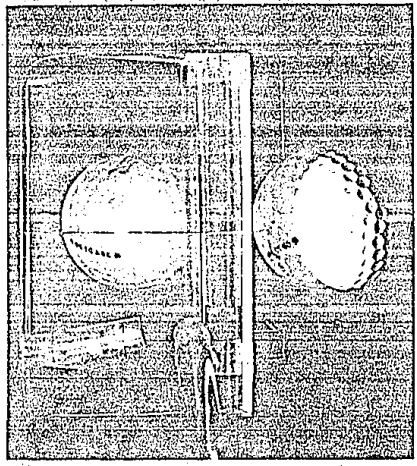


# Inventor gives newfangled putter to president



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

This is the view a golfer would have when lining up a putt with the Woolzie putter. The ball, on the right side, is reflected through the top of the club. The reflected image is visible on the left side. A line molded into the contour of the putter is used to align the ball with the flag on the green, which would also be reflected into the putter. The putter will be made from clear acrylic plastic (pictured) and a more-expensive glass model that offers better optical quality.

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The Woolseys didn't expect to hear whether they could present the putter to the president for at least three months. But a telephone call July 24 sent "everything into a complete tailspin," Diane said. It was Brumfield calling to say the president wanted to meet with them the following day. The Woolseys headed out to Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi to buy new clothes for the trip. "It's not every day that you meet the president," Diane said. Bruce wanted a new suit, but was told it couldn't be tailored until the end of the week. Then he told the tailor he was meeting with Bush the next day. The tailor said he was a Republican; the suit was tailored within an hour. Diane had the same experience in a shoe store. When Diane asked the salesman for a certain style in

her size, he told her none were left. That's when she told him she was meeting with the president. The salesman said he'd check again, and came out with seven boxes of shoes.

Ironically, Woolsey got his idea for the putter while shopping for shoes at the mall a couple of years ago. Trying on a pair of shoes in a three-way mirror, he thought it would be nice to be able to put a mirror on a putter.

WORKING WITH a piece of metal and a mirror at home, Woolsey tried to put his idea into action. "It worked great, but it looked like a real mess," he said. Then he tried the same idea with plastic instead. "I remembered my college physics and that at a 45-degree angle, the surface becomes a mirror."

Once in Washington, the Woolseys had to turn the putter over to

the Secret Service for inspection. They met Bush in the Oval Office, where they were carefully monitored by the Secret Service during their brief visit.

"I was very nervous," Bruce said. "I took four showers that day."

"I told them I wasn't nervous, I was scared to death," Diane said. "But he was a very down-to-earth man, very understanding. He tried to put us at ease."

Sitting on Woolsey's desk at Bob's Speedometer and Automotive Service are a presidential tie clasp for him and a stick pin for Diane. The president also gave them golf balls with the presidential seal and signature on them.

Woolsey, a once-a-week golfer for 15 years, said the putter was made for golfers who have trouble putting. "It's very invented. It I was not a good putter," he said.

WOOLSEY HAS a patent pending on the putter in the United States, Canada, Korea, Australia, and the Soviet Union.

He plans to manufacture the golf club and have it on the market by Christmas. The plastic version will sell for \$80. Its glass twin, made of the same kind of glass used to make eyeglasses, will sell for \$200.

Woolsey has inked with a top of inventions, Woolsey patented any. He hopes this idea will take him a long way, possibly to a full-time business selling the putter.

"This, we feel, will launch us into an entirely new business," he said. The Woolseys would like to present the putter to Johnny Carson, Leo Jaccoca, Gov. Blanchard and a few professional golfers.

But they'll be keeping their eyes on Bush. "Every time we see him putting from now on, we'll be looking for what he's using," Bruce said.

# Sale of historic house prompts suit

Continued from Page 1

takes effect. "Hopefully, we'll be granted an injunction to prevent the parties from entering into a contract," said Stolberg, a Farmington Hills resident.

BOTH LUDWIG and Sever declined comment on the lawsuit. Sever, however, noted that he voted in the minority.

Von Steeg said he was "not surprised" to learn of the lawsuit. He said Flum has "researched quite a bit about it (the home). I get along with her just fine."

He felt the lawsuit had nothing to do with him personally. "I'm confident that the council's decision will stand," said von Steeg

**The Flums, Farmington Hills residents, are seeking a temporary restraining order and a preliminary injunction. They also are seeking at least \$10,000 in damages.**

Tuesday, adding that he had not yet seen the actual lawsuit nor was he served with papers.

"I think I will do the best job on that house," said von Steeg. "It's my intention to make it like it used to be. If you could look at my portfolio, you would know. I do quality work. It takes time to do things right."

Von Steeg has experience in restoring registered historic homes in Farmington Hills and Dearborn as well as other homes in Oakland County and Traverse City.

THE LAWSUIT claims, among other things, that: • The historic district commis-

sion conceived and prepared certain specifications contained in the "Instruction to Proponents" in a closed meeting and minutes exist nor were they formally approved by the commission or council — therefore the specifications are null and void.

• Von Steeg's sealed bid was submitted on or about June 19, and was not dated or witnessed as required in the "Instructions to Proponents." It also stated, though, that the Welch bid was not signed or witnessed as required also.

• Von Steeg's bid is conditional for the reason that absent the approval of a pending rehabilitation loan, he is not financially qualified. City attorney Paul Eibson declined comment on the lawsuit.

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