



Golf Links: Chay Burgess, Francis Ouimet and the Bringing of Golf to America

Charles D. Burgess

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Recounting golf's early years in Scotland and its growth in the U.S., this book tells the story of the largely unheralded golf professionals who came to America at the turn of the 20th century. These early members of the Scottish Invasion struggled to earn a living and the respect of the wealthy amateur golf establishment and the United States Golf Association who controlled the sport in America. Charles Chay Burgess founder of the New England PGA, teacher of three American national champions, and the savior of the Ryder cup learned the game on the ancient seaside links of his native Montrose and competed against such British greats as James Braid, Harry Vardon and J.H. Taylor. His arrival in the U.S. dramatically influenced the rapid development of the game and the reconciliation of long-standing differences between amateur and professional golf. In 1913, American amateur Francis Ouimet a working-class unknown under Burgess tutelage won the U.S. Open against British celebrities Ted Ray and Harry Vardon. Ouimet's triumph began a revolution on the links by bringing the game to mainstream America."

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