Club.

On the local scene during the decade, PGA Tour player Chris Perry, a 22-year-old former Big 10 champion and Collegiate Player of the Year at Ohio State, became, in 1983, the first Minnesotan since Jimmy Johnston in 1929 to make it to the finals of the U.S. Amateur at the North Shore CC in Glen View, Illinois. Although he fell to veteran Jay Sigel, Perry put the golf world on notice that he could compete against the best.

A year after Jody Rosenthal won the British Ladies Amateur championship at Royal Troon GC in 1984, Jim Sorenson of Bloomington handily won the 1985 National Public Links Championship 12 & 11—the most lopsided

victory in that event in the tournament's 79-year history.

By 1989, the MGA's financial woes of decades earlier were a distant memory. Revenues had risen steadily through the hard work and foresight of the association's directors and staff. The Associate membership base in the organization had increased to over 72,000 and almost 100 applicants had to be turned away from that year's State Mid-Amateur championship because of the number of entries. Plans were also in place to increase the circulation of the *Minnesota Golfer* ten-fold over the following decade.

Golf's popularity in Minnesota continued to soar in the early 1990s even as the country was focused on the Gulf War in the Middle East. The year 1990 was significant as it heralded the 75th anniversary of the Minnesota Women's Golf Association—an allied partner of the MGA. The MWGA continues to play a vital role in the promotion of women's golf in the state.

Heading into its ninth decade, the MGA's top priorities included expanding the office staff, introducing the electronic option into the MGA's handicap service, re-rating up to 100 courses a year and aggressively pursuing an outreach program to clubs outside of the Twin Cities. These vital initiatives helped the MGA fulfill its mission of preserving and protecting the integrity of the game in Minnesota. Unfortunately, most of these programs would have to be implemented under a new regime at the MGA.

After a 20-year run as the association's guiding hand, Warren Rebholz retired in 1992. A man of great integrity who devoted his life to Minnesota golf, Rebholz' departure clearly marked the end of an era. "Once I got working for the MGA, it became my whole life," he recalls fondly. "I had a passion for the game and got a lot of satisfaction out of doing a tournament really well. I've always tried to have fun all the way along the line, and I've preached that. This is a game and you're supposed to have fun. We're selling



Jim Sorenson and Les Bolstad are the only two Minnesotans to capture the prestigious National Amateur Public Links title. Bolstad was victorious in 1926 and Sorenson in 1985.

Brenda Corrie Kuehn and teammate Kellee Booth led the American side to victory at the 30th Curtis Cup competition held at The Minikahda Club in 1998.





Reed Mackenzie of Chaska, president of the MGA from 1988-1990, is actively involved in golf on the national scene currently serving as vice president of the United States Golf Association.



Julie Sprau's vision for the MGA and her goal-oriented management style have put the association on a solid track as it heads into its second 100 years.

recreation and relaxation and we have to look like we are having fun, too." Fortunately for the MGA, Rebholz is still actively involved today in running the MGA Senior Tour.

Finding a successor for Rebholz was not an easy task considering the legacy he had left. The search committee, however, didn't have to look far. Ross Galarneault, Rebholz' former assistant, brought an intimate knowledge of the Minnesota golf scene to the position—a critical "must" for the job.

Minnesota golfers continued to showcase their talents during the decade. Tom Lehman captured his second consecutive State Open title in 1990. Jim Stuart, son of former Northland Country Club professional Ev Stuart, captured the 10th U.S. Mid-Amateur title in 1990 at Troon Golf & Country Club defeating Mark Sollenberger 1-up. He defended his title a year later at the Long Cove Club in Hilton Head winning by the same margin. In 1993, Interlachen Country Club played host to the Walker Cup matches where Minnesotan's John Harris and Tim Herron

led the U.S. team to victory in a 19-5 drubbing of the Great Britain and Ireland team. It was the second time the state had hosted this international event—the first being in 1957 at The Minikahda Club. And in 1997 Minnesotans Harris, Joe Stansberry and Terry O'Loughlin captured the USGA State Team Championship held in Fountain Hills, Arizona.

In 1998, after a five-year tenure as executive director of the MGA, Ross Galarneault resigned and Julie L. Sprau was named executive director and chief operating officer. An attorney and financial analyst, Sprau got her start in the golf arena volunteering for the MWGA—an organization her mother was president of on two occasions. After working with the MWGA in the area of strategic planning, she caught the eye of the MGA and was brought on in July of 1997 in the same capacity. Besides becoming a director and member of the management committee, she was made chairwoman of the legal and bylaws committee and then secretary-treasurer.

Sprau realizes that for the MGA to continue to flourish



The MGA staff. (Standing, left to right) Paula Lutz, Anne Colehour, Ray Book, Staci Spade, Brett Mills, Stacey Kyes, Linda Magnuson, Amy Miller and Dan Raymond. (Seated) Lisa Overom, W.P. Ryan, Julie L. Sprau, Warren J. Rebholz and Steven E. Randall.

in the new millenium, the organization must uphold its vision statement and follow its strategic agenda. Maintaining the MGA's integrity and strong reputation while also building the membership base is Sprau's charge, and she is more than qualified to lead the organization as it begins its next 100 years. She openly shows her passion and commitment for the MGA. "The people involved in the MGA from its inception have been passionate about the game of golf and about Minnesota," she says. "The MGA's volunteers bleed green. I'm sure of it. I think the commitment these people have for the association and the state is what makes the MGA so special. The people involved in

the association look to the future in order to find ways to make the association better."

As the MGA celebrates its centennial in 2001, the association's directors, staff, volunteers and the golfers in Minnesota, can be proud of its enduring legacy. The state can also be proud of its forefathers, as well as current officials, who continue to preserve the game's traditions for future generations. Minnesota has set the bar for others to reach.

CREATIVE GENIUSES

THE GOLF COURSE ARCHITECTS

BY CHARLES C. MAHAR — *Centennial Book Chairman*

THE FOUNDATION OF GOLF IN MINNESOTA is a strong one. And we have enjoyed enduring benefits from our auspicious beginnings. Nowhere is this more conspicuous than in the great golf courses created in the early part of the 20th century that continue to dot the Minnesota landscape. The golf course architects who plied their trade on Minnesota soil were some of the biggest names in the history of the game. Donald Ross, Seth Raynor and A.W. Tillinghast, just to name a few, all left their indelible stamps on some of the game's greatest — and in some cases, most underrated — venues.

The collective creative genius of these gentlemen helped fostered great golfing traditions, as well as high expectations in the state. Their contributions also provided a significant historical influence and the brief profiles that follow are a starting point in telling their story. A special thanks for this chapter must go to golf course architects Geoffrey Cornish and Ron Whitten as much of the following material was gleaned from their book, "The Architects of Golf."

THE EARLY YEARS

Golf course architecture in the United States in the early part of the 20th century was led by a highly influential generation of Scotsmen and Englishmen, who brought the traditions of the game with them from their homeland. More than any other segment of society, these gentlemen helped to create interest in the game in the United States while also initially fostering the proliferation of rudimentary courses.

While the game was in its formative years in this country, these craftsmen were able to build fine courses on relatively modest means. Granted, many of the courses were not polished works of art but remember, these gentlemen had limited resources at their disposal. There were no large earthmoving machines, so consequently everything was done by horse and plow. What's most important to remember about these golf pioneers is that they established a solid foundation for the game in the United States that has grown to epic proportions



Besides being an accomplished course architect, James Foulis was also a pretty fair golfer, winning the second U.S. Open in 1896 at Shinnecock Hills.

over the past century. We owe them a debt of gratitude.

One of the first notable architects in the annals of Minnesota golf was Willie Watson. Immigrating to the United States from Scotland in 1898, Watson helped Robert Foulis create the original nine holes at The Minikahda Club. He remained at Minikahda as the golf professional and greenskeeper for many years and did early layouts for both Interlachen Country Club and the White Bear Yacht Club. On the national scene he was also involved in creating Olympia Fields in Chicago, as well as Coronado Golf Club in San Diego.

Tom Bendelow was another designer of this era who learned the game as a boy in his native Aberdeen, Scotland. Bendelow moved to the United States in 1885 and within 10 years was laying out courses around the vicinity of New York City. He even took on the job of managing Van Cortland Park Golf Course in the Bronx, which happened to be the very first municipal course in the United States. On the other end of the spectrum, he is also credited with designing Bobby Jones' East Lake in Atlanta in 1910 and Somerset Hills in New Jersey. In Minnesota, Bendelow was involved in laying out Edina Country Club (formerly Thorpe Country Club), Northland Country Club in Duluth in 1912 and the Minneapolis Golf Club in 1917. Interestingly, Bendelow is reportedly credited with developing the first system of reserved starting times during peak periods. (Would it not be more poetic to refer to making a "Bendelow" than to making a tee time)?

Two other architects who made names for themselves at this time were Robert and James Foulis who actually grew up at the "home of golf," St. Andrews. A published article from 1900 supplied by Laird F. Miller of Bloomington who is Robert Foulis' grandson, reveals that the brothers' father, James Sr., worked as a foreman of Old Tom Morris' golf shop in St. Andrews for some 40 years. Eventually, the legendary "Aul Tam," taught the Foulis boys the finer points of the game. James obviously took the advice to heart as he ended up capturing the second U.S. Open crown in 1896 at Long Island's Shinnecock Hills. He also served as the first golf professional at the Chicago Golf Club—a course designed by Charles Blair Macdonald.

Like many other players of that era, the Foulis brothers also took a stab at course design—with amazing success. Among national courses of note that came off their drawing board include Illinois' Onwentsia Club (1896), Bellerive in St. Louis (1898) and the Denver (Colo.) Country Club (1902). Town and Country Club, Minikahda (which they completed with Willie Watson) and Meadowbrook Golf Club were all Minnesota courses that benefited from the Foulis' design expertise.

THE GOLDEN AGE OF GOLF COURSE DESIGN

During the Roaring '20s, there was a generation of golf course architects that stood out as giants of their craft. Collectively, their achievements amount to a golden age of golf course design. They entered the golf course design business at a favorable time as the game's popularity at that time increased dramatically. Additionally, the country was going through an economic resurgence combined with the fact that golf course construction technology was on the cutting edge for that time period. Minnesota boasts an embarrassment of riches of their work.

One of these architects was Donald Ross, who was born in Dornoch, Scotland, in 1872. From the time the young Scotsman arrived in America in 1898 with two dollars in his pocket, until he died 50 years later in 1948, Ross designed an estimated 600 golf courses—a prodigious output by any standard. Yet Ross' prolific portfolio was clearly outweighed by his brilliance. Said Jack Nicklaus of Ross, "Other architects lead a player to negative thinking. Donald Ross courses lead to positive thinking. They are natural. His courses were not designed so that the natural terrain had to undergo changes to get the stamp of the architect. He used what was available and did it naturally." Nicklaus' words are an accurate reflection of the Ross philosophy of design which was that God created golf holes and that it was up to the architect to find them. And no one found them better than the Scotsman from Dornoch.

In 1899, a Harvard University professor visiting Dornoch recruited Ross to move to Boston to become a



Donald Ross left his mark on numerous Minnesota landmarks including White Bear Yacht Club, Woodhill Country Club, The Minikahda Club, Interlachen Country Club and Northland Country Club, just to name a few.



club professional and superintendent at Oakley Country Club. It was there that Ross became acquainted with the Tufts family who convinced him to relocate to Pinehurst, North Carolina, where the family was developing a new resort. Little did Ross know how his life was about to change.

Ross left his mark on Pinehurst and in the process ascended to a level of fame he might have thought never possible. He was the one responsible for building Pinehurst numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 beginning in 1901. After the golf community realized his genius, developers from all around the country sought his design expertise. Ross was a prolific designer putting his stamp on Oak Hill (1923), Seminole (1926) and such Minnesota classics as White Bear Yacht Club (1915), Woodhill (1916), Minikahda (remodel 1917), Interlachen (remodel 1919) and Northland (new 1927).

According to authors Cornish and Whitten, "Ross' style incorporated naturalness and a links touch derived from his Dornoch background. He sculpted his greens with a characteristic style that molded putting contours into existing terrain while also putting a premium on short recovery shots." He was truly a one-of-a-kind.

Seth Raynor was another aficionado who also worked his magic in Minnesota at this time. He was certainly well equipped for the golf course design field as he earned a degree in engineering from Princeton University. Following college, he started a surveying and landscaping business and then transitioned into golf course design in 1908 after being hired by the legendary architect Charles Blair MacDonald to assist in surveying a plot of land that later became The National Golf Links of America. In 1915, after

overseeing the construction The National, Raynor and Macdonald formed a partnership. According to Cornish and Whitten, over the next decade, they collaborated on some 100 courses.

After learning the nuances of course design, Raynor went on to complete such notable facilities as Illinois' Shoreacres (1921), Fox Chapel Golf Club in Pennsylvania (1925) and the venerable Yeaman's Hall Club in Charleston, South Carolina (1925). Minnesota courses of note are Midland Hills (1915), Somerset CC (1920) and the University of Minnesota course (1921).

Completing the triumvirate of well known architects from this era was A.W. Tillinghast, who was born in Philadelphia in 1874. Known in his day as "Tillie the Terror," he was a master of his craft, as well as a pretty fair golfer. By the age of 33, he had formed a design and construction firm that made him a wealthy man.

Tillinghast had a knack for designing courses that were not only of championship caliber, but were the stuff golf course superintendent's dream about, as well. They combined playability and maintainability in a way that remains virtually unmatched by the courses of any other architect, before or since. He favored large teeing areas and carefully contoured fairways, though he seemed to devote a special amount of attention to the design of his greens. They were large on holes that require a long iron approach and postage-stamp-sized on holes that call for a short-iron approach. They are also invariably guarded with well-placed bunkers. In addition, proper drainage was something on the order of a passion for Tillinghast, so much so that he listed greens that didn't drain properly among his "Seven Deadly Sins of Golf Course Architecture."

At the height of his career he created such monumental layouts as the San Francisco Golf Club (1915), Baltusrol (1922), Winged Foot (1923) and Bethpage (designed in 1936 and host to the 2002 U.S. Open). Minnesota courses to his credit include Golden Valley (1924) and Rochester (1925). The good times for Tillinghast ended, however, around the time of The Depression. Bad investments and a failed attempt at selling antique furniture left him practically destitute. He never designed another course and died in 1942.



Seth Raynor went from operating a landscaping company to creating masterpiece golf courses under the watchful eye of the legendary designer Charles Blair MacDonald.

MODERN STANDOUTS

In the sustained prosperity that followed World War II, golf experienced one of its greatest booms. The number of Minnesota courses grew dramatically and the most prominent architects of that era did some of their best work in Minnesota.

Stanley Thompson was one of those architects. Born in Scotland in 1894, Thompson ended up crossing the Atlantic on his way to Canada with his family during the years before the outbreak of WWI. He tried his hand in the golf course design business in the early 1920s. After completing a few moderate layouts he scored big with two of his most well known Canadian courses, Jasper Park Lodge Golf Club (1925) and the Banff Springs Hotel Golf Club (1927). These courses made Thompson a household name in Canada and he was presented with numerous other projects as a consequence. Minnesota work included North Oaks in the 1950s along with a remodel of Somerset CC.

One aspect of his character that shown through was the fact that many of the assistants he so diligently trained went on to become some of the giants of golf course design including the illustrious Robert Trent Jones. The two eventually formed Thompson, Jones and Company before Thompson's death in 1952. This charter member and past president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects contributions to the game won't soon be forgotten.

What can be said about Robert Trent Jones, Sr., that hasn't already been mentioned? Put simply, he is probably the most prolific golf course architect in history. His over 450 layouts throughout the United States and abroad make him the godfather of course design.

Born in England in 1906, he moved to this country five years later and immediately took up golf. He was a scratch golfer as a teenager and later turned his avocation into a career. His studies at Cornell University led him into the design business where he was a quick study under his partner Stanley Thompson. Jones' philosophy was that "every hole should be a hard par but an easy bogey."

By the mid-1960s, Jones was at the top of his profession and was heralded by such authoritative golf writers as



Reportedly, A.W. Tillinghast completely redesigned Rochester Golf & Country Club in part as a wedding present for his daughter who had married a doctor from the Mayo Clinic.

Herbert Warren Wind thereby catapulting Jones' career. He also was retained by many prestigious clubs that hosted major championships to offer his design expertise including a remodel of Augusta National, Peachtree Golf Club (with Robert Tyre Jones, Jr. in 1948), as well as Minnesota gems such as Hazeltine National and a remodel of Interlachen, both in 1962. One of his last projects was the massive Robert Trent Jones Trail of Golf, a series of courses in Alabama. Jones' two sons, Robert Jr., and Rees, both followed in their father's footsteps.

CONTEMPORARIES

The decade of the 1990s and beyond has represented a maturity for golf and an economic prosperity in Minnesota that would have been unimaginable a century before. The supply of new high-end courses has grown at an astonishing pace in order to meet today's unprecedented demand.

A host of nationally prominent architects left their marks on Minnesota's fairways. This illustrious list includes Jack Nicklaus' Bearpath Golf and Country Club completed in 1996, Arnold Palmer's Deacon's Lodge and Deacon's Run in 1999 and 2000, respectively, Robert T. Jones, Jr.'s Edinburgh USA (1987) and Legacy at Craguns (2000), Rees Jones' Dakota Ridge (2000) and Tom Fazio's Spring Hill.

On the local scene architects such as Joel Goldstrand, who played on the PGA Tour during the 1960s before serving as head golf professional at Minneapolis Golf Club, later moved into the golf course design business on a full-time basis. Other homegrown Minnesota designers include the late Tom Vardon, as well as Paul Coates and Don Herfort. Whether legendary architects of the past or the new breed of today's designers, Minnesota has been fortunate to have had these geniuses carve their skills into the earth of numerous Minnesota courses.



Of all of the modern day architects, Robert Trent Jones, Sr. was at the head of the class. Hazeltine National Golf Club and a remodel of Interlachen Country Club were just two Minnesota gems that emanated from his drawing board.

COURSES OF DISTINCTION

TWENTY MINNESOTA MASTERPIECES

MINNESOTA GOLFERS ARE SPOILED when it comes to the variety of courses they have the opportunity of playing. The older, more established clubs in and around the Twin Cities combine with the wooded and rugged layouts in the northwest part of the state to form a varied group of challenging and enjoyable layouts. Mix in the courses in the northeast near Lake Superior down to the southeast in and around Rochester, and the state boasts some of the most diverse and challenging golf to be found anywhere in the country. While there are more than 450 courses in Minnesota, we had the difficult task of selecting just 20 clubs that we felt represented a cross-section of some of the state's jewels. Like the rest of the state's courses, these 20 have also played an important role in the history of Minnesota golf and the Minnesota Golf Association.

The information for each of the vignettes was gleaned from each club's commemorative history books or similar collateral material. And all 20 clubs certainly have their own stories to tell. Play away!

Year Founded: 1888

Golf Course Architects:
Robert Foulis/George McCree

Head Pro: Terry Hogan

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN'S RED TEES:
73.9/132 5726 yds.

WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:
76.1/137 6121 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:
70.2/127 6121 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:
71.0/129 6295 yds.

Major Tournaments:
1951 U.S. Women's Amateur



TOWN AND COUNTRY CLUB

Town and Country Club holds a unique place in Minnesota golfing lore. It was here in the late 1800s that golf got its start in the state. And like other clubs in Minnesota and around the country, it has also witnessed its share of ups and downs.

According to the club's history, "After golf was introduced in 1893, the Town and Country Club enjoyed a long period of growth and prosperity that lasted through the 1920s. These were days when a member could call the club in the morning and order a fresh trout for that evening. "Old Tom" Williams or Eddie Marshall, two longtime club employees, would catch the fish in a deep, well-stocked pool of the creek that springs up in the golf course. Members found this stretch along the stream refreshingly cool in the summertime as they sat on the patio sipping Old Tom's renowned mint juleps.

"This happy period ended, however, with the Depression of the 1930s. Membership declined from some

600 to about 150—a level the club was able to maintain largely by offering free memberships and waiving dues for six months. As the hard times of the 1930s became the war years of the 1940s, the low ebb continued. The club, however, managed to hang on despite the difficulties. As peace resumed after the war, people everywhere looked to the future with fresh hope and new ideas. For the members of Town and Country Club, peace brought the beginning of a new era with members ready to revitalize their club." Now, some 50 years later, it's clear the club has not only survived but thrived as it ascended to its rightful place among the top clubs in the state.

Year Founded: 1889

Golf Course Architect:
Donald Ross

Head Pro: Eric Peterson

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN'S RED TEES:
73.6/134 5633 yds.

WOMEN'S GOLD TEES:
74.8/137 5849 yds.

WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:
77.1/141 6266 yds.

MEN'S GOLD TEES:
69.8/131 5849 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:
71.6/135 6266 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:
72.5/137 6471 yds.



WHITE BEAR YACHT CLUB

While sailing has long been a mainstay at the venerable White Bear Yacht Club, golf has been king at this regal club located on the shores of White Bear Lake.

According to the club's centennial history, White Bear Yacht Club was founded in 1889 by a close-knit circle of St. Paul blue bloods—many of whom were from the East Coast. They were business tycoons, railroad magnates, lumbermen, bankers, lawyers and politicians. Names such as Ordway, Hill, Drake, Lightner, O'Brien, Weyerhaeuser, Hannaford and Griggs dotted the club's membership roster. And did they ever have a passion for the game of golf.

Donald Ross was hired to design the club's original holes in 1912 and Tom Vardon, brother of renowned champion Harry Vardon, was the club's head golf professional from 1916-1938. According to club member and golf historian Mark Mammel, Tom Vardon was quite an accomplished player himself. Legend has it that Vardon didn't understand why so many members had a tough time

with the course's par-3 17th hole. To prove that the hole was reachable, he purportedly pulled a driver out of his bag and drove the green. He then proceeded to hit the green with a brassie, a spoon—all the way down to the putter. He wasn't finished, however. Much to one member's amazement, who supposedly witnessed the entire episode, Vardon finally teed up a ball and using the small stiff golf bag, belted the ball on the green! This and other stories make White Bear Yacht Club truly one-of-a-kind.

Year Founded: 1898

Golf Course Architects:
Robert Foulis/Willie Watson/
Donald Ross

Head Pro: Doug Nelson

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:

76.9/143 6410 yds.

MEN'S GREEN TEES:

68.6/129 5838 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:

71.1/135 6410 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:

72.3/137 6660 yds.

Major Tournaments:

1916 U. S. Open

1927 U.S. Amateur

1957 Walker Cup Matches

1988 U.S. Women's Amateur

1998 Curtis Cup Matches



THE MINIKAHDA CLUB

The Minikahda Club and golf tradition. How can you possibly mention one without the other? This club has not only hosted numerous local and national events but it also witnessed one of the most altruistic gestures ever made by any individual in golf history. The club's centennial book says it best.

"It was June 30, 1916—the final round of the U.S. Open Championship at The Minikahda Club. Amateur golfer Charles "Chick" Evans of Chicago stood on the 12th tee (now no. 13) approximately 250 yards from the green deciding how to hit his shot on the par 5 hole. Evans knew he needed a birdie. He pulled out his hickory-shafted brassie, swung and hit the ball on the green. A birdie and ultimately a victory in the U.S. Open ensued. At the awards ceremony following his victory he made the decision (at the suggestion of his mother) to contribute his winnings to establish a college scholarship fund for caddies. (At that time an amateur could donate his winnings to a charitable

purpose and retain his amateur status). Thus began the Evans Scholarship Program, which provides full tuition and housing for qualified caddies to attend college.

"In the 85 years since Chick Evans made this momentous decision at Minikahda, more than 6,000 caddies nationally, including more than 400 from Minnesota have graduated from college on the Evans Scholarship Program and approximately 850 Evans Scholars nationally, including about 50 from Minnesota, attend college each year. All because of a successful 250-yard shot taken by Chick Evans at Minikahda on a sunny day in 1916."

Year Founded: 1899

Golf Course Architect:
Donald Ross

Head Pro: Joseph M. O'Connor

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN'S RED TEES:

73.6/138 5607 yds.

WOMEN'S GOLD TEES:

75.3/140 5904 yds.

WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:

78.6/147 6498 yds.

MEN'S GOLD TEES:

69.7/132 5904 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:

72.4/135 6498 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:

73.7/137 6785 yds.

Major Tournaments:

1956 U.S. Women's Open



NORTHLAND COUNTRY CLUB

Northland Country Club may be off the beaten path up along the shores of Lake Superior in Duluth but it is clearly one of Minnesota's crown jewels. One visit to these hallowed grounds will convince any skeptic.

Founded in 1899, Northland's original nine-hole course was sketched out by member Ward Ames Jr. Maintenance of the course in those early years consisted of a flock of sheep employed to keep the course playable. As the game became more popular over the ensuing two decades, the membership determined that a new 18-hole course was needed. Golf course architect Willie Watson, who had been recommended to the club by the renowned Donald Ross, submitted plans for a new layout. The members, however, wanted Ross to design their course, which he did in 1922. The new course opened to much fanfare five years later.

Northland Country Club members have had the benefit of learning from eight outstanding golf professionals over

its 102-year history—the current pro being Joe O'Connor. They include J. Moffett, M.W. Lawrence, Willie Leith, Dick Clarkson, George Carney and Harold Clasen. One particularly well-loved pro was Ev Stuart, who served the membership so ably from 1954-1987. Says Stuart, "Northland is as good a test of golf as you'll see anywhere." He is certainly not the only one who feels this way.

Through the efforts of such current and former members as Bernard Ridder Jr, Leo Spooner, Harry Zinsmaster, Bob Congdon, J.S. Patrick, Ed Fuller and John Staver, Northland Country Club has assured its place as a one of the top courses in Minnesota and the Midwest. There can be no doubt about it.



Year Founded: 1911
Golf Course Architect:
 Donald Ross
Head Pro: Jock Olson
Course Rating/Slope & Yardage
 WOMEN'S YELLOW TEES:
 75.3/139 5890 yds.
 WOMEN'S WOOD TEES:
 78.7/146 6497 yds.
 MEN'S YELLOW TEES:
 69.5/134 5890 yds.
 MEN'S WOOD TEES:
 72.3/139 6497 yds.
 MEN'S BLACK TEES:
 73.8/142 6829 yds.
Major Tournaments:
 1930 U.S. Open
 1935 U.S. Women's Amateur
 1986 USGA Senior Amateur
 1993 Walker Cup Matches



INTERLACHEN COUNTRY CLUB

Interlachen. Just the name conjures up an image of authority, of a certain respect shared by golfers the world over. Since it's inception, the club has been at the center of golf's proudest traditions—in purity of design, individual accomplishment, and milestones of sport itself.

It all began in 1909 when a group of men from the Bryn Mawr Golf Club decided to form a club of their own. After much planning and searching for the right piece of property, the group dwindled to six serious golfers, including G.B. Bickelhaupt and Ransom G. Powell. The six pooled \$1,000 and bought an option on 146 acres of farmland on the outskirts of Minneapolis.

Although the story of the negotiation has been told many times, it bears repeating as it is part of the lore of the club. It seems that as part of the land negotiations, a payment of \$12,000 in legal tender, gold or gold certificates, was to be made to one of the farmers owning the land. To close the deal, Bickelhaupt and Powell took the streetcar to the farm

carrying a bag full of gold and gold certificates. The farmer had not yet accepted the idea of relinquishing his land to these golfing enthusiasts, so additional persuasion was in order. Finally he accepted the offer, but flatly refused to keep such a large amount of money at the farm that night. So what did Bickelhaupt and Powell do? Well, they did what any responsible club member would do—they returned to the city and sat up all night with a loaded shotgun in hand and waited for the banks to open in the morning!

The impromptu all-nighter was worth it. On December 31, 1909, the club was incorporated under the name Interlachen Country Club, the name being chosen because of its meaning: between lakes. In March of 1910, work began on the grounds and then later that year the clubhouse. Interlachen's formal opening occurred on July 29, 1911.

Less than 20 years later, Bobby Jones would take an important step toward completing the Grand Slam when he won the 1930 U.S. Open at the club.



Year Founded: 1914
Golf Course Architect:
 A.W. Tillinghast
Head Pro: Donald Fink
Course Rating/Slope & Yardage
 WOMEN'S RED TEES:
 73.1/138 5592 yds.
 WOMEN'S GOLD TEES:
 77.0/146 6264 yds.
 WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:
 78.1/148 6473 yds.
 MEN'S GOLD TEES:
 71.3/140 6264 yds.
 MEN'S WHITE TEES:
 72.3/142 6473 yds.
 MEN'S BLUE TEES:
 73.3/144 6694 yds.
Major Tournaments:
 1988 Girls' Junior



GOLDEN VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB

Mention the name Golden Valley Country Club to Minnesotans and "history" and "tradition" immediately come to mind. The club, which was founded in 1914 and whose golf course was designed by the incomparable A.W. Tillinghast, got through the war years by luring some of the games greats to its plush fairways with the playing of the Golden Valley Invitational.

The tournament inaugural in 1943 was a national invitational, best-ball tournament designed to aid lot and membership sales. Golden Valley's new head professional at that time, the legendary "Lighthorse" Harry Cooper, was instrumental in bringing the tournament to the club as a replacement for the St. Paul Open at Keller, which was on hiatus during the war. In order to protect the club against any losses, 22 members pooled their money and put up a \$10,000 guarantee.

The first year, 16 touring professionals descended on the course including the likes of Buck White, former New

York Yankee Sam Byrd, Ky Laffoon, Toney Penna, Willie Goggin, Johnny Revolta, Lloyd Mangrum, Byron Nelson, "Jug" McSpaden and Chick Harbert. In the event's second year and shortly before the tournament commenced, there was a surprise entrant. Ed Dudley was unable to make an appearance and his replacement was none other than Ben Hogan, who was just beginning to make a name for himself on the professional circuit.

Each of the 16 pros received a \$250 appearance fee, and the prize money totaled \$6,000—all in war bonds. Although it only had a two-year run, the Golden Valley Invitational was a truly one-of-a-kind event.



WOODHILL COUNTRY CLUB

Everyone has heard certain golf courses referred to as “cow pastures.” Well, Woodhill Country Club came close. A look at Woodhill’s early days gives us a peek at how this well-known Minnesota club got its start as a home for sheep and cattle.

According to the club’s history, the Dunwoody Farm (Woodhill) of approximately 270 acres had been maintained for many years by William Hood Dunwoody, a wealthy Minneapolis miller. He had been reluctantly urged into purchasing land for the purpose of raising beef cattle and sheep by his old fishing companion, James J. Hill. Hill made a practice of encouraging this type of farming along the right of way of his Great Northern Railroad.

An offer for the land was made by John S. Pillsbury, who had considered the farm as a possible homesite, but later agreed that the farm with its rolling terrain would be an ideal site for a golf course and country club. A holding company, Woodhill Realty Company, was formed and the

Dunwoody Farm was purchased for \$65,000 in the summer of 1915.

The year 1916 was largely one of planning and preparation. Swamplands were drained, roads laid out, homesites platted, horse stables improved and arrangements made to obtain water and electricity. Donald Ross was hired to design the golf course and Norman Clark was retained as golf professional for a guaranteed sum of \$2,500 a year. On a lighter note, one laudable (but somewhat lacking in vision) ideal established in the club’s original articles of incorporation stated that “No wine, beer, fermented malt or other spirituous or intoxicating liquor of any kind whatsoever shall be sold, dispensed, served or used in the buildings or upon the grounds owned or used by or in connection with the club.” That particular edict was reversed years later.



Year Founded: 1915
Golf Course Architect:
Donald Ross
Head Pro: Philip Reith

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN’S RED TEES:
73.5/129 5601 yds.
WOMEN’S WHITE TEES:
75.6/133 5983 yds.
WOMEN’S BLUE TEES:
77.9/138 6400 yds.
MEN’S WHITE TEES:
71.6/129 5983 yds.
MEN’S BLUE TEES:
72.4/131 6400 yds.

Major Tournaments:
2001 USGA State Team
Championships



ROCHESTER GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

Until 1915, the only golf facility in Rochester was a six-hole course known as Silver Creek Golf Club that was rudimentary to say the least. The “grounds crew” basically consisted of a flock of sheep and a few goats.

Feeling the need for a more challenging layout, two Rochester doctors, E.S. Judd and D.C. Belfour, proceeded to purchase 100 acres of land that year and hired former Red Wing professional Harry Turple to lay out a nine-hole course. Voila, the Rochester Golf & Country Club was born. Although minor improvements were made to the course over the ensuing 10 years, it was clear to the club’s membership that major changes needed to be made to the course. Fortunately for club members past and present, Rochester was about to encounter an incredible stroke of good fortune.

When a local Mayo Clinic physician ended up marrying the daughter of noted golf course architect A.W. Tillinghast, “Tillie”, as he was known, reportedly offered to design the

new golf course in exchange for lifetime memberships for his daughter and son-in-law. Tillinghast, a giant in the course design business, had constructed such legendary courses as the San Francisco Golf Club, Baltusrol and Winged Foot, just to name a few. At Tillinghast’s recommendation, an additional 35 acres on the east side of the course (the area now occupied by the 15th and 16th holes) was purchased. Construction on the new layout began in the fall of 1926 and the new course opened to much fanfare the following summer. Members have been enjoying the fruits of Tillie’s talents ever since.



Year Founded: 1915
Golf Course Architect:
A.W. Tillinghast
HeadPro: David Richardson

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN’S RED TEES:
70.8/124 5298 yds.
WOMEN’S WHITE TEES:
74.4/132 5935 yds.
WOMEN’S BLUE TEES:
75.8/135 6195 yds.
MEN’S WHITE TEES:
68.8/126 5935 yds.
MEN’S BLUE TEES:
70.0/128 6195 yds.
MEN’S GREEN TEES:
71.3/131 6464 yds.

Major Tournaments:
1993 U.S. Women’s Mid-Amateur

Year Founded: 1916

Golf Course Architect:
Hugh Vincent Feehan

Head Pro: Mark Holm

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN'S GREEN TEES:

69.0/119 4976 yds.

WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:

73.8/129 5839 yds.

MEN'S GREEN TEES:

64.9/109 4976 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:

68.8/117 5839 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:

69.7/119 6019 yds.

Major Tournaments:

Pine To Palm since 1931



DETROIT COUNTRY CLUB

According to the "The Pine To Palm Tradition 1931-2000" program, the Detroit Country Club, which was founded in 1916, was one of the earliest courses to be constructed in north central Minnesota. Home to the famous Pine to Palm Tournament, the course certainly has a colorful past.

According to the late Dr. L.H. Rutledge, who served as president of the DCC board back in its formative years, the architect who laid out the first nine holes during the World War I years has "been lost to posterity." Rutledge was quoted as saying, "I am sure he was not a nationally known figure. He was from Chicago, did his work in about 30 minutes, arriving on the noon-day train (reportedly full of scotch) and returned to Chicago on the 5:30 p.m. train." The reconstructed course, which was laid out in 1936, was designed by Minneapolis native Hugh Vincent Feehan — who clearly paid a little more attention to detail than his predecessor.

The club is best known for its annual tournament, which has been played every year since 1931 with the exception of a World War II hiatus in 1942-1943. The name Pine to Palm was purportedly traced to a tour launched by the then mayor of Winnipeg, Canada, who wanted to prove that it was possible to travel by car on the highway from Winnipeg to New Orleans in the wintertime. The trip was completed one February, the publicity was great and the name Pine to Palm stuck.

Year Founded: 1916

Golf Course Architect:
Joel Goldstrand (revision)

Head Pro: Paul Grovum

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN'S RED TEES:

69.4/121 5027 yds.

WOMEN'S GOLD TEES:

71.5/125 5401 yds.

WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:

76.0/134 6210 yds.

MEN'S GOLD TEES:

66.6/121 5401 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:

70.3/129 6210 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:

71.8/132 6535 yds.

Major Tournaments:

Birchmont International
since 1926



BEMIDJI TOWN AND COUNTRY CLUB

Just because a unique golf club is not located in a major metropolitan area does not mean it doesn't have a story to tell. And Bemidji Town and Country Club is no exception.

Located in northwestern Minnesota, Bemidji was founded as a nine-hole course in 1916 with a second nine added 10 years later. Becoming a full-fledged 18-hole layout transformed the course into a popular spot for summer visitors. Still, green fees seemed to be an issue. In the late 1920s a local attorney became outraged when the club raised green fees for guests of the local Rutger's Birchmont Lodge from 75¢ to \$1. And that wasn't the only area of unrest. Charlie Naylor, who caddied at the club in the 1920s, recalled that new caddies arriving at the club looking for a loop often would be tossed into Lake Bemidji by veteran caddies (older boys known to be bullies) in an attempt to dissuade them. Other memorable moments in club lore included the course's first mowing apparatus (which cost \$300 and was pulled by two horses), as well as



the time that the great Walter Hagen paid a visit and tied, but didn't break, the course record.

In 1926 the famed Birchmont International held its inaugural tournament where Minnesota legend Harry Legg defeated hometown favorite Sewell Wilson in the finals. More than 75 years later the tournament, held at this little piece of paradise in the pines, continues to be an incredibly popular event.

Year Founded: 1916

Golf Course Architects:
Willie Park Jr./Donald Ross

Head Pro: David Podas

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN'S YELLOW TEES:

73.5/129 5582 yds.

WOMEN'S RED TEES:

77.3/137 6266 yds.

MEN'S RED TEES:

71.6/130 6266 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:

72.7/132 6517 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:

74.4/136 6906 yds.

Major Tournaments:

1950 U.S. Amateur

1959 PGA Championship



MINNEAPOLIS GOLF CLUB

Integrity. Class. Tradition. These are just a few words that aptly describe the Minneapolis Golf Club. Along with a devoted and dedicated golfing membership, MGC is a true Minnesota landmark.

Eighty-five years ago, in 1916, there were only two golf clubs in Minneapolis—Minikahda and Interlachen. In early 1916 five members of the Minneapolis Athletic Club decided there needed to be a third club to meet the growing popularity of the game. By July of that year the Minneapolis Golf Club was incorporated. Amazingly, recently discovered field notes of the club's original land survey indicate that two of the game's most celebrated architects, Scotsmen Willie Park, Jr. and Donald Ross, penned early routing designs for MGC. Park completed his routing plan in December of 1916, while Ross completed his revisions four years later. On June 19, 1917, MGC became one of the early member clubs of the Minnesota Golf Association.

Over the past eight decades the club's commitment to hosting championship golf has been nothing short of admirable. The club has hosted over 70 local and national tournaments and qualifiers during this time span including the Golden Anniversary U. S. Amateur Championship in 1950, the 1959 PGA Championship, as well as the Dayton's Challenge from 1995-2000. In 2001, the club will proudly host the MWGA Championship and then the MGA Amateur championship in 2005.

As befits a club of this stature, the roster of head golf professionals from MGC reads like a "who's who" in Minnesota golf. They include William Clark (1917-1923), Dow George (1924-1925), Ernest Penfold (1926-1937), Les Bolstad (1938-1945), Gunnard Johnson (1946-1972), Joel Goldstrand (1973-1988) and Dave Haberle (1989-1993). Dave Podas has been overseeing the golf operation since 1994. When it comes to preserving the integrity and traditions of the game, MGC ranks at the head of the class.

Year Founded: 1919

Golf Course Architect:
Seth Raynor

Head Pro: Frank Heinen

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN'S RED TEES:

72.9/135 5388 yds.

WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:

75.2/140 5935 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:

69.7/129 5935 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:

71.5/132 6334 yds.

MEN'S BLACK TEES:

72.6/135 6580 yds.



MIDLAND HILLS COUNTRY CLUB

Mention the name Wally Mund to the membership at Midland Hills Country Club and you're sure to see more than a few knowing nods. And well it should be. If it were not for Wally Mund, Midland Hills might not exist today.

Wally Mund *was* Midland Hills. Originally hired away from Town and Country Club in 1929 to become Midland Hills' caddie master, he became head golf professional seven years later and served the members in that position for 40 years. Besides playing the role of teacher, mentor, psychologist and friend to legions of members, Mund was also their savior during the difficult war years in the 1940s.

Like many area clubs, Midland Hills was in financial straits during World War II and its membership had declined to only 57 members in 1943. It was then that Wally and his wife Lil came to the club's rescue by offering to lease the course as a private enterprise for the duration of the war. Wally assumed all obligations for the maintenance of the course and clubhouse including taxes and insurance. He

and Lil operated the course under lease from 1943-1946. These four years turned out to be the most critical years in the club's history and it is safe to say that were it not for Wally Mund it is quite likely the club would not have survived.

On Thursday, October 9, 1986, Wally Mund died at the age of 75 while playing the 16th hole at his beloved Midland Hills. His dedication and utter devotion to the club and its membership won't soon be forgotten.



Year Founded: 1919

Golf Course Architect:
Tom Bendelow

Head Pro: Michael Zinni

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN'S RED TEES:
68.9/126 5014 yds.

WOMEN'S GOLD TEES:
69.5/127 5134 yds.

WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:
74.3/137 5990 yds.

MEN'S GOLD TEES:
65.3/120 5134 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:
69.2/128 5990 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:
70.2/130 6215 yds



MANKATO GOLF CLUB

While golfers often consider playing golf as “doing battle,” there are not many golf club properties in this country that can trace their history back to Civil War times. Mankato Golf Club, however, is an exception.

For 52 of the 61 years before its acquisition by the Mankato Golf Club in 1919, the property was privately owned by a Phillip Hodapp. Born in Hasloch, Baden, Germany on April 23, 1833, Hodapp sailed with his parents to America in 1837, eventually settling in St. Charles, Missouri via New Orleans. In 1853, at the age of 20, Hodapp married Elizabeth Borgmeier and the couple joined a colony of German-American farmers who came to St. Paul. In the fall of 1854, Hodapp and his wife arrived in Mankato by wagon, Mankato then being a hamlet of a few log shanties at the edge of the forest. Here they settled on a 168-acre timber claim where the Mankato Golf Club property is now located.

While the Hodapp's settled in Mankato in 1854, they did not get title to the property until 1862. The property had originally been deeded to a soldier who ended up dying before he could take possession of the land. The property was the granted to Hodapp by President Abraham Lincoln on March 25, 1862—and the club has a copy of the original deed to prove it! Hodapp, who owned the property until 1911, later moved to the town of Mankato and died on July 28, 1925, at the age of 92.



Year Founded: 1920

Golf Course Architects:
Robert Bruce Harris/Seth Raynor

Head Pro: David DuSchane

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN'S RED TEES:
73.1/131 5635 yds.

WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:
77.5/140 6445 yds.

MEN'S GREEN TEES:
69.7/127 5980 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:
71.8/131 6445 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:
73.0/134 6728 yds.

Major Tournaments:

1956 U.S. Senior Amateur
1995 USGA Senior Women's
Amateur

SOMERSET
COUNTRY CLUB



SOMERSET COUNTRY CLUB

Like many private clubs in Minnesota and around the country, Somerset Country Club was formed because a group of golf devotees felt their current club—Town and Country Club in this case—had gone from being cozy to cramped. Club founder's C.W. “Charlie” Gordon, C.M. “Mil” Griggs and R.C. “Dick” Lilly's dream became a reality when Somerset was incorporated on September 16, 1919.

The original Board of Governors consisted of such St. Paul heavyweights as Griggs, F.E. Weyerhaeuser, R.B. Shepard, Sherman Finch and C.P. Brown and charter members including former U.S. Secretary of State Frank B. Kellogg. This club, which still eschews formal tee times, is made up of golfers who understand and appreciate the game's history and traditions. And, while the game is taken seriously, there have also been some memorable characters that have given Somerset some of its unique charm.

Not many of today's membership have probably ever heard of Al Dunst, but he's a man worth remembering. He

was the invaluable lockerboy back in the club's early days who not only shined shoes but doubled as club “barkeep”—inventing the club's now legendary bootlegs of mint which contained just a “smidgen” of Prohibition gin or pure alcohol. No one's quite sure but it was reportedly a hit with the membership. And there was former greenskeeper Herman Sinesth, who ran the sprinklers whenever and wherever he pleased. His motto: Grow the grass and members be damned. One time, after a cart (he deemed) was driven to close to the eighth green, he reached in, grabbed the keys and threw them in the lake. As he stalked off, he told the offending cart riders, “If you can't drive any better than that, you deserve to walk.” They got the message.



Year Founded: 1921

Golf Course Architect:
William D. Clark

Head Pro: John Miller

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN'S RED TEES:
71.8/127 5415 yds.

WOMEN'S GOLD TEES:
73.4/131 5704 yds.

WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:
76.7/138 6290 yds.

MEN'S GOLD TEES:
68.4/127 5704 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:
71.1/132 6290 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:
72.4/135 6569 yds



OAK RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB

As with many things in life, getting the Oak Ridge Country Club officially incorporated in the fall of 1920 was easier said than done.

Prior to the commencement of World War I, two groups of community leaders—one from St. Paul and the other from Minneapolis—became infected with the golf bug and had the desire to create a golf club. The two groups scoured the suburbs of the Twin Cities searching for a suitable location that would satisfy both factions. Of importance was the fact that the location had to be handy to a trolley or train since automobiles were scarce. The Minneapolis group favored sights near Como Park, Lake Josephine and the University Farm campus, while the St. Paul contingent had their eye on a north St. Paul location. In the end, they couldn't come to a consensus. And, as with many plans, they were put on hold once the war began.

After the armistice, the golf devotees gathered at the old Elysium Club (formerly the Calumet Club) to rekindle

interest in creating a club. Finally, after much wrangling, 150 golf fanatics showed up at the Shubert Theatre on August 18, 1920, for what was the birth of the Oak Ridge Country Club. Stock subscriptions totaling \$61,000 from over 90 members were secured.

In a letter to the board, William D. Clark asked to be named the club's golf professional, greenskeeper, as well as the course architect. The ultimate jack-of-all trades, his duties included supervising the entire layout, grading, planting, seeding, irrigation and digging the club's well. He asked for and received \$250 per month to build the course, as well as a \$500 bonus for having the course ready for play by July of the following year. He was then to receive \$100 per month in his other two positions. The papers were signed and Oak Ridge was in business. As it turned out, the club members got themselves quite a bargain.



Year Founded: 1924

Golf Course Architect:
Tom Bendelow

Head Pro: Marty Lass

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN'S RED TEES:
70.2/131 4866 yds.

WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:
74.2/139 5580 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:
68.5/131 5580 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:
72.2/139 6440 yds.

MEN'S GOLD TEES:
73.7/141 6777 yds.

Major Tournaments:
1996 Western Junior



EDINA COUNTRY CLUB

There are numerous people, places and events described in Edina Country Club's commemorative history book covering the years 1924-1981. There is one name, however, that stands out above all others: Arnold Chester.

After spending the years 1927-1929 at Minneapolis Golf Club and the following two years as head golf professional at Westwood Hills, Chester was introduced to S.S. Thorpe Sr., developer of Thorpe Country Club—which changed its name to Edina Country Club in 1946. From 1931 until his retirement on October 25, 1967, Chester was the guiding light, the continuity—the man who made it all happen at Edina Country Club.

Chester served as both golf professional and general manager of the club during the war years and then again for a four-year stint beginning in 1957. In July of that year the club's general manager resigned and the board of directors was faced with a difficult problem—they needed a man to run the club while also steering the construction of a new

clubhouse. Once again they turned to Chester, who had originally had the foresight to save the property for the new clubhouse. After he discouraged a club member from building a home on the site, he bought the property, held onto it until the club needed it and then sold it back to the Edina Holding Company for the exact price he had purchased it for years before. It was certainly a tremendous gesture to Edina Country Club members—past and present.

Year Founded: 1925

Golf Course Architect:
Ralph Barton

Head Pro: Rob Hary

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN'S RED TEES:
70.2/125 5127 yds.

WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:
73.4/132 5697 yds.

WOMEN'S BLUE TEES:
77.2/140 6385 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:
68.1/126 5697 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:
71.2/133 6385 yds.

MEN'S GOLD TEES:
72.8/136 6732 yds



MINNESOTA VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB

Minnesota Valley Country Club, formerly known as the Bloomington Golf Club, has played an important role in the history of golf in Minnesota—thanks primarily to a group of hard-working individuals in the club's formative years.

According to the club's history, the site contouring and general layout of the golf course was done the hard way—with a horse-drawn plow. Farmers from the nearby community of Savage did the dragging and site preparation. After two summers of arduous work, the golf course and buildings were completed. Records are sketchy but they indicate that Seth Raynor, Charles Banks or Ralph Barton played a part in the course's design. By the fall of 1924, the watering system had been completed, and when it was started up in the spring of 1925, the new bent solon greens and broad fairways sprang to life. Despite a light dusting of snow that April, a "course warming" party was held serving to whet the appetite of the club's members.

Membership in the new club was unique back in the beginning. As members of both the Minneapolis Automobile Club and the Bloomington Golf Club the club changed its name to Minnesota Valley Country Club in 1938. The founding members each purchased \$100 worth of stock and paid a \$20 assessment. Each membership entitled the holder to 10 free games annually, with play thereafter at 50¢ a game. The local paper stated that the Bloomington Golf Club was the only pay-as-you-play private club in the country at that time. And, while play on the weekends was reserved for club members, the course was open to the public during the week.

Year Founded: 1956

Golf Course Architect:
Robert Bruce Harris

Head Pro: Dick Walters

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN'S RED TEES:
73.0/127 5607 yds.

WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:
77.3/137 6381 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:
71.6/133 6381 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:
72.8/135 6660 yds.

MEN'S BLACK TEES:
74.0/137 6932 yds.

Major Tournaments:

1984 U.S. Junior Amateur

1994 U.S. Mid-Amateur



WAYZATA COUNTRY CLUB

Wayzata Country Club was founded in 1912 by devoted charter members who weren't afraid to venture "way out in Wayzata" to develop their dream club. The club's history states that, "A handful of forward-thinking men recognized a need, saw the old Bowman farm property as an opportunity to address that need, and decided to form a country club. Experience? None. Working capital? None. Faith, optimism and a commitment to making it happen? Unparalleled."

The original site for the course was the old Summit Park Farm, a 360-acre dairy farm on the west side of Wayzata, which was originally purchased by the S.H. Bowman Sr. family in 1909. After leasing the land in 1935 to Augie and Harold Sween, the Bowman's came back into the picture in the early '50s. According to the WCC's 50th anniversary book, Mrs. Samuel Bowman determined that "the larger interest of the community was to maintain the open space that the farm provided." She kept the farm off the market for a period of three months, which allowed a

"yet unknown group of public-spirited Wayzatans" the time to call anyone and everyone they knew and convince them to invest in a golf club. The rest, as they say, is history.

The tradition of golf at Wayzata Country Club is a strong one. The championship course is considered among the best in the state, and member participation continues to increase year after year. Golf at Wayzata does indeed offer "something for everyone," from league play to guest days, invitationals, twilight golf, club championships, as well as the annual Wahoo tournament. The club has hosted state, regional and national tournaments and raised more than a \$1 million for the University of Minnesota through 1996. Obviously, the phrase "giving something back to the game" receives more than just lip service from members at Wayzata Country Club.

Year Founded: 1962

Golf Course Architect:
Robert Trent Jones

Head Pro: Mike Schultz

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:

76.8/141 6192 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:

71.0/137 6192 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:

74.7/144 7015 yds.

MEN'S CHAMP. TEES:

76.0/147 7301 yds.

Major Tournaments:

1966 U.S. Women's Open

1970 U.S. Open

1977 U.S. Women's Open

1983 U.S. Senior Open

1991 U.S. Open

1994 U.S. Mid-Amateur



HAZELTINE NATIONAL GOLF CLUB

Hazeltine National. While championship golf was a major reason this 40-year old jewel was built, it is also the vision, sacrifice and dedication of Hazeltine's membership that sets the club apart. That determination was evident from the very beginning.

Totton P. Heffelfinger, past president of the MGA and USGA and Hazeltine's principal founder, was perturbed when he learned a proposed thoroughfare was planned that would effectively bisect his home club of Minikahda back in 1958. Instead of waiting to see what would transpire, Heffelfinger began investigating the possibility of establishing a second 18 holes for Minikahda's members. After putting together a syndicate of nine associates made up of Minnesota's captains of industry, Heffelfinger and company invested their own personal funds and purchased several hundred acres of land 20 miles southwest of the Twin Cities in Chaska. Although the proposal for a second 18

was rejected by the Minikahda members, Heffelfinger was determined to build a new course on the land.

In 1959, through a contact of Robert Fischer (who would go on to become a Hazeltine board member), Heffelfinger met with renowned course architect Robert Trent Jones, who was hired to build this challenging championship venue. Jones didn't disappoint. To date, the club has hosted numerous MGA and USGA championships including two U.S. Opens, two Women's Open's, a Senior Open and the U.S. Mid-Amateur. In 2001, Hazeltine National will welcome the USGA Men's State Team Championship, the PGA Championship in 2002 and the U.S. Amateur Championship in 2006. Not a bad track record for a club that was just a glint one man's eyes some 40 years ago.



Year Founded: 1968

Golf Course Architects:
David Gill/Joel Goldstrand

Head Pro: Richard T. Tollette

Course Rating/Slope & Yardage

East/West

WOMEN'S RED TEES:

73.9/131 5809 yds.

WOMEN'S GOLD TEES:

76.2/136 6209 yds.

WOMEN'S WHITE TEES:

79.0/142 6535 yds.

MEN'S GOLD TEES:

70.3/126 6209 yds.

MEN'S WHITE TEES:

71.8/129 6535 yds.

MEN'S BLUE TEES:

73.5/132 6901 yds.

Major Tournaments:

1976 National Public Links



BUNKER HILLS GOLF COURSE

Avid golfer and Coon Rapids city manager Bob Pulscher got fed up playing golf courses outside of Coon Rapids. So in 1966 he and then mayor Joe Craig formed a committee to begin planning a city-owned golf course.

That was the genesis for Coon Rapids' Bunker Hills Golf Course. In the years since it opened, Bunker Hills has become one of the premier golf courses in Minnesota. Longtime Bunker Hills director of golf, Dick Tollette, has been involved since day one. Tollette first served as a member of the initial planning committee and was later the course's first professional. Tollette recalls that the land was not exactly ideal for building a golf course, as there were few trees, prairie land and lots of blowing sand. Said Tollette at the time, "It was great for a sand box, but not golf."

Enter golf course architect David Gill. Gill saw great potential and laid out the first 18 holes, as well as the layout for the course that, until 2001, held the Coldwell Banker

Burnet Classic—a Senior PGA Tour event. Construction began in the late fall of 1966 and the course opened July 8, 1968, as the Coon Rapids Municipal Golf course to rave reviews. An executive nine-hole course was built in 1974 along with the clubhouse and later local architect Joel Goldstrand designed the championship North nine holes, which opened in 1990.

Besides the Senior PGA Tour, the club hosted the 1976 National Public Links Championship, as well as numerous Minnesota State Open championships. Home to the MGA-PGA Golf Hall of Fame, Bunker Hills has developed a loyal following over the past 33 years and can be proud of having served Minnesota golf so well.



GOLF LEGENDS OF MINNESOTA

FROM HARRY LEGG TO JOHN HARRIS

HARRY LEGG

JIMMY JOHNSTON

PAT SAWYER

LES BOLSTAD

PATTY BERG

TOM LEHMAN

JOHN HARRIS

RECOUNTING THE STORIES of all of the legendary golfers who have hailed from Minnesota would fill the pages of numerous books. Suffice it to say the state has been the home to an inordinate number of dedicated, outstanding champion players and club professionals over the past 100 years. From Willie Kidd, Wally Ulrich, Gene Hansen, Joe Coria, Bea Barrett Altmeyer, Gunnard Johnson and Gertrude Boothby Dansingburg to George Shortridge, Nancy Harris, Tom Lehman, Chris Perry and Alissa Herron, the state has produced more than its share of golf greats. What follows is an up-close look at just seven Minnesota golf legends who made their mark on the game on a local, as well as national level.

HARRY G. LEGG

Golf writer Dwayne Netland said it best in an article on Minnesota golf champions. "If you ask The Minikahda Club members today, who best typified the Minnesota

tournament golfer of the early 1900s, you are sure to hear the name Harry Legg," he said.

Even today, 70 years after his death, the memory of Harry Legg is still warm. Considered by many golf purists as one of the greatest golfers to ever hail from Minnesota, Legg achieved much on the golf course in a relatively short amount of time.

Born in 1886, Legg seemed to be born with a golf club in his hands. How else to explain his meteoric rise to fame in Minnesota golf lore. According to Minnesota author James E. Kelley, "When Harry Legg was a youngster he bought his first golf club from a caddy at the old Bryn Mawr Club and paid 15¢ for it. The first time he swung it the clubhead outdistanced the ball, which he lost only because he was shagged from the grounds. Outraged, young Legg bought two better clubs for 89¢ and became a self-made champion." And so began a truly remarkable golf career.

Legg was educated on the East Coast and won



There was certainly no lack of "hardware" in the Legg household. He was clearly the most dominant player of his era in Minnesota.

numerous championships at Lawrenceville and then at Yale University. But it was in state competition that Legg shone brightest. Between 1905–1920, Legg captured 10 Minnesota State Amateur championships—a record that has stood for 80 years. From 1908–1920 he lost only four matches in the Amateur with two of those losses coming in the finals.

Although he was a dominant force in the State Amateur for many years, Legg did have challengers, including fellow

Minikahda member Lynn Johnson, as well as Dudley H. Mudge Jr., and R.S. Patrick. Legg captured his first Amateur at age 19 at Northland Country Club when he defeated Johnson 4 & 2. After Johnson got revenge in 1907 at Town and Country Club, Legg came back with a vengeance in 1908 beating Johnson 10 & 9 at Minikahda and then continued his dominance of the championship, winning five consecutive titles through 1912.

In 1913, while former caddie Francis Ouimet was shocking the golf world by winning the U.S. Open, Legg captured his seventh Minnesota Amateur crown and his sixth straight by trouncing Dudley Mudge 9 & 8 at Interlachen Country Club. After finishing runner-up twice in the ensuing three years, Legg won three more titles capping off his run in 1920—a 6 & 5 victory over Mudge at Northland, site of Legg's first Amateur championship.

The State Amateur wasn't the only tournament Legg dominated during that time. From 1909–1916 Legg virtually owned the Trans-Mississippi, winning the championship five times during that eight-year span. After adding the Western Amateur title to his resume in 1919, Legg, at the age of 39, captured the 1925 Minnesota State Open—becoming the first amateur to ever win the event. In a span of 21 years, Legg was rarely out of the winner's circle.

Legg's last hurrah came at the 1927 U.S. Amateur contested at The Minikahda Club. In a stunning upset, he beat defending champion George Von Elm in the tournament's second round before losing on the first extra hole to Roland MacKenzie in the third round. It was the last time Legg was in serious contention for a title.

Legg died three years later in January of 1930 at age 43. Although his life was cut short, his achievements during his relatively brief golf career are staggering. Just one look at the hardware he collected over his career is enough to justify his rightful place among Minnesota's golf legends.





Harrison R. "Jimmy" Johnston learned the intricacies of the game from Lafayette Club head golf professional Otis George.

HARRISON R. "JIMMY" JOHNSTON

Jimmy Johnston was, if anything, a man of many talents. Whether it be baseball, swimming, diving, skiing, hockey, tennis, fly-fishing, hunting, painting or playing the piano, Johnston proved to be skilled at each of them. He was a consummate gentleman and a true Renaissance man. And he was a pretty fair golfer to boot.

Johnston was born August 31, 1896, in St. Paul. His father was renowned Minnesota architect Clarence Howard Johnston, who designed, among other edifices, Duluth's Glensheen, as well as 34 houses along St. Paul's regal Summit Avenue. Educated at St. Paul's Academy and the

Hotchkiss School, Jimmy Johnston did not attend college but instead went to war in May of 1917 on the front lines in Europe during World War I as a second lieutenant with the 337 Machine Gun Battalion. After returning home in June of 1919 to Fort Snelling, he went to work for the Brooks Lumber Company in St. Paul. He eventually got into the bond business which allowed him time to focus on one of his many passions—golf.

Golf for Johnston was similar to learning to ride a bike. Once he got the hang of it he was off and running. He took up the game at age 12 and was tutored at the Lafayette Club by head pro Otis George. George's sage advice and counseling provided Johnston with a foundation from which

he would elevate his game to wondrous heights. His tournament record speaks for itself.

Johnston was a mere 19 years old when he tied for 54th place at the 1916 U.S. Open at Minikahda. His career took off five years later when he won the first of seven consecutive MGA Amateur titles beginning in 1921. A

"Jimmy Johnston was, if anything, a man of many talents. He was a consummate gentleman and a true Renaissance man."

five-time medalist in the event, Johnston won on seven different courses against five different opponents. His average margin of victory was an astounding 8 & 7.

Johnston's grit and determination was never more evident than at the 1924 Western Amateur staged at the Hinsdale Club in Illinois. In the finals, he found himself four-down with five holes to play on the last 18 holes against Albert Seckel. Wrote sports reporter Sol Metzger at the time, "That is a situation that has cracked the Joneses and about every living golfer. But when the returns were in, Johnston had won the match and title one-up by dint of five miraculous birdies over the last five holes. That, I take it, is as near to a world's record finish, as the books will show."

Johnston hit another milestone three years later in 1927 when he captured the last of his Amateur championships, as well as the Minnesota State Open at Minneapolis Golf Club—the first golfer to successfully pull off the daily double in the same year. He successfully defended his Open title the following year at Midland Hills and then lost in a playoff in 1929 to Town and Country Club head professional Jock Hendry. His steady, courageous play did not go unnoticed, as he earned a spot on four U.S. Walker Cup teams in '23, '24, '28 and 1930. Johnston went 4-1 during those four matches—all U.S. victories.

Johnston's other great thrill in '27 came at Oakmont Country Club when he led the U.S. Open after two rounds by one shot over Gene Sarazen. Although he shot his way out of the tournament with a third round 87 and finished in

a tie for 18th, Johnston gained valuable experience against some of the game's finest competitors. It also gave him immense confidence as he ventured to the West Coast two years later for the 1929 U.S. Amateur at Pebble Beach.

Johnston faced some heady competition at Pebble Beach including close friends Chick Evans and Francis Ouimet, as well as George Voigt, Cyril Tolley (that year's British Amateur champion) and a gentleman named Bobby Jones. Although it was Jones' first visit to Pebble Beach, he was the clear pre-tournament favorite having won four of the previous five U.S. Amateurs.

When the smoke cleared, however, it was Johnston, not Jones, who found himself knocking on the winner's door. Jones' exit came courtesy of Johnny Goodman in the first round. Johnston's quarterfinal match against Voigt, which incidentally was refereed by Jones, went to the 39th hole before the Minnesotan prevailed. Johnston's 6 & 5 whipping of Ouimet in the semis set up a showdown in the finals with Dr. Oscar Willing, an Oregon dentist.

The 36-hole final that September day will always be defined by a spectacular recovery shot by Johnston that propelled him to victory. After going three down after the first six holes in the morning round, Johnston came back

"Jimmy" Johnston (standing left) with good friends Stewart Maiden, Bobby Jones and Leo Diegel in Toledo, Ohio. Circa 1920.





Besides being lifelong friends, Johnston and Chick Evans also competed against each other in numerous amateur tournaments around the country. Circa 1922.



Even though he was serving on the front lines in Europe during World War I, Johnston still found time to work on his swing. Nice, France. Circa 1917.

and stood on the par-5, 530-yard 18th down one. After launching a drive down the fairway, he proceeded to pull his second shot with a brassie toward the surf of Pebble Beach's famed finishing hole. The wayward stroke appeared to give Willing a 2-up advantage heading into the afternoon, but fate was on Johnston's side.

Johnston described his exploits on the beach in a letter. "We both hit nice drives off the 18th," Johnston wrote, "but I hooked my second shot over the left edge of the fairway—a shot which I thought was in the ocean. After playing a provisional shot just short of the green, my caddie came running through the gallery and said he thought I might (be able to) play my original second shot, if I hurried!"

Upon arriving at the ocean shore I found my ball resting securely among the small pebbles below the seawall. When I took my stance to play the shot, a wave swished up behind me and buried my feet six inches in the water. But when the wave receded, the ball was still there! I had the time and the good fortune to play my shot (with a spade mashie) off the beach to the edge of the green and then chipped up 'stoney' to get a par and halve the hole." Johnston went on to rally in the afternoon 18 and captured the title on the fifteenth green winning 4 & 3. Following his victory, Johnston was given a ticker-tape parade and a heroes welcome by thousands of fans in his hometown of St. Paul. He was also honored with honorary memberships to White Bear Yacht Club, The Minikahda Club and Woodhill Country Club.

Johnston continued his stellar play in 1930, advancing to the quarterfinals of the British Amateur at St. Andrews against his good friend Bobby Jones. Four down with five to play, Johnston stormed back before succumbing 1-up to Jones, who won the tournament after defeating Cyril Tolley and set in motion his bid for the Grand Slam. As an aside, Jones ended up staying at Johnston's home during the U.S. Open that July at Interlachen Country Club. The two friends were able to spend a leisurely afternoon early during championship week fishing on Lake Minnetonka away from the glare of media attention that was focused on Jones and his attempt at completing the Grand Slam.

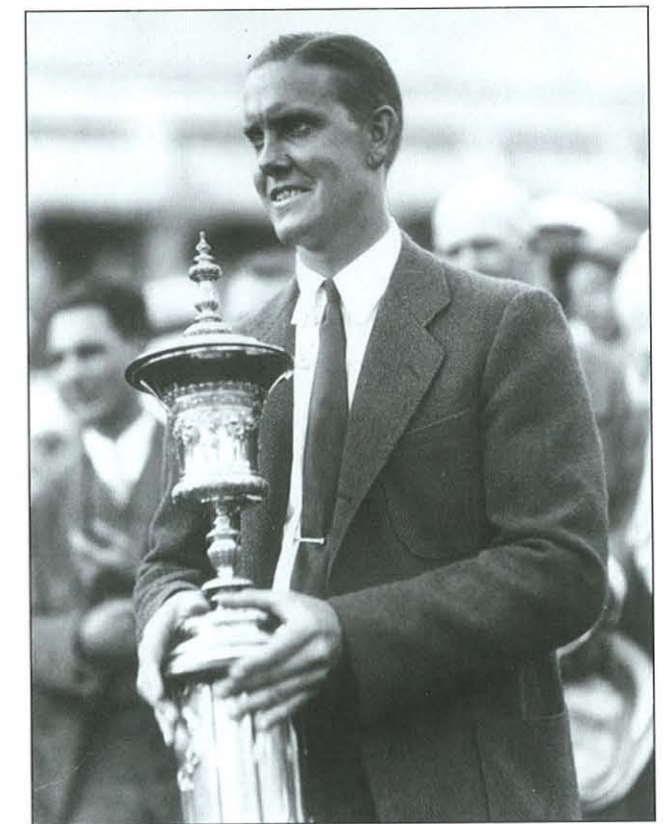
Following the tough economic times of the '30s in the



Johnston's miraculous recovery shot off the beach at Pebble Beach's famed 18th hole during the morning round propelled him to victory at the 1929 U.S. Amateur.

securities business and after his military service as an aerial gunner in World War II where he was nearly being shot down over New Guinea, Johnston returned to the upper Midwest. His golf career essentially ended when, a short time later he wrenched his knee while skiing. Besides birding and gardening, working with youngsters on the fundamentals of the golf swing became his new passion. Bobby Jones once said that, "A man never stands so tall as when he stoops to help a child." And if that adage holds true, then Jimmy Johnston was a giant among men until his death on November 18, 1969, at the age of 73.

Johnston was certainly a caring and compassionate man. Says his daughter Janette Johnston Burton of Wayzata, "Dad never had a harsh word to say about anyone. He was a tremendous ambassador for the game of golf and such a gentleman who was full of kindness and support. He was a bridge-builder between a lot of different people and made those around him feel very special." Enough said.



Hundreds of telegrams and letters from friends and well wishers around the world awaited Johnston back home in St. Paul following his U.S. Amateur victory.



Golf was certainly in the Sawyer family's genes. From left, Pat Sawyer, brothers Dick and Walter and father, Charles. Circa 1930.

PAT SAWYER

For people who are enthralled by the story of how Tiger Woods started beating golf balls at age two, the story of how Pat Sawyer (a.k.a. "Boy Wonder") began his golf career at age four in the kitchen of a country club is certain to be almost as intriguing.

Born on St. Patrick's Day in 1913, Sawyer vividly recalls the smell of fresh baked cookies being made by Emma Miller, wife of then Golden Valley Country Club general manager Carl Miller. "Dad always played Saturdays and Sundays, and he'd take me with him to the club to get me out of mother's hair," said Sawyer. "He would turn me over to the general manager and his wife and I'd sit in the kitchen and watch Emma make cookies for Sunday dinner." It wasn't long before Sawyer ventured from the kitchen up to Otis George's pro shop and started

learning the game of golf. It was there that assistants Jimmy Dyer and Scotland-native Jock Slater taught the young boy how to grip a club, as well as the finer points on the putting green. The rest, as they say, is history.

Sawyer came from a prominent golf family in Minnesota. His father, Charles, was a founding member of Golden Valley Country Club, and his older brothers Walter and Dick were champion golfers in their own right. Dick won the MGA Amateur championship in 1936 and was runner-up three years.

Sawyer played in his first tournament at age 11 at the inaugural State Junior championship in 1924 at Minikahda. The golf, while not pretty, served as a precursor of his dedication to the game. He shot 111—and he counted every stroke.

Five years later Sawyer enrolled at West High School—one of only five high schools in Minneapolis at the time

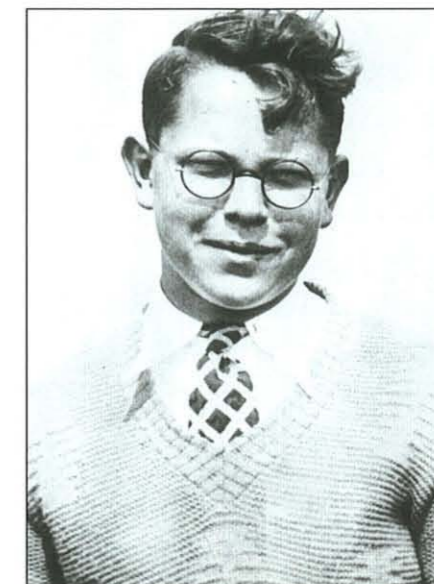
—and became instrumental in organizing a golf league with teams made up of caddies and football players from surrounding schools. The boys played all day long for a mere 50¢ on the old public Glenwood Golf Club course (now Theodore Wirth), which had oil-based sand greens. Additionally, the tee boxes had a water bucket and a pile of sand, which was used for teeing up the ball. It proved a valuable training ground as he went on to win the State Junior title in 1929 at Hillcrest and the 1930 crown at Minneapolis Golf Club.

In 1930, Sawyer captured the first of his four State Amateur titles—this one a 6 & 4 victory over Art Tveraa at Rochester. At age 17, he was the youngest to ever win the event. Two years later he duplicated the feat at Midland Hills over "Lee" Herron. By age 20, Sawyer had amassed a good amount of championship hardware having won two State Amateurs, a state high school championship, two state junior titles, one Resorters crown and two Pine-to-Palms. He later went on to capture five straight Resorters' titles from 1947-1951 and added the 1946 State Amateur (a 5 & 4 win over Neil Croonquist at Minikahda), as well as the 1948 State Amateur (besting Ken Young at Interlachen by a similar margin) to his list of victories.

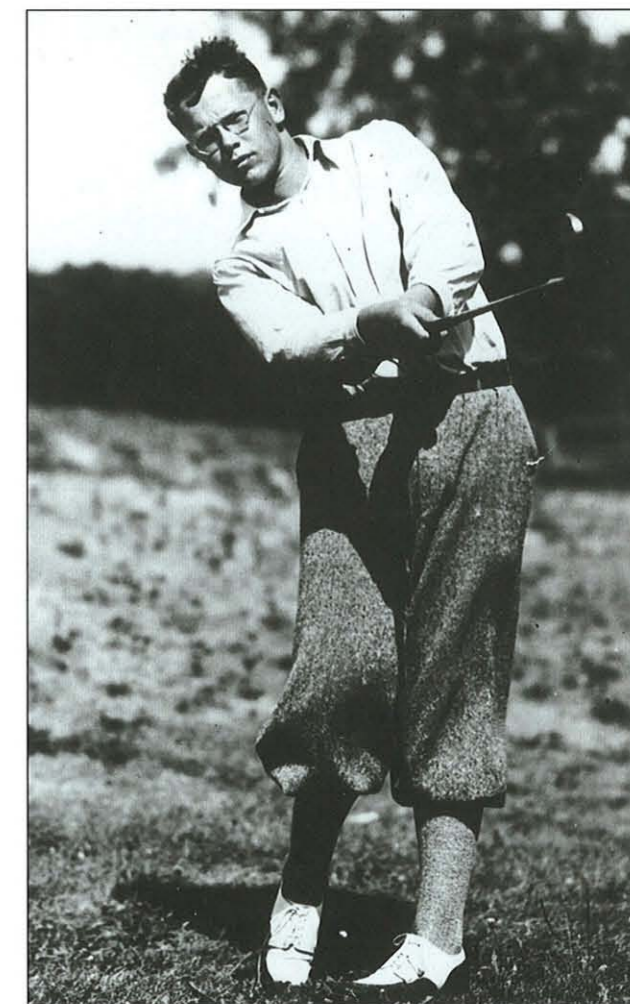
Sawyer's mastery in the State Open was just as impressive. As a 22-year-old amateur he defeated longtime professional Gunnard Johnson at Minikahda in 1935. After turning pro the next year, Sawyer captured the title once again on his home course, Golden Valley, topping Red Allen by seven shots. And if there was any need to provide evidence that his game held up over time, his third Open win came 20 years later—again at Golden Valley.

After competing twice in the National Amateur and then playing at the University of Minnesota, Sawyer became the head professional at Golden Valley from 1935-1937. Then in the summer of 1937, according to Sawyer, came the thrill of his life—competing in the U.S. Open at Oakland Hills in Michigan.

Although only a shy 24-year-old at the time, Sawyer showed nerves of steel against a field that included such heavyweights as Vic Ghezzi, Gene Sarazen, Johnny Goodman, Sam Snead and eventual winner, Ralph Guldahl.



Sawyer went from shooting a 111 at age 11 in his first junior tournament to finishing in a tie for 16th place at the 1937 U.S. Open at age 24.



After firing a 142 for the first two rounds, Sawyer was two shots out of the lead. "We're going along and I shoot 142 for the first two rounds," says Sawyer. "The talk at the tournament was about this young upstart coming down from Minnesota. Then the pairings came out for the last day and I played with Sam Snead the last two rounds! What a thrill it was for me." Sawyer finished in a tie for 16th place, won \$87.50 and thought he'd lassoed the moon.

After the Open, Sawyer reluctantly left Golden Valley for more money and the head job at Birmingham Country Club in Michigan just down the road from Oakland Hills. His job required him to start in early spring of 1938, therefore leaving him unable to accept an invitation to that year's Masters tournament. Instead he completed the year and then played on the winter professional tour in North

Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Nassau, among other stops.

For Sawyer, those days playing the winter tours were some of the best years of his life. He became friends with Bobby Jones and even stayed with him in Atlanta and played with Jones at his home course. Said Sawyer, "It was really wonderful playing with Bobby at East Lake. He was a wonderful guy, and I was just in awe of him." Sawyer also traveled with Snead, Johnny Bulla, Les Bolstad, Olin Dutra, Craig Wood and Henry Picard, just to name a few.

Today, at the time of this writing, the 88-year-old Sawyer still plays golf every Thursday with his foursome at Braemar. "It's been so much fun playing golf and I've met so many wonderful people over the years." says Sawyer. "I'm getting old, but God, I love to play this game. I'll never cease playing and having fun." Amen.

Sawyer, (center) pictured with friends Phil Halvorson and Bill Boutell, was a friend of the great Bobby Jones and was his guest on occasion at Jones' East Lake Golf Club in Georgia. Circa 1930.



LESTER HAROLD BOLSTAD

To his friends, students and colleagues, Les Bolstad was simply known as "coach." He also played the role of psychologist, teacher, mentor, motivator and most of all, friend. If there's a finer legacy than that, I've yet to hear it.

Born May 17, 1908, Bolstad became a student of the game of golf at a surprisingly early age. As a boy he caddied at Town and Country Club, The Minikahda Club and Midland Hills Country Club to earn money. He boldly stated to Wally Mund, Midland Hills' caddiemaster at the time,

"Les Bolstad loved golf more than anyone who ever lived and he loved to see his students improve. He simply wanted to help people." —TOM LEHMAN

that he "would not carry the clubs of a golfer who cut across the ball or hit a slice." Gumption was not in short supply for Bolstad.

When he was not caddieing, Bolstad hopped a street-car in order to perfect his game at Armour Golf Course, now Francis Gross, as well as at now defunct Minnepau. His skill with the sticks was evident from the get-go as he captured the very first state Junior championship in 1924 at The Minikahda Club as a 16-year-old. The following year as a Minneapolis Marshall High School student, he finished runner-up in the State Amateur to Minnesota standout Harrison R. "Jimmy" Johnston, losing 9 & 8 at the Minneapolis Golf Club. Although handily defeated, Bolstad was not deterred.

He came right back the next year and captured the state's Amateur Public Links championship and followed that up by winning the National Amateur Public Links Championship in 1926. He also repeated as State Amateur Public Links champion. Said Bolstad in later years, "The National Public Links Championship was the biggest thrill of my life." With the victory, he became Minnesota's first national golf champion, and he did it without the benefit of a Titanium driver or a two-piece golf ball. Said Bolstad in



Les Bolstad became Minnesota's first national golf champion after his victory at the National Amateur Public Links Championship in 1926.

an article a number of years ago, "I carried eight clubs in a canvas bag and only used six of them."

Bolstad played his college golf at the University of Minnesota in the late 1920s. Besides captaining the team over a three-year period, he also captured two Big 10 individual championships in 1927 and 1929—the latter year being the first time the University won the conference team championship. If these accomplishments were not enough, Bolstad also lettered in track and baseball.

But if the 1920s ignited Bolstad's career, the 1930s were the afterburner. His success on the golf course was



Bolstad is the only player in state history to win all of Minnesota's "majors" including the Amateur, Open, PGA and Public Links.



Bolstad, who coached the University of Minnesota golf team from 1946-1976, helped guide his young proteges to two of the school's four NCAA titles.

nothing short of astounding as he won the 1931 State Amateur at Minikahda then turned around two years later as an amateur and won the first of his four State Opens. After turning professional in 1934, he won the Open again in 1938, 1939 and then in 1943. He also took home top honors at the State PGA at Interlachen Country Club and then repeated the feat 13 years later at Midland Hills. In a span of only 13 years, from 1926-1939, Bolstad completed a sweep of the of the state's "majors," becoming the only golfer in state history to win the "Career Grand Slam"—the Amateur, Open, PGA and Public Links. It is a remarkable feat that may never be duplicated.

Bolstad also competed on a national level, playing in numerous U.S. Opens. He also held professional positions at various clubs in and around the Twin Cities including Westwood Hills, Minneapolis Golf Club and Golden Valley Country Club. In 1946, however, his career path led him to back to his alma mater.

It was then that Bolstad took over the reigns of the University of Minnesota golf team from W.R. Smith. And for 30 years he preached the game of golf to his legion of disciples—many of whom went on to national prominence. During his three decades teaching and coaching, Bolstad guided the Gophers to two of the schools four NCAA championship crowns—one in 1963 and again in 1972. He also coached four conference individual winners including Bill Brask (1968), Dave Haberle (1971), Jim Bergeson (1972) and John Harris (1974.) It was important to him that his teams be comprised of golfers who were as competitive and compassionate about the game as he was.

A protégé himself of heralded Jack Burke Sr., Bolstad emphasized the proper golf technique to all those who were lucky enough to spend time with him on the practice tee. Patty Berg was one of his prized pupils, who Les first started coaching when she was just 14 years old. When interviewed for this history, Berg raved about the influence of her former coach. "Les was a marvelous, marvelous teacher because he made sure you understood the fundamentals of the game. He'd say, 'Now, Patricia Jane—he never called me Patty—if you want to swing consistently all the time and play tournament golf, you have to learn timing, rhythm and

tempo.' He wouldn't let me get away with anything that (flew in the face of) those three principles. He vowed to correct them right then and there, even if it took two weeks. And sometimes it did." Berg regularly came back to Minneapolis during her amateur and professional career in order to work on her game under the watchful eye of her trusted coach and confidante.

Tom Lehman is another protégé who took Bolstad's mantra of "Know thyself" and "Take that home and call it your own" to heart after each of his lessons. Whether during his college days at the University of Minnesota or during his early professional career, Lehman always sought Bolstad's expertise when Lehman's game faltered. "Rain or shine, hot or cold—he'd stay out there on the range with you for as long as it took." says Lehman. "The swing thoughts I have today were instilled in me by Les back in 1977 when I was playing at the University. Les Bolstad loved golf more than anyone who ever lived and he loved to see his students improve. He was a 'behind-the-scenes' type of guy who didn't want to take credit or be in the lime-light. He simply wanted to help people."

Bolstad spent the last years of his life doing what he loved—teaching the game of golf to youngsters. He could be found every Friday morning during the summer on the practice tee at his honorary home club, Hazeltine National, prophesizing the game he loved so much to 12-year-olds. Giving of himself came easily. And one can only hope these youngsters will grow to appreciate the words of wisdom of one of Minnesota's true golf greats.

He was a passionate, sometimes feisty, dedicated man with a sense of humor who upheld the traditions of the game of golf. And he continued spreading the word of golf until the day he died in March 1998. Said former University of Minnesota player Harvey McKay, "Les Bolstad didn't just teach the game of golf, he taught the game of life." And that's an epitaph we should all be so fortunate to have.



Bolstad and his former student Patty Berg share a laugh at Golden Valley Country Club. Circa 1978.



Affectionately known as "coach," Bolstad continued teaching youngsters the game he loved so passionately up until the very end.



PATRICIA JANE BERG

The golf record speaks for itself. Twenty-eight amateur victories in just seven years. Fifty-seven professional tournament wins including 15 majors. Induction into numerous Halls-of-Fame and so many honorary memberships that it would break the 14-club rule.

Moreover, Patty Berg is not only one of the outstanding players of the game, but she is also one of its greatest ambassadors as witnessed by the thousands of golf clinics she has given around the world. And to think that legendary Patty Berg's brilliant rise to stardom all began in her hometown of Minneapolis.

Born February 13, 1918, the red-haired, freckle-faced girl who resided on Colfax Avenue South, had sports stardom written all over her from an early age. When not at summer camp, her formative years were marked by involvement in practically any sport imaginable—including football.

The story has been told often but bears repeating. Before ever picking up a golf club, the young girl was the star quarterback for the 50th Street Tigers, a neighborhood squad that featured a young Bud Wilkinson at guard, who later went on to garner All-American honors at the University of Minnesota before his famed coaching days at the University of Oklahoma. He once said that Patty played quarterback because she was the only one on the field who could remember the signals! And this was no sissy game. As Berg said, "We never lost a game—just teeth!"

By age 13, after dabbling in speed skating, track and baseball, Berg discovered golf—quite literally. When interviewed for this history, Berg became animated on the subject. "My Dad (Herman L. Berg) brought his clubs home one day and while he was at work, I started swinging them," she said. "We had some beautiful rose bushes and all kinds of flowers and I really started taking them down! I took divots in the yard, too." Once her father discovered

who the culprit was destroying his garden, he asked her whether she'd like to put a golf ball in front of the club. The answer was an emphatic 'yes.' And so a star was born.

The elder Berg brought his daughter out to his home course of Interlachen Country Club and introduced her to head professional Willie Kidd Sr. and his assistant, Jim Pringle, in order to learn the basics of the game. A year later, at age 14, she began what would become a 40-year relationship with Minnesota golf guru Les Bolstad. Under his watchful eye, Berg rose to the pinnacle of the game both as an amateur and as a professional.

"I love Minnesota because I was born and raised there, and I always love coming home. The people in Minnesota are awfully good to me." —PATTY BERG

She did not get off to an auspicious start, however, in her first tournament—the 1933 Minneapolis City Championship. After qualifying for the last flight with a score of 122 and being pummeled in her first round match, Berg eschewed competition for a year and instead devoted her time to practice. In a classic case of practice making perfect, Berg went from worst to first—capturing the 1934 City Championship.

Her raw talent and competitive nature guided her to numerous amateur titles over the ensuing five years. Besides winning the Minnesota State Women's Amateur title in 1935, 1936 and again in '38, Berg's first shining moment on the national stage came as a 17-year-old when she went head-to-head with five-time national champion Glenna Collette Vare in the finals of the 1935 U.S. Women's Amateur at Interlachen. Although she lost to the veteran 3 & 2, Berg took heart in the fact that she could compete with the best. She came back three years later and captured the Women's Amateur, defeating Estelle Lawson 6 & 5 at Westmoreland Country Club in Illinois. Other tournament victories included the '38 Western Amateur, three Titleholders (1937-1939) and the Trans-Mississippi in '38 and '39. She also competed for the United States

(OPPOSITE PAGE)

One of Patty Berg's crowning moments in her amateur career was her victory at the 1938 U.S. Women's Amateur Championship.



Berg's astounding 28 amateur and 57 professional victories, including 15 majors, puts her in a class by herself in the history of women's golf.

on the '36 and '38 Curtis Cup teams. How many former quarterbacks can say that?

Berg's winning ways did not stop once she turned professional in 1940. Although sidelined for 18 months after a car accident that occurred December 8, 1941, Berg willed and worked her way back into shape eventually winning 10 times in her first six years on tour. One of those victories was the 1946 U.S. Women's Open—the very first Women's Open and Berg's only victory in that event during her illustrious career. Played at Spokane Country Club in Washington state, Berg defeated Betty Jameson in the final (and pocketed the \$5,600 in war bonds for first prize) in what was to be the only U.S. Women's Open contested at match play. She captured nine more titles including two majors by the end of the decade.

In 1948, after the dissolution of the struggling Women's Professional Golf Association, Berg became a Founder and Charter Member of what became the LPGA. She was the organization's first president from 1949-1952, as well as one of the original inductees into the LPGA Hall of Fame in 1951. She led the LPGA money list in 1954, '55 and '57, and also earned three Vare Trophy Awards for lowest scoring average in '53, '55 and '56. She was clearly one of the dominant forces in the women's game for decades. Her last tournament victory was in 1962.

Besides amateur and professional tournament golf, Berg's "other" career was giving exhibitions to her thousands of adoring fans. As a youngster playing in Minnesota, her father was emphatic about her giving back to the game of golf—not that she needed any encouragement in that regard. In her early amateur years, she barnstormed Minnesota, dazzling the throngs with her humor and shot-making ability. These clinics also became a hallmark and guiding force in her professional career and made her golf's "goodwill ambassador."

L.B. Iceley, former head of Wilson Sporting Goods, was so awed by her athletic ability and public relations skills that he signed her to an endorsement deal in 1940—a relationship that has continued uninterrupted for the past 61 years. Besides all of the trophies and other awards, Berg

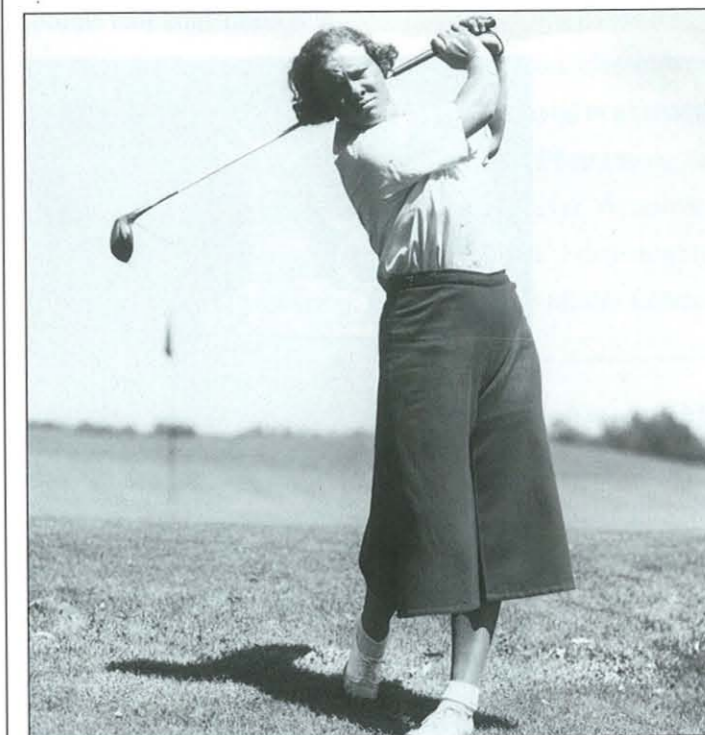
looks back on those days as being some of the most important in her life. "It was a great, great lesson for me," she says. "While promoting the game of golf to men and women, it was the children who were there that got to see how wonderful it [golf] could be for them." Always quick with a joke, one of Berg's proudest moments came when she put smiles on all those faces in the crowd.

Although Berg downplays the numerous awards and citations she's received over the last half century, she brightens at the mention of her enshrinement in the World Golf Hall of Fame in Pinehurst, North Carolina, in 1974. At the ceremony she joined fellow inductees Sam Snead, Ben Hogan, Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Gary Player, Byron Nelson and Gene Sarazen. Honored posthumously then were Walter Hagen, Bobby Jones, Francis Ouimet, Harry Vardon and Babe Zaharias—pretty heady company by any standards.

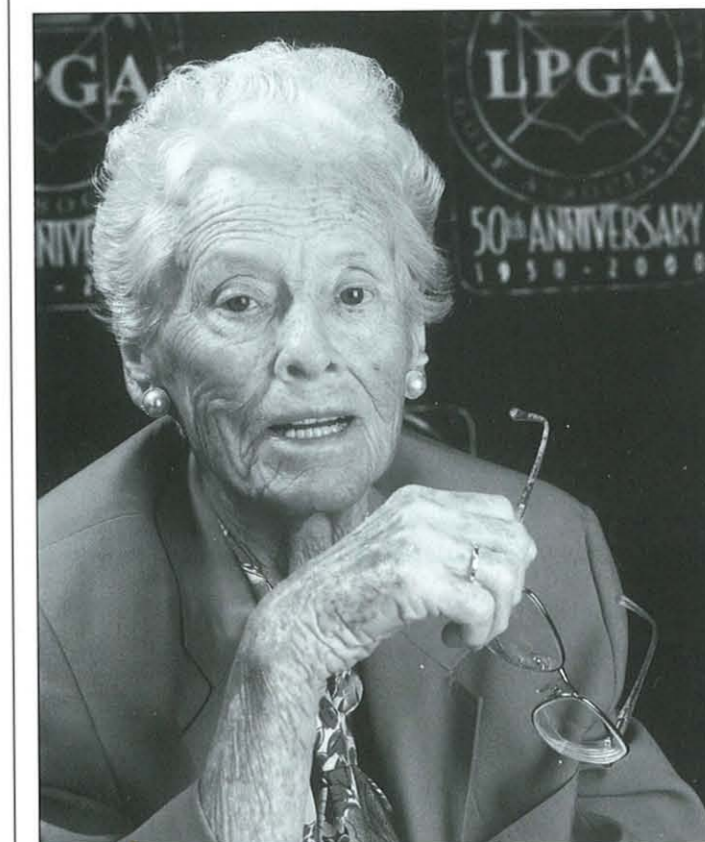
Closer to home she was inducted into the University of Minnesota Hall of Fame, the MGA-PGA Golf Hall of Fame and also received the Warren J. Rebholz Distinguished Service Award in 1996. Minnesota can certainly be proud of what she has done for the game of golf in the state and around the world.

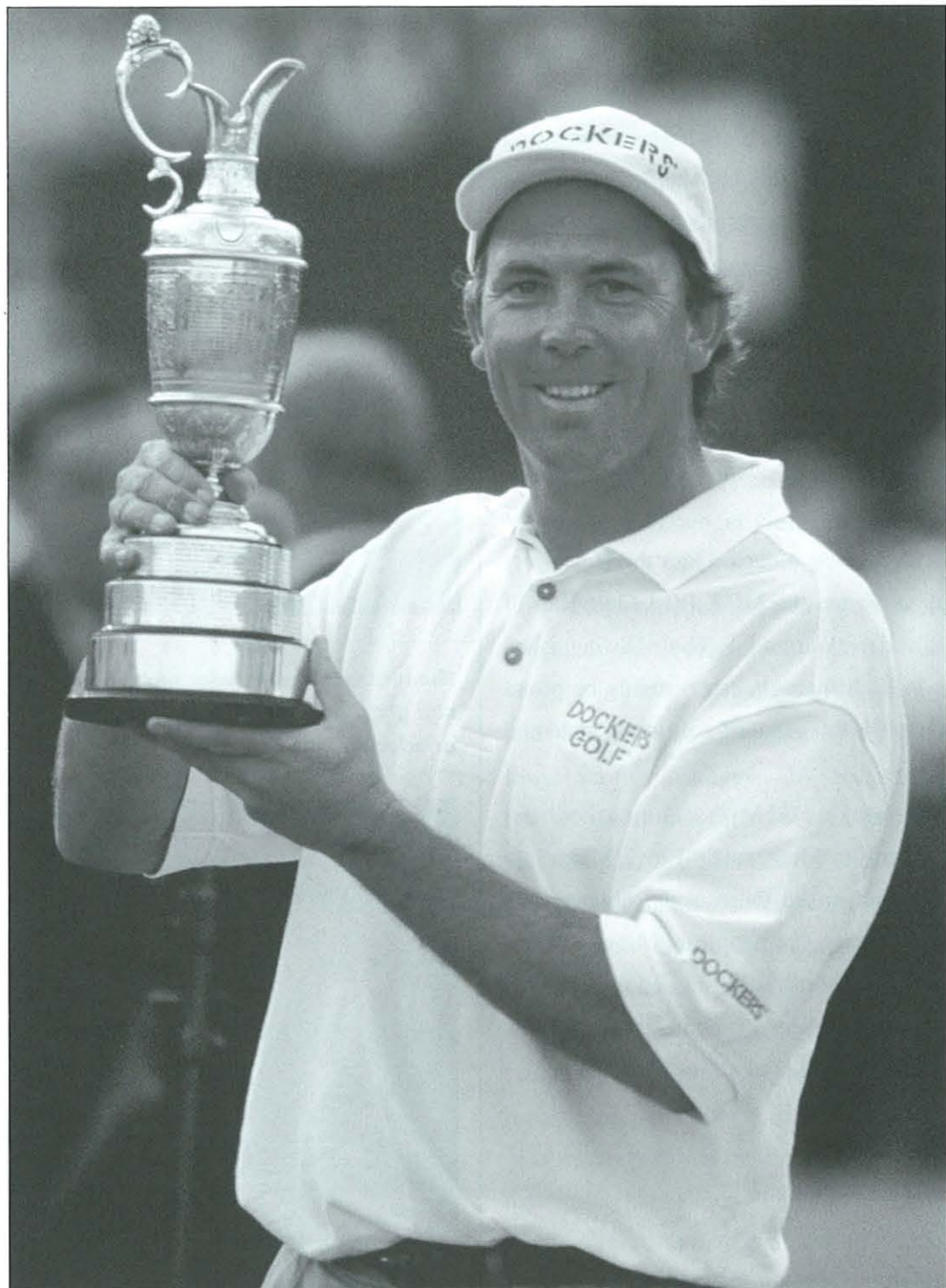
Although she resides in Fort Myers, Florida, her heart and her roots are firmly in Minnesota. "I love Minnesota because I was born and raised there, and I always love coming home," she says. "The people in Minnesota are awfully good to me. If a sport has been good to you, then you be good to that sport." When it comes to golf, Patty Berg has been a pretty good caretaker.

While golf has been her life, Berg considers her service to her country in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II as one her most important achievements. Circa 1938.



The ultimate ambassador of golf, 83-year-old Berg still gives golf clinics on occasion to her legions of adoring fans.





TOM LEHMAN

Tom Lehman can't explain it. Call it fate, coincidence or luck. Any way you look at it, this Minnesotan was blessed with plenty of it, as well as wealth of talent. For Lehman, life took a 180-degree turn during his college years after an unexpected phone call and a chance encounter. But more on that later.

Lehman spent his formative years in Alexandria, Minnesota, a small hamlet of 7,000 people. He remembers fondly his youth spent practicing and playing golf with his brother Jim beginning when Tom was eight years old. "I remember the first tournament we ever played was in 1967," he says when interviewed for this book. "Starting in fifth grade, after we moved to Alexandria, we started playing every day instead of just once a week at the Alexandria Golf Club. They had a good junior program under the pro, John Basten. They gave lessons and every Thursday there was a tournament. All summer long Thursday's were big days and then at the end of the year, there was a junior golf championship. Our whole summer golf-wise were geared towards that one event in August."

As he entered his college years, it seemed predetermined that Lehman would attend St. John's University, a small, Catholic liberal arts college near St. Cloud, a school his father and brother had attended. After momentarily considering St. Louis University and its aeronautical engineering department, Lehman decided on St. Johns. But what about the golfing haven of the University of Minnesota?

"I never even visited the University of Minnesota," Lehman remarks. "The 'U' seemed like *the* school—the Holy Grail of colleges. I never envisioned them wanting me. They didn't contact me initially. I really didn't have anybody wanting me to go to their college." While he may not have won a Minnesota State high school championship

(OPPOSITE PAGE)

Minnesotan Tom Lehman had a breakthrough year in 1996 highlighted by his victory in the British Open at Royal Lytham and St. Annes.

or played on the national junior circuit—usually a ticket to the top collegiate golf universities—it did not mean Lehman was any less of a budding star. One unexpected phone call confirmed that.

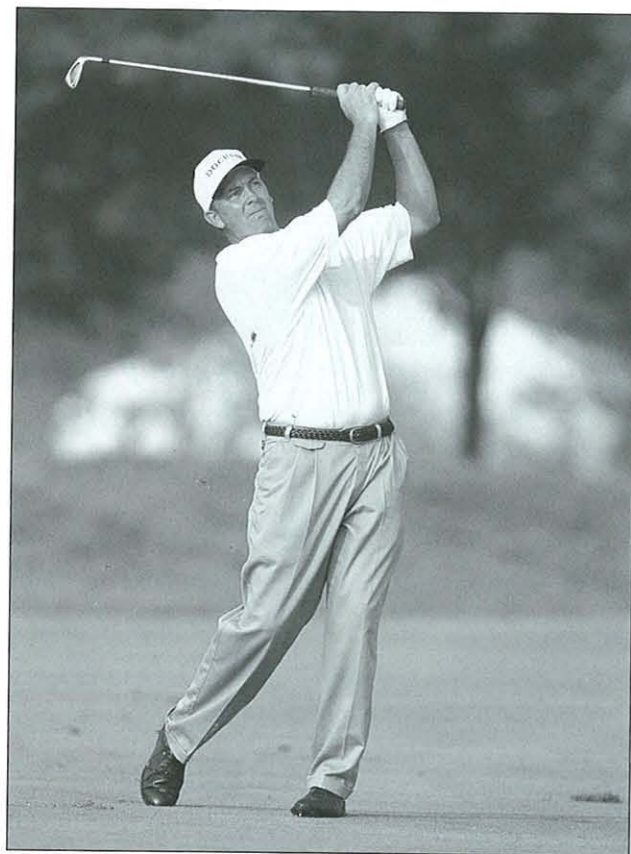
In early August 1977, three weeks before classes were to begin at St. John's University, Lehman played in a summer tournament and was paired with Miles Prestemon, the University of Minnesota's number one player. According to Lehman, Prestemon called coach Rick Ehrmantraut after the round and told him, "I just played with this Lehman

"What's most satisfying for me is being able to share my success with my family and circle of friends. And that core group is still right here in Minnesota." —TOM LEHMAN

kid from Alexandria and he's really good. You need to call him." Ehrmantraut made that call the very next day. And while the name Miles Prestemon won't be found anywhere in a PGA Tour Guide or on the Claret Jug, he had as large an impact as anyone in Lehman's name being prominently featured on both.

"Rick changed the whole course of my life in all honesty by making that phone call," Lehman recalls. "I wanted to go there [University of Minnesota] yet I didn't have the confidence to just enroll on my own and go down and qualify on my own. I loved golf and dreamed of becoming a professional, but I didn't feel capable. Rick's phone call—call it fate or coincidence." Lehman enrolled at the University at the end of August and embarked on a stellar golf career.

Although there were about 100 players vying for three spots, Lehman made it on as a "walk-on" and never looked back. A two-time All-American in 1979 and 1981 and a Minnesota All-Big-10 Selection 1979-1981, Lehman finished runner-up to Ohio State's Joey Sindelar at the 1981 NCAA Championship hosted by Minnesota. Lehman's four round total 276 broke Jim Bergeson's 281 total for the University of Minnesota, a mark he set 19 years prior when Minnesota won the tournament.



Lehman credits club professional John Basten and the junior golf program at Alexandria Golf Club for teaching Lehman the finer points of the game as a youngster.

Lehman's unexpected fortunes also took another unexpected twist in 1979 when he qualified for the Minnesota State Open at Minnetonka. As it happens, Lehman got paired with Minnesota teaching legend Les Bolstad, a gentleman who would play an integral role in Lehman's amateur and professional career. "Les and I were paired together at Minnetonka, as luck would have it. So we played two days together and at the end of those two days he was probably shaking his head thinking, 'I can help this kid.' I was talented, but a little ragged. Les said, 'If you want some help, call me.'" Lehman took him up on the offer a week later. Under Bolstad's tutelage, Lehman began his ascent to the pinnacle of amateur and professional golf. Says Lehman, "His philosophy and style really meshed with my personality because I'm a very visual person, not analytical. He was the first person who ever really got me thinking about the whole golf swing and not just on a specific aspect of it. He was a golf 'guru' before guru's were cool."

While Lehman was honing his game during his college years, the amateur circuit in Minnesota was buzzing with other stellar players as well including Bill Israelson, Dan Croonquist, Dave Tentis and Chris Perry, just to name a few. Lehman captured two MGA Players' Championships in consecutive years. In 1980, he defeated John McMorrow of Edina Country Club 4 & 3 at White Bear Lake Yacht Club and then turned around the next year and beat Dick Blooston, also from Edina, 5 & 4 at Woodhill Country Club. Lehman wasn't finished, however, as he also captured his first and only State Amateur crown in 1981 when he defeated Dave Tentis by two strokes at Wayzata Country Club.

After turning professional, Lehman returned to Minnesota and captured the State Open in 1989 and 1990. In 1989, he defeated amateur John Harris by two strokes in a wild showdown in which Harris enjoyed a six-stroke lead after six holes only to see it evaporate. The following year, bolstered by a second round 64, Lehman cruised to victory, defeating Jon Chaffee and amateur Tim Herron by four strokes. In 1989, Lehman was offered the head coaching job at his alma mater, Minnesota, but turned it down in order to focus on his professional career.

After initially struggling as a journeyman pro on the Hogan (later Nike and Buy.Com) Tour, Lehman burst on to the national scene when he captured the first of his five PGA Tour victories, the 1994 Memorial Tournament in Ohio. He followed that up with a win at the Colonial National Invitation the following year and secured a berth on the U.S. Ryder Cup team.

By 1996, however, brought true stardom as he fought off the likes of Nick Faldo, Ernie Els and Mark McCumber to take home the Claret Jug at the British Open contested at Royal Lytham and St. Annes. He also finished in second place that year at the U.S. Open at Oakland Hills Country Club and was named the PGA Tour Player of the Year. Besides notching three more victories since that time, Lehman has also represented the United States on three Ryder Cup teams, '95, '97 and '99 (where he sparked the U.S. team's furious final round comeback with a victory in the singles match), and earned a spot on three President's Cups, '94, '96 and 2000. A final fitting tribute in the year

2000 saw Lehman inducted into the 2000 MGA-PGA Golf Hall of Fame.

Fate and luck play a part in everyone's life. Lehman is no different. However, this Midwesterner with manners owes his success on the golf course to talent tempered with determination—something he acquired while growing up in Minnesota. He leaves no doubt when speaking on the subject of the influence of the state and its people on his career. "People here love golf," he says. "It is a very close community that has some rich history, great players and a strong legacy of golfing families and champions. What's most satisfying for me is being able to share my success with my family and circle of friends. And that core group is still right here in Minnesota."

Being a star on the PGA Tour doesn't mean you can't go home again—at least not to Tom Lehman.

Lehman's induction into the MGA-PGA Golf Hall of Fame was a humbling honor to a man who hasn't forgotten his roots.





JOHN HARRIS

Growing up in northern Minnesota where the golf season only lasts four and a half months and hockey is king, John Harris proved proficient at both. It was golf, however, that was his true passion beginning at age seven.

His motto was simple. "The basic philosophy," he says, "was just 'hit it hard and have fun with it.'" Harris, one of Minnesota's all-time great amateur golfers, has been doing just that his entire golfing life.

Born and raised in Roseau, Minnesota, Harris learned the intricacies of the game at the local 9-hole course. As in many small communities, there were no tee times and high school age kids played for free. Harris looks back fondly on those years saying, "It was the way the game was meant to be played."

After four standout years at Roseau High School, where he won the state championship his senior year, Harris matriculated in the fall of 1971 to the University of Minnesota. Until then he had never taken any golf lessons with the exception of his father's coaching. Once he arrived on campus, however, coach Les Bolstad was waiting for him on the practice tee. "I got my first real formal instruction from Les Bolstad," Harris says fondly. "He had a tremendous passion for the game. He never pushed but instead always encouraged us. He was a tremendous motivator who also taught us to never give up and just keep on playing."

With mentors such as Bolstad, along with former Big 10 champions Bill Brask and Dave Haberle, Harris flourished with the Gophers. As a sophomore in 1972, he helped his team to its fourth and most recent Big 10-conference championship. His junior and senior years he was voted an All-American, as well as an All-Big-10 selection. In his final year in 1974 he captured Big 10 Individual honors. Amazingly, Harris also lettered in hockey as well, playing



Harris was named to the three-member Minnesota squad set to compete at the 2001 USGA State Team Championship, which will be contested at Hazeltine National Golf Club.

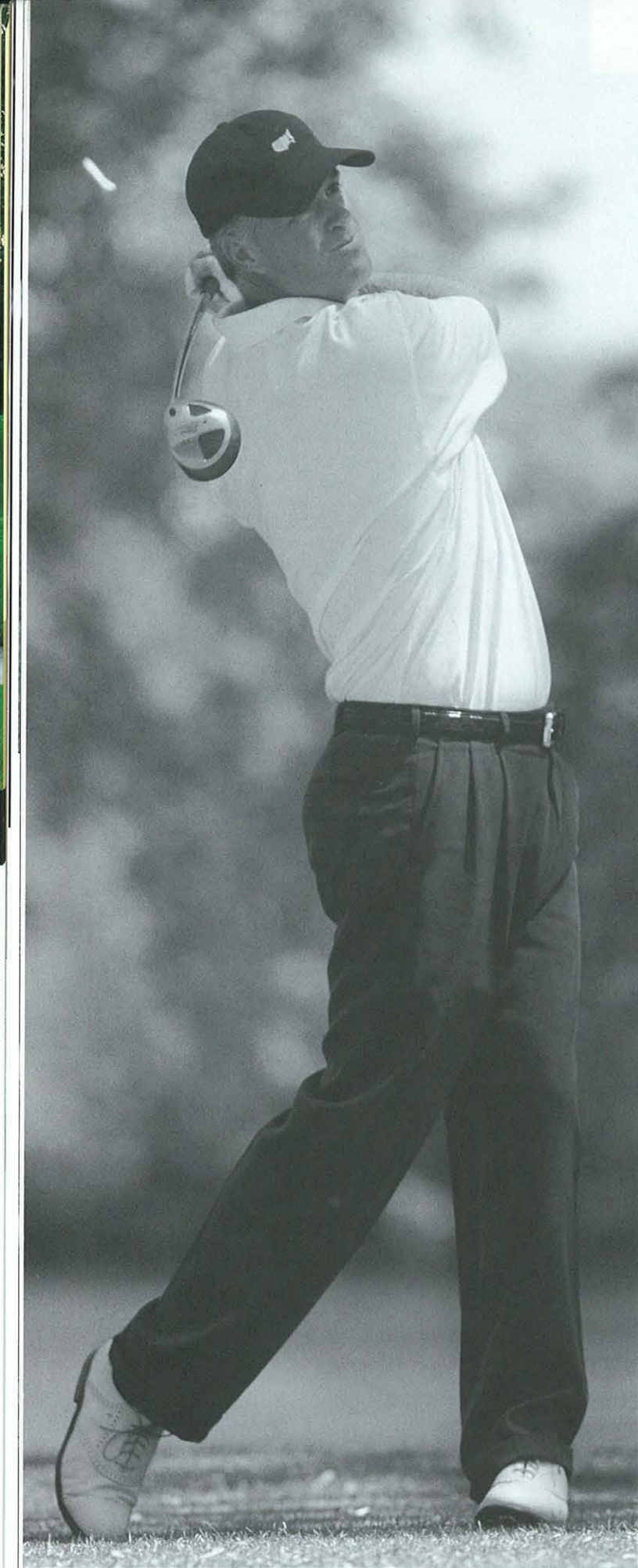
on the 1974 NCAA championship team coached by Herb Brooks, who would later go on to coach the "Miracle on Ice" U.S. Olympic Team at Lake Placid in 1980. Harris was a man of many talents, and a man for all seasons.

Still, to Harris, golf was king. He captured the first of his four Minnesota State Amateur championships at Dellwood Hills Golf Club in 1974. It would be thirteen more years before he captured his second Amateur—a tense sudden death win over Jeff Teal at Hazeltine National. In '89, he won in another playoff, this time over Jon Christian at Rochester Golf and Country Club and then won again in 2000 defeating Philip Schmidt in a playoff at Bearpath Golf and Country Club. Harris joins an elite group including Harry Legg, Jimmy Johnston and Pat Sawyer who have won the Amateur four or more times. The Amateur, however, is not the only trophy on Harris' mantel.

Harris owns no shortage of MGA hardware. He captured the inaugural MGA Mid-Amateur title—the first of five Mid-Amateur's he'd collect. He defeated Dick Blooston that first year on Harris' home course of Edina Country Club and then won three of the next four championships as well (1990-1992). He captured the crown for the

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Both Tom Lehman and John Harris were honored by the University of Minnesota in 1995 for their distinguished golf careers.



final time in 1999 after sinking a par putt on the last hole to hold off Mark Boettcher at St. Cloud Country Club.

In addition to his State Amateur and Mid-Amateur crowns, Harris teamed to take home three MGA Four-Ball championships – in 1973 with Rick Ehrmantraut and in 1987 and 1989 with Dick Blooston. He was also runner-up in two close State Opens in '88 and '89, as well as a two-time runner-up in the MGA Players' Championship in '87 and '91. Not surprisingly, Harris has been named MGA Player-of-the-Year an astounding nine consecutive years from 1987-1995. It is an incredible accomplishment and one that speaks to his durability and longevity.

Harris' golfing success was not confined to the borders of Minnesota either. Not by a long shot. At the 1988 U.S. Mid-Amateur Championship at Prairie Dunes in Hutchison, Kansas, Harris was one of three players including Jay Sigel and Randy Sonnier to tie for medalist honors. Harris made it to the third round and then was upended. Two years later in 1991 he was co-medalist with Allen Doyle at the U.S. Amateur Championship held at The Honors Course in Ooltewah, Tennessee. Though Harris made an early exit, falling in the first round, there was no disgrace in losing to two-time Amateur champ Jay Sigel. That same year he was also a quarter-finalist at the U.S. Mid-Amateur Championship played at the Long Cove Club in Hilton Head, South Carolina.

Like a fine wine, Harris keeps getting better with age. At age 41, he captured the 1993 U.S. Amateur Championship at Champions Golf Club in Houston, Texas. As it turns out, Harris' timing couldn't have been better. The following year, some kid named Woods began a run of three straight Amateur wins.

Two days after helping the American side to a lopsided 19-5 victory in the 1993 Walker Cup matches at Interlachen Country Club, Harris was brimming with confidence as he headed south for that year's Amateur. Not even the stifling heat of the Texas summer could keep this Minnesotan down. "I thought nothing could ever be better than playing

Harris credits the MGA for creating a golf climate in Minnesota that is second-to-none.

***"When you see the success that Minnesota players have had—these things never would have happened had it not been for the MGA. Our state tournaments are well run, the competition is spectacular and the atmosphere for golf in Minnesota is competitive."* —JOHN HARRIS**

in the Walker Cup," reminisced Harris. "It had been my dream and I finally did it in my hometown in front of family and friends. I thought my career was complete and I didn't have to do another thing." Little did he know what lay ahead.

Prior to the competition, Harris remembers having a gut feeling that things would go his way. "When I put my ball down on the putting green and set my putter behind it," he recently recalls, "it had an entirely different look. I don't know what it was but the putter looked square and I just thought I was going to make everything." How prophetic those words would be.

After making it through the qualifying rounds and his first match, Harris dispatched two-time National Public Links champion David Berganio, Jr. in the morning's second round before facing Walker Cup teammate Justin Leonard in the quarterfinals. All even through 14 holes, Harris proceeded to birdie the 15th to go one-up then went two up after 16 when Leonard hit an errant shot. As he stood in the evening twilight on the 17th green and watched Leonard miss the putt that would extend the match, Harris, his son Chris who was caddieing for him, and some 5,000 spectators all gave Leonard, a native Texan, polite applause. The match proved to be Leonard's last as an amateur.

One of Harris' closest matches was in the semifinals against Bobby Cochran, whose chip shot on the last hole to tie the match hit the flagstick but did not go in. Harris dominated the finals capturing the Amateur title with a 5 & 3 victory over Danny Ellis. With the victory, Harris secured a place in the field at the Masters the following spring. "To have a week like that with six matches and the qualifying

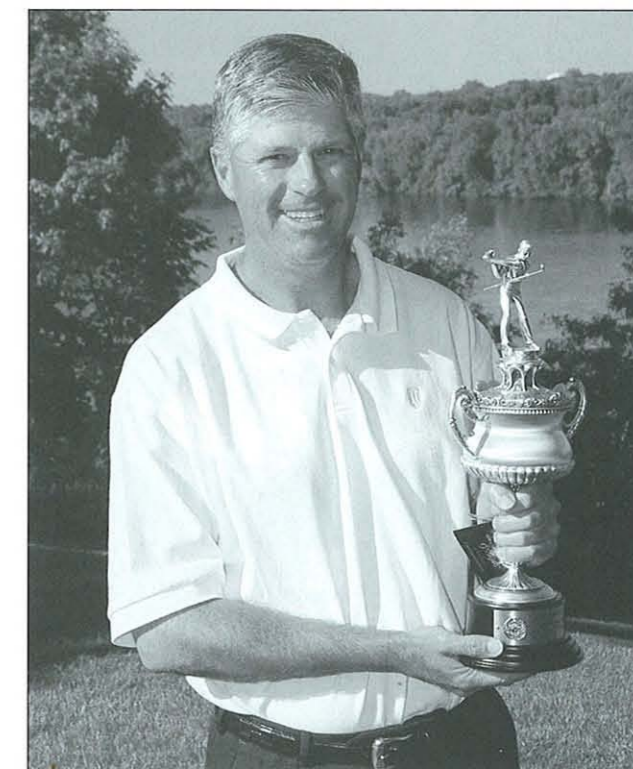
in the brutal heat," he says, "I guess all of the stars lined up. I didn't make a lot of putts, but I made a lot of key putts."

A one-time professional and now a committed amateur, Harris respects the game in every aspect. For his dedication to the game in Minnesota, he was awarded the Warren J. Rebholz Distinguished Service Award in 1999—a fitting tribute to a man who upholds the highest ideals of the game while also having fun. "I just feel blessed to be able to play in Minnesota and to travel and represent Minnesota," he says.

Harris credits the Minnesota Golf Association, as well as friend and former executive director Warren Rebholz, for his ability to reach the highest levels of amateur golf. "When you see the success that Minnesota players have had like Gary Jacobson, Jim Sorenson, Chris Perry, Tom Lehman and Tim Herron—these things never would have happened had it not been for the MGA. Our state tournaments are well run, the competition is spectacular and the atmosphere for golf in Minnesota is competitive. It's all because of what Warren and the association has done and what they stand for."

Rebholz, no doubt, would return the compliment.

Harris claimed his fifth MGA Mid-Amateur title in 1999 at St. Cloud Country Club.



THE MGA CHAMPIONSHIPS

COMPETITION TAKES CENTER STAGE



INEVITABLY, AS WINTER LOOSENS ITS ICY GRIP and gives way to spring in the upper Midwest, devoted golfers know that championship competition is just around the corner. Winter coats are put away and the sticks come out of the closet in anticipation of the upcoming golf season.

As the governing body of golf in the state, the Minnesota Golf Association is responsible for, among other things, overseeing the administration of 13 amateur championships. These annual tournaments run the gamut from the MGA Amateur Championship, first contested in Winona in 1901, to the relatively new MGA Women's Mid-Amateur which made its debut on the state golf calendar in 1997. Minnesota champions from the past such as Harold Legg, Jimmy Johnston and Gertrude Boothby Dansingburg eventually gave way to the likes of Dick Copeland, Bud Chapman, Bill Israelson, Tom Lehman, Chris Perry, Tim Herron, Mike Fermoyle and John Harris, just to name a few. And there will be more to follow them.

Following is a look at five of the state's championships.

While certainly not an all-inclusive list, we have endeavored to provide at least a glimpse into championship golf in Minnesota and some of the players who have left their stamp on the record books.

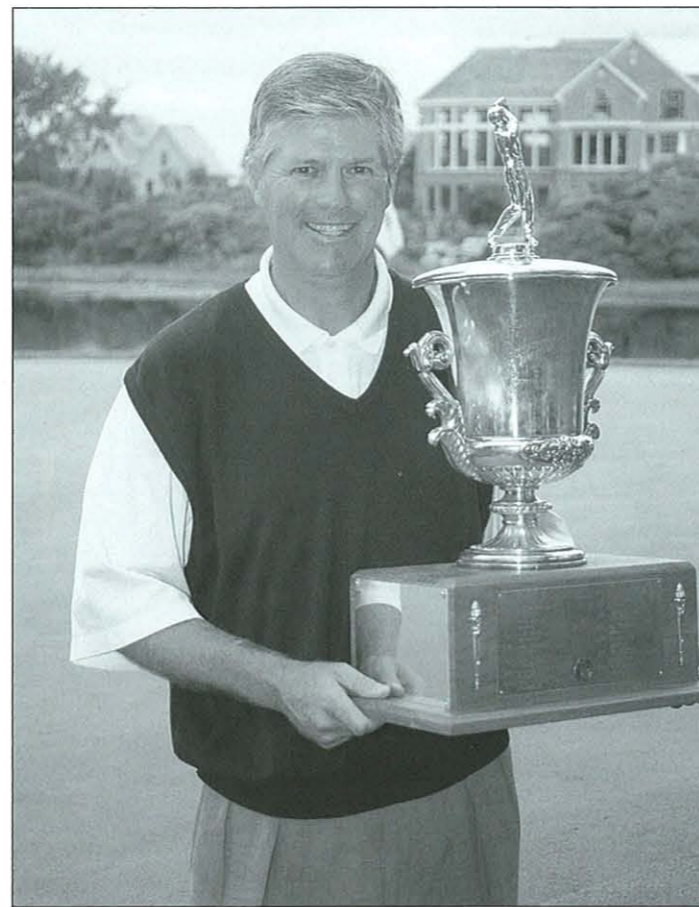
THE MGA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

Earning the right to wear the MGA Amateur Championship crown is an honor that all of the state's top golfers covet. The Amateur is considered by many to be the Holy Grail of golf tournaments in the state and has a roster of winners that represents a virtual "who's who" of Minnesota golf. From the Reverend T.P. Thurston, the events very first champion in 1901, to John Harris, who captured his fourth Amateur title in 2000, this tournament has featured numerous nail-biting finishes over the past 100 years and rightfully holds its place as the summer's marquee event.

Currently, the format for the tournament consists of



Gertrude Boothby Dansingburg, a native of Rochester, was virtually unbeatable during the 1920s and '30s winning 11 state championships including six in a row. Circa 1941.



John Harris, who won the 2000 MGA Amateur at Bearpath, is one of only three Minnesotans in state history, besides the incomparable Harry Legg and Harrison R. "Jimmy" Johnston, to win the title four or more times.

54 holes of stroke play, with the top 60 and ties making the cut for the final 18 holes. Players with a handicap of 6.4 or less must either qualify prior to the event to enter the field or receive an exemption. At stake is the Totton P. Heffelfinger Trophy named in honor of the former MGA President and USGA President. From 1901-1966 the tournament was contested at match play but then switched to stroke play in 1967.

Many tournament devotees like to cite statistics when it comes to comparing winners of different eras. Whether stacking up champions from different eras is fair is not for us to decide but some individual achievements in the history of the Amateur are truly remarkable. Harry Legg's 10 titles (1905, 1908-1913, 1917 and 1919-1920), will most likely never be eclipsed. He also holds the record for most appearances in the Amateur final (13), semifinal (15), most

"The Amateur is considered by many to be the Holy Grail of golf tournaments in the state and has a roster of winners that represents a virtual 'who's who' of Minnesota golf."

times medalist (8) and had an astounding record of 70-10 overall in match play. Not far behind is Jimmy Johnston with his seven consecutive Amateur titles from 1921-1927 while earning medalist honors five times. Pat Sawyer, Harold Bend, Dudley Mudge, Bobby Campbell, Neil Croonquist, Larry Karkhoff, Ade Simonsen and Gene Hansen were others who had their names etched on the championship trophy on more than one occasion during the tournament's formative years.

The modern era during the stroke play years has simi-

larly seen some of the state's top amateurs proving their prowess. Certainly at the head of the class is John Harris, who has captured the crown four times (1974, 1987, 1989 and 2000). He is followed closely by three-time winners Mike Fermoye (1970, 1973 and 1980) and Bill Israelson (1976-1978). Two-time winners include Gary Burton (1968-1969), Chris Perry (1982-1983) and Dave Nordeen (1985-1986). These and all the other champions of this tournament are in a class by themselves.

MGA PLAYERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

After the MGA Amateur went to a stroke-play format in 1967, state golfers didn't have a match play event on the golf calendar. Thankfully, the Players' Championship changed that. And the interest in the championship and the caliber of play since its inception in 1979 has been nothing short of astounding.

This annual invitational event features a select field of 64 top players in the state who play 18-hole single elimination matches. The field in this event is elite and the competition fierce as player's battle each other to take home the Al Wareham Memorial Plaque (named in honor of the MGA's former president and second executive director from 1964-1971). The plaque goes to each winner's club for that year or until he is defeated.

In the tournament's 23-year history, a total of five players have won the event twice: Scott Harris of Oakcrest CC (1979, 1982), Tom Lehman of Alexandria GC (1980-1981), Steve Johnson of Elk River CC (1988-1989), J.B. Lloyd of Southview CC (1993, 1999) and Terry O'Loughlin of White Bear Yacht Club (1996-1997). Over the years countless past MGA champions including Jim Kidd, Dave Tentis, Jeff Teal, Ted Bodine and David Christensen have all elevated their game in this tough event against a stellar field.

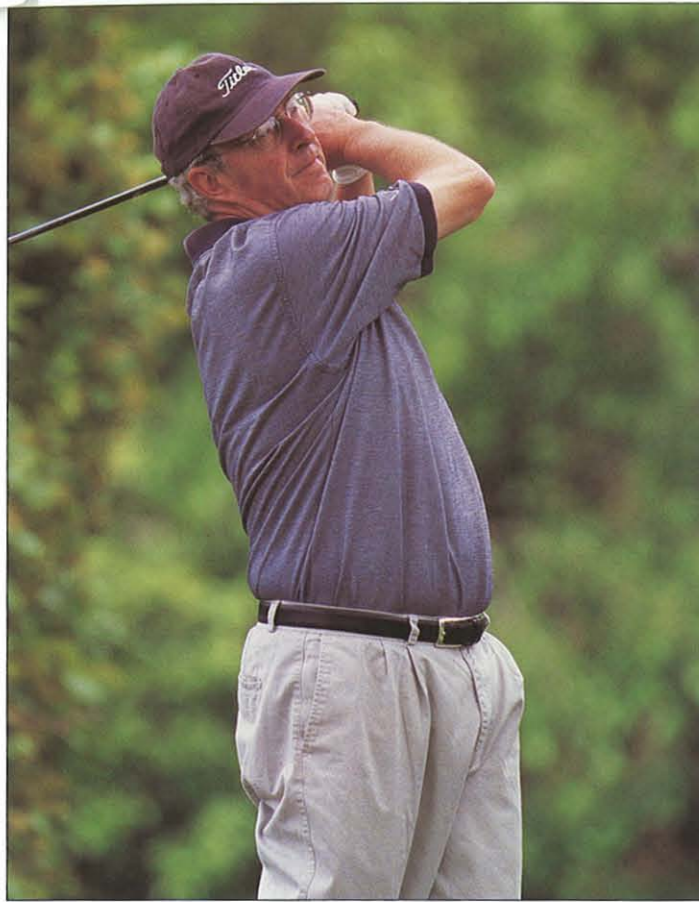
MGA MID-AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

How can you mention the MGA Mid-Amateur Championship without mentioning the name of John Harris

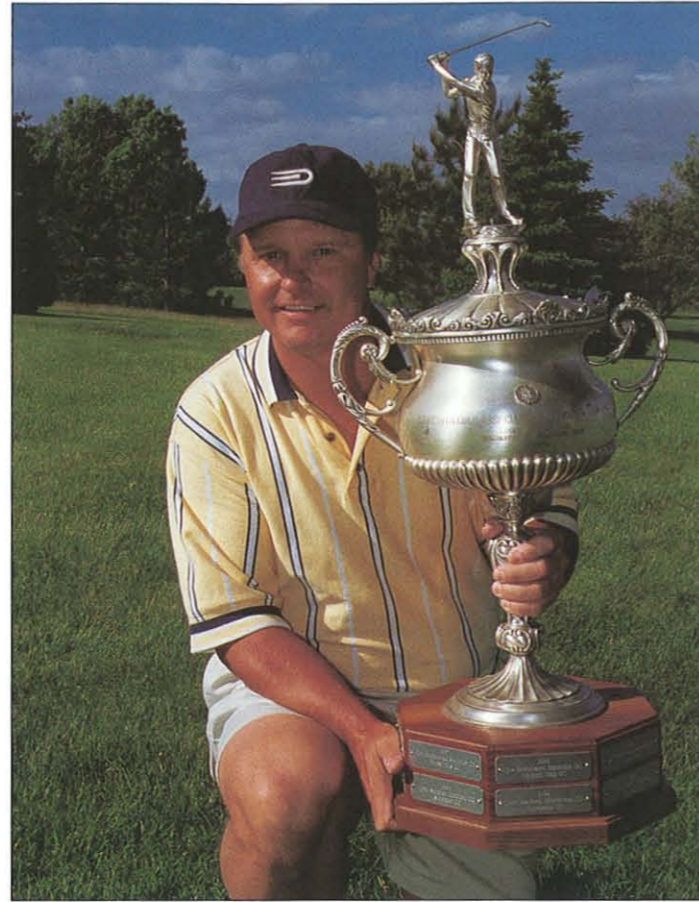


Many of the state's top golfers vie to have their names engraved on the Al Wareham Memorial Plaque, which goes annually to the winner of the MGA Players' Championship.

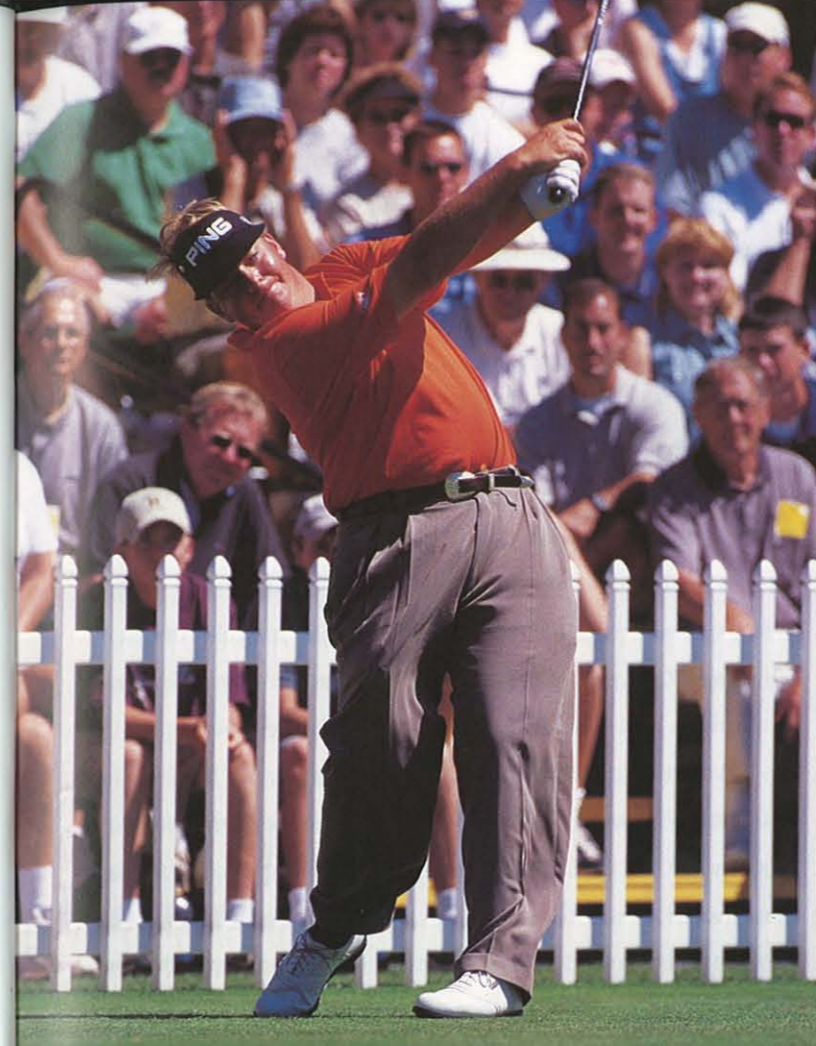




Rick Ehrmantraut, coach of the University of Minnesota golf team from 1976-1978, is one of the states' "Triple Crown Champions" winning the Amateur, Open and two Public Links titles. He also captured the MGA Mid-Amateur in 1997.



Gary Jacobson has been a standout amateur for a number of years winning, most recently, the 2000 MGA Mid-Amateur at venerable Minnesota Valley Country Club.



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Tim Herron, who started out playing junior golf in Minnesota, is an up-and-coming star on the PGA Tour today.

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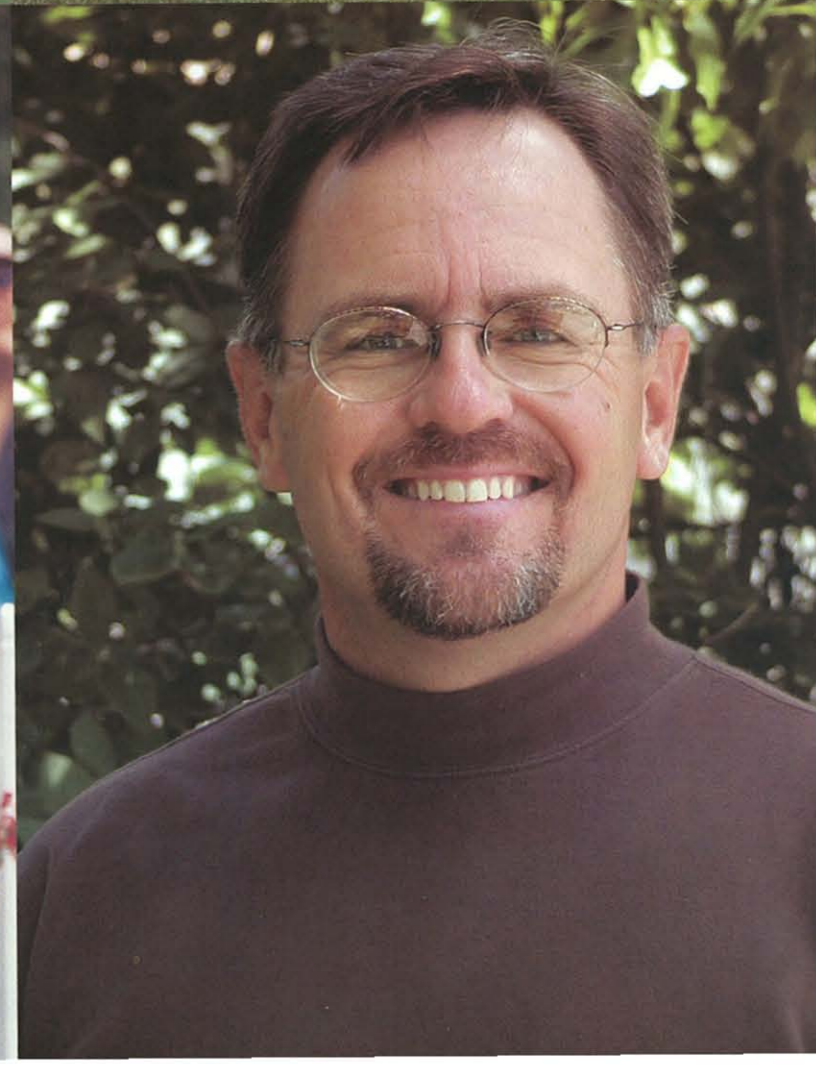
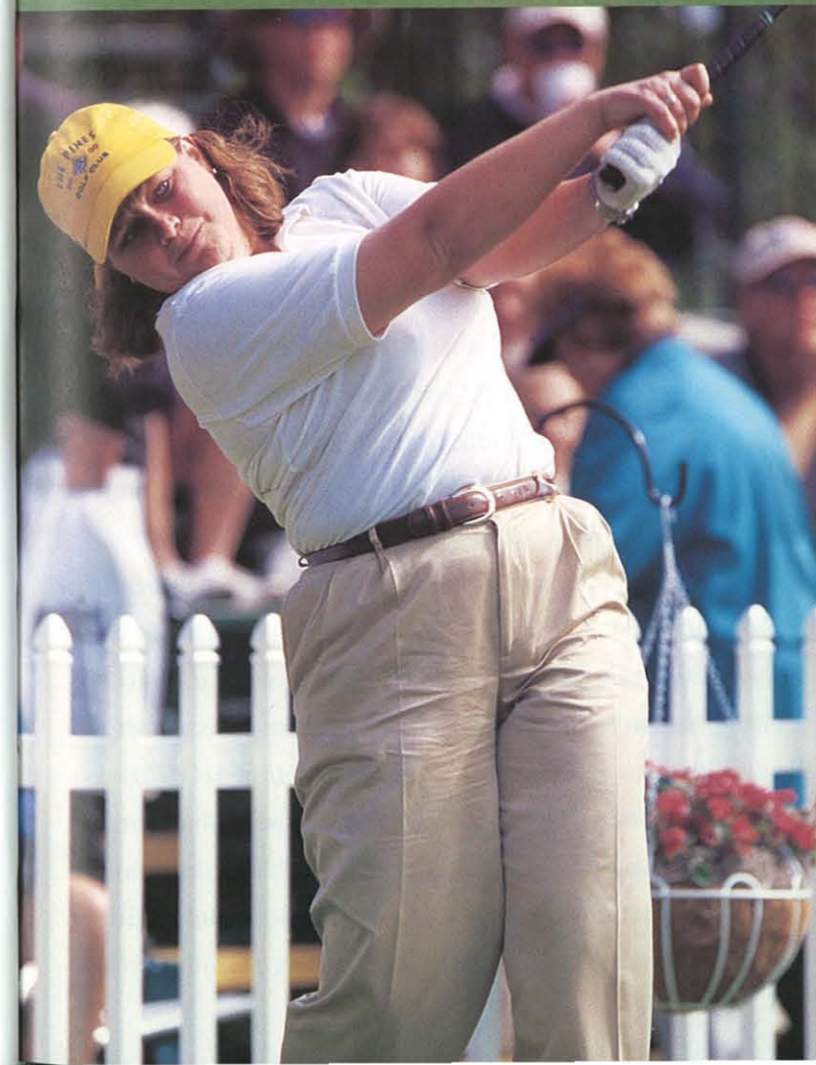
Bill Israelson has had his name engraved on the MGA Amateur trophy three times from 1976-1978.

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Alissa Herron, who captured the U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Championship in 2000, is one of only three Minnesota women, besides Patty Berg and Jerilyn Britz, to win a USGA championship.

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A two-time winner of the state's Mid-Amateur, Joe Stansberry has represented Minnesota three times at the USGA State Team Championship.



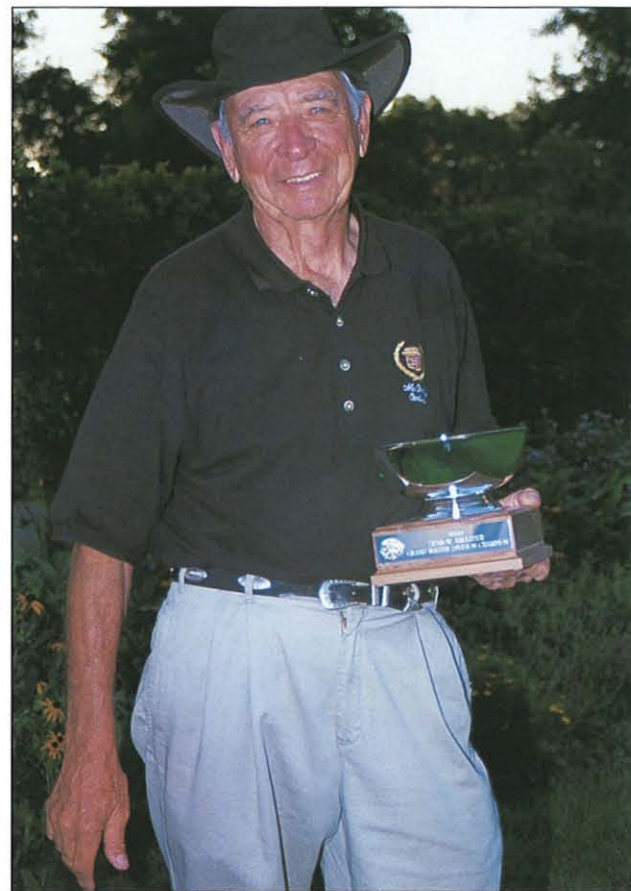
in the same breath? During the tournament's 14-year run, the two have been synonymous.

Following in the footsteps of the United States Golf Association, which held its first Mid-Amateur championship in 1981, the MGA's inaugural event took place in the summer of 1988. The tournament format is a 36-hole stroke play event for contestant's age 30 and older with a 6.4 handicap or lower at the time of entry.

The inaugural Mid-Amateur was held at historic Edina Country Club. It was a fitting setting for Harris, an Edina member, as he captured the first of his record five Mid-Amateur titles by defeating another Edina member, Dick Blooston, by three strokes. Harris fired rounds of 70-75 - 145 (one over par) and Blooston countered with 75-73 - 148. Harris went on to record four more victories in the event at some of Minnesota's best courses.

In 1990 Harris finished at six-under-par 140 and defeated John Reichert and Mike Fermoye by a whopping 10 strokes at Interlachen Country Club. A year later he had his closest call—having to birdie the 18th hole at Fairbault Golf & Country Club on the way to dispatching Rod Magnuson of Keller and in 1992 he pulled off the trifecta at a challenging Wayzata Country Club. His most recent triumph came in 1999 when he edged out Minneapolis Golf Club's Mark Boettcher by one stroke at St. Cloud Country Club.

Other champions in this event over the past decade and a half include Steve Johnson of Elk River Country



Besides his success as a commercial artist, Bud Chapman has also proved his prowess on the links having been named Senior Men's Player of the Year on three occasions.

Club (1989), Joe Stansberry of Hiawatha Golf Club (1993, 1995), John Reichert of Interlachen Country Club (1994), John Spreiter of Litchfield Golf Club (1996), Rick Ehrmantraut of Southview Country Club (1997) and J.B. Lloyd of Southview Country Club (1998).

MGA SENIOR AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

While the MGA Amateur holds its place as one of the preeminent tournaments on the MGA's golf calendar, the Senior Amateur doesn't play second fiddle in any way, shape or form. In fact, it ranks as the second longest running MGA sanctioned event in the state and has a roster of former champions that would make any young buck cringe.

According to Minnesota author James E. Kelley in his book "*Minnesota Golf: Ninety Years of Tournament History 1901-1991*," the Senior Amateur started out as an invitational in 1922. From its inception until 1955, the event was contested at Somerset Country Club in St. Paul. After the Minnesota Senior Golf Association took over sponsorship of the event in 1956, the tournament site changed each year and a second course was required each year beginning in 1971 because of its popularity. The MGA took over sponsorship of the Senior Amateur in 1987 after the MSGA folded.

The names of the early winners engraved on the Senior Amateur Championship trophy are many of the prominent men of that era who led the MGA and effectively put Minnesota golf on the map. They include such illustrious gentlemen as Frank T. Heffelfinger (1922), Harold Bend (1923-1924), former MGA president Dave Tallman (1926-1928, 1937), former MGA president Clive T. Jaffray (1930), five-time (a record) Senior Amateur winner Runcie B. Martin (1935, 1938-1939, 1942 and 1944), Richard C. Lilly (1936, 1943) and Harrison R. "Jimmy" Johnston (1946, 1949). Champions in recent years include three-time winner Roy Widstrom (1973-1975), Bill Zieske (1964, 1970), Gene Christensen (1976, 1979), Loyal "Bud" Chapman (1978, 1990) and Dick Copeland (1987, 1989). These and the other deserving champions can proudly claim their stake to one of the toughest titles in the state.

MGA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Considering that one of the MGA's missions is promote the traditions and history of the game, it's only fitting the association recognize the very foundation of the game—its junior players.

The MGA Junior Championship, for both boys and girls, has been a training ground for many of the state's players who have gone on to distinguish themselves either in the amateur ranks or on the professional circuit. Whether these young golfers, who compete on an individual and team level, ever make a name for themselves in the game isn't always a priority. It is simply playing the game and having fun that is most important.

Still, the competition is taken seriously. As well it should be. In 2001, the MGA Junior Championship will be celebrating its 41st anniversary at historic Town and Country Club in St. Paul, where golf got its start in the state back in the late 1800s. It is certainly a fitting tribute to the states up-and-coming stars to be able to compete at such a historic venue.

As mentioned previously, many of the past junior champions have taken their game to another level over the years whether as an amateur or a professional. The very first champion was George Shortridge who won in the tournament's inaugural year, 1961, at Somerset Country Club. He went on to capture some 15 state titles including the Open and PGA. Other Junior winners from the past include Dave Haberle (1966-1967), who became an All-American as a Gopher, Gary Jacobson (1971), Bill Israelson (1971), who captured three straight Amateur titles, Kathy Williams (1976-1977), Jody Rosenthal (1978), who captured the 1984 British Ladies Amateur championship, and Dave Tentis (1979).

Today, as in the past, the tournament format features 36 holes of stroke play with teams and individual players qualifying through four weeks of district competition and one week of state regional play. In 2000, Luke Benoit of Fairbault Country Club captured the individual crown and Highland Park took home the team title in the Open Division. On the girl's side of the draw, Keely Dolan of

Cokato Golf Club came out on top after losing in a playoff the year before. Oakcrest Golf Club captured the team event by three strokes over University Golf Club.

The excitement of playing in an amateur golf competition is an experience to be cherished. And *playing* the game—not just winning—is what it's all about in Minnesota. From matching skills in the MGA Amateur Four-Ball to the Women's Mid-Amateur to the Amateur, golfers of all ability levels in the state have an opportunity to challenge themselves, as well as a worthy opponent, on a level playing field. And only on the golf course can camaraderie and appreciation for the history and traditions of the game be so evident and valued. The MGA is certainly proud to play an important role in seeing that that is the case.

Keely Dolan showed all the composure of a veteran in winning the 2000 Girls' Junior title. And, in 2001, she teamed to capture the MWGA Four-Ball.



SEVEN MEMORABLE MAJORS

HIGH DRAMA ON MINNESOTA'S FAIRWAYS



Minnesota has hosted numerous national and international golf competitions over the past century. And 2001 will lengthen the roster as the state will host the men and women's USGA State Team Championships. Minnesota will own the distinction of being the only state to have hosted every USGA championship. Add in three PGA Championships and the state can be proud of its legacy of attracting the world's best golfers to its doorstep over the last century. Here's a look at seven tournaments that helped shape the face of tournament golf in Minnesota.

1916 UNITED STATES OPEN

The National Open of 1916 was memorable for many reasons, not the least being that it was the first time in the tournament's 22-year history that it was held west of Chicago.

As noted in one national golf publication, "Minneapolis, for a few days, was capital of the golfing world." The large

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The legendary Bobby Jones felt right at home in Minnesota capturing two USGA titles in the state in the span of just three years.

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Veteran Charlotte Glutting's road to the finals' of the 1935 U.S. Women's Amateur contested at Interlachen Country Club took a wrong turn when she was upended in dramatic fashion by a 17-year-old upstart from Minneapolis named Patty Berg.

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In a 14-year span, from 1922-1935, women's golfing legend Glenna Collette Vare dominated the U.S. Women's Amateur event winning six times while finishing runner-up twice.

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At the 1927 U.S. Amateur at Minikahda, defending champion George Von Elm was ousted by 40-year-old Minnesotan Harry Legg in the tournament's biggest upset.



The 1916 Open at The Minikahda Club was the first to ever be contested west of Chicago in the tournament's 22-year history. Up to that point, most of the tournaments were held on the East Coast.

crowds, including many who arrived at The Minikahda Club via streetcar, were treated to spectacular weather, spectacular views (the club overlooks Lake Calhoun), and spectacular golf.

Unheard of today but common practice in golf's early days, a pro-am was held prior to the start of the Open. The 18-hole team match ended in a tie between Charles "Chick" Evans and Wilfred Reid and their partners. In order to break the stalemate, officials eschewed a playoff and flipped a coin instead. Evans won the fortuitous flip and it proved a harbinger of things to come.

Eight Minnesotans qualified including the likes of White Bear Yacht Club pro Tom Vardon, Harrison R. "Jimmy" Johnston, George Sargeant and Minikahda's Harry Legg.

A downpour the night before the first round softened the greens significantly and several players took advantage. Evans, playing with only seven clubs in his bag, fired a

one-under par 70 and stood at the top of the leaderboard along with Reid. "Long" Jim Barnes followed with a 71. Back then, the tournament was contested over just two days, making it necessary to complete 36 holes each day.

After the second round, Evans increased his lead to three strokes over Reid after shooting a course-record 69 for a two round total of 139. Evans also became the first player to break 140 for 36 holes at the Open.

Playing in blustery conditions, Evans maintained his lead with a 74 during Saturday's third round. His closest pursuer, however, had changed. Barnes jumped back into contention with an even par 71 while Reid ballooned to a 79.

Evans seemed to be on cruise control in the final round after paring the first three holes. Then he encountered trouble on the par-5 4th hole. A careless approach shot landed in a bunker and Evans, after extricating himself from the sand, revisited his putting woes with a three-putt for double-bogey. Said Evans later, "I had buried myself in the bunker and the cost of getting out, and the three putts I took, gave me the biggest seven of my life." A birdie at the fifth steadied Evans and he made the turn in 37, just one ahead of Barnes.

Throwing caution to the wind, Evans took command of the tournament with a terrific birdie at the par-5 12th. Going for the green in two, Evans flew the creek, reached the dance floor and two putted. Said the gambling Evans, "I decided to risk the creek, and I never played a better shot in my life. I listened for the gallery at the green and when the encouraging sounds came echoing back, I was overjoyed."

Six holes later he was positively giddy. Completing a final-round 73, Evans won the Open by two strokes over Jock Hutchison, who put on a furious rally, coming from nine strokes back at the halfway mark with rounds of 72-68. Barnes could never get it going and finished third, four strokes back.

Evans' 286 total for four rounds established a 72-hole record that stood for 20 years. It was also after his victory at Minikahda that he endowed the Evans Scholarship Fund, which to this day continues to provide deserving caddies money for college.

1927 UNITED STATES AMATEUR

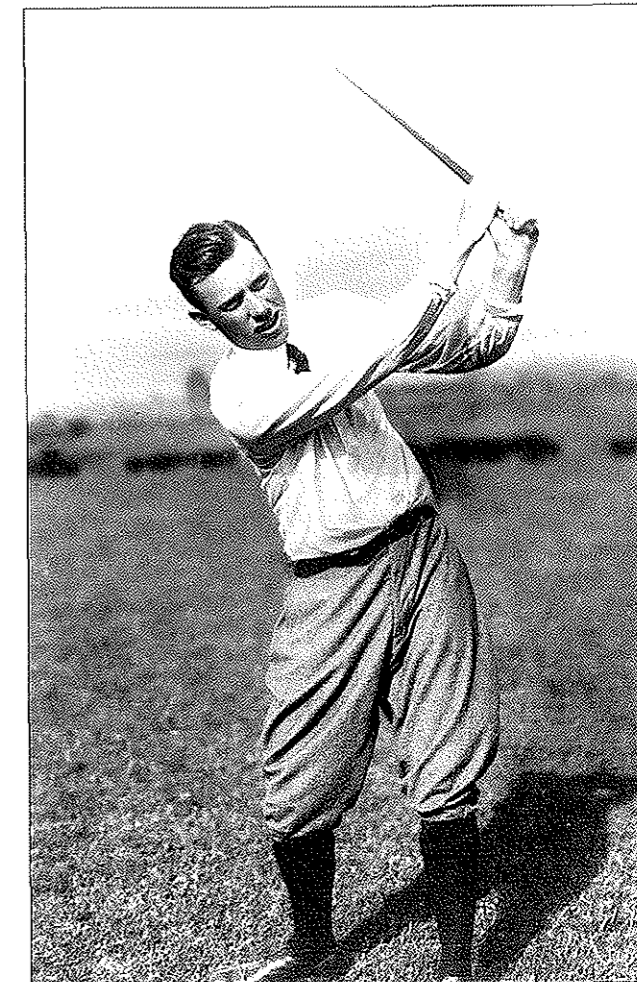
More than a decade after hosting the 1916 U.S. Open, Minnesota was back in the golf spotlight with the 1927 U.S. Amateur. And once again, The Minikahda Club served as the site.

Leading into the event, the focus was on the "Big 3": Bobby Jones, George Von Elm and Jess Sweetser. Jones had been runner-up to Von Elm the previous year at Baltusrol in New Jersey and Sweetser had captured the British Amateur that same year. The smart money said one of these three would take home the crown.

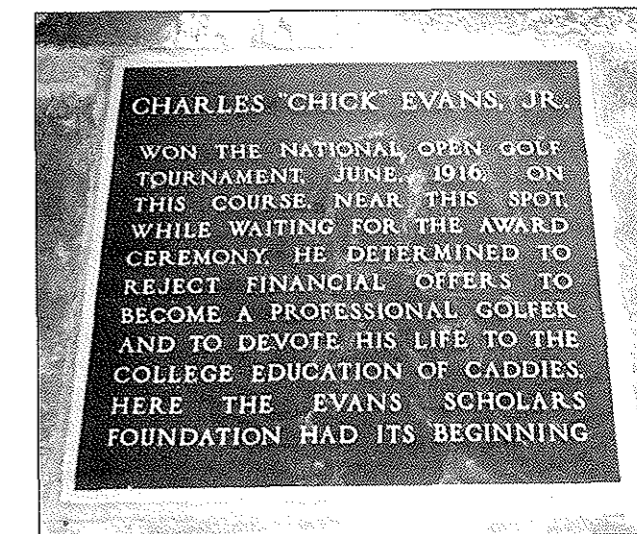
On the local scene, upwards of 18 Minnesotans entered the field including Jimmy Johnston, 10-time state amateur champion Harry Legg and Public Links champion Les Bolstad.

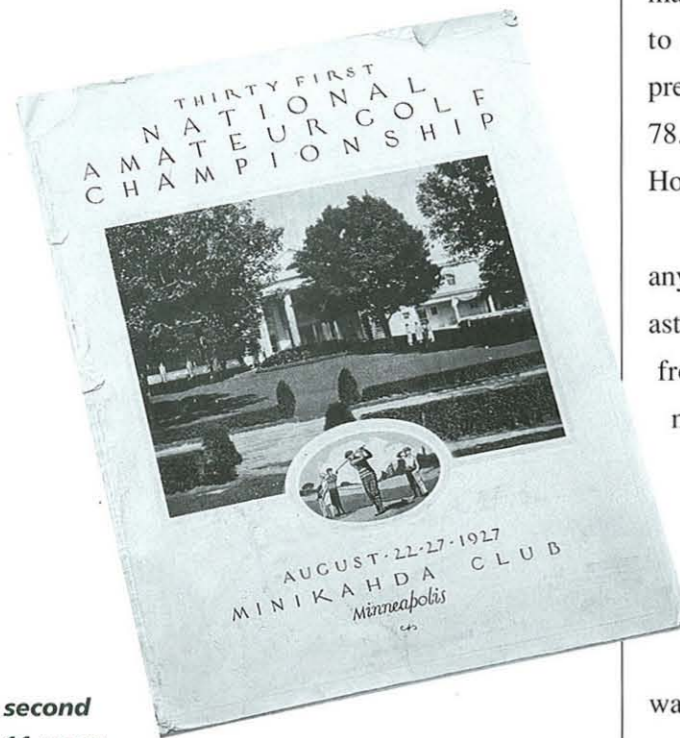
The initial field of 160 was quickly whittled down as the pretenders to the Amateur thrown fell by the wayside. In qualifying for match play, Jones hit his stride early and took home medalist honors with a 142 total, three ahead of Johnston.

Surprisingly, Jones encountered trouble in his first



The lasting legacy of the Open at Minikahda is most assuredly amateur Charles "Chick" Evans' decision to create a college scholarship fund for deserving caddies after his victory.





For the second time in 11 years, the state of Minnesota welcomed the golf world to its doorstep to watch some of day's top amateurs do battle.



While Bobby Jones and "Jimmy" Johnston were rivals on the golf course, off the course, they had a deep, mutual respect for each other and became quite close friends.

match as Maurice McCarthy, Jr. of New York took him to the limit. McCarthy was 1-up at the turn, but Jones prevailed winning 2-up after an uncharacteristic round of 78. Jones easily won his second match 3 & 2 over Eugene Homans. Next up: local favorite Johnston.

On paper, Johnston's game could stand up to almost anyone's. But resumes don't win tournaments and his astounding record of seven straight State Amateur titles from 1921-1927 (plus the State Open in '27) didn't do much for him against the best golfer in the world.

The contest between Jones and Johnston wasn't even close. Jones was three-up after nine holes and Johnston never recovered, losing 10 & 9 in the 36-hole match.

It was evident to many at Minikahda that Jones was not going to be denied the title. His way had been paved in the second round after the 40-year-old Legg shocked defending champion Von Elm 1-up. For Legg, who also had one Western Amateur and five Trans-Mississippi titles to his name, the Amateur at Minikahda was in many ways his competitive swan song. He was beaten by Roland Mackenzie 1-up in the third round and was never a serious factor again in national or state competition.

The semi-finals featured three established players in Jones, 1913 Open champion Francis Ouimet and Evans, who was reliving some of the success he had enjoyed at Minikahda 11 years earlier. The dark horse was MacKenzie: He had never won a match in any previous Amateur and now found himself among the game's greats.

Jones got off to a red-hot start against Ouimet and quickly built a commanding five-hole lead. Ouimet never knew what hit him. He was eight down after the morning round and eventually endured an 11 & 10 drubbing. Said Ouimet afterwards, "The worst part about playing against Jones in one of those moods is that it demoralizes your own game. It makes you go for anything and it makes you make mistakes that you would not ordinarily. You can't play your own game because his golf won't let you."

In what many considered the best match of the tournament, '24 Amateur medalist Mackenzie took Evans to



"A Little Something for the Effort"

The 1927 U.S. Amateur contested at the Minikahda Club featured numerous story lines coming into the event including whether the legendary Bobby Jones could wrestle the title back after finishing runner-up to George Von Elm the previous year at Baltusrol. Norm Anderson, former MGA president from 1968-1970, has his own story to tell.

At the time, Anderson was Minnesota stand-out Harry Legg's regular caddie at Minikahda but decided not to loop for him during the Amateur. "I wouldn't caddie for Legg because he was only paying me 75 cents a round," recalls Anderson. Instead he picked up the bag of defending champion Von Elm after he fired his caddie during the first practice round. Anderson figured Von Elm was his ticket to a potentially big payday.

Well, wouldn't you know it? In the biggest upset of the tournament, 40-year-old Legg ousted Von Elm 1-up in the second round sending the defending champion packing. And how, you may ask, was Anderson compensated? "George Von Elm gave me three of his golf balls, three of Bobby Jones' golf balls and \$25.00," says Anderson. A nice haul, but the story doesn't end there.

When asked what he did with the golf balls, Anderson was very matter of fact. "I sold the balls for \$4 a piece a few days later," he says. Wonder what they would fetch today on e-bay?



Bobby Jones thoroughly dominated "Chick" Evans in their finals' match winning 8 & 7.

Newspaper headlines like this one became all too familiar to Jones' competitors during this era.



overtime. The clock struck midnight, however, when Mackenzie's 12-footer to match Evans' 25-foot birdie putt on the first extra hole slid by the cup. Evans' luck, however, was about to run out.

Saving his best for last, Jones showed no mercy in the 36-hole final. He blistered the front nine in 31, building a 4-up lead in the process. Increasing his lead to 6-up with 9 holes to play, Jones dusted off Evans two holes later and took home his third U.S. Amateur title winning 8 & 7. Concluded sportswriter Grantland Rice, "Brilliant golf is often seen. Consistently brilliant golf is rare. Breaking 70, ranging from 67-69 four times within five days of a championship is unprecedented."

1930 UNITED STATES OPEN

One could excuse Bobby Jones for feeling a little out of sorts after arriving in New York City from England en route to Minneapolis for the U.S. Open in early July. He had just survived a month of grueling competitive golf that included wins at the British Amateur at St. Andrews, the British Open at Hoylake, as well as being a member of the U.S. team at the Walker Cup matches. In fact, in the race to get to Minneapolis, he'd inadvertently left one key piece of equipment in his London hotel room—his golf clubs.

The weather in Minneapolis was stifling as the thermometer reached 101 degrees. With two legs of the Grand Slam under his belt, Jones was feeling the strain mentally. In order to recharge his batteries, Jones took part of a practice day off and went fishing on Lake Minnetonka with good friend and Minneapolis native Jimmy Johnston. Feeling rejuvenated, Jones readied himself to tackle the Interlachen Country Club course.

Some 10,000 spectators turned out in the blazing sun for Thursday's first round and were not disappointed. Jones fashioned a respectable one-under-par 71 and trailed MacDonald Smith and Tommy Armour by a single stroke. Two back were Horton Smith, "Lighthorse" Harry Cooper and Walter Hagen. In fact, it was so hot that Jones' plus fours were soaked through and his red tie, which had run through his white shirt, had to be cut off.

Horton Smith took the lead on Friday but it was Jones who had the shot of the day. Going for the green over the water on the par-5 ninth hole, he prepared to hit his second shot onto the green at the par 5 hole. Jones' eye caught a sudden movement in the gallery. "It developed that two little girls had made a break as though to run across the fairway," said Jones. "My involuntary flinch caused a halftop. The action of the ball was precisely that of a flat stone being skipped across the water."

After it had finished hopping and skipping (some say off a lily pad), Jones' ball miraculously landed on the bank in front of the green where he got up-and-down for a birdie four. His round of 73 left him two shots behind Smith. Said Jones' caddie, Donovan Dale, after the round, "I pity old man par for the rest of the way."

Dale's words proved prophetic. Jones didn't take pity on old man par or the rest of the field in Saturday morning's third round.

After his tournament low 68, Jones had a commanding five-shot lead over Cooper, six shots over Horton Smith and a seven-stroke advantage over nemesis MacDonald Smith, who'd taken him down to the wire at Hoylake only a few weeks earlier. A Jones victory appeared to be a mere formality. Or was it?

Making the turn in 38 in the final round, Jones continued to squander shots on the back nine, bogeying number 12 and following it with a double-bogey on 13. The once insurmountable lead was down to one over MacDonald Smith, who gained six strokes on Jones in just 13 holes. Jones came back with birdies at 14 and 16 before facing the treacherous 262-yard, par-3 17th.

After Jones drove way right and couldn't find his ball,

(OPPOSITE PAGE - TOP)

Interlachen Country Club will forever be associated with one of the greatest feats ever accomplished in the world of sport.

(OPPOSITE PAGE - BOTTOM)

Jones, pictured here with the trophies from the four majors he won in 1930, decided after the U.S. Open at Interlachen to quit playing competitive golf after that year's U.S. Amateur at Merion.





Despite searing heat and humidity, thousands of golf fans descended on Interlachen Country Club to watch the world's best golfers vie for the Open crown.

USGA Secretary and referee Prescott Bush (President George Bush's grandfather) ruled that the ball had gone into a marsh and awarded Jones a penalty drop in the fairway. He pitched the ball on the green and holed his putt for a

"As I stepped up to the putt, I was quivering in every muscle. I confess that my most optimistic expectation was to get the thing dead (close)."—BOBBY JONES

double-bogey five, the third double he'd taken on the par 3's in that round. At the 18th, his approach shot landed 40 feet below the pin on the undulating green. Two putts were an absolute must.

Said Jones afterwards, "As I stepped up to the putt, I was quivering in every muscle. I confess that my most optimistic expectation was to get the thing dead (close)." As he drained the putt with his trusty Calamity Jane, the crowd roared its approval. Jones won by two, after a valiant effort by Smith down the stretch fell short.

Later that evening in the din of the Interlachen clubhouse, Jones reportedly made the decision to quit competitive golf no matter what happened at the U.S. Amateur that September at Merion. After successfully completing the Grand Slam that year, Jones, with the exception of a few appearances in his own tournament, the Masters, kept his word.

1935 U.S. WOMEN'S AMATEUR

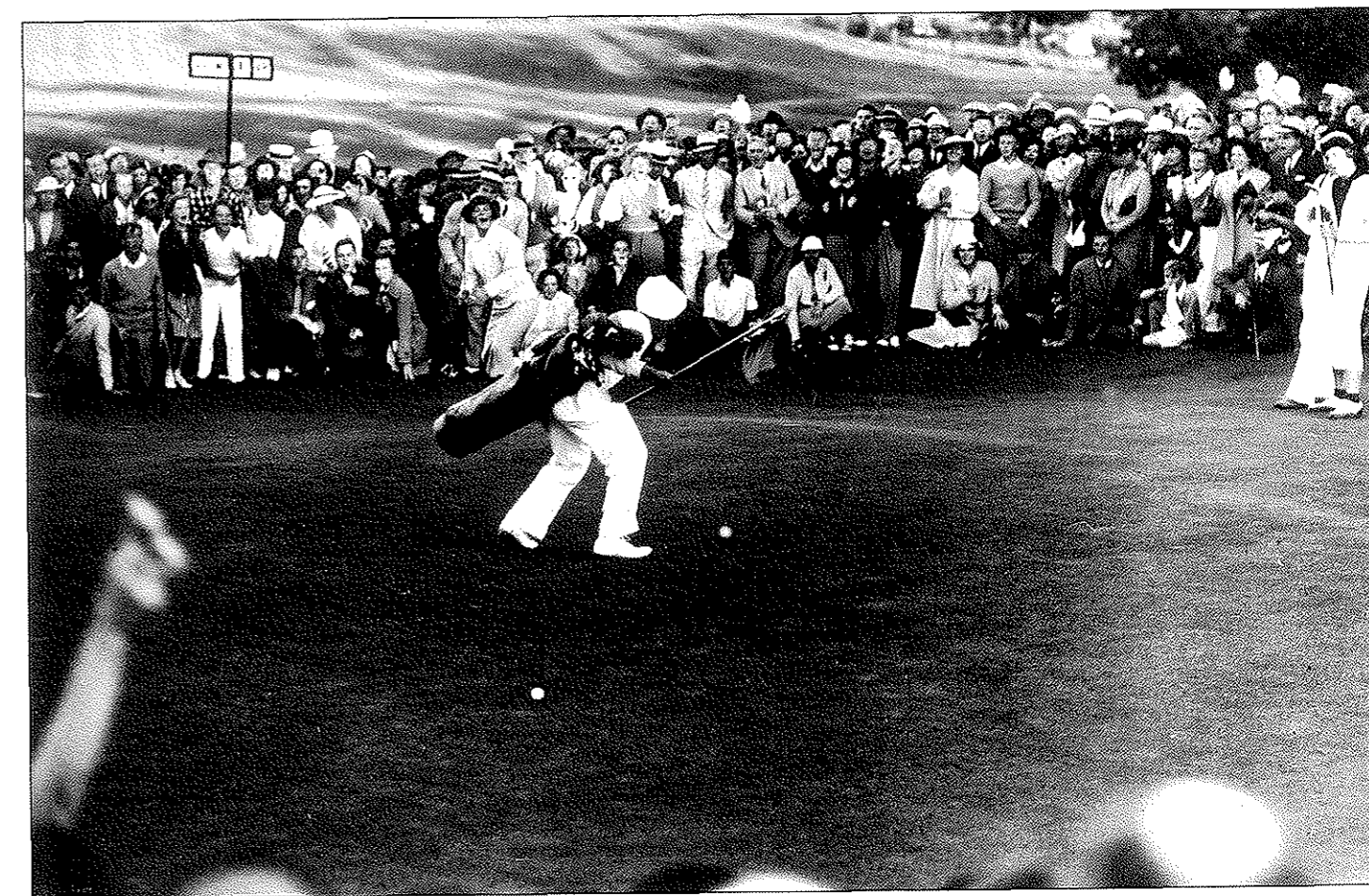
The 39th U.S. Women's Amateur Championship culminated with a classic showdown pitting youth versus veteran experience. While a hometown Minneapolis upstart named Patty Berg made the world take notice of her skill

Fans certainly got more than their 75¢ worth if they were fortunate enough to have a ticket to the '35 Women's Amateur.

No. 254
 Thursday, August 29, 1935
 This Ticket Must Be Worn
 UNITED STATES GOLF ASSOCIATION
 1935
 Women's National Golf Championship
 INTERLACHEN COUNTRY CLUB
 Minneapolis
 August 26 - 31, 1935
 Good for One Admission Only
 Thursday, Aug. 29, 1935
 Please Wear This Ticket

Price \$.68
 Tax07
 Total \$.75

Patty Berg reacts as her 25-foot match-tying putt on the 18th hole finds the cup in the semi-finals against Charlotte Glutting. Berg ended up winning the match on the third extra hole setting up her showdown with Glenna Collette Vare.



and determination, it was Glenna Collette Vare who reigned supreme once again.

The 1935 U.S. Women's Amateur, contested at Interlachen Country Club, featured an initial field of 84 contestants who qualified for the 64 available match play spots. The state of Minnesota was well represented as a full one-eighth of the field was from the Land of 10,000 Lakes. With the retirement of defending champion Virginia Van Wie prior to the tournament, the door was left wide-open for the odds on favorite, Philadelphian and five-time national champion Glenna Collette Vare. She didn't disappoint.

There were two story lines coming into the championship. The first was whether Vare could capture her record sixth victory in the event. Among other accomplishments, she had won the Women's Amateur in '22, '25, '28, '29 and '30, finished runner-up in '31 and '32 and was medalist in the event six times. If others in the field didn't fear her, they should have.

The other story was hometown girl Patty Berg who

was playing in her first national event. The soon-to-be superstar of women's golf showed maturity, grit and immense skill far beyond her 17 years. The hallmark of her week was her deft putting, which wowed the record crowds and put her in a position to contend for the title.

Berg's journey to the championship began with a 3 & 2 victory over Mrs. B.B. Thompson followed by a 4 & 3 victory over Betsy McLeod. In the third round, she dispatched Canadian champion Ada MacKenzie in a thriller 2 & 1. Four players from Minnesota including Berg, 18-year-old

Longtime friends Beatrice Barrett and Patty Berg were two of the young, rising stars in women's golf during the '30s and '40s. Circa 1935.

Beatrice Barrett of Lafayette, Patty Stephenson and Minikahda's Mrs. Austin Pardue advanced to the round of sixteen.

Berg's quarterfinal contest against Mrs. Dan Chandler, which was played in a daylong drizzle, came down to the final hole. All square, Berg found herself confronted with almost the exact same uphill, 40-footer that Bobby Jones faced five years prior in the 1930 Open to win the match. Said The Minneapolis Journal, "The head of the putter clicked smartly and deftly against the ball and it was on its way over the hump to the cup. Everyone took a deep breath and held. A miniature shower came off the ball as it cut a trail to the pin and plunked smack into the cup and the twisted grin on Patty's face turned into a huge smile that

forced all those freckles to fight for a place on her pan." The next day in the semifinals she repeated the feat, this time sinking a 25-footer on the 18th to force overtime with Charlotte Glutting. Berg went on to win that match, refereed by legendary Minnesotan Jimmy Johnston, 1-up after 21 holes.

Vare's road to the finals, unlike Berg's, was seemingly less nerve-wracking. After defeating Edith Begg 5 & 4 in the first round, Vare proceeded to dismantle Bernice Wall, Fritzi Stifel and Elizabeth Abbott by scores of 4 & 3. Her closest match was against valiant 18-year-old Beatrice Barrett, daughter of Lafayette pro Bill Barrett, who took Vare to the 17th hole before bowing 2 & 1. Friday's crowd of some 4,000 spectators set a one-day record for attendance in the Women's Amateur to that point. And the estimated 4,500 who showed up Saturday for the finals certainly got their money's worth.

On paper, the finals between Vare, for whom the low scoring average award is named, and Berg seemed like a no-brainer in favor of the veteran. However, titles are not won on paper. When asked whether she was nervous taking on her idol, Berg says, "I was a kid and didn't know any better, really." What tournament devotees wanted to know was whether Berg's putter would continue to scorch Interlachen's greens.

In the 36-hole final, Berg was two down after nine, four down after 18 and four down after 27 holes. Two turning points occurred during the afternoon round—one when Berg's 15-foot birdie bid hung on the lip on the second hole and the other when she missed an 18-incher to halve the eleventh hole with a six. Three down with five to play, Berg birdied the 14th for the win but lost out to Vare's birdie on number 16—losing 3 & 2. It was steady play by Vare and a heroic effort by Berg that came up just short.

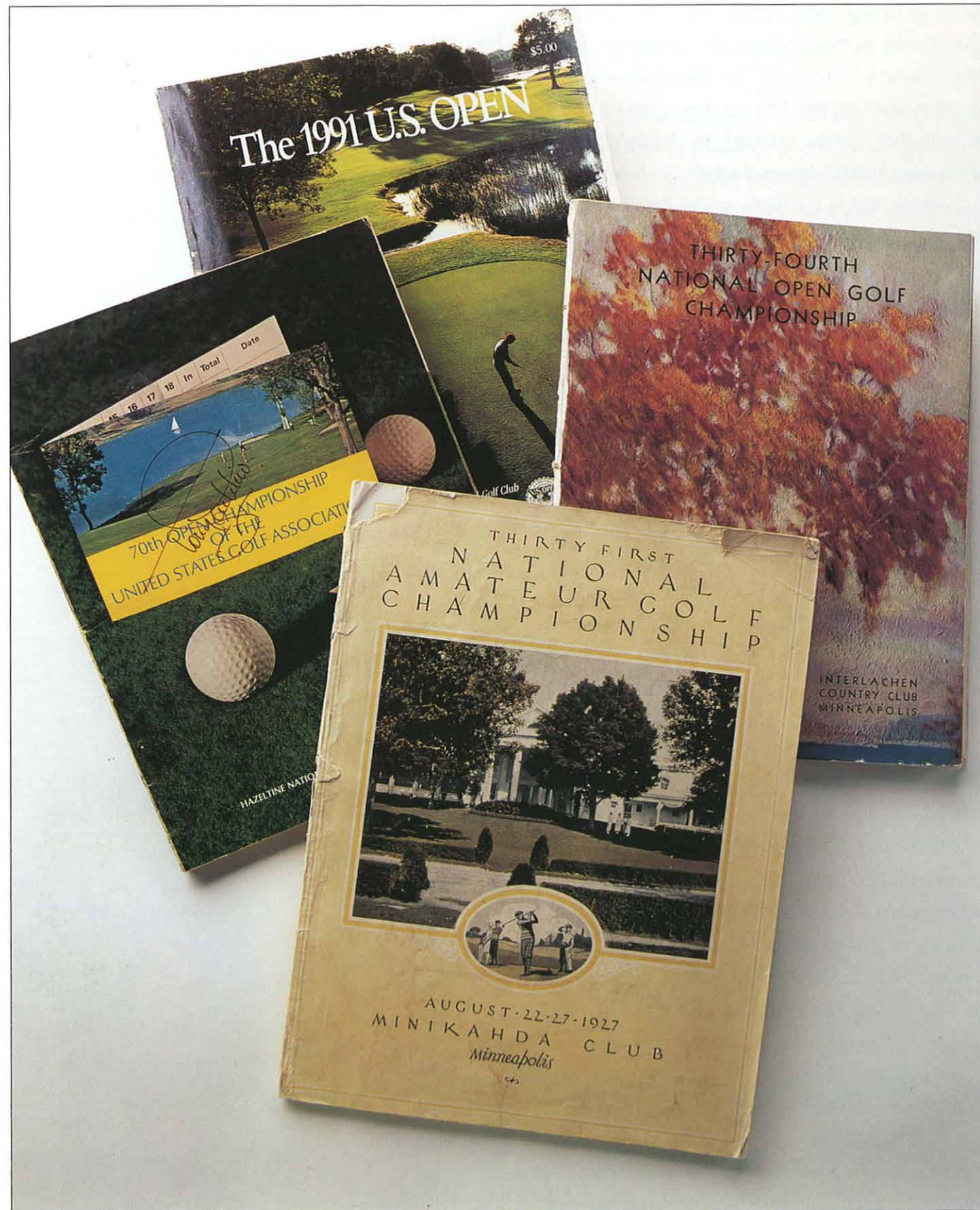
Berg had nothing to hang her head about. While she may have felt the tournament got away from her, it was nonetheless a valuable learning experience for her, as well as an important milestone for Vare. Reported the September 1, 1935, edition of The Minneapolis Journal, "It is a story first of Mrs. Vare's complete worthiness to hold



Although only 17 years old at the time, Berg played well beyond her years in her first national tournament.



The Vare Trophy, given annually to the player with the lowest scoring average, was named in honor of one of the game's great competitors.



the championship once more and, secondly, it is a story of as brave an uphill fight by the loser as has ever been made by anyone venturing for the first time into such championship competition.”

While Vare captured her sixth and final Amateur crown, it was Berg who captured the hearts of Minnesotans. She would garner her own Amateur title three years later.

1970 U.S. OPEN

Hazeltine National founder Totton Heffelfinger and the USGA greatly anticipated the reaction they would get from the touring pros as they readied to tee off at the 70th U.S. Open. After all, the course had been specifically designed to hold major tournament golf. They got a response all right. An earful to be more specific.

After a couple of practice rounds, the pros vilified Hazeltine calling it and its architect, Robert Trent Jones, practically ever name in the book. “Unplayable” was one of the kinder comments directed toward tournament officials. Englishman Tony Jacklin, on the other hand, put all such nonsense aside and left everyone else in his wake, en route to a seven-stroke victory.

The Open was Hazeltine’s second national championship in its young eight-year history—the first being the 1966 U.S. Women’s Open. At 7,151 yards it was the second longest layout in Open history to that point—the longest being at Bellerive in 1965. Although the tournament featured a stellar field including such illustrious names as Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Gary Player, ’68 Open winner Lee Trevino and defending champion Orville Moody, there was no clear favorite.

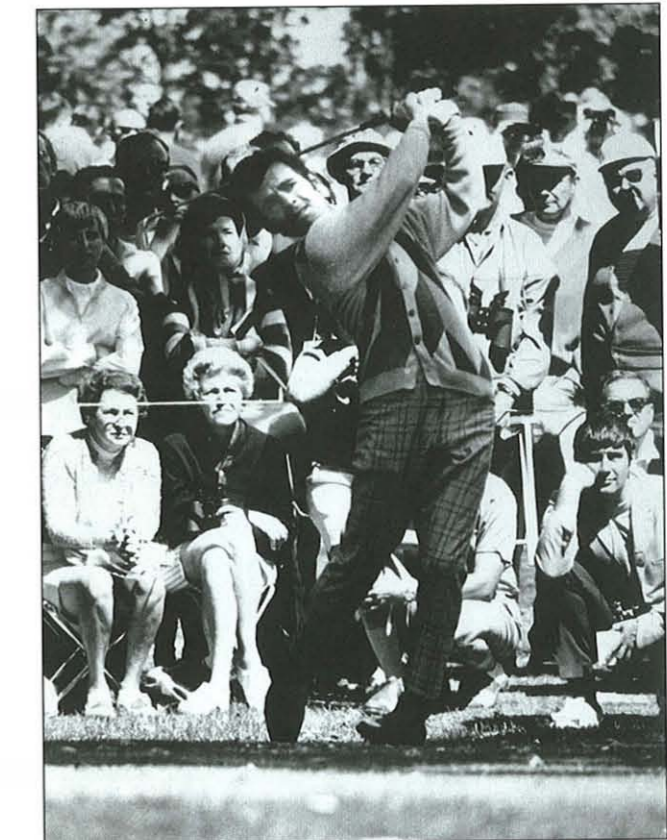
Gene Littler, who was returning to Hazeltine for his first visit since the 1967 Minnesota Classic, said that Hazeltine had “become one of the most difficult courses on which to go into the greens that I have ever seen. I do object to the greens [because] they are monstrous to putt, big and full of rolls.” Jacklin, for one, could have cared less.

With Thursday’s first round played in blustery, 40 mph winds, Jacklin felt right at home and his one-under-par 71 gave him a two shot advantage over Julius Boros and Chi Chi



The Robert Trent Jones designed Hazeltine National Golf Club provided a stern test for those participating at the 1970 U.S. Open.

While some players found Hazeltine National, as well as the weather conditions not to their liking, Tony Jacklin had no complaints whatsoever.

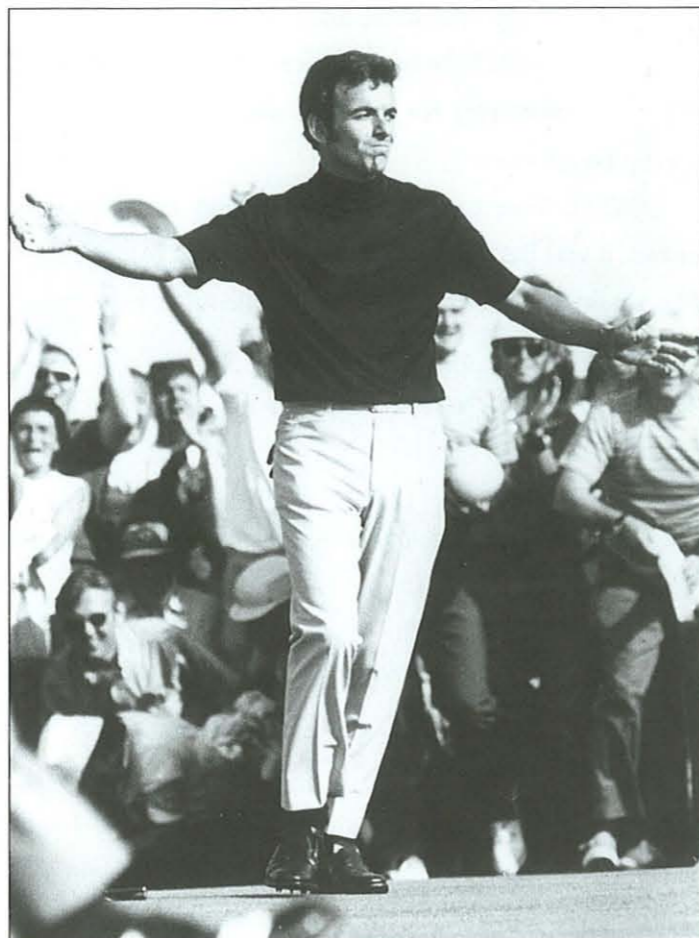


Rodriguez. The wind was certainly a factor as holes 6, 7, 14, 15 and 18 played directly into it. There were even reports of whitecaps on Lake Hazeltine and many in the field were blown away—literally. The average score for the first round was an amazing 79.1—a mark that hasn't been touched since in any U.S. Open round. And the big names, you ask? Palmer shot 79, Player had 80 and Nicklaus an 81. For the day only 81 players in the tournament field of 150 broke 80.

The 25-year-old reigning British Open champion followed up his 71 with a second round, 2-under-par 70 that gave him a three-shot cushion over Colorado's Dave Hill. After the round, Hill did not exactly endear himself to club officials and the USGA when he said, among other things, that the only thing Hazeltine lacked was "80 acres of corn and a few cows." Regardless of the players' consternation, Hazeltine continued to wreak havoc.

The 36-hole cut of 153, which was just two shots off the record of 155 set at the 1955 Open at the Olympic Club, was the undoing for many big names including defending champ Moody. Four Minnesotans made the cut including Joel Goldstrand, Howie Johnson, John Cook and Rolf Demming. While Nicklaus and Palmer hung on by the skin of their teeth at 153, Jacklin never looked back. He built his lead to four shots over Hill and six shots over Gay Brewer after another 2-under-par 70 in Saturday's third round.

The only bit of excitement during Sunday's final round occurred on the 400-yard, par 4 ninth hole. After bogeys at seven and eight, Jacklin's lead was down to three over Hill, who was playing in the group ahead. Jacklin ensured he wouldn't pull a bogey trifecta by sinking an amazing putt. After reaching the green in two, he rammed his 30-foot birdie putt towards the hole and watched in great relief as the ball hit the back of the cup, became airborne and then dropped in for a birdie three. "I knew right there," Jacklin said later, "that it was mine if I just took it easy. I thought momentarily about Palmer losing his seven-stroke lead to Casper at Olympic and that such a thing could happen to me, but I put that out of my mind. I tried not to think I was winning the Open or imagine myself at the presentation ceremonies." By not getting ahead of himself, Jacklin cruised home, widening his lead



Jacklin won the Open by seven strokes and in the process became the first Englishman in 50 years to capture the title.

as he made his way through the final nine.

A birdie at number 18 gave him his third consecutive round of 2-under-par 70 and a four day total of 281—good enough for a seven shot margin of victory. He set numerous records for that time including being the first champion since Ben Hogan in 1953 to lead after every round; the only player in the field to break par all four days and the first Englishman since Ted Ray in 1920 to win the U.S. Open. In his seven U.S. Open appearances up to that point, including Hazeltine, Jacklin had had only five rounds under par—four of those coming in 1970.

While Hazeltine may have come under heavy criticism, Jacklin showed the course to be a fine test of championship golf and eminently playable. In the end, Hazeltine yielded only 39 sub-par rounds. Jacklin kept a steady head and walked away with the tournament crown and the \$30,000 first prize. He had no complaints at all.

1977 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

Legendary professional Tony Penna once said that Hollis Stacy's game was so solid "she could play with a broom." At the '77 U.S. Women's Open, the 23-year-old Georgia phenom cleaned up all right and in the process swept the golf world off its feet.

Stacy was no stranger to tournament golf having won her first tournament, the Savannah City Championship, at the tender age of 13. Stacy would go on to become a three-time U.S. Girls Junior champion before turning professional. She had captured the Lady Tara Classic earlier that season and, having played in seven previous Opens, she was comfortable with the demands the tournament places on the players.

Although the Hazeltine layout had been "softened" by its architect Robert Trent Jones in preparation for the Women's Open, the course still featured U.S. Open conditions including hard greens, thick rough and narrow fairways. "I remember it being lush, long and having no roll," says Stacy. "I haven't played any tougher course length-wise. The courses played today don't even compare."

"The 17th was this horrendous par 4. You had to make the sign of the cross before you hit your tee shot." —HOLLIS STACY

Stacy was brimming with confidence following Thursday's first round after firing a 2-under-par 70 for a two-stroke lead over four others including Jane Blalock, Jan Stephenson, Amy Alcott and Joyce Kazmierski. The Georgian maintained a two shot advantage, this time over 20-year-old Nancy Lopez and veteran JoAnn Carner, after a second round 73 which saw her bogey three of the last four holes including the deceptively difficult 17th. "The 17th was this horrendous par 4," recalls Stacy. "You had to make the sign of the cross before you hit your tee shot." Her prayers would be answered soon enough.

Matching 75s by Stacy and Lopez, who played



Veteran JoAnn Carner remained in contention through two rounds but proved to be no match for Hollis Stacy.



together in a marathon third round that lasted eight hours because of a rain delay, allowed Stacy to maintain her two-stroke advantage. Admittedly nervous, Stacy kept her composure and focus going into Sunday's final round.

As Carner and Stephenson faded from the scene, the attention of the tens of thousands of spectators was on Stacy and Lopez. Lopez moved to within one after a birdie at the second but then gave it back with a bogey at three. After Stacy bogeyed the fifth hole and Lopez birdied the sixth, they were tied. But Stacy's steady short game and deft putting proved the difference down the stretch as she

Georgian Hollis Stacy was all smiles after surviving the intense pressure and capturing the first of her three Women's Open crowns.

parred holes six through 17 while Lopez shot her way out of the tournament with a double bogey on the 12th. Stacy closed with a 74 to win by two and in the process claim her first of three U.S. Women's Open titles. For the tournament she tallied 12 bogeys, eight birdies and 52 pars. Steady, not spectacular, play led her to victory. She had no birdies in her last 23 holes.

Frayed nerves, which were overcome by great skill, patience and determination, earned Stacy the crown jewel in women's golf. But it wasn't an easy journey. "I didn't sleep the entire week," she says. "Maybe three hours a night because I was very nervous. It meant that much to me to win the tournament. I just really concentrated that week on hitting one shot at a time more than I ever have. I avoided three-putts, hit greens and minimized mistakes."



With the victory, Hollis Stacy established herself as a force on the women's tour. She successfully defended her title the following year at the Country Club of Indianapolis and then won again in 1984 at Salem Country Club. She joined the legendary Babe Didrikson Zaharias and Sue Berning as the only women to win three Women's Opens, just one shy of the record shared by immortals Mickey Wright and Betsy Rawls.

1991 U.S. OPEN

The fact that Payne Stewart even competed in the 91st U.S. Open at Hazeltine National was incredible. Sidelined most of that year with a herniated disk in his neck, just teeing it up was an effort. The fact he defeated Scott Simpson in a playoff, however, is nothing short of a miracle.

The course, which measured 7,149 yards for the championship, had been retooled since the 1970 Open at

The huge galleries that flocked to Hazeltine National for the 1991 U.S. Open witnessed one of the most exciting championships in recent memory.

Hazeltine by Robert Trent Jones and then his son Rees. Two of the most significant changes included converting the 16th hole from a par 3 to a challenging 384-yard dogleg par 4 with the green jutting out into Lake Hazeltine and then changing the short par-4 17th into a testy par 3 over water. These two holes played a pivotal role in the tournament's outcome.

Thursday's first round was played under the cloud of adverse weather conditions that eventually led to tragedy. One spectator was killed and five injured when lightning struck a tree they were huddled under near the 11th tee during a horrific thunderstorm. Despite the calamity, the players eventually returned to the course and the round was completed. Stewart and Nolan Henke shared the top spot, each





It was a case of missed opportunities that cost Scott Simpson his chance to become the Open champion.

firing a five-under-par round of 67. A total of 38 players matched or broke par.

As Friday morning dawned, the greens were soft from the previous day's rains and much of the field took advantage. Stewart's solid play continued as he went to eight-under-par for the tournament after the seventh hole. His two-under-par 70 left him at seven under at the halfway point—one ahead of 1987 Open champion Scott Simpson, Nolan Henke and Corey Pavin who all completed two rounds in 138, well below the cut of 147. Thirty-three players broke par.

The crowds, which were estimated at 40,000 each day, were not deterred by rainy, blustery weather as the weekend approached. Saturday's high winds dried the course out and made breaking par—or even getting close to shooting par—a major accomplishment. Although 56 players had broken par the first two rounds, only Hale Irwin (70) and Nick Price (71) were able to claim that feat Saturday.



Stewart and Simpson, meanwhile, were waging a battle of their own. Stewart kept a share of the lead courtesy of a third-round 73 and some help from Simpson. Leading Stewart by two shots after 15 holes, Simpson proceeded to bogey the 16th and three-putt the 17th eventually tying Stewart at 210.

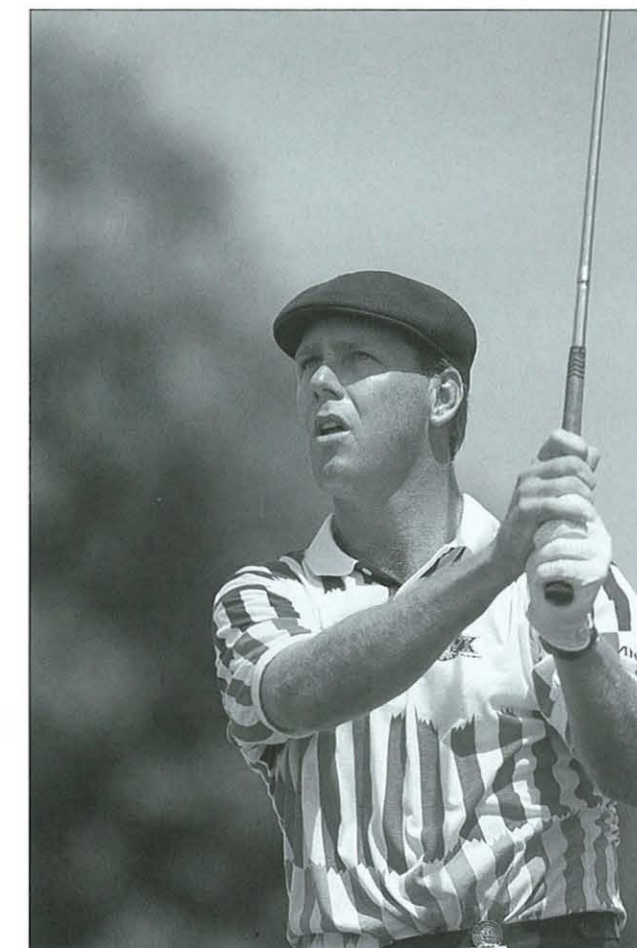
Going into Sunday's fourth round, both Stewart and Simpson were four shots ahead of Price and Scott Hoch and five ahead of Henke. Simpson, who went out in 35

“Even when I was two-down after 15, I never quit. A lot can happen on the way to the clubhouse.” —PAYNE STEWART

compared to Stewart's 36, held a two-stroke advantage after draining a 12-footer for birdie on the 10th and held the lead through the 15th. “Even when I was two-down after 15, I never quit,” Stewart was quoted as saying afterwards. “A lot can happen on the way to the clubhouse.” And this time the path to the clubhouse was full of potholes for Simpson.

After driving into the rough on the 16th, Simpson's 7-iron second shot landed short of the putting surface. A pitch and two putts later and his lead had shrunk to one with two to go. After both players pared the 17th, Simpson proceeded to pull his drive on 18 into the left rough and was forced to hit two 9-iron shots before getting within 30 feet of the hole. Stewart, on the other hand, put his second shot with a 5-iron just over the green. He got up-and-down for par, Simpson missed his putt and spectators started lining up for tickets for Monday's playoff—the 30th in Open history to that point.

The seesaw battle between Stewart and Simpson continued in the playoff, which was contested under sunny skies. In one of three, two-stroke swings in the match, Simpson was down two after two holes then rebounded to even the match after the fifth. In a moment of déjà vu, Stewart found himself two down after three-putting the 15th. The 16th again proved to be a swing hole as Stewart



The late Payne Stewart's determination and gutsy play helped him overcome a two-stroke deficit late in the playoff to capture his first Open title.

carded his first birdie in 30 holes after sinking a 20-footer and Simpson bogeyed leaving the pair even. On the 17th, Simpson's tee shot found the pond and he felt the sting of another bogey. Stewart pared 17 and then survived a bunkered tee shot on the 18th. He ended up getting par, Simpson bogeyed and Stewart had his first Open title and second major championship.

Although Stewart's round of 75 was the highest winning score in an Open playoff since Tommy Armour's 76 at Oakmont in 1927, it was still a monumental achievement given the stress of the playoff and his physical situation. Stewart had stared adversity in the face and conquered it.



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

A YEAR TO REMEMBER

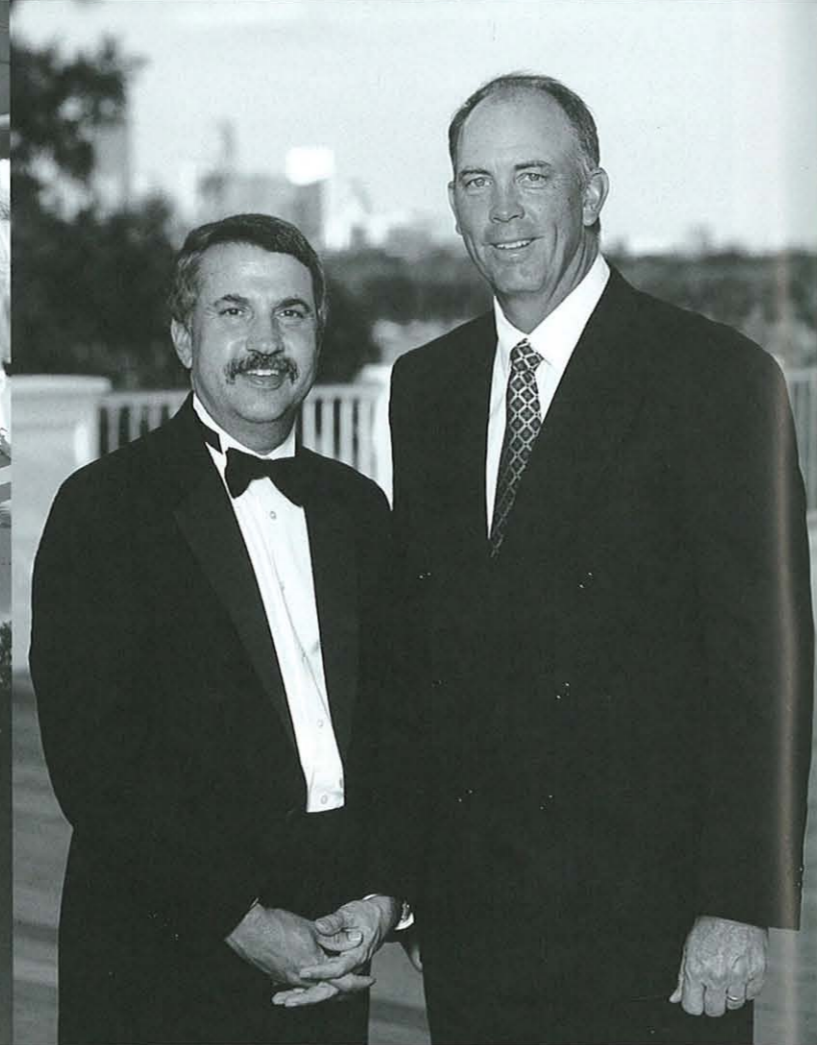
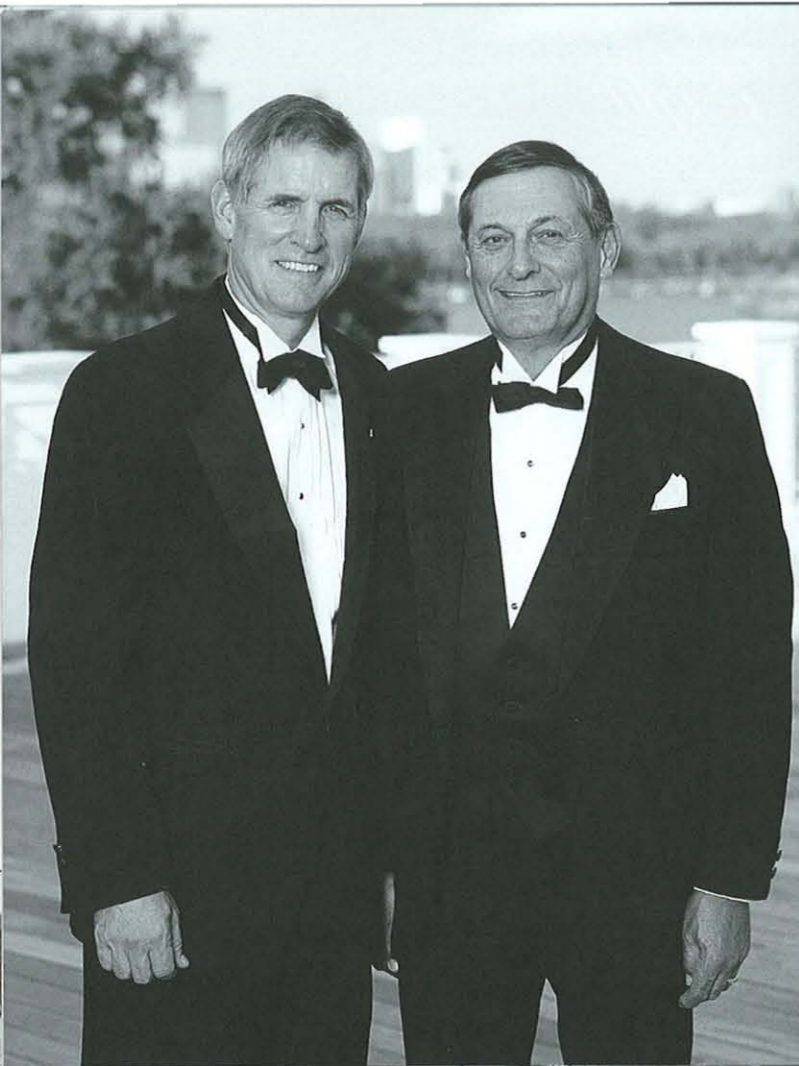
REACHING THE CENTURY MARK is a monumental achievement in the life of any organization. The Minnesota Golf Association is certainly no exception.

The planning for the MGA Centennial began in 1997 when former MGA President Dick Harris was given the responsibility of managing the entire year's festivities including overseeing numerous committees. The volunteers who were recruited for this important occasion put in countless hours in a true labor of love. The MGA staff members also held up their end working overtime to see that any and all support was given to each committee and event.

There were many highlights of the Centennial year including the creation of a traveling Minnesota golf memorabilia display, a beautiful color print commemorating 100 years of golf in the state, as well as a documentary film. Then, on August 12, 2001, a field of 325 players competed at the Associate Member's Day golf tournament at Rush Creek Golf Club in Maple Grove. It was a spectacular day full of fun and friendship.

The grand finale was the much-anticipated Centennial Gala held August 20, 2001, at the venerable Minikahda Club. Over 325 friends of golf gathered on a gorgeous summer evening to honor the game in Minnesota. The Black Tie affair recognized MGA past presidents and executive directors, the association's seven founding clubs, MGA-PGA Golf Hall of Fame inductees, as well as golf champions past and present. The evening's featured speaker was Minnesota native Thomas Friedman, The New York Times Foreign Affairs columnist and Pulitzer Prize-winning author. Alexandria native and 1996 British Open champion Tom Lehman and Dr. Trey Holland, president of the United States Golf Association, were also special guests.

The images of the Centennial Gala on the following pages are a tribute to all those devoted individuals in Minnesota who have carried on the history and traditions of this wonderful game. Congratulations to all.



(OPPOSITE PAGE – TOP LEFT)

Cal Simmons (left), president of the Minnesota Golf Association, and Dick Harris, Centennial Committee chairman, oversaw a very successful Centennial year.

(OPPOSITE PAGE – MIDDLE LEFT)

The golf memorabilia display, which was the work of Committeeman Don Kunshier, featured, among other items, replicas of the four major trophies won by Bobby Jones in 1930 after he completed the Grand Slam. They were generously loaned by Interlachen Country Club for the occasion.

(OPPOSITE PAGE – LOWER LEFT)

Club presidents from four of the original seven founding clubs of the MGA that are still in existence accept commemorative trophies given to them by the association. They include Jerry Gilligan of The Minikahda Club (left), Dr. Dennis Brady of Town and Country Club, Fritz Banfield of Rochester Golf & Country Club and Ted Bisanz of Winona.

(OPPOSITE PAGE – UPPER RIGHT)

Tom Lehman takes a moment to meet some Evans Scholars who helped as ushers at the party.



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The feeling of camaraderie and love of the game brought people together for a truly special evening.

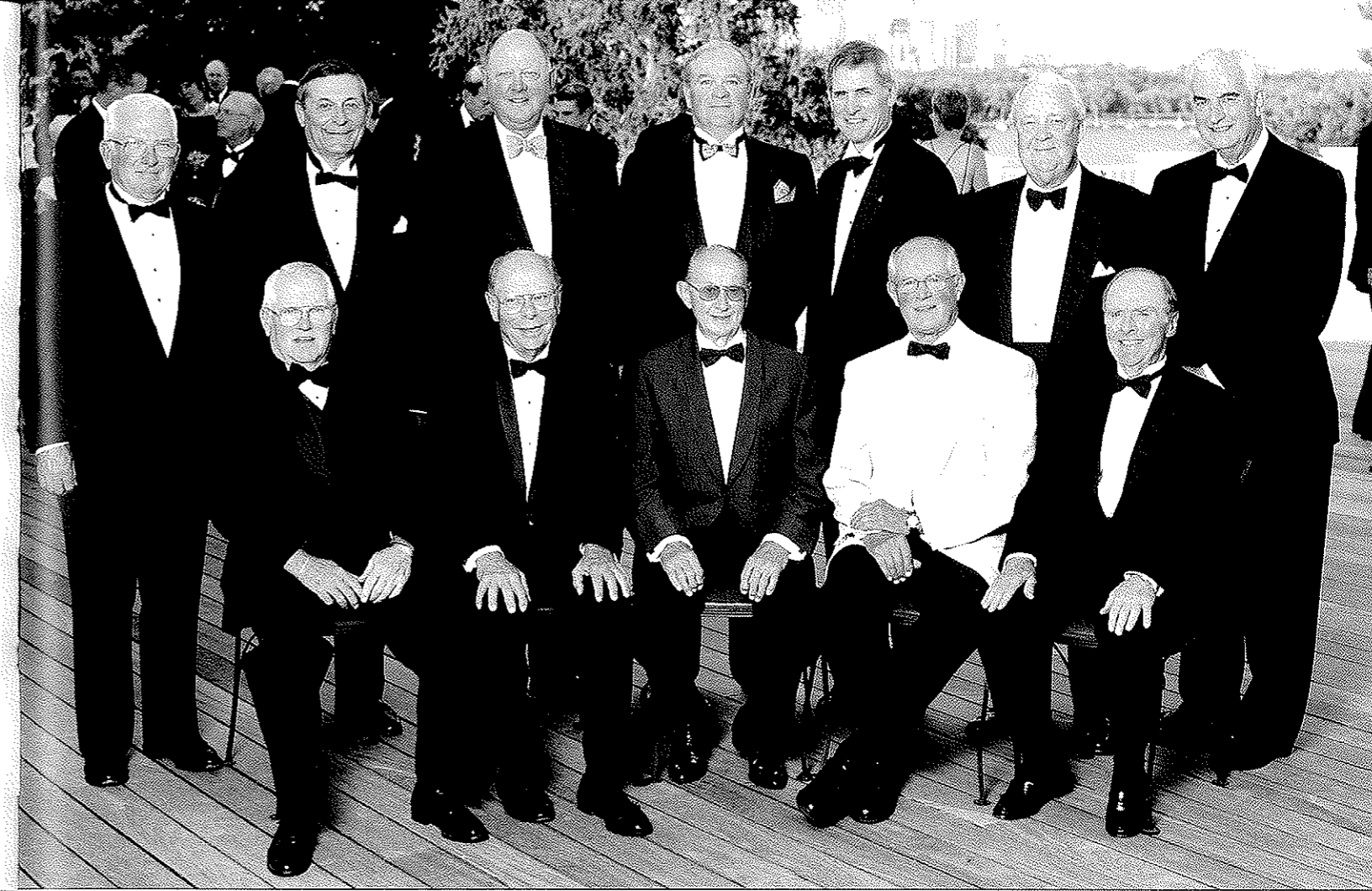
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Two Minnesotans including keynote speaker Thomas Friedman, as well as Tom Lehman, were on hand to honor the MGA for 100 years of service to the Minnesota golf community.



(LEFT)
The Gala Dinner Committee included Cheryl B. Schneider (left), Brenda Williams, Julie L. Sprau (MGA executive director), Ede Rice, Chairwoman Gretchen Crosby and Anne Colehour.

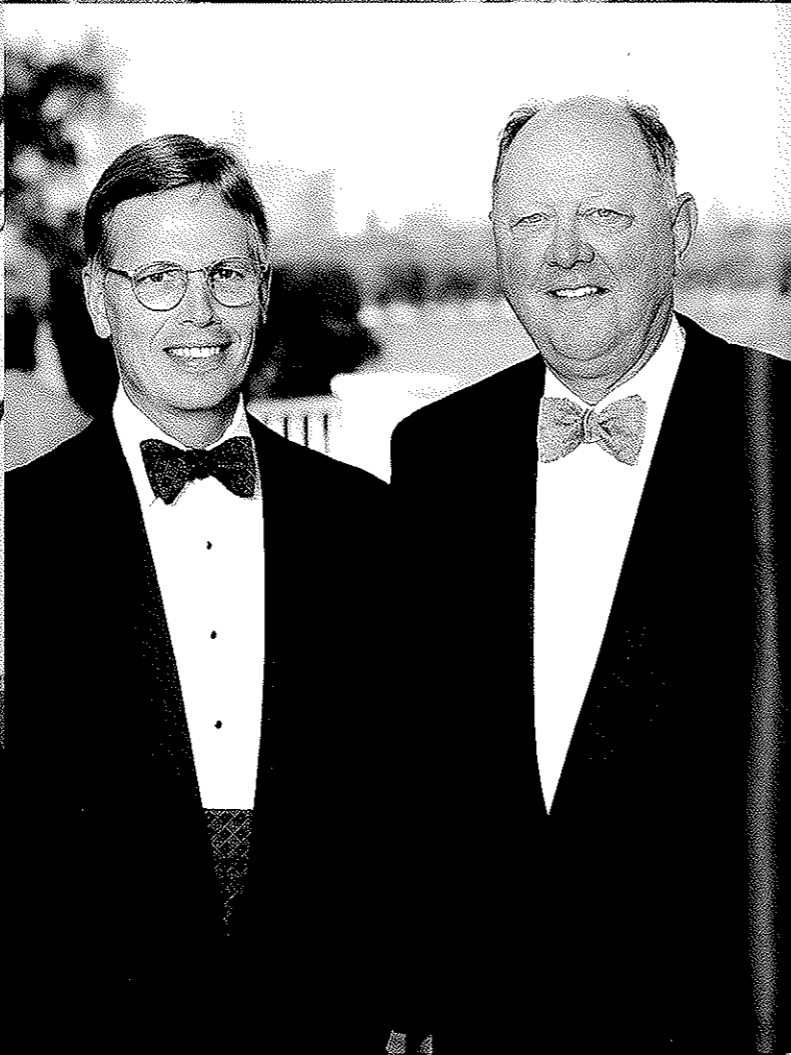
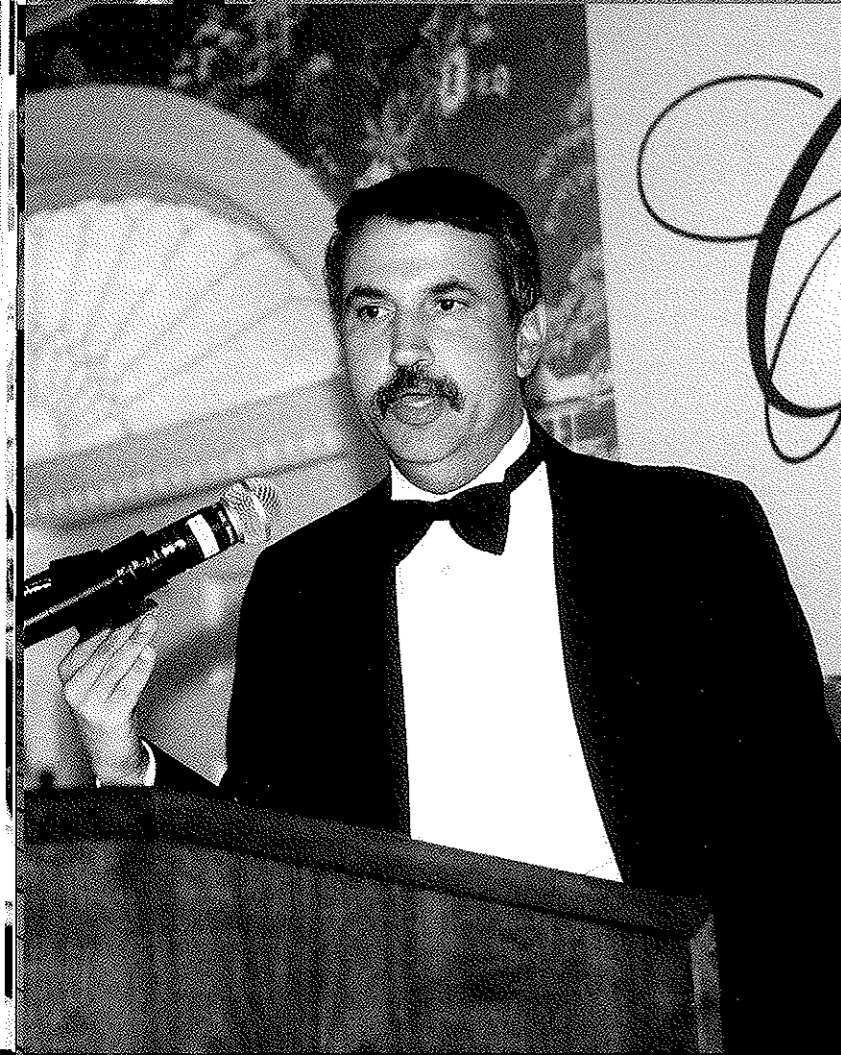
(BELOW)
MGA-PGA Golf Hall of Fame inductees present were (standing) Everett Stuart (left), Pat Sawyer, Loyal "Bud" Chapman, Bill Kidd Jr. and Warren J. Rebholz. (Seated) Joan Garvin, Bea Barrett Altmeyer and Bev Vanstrom.



(ABOVE)
Eleven past MGA presidents, as well as the current president, were in attendance. (Standing) John Turner (left), Dick Harris, Reed Mackenzie, William H. Bohmer, Cal Simmons (current MGA president), Richard L. Howell and Dick Bennett. (Seated) Ray Galarneault, Warren J. Rebholz, Robert W. Morgan, Andrews Allen and Howard V. O'Connell.

(RIGHT)
The MGA Centennial Steering Committee. (Standing) W.P. Ryan, Paul Kaspszak, Don Kunshier, Cal Simmons, Richard L. Howell and John Montague. (Seated) Julie L. Sprau, Dick Harris, Gretchen Crosby and Karen Moraghan. (Not pictured: Charlie Mahar)





(ABOVE)

Tom Lehman, Cal Simmons and Reed Mackenzie enjoy the evening's festivities.

(OPPOSITE PAGE – TOP LEFT)

Dr. Trey Holland, president of the United States Golf Association, talked about the MGA's 100th anniversary and the important role that the organization plays in preserving the traditions of amateur golf.

(OPPOSITE PAGE – TOP RIGHT)

Local standout amateur Alissa Herron addressed the gathering of Centennial Gala guests in the tent.

(OPPOSITE PAGE – LOWER LEFT)

Featured speaker Thomas Friedman's talk entitled "It's Not About the Ball," was a heartfelt address about golf and the game of life.

(OPPOSITE PAGE – LOWER RIGHT)

Dr. Trey Holland and USGA vice president Reed Mackenzie of Chaska.



The tradition and pageantry that marked the Centennial Gala was a fitting tribute to all the people, past and present, who have guarded the heritage of the game in Minnesota for 100 years.



1901

On August 29th representatives of seven Minnesota clubs convene at the Meadow-Brook Golf Club in Winona and form the Minnesota Golf Association.

1905

Minikahda member Harry Legg captures the first of his record 10 State MGA Amateur titles at Northland Country Club in Duluth.



1915

The Minnesota Women's Golf Association (MWGA) is created in order to meet the demands of growing legions of female golfers.



1916

Charles "Chick" Evans captures the U.S. Open crown at The Minikahda Club. Following the tournament, the Evans Scholars Program for deserving caddies is created.

1917

The Minnesota PGA is formed.

1922

The MGA boasts a total of 21 member clubs. Also, the Resorters tournament in Alexandria holds its inaugural event.

1927

Charles A. Lindbergh, after crossing the Atlantic Ocean in the Spirit of St. Louis, comes back to a hero's welcome in Minnesota.

Bobby Jones defeats Charles "Chick" Evans in the finals of the U.S. Amateur Championship at The Minikahda Club.

1929

St. Paul's own Harrison R. "Jimmy" Johnston, winner of seven straight MGA Amateurs (1921-1927), continues his hot streak by defeating Dr. Oscar Willing 4 and 3 to capture the U.S. Amateur title at Pebble Beach.

1930

Bobby Jones makes a return visit to Minnesota and wins the U.S. Open—the third leg of golf's Grand Slam. Also, the St. Paul Open welcomes its first field of competitors.

1932

As The Depression worsens, some 70% of Minnesota's Iron-Range workers are out of work. Olin Dutra claims the PGA Championship contested at Keller.



1938

Three years after finishing as runner-up, Minneapolis native Patty Berg captures the U.S. Women's Amateur title by defeating Estelle Lawson 6 and 5.

1946

Patty Berg wins her only U.S. Women's Open title at the inaugural Open in Spokane, Washington.

1950

Sam Urzetta needs 39 holes to defeat Frank Stranahan at the 50th anniversary U.S. Amateur Championship played at the Minneapolis Golf Club.

1957

The Minikahda Club plays host to the Walker Cup matches—the first time they are held in Minnesota.



1959

Bob Rosburg captures the PGA Championship at the Minneapolis Golf Club and a young Jack Nicklaus defeats Dean Beman to capture the Trans-Mississippi.



1960

The first Evans Scholar Chapter House is officially dedicated at the University of Minnesota.

1964

Al Wareham is named the MGA's second executive director, and the organization's membership base stands at 85 courses.

1966

Sandra Spuzich wins the U.S. Women's Open played at Hazeltine National Golf Club, which was built just four years prior.



1972

Warren J. Rebholz takes over the reigns of the MGA as its third executive director.

1973

The MGA boasts 200 member courses.



1974

Richard M. Nixon resigns as the 37th President of the United States. John Harris captures the first of his four MGA Amateur crowns.

1979

Minnesotan Jerilyn "Jeri" Britz wins the U.S. Women's Open at Brooklawn Country Club in Fairfield, Connecticut, and Becky Pearson finishes runner-up at the U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links Championship.

1983

Chris Perry becomes the first Minnesotan to be a finalist in the U.S. Amateur Championship since Harrison R. "Jimmy" Johnston in 1929.

Billy Casper overcomes stifling heat and humidity to capture the U.S. Senior Open Championship at Hazeltine National Golf Club.

1989

The MGA's Associate membership base reaches 72,000.



1990

Tom Lehman defends his title at the State Open winning by four strokes over Jon Chaffee and Tim Herron.

1991

Payne Stewart defeats Scott Simpson in a playoff at the U.S. Open at Hazeltine National Golf Club.

1992

Warren Rebholz decides to step down as MGA executive director after 20 years of service.

1998

Julie Sprau is named MGA executive director and chief operating officer.



2001

On August 20th a group of 325 golf enthusiasts gather at The Minikahda Club to commemorate the MGA's centennial.



The state of Minnesota pulled off the improbable by capturing both the men's and women's titles at the 4th USGA State Team Championships held at Woodhill Country Club in Wayzata (women's division) and Hazeltine National Golf Club in Chaska (men's division). It is the first time in the tournament's history that one state has swept both competitions.

Minnesota's women's team including second from left, Claudia Pilot of Austin CC, Julie Kalina-Jensen of Bent Creek GC, Leigh Klasse of Meadowbrook GC and captain Nancy Blanchard, won by a whopping nine strokes over their nearest competitor.

MINNESOTA SWEEPS 2001 USGA STATE TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS



The men's team including (standing) captain Warren J. Rebholz and (kneeling) left to right, veteran John Harris of Edina CC, Jered Gusso of Olympic Hills GC and John Carlson of Headwaters GC, came storming back on the last nine holes of the second day to win by two strokes. Harris led the charge winning low individual honors after a final round 71.

The State Team Championship is one of 15 national championships conducted by the USGA. Minnesota is currently the only state in the country to have hosted every championship.

MGA Member Clubs and Courses

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Adrian Country Club | Crow River Country Club | Green Valley Golf Course | Madelia Golf Course |
| Afton Alps Golf Course | Crystal Lake Golf Club | Greenhaven Golf Club | Madison Country Club |
| Albany Golf Club | Cuyuna Country Club | The Greens at Howard Lake | Mahnomen Country Club |
| Albert Lea Country Club | Dahlgreen Golf Club | Greenwood Golf Links | Majestic Oaks Golf Club |
| Albion Ridges Golf Course | Dawson Golf Club | Greystone Golf Club | Manitou Ridge Golf Club |
| Alexandria Golf Club | Daytona Country Club | Gunflint Hills Golf Club | Mankato Golf Club |
| Angushire Golf Courses | Deacon's Lodge | Hampton Hills Golf Club | Maple Hills Golf Club |
| Appleton Golf Club | Deer Meadows Golf Course | Harmony Golf Club | Maple Ridge Golf Course |
| Applewood Hills Public Golf Course | Deer Run Golf Club | Hastings Country Club | Maple Valley Golf & Country Club |
| Arbor Pointe Golf Club | Dellwood Hills Golf Club | Hawk Creek Country Club | Maplebrook Golf Course |
| Arrowwood Golf Course (Radisson) | Detroit CC - Pine to Palm Course | Hawley Golf & Country Club | Marshall Golf Club |
| Austin Country Club | Detroit CC - Lakeview | Hayden Hills Executive Golf | Mayflower Country Club |
| Babbitt Golf Club | Dodge Country Club | Hazeltine National Golf Club | Meadow Greens Golf Course |
| Baker National Golf Course | Dwan Golf Club | Headwaters Golf Club | Meadow Lakes Golf Club |
| Bearpath Golf & Country Club | Eagle Creek Golf Club | Hendricks Golf Club | Meadowbrook Country Club |
| Begin Oaks Golf Course | Eagle Lake Golf Center | Heritage Links Golf Club | Meadowbrook Golf Club |
| Bellwood Oaks Golf Course | Eagle Ridge Golf Course | Hiawatha Golf Club | Meadowlark Country Club |
| Bemidji Town & Country Club | Eagle Trace Golfers Club at Clearwater Estates | Hibbing Municipal Golf Course | Meadows Golf Course |
| Benson Golf Club | Eagle Valley Golf Course | Hidden Creek Golf Club | Meadowwoods Golf Course |
| Bent Creek Golf Club | Eagle View Golf Course | Hidden Greens Golf Course | Mendakota Country Club |
| Bentwood Climax Municipal Golf Club | Eagle's Landing Golf Club | Hidden Haven Country Club | Mesaba Golf Club |
| Birch Bay Golf Course & Resort | Eastwood Golf Club | Hidden Hills Pitch & Putt | Midland Hills Country Club |
| Birchwood Golf Course | Edina Country Club | Highland Park Golf Course | Milaca Golf Club |
| Biramwood Public Golf Course | Edinburgh USA | Hillcrest Golf Club of St. Paul | Mille Lacs Golf Resort |
| Black Bear Golf Complex | Elk River Country Club | Hollydale Golf Club | Minakwa Golf Club |
| Blackberry Ridge Golf Club | Elm Creek Golf Links of Plymouth | Hoyt Lakes Golf Course | Minikahda Club |
| Blackduck Golf Club | Elmdale Hills Golf Course | Indian Hills Golf Club | Minneapolis Golf Club |
| Blooming Prairie Country Club | Ely Golf Club | Interlachen Country Club | Minneopa Golf Club |
| Blueberry Pines Golf Club | Emerald Valley Country Club | Interlaken Golf Club | Minnesota Valley Country Club |
| Bluff Creek Golf Course | Emily Greens Golf Course | Inver Wood Golf Course | Minnetonka Country Club |
| Bois De Sioux Golf Club | Enger Park Golf Course | Irish Hills Golf Course | Minnewaska Golf Club |
| Boulder Ridge Golf Club | Eshquaguma Club | Ironman Golf Course | Minn-Iowa Golf Club |
| Brackett's Crossing Country Club | Eveleth Municipal Golf Course | Island Lake Golf Training Center | Mississippi Dunes Golf Links |
| Braemar Golf Course | Fair Havens Golf Club | Island Pine Golf Club | Mississippi National Golf Links |
| Breezy Point Golf Course | Fairway Shores Executive Golf Course | Island View Golf Club | Montgomery Golf Club |
| Brightwood Hills | The Fairways | Izatsys Golf & Yacht Club | Monticello Country Club |
| Brockway Golf Club | Falcon Ridge Golf Course | Jackson Golf Club | Moorhead Country Club |
| Brookland Executive Nine Golf Course | Falls Country Club | Karlstad Golf Course | Moose Lake Golf Club |
| Brooktree Golf Course | Faribault Golf & Country Club | Keller Golf Club | Mount Frontenac Golf Course |
| Brookview Golf Course | Ferdale Country Club | Kenyon Country Club | Mountain Lake Golf Club |
| Buffalo Heights Golf Course | Fiddlestix Golf Course | Kimball Golf Club | New Hope Village Golf Course |
| Bunker Hills Golf Club | Forest Hills Golf & RV Resort | Koronis Hills Golf Club | New Prague Golf Club |
| Burl Oaks Golf Club | Forest Hills Golf Club | Lafayette Club | New Ulm Country Club |
| Canby Golf Club | Fosston Golf Club | Lake City Country Club | Nordic Trails Golf Course |
| Cannon Golf Club | Fountain Valley Golf Club | Lake Milona Golf Club | North Branch Golf Course |
| Carefree Country Club | Fox Hollow Golf Club | Lake Pepin Golf Course | North Links Golf Course |
| Carriage Hills Country Club | Fox Lake | Lakeview Golf of Orono | North Oaks Golf Club |
| Castle Highlands Golf Course | Francis A. Gross Golf Course | Lakeway Golf Course | Northern Hills Golf Club |
| Castlewood Golf Course | Frazeo Golf Course | Lanesboro Golf Club | Northfield Golf Club |
| Cedar Creek Golf Course | French Lake Open Golf Club | Legends Club | Northland Country Club |
| Cedar River Country Club | Gem Lake Hills Golf Course | Lester Park Golf Course | Oak Glen Country Club |
| Cedar Valley Golf Course | Geneva Golf Club | LeSueur Country Club | Oak Harbor Golf Course |
| Centerbrook Golf Course | Giants Ridge Golf Course & Ski Resort | Lewiston Country Club | Oak Hill Golf Club |
| Chaska Town Course | Glen Lake Golf & Practice Center | Lida Greens Golf Course | Oak Lake Golf Course |
| Chisago Lakes Golf Course | Glencoe Country Club | Links of Byron | Oak Marsh Golf Club |
| Chomonix Golf Club | Golden Eagle Golf Club | Litchfield Golf Club | Oak Ridge Country Club |
| Chosen Valley Golf Club | Golden Valley Country Club | Little Crow Country Club | Oak Summitt Golf Course |
| Cloquet Country Club | Golf at the Legacy | Little Falls Country Club | Oak View Golf Course |
| Coffee Mill Golf & Country Club | Goodrich Golf Club | Lone Pine Country Club | Oak View Golf Course |
| Cokato Town & Country Club | Graceville Golf Club | Long Bow Golf Club | Oakerest Golf Course |
| Columbia Golf Club | Grand National Golf Club | Long Prairie Country Club | Oakdale Country Club |
| Columbia Golf Club | Grand View Lodge- The Pines | Loon Lake Golf Club | Oakdale Golf and Tennis |
| Como Golf Course | Grandview Golf Club | Lost Spur Golf Course | Oaks Golf Club |
| Cottonwood Country Club | Grandy Nine Golf Course | Luverne Country Club | Oakwood Golf Course |
| Countryside Golf Club | Granite Falls Golf Club | Lynx National Golf Course | Old Bam Resort and Golf Course |
| Creeksend Golf Course | Green Lea Golf Course | Ma-Cal-Grove Country Club | Olivia Golf Club |
| Crosswoods Golf Course | | Madden Inn & Golf Club | Olympic Hills Golf Club |

MGA Member Clubs and Courses *(continued)*

Oneka Ridge Golf Course	Ridges at Sand Creek	Spring Brook Golf Course	Two River Golf Club
Orono Golf Course	Ridgeview Country Club	Spring Hill Golf Club	Tyler Community Golf Club
Ortonville Municipal Golf Course	Ridgewood Golf Course	Springfield Golf Club	University of Minnesota Golf Club
Osakis Country Club	River Hills Golf Club	St. Charles Golf Course	Valley Country Club
Owatonna Country Club	River Oaks Golf Course	St. Cloud Country Club	Valley Golf Course of Willmar
Parkview Golf Club	River Oaks Municipal Golf Course	St. James Country Club	Valley High Golf Club
Pebble Creek Golf Club	Rivers Edge Country Club	Stephen Riverside Golf Club	Valley View Golf Club
Pebble Lake Golf Course	Riverside Town & Country Club	Stillwater Country Club	Valleywood Golf Course
Perham Lakeside Country Club	Riverview Golf Course	Stonebrooke Golf Club	Vermilion Fairways Golf Club
Pezhekee National Golf Course	Riverview Greens	StoneRidge Golf Club	Viking Meadows Golf Club
Phalen Park Golf Course	Rochester Golf & Country Club	Stoney Creek Golf Course	Village Green Golf Course
Pheasant Acres Golf Club	Rodina Golf Course	Sugarbrooke Golf Course	Vintage Golf Course
Pierz Municipal Golf Course	Rolling Green Country Club	Summit Golf Club	Virginia Golf Course
Pike Lake Golf and Rec. Center	Rolling Green Fairways	Sundance Golf & Bowl	Wadena Golf Club
Pine City Country Club	Rolling Hills Golf Club	Superior National at Lutsen	Wapicada Golf Club
Pine Creek Golf Course	Rolling Hills Golf Course	Swan Lake Country Club	Waseca Lakeside Club
Pine Hill Golf Club	Root River Country Club	Tanner's Brook Golf Club	Wayzata Country Club
Pine Island Golf Course	Rose Lake Golf Club	Tartan Park Golf Club	Wells Golf Club
Pine Meadows at Brainerd	Roseville Cedarholm Golf Course	Terrace View Golf Club	Wendigo Golf Club
Pine Ridge Golf Club	Rum River Hills Golf Club	The Bridges Golf Course	Westfield Golf Club
Pine Ridge Golf Course	Rush Creek Golf Club	The Crossings	Wheaton Country Club
Pine River Country Club	Ruttger's Bay Lodge-Lakes Course	The Legacy Courses at Cragun's	Whispering Pines Golf Course
Pioneer Creek Golf Course	Sanbrook Golf Course	The Links at Northfork	White Bear Yacht Club
Piper Hills Golf Course	Sand Hill River Golf Club	The Ponds Golf Course	Whitefish Golf Club
Pipestone Country Club	Sand Trap Golf Course	The Vintage at Staples	Wild Marsh Golf Club
Pokegama Golf Course	Sandstone Area Country Club	Theodore Wirth Golf Club	Wilderness Golf Course
Pomme de Terre Golf Course	Sartell Golf Club	Thief River Golf Club	Wildflower at Fair Hills
Ponderosa Golf Course	Sauk Centre Country Club	Thompson Oaks Golf Course	Wilds Golf Club
Prairie Ridge Golf Course	Savanna Golf & Supper Club	Three Brothers Vermilion River Green	Willingers Golf Club
Prairie View Community Golf Course	Sawmill Golf Club	Thumper Pond Golf Course	Willow Creek Golf Course
Prairie View Golf Links	Shadowbrooke Golf Course	Tianna Country Club	Willow Creek Municipal Golf Course
The Preserve at Grand View Lodge	Shamrock Golf Club	Timber Creek Golf Course	Willowbrook Golf Course
Preston Golf & Country Club	Shoreland Country Club	Tipsinah Mounds Country Club	Windom Country Club
Prestwick Golf Club	Silver Bay Country Club	Tournament Greens (Putting Course)	Winona Country Club
Princeton Golf Club	Silver Springs Golf Course	Town & Country Club	Winthrop Golf Club
Purple Hawk Country Club	Slayton Country Club	TPC Twin Cities	Wolfredge Golf Course
Ramsey Golf Club	Sleepy Eye Golf Club	Tracy Country Club	Woodhill Country Club
Red Rock Golf Course	Soldiers Memorial Field Golf Course	Twenty-Nine Pines Golf Course	Woodland Creek Golf Club
Red Wing Country Club	Somerset Country Club	Twin City Golf Club	Worthington Country Club
Redwood Falls Golf Club	Southbrook Golf Club	Twin Pines Golf Course	Zumbro Falls Golf Club
Refuge Golf Club	Southern Hills Golf Club	Two Harbors-Lakeview National Golf Course	Zumbro Valley Golf Club
Rich Spring Golf Club	Southview Country Club		Zumbrota Golf Club

MGA Past Presidents

1901-02 J.R. Marfield	1917-18 G.K. Labatt	1936-38 George Robbins	1980-82 Charles T. Hvass
1902-03 B.F. Schurmeier	1918-19 H.L. Hankinson	1938-39 Dr. Rube Albinson	1982-84 Ted Stark
1903-04 C.T. Jaffray	1919-20 Fred A. Patrick	1939-40 William Fobes	1984-86 Richard E. Harris, Sr.
1904-05 C.A. Tuller	<i>(succeeded by Oscar Mitchell)</i>	1940-57 (Unknown)	1986-88 John Turner
1905-06 W.W. Walker	1920-21 E.L. Beckley	1957-58 Ed Rundell	1988-90 Reed K. Mackenzie
1906-07 B.F. Schurmeier	1921-22 J.A. Hunter	1958-60 Alfred W. Wareham	1990-92 Richard L. Howell
1907-08 W.F. Brooks	1922-23 W.S. Graves	1960-62 Stewart J. McIntosh	1992-94 Howard V. O'Connell
1908-09 G.G. Hartley	1923-24 G.K. Labatt	1962-64 Robert W. Morgan	1994-96 William H. Bohmer
1909-10 W.H. Lightner	1924-25 I.H. Schoolfield	1964-66 Martin Stein	1996-98 Roger D. Gordon
1910-11 J.R. Marfield	1925-30 D.N. Tallman	1966-68 William Hite	1998-2000 Dick Bennett
1911-12 C.W. Gordon	1930-31 Palmer Jaffray	1968-70 Norman P. Anderson	2000-02 Cal Simmons
1912-13 H.N. Stabeck	1931-32 Totton Heffelfinger	1970-71 Warren Rebholz	
1913-14 T.F. Cole	1932-33 Dr. E.S. Powell	1971-74 Andrews Allen	
1914-15 G.F. Piper, Sr.	1933-34 Robert Congdon	1974-76 Jerry Halper	
1915-16 C.W. Gordon	1934-35 Jimmy Johnston	1976-78 Ray Galarneault	
1916-17 W.D. Mitchell	1935-36 Earl McKenzie	1978-80 William B. Sherman	

** The above information was garnered from MGA Board minutes. All efforts have been made to verify its accuracy.*

MGA-PGA Minnesota Golf Hall of Fame

1987 PATTY BERG LES BOLSTAD GUNNARD JOHNSON TOTTON P. HEFFELFINGER WALLY MUND	1993 JOAN GARVIN JOHN STAVER
1988 JIMMY JOHNSTON HARRY LEGG JOCK HENDRY	1994 LOYAL "BUD" CHAPMAN RAY HILL
1989 BEA BARRETT ALTMeyer WILLIE KIDD, SR. ALFRED W. WAREHAM	1995 AL CLASEN
1990 JOE CORIA GERTRUDE DANSINGBERG LEO SPOONER	1996 EVERETT STUART
1991 BEV VANSTRUM HAROLD STODOLA WARREN J. REBHOlz	1997 WALLY ULRICh
1992 DON WARYAN PAT SAWYER	1998 JOEL GOLDSTRAND JOHN HARRIS
	1999 DR. JAMES WATSON GENE HANSEN BILL KIDD, JR.
	2000 TOM LEHMAN

Warren J. Rebholz Distinguished Service Award

1994 LES BOLSTAD
1995 ROBERT W. MORGAN
1996 PATTY J. BERG
1997 BOB ULsAKER
1998 FREDRICK "FRITZ" CORRIGAN
1999 JOHN HARRIS
2000 GINNY LAFAVOR

Allied Golf Associations

Club Managers' Association of America, Upper Midwest Chapter Craig Surdy, President Minnetonka, MN 55345
Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America Lawrence, KS 66049-3859
Explore Minnesota Golf Alliance Doug Hart, Executive Director Edina, MN 55435
Fairway Foundation Minneapolis, MN 55422
Midwest Public Golf Managers' Association Bill Hauck, President Lino Lakes, MN 55014
Minnesota Golf Course Owners' Association Bruce Gohman, President Clearwater, MN 55320
Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents' Association Scott Turtinen, Executive Director Wayzata, MN 55391
Minnesota Public Golf Association & Minnesota Women's Public Golf Association Gary Stimmler Minneapolis, MN 55421
Minnesota Section of the PGA Jon Tollette, Executive Director Coon Rapids, MN 55448
Minnesota Women's Golf Association Paula Lutz, Women's Golf Manager Edina, MN 55435
National Golf Foundation Jupiter, FL 33477
PGA of America Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410-9601
Physically Limited Golfers' Association John Ross, President Maple Plain, MN 55359
United States Golf Association Golf House Far Hills, NJ 07931-0708
Western Golf Association Golf, IL 60029

MGA Amateur Champions

Year	Champion	Runner-up	Host Club	Year	Champion	Runner-up	Host Club
1901	T.P. Thurston <i>Meadow Brook, Winona</i>	Wm. Bolcom <i>Meadow Brook, Winona</i>	Meadow Brook, Winona	1928	Rudy Juran <i>Golden Valley CC</i>	Runice B. Martin <i>Northland CC</i>	Bemidji T&CC
1902	T.P. Bend <i>Town & Country</i>	Ben Schurmeier <i>Town & Country</i>	Minikahda Club	1929	Frank Brokl, Jr. <i>Midland Hills CC</i>	H. Robinson, Jr. <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Town & Country
1903	Mike Doran, Jr. <i>Town & Country</i>	Bill Finch <i>Town & Country</i>	Town & Country	1930	Pat Sawyer <i>Golden Valley CC</i>	Art Tverra <i>Superior</i>	Rochester G&CC
1904	H.P. Bend <i>Town & Country</i>	C. T. Jaffray <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Meadow Brook, Winona	1931	Les Bolstad <i>Midland Hills CC</i>	Art Tverra <i>Superior</i>	Minikahda Club
1905	H.G. Legg <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Lynn Johnson <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Northland CC	1932	Pat Sawyer <i>Golden Valley CC</i>	Lee Herron <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Midland Hills CC
1906	C.T. Jaffray <i>Minikahda Club</i>	H.P. Bend <i>Town & Country</i>	Minikahda Club	1933	Lee Herron <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Bobby Campbell <i>Northland CC</i>	Interlachen CC
1907	L.H. Johnson <i>Minikahda Club</i>	H.G. Legg <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Town & Country	1934	Bobby Campbell <i>Northland CC</i>	Lee Herron <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Northland CC
1908	H.G. Legg <i>Minikahda Club</i>	L.H. Johnson <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Minikahda Club	1935	Al Clasen <i>Hillcrest CC</i>	Col. Griggs <i>Somerset CC</i>	Somerset CC
1909	H.G. Legg <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Gerald Livingston <i>Town & Country</i>	Northland CC	1936	Dick Sawyer <i>Country Club, Edina</i>	Ole Williamson <i>Owatonna CC</i>	Minneapolis GC
1910	H.G. Legg <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Elmer H. Whyte <i>Northland CC</i>	Town & Country	1937	Bobby Campbell <i>Northland CC</i>	Neil Croonquist <i>University GC</i>	Country Club, Edina
1911	H.G. Legg <i>Minikahda Club</i>	N.P. Rogers <i>Town & Country</i>	Minikahda Club	1938	Kenneth Young <i>Armour</i>	H. Robinson, Jr. <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Midland Hills CC
1912	H.G. Legg <i>Minikahda Club</i>	R. S Patrick <i>Northland CC</i>	Town & Country	1939	Bud Wright <i>Golden Valley CC</i>	Dick Sawyer <i>Country Club, Edina</i>	Golden Valley CC
1913	H.G. Legg <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Dudley Mudge <i>Town & Country</i>	Interlachen CC	1939	Bud Wright <i>Golden Valley CC</i>	Dick Sawyer <i>Country Club, Edina</i>	Golden Valley CC
1914	R.S. Patrick <i>Northland CC</i>	H.G. Legg <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Northland CC	1940	Tom Hamper <i>Hillcrest CC</i>	Virgil Roby <i>Interlachen CC</i>	White Bear YC
1915	Dudley Mudge <i>Town & Country</i>	H.J. McMillan <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Minikahda Club	1941	Neil Croonquist <i>Minneapolis GC</i>	Gene Christensen <i>Northfield GC</i>	Town & Country
1916	Dudley Mudge <i>Town & Country</i>	Geo. H. Routh, Jr. <i>Town & Country</i>	Town & Country	1942-1944	NO TOURNAMENT WORLD WAR II		
1917	H.G. Legg <i>Minikahda Club</i>	James Thompson <i>White Bear YC</i>	White Bear YC	1945	Al Clasen <i>Como GC</i>	William Zieske <i>Golden Valley CC</i>	Country Club, Edina
1918	R.G. Hopwood <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Fred C. Mahler <i>Town & Country</i>	Interlachen CC	1946	Pat Sawyer <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Neil Croonquist <i>Minneapolis GC</i>	Minikahda Club
1919	H.G. Legg <i>Minikahda Club</i>	H.R. Johnston <i>White Bear YC</i>	Minikahda Club	1947	Lawrence Karkhoff <i>Interlachen CC</i>	James Nordine <i>Minneapolis GC</i>	Bemidji Town & CC
1920	H.G. Legg <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Dudley Mudge <i>Town & Country</i>	Northland CC	1948	Pat Sawyer <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Kenny Young <i>Golden Valley CC</i>	Interlachen CC
1921	H.R. Johnston <i>White Bear YC</i>	James Thompson <i>White Bear YC</i>	White Bear YC	1949	Larry Karkhoff <i>Francis A. Gross</i>	Ole Williamson <i>Westwood GC</i>	Midland Hills CC
1922	H.R. Johnston <i>White Bear YC</i>	J.K. Wetherby <i>Minneapolis GC</i>	Golden Valley CC	1950	Ade Simonsen <i>Minneapolis GC</i>	Al Clasen <i>Como GC</i>	Golden Valley CC
1923	H.R. Johnston <i>White Bear YC</i>	James Thompson <i>White Bear YC</i>	White Bear YC	1951	Ade Simonsen <i>Minneapolis GC</i>	Kenny Young <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Oak Ridge CC
1924	H.R. Johnston <i>White Bear YC</i>	George K. Labatt <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Interlachen CC	1952	William Zieske <i>Minnesota Valley CC</i>	William Waryan <i>Midland Hills CC</i>	Ridgeview GC
1925	H.R. Johnston <i>White Bear YC</i>	Lester Bolstad <i>Columbia GC</i>	Minneapolis GC	1953	Henry Ernst <i>Francis A. Gross GC</i>	Don Holick <i>Francis A. Gross GC</i>	Minneapolis GC
1926	H.R. Johnston <i>White Bear YC</i>	J.K. Wetherby <i>Minneapolis GC</i>	Country Club, Edina	1954	Spero Daltas <i>University GC</i>	Dick Copeland <i>Highland Park GC</i>	White Bear YC
1927	H.R. Johnston <i>White Bear YC</i>	C.J. Jaffray <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Somerset CC	1955	Tom Hadley <i>Meadowbrook GC</i>	Neil Croonquist <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Minnesota Valley CC

Year	Champion	Runner-up	Host Club	Year	Champion	Score	Host Club
1956	William Waryan <i>Midland Hills CC</i>	Tom Hadley <i>Meadowbrook GC</i>	Rochester G&CC	1982	Chris Perry <i>Dwan GC</i>	209 - 54 holes	Town & Country
1957	Clayton Johnson <i>Como GC</i>	Tom Hadley <i>Meadowbrook GC</i>	North Oaks GC	1983	Chris Perry <i>Dwan GC</i>	208 - 54 holes	Detroit CC
1958	Bob Henrikson <i>University GC</i>	Gene Hansen <i>Francis A. Gross GC</i>	Edina CC	1984	David Tentis <i>Dellwood Hills GC</i>	212 - 54 holes	White Bear YC
1959	Ted Vickerman <i>Mendakota CC</i>	Bill Waryan <i>Midland Hills CC</i>	Mankato GC	1985	Dave Nordeen <i>Rich Acres GC</i>	214 - 54 holes	North Oaks GC
1960	Neil Croonquist <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Joel Goldstrand <i>Worthington CC</i>	Town & Country	1986	Dave Nordeen <i>Rich Acres GC</i>	218 - 54 holes	Edina CC
1961	Gene Hansen <i>Francis A. Gross GC</i>	Neil Croonquist <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Wayzata CC	1987	John Harris <i>Edina CC</i>	224 - 54 holes	Hazeltine National GC
1962	Gene Hansen <i>Francis A. Gross GC</i>	Neil Croonquist <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Hillcrest CC	1988	Jon Christian <i>Edgewater CC</i>	214 - 54 holes	Minneapolis GC
1963	Rolf Deming <i>Hiawatha GC</i>	Bud Chapman <i>Minneapolis GC</i>	Stillwater CC	1989	John Harris <i>Edina CC</i>	207 - 54 holes	Rochester Golf & CC
1964	Bob Barbarossa <i>St. Cloud CC</i>	Bob Finseth <i>Kenyon CC</i>	Somerset CC	1990	Dan Croonquist <i>North Oaks GC</i>	219 - 54 holes	Minikahda Club
1965	Jim Archer <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Jim Hiniker <i>Hastings CC</i>	Hazeltine National GC	1991	James Scheller <i>Golden Valley CC</i>	213 - 54 holes	Minnesota Valley CC
1966	Norb Anderson <i>Keller GC</i>	Tom Cook <i>Pebble Lake CC</i>	Midland Hills CC	1992	Tim Herron <i>Wayzata CC</i>	209 - 54 holes	Golden Valley CC
SWITCH TO STROKE PLAY							
Year	Champion	Score	Host Club	1993	Mike Sauer <i>Tianna CC</i>	209 - 54 holes	Brackett's Crossing CC
1967	Bob Magee <i>Northland CC</i>	290 - 72 holes	Golden Valley CC	1994	Aaron Barber <i>Little Crow CC</i>	211 - 54 holes	Midland Hills CC
1968	Gary Burton <i>Ridgeview GC</i>	287 - 72 holes	Mendakota CC	1995	Mike Christensen <i>Pokegama GC</i>	206 - 54 holes	Alexandria GC
1969	Gary Burton <i>Ridgeview GC</i>	292 - 72 holes	Minikahda Club	1996	Joe Stansberry <i>Hiawatha GC</i>	221 - 54 holes	Interlachen CC
1970	Mike Fermoye <i>Hiawatha GC</i>	292 - 72 holes	Rochester G&CC	1997	David Christensen <i>Elk River CC</i>	137 - 36 holes <i>(Rain shortened)</i>	Wayzata CC
1971	Dave Haberle <i>Interlachen CC</i>	215 - 54 holes	Edina CC	1998	James McLean <i>University GC</i>	203 - 54 holes	Rochester G & CC
1972	Rick Ehrmantraut <i>Highland Park GC</i>	215 - 54 holes	Golden Valley CC	1999	Adam Dooley <i>University GC</i>	204 - 54 holes	North Oaks GC
1973	Mike Fermoye <i>University GC</i>	214 - 54 holes	St. Cloud CC	2000	John Harris <i>Edina CC</i>	211 - 54 holes	Bearpath G&CC
1974	John Harris <i>University GC</i>	219 - 54 holes	Dellwood Hills GC				
1975	Steve Johnson <i>North Branch GC</i>	218 - 54 holes	Woodhill CC				
1976	Bill Israelson <i>Bemidji T&CC</i>	210 - 54 holes	Oak Ridge CC				
1977	Bill Israelson <i>Bemidji T&CC</i>	216 - 54 holes	Interlachen CC				
1978	Bill Israelson <i>Bemidji T&CC</i>	215 - 54 holes	Northland CC				
1979	John McMorrow <i>Edina CC</i>	205 - 54 holes	Hillcrest CC				
1980	Mike Fermoye <i>University GC</i>	224 - 54 holes	Olympic Hills GC				
1981	Tom Lehman <i>Alexandria GC</i>	215 - 54 holes	Wayzata CC				

MGA Senior Amateur Champions

Year	Champion/Club	Host Club(s)	Year	Champion/Club	Host Club(s)
1922	Frank T. Heffelfinger, <i>Woodhill CC</i>	Somerset CC	1972	Homer Gilbertson, <i>Stillwater CC</i>	White Bear YC/ North Oaks GC
1923	Harold P. Bend, <i>Town & CC</i>	Somerset CC	1973	Roy Widstrom, <i>Gross GC</i>	Rolling Green CC/ Woodhill CC
1924	Harold P. Bend, <i>Town & CC</i>	Somerset CC	1974	Roy Widstrom, <i>Gross GC</i>	Mendakota CC/ SouthviewCC
1925	William D. Mitchell, <i>Somerset CC</i>	Somerset CC	1975	Roy Widstrom, <i>Gross GC</i>	Mpls. GC/ Olympic Hills GC
1926	Dave Tallman, <i>Willmar GC</i>	Somerset CC	1976	Gene Christensen, <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Hazeltine GC/ MinnesotaVCC
1927	Dave Tallman, <i>Willmar GC</i>	Somerset CC	1977	Arnie Haglund, <i>Olympic Hills GC</i>	Midland Hills CC/ Indian Hills GC
1928	Dave Tallman, <i>Willmar GC</i>	Somerset CC	1978	Bud Chapman, <i>Minneapolis GC</i>	Edina CC/Wayzata CC
1929	William D. Mitchell, <i>Somerset CC</i>	Somerset CC	1979	Gene Christensen, <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Minikahda Club/ Oak Ridge CC
1930	C.T. Jaffray, <i>Minikahda Club</i>	Somerset CC	1980	John Hudak, <i>Majestic Oaks GC</i>	Town & CC/ Dellwood Hills GC
1931	Dr. T.D. Abernathy, <i>Rochester G&CC</i>	Somerset CC	1981	Lloyd Freden, <i>Edina CC</i>	Olympic Hills GC/ Interlachen CC
1932	Col. C.J. Nelson, <i>Somerset CC</i>	Somerset CC	1982	Chuck McCurdy, <i>Como GC</i>	Minnetonka CC/ Golden Valley CC
1933	H.L. Mundy, <i>Somerset CC</i>	Somerset CC	1983	Jack Becker, <i>Braemar GC</i>	White Bear YC/ Dellwood Hills GC
1934	Cecil L. Keith, <i>Edina CC</i>	Somerset CC	1984	John Biernat, <i>Midland Hills CC</i>	Hillcrest CC/ North Oaks GC
1935	Runcie B. Martin, <i>Northland CC</i>	Somerset CC	1985	Leo Spooner, <i>Northland CC</i>	Woodhill CC/ Hazeltine GC
1936	Richard C. Lilly, <i>Somerset CC</i>	Somerset CC	1986	Don Reimer, <i>Burl GC</i>	Wayzata CC/Burl GC
1937	Dave Tallman, <i>Willmar GC</i>	Somerset CC	1987	Dick Copeland, <i>White Bear YC</i>	Dellwood Hills GC/ White Bear YC
1938	Runcie B. Martin, <i>Ridgeview CC</i>	Somerset CC	1988	Jerry Ranheim, <i>Sundance GC</i>	Midland Hills CC/ Indian Hills GC
1939	Runcie B. Martin, <i>Northland CC</i>	Somerset CC	1989	Dick Copeland, <i>White Bear YC</i>	Southview CC/ Mendakota CC
1940	Max Alberts, <i>Southview CC</i>	Somerset CC	1990	Bud Chapman, <i>Minneapolis GC</i>	Brackett's Cross. CC/ Oly. Hills GC
1941	Joe Williams, <i>Edina CC</i>	Somerset CC	1991	Rod Magnuson, <i>Keller GC</i>	Elk River CC/ Monticello CC
1942	Runcie B. Martin, <i>Northland CC</i>	Somerset CC	1992	Norb Anderson, <i>Midland Hills CC</i>	Minnetonka CC/ Burl Oaks GC
1943	Richard C. Lilly, <i>Somerset CC</i>	Somerset CC	1993	Lyle Norman, <i>Hollydale GC</i>	Town & CC/ North Oaks GC
1944	Runcie B. Martin, <i>Northland CC</i>	Somerset CC	1994	David Rovick, <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Forest Hills GC/ Dellwood Hills GC
1945	William O. Bissonett, <i>Northland CC</i>	Somerset CC	1995	Richard Anderson, <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Faribault G & CC/ Willinger's GC
1946	Harrison R. Johnston, <i>Somerset CC</i>	Somerset CC	1996	Gary Thorp, <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Hillcrest CC
1947	Dr. H.G. Bleier, <i>Southview CC</i>	Somerset CC	1997	Carson Herron, <i>Wayzata CC</i>	Crow River CC
1948	Glen Bronson, <i>Minneapolis GC</i>	Somerset CC	1998	R.J. Smiley, <i>Mille Lacs GR</i>	Brackett's Crossing CC
1949	Harrison R. Johnston, <i>Woodhill CC</i>	Somerset CC	1999	David Rovick, <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Bemidji T&CC
1950	Bob Gammon, <i>Keller GC</i>	Somerset CC	2000	Gerald Gruidl, <i>Golden Valley CC</i>	Midland Hills CC
1951	Col. R.S. Henderson, <i>Ft. Snelling GC</i>	Somerset CC			
1952	Bob Gammon, <i>Keller GC</i>	Somerset CC			
1953	Charles Swedberg, <i>Como GC</i>	Somerset CC			
1954	Glen Bronson, <i>Minneapolis GC</i>	Somerset CC			
1955	Ben Dablow, <i>Southview CC</i>	Somerset CC			
1956	Bill McGlone, <i>Hiawatha GC</i>	Southview CC			
1957	Howard Combacker, <i>Interlachen CC</i>	MinnesotaVCC			
1958	Bill McGlone, <i>Hiawatha GC</i>	North Oaks GC			
1959	Bill McGlone, <i>Hiawatha GC</i>	North Oaks GC			
1960	Charles Swedberg, <i>Mendakota CC</i>	Oak Ridge CC			
1961	Ben Dablow, <i>North Oaks GC</i>	Town & CC			
1962	Charles Swedberg, <i>Mendakota CC</i>	Minneapolis GC			
1963	Ben Dablow, <i>North Oaks GC</i>	Hazeltine GC			
1964	Bill Zieske, <i>Minnesota Valley CC</i>	Edina CC			
1965	Mike Holick, <i>Gross GC</i>	Midland Hills CC			
1966	Paul Turner, <i>North Oaks GC</i>	Oak Ridge CC			
1967	Ted McFarlane, <i>Minnetonka CC</i>	Minnesota VCC			
1968	Len Bjorklund, <i>Interlachen CC</i>	North Oaks GC			
1969	Mike Holick, <i>Gross GC</i>	Interlachen CC			
1970	Bill Zieske, <i>Braemar GC</i>	Golden Valley			
1971	Ray Borseth, <i>Gross GC</i>	Hillcrest CC/ Town & CC			

MGA Mid Amateur Champions

Year	Champion	Site
1988	John Harris, <i>Edina CC</i>	Edina CC
1989	Steve Johnson, <i>Elk River CC</i>	Dellwood Hills GC
1990	John Harris, <i>Edina CC</i>	Interlachen CC
1991	John Harris, <i>Edina CC</i>	Faribault G&CC
1992	John Harris, <i>Edina CC</i>	Wayzata CC
1993	Joe Stansberry, <i>Hiawatha GC</i>	Edina CC
1994	John Reichert, <i>Interlachen CC</i>	Northland CC
1995	Joe Stansberry, <i>Hiawatha GC</i>	Olympic Hills GC
1996	John Spreiter, <i>Litchfield GC</i>	Stillwater CC
1997	Rick Ehrmantraut, <i>Southview CC</i>	St. Cloud CC
1998	J.B. Lloyd, <i>Southview CC</i>	Dellwood Hills GC
1999	John Harris, <i>Edina CC</i>	St. Cloud CC
2000	Gary Jacobson, <i>Rush Creek GC</i>	Minnesota Valley CC

MGA Players' Championship

Year	Champion	Site
1979	Scott Harris	Interlachen CC
1980	Tom Lehman	White Bear Yacht Club
1981	Tom Lehman	Woodhill CC
1982	Scott Harris	Edina CC
1983	Jim Kidd	Interlachen CC
1984	John Spreiter	Minikahda Club
1985	Dave Tentis	Somerset CC
1986	John Paulson	Woodhill CC
1987	Jeff Teal	Town and CC
1988	Steve Johnson	Interlachen CC
1989	Steve Johnson	Golden Valley CC
1990	Joe McCormick	White Bear YC
1991	Greg Murphy	Edina CC
1992	Ted Bodine	Somerset CC
1993	J.B. Lloyd	Mankato GC
1994	Ted Bodine	Rochester Golf & CC
1995	Joe Stansberry	Woodhill CC
1996	Terry O'Loughlin	Northland CC
1997	Terry O'Loughlin	White Bear YC
1998	David Christensen	Golden Valley CC
1999	J.B. Lloyd	Alexandria GC
2000	John Carlson	The Wilds GC

USGA/PGA Championships in Minnesota

1916	National Open, <i>The Minikahda Club</i>
1927	National Amateur, <i>The Minikahda Club</i>
1930	National Open, <i>Interlachen CC</i>
1931	National Public Links, <i>Keller GC</i>
1932	PGA, <i>Keller GC</i>
1935	National Women's Amateur, <i>Interlachen CC</i>
1947	National Public Links, <i>Meadowbrook GC</i>
1950	National Amateur, <i>Minneapolis GC</i>
1951	National Women's Amateur, <i>Town & Country Club</i>
1954	PGA, <i>Keller GC</i>
1956	National Women's Open, <i>Northland CC</i>
1956	U.S. Senior Amateur, <i>Somerset CC</i>
1957	Walker Cup Matches, <i>The Minikahda Club</i>
1958	U.S. Junior Amateur, <i>University GC</i>
1959	PGA, <i>Minneapolis GC</i>
1964	National Public Links, <i>Gross GC</i>
1966	National Women's Open, <i>Hazeltine National GC</i>
1970	National Open, <i>Hazeltine National GC</i>
1976	National Public Links, <i>Bunker Hills GC</i>
1977	National Women's Open, <i>Hazeltine National GC</i>
1979	U.S. Women's Public Links, <i>Braemar GC</i>
1983	U.S. Senior Open, <i>Hazeltine National GC</i>
1984	U.S. Junior Amateur, <i>Wayzata CC</i>
1986	USGA Senior Amateur, <i>Interlachen CC</i>
1988	U.S. Junior Girls', <i>Golden Valley CC</i>
1988	National Women's Amateur, <i>The Minikahda Club</i>
1991	National Open, <i>Hazeltine National GC</i>
1992	National Public Links, <i>Edinburgh USA</i>
1993	U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur, <i>Rochester G&CC</i>
1993	Walker Cup Matches, <i>Interlachen CC</i>
1994	U.S. Mid-Amateur, <i>Hazeltine National GC/Wayzata CC</i>
1995	USGA Senior Women's Amateur, <i>Somerset CC</i>
1996	Western Junior, <i>Edina CC</i>
1998	Curtis Cup Matches, <i>The Minikahda Club</i>
2001	USGA State Team Championships, <i>Hazeltine National GC/ Woodhill CC</i>

2001 Minnesota Golf Champions

MGA

MGA Women's Mid-Amateur Championship
May 14-15, Elk River CC
Claudia Pilot, Austin CC

MGA/PGA Cup Matches
May 21, Edina CC
Minnesota PGA def. MGA 29 1/2 to 18 1/2

MGA Mid-Amateur Championship
May 29-31, Edina CC
Tony Brown, Wayzata CC

MGA Senior Players' Championship
June 13-15, The Preserve at Grand View Lodge
Gerry Gruidl, Golden Valley CC

MGA Players' Championship
June 18-20, Interlachen CC
Jered Gusso, Olympic Hills GC

MGA Mixed Team Championship
June 26-27, Monticello CC
Erik Christopherson and Allie Bloomquist, Mississippi Dunes GL

MGA Amateur Championship
July 23-25, Winona CC
Ben Meyers, U of M GC

MGA Junior Championship
August 6-7, Town & Country Club
Boys: Rodney Hamblin, Como GC
Girls: Laura Olin, Olympic Hills GC

MGA Four-Ball Championship
August 13-15, Oak Ridge CC
Mike Fermoyle and Steve Johnson, Elk River CC

Minnesota/Manitoba Junior Cup Matches
August 20-21, Mesaba CC, Hibbing
Boys: Manitoba def. MN 12 1/2 to 11 1/2

MGA Senior Four-Ball Championship
August 28-29, Indian Hills GC
Ray and Ed Sauer, Tianna CC

MGA Net Team Championship
September 4-5, The Preserve/The Pines at Grand View Lodge

MGA Senior Championship
September 10-12, Somerset CC

MWGA

MWGA Senior Four-Ball Tournament
June 4-5, Monticello CC
JoAnn Lindsay, Interlachen CC
Nancy Harris, Minneapolis GC

MN Women's State Amateur Four-Ball Championship
June 18-19, Bearpath G&CC
Keeley Dolan, Cokato G&CC
Marni Lundblom, Pine Meadows GC

Minnesota Women's State Match Play Championship
July 9-12, White Bear YC
Hilary Homeyer, Braemar GC

Minnesota Junior Girls' Championship
July 23-24, The Oaks GC
Laura Olin, Olympic Hills GC

Minnesota Women's State Amateur Championship
July 30-August 1, Minneapolis GC
Megan George, Rolling Green CC

MN Senior Women's State Amateur Championship
August 27-28, Blueberry Pines GC
Nancy Harris, Minneapolis GC

MPGA

MPGA Senior Championship
May 19-20, Sundance GC
Rod Magnuson, Keller GC

MPGA Individual Low Net Championship
June 16-17, Mississippi Dunes GL
Walt Krueger, Meadowbrook GC

MPGA Four-Ball Championship
June 16-17, Mississippi Dunes GL
Terry Moores III and Greg Murphy, Keller GC

MPGA Junior Publinks Championship
July 31, River Oaks GC
Adam Delawyer, Pokegama GC

MPGA State Publinks Championship
August 18-19, Stonebrooke GC
Rolf Engwall, Edinburgh USA

MWPGA

MWPGA Four-Ball Tournament
May 19, Phalen Park GC
Claudia Pilot, Austin CC and Maria Sera, U of M GC

MWPGA Publinks
July 21-22, Monticello CC
Claudia Pilot, Austin CC

MWPGA Senior Publinks
August 6-7, Pokegama GC
Nicki Reuterfeldt, Monticello CC

MINNESOTA PGA

Minnesota Golf Champions
May 11-13, Minneapolis GC
Don Berry, Edinburgh USA

State Senior Open
June 5-6, Pebble Creek GC
David Rovick, Interlachen CC

Minnesota Women's State Open
June 7-8, Bunker Hills GC
Katie Bakken, U of M GC

Minnesota PGA Junior Tournament of Champions
June 27-28, The Preserve and Deacon's Lodge
Boys: Chris Cole, Little Crow GC
Girls: Anna Stocker, Northland CC

Minnesota State Open
July 20-22, Bunker Hills GC
Rodney Cook, North Oaks GC

Minnesota PGA Junior Championship
August 15-16, Izatys G&YC
Boys: Grant Lissick, Sawmill GC
Girls: Krista Swanson, Castlewood GC

Page & Tuttle Minnesota PGA Championship
August 27-29, Izatys G&YC
Don Berry, Edinburgh USA

MGA Players of the Year

Men's Player of the Year

1975 Steve Johnson
1976 Bill Israelson
1977 Bill Israelson
1978 Bill Israelson
1979 Dan Croonquist
1980 Dan Croonquist
1981 Dave Tentis
1982 Dave Tentis
1983 Chris Perry
1984 Dave Tentis
1985 Jim Sorenson
1986 Jim Sorenson
1987 John Harris
1988 John Harris
1989 John Harris
1990 John Harris
1991 John Harris
1992 John Harris
1993 John Harris
1994 John Harris
1995 John Harris
1996 Terry O'Loughlin
1997 Joe Stansberry
1998 James McLean
1999 Adam Dooley
2000 John Harris

Women's Player of the Year

1994 Nancy Blanchard
1995 Leigh Klasse
1996 Jennifer Tollette
1997 Hilary Homeyer
1998 Alissa Herron
1999 Alissa Herron/Claudia Pilot
2000 Hilary Homeyer

Senior Men's Player of the Year

1975 John Miller
1976 Gene Christensen
1977 Neil Croonquist
1978 Loyal Chapman
1979 Jack Adams
1980 Neil Croonquist
1981 Lloyd Freden
1982 Chuck McCurdy
1983 Leo Spooner
1984 Leo Spooner/Loyal Chapman
1985 Dick Kohlbry
1986 Rod Magnuson
1987 Rod Magnuson
1988 Rod Magnuson/Chuck Mingo
1989 Loyal Chapman
1990 Loyal Chapman
1991 James Scheller
1992 Bob Harris
1993 Dick Blooston
1994 John Reichert
1995 John Reichert
1996 Gary Thorp
1997 Carson Herron
1998 Dick Blooston
1999 Gerald Gruidl
2000 Gerald Grudl

Senior Women's Player of the Year

1994 Nancy K. Harris
1995 Jo-Ann Lindsay
1996 Nancy K. Harris
1997 Nancy K. Harris
1998 Nancy K. Harris
1999 Nancy K. Harris
2000 Nancy K. Harris

Junior Boys' Player of the Year

1975 Mark Norman
1976 John Hendricks
1977 Jeff Teal
1978 Chris Perry
1979 Chris Perry/Dave Tentis
1980 Chris Perry
1981 John Brellenthin
1982 Steve Barber
1983 Tom Nyberg
1984 Brad Geer
1985 Brad Geer
1986 Tom Anderson
1987 Russ Simenson
1988 Tim Herron
1989 Russ Simenson
1990 Paul Meyer
1991 Mike Sauer
1992 Andy Brink
1993 Eric Ecker
1994 David Christensen
1995 Michael Christensen
1996 Mark Christensen
1997 Kyle Blackman
1998 Adam Riddering
1999 AJ Hoffman/David Supalla
2000 Grant Lissick

Junior Girls' Player of the Year

1994 Kelly Kirwin
1995 Kelly Kirwin
1996 Hilary Homeyer
1997 Hilary Homeyer
1998 Deb Means
1999 Laura Olin
2000 Laura Olin

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Bob Brettrigen, p. 30
Mark Brettrigen, p. 33
David Sherman Photography, pp. 36, 37, 122-129, 132, 142
Courtesy Town and Country Club, p. 48
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FROM THE AUTHOR

The development of an anniversary book such as this one takes a significant amount of effort on the part of numerous individuals. The finished product that you hold in your hands was close to three years in the making. While a time-consuming process, it was also a very rewarding experience.

I would first like to thank Dick Harris for entrusting me with this project, as well as the MGA's board of directors for supporting this worthwhile and important venture. In addition, working alongside Centennial Book Chairman Charlie Mahar over the past two and a half years has been nothing short of terrific. His knowledge of golf history, Minnesota's and otherwise, made my job considerably easier.

I am also indebted to the MGA staff for their kindness and immeasurable help. A special thanks goes to executive director Julie Sprau for her support. Also, communications director W.P. Ryan took the time to supply me with any and all information I needed including background materials on people and events, as well as photography. Warren J. Rebholz, who has been associated with the MGA for close to 50 years, was an inestimable source of information. He went out of his way to help wherever possible and I am grateful. And a very special thank you to each individual who sat for interviews and provided priceless golf memories that helped make up the body of this book. I appreciate everyone's generosity.

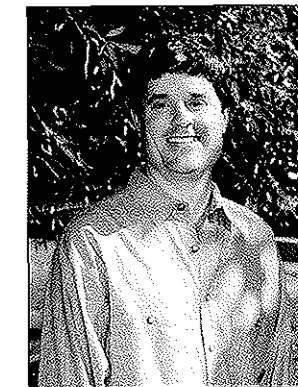
I would also like to recognize the invaluable contributions of two golf memorabilia collectors. Don Kunshier provided numerous archival photographs of early golf in the state, and Tom Otteson opened up his vast vault of golf artifacts for us to photograph. These two gentlemen's contributions to the success of this commemorative book cannot be underscored enough.

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George E. Brown III