

1-1-2000

Sir Walter and Mr. Jones: Walter Hagen, Bobby Jones, and the Rise of American Golf. Chapter 7: Passing the Crowns, 1926-1927.

Stephen Lowe

Olivet Nazarene University, slowe@olivet.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.olivet.edu/hist_facp



Part of the [American Popular Culture Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Lowe, Stephen. "Passing the Crowns, 1926-1927." *Sir Walter and Mr. Jones: Walter Hagen, Bobby Jones, and the Rise of American Golf*. Ann Arbor, Mich.: Sleeping Bear Press, 2000.

This Book Chapter is brought to you for free and open access by the History at Digital Commons @ Olivet. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Scholarship - History by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Olivet. For more information, please contact kboyens@olivet.edu.

CHAPTER SEVEN

Passing the Crowns, 1926-1927

1

Two things would become clear by the end of the 1926 season: First, the best golfer in the United States was Bobby Jones; second, the greatest golfing nation in the world was the United States. For several years, those two matters had consumed golf analysts around the globe, but there would be little room for debate by December 1926.

A year earlier, however, there was plenty of argument, especially on the first issue. Hagen had won two British Opens and finished runner-up in three attempts; he also had won the match-play championship for his class the previous two years. Jones had won a U.S. Open and finished runner-up three times in his last four attempts; he, too, had won the match-play championship for his class in 1924 and 1925. Their accomplishments since 1922 were remarkably comparable. Hagen's pounding of Jones on March 7, 1926, in the Battle of the Century only added fuel to the fire, because many commentators had considered Jones the better player.

Both stars competed in a number of four-ball exhibitions along the Gulf Coast in the winter of 1925-1926. Jones played many of his with professional Tommy Armour. The Professional Golfer had even announced late in December that Jones-Armour would represent Whitfield Estates in the second edition of the Florida Winter Golf League. Owned by Adair Realty, Whitfield Estates was situated near Sarasota and had just opened for business that season. Early in January, though, the Southern Golfer informed fans that there would be no Florida

League after all because of a lack of interest.

One can only speculate as to how Jones's presence in the league would have affected, or jeopardized, his amateur standing; the issue was not raised in the press. Possibly in response to the Professional Golfer's announcement, however, in December rumors circulated that Jones might become a professional. He quickly put those stories to rest with a letter to Golfers Magazine that stated: "I never have considered nor ever expect to consider turning professional." Nonetheless, Jones did play with Tommy Armour and Watts Gunn in about a dozen exhibitions scattered around the Battle of the Century, mostly to promote Whitfield Estates. He also finished third in the Miami Open, an event which Hagen did not enter.ⁱ

On February 21, Jones-Armour defeated Hagen and Gil Nichols in an eighteen-hole four-ball affair at Pasadena. The event was characterized as a "curtain-raiser," designed to create interest in the Battle of the Century. Planned as thirty-six holes, it was reduced to eighteen because of Hagen's ill-health. He was suffering from flu symptoms and was reportedly under doctor's orders to remain in bed for a few days after the match.ⁱⁱ

Despite the four-ball loss, it seemed that by early April Hagen had put down Jones's claim to the throne--and not just because of his convincing 12 and 11 victory in the Battle of the Century. Two weeks after that epic dual, in mid-March, Hagen and Jones met again in the Florida West Coast Open, played over Hagen's Pasadena layout. Hagen won, while Jones finished a close second. The narrow victory notwithstanding, the American Golfer concluded, "Jones has crumpled before the wizardry of Walter's game."

By then, both Hagen and Jones had announced that they would travel abroad for the British events. Beyond the national amateur and open, Jones would join a team of American

amateurs to play for the Walker Cup, and Hagen was to select and captain a squad for international professional matches. In other words, it would be a full-scale amateur-professional invasion, such as was launched in 1921. Aside from those international rivalries, golf fans would be treated to an individual subplot, a sustained competition between Hagen and Jones. Having apparently settled the question of match-play superiority in the Battle of the Century, they agreed to engage in a medal contest. The two stars made a good-natured bet on the 252 holes in the Florida West Coast, British, and U.S. opens (seventy-two holes in each tournament proper, plus thirty-six holes in qualifying rounds for the British Open). The loser was to buy a "fine hat" for the victor; "the joke," the Metropolitan Golfer chuckled, was that "Walter never wears a hat--he goes bareheaded practically all the time."

The point, though, was that the real prize was the crown worn by the world's best golfer. Hagen's two-stroke margin in the West Coast Open prompted H. B. Martin to suggest that Jones's medal prowess had been exaggerated. In an article entitled "Golf Records Make Interesting Comparison," Martin examined their records in the ten medal events in which they had both competed. He found that Hagen actually led Jones 2,863 strokes to 2,868. Martin also reported that Hagen had captured twenty-three of sixty opens during his career and had won two U.S. Opens in eleven starts, compared to Jones's one victory in six attempts. All of that had been mostly overlooked; still, Jones's scoring in the U.S. Open suggested that he would eventually finish on top.ⁱⁱⁱ

In April Jones returned to Atlanta, where he continued working for Adair Realty and Trust and made preparations for his European excursion. Jones booked passage on the Aquitania for May 5. Meanwhile, Hagen sharpened his game, finishing seventh in the North and South

Open. Then on April 15 he announced the invitations to his international challenge team, requesting Mac Smith, Al Watrous, Gene Sarazen, Leo Diegel, "Wild Bill" Mehlhorn, Tommy Armour, Bobby Cruickshank, Al Espinosa, Joe Kirkwood, "Long Jim" Barnes, and Johnny Farrell. The next day the New York Times reported that an anonymous golf enthusiast was preparing to donate a challenge cup, similar to the Walker Cup, for the professionals. A month later the world learned that the donor's name was Samuel Ryder and that the first competition would be held June 4-5 at the Wentworth Golf Club near London. With anticipation growing, on May 19 Hagen made another announcement: He had accepted a challenge from British professional Abe Mitchell to play a seventy-two-hole match for a hefty purse of 1000 pounds sterling (about \$5,000 in contemporary exchange). Mitchell, whom the British regarded as the finest match player in the world, had issued the challenge the previous January to any U.S. golfer who was man enough to accept it. Having just defeated Bobby Jones in a similar event, Hagen felt even more manly than usual.^{iv}

So with an increasing number of lines drawn in the sand, the Americans began their trek across the Atlantic. Most of the amateurs, including Jones, Watts Gunn, Jess Sweetser, Jesse Guilford, Roland Mackenzie, Francis Ouimet, George Von Elm, and Walker Cup Captain Bob Gardner, left on schedule aboard the Aquitania. Bob Harlow was along, too; he left to help plan the professional team event. Jones-Mackenzie passed the time aboard the Aquitania by taking on all comers in shuffleboard. In an effort to maintain their form, team members also drove golf balls into the Atlantic. They disembarked in England on May 11 to discover that the country was still virtually paralyzed by a prolonged labor strike. For Britishers, golf was not the only matter of importance that summer. One editorial asked, "What's it all about? Is it essential to the

welfare of the nation to win one of these [golf] contests? Is it to be made a business?"^v

A week later the American amateurs commenced competition. On May 16-17 the Walker Cup team defeated the Cambridge-Oxford Society. That, plus other performances, led Britain's Sporting Life to call "the American Walker Cup team the strongest combination we have ever entertained." By Friday the 21st, the Americans had arrived in Scotland and were shooting practice rounds over the Muirfield layout, site of the Amateur. Jones suffered from a cold but still practiced; Von Elm and Sweetser were also bothered by similar ailments. The Atlantan shot another round on Saturday that was reportedly unimpressive. Out of respect for the Sabbath, everyone received a forced break on Sunday.

The Amateur began the next day. Chick Evans once described Muirfield as "a genuine Scottish seaside links with a sort of roughness--a wild, desolate, treeless beauty unknown to the prettified courses we know so well." Actually, Muirfield was not as unlike American layouts as many other British courses. The location was slightly inland and the breeze often light, at least relatively speaking. Still, on a dark day, when the wind bellowed from the Firth of Forth, the long layout could be frightening. The Americans, though, were determined to inspire some fear themselves, even if no Yankee had won the event since "Old Man" Travis had stunned the British in 1904. Evans, Jones, and Von Elm were heavy favorites.

Jones started well enough. After drawing a bye for the first day's play, he defeated Major C. B. Omerod 3 and 2. The narrow margin of victory proved that Jones was not in top form; one report had him "far from his best." He nonetheless won two more matches the next day, prompting the New York Times to declare that finally "he was the real Bobby Jones of whom Britain had heard but not seen." Yet he raised some eyebrows when, because of the heat, he

discarded his sweater and played in his white dress shirt. Jones continued to improve his play on the third day, winning two more matches by even wider margins. In the afternoon, some 5,000 watched Jones put out Robert Harris, the defending champion.

Just eight golfers remained in the tournament. The only Americans still playing were Jones and Jess Sweetser, who had been too ill the previous weekend to practice. Jones's quarterfinal opponent, Andrew Jamieson, was a local player, inexperienced in major competition and clearly the underdog. But on the morning of the match Jones awoke with what he described as a "stiff neck." He later wrote that it was so painful he considered withdrawing from the match. A masseur worked on him for over an hour, and by tee time, Jones said that he felt fine. Yet something was certainly wrong; Bernard Darwin described Jones's play as "rather limp and spiritless." Jones was so off form that he did not win a single hole from Jamieson, who took the match 4 and 3.

Jess Sweetser, still ill and possibly feeling worse than Jones, somehow managed to play himself into the championship match, where he confronted Alfred Simpson. On Saturday, May 29, Sweetser made history by becoming the first American-born golfer to win the British Amateur, soundly defeating Simpson 6 and 5. The Scottish crowd responded well to Sweetser, carrying him on their shoulders for a quarter mile to the clubhouse. Sweetser modestly thanked the throng, and Britain's Golf Monthly replied: "The Americans have so often accepted failure with such modest grace that in their hour of victory we extend the sincerest congratulations . . .

„vi

Five days later, on June 3, the U.S. retained the Walker Cup at St. Andrews by a score of 6.5 to 5.5. That made the U.S. 4-0 in the amateur competition (5-0 if one counted the

preliminary matches of 1920). "The old gray town" closed its businesses; hotels flew the American flag; 5,000 spectators turned out daily; and although it should not have, the warm, enthusiastic welcome at St. Andrews surprised the U.S. team. Jones shined, easily winning in both the foursome and singles competition. "Mr. Jones," Darwin observed, displayed "perfectly steady and faultless golf, not without a certain deprecating air as if he felt sorry for his adversary, but, very properly, not allowing his sympathy to take any practical shape." The margin of victory was quite narrow, though, and fortunately for the U.S. side, George Von Elm halved his match, which allowed the U.S. to keep the cup. Hours later, Sweetser collapsed from illness. He immediately sailed for home, where he would be bedridden for days. Given that, his accomplishments abroad seemed nothing less than heroic.^{vii}

The next day, June 4, the professional team matches got underway at the Wentworth Club. So far, the amateurs had led a successful invasion, and the professionals hoped to sustain it. Some of them, including Hagen, had arrived in England just three days earlier aboard the Aquitania. His late arrival implied that the matches were not a top priority because Captain Hagen and the professionals traveling with him--Watrous, Armour, and Mehlhorn--were unfamiliar with the Wentworth layout and had left themselves only a few days to practice. The British team, captained by "Big Ted" Ray, intended to make the Americans pay for their negligence.

After the first day, the Americans found themselves down 5 to 0, having lost all of the two-ball foursome matches. Hagen at least looked good during his embarrassing defeat. He cut "quite a picturesque appearance in an attire of shades of white and brown," when he and Barnes were humiliated 9 and 8 by George Duncan and Abe Mitchell. Things did not improve much the

next day for the U.S. in the singles competition. Mehlhorn captured the only point, while Emmett French battled to a draw in his match. As for Captain Hagen, he played "mighty poor golf" against George Duncan, suffering a stunning 6 and 5 defeat. Overall, the British thoroughly thrashed the Americans, 13.5 to 1.5 points. The lopsided defeat occurred, in part, because the U.S. team was not as strong as Hagen had planned. Darwin recognized the fact that several leading American players, such as Sarazen, Farrell, and Diegel, did not compete, but "still . . . they had a fine side, and to trounce them thus was a proud feather in the caps of the British team. It ought to do British golf all the good in the world."^{viii}

Actually, the professional team matches were arguably the least significant battle in that summer's international golf war. What the British really needed to soothe the sting from their loss in the amateur events was a victory in their Open, the most important tournament of the campaign. British odds makers had Jones a 6-1 favorite; Hagen and Barnes were quoted at 12-1. Von Elm, Watrous, and Mehlhorn, however, were given little chance at 200-1.

Qualifying for the Open began on the 16th. The tournament proper would be held at the Royal Lytham and St. Anne's Club, located north of Liverpool. For the first time, the Royal & Ancient authorities held regional qualifying rounds; some of the competitors, such as Hagen, qualified on site, while others, including Jones, qualified at the Sunningdale club to the south. Hagen posted two fine rounds of 72-71, leading the section at St. Anne's. In addition, his "cool and imperturbable mannerism made a hit with the crowd."

But if Hagen's qualifying rounds were good, Jones's were excellent. Playing "without spot or blemish" at Sunningdale, he shot his two lowest rounds ever in major medal competition, 66-68-134 (-10). Years later Jones characterized the 66 as "about as perfect a round of golf that I

ever did in my life." The weather was ideal, yet Sunningdale was long and widely-regarded as Britain's toughest inland layout, more difficult than St. Anne's. The length may actually have worked in Jones's favor because he preferred long-iron shots to the greens rather than pitches. At any rate, he smashed the course record, while also establishing new lows for a single round and qualifying total in the British Open.

One British writer, searching for the words to describe Jones's "almost super-human" performance, bubbled, "It's not a fact, but it's true." Once they recovered from the shock, the British loved it. "Mr. Jones," declared one editorial, "had become popular enough to be placed on the Privy Council." His "steadiness" suggested a "wonderful state of physical well-being, and of mental and moral tranquility." Regardless of what he did in the tournament proper, Jones had "already won for himself imperishable fame on the links and set a record for which his rivals will be shooting hopelessly for years to come." Moreover, Sir Walter and Mr. Jones were not the only Americans making news; in fact, eleven others--Kirkwood, Von Elm, Mehlhorn, Gunn, Barnes, Armour, Watrous, McLeod, Walker, French, and Mackenzie--had also qualified, some in impressive fashion. "The primary object of the British now is not to gain glory, but rather to avoid great disgrace," Anthony Spalding grimly concluded.^{ix}

Throughout the following week, most of the competitors practiced at St. Anne's, while Hagen and Mitchell played their international grudge match at Wentworth. Despite appearing nervous, Mitchell grabbed a 4-up lead after the first day. The final thirty-six holes were played the next day at the St. George's Hill layout. About 2,000 had turned out for the first rounds, but twice that number showed on the second day to watch Hagen storm back. He shot a medal score of 68 in the morning; by the sixth hole he pulled even with Mitchell, and on the tenth he took the

lead for the last time. He won the match 2 and 1, providing some vindication for the professional team's humiliation.

Unfortunately for Hagen, the biggest story of the exhibition was not his characteristic come-from-behind victory but the gamesmanship which he allegedly employed in the process. On the second day, Hagen appeared at the first tee twenty minutes late. He had done the same thing a week before at the Northern Professionals Championship. Tardiness was a problem for Hagen that summer; he also had been late for a farewell luncheon aboard the Aquitania, just before it was to set sail for Britain. In each case, Hagen offered no excuse and behaved as though he had done nothing wrong. Missing the Cunard line's luncheon was simply embarrassing, but showing up late for his tee time at the Northern almost disqualified him. His tardiness for the Mitchell match was unacceptable to the British, especially because he offered no explanation. Rather, Hagen "sauntered to the first tee and chatted with friends until the referee drew his attention to the fact that the match was in progress." The British thought that Hagen was trying to disrupt Mitchell's concentration. If so, it worked.^x

Hagen was early for his tee time five days later, on Wednesday, June 23, to begin the Open. The weather was nice and warm, with a fresh, northwesterly wind. He arrived with a "diamond and sceptre" look of victory, and backed it up with another sizzling 68 that took the first-round lead. Jones, who seemed "a bit nervous and unsettled at the start," finished alone in fifth place with 72. R. A. Whitcombe turned in the best round of the natives, a sixth-place 73. Bernard Darwin felt that on the first day the Americans "piled on the agony and rubbed our noses in the dirt."

Darwin and the rest of the British press pinned their hopes on a possible "counterattack"

the second day, but none was forthcoming. The weather remained pleasant, except for the wind, which was stronger and more unpredictable than on the first day. Hagen ballooned to a 77, and Darwin concluded, "It is difficult to lay a finger on any particular weak spot, the strokes just slipped away. [Hagen] is incapable of a Jones-like steadiness." The Atlantan, on the other hand, posted another 72, good enough to put him in a tie with Bill Mehlhorn for the lead at 144. Hagen was next at 145. The closest Britisher, Archie Compston, was in a seventh-place tie with two Americans. The Europeans, who by now were conceding an American victory, began rooting for Jones because "in spite of his greatness, his cap still fits his head."

Jones did not disappoint the next day, one that Hagen would later dub "Black Friday for the British." Shortly after 9:00 Jones and Al Watrous teed off in the third round. Hagen, who always said that he preferred finishing after the leaders so as to have a target, teed off an hour and a half later. The frontrunners stood up well under the intense pressure as they dueled through the day, with Hagen lurking close behind. Watrous was in the lead by the break, two strokes ahead of Jones and four ahead of Hagen--they alone still occupied the first three places.

Watrous played steadily through the thirteenth hole of the last round, maintaining his two-shot lead. Then he cracked and, as Darwin described it, "quite unexpectedly, began throwing away the championship," allowing Jones to draw even with him. They both parred the sixteenth hole. Things seemed to turn back in Watrous's favor at the seventeenth, another par four, after he hit his drive down the middle, and Jones hooked his tee shot into a sand hazard. Watrous hit his approach first, a fine shot to the edge of the green. Jones paid no attention, however, focusing on his own shot, which would be from a clean lie. He stroked his ball perfectly, picking it out of the sand and landing it on the center of the green. The Lytham St.

Anne's Express later called it the "greatest shot in golf history." It seemed to "slay poor Watrous," who responded with a three-putt that gave another shot to Jones. The Atlantan gained one more stroke at the home hole and went to the clubhouse with the lead.

Hagen, meanwhile, was still on the course with a chance to catch Jones. But despite an admirable effort in windy conditions, he came to the home hole requiring an unlikely eagle two. After hitting a nice drive, Sir Walter gave one of the finest "shows" of his career. With Jones watching from the clubhouse balcony, he paced off the yardage, leaving his caddie at the green, and returned to his bag, where he paused before selecting and reselecting his iron. After yelling to his caddie to remove the flag stick, he rifled a remarkably accurate mashie (five-iron) shot, landing his ball just inches from the cup. The ball had no backspin, though, and bounded through the green and into the rough. The crowd, which had been shamelessly cheering for Jones and wishing ill on Hagen, let out a collective sigh of relief when it narrowly missed the hole. Hagen took a six and finished four shots behind Jones and in a third-place tie with Von Elm. It was Hagen's worst result in a British Open since 1921; of course, if he had been concerned about that, he would have played the last hole differently to be the runner-up. Abe Mitchell was the top British player, alone in fifth place.

When it was over, Hagen accepted the defeat with a smile, graciously concluding, "the best man won." For his part, the new champion admitted feeling "nervous all day and dazed when putting" and apologized if he appeared "fidgety." His pace had been dizzying. Jones's 291 tied the all-time record set by James Braid at Prestwick in 1908. Moreover, Jones was only the third amateur overall, and the first American amateur, to win the event. Americans could take additional pride in the fact that no British amateur had ever captured the U.S. Open. Back in the

U.S., a New York Times editorial crowned Jones the "Emperor" of golf and praised the other American competitors who had dominated the tournament and established U.S. supremacy in the sport. The British agreed, albeit reluctantly on the second point. They considered Jones a "genius" and "in a class by himself, judged either from a professional or amateur standpoint." J. H. Taylor simply said, "The greatest golfing prize has been won by the greatest golfer." Gordon Harkness thought that "Jones's victory, without a doubt, is a popular one with the British, much more than if one of the American professionals had won." Concerning the "American Avalanche" that swept the tournament, Britain's Golf Monthly declared that it "cannot be explained away by any paltering excuses. Our players are not good enough." The publication confessed that if Diegel, Farrell, Hutchison, and Cruickshank had made the trip, the result would have been even worse for Britain, concluding that "on the professional side there is not one man on the horizon to whom we can turn our faces and vision hope."^{xi}

Indeed, aside from the professional team competition, the invasion had been a complete success. The top four finishers in the British Open--and seven of the top eight--were Americans; an American had won the British Amateur; and, the U.S. had retained the Walker Cup. Hagen had even defeated Mitchell in their grudge match. It was one of the most impressive manifestations yet of the rise of American golf. The U.S. had completely wrenched the international golfing crown away from Great Britain. Now Bobby Jones was about to go home and do the same thing on the national level.

The one consolation for the British that summer was that their events had been swept by amateurs. It was easier for them to accept Jones winning their Open than Hagen, because tradition-conscious British golf fans loved the Atlantan's "unobtrusive, unassuming, and studious" disposition. Less than forty-eight hours after the British Open concluded, Jones, Hagen, and most of the Americans boarded the Aquitania and headed for home. Their national open was scheduled for July 8. Just before leaving Britain, however, Jones and Hagen gave revealing press interviews which magnified their very different public images.^{xii}

Jones told London reporters that "life seemed rosey" and that he had not yet given "vent to [his] excitement." One writer then asked Jones if he had ever made money from the sport. Jones replied that he had not made a cent from golf and never would. He also claimed to have recently declined an opportunity to write a series of syndicated newspaper articles, as well as a business executive's position worth \$40,000. (Later that year Golfers Magazine reported that in 1925 Jones had turned down an offer of \$12,000 to write a series of articles.) Jones surmised, "I reckon this trip will leave me \$1,500 out of pocket, but it has been worthwhile. There is no monetary value, so far as I'm concerned, to winning the British Open championship, but it is an honor which an American in particular is proud to hold." Jones concluded his interview by announcing that he intended to leave the real-estate business and enter law school, because he wanted to follow in his father's professional footsteps. The London Observer declared Jones a "genius." The Daily Telegraph of London editorialized: "Mr. Jones, a quiet young man dressed in brown knickers and jersey, is a worthy champion in every respect. He is extremely modest, hates to talk about himself, and shuns the limelight as he would the plague."^{xiii}

While Mr. Jones garnered British admiration by eschewing material gain and proposing

more formal education, Sir Walter pricked the British by carelessly philosophizing on the "American Avalanche." In an interview with the Evening Standard, Hagen said that the British simply did not work hard enough at their sports. He went so far as to use the term "lazy." "You have to get more pep. It angers me when, after I have beaten some Englishman, someone says, 'But he is a pretty good sport.' What he ought to be is a good golfer." He added that it would be healthier for golf if the British could occasionally win their own open, suggesting that the event had become an uninteresting showcase for American strength. The Observer characterized Hagen's "gratuitous little lecture" as "ridiculous nonsense" and "condescending frothiness." Outlook described the comments as "braggadocio couched in the language of the prize ring."^{xiv}

Hagen's analysis, along with his entire behavior during the visit, naturally angered British fans. Sir Walter had, after all, hired a chauffeured Rolls-Royce and lodged at the luxurious Savoy in London and the Majestic in St. Anne's. His American caddie had carried "an enormous bag" that was "four times larger than the average caddie bag." And, of course, Hagen's wardrobe on and off the links was dazzling. Some of the British public had come to tolerate Sir Walter's flamboyance, but everyone was bothered by his tardiness in the Mitchell match. If he had never learned his "place" as a professional, the British thought, then at least he could display some sense of fair play and modesty in victory. One anonymous "British golf star" said that "Hagen's reception stands decidedly frigid. His characteristics of largeness, newness, and expansiveness did not appeal to the blunt but very generous Northern heart."^{xv}

Some American commentators agreed. Living Age feared that "the wardrobes and manners of some of our wandering athletes might well strain the alleged friendly sporting relations between the two great English-speaking democracies." A New York Times editorial,

entitled "To Defeat Adding Bitterness," concluded that Hagen was not only a great golfer but a "master of the gentle art of making the English thoroughly dislike him." The Independent stated that his "dubious sportsmanship [in the Mitchell match] may be excused on the part of a professional out to win under any circumstances or conditions. But one can hardly forgive Hagen for his stupid, arrogant, and ill-considered remarks." The Independent further suggested that Hagen be reprimanded by the USGA with a temporary ban from tournaments for "unsportsmanlike behavior and speech harmful to American golf." Outlook summarized, "Unfortunately, while Bobby Jones was earning his laurels, Walter Hagen was proving that he had well already earned his unpopularity. Hagen's conduct and language have had at least the one good effect of heightening Americans' gratification in Bobby Jones's victory." Whatever Hagen actually said in the aftermath of the British Open (quotations and reports varied), he had been roundly criticized on both sides of the Atlantic by the time the Aquitania entered New York Harbor.^{xvi}

To a degree, Hagen had lost the British Open but stolen the show. On July 2, with Edna Hagen at his side, he alighted from the Aquitania "grinning his famous grin." He claimed to be surprised by the furor over his remarks, saying that they had been exaggerated, that he had not used the term "lazy," that he simply had been asked for a "frank" analysis of the British decline, and that he did not mean to "dig" the British for their loss. "It's all news to me. I don't know a thing about it, and I didn't make any such statement as was attributed to me." Then Hagen waffled a bit: "Even if I said anything like it, which I don't think I did, it was absolutely without intent to be critical." As for the Mitchell match, Hagen explained that he showed up ten minutes late, not twenty, because his driver had simply taken a wrong turn. "I have always liked Abe

Mitchell," Hagen maintained, "and wouldn't try to make him nervous by waiting even if I thought doing so would give me an advantage." The New York Times reported that "Hagen's statements were backed up by Bobby Jones, President Fownes, and Al Watrous."^{xvii}

Two days later Hagen felt the need to make a much stronger denial. In the second statement he said that he had been tardy for the Mitchell match because of heavy traffic. He stopped short of apologizing for anything but concluded, "I like the British very much indeed. They are fine sportsmen, and American golfers always have a glorious time over there and are eager to return."^{xviii}

While much controversy surrounded Hagen when the Aquitania arrived, the crowd poured out affection on Jones. More than fifty Atlantans, including Jones's grandfather, parents, and wife, made the trip to New York. Jones disembarked at about 1:00 p.m. amidst scattered rebel yells and the customary "Dixie." After greeting his family, Jones was ushered down Broadway to City Hall. The reception, including a full-blown ticker-tape parade, complete with motorcycle police escort, band, and flying confetti, was given primarily in honor of Jones, although Hagen, Gunn, and Watrous followed behind him.

When the party reached City Hall, it was introduced to Mayor Jimmy Walker. The mayor told the crowd that New York was proud of Jones's accomplishment for "American sportsmanship and American sporting skill." Walker considered Jones "a splendid example to the young men of America [because he had] played the game well and cleanly until [he] reached the very top." The proceeding was broadcast live on WNYC radio. Jones, "bashful as a schoolboy and speaking in a voice which was almost inaudible," responded into the microphone: "This is the most remarkable reception I have ever experienced. I can't tell you how much I

appreciate it. It isn't necessary for me to tell you how I feel about it. You can tell by just looking at me." Someone called for three cheers for Mayor Walker and three more for Atlanta. The celebration lasted until 3:00; then the Joneses retired to their suites at the Hotel Vanderbilt, where a banquet and dance were given that evening in Jones's honor.

The New York Times described the festivities as "the greatest reception in the history of sports" and suggested that it was a testimony to the popularity of golf. Jones seemed a bit surprised and uncomfortable during the reception. That was understandable; he had never received such an outpouring of admiration outside of Atlanta and genuinely disliked being the center of attention. But his life had changed forever. In "Bobby Jones," Americans had found a new sports hero whose extraordinary popularity was based on a modest, unassuming personality, the ideals of amateurism, and unprecedented natural skills.^{xix}

One week later at the Scioto Country Club in Columbus, Ohio, Jones consolidated his position at the top when he became the first golfer to win both national opens in the same season. He began hot and cold, carding 70-79; the opening mark represented his lowest first round ever in a U.S. Open, and the afternoon score was his highest ever. The 79 occurred, in part, because Jones called a penalty stroke on himself after he accidentally moved his ball on the fifteenth green. On the final morning the weather was as ominous as Jones's "grim, taciturn, fighting" expression. Six strokes behind the leader, the Atlantan was determined to pull off a Hagen-like comeback performance. Maintaining his intensity, Jones shot 71-73 to edge Joe Turnesa by one stroke and claim the title, while Hagen finished alone in seventh place.

It was a stunning victory but also a major ordeal. Within fifteen days Jones had won the British Open, sailed home, endured a ticker-tape parade, and won the U.S. Open. He was

drained emotionally. At Scioto, Grantland Rice described Jones as "nerve-racked and weary to exhaustion." During the first day of the event, a number of spectators thought Jones's face looked "drawn and tired" and that there were "deep lines around [his] eyes." On the last morning, he could not hold down his breakfast and visited a doctor before the start of the third round. After completing his final round, Jones had to wait for the rest of the field to finish. He spent the time alone in his room, where, as he later put it, I "blew up completely for the first time in my life." Jones's mother found him weeping uncontrollably and declared that that was enough tournament golf for her Little Bob. At the presentation ceremony, he accepted the trophy without comment; in fact, Jones had asked tournament officials not to call on him for a speech. Hagen, rarely at a loss for words, picked up some of the slack by congratulating the champion: "Well, you've got to hand it to Bobby. He's certainly a great golfer. The wonder is that he hasn't won all the opens of recent years."^{xx}

Two days later the "monarch of golfdom" arrived in Atlanta for one more crowded celebration. The usual parade, with whistles, cheers, and band, escorted Jones and Gunn in a convertible down Peachtree Street to the Atlanta Athletic Club. There Mayor Walter Sims lauded Jones, who "slouched" in a chair and "blushed." Jones smiled and waved a few times but was otherwise even less demonstrative than usual. When his turn came to speak, Jones briefly thanked the crowd and said how good it was to be back home.^{xxi}

Following his last round at Scioto, Jones had told reporters that he was "tired of golf," and that he did not "want to see a niblick or any other club" until the U.S. Amateur in September. Aside from quiet practice rounds at East Lake, Jones played little the rest of that summer. Instead, he gave an "intimate" interview with O. B. Keeler, who later became an honorary

member of the Associated Press for landing the story. Jones supposedly said that it "was the only interview he [had] ever given out or probably ever [would] give out." Keeler claimed that the story was made difficult by Jones's modesty; he just did not like talking about his own achievements. Actually, as Golfers Magazine noted, although the interview occupied "double-column space in, let us say, all American papers," there was "nothing at all new, radical, or greatly explanatory" in what Jones said. He spoke mostly of the difference between "golf and tournament golf," his swing, and his mental preparation for competition. The interview concluded with Keeler asking about Jones's habit of calling penalty strokes on himself, to which Jones replied: "That is absolutely nothing to talk about, and you are not to write about it." Then, repeating one of his most famous golf maxims, he added, "there is only one way to play this game."^{xxii}

Early in August, Jones vacationed with his father and Keeler in Sarasota before making final preparations to enter law school at Emory University in Atlanta. The Sarasota trip was highlighted by tarpon fishing and another parade in his recognition. To show their appreciation in a tangible way, the citizens of Sarasota presented Jones with a beautiful Pierce-Arrow sedan. The commemoration occurred despite the fact that Jones would no longer be involved with the promotion of Florida real estate.^{xxiii}

After spending two years with Adair Realty and Trust, Jones decided that sales was not his forte. Eugene Branch, Jones's law partner, said that Jones left real estate because he did not like "puffing up" property as one would used cars. Others have suggested that whenever Jones sold a piece of land he felt as though he had sold a part of himself. In any case, it is easy to understand why he was unhappy in a business that required an aggressive, intrusive, even

coercive personality; Jones was a relatively private individual, and, except for his good-looks and natural charisma, he did not manifest the character of a successful salesman.

On the other hand, he did not seem to possess the qualities of a trial lawyer. Just before beginning his classes, Jones said that he would not become a trial lawyer because he "was not the sort of fellow who can do much standing on his feet, spouting a lot of words." He added, "I don't believe that a sporting champion, as a rule, is much good at anything outside of his game--but I've got a family to support." So he set aside real estate and prepared to pick up law.^{xxiv}

Jones was scheduled to begin classes at Emory on September 28, about two weeks after the U.S. Amateur. The USGA finally had decided to follow the lead of tennis and seed its match-play draw. With that in mind, the Associated Press released its ranking of the top ten American amateurs. Jones was first, followed by Sweetser, Von Elm, Ouimet, Guilford, and Evans. With Sweetser still too ill to compete, Jones was considered a heavy favorite to win his third major event of the year. He already held what sportswriters were calling golf's "Triple Crown," the two national opens, plus the 1925 U.S. Amateur, and he had an opportunity to break more new ground, because no one, not even Jerry Travers or "Old Man" Travis, had captured three consecutive U.S. Amateurs. Jones may have been tired, but there was plenty of incentive for him to win one more title.

So by the end of August, Jones was gearing up for the Amateur, which was to be played that year at the Baltusrol Country Club. In addition to practice rounds, he competed in several exhibitions, including a hospital benefit with professionals Hagen, Sarazen, and Mac Smith in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The U.S. Amateur began on September 13, and at first it appeared that Jones would

indeed make more history. Performing "just like a machine," he won the qualifying medal and then advanced all the way to the championship round. Few thought that George Von Elm would be able to keep up with him in the final, but the Californian won the exciting match 2 and 1. "I was playing too good of golf to lose today," boasted the new champion. Analysts praised Von Elm for his courage but suggested that Jones was not in top form for the match; the New York Times commented that despite the loss, Jones was still the best. All of that must have grated on Von Elm, who was jealous of Jones's standing. Von Elm once admitted to golf writer Lester Rice that he "hated Jones's guts." For his part, Jones had "no illusions about Von Elm's real feelings," adding, "He always impressed me as having a chip on either shoulder." Nevertheless, both generously conceded putts in the final match, manifesting some sportsmanship and concealing any ill-feelings.^{xxv}

Within days Jones left New York for Atlanta to begin classes at Emory. He generally avoided publicity that fall, hitting the books hard once again. On September 30 newspapers reported that he had been made an honorary member of the Royal and Ancient Club of St. Andrews because of his victory at St. Anne's. That award notwithstanding, late in October Jones announced that he would not defend his British Open title; nor would he spend a third consecutive winter in Florida. His education came first, and he would be too busy to travel either south or abroad. "The United States Open and the United States Amateur are all I can see for 1927, and [I will have] darn little chance to win them. They seem to me to be getting tougher and tougher," Jones said. With that statement, he closed what he once characterized as "the greatest year I'll ever have" and retired into academia. A month later, on November 30, Mary Jones gave birth to their second child, a boy named Robert Tyre Jones III. He was a handsome

baby with a big smile, chubby cheeks, and dark features.^{xxvi}

Hagen, meanwhile, worked to recapture some of the prestige he had lost to Jones. After leaving Columbus, he won the inaugural Eastern Open with a sizzling 65-67-74-69 (-13), which just missed tying the all-time record of 274 (-10) set at the 1922 Ohio Open. The runner-up, Johnny Farrell, finished nine shots behind. William Richardson believed that the victory "proves [Hagen] to be alive and kicking despite his Scioto failure and the long, bleak period when Jones was taking bows that Walter is in the habit of taking. There is one thing about Hagen. He may be down, but he won't stay down. He always bobs up, and generally he bobs up with something worth while."^{xxvii}

Hagen kept bobbing up the rest of the season. At Indianapolis he finished nine strokes ahead of Gene Sarazen to win his third Western Open. Hagen's total included middle rounds of 68-66. Jones, who was in town to play their charity exhibition the following day, said: "That's the sort of golf Hagen played last winter when he defeated me, and when he is right, he can lick anyone." Hagen shook Jones's hand and replied, "The same to you."^{xxviii}

In September Hagen entered the PGA Championship at the Salisbury Country Club in Garden City, Long Island. After taking the qualifying medal, he marched through the field to win his third straight professional match-play event. Unlike the previous two PGA's, Hagen was not pressed in any of his matches. He had now done what no one else had--win the same major title in three consecutive years. Hagen's accomplishment was highlighted by the fact that reigning champions were being dethroned everywhere in the fall of 1926: Jones had lost in his bid for a third Amateur; Jack Dempsey was outboxed by Gene Tunney to lose the heavyweight title; Babe Ruth's powerful New York Yankees lost the World Series to Rogers Hornsby's St. Louis

Cardinals; even "Big Bill" Tilden lost a major tennis match in France to Rene LaCoste. Hagen had stunned even the most loquacious observers. Jack Hoag of Golfers Magazine again anointed Hagen the "Match-play King of the World." Richardson simply wrote, "Bobby Jones tried it and failed; Hagen tried it and succeeded. That ought to start and end a lot of arguments."^{xxix}

Having done about all he could to refurbish his competitive reputation, Hagen, like Jones, took a break from tournament play in the fall of 1926. Not to be surpassed by Jones's Pierce-Arrow, he bought himself a new Cadillac convertible coupe. On October 9 he showed up in New York for the debut of French tennis star Suzanne Lenglen's professional U.S. tour. He also played several charity exhibitions before beginning a trip to the west coast on the 15th. For the first time since 1923, Hagen would visit southern California. In November he went west through Canada, giving exhibitions and indulging in some duck hunting on Lake Manitoba. By mid-December, Hagen was in Los Angeles for several more exhibitions; two weeks later he left for Texas and then for Florida. In a four-month whirlwind tour Hagen literally traveled around the contiguous U.S.^{xxx}

By the time Hagen reached Texas, the country's golf dopesters had published their end-of-season analysis. The consensus was that Jones's unprecedented sweep of both national opens, together with his making the U.S. Amateur final and the British Amateur quarterfinal, eclipsed all other golf and most other sports achievements in 1926. Indeed, the only golf records that came close to it were Chick Evans's victories in the U.S. Amateur and U.S. Open in 1916 and Harold Hilton's winning of the U.S. and British Amateurs in 1911; yet everyone agreed that Jones's double was the most impressive of the three. Little mention was ever made of the hat wagered between Hagen and Jones following the Battle of the Century. A few noted that after

Jones finished two strokes behind Hagen in the West Coast Open, he had gone on to better Hagen's scores by nine strokes in British Open qualifying, four strokes in the British Open, and five strokes in the U.S. Open. Still, Hagen had ended the season exceptionally strong in both medal and match-play events, prompting the Southern Golfer to remark, "Hagen dominates the professional field like Mussolini dominates Italy." Sir Walter, it seemed, could beat everyone--except Mr. Jones.^{xxx}

So although Hagen's late season heroics left his fans an argument, most analysts now considered Jones the best golfer in the world. Moreover, the devastating U.S. invasion of Great Britain had signaled the rise of American golf to a position of international supremacy. 1926 had been a pivotal year for golf; two crowns had been passed.

3

The upcoming season confirmed the 1926 transfers of power. On the international front, America continued to flex its golf muscles when the USGA once again joined the R & A in a clash over the scheduling of the national opens. The conflict began in November 1926, when the USGA announced that its 1927 open would be held during the last week of June, after the northern U.S. had warmed up and before the region's courses dried out. The R & A had already scheduled its open for the same week! Although the U.S. had unilaterally moved its open in 1924, the R & A had fought the change, religiously clinging to the traditional time slot of late June for its national open. The two ruling bodies had gone back and forth over the issue for more

than two years, and by late 1926 the USGA simply decided to hold its event when it wanted.

Throughout November and December, golf writers discussed the meaning of the USGA's "defiance" of the R & A in "throwing down a glove" and forcing a "showdown" over the national open schedule. One commentator noted that the Royal & Ancient might always have an advantage in terms of tradition, but it had to accept the fact that "American golf has assumed a position of even greater importance than British golf." But Harold Hilton, now the editor of Britain's Golf Illustrated, thought it "unreasonable" for the USGA to ask the R & A to move its open; after all, the British Open had always been in the third week of June. The brouhaha finally cooled down in January 1927 after "extensive cable negotiations." Both sides compromised, although the USGA clearly got the better side of it. The U.S. Open would be staged from June 14-16, and the British Open would be held the week of July 11. The arrangement reflected reality, and it was appropriate that the U.S. came closer to its original demands. Simply put, the British Open needed American stars more than the U.S. Open needed British players.^{xxxii}

While golf's governing authorities slugged it out over the national open schedule, Walter Hagen experienced some tumult of his own when his second marriage disintegrated. Edna Hagen would eventually state in divorce proceedings that she became estranged from her husband in March 1927. Unlike Margaret Johnson, Edna Straus-Hagen never testified to experiencing any verbal abuse or cruelty. She said only that Hagen abandoned her. Henry Clune, Hagen's friend from Rochester, recalled the popular explanation for the breakup: "The story is that [the] dissolution began one night in a Florida hotel, when Walter, returning at a very unseemly hour, was discovered by Mrs. Hagen, as he hastily prepared for bed, to be without underwear." Hagen's only explanation, according to Clune, was that he had been "robbed."

From hindsight it is impossible to know precisely what caused the collapse of Hagen's last marriage. Divorce records show that both parties charged abandonment. Most likely, it was the same thing that destroyed Hagen's first marriage: that is, extended periods of separation and, if there was any truth to the rumors, infidelity. Reflecting on his competitive years, Hagen wrote, "Romantic affairs had a pleasant habit of developing quickly in those days and I usually managed to overcome any obstacles barring the way to my 'pursuit of happiness.'" Whatever the specifics, by April 1927 Hagen had separated from his wife of four years. Unlike his first divorce, his second was a complicated, lengthy mess that would not be resolved until 1936.^{xxxiii}

Things went a little better for Hagen in his professional life. He lost a much-publicized exhibition to "Lighthorse" Harry Cooper and finished far down the list in the Texas Open. In March, however, he finally defeated Gene Sarazen, 8 and 7, in a particularly satisfying seventy-two-hole match. He skipped the West Coast Open but entered the Southern Open, held at East Lake. Hagen and everyone else finished far behind Jones in that event. Early in April, he managed a runner-up in the North and South Open.

Beside personal problems, another explanation for Hagen's inconsistent play in the winter of 1927 was a foot ailment. After visiting an orthopedic specialist in April, Hagen was ordered to stay off his feet for several weeks. The ailment was described in the papers as a "growth on the sole of his left foot," which created significant swelling and pain. It was probably the reason that he shot an 82 and withdrew from the Metropolitan Open in May. At any rate, early 1927 had not gone well for Hagen, who was limping in more ways than one when he arrived at the Worcester Country Club in Massachusetts to captain the Ryder Cup team.^{xxxiv}

The PGA organized its international team matches for the second consecutive season in

order to put them in the odd-numbered years, opposite the Walker Cup. In June 1927 they also served as a warm-up for the U.S. Open. The team competition was the only event that the Americans had failed to capture during their 1926 British invasion, and Hagen desperately wanted to make up for the embarrassing loss. In 1927, though, Hagen's team was comprised of only homebred professionals. Naturalized citizens--such as Barnes, Kirkwood, and Hutchison--were ineligible to play on what was to be as purely an American team as possible. Typically, the visiting team was much weaker than the home squad, and that was especially so in the 1927 Ryder Cup matches because Abe Mitchell did not make the trip. His presence may have made no difference, however; the determined American team demolished the British 9.5 to 2.5 points. Captain Hagen won his foursome and singles matches. The performance "completely avenged" the previous year's disaster, according to P. C. Pulver of the Professional Golfer of America. With America's professional golf pride properly restored, Hagen traveled to Pittsburgh, where he joined Bobby Jones for the U.S. Open.^{xxxv}

Jones had played less golf than usual in the first half of 1927. O. B. Keeler wrote in the American Golfer that Jones played "precisely two and one-half rounds of golf between November 20 and February 20 and was going to school steadily every weekday." Still, on February 24 he made his first hole-in-one in a practice round with Stewart Maiden at East Lake. The following month he destroyed the professional field in the Southern Open, finishing eight strokes better than runner-up Johnny Farrell and eighteen ahead of Hagen. The amateur's victory was ironic because the Southern Open offered the largest purse ever, a hefty \$12,000 that included a winner's check of \$4,000.^{xxxvi}

On March 30 news arrived in Atlanta that Jones had again been honored abroad. This

time the Sunningdale club awarded him a lifetime membership. By then, sportswriters were universally referring to Jones as "Bobby." Jones never liked that nickname, telling a fellow competitor that he preferred "Bob" now that he was past his twenty-fifth birthday. Jones thought "Bobby" was "too kiddish." Nonetheless, he could not shed the label, which came to epitomize his boyish, unassuming, amateur image.

When he traveled to New York City on business in mid-April, the Times reported that "Bob" had left his clubs at home but brought along his law books. Jones told William Richardson that he planned to play at Oakmont and reaffirmed that he would not travel abroad in 1927. Jones refrained from making any predictions for the U.S. Open, saying only that he loved Oakmont. As though he could not help himself, Richardson was again referring to the Atlantan as "Bobby" by the end of his report.^{xxxvii}

Later that month, golfdom experienced some interesting controversies concerning the boundaries of amateurism. Newspapers reported on April 21 that the USGA had declared Mary K. Browne ineligible for its events, because the California tennis and golf star had joined Suzanne Lenglen's professional tennis tour. The USGA claimed that Browne had acted in a "manner detrimental to the best interests and true spirit of the game," capitalizing "her skill in amateur athletics." Ever the maverick, the Western Golf Association announced that it would allow Browne to play in its events. Sportswriter John Kiernan, though deferring to the USGA's right to make its own policy, believed that public opinion was not behind the ruling. Two days after the Browne decision, the New York Times reported that Jones had signed a contract worth an unknown amount of money to write a series of articles for a newspaper syndicate. The USGA immediately responded that Jones's authorship did not violate its amateur rules.

Nonetheless, the Times observed that "news of his action was received here with surprise . . . as Jones is known to have declined many such offers to profit by his reputation." Readers were reminded that a few years earlier Jones reportedly had said, "I am not a writer, and I refuse to sell my name for \$25,000. If I were not fairly well-known as a golfer, anything I might write would not be worth \$10, and I do not intend to trade on my reputation, regardless of whether my standing as an amateur is affected." If Jones had ever made that statement, he had obviously altered his view. Of course, the line between amateurism and professionalism had always been blurry, and, as with every other amateur athlete of note, there had always been a certain amount of delusion in Jones's amateurism. One moment he could accept a luxurious Pierce-Arrow sedan from the citizens of Sarasota, and the next explain that he had to pick up his third academic degree because "I've got a family to support." Some surprised fans may have recalled Jones's comments to London reporters the previous summer, in which he said that he had never made a cent off the game and never would. Still, few people could bring themselves to resent Jones and his decision to write for money.

In fact, if it had been anyone other than Jones or if it had not come in the wake of the Browne affair, the decision to write the articles would not have created such a stir. Jones was only doing what others had done before him. Chick Evans and Francis Ouimet had signed similar contracts, and U.S. women's amateur tennis star Helen Wills not only wrote articles but also made a nice profit from the sale of her paintings. Wills fancied herself a serious artist, although she was an obvious novice with oil and brush; she sold her paintings for a lot more money than they ever would have brought were she not a famous amateur athlete. Yet people were sensitized by the Browne controversy, and Bobby Jones was regarded as not just another

amateur athlete but the ultimate model of amateurism. In sum, if at times Jones was a bit disingenuous about his amateurism, it is also true that the public held him to a higher standard than any other amateur athlete.^{xxxviii}

The U.S. Open was held just days after Americans welcomed home Charles Lindbergh, who, in his Spirit of St. Louis, had recently become the first aviator to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. Jones was wise not to have made any predictions about his play. He gave his worst performance in any national open, except for the 1921 British event from which he withdrew. Oakmont's extra-long rough and 193 furrowed bunkers brought out his recent lack of competition. Jones failed to break 75 and ended in a tie for eleventh place, eight strokes behind the winner, Tommy Armour. Hagen did a little better, coming in sixth place.

The leaders' inability to break 300 proved how difficult Oakmont was that summer. In light of his scoring average in the U.S. Open, though, the expectations for Jones were extraordinarily high and the pressure on him to win was immense. William Richardson commented that Jones's failure was "one of the biggest disappointments in modern golf history." Despite that and the fact that he refused all invitations for dinner and interviews while in Pittsburgh, Jones did find time to visit a young fan named Rody Marshall, who had been paralyzed in a diving accident several years earlier. Marshall, it was reported, could not come to the course, so Jones went to him with a "word of cheer."^{xxxix}

Mostly because of his showing in the U.S. Open, Jones changed his mind about traveling abroad. On June 22 the Atlanta Constitution reported that he was considering going to Britain because he had lost two of his crowns and did not want to give up the third without a fight. By the 24th Jones was in New York, and the next day he climbed aboard the Transylvania to defend

his British Open title. Big Bob Jones and Stewart Maiden accompanied him; O. B. Keeler had left a few days earlier. Before departing, the Colonel told reporters that his son had fared poorly at Oakmont because he had practiced so little, studying for law exams instead.^{xi}

On July 3 the party arrived in St. Andrews, Scotland, leaving Jones about a week to get his game in shape. He shot numerous practice rounds and was reported to be in "splendid form" by tournament time. Indeed he was; Jones led from start to finish and successfully defended his British Open crown. His first-round 68 tied the course record and was highlighted by putts of 90 and 150 feet. At 285 (-3), Jones also became the first man to win either national open in under-par figures. Few other Americans made the trip that year, and British professional Aubrey Boomer was runner-up. It was a convincing and popular victory for Jones, who, as one newspaper pointed out, "is known on the program as Mr. Robert T. Jones, Jr., but to all, he is 'Bobby.'" When he holed out on the last green, the gallery of 12,000 swarmed around Jones and carried him on their shoulders to the clubhouse.^{xii}

Jones delighted the Scottish crowd at the trophy presentation when he announced that he would leave the Claret Jug in the care of St. Andrews. That, as well as his acceptance speech, brought more loud cheers from the Scots. "I have achieved the ambition of my life," Jones said. "Whatever I have done in the past, or whatever I do in the future does not matter two straws. I am happy, supremely happy, not because I am supposed to have accomplished something that has never been done before, but because I have won at a place where golf was played nearly five centuries ago. This wonderful experience will live in my memory until my dying day. If I never win anything again, I am satisfied." Britain's Golf Illustrated thought Jones a "better man than he is a golfer. One cannot help but love him." Golf Monthly added, "The character of Mr. Jones

has captured the hearts of golfers of two hemispheres with his modesty and the sincerity of a nature as honest as the sunlight." For weeks after, British publications praised Jones the man.

The win, of course, was special because it occurred at St. Andrews, golf's mecca and the site of Jones's most ignominious moment in tournament competition. As sportswriters noted over and over on both sides of the Atlantic, it was a triumph for Jones over his temper as much as over the course or the field. William Richardson wrote that between Jones's two trips to St. Andrews, the Atlantan had undergone "a complete mental metamorphosis." In 1921, Richardson believed, Jones was a "fretful, impetuous youth--golf's bad boy, a lovable, forgivable, bad boy," but by 1927 he was a "man grown-up--cool, calm, calculating--the very epitome of stability."^{xlii}

Yet all the talk about his overcoming his temper bothered Jones. Just before leaving Britain, he told reporters, "Honestly, I don't think it's fair for newspapers at home to talk about my 'uncontrollable temper.'" Jones admitted making a "fool" of himself "only twice," once in the 1921 British Open and once during a war-relief match in Boston ten years earlier. But Jones asked, "What's the sense of throwing Boston at me now? Two breaks in ten years of playing does not seem to be evidence of such 'uncontrollable temper.'" If Jones forgot his other temper tantrums, he was also a bit uncomfortable as a role model. "Of course it's nice to have people say nice things about you, but honestly, when New York papers make me out such a glowing example of moral discipline I don't know what to make of it." Then he remarked, "Golf undoubtedly is one of the best forms of moral discipline, and the more one plays it the better disciplined he becomes--or ought to become. . . . I have no recipe for discipline. . . . I only know that you can break any habit if you try hard enough, except smoking." The Colonel reminded reporters that "life isn't all golf and [my son] will start his studies as soon as he gets back." With

those parting words, on July 23 the Joneses boarded the Acetone to sail for home.^{xliii}

A few weeks later--but before the start of the academic year--Jones traveled to Minnesota's Minikahda Golf Club for the U.S. Amateur. Despite his loss to Von Elm in 1926, he was the number-one seed for the match play. He validated the seeding, again winning the qualifying medal before advancing to the championship round, where he beat Chick Evans 8 and 7 to collect his third U.S. Amateur title in four years. A humorous incident occurred in the second round after Jones's first tee shot struck a spectator, Dr. D. F. Gosin. After being helped to his feet, Dr. Gosin inquired as to who had hit the shot and then said, "Its all right, as long as it was Bobby." Apparently Jones's popularity had reached such heights that he had a license to nail galleries with errant drives.^{xliv}

The championship round, though, was marked by a tension that peaked on the last green of the tournament. Evans had just lost three holes and was about to lose the match when he and Jones came to the eleventh (twenty-ninth); Jones was 7 up with 8 to play. Faced with a short putt for a halve that would have made Jones dormie 7, Evans nudged his ball with his putter, lost a shot, the hole, and thus the match. Contemporary coverage described the movement of the ball as an accident.

Years later, however, Evans and Jones offered different versions. Evans said that he had put his putter down close to the ball and looked up at Jones, who was glaring at him. Evans told Jones that his ball had not moved, to which Jones supposedly responded, "It sure did." With that, Evans reached out his hand to congratulate Jones, conceding the hole and the match. Jones's recollection was that Evans nonchalantly but intentionally moved the ball with his putter and then said, "I guess it moved, didn't it?" Jones answered, "Yes, Chick, I guess it did," whereupon

they shook hands. Jones never considered the incident an accident, believing instead that Evans "preferred being the apparent victim of a misfortune to playing the long twelfth hole up the hill away from the clubhouse." Jones also remembered that Evans became frustrated when Jones refused to concede a breaking three-foot putt. Evans "tipped his hat" mockingly to Jones when the Atlantan had his back turned. (In match play, of course, it is not uncommon for a player to "concede" or simply give his opponent very short putts that would be made anyway far more often than not.)

Evans's antics were so blatant, according to Jones, that the referee, William Fownes, considered talking to Evans about his behavior. The episode was the most obvious sign during their competitive days of bad feelings between Evans and Jones. Many years later, Evans would cast aspersions on Jones's amateurism. Like Von Elm, Evans resented Jones's popularity and success. Whatever was actually done or said between Jones and Evans, the Georgian impressed William Richardson with his "business-like seriousness" in competition. Richardson believed that Jones had "turned from a golfer who was both human and humane into a mechanism."^{xlv}

By the end of the month, Jones was back in Atlanta, preparing for his second year at Emory law school and commenting, "I'm going back to work now. There's a lot of law to be read, and I guess I've had my vacation." Having captured his second major championship of the season and the seventh of his career, Jones ended his competitive year. He played golf only occasionally that fall. Besides concentrating on his studies, he probably also enjoyed reading the reviews of his recently published autobiography, Down the Fairway, on which he collaborated with O. B. Keeler. The book covered Jones's life and career through the 1926 season, including some chapters on instruction. The American Golfer called it "the most enjoyable book on golf it

has been our good fortune to encounter."^{xlvi}

Jones had told reporters that he planned to complete Emory's three-year law course and join his father's firm, Jones, Evins, & Moore. The program was rigorous and ranked in prestige with Columbia, Harvard, Yale, and Michigan. Jones had performed exceptionally his first year, finishing second in his class of twenty-five. Professor H. M. Quillian, Jones's instructor in "contracts," said that the golfer had "one of the finest legal minds of any student I've ever known." Quillian was especially high on Jones's vocabulary and writing skills. In fact, Jones's intellect impressed all of his professors.

Jones was doing so well by the end of the 1927 fall term that he decided to take the Georgia bar examination. On December 28 Jones learned that he had passed, and, although he said that he would still complete his degree at Emory, he did not return to school the following term. There was no practical need for him to finish the program because he was free to enter Jones, Evins, & Moore and to begin practicing law immediately.^{xlvii}

Late in November members of the Atlanta Athletic Club held a banquet in Jones's honor. The event was staged so that leading citizens of the city could present Jones with the most generous expression of admiration yet given him. For being not only the greatest golfer in the world but also a fine sportsman, Atlanta's sports boosters gave Jones \$50,000 for a new house. Five-thousand Atlantans supposedly contributed to the fund. The plan was for Jones to pick a piece of property, where a house would be built to his specifications. It was a big gift, but then Jones had brought the city an incalculable amount of free advertising on both sides of the Atlantic. Jones gratefully accepted; after all, he, Mary, Clara, and Robert III were still living with Big Bob and Clara Jones. He must have suspected that the USGA would have something to say

about the unprecedented cash award. Still, it was an appropriately happy way for Bob Jones to end 1927. He was a well-educated lawyer, the best golfer on the planet, and one of the most admired athletes in America and Europe. That year even Walter Hagen declared Jones the "greatest ever."^{xlvi}

4

Sir Walter had started the year quietly but would finish it with a bang, just as in 1926. For a while, though, following his disappointing finish at Oakmont, he continued to languish in mediocrity. Late in June he finished third in defending the Eastern Open, and in August he took sixth place in the Canadian Open. It seemed that he could not regain the edge in his game.

Hagen spent the end of August covering the U.S. Amateur for a newspaper syndicate. It was there that Hagen called Jones the greatest ever. Given Jones's year and Hagen's, sportswriters drew the obvious conclusions. John Kiernan commented that Jones had outdone Hagen, who "seems to have slipped." Kiernan also feared that Hagen had lost "the indomitable determination, the fighting spirit, the will to win that once marked his play."

Kiernan was essentially correct, but Hagen was still capable of brief winning binges. In September, at Chicago's Olympia Fields, he successfully defended his Western Open crown. It was his fourth victory in that major event. He did it with characteristic flair, dropping a sixty-five-foot putt for eagle on the home hole of the second round; his 281 included a 67 and 69. Later that month Hagen entered and then withdrew from the Chicago Open. He did not have to bother with regional qualifying for the upcoming PGA Championship, which was to be held in

Dallas.^{xlix}

Hagen golfed less than usual in the weeks between the Western and PGA. One reason was that he had indulged in another ill-fated business venture, the purchase of the Rochester Tribe of baseball's International League. Hagen's hometown minor league club was on the verge of bankruptcy and relocation when he, Bob Harlow, and John Ganzel, a former manager of the team, offered to play the role of local heroes, purchase the franchise, and keep it in Rochester. By September 22 Hagen owned a substantial interest in the ball team, contingent upon his and Ganzel's producing the rest of the purchase price. Reports had Hagen putting up about \$27,000, with the understanding that if the difference--about \$40,000--could not be raised, his money would be returned. As the club's intended president, he tried hard to secure the financing for a modern ball park and poured much energy into making the team solvent. Hagen remembered that he "was beginning to think of himself as a baseball magnate." Later in the year he attended organized baseball's winter meetings in New York City and was officially approved as the Tribe's president. Ultimately, however, neither he nor Ganzel could raise the \$40,000, so, despite their efforts, the team went bankrupt (but remained in Rochester) and was eventually sold to the St. Louis Cardinals. Renamed the Red Wings, the club became an important part of Branch Rickey's farm system. Hagen later claimed to have lost more than \$37,000 on his brief investment in the Tribe.¹

The baseball venture was a one distraction for Hagen in the weeks before the PGA; he also spent the last week of October black bass fishing in Michigan. Thus preoccupied, he considered not defending his PGA title. Kerr Petrie reported in Golf Illustrated that Hagen had not touched a golf club for ten days before the PGA. But he made an eleventh-hour decision to

go to Dallas, just as Jones reportedly had done for the British Open, and showed up at the Cedar Crest Golf Club on October 30, one day before the event started. His Sunday arrival left little time for practice, but Hagen was already familiar with the layout, which had been the venue for his exhibition loss to Cooper the previous winter.

Hagen led Monday's field in the on-site qualifying. The next day he began making his way through the field, winning his first three rounds. He nearly lost on Friday in the semifinals, when Al Espinosa took him to extra holes. Hagen was particularly fortunate in that match because he was 1 down heading to the thirty-sixth hole. But Espinosa three-putted from twenty-five feet, handing the thirty-sixth to Hagen, and then missed a four-footer to lose the match at the thirty-seventh. Afterward, Hagen admitted being lucky. "But," he added, "what are you going to do about it? You give these boys a chance and they don't take it." Thus Hagen advanced to his fifth consecutive PGA final, and on Saturday, November 5, he won the tournament for the fourth straight year, defeating Joe Turnesa 1 up in another exciting, come-from-behind effort. It had been a difficult, most unlikely victory. Golf writers believed that Hagen's superior mental approach made the difference. Although his skills were not what they had once been, his "headwork" still allowed him to excel in match play.

Hagen had compiled an awesome PGA record. From 1924-1927, he had won twenty consecutive PGA match-play victories. Analysts reminded fans that if Hagen had not lost to Sarazen in the 1923 final, he would have won five crowns in a row. Overall, in seven attempts since 1916, Hagen had won the PGA five times and lost twice, once in the final and once in the semifinal round; his match-play record in the event was 32-2, and both of his losses came in extra holes. Richardson considered it the "greatest record in golf."^{li}

Following the victory, as pledged, Hagen gave his "famous dun-colored sweater" to the Dallas policeman who had patrolled the club during the event. He had also promised a fourteen-year-old fan the pick of the clubs in his bag; Hagen lost his "favorite brassie." Leaving those souvenirs, he headed back to Rochester, where he would spend the winter attempting to save the Rochester Tribe.

As in 1926, Hagen put a nice shine on what might have been a dull season. The Southern Golfer ranked him second for the year, behind U.S. Open champion Tommy Armour. Hagen's career was becoming one marked by long periods of drought interrupted by spurts of brilliance. He was especially inconsistent in medal-play competition, and despite his determined efforts, he could not win his third U.S. Open. All of that should have surprised no one. Hagen was, after all, about to turn thirty-five. But if his career had been reduced to flashes of success, then those flashes would be some of the brightest ever.

i. Ultimately, the Florida Golf League did resurface in the winter of 1926, but it was scaled down significantly and included neither Jones nor Hagen. See Southern Golfer, March 1, 1926, 30; Nan O'Reilly, "Bobby Jones to Play in South," Professional Golfer of America, 6 (November 1925), 15; "Bobby To Remain Simon-Pure," Golfers Magazine, 46 (December 1925), 19; "Florida Professional League Will Not Function," Southern Golfer, 7 (1 January 1926), 16; "Tournament Notes," Golf Illustrated, 24 (February 1926), 24.

ii. New York Times, February 22, 1926, 22.

iii. For commentary on the Hagen-Jones rivalry in this period, see "Hagen Again West Coast Winner," Professional Golfer of America, 6 (April 1926), 14; "In the Wake of the Winter Season," American Golfer, 29 (April 1926), 44; Atlanta Constitution, March 23-25, 1926; "Walter and Bobby Have a Wager," Metropolitan Golfer, 4 (April 1926), 7; H. B. Martin, "Golf Records Make Interesting Comparison," Metropolitan Golfer, 4 (May 1926), 20. Martin's figures include marks from 1920-25 U.S. Opens, 1920 British Open (only 47 holes, allowing for Jones's pick up), 1923 Western Open, 1925-26 West Coast Opens.

iv. New York Times, April 3, 1926, 22; April 16, 1926, 26; April 17, 1926, 13; May 2, 1926, X, 6; May 18, 1926, 23. Although the first official Ryder Cup matches were held in 1927, the New York Times did report of a challenge cup donated by S. Ryder in 1926. See also Bob Bubka and Tom Clavin, The Ryder Cup: Golf's Greatest Event (N.Y.: Crown Publishers, 1999).

v. New York Times, May 7, 1926, 14; May 10, 1926, 28.

vi. For the 1926 British Amateur, see London Times, May 26-31, 1926; New York Times, May 20-30, 1926; "Walker Cup Team Had Inspiring Departure," Golf Illustrated, 25 (June 1926), 25; Chick Evans, "Muirfield--and the Americans," Golfers Magazine, 50 (July 1926), 5; "Bobbie Jones and the Amateur," Golf Monthly, 17 (July 1926), 16; Sandy Armour, "Sweetser Wins British Amateur," Golfers Magazine, 50 (July 1926), 16; Golf Monthly, 17 (June 1926), 16; Francis Ouimet, A Game of Golf (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1932), 161-167; George Pottinger, Muirfield and the Honourable Company (London: Scottish Academic Press, 1972), 81.

vii. London Times, June 1-4, 1926; "America Retains Walker Cup," Golfers Magazine, 50 (July 1926), 48; New York Times, June 3, 1926, 28; June 4, 1926, 18. Although it was reported that Sweetser had the flu, it was later discovered that he was actually stricken with tuberculosis.

viii. Walter Hagen, "Professionals Sail for British Open," Metropolitan Golfer, 4 (June 1926), 20; London Times, June 5-7, 1926; London Observer, June 6, 1926; "Short Putts," Golfers Magazine, 50 (July 1926), 38; New York Times, May 25, 1926, 30; June

5, 1926, 11; June 6, 1926, X, 1; Robert Harlow, "The Eagle Made the Lion Roar," Metropolitan Golfer, 4 (July 1926), 12.

ix. For 1926 British Open qualifying, see London Times, June 14, 1926; New York Times, June 16, 1926, 19; June 17, 1926, 16; June 18, 1926, 17; January 22, 1954, 34; Grantland Rice, "Jones and Hagen in the British Open," American Golfer, 29 (June 1926), 5; Henry Longhurst, Golf (London: J. M. Dent and Sons LTD., 1937), 123.

x. For Hagen-Mitchell match, see London Times, June 19-21, 1926; New York Times, June 19, 1926, 7; June 20, 1926, IX, 1; Golfers Magazine, 50, (July 1926), 64.

xi. For coverage and commentary on the 1926 British Open, see: London Times, June 19-25, 1926; Lytham St. Anne's Express, June 12, 1958; New York Times, June 25, 1926, 15; June 26, 1926, 9; June 27, 1926, IX, 1; Bernard Darwin, "How Jones Won the British Open," American Golfer, 29 (August 1926) 12; "More Glory for Bobby Jones," Professional Golfer of America, 7 (July 1926), 8; Walter Hagen, "Bobby Jones Puts It Over," Metropolitan Golfer, 4 (July 1926), 9; "Again Annexes British Open," Canadian Golfer, 12 (July 1926), 222; Gordon Harkness, "The British Open Championship," Golfers Magazine, 50 (July 1926), 30; "The American Avalanche," Golf Monthly, 17 (July 1926), 14; Geoffrey Cousins and Tom Scott, A Century of Opens (London: Frederick Muller, 1971), 94-5; Will Grimley, "Ten Shots that Rocked the World," in Robert Trent Jones, ed., Great Golf Stories (N.Y.: Galahad Books, 1987), 219. See also, letters from and to J. K. Wadley, January 8, 1970 and January 21, 1970, roll 3, Robert T. Jones, Jr. Collection, USGA, Golf House Library, Far Hills, New Jersey, (hereafter "RTJ").

xii. For some further context on why the British were so enthralled with Jones's amateurism, see Richard Holt, Sport and the British (N.Y.: Oxford University Press, 1989). Also, Mark Dyreson, Making the American Team: Sport, Culture, and the Olympic Experience (Urbana/Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1998) offers a discussion of the British critique of America's approach to sport in this period.

xiii. New York Times, June 27, 1926, IX, 1; "Bobby Jones, Amateur," Outlook, 143 (21 July 1926), 336; "Bobby Jones and England," Living Age, 330 (7 August 1926), 335; Angus Perkerson, "Atlanta, Home of Golf Champions," Golfers Magazine, 50 (October 1926), 29.

xiv. New York Times, June 27, 1926, IX, 1; London Observer, July 4, 1926; "Bobby Jones, Amateur," 337.

xv. New York Times, June 27, 1926, 24; "Behind the Scenes," 17 Golf Monthly, 16.

xvi. New York Times, June 28, 1926, 16; "Bobby Jones and England," 335; "Bobby Jones, Amateur," 337; "Robert Jones, Esq.," Independent, 117 (10 July 1926), 30-1.

xvii. New York Times, July 3, 1926, 10.

xviii. Ibid., July 5, 1926, 9.

xix. New York Herald, July 2, 1926; New York Times, July 2, 1926, 3; July 3, 1926, 3; July 5, 1926, 8.

xx. For 1926 U.S. Open, see Columbus Dispatch, July 7-11, 1926; Grantland Rice, "The Lone Stroke of Destiny," American Golfer, 29 (August 1926), 5; Jack Hoag, "Bobby the Great," Golfers Magazine, 50 (August 1926), 13; Robert T. Jones, Down the Fairway (N.Y.: Blue Ribbon Books, 1927), 161; Paul Hornung, Scioto Country Club: 75 Years of History (Columbus: Scioto Country Club, 1993), 41; P. C. Pulver, "Bobby Jones A True Champion," Professional Golfer of America, 7 (July 1926), 5.

xxi. Atlanta Constitution, July 12, 1926.

xxii. Hornung, Scioto Country Club, 43; "Bobby Jones Confides How He Does It," Literary Digest, 16 (31 July 1926), 44; New York Times, July 15, 1926, 18; "Bobby Jones Is Interviewed," Golfers Magazine, 50 (September 1926), 10.

xxiii. Sarasota Herald, August 1, 1926.

xxiv. Interview with Eugene Branch, July 30, 1997, Atlanta, Georgia; Morris Markey, "Bobby Jones," Harvard-Princeton (6 November 1926), 11.

xxv. For coverage of the 1926 U.S. Amateur, I relied upon the following: Indianapolis Star, August 29, 1926; Baltimore Sun, September 12-19, 1926; New York Herald, September 18-19, 1926; William Richardson, "Will 'Bobby' Break the Barrier?" Golf Illustrated, 25 (September 1926), 12; New York Times, August 19, 1926, 16. Jack Hoag, "Von Elm Scales the Heights," Golfers Magazine, 50 (October 1926), 11; Humphrey Fry, "Looking Back at Baltusrol," American Golfer, 30 (November 1926), 11. For Jones-Von Elm relationship, see letter from Lester Rice to RTJ, October 20, 1963; letter from RTJ to Lester Rice, October 28, 1963, roll 2, RTJ.

xxvi. New York Times, October 28, 1926, 31; Jones, "Down the Fairway," 161; Richard Gordin, "Robert Tyre Jones, Jr.: His Life and Contributions to Golf" (Ph.D. dissertation, Ohio State University, 1967), 93.

xxvii. New York Herald, July 20, 1926; "Walter Hagen on the Rampage," Professional Golfer of America, 7 (August 1926), 17; Robert Harlow, "Sensational Golf Wins Eastern Open," Metropolitan Golfer, 4 (August 1926), 16; New York Times, July 21, 1926, 13.

xxviii. Indianapolis Star, August 23-29, 1926; Gordon McLean, "Hagen Again Western Open Champion," Golfers Magazine, 50 (October 1926), 18.

xxix. New York Herald, September 25-26, 1926; Jack Hoag, "Hagen Is King of Them All," Golfers Magazine, 50 (November 1926), 32; P. C. Pulver, "Hagen An Enduring Champion," Professional Golfer of America, 7 (October 1926), 5; Innis Brown, "One Sport Crown Intact," American Golfer, 30 (November 1926), 8; New York Times, September 26, 1926, X, 5.

xxx. Larry Engelmann, The Goddess and the American Girl: The Story of Suzanne Lenglen and Helen Wills (N.Y.: Oxford University Press, 1988), 269; "Hagen to Play at Vancouver and Victoria," Metropolitan Golfer, 4 (November 1926), 28.

xxxi. "How the Country's Stars Rate This Year," Southern Golfer, 4 (December 1926), 26; New York Times, December 26, IX, 5.

xxxii. New York Times, November 22, 1926, 33; November 23, 1926, 28; December 19, 1926, IX, 7; December 27, 1926, 13; January 5, 1927, 17.

xxxiii. Walter C. Hagen vs. Edna C. Hagen, Superior Court of California, Los Angeles County, January 29, 1929, County Records Center, Los Angeles, California; Los Angeles Times, February 1, 1929; Henry Clune, I Always Liked It Here: Reminiscences of a Rochesterian (N.Y.: Friends of the University of Rochester Libraries, 1983), 125; Walter Hagen and Margaret Seaton Heck, The Walter Hagen Story (NY: Simon and Schuster, 1956), 264.

xxxiv. Robert Harlow, "Hagen Defeats Sarazen in Long-Discussed Match," Southern Golfer, 8 (1 March 1927), 7; New York Times, April 5, 1927, 22; New York World, May 27, 1927; New York Herald, May 25-29, 1927.

xxxv. Boston Globe, June 3-4, 1927; "Americans Defeat British For Ryder Cup," Golfers Magazine, 52 (July 1927), 17; P. C. Pulver, "Ryder Cup Stays On This Side," Professional Golfer of America, 7 (June 1927), 5; Innis Brown, "Lifting the Ryder Cup," American Golfer, 30 (July 1927), 29.

xxxvi. Jones's first ace came from an easy four-iron to the 170-yard eleventh hole. New York Times, February 25, 1927, 17; Atlanta Constitution, March 24-29, 1927; O. B. Keeler, "Bobby Shows the Home Folk," American Golfer, 30 (May 1927), 17; "Bobby Jones at His Best," Professional Golfer of America, 7 (April 1927), 14; "Short Putts," Golfers Magazine, 51 (May 1927), 44.

xxxvii. New York Times, April 1, 1927, 20; April 19, 1927, 32.

xxxviii. For coverage of the controversy over Jones's syndicated articles, see New York Times, April 21, 1927, 32; April 23, 1927, 12-13; Larry Englemann, The Goddess and the American Girl.

xxxix. Jones shot 76-77-79-77-309; Hagen, 77-73-76-81-307, and Armour beat "Lighthorse Harry" Cooper in a playoff to win the 1927 U.S. Open. See Pittsburgh Press, June 10-19, 1927; New York Times, June 14, 1927, 36; June 18, 1927, 9; Grantland Rice, "Jones Against the Field," Collier's, 79 (11 June 1927), 8; "The Victory of Form, Style, and Heart," American Golfer, 30 (July 1927), 9; P. C. Pulver, "Professionals Come Into Their Own," Professional Golfer of America, 8 (July 1927), 5.

xl. New York Times, June 26, 1927, X, 9.

xli. London Times, July 2-27, 1927; London Observer, July 17, 1927; New York Times, July 12, 1927, 19; clippings from Bulletin, roll 3, RTJ; O. B. Keeler, "Making Golf History," American Golfer, 30 (September 1927), 15; Bernard Darwin, "Bobby Jones' Conquest of St. Andrews," American Golfer, 30 (September 1927), 9; "The British Open Championship," Golf Illustrated (British), 90 (22 July 1927), 111. Jack Hoag, "Bobby Jones, King of Golfers," Golfers Magazine, 52 (August 1927), 13.

xlii. "The Golfer and the Man," Golf Illustrated (British), 90 (22 July 1927), 107; "The Significance of Mr. Jones," Golf Monthly, 18 (August 1927), 18; New York Times, July 14, 1927, 15; July 18, 1926, VIII, 8.

xliii. Clair Price, "Jones Discusses Temper in Golf," New York Times, July 31, 1927, VIII, 2; July 23, 1927, 9.

xliv. *Ibid.*, August 26, 1927, 9; St. Paul Pioneer-Press, August 16-30, 1927; Grantland Rice, "The Par Wrecker," American Golfer, 31 (October 1927), 5; Halford Morlan, "National Amateur Championship," Golfers Magazine, 52 (September 1927), 26; William Richardson, "The National Amateur," Golf Illustrated, 28 (October 1927), 11.

xlv. For the Evans-Jones incident, see Chick Evans, "Memories of Bobby Jones' Start," American Golfer, 32 (September 1930), 12; Atlanta Journal, July 18, 1963; Letter to Joseph C. Dey, Jr, July 22, 1963, roll 1, RTJ; New York Times, September 1, 1927, 19.

xlvi. Innis Brown, "Bobby Jones Turns Author," American Golfer, 30 (September 1927), 31.

xlvii. "Bobby Jones, Law Student" and "Bobby Now Lawyer," newspaper clippings in Bobby Jones File, Special Collections, Robert W. Woodruff Library, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia (hereafter BJF).

xlviii. Atlanta Constitution, November 19, 1927.

xlix. Toronto Star, August 4-6, 1927; Boston Globe, June 28-July 1, 1927; "Farrell Wins Eastern Open," Metropolitan Golfer, 5 (July 1927), 12; New York Times, June 14, 1927, 39; July 17, 1927, II, 8; Chicago Tribune, September 7-10, 1927; Jack Hoag, "Hagen Retains His Title," Golfers Magazine, 52 (October 1927), 18.

i. Dallas Morning News, November 5, 1927; Rochester Times-Union, January 5, 1928; "The Haig Now a Baseball Magnate," Professional Golfer of America, 8 (November 1927), 7; Brian A. Bennett, "Rochester, 1928," National Pastime, 17 (1997), 50-3; Jim Mandelaro and Scott Pitoniak, Silver Seasons: The Story of the Rochester Red Wings (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1996), 20-3; Hagen and Heck, Walter Hagen Story, 258-9.

ii. For coverage of the 1927 PGA Championship, I relied upon the following: Dallas Morning News, November 1-7, 1927; New York Times, September 5, 1927, 11; William Richardson, "The Greatest Record in Golf," American Golfer, 30 (December 1927), 9; "Amazing Record in the PGA Championship," Metropolitan Golfer, 5 (November 1927), 6; Kerr N. Petrie, "The PGA Championship," Golf Illustrated, 28 (December 1927), 12; "How the Country's Stars Rate This Year," Southern Golfer, 9 (15 December 1927), 26.