

# Well, sort of like Indiana Jones...or was that Crocodile Dundee

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Ever notice how hats have become fashionable again?

People of all ages have been taking to headgear as an acceptable accessory to their everyday dress.

To me, it's quite a departure from years ago, when anyone, particularly a young person, wouldn't be caught dead wearing a hat.

But now hats are vogue, and young people wear them with a passion.

I see so many baseball caps, golf visors, and sun hats, I never cease to marvel at the variety. To top it off, there must be a kazzillion different logos, crests and team names on them.

Yep, hats galore, but I never thought I would get interested in wearing one again. You know, they mess your hair.

But it happened, just recently, while on vacation last week.

The family and I were browsing through one of those souvenir/gift shops in Tobermory, on the tip of the Bruce Peninsula.

This one featured both nautical and hiking gear, and the kids were scouting for T-shirts or sweats to add to their collections.

I came across a stack of hats.

Now I had just spent the past week squinting while on the beach and at every body of water in Bruce County, and thought it was time to shade my eyes. Besides, I could use it at work on sunny days while shooting some of my outdoor as-

signments, like baseball or soccer games.

In the selection of hats were a pile of off-white cotton ones, that looked like a cross between a fisherman's hat and a fedora.

They were called Tilley Endurables, and I had to admit, they intrigued me somewhat.

I had seen ads in magazines for these hats (and the full line of clothes,) but had never seen one in the flesh...er cloth. Let's face it, you just have to stop and look at a hat that comes complete with an instruction manual.

Say, these things were neat! They had a secret pocket inside, (for what, I'm not sure,) and they were built to withstand virtually everything up to and including a charging elephant attack. The company guaranteed them for life.

The model I tried was the same our Canadian troops had been issued for their stint in the Persian Gulf war, and I could see why. It had a broad brim, and the sides could be domed up or down to suit the wearer.

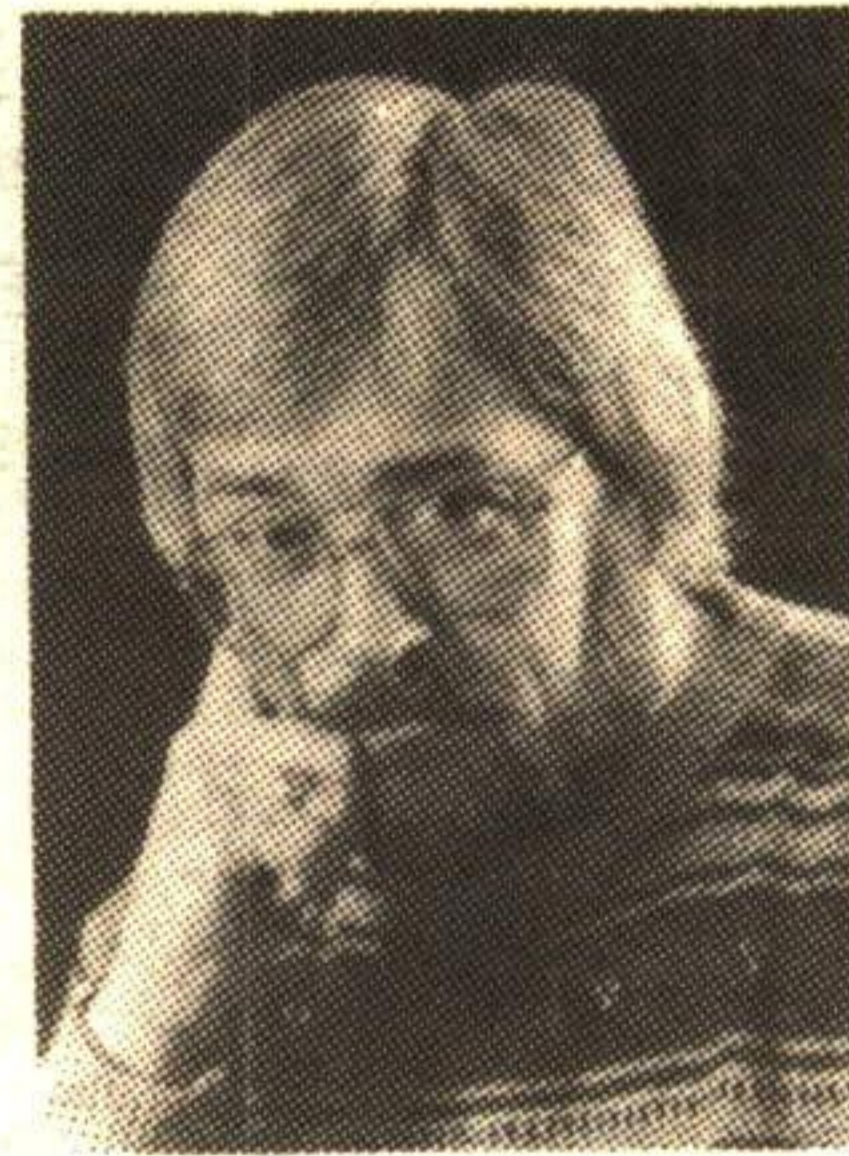
This thing was waterproof, shrink-proof, and virtually indestructible with all the bells and whistles on it. It would even float.

What the heck, I tried it on.

The result was magic. Immediately I felt like some great explorer, ready to conquer a faraway land. With my trusty Tilley atop my head, nothing was impossible.

## A TED BIT

By TED BROWN



Gazing in the mirror, I tilted the brim, ever so slightly, over one eye and imagined myself a present day Indiana Jones, (with a beard) all set to head for some South American jungle in search of lost treasure.

I could just see it. Damsels in distress would throw themselves at my feet, pleading, "Help me, please, Professor Brown. The map to the lost treasure of Bongo Wongo has been in my father's family for years. Some big mean men want to steal it. Please help me!" (I might add at this time that damsels in distress in my fantasies are always blonde, mid-20's and usually grateful.)

All because of my "Tilley Endurable."

It was at that moment it happened.

My faraway thoughts were shattered as my eldest daughter came up to me, while I modeled the Tilley in the mirror. (Ha! And you thought I was going to say a damsel threw herself at my feet.)

"Watcha doin', Dad?" she queried.

She caught me off guard. I was just in the process of recoiling my imaginary bull whip, to fight off a tribe of crazed natives with spears and poison dart blowguns in a jungle in Bongo Wongo.

"Oh, ah, ahem... I was just trying on this hat," I quickly replied. "You know, to ah...keep the sun out of my eyes."

She looked me over with a critical eye.

"You thinkin' of buying one?" she asked.

"Well, yes, I might. What do you think?"

The critical eye scanned me again. This time with a turned-up nose.

"Well Dad," she began, "I can tell you this. If you buy that hat, I promise I will never stand near you again. You look like a geek."

It took strength, but I managed to resist passing a cheap comment on the number of her male school friends who are trying to make an individualistic statement by wearing baseball caps, all backwards, during every waking hour of their day. (There are some I'm sure, wear them to bed as well.) In my mind, those guys are what the word "geek" was invented for.

The rest of the crew were a little less reactionary.

One of my daughters said I looked like "Crocodile Dundee" while another said it looked like one of those hats "those Aussies wear Down Under."

I looked to my wife for some support.

"I suppose you do look a little like Paul Hogan, with a beard," she said, "And that's not all bad, as far as I'm concerned."

Hmm, I started to wonder if I could attract someone like Linda Kowowski, just as Paul Hogan had. I suppose I could handle the Fosters' beer, I was never too big on wrestling crocodiles.

I checked the price. It was a bit steep, especially for someone with

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## Swinging Fore...

"DEAD-SOLID, PERFECT!"  
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### Stance and Posture

*"The proper stance and posture enable a golfer to be perfectly balanced and poised throughout the swing. Only then will the legs, arms and body be able to carry out their interrelated assignments correctly."*

- Ben Hogan

Stance is not just a preparatory part of the swing where the golfer is merely lining up to the desired target, it is really the foundation of your swing. Yes, one of the purposes of the stance is to set up the direction of the shot, however there are more important functions that are relevant.

I mentioned in last week's article, the source of energy in a golf swing comes from the ground and your only contact with the ground is through your feet. To take advantage of this power source you should be standing with your feet in an athletic position similar to the stance you take when throwing a baseball, pushing off on skates or hitting a tennis ball.

This athletic stance may be simple yet is most effective. The back foot (the one furthest from the target) is placed at right angles to the target line which enables you to coil or load up against it during the backswing and to then push off with it during the forward swing.

The front foot (the one closest to the target line) is turned slightly towards your target at about a 20°-25° angle. This allows you to

comfortably transfer your weight onto your front foot during the finish and adds mobility to your leading hip.

Remember that your stance is the foundation of your swing and its width must support the swing's arc. Therefore the stance should be at least shoulder width apart measuring from the inside of your heels when hitting a club of average length.

While viewing the stance in the photograph you will notice that the arms form a triangle with the end of the club slightly in front of the spine and even with the ball position. Don't tense your elbows and arms - relax! Also note that the right foot is at 90° angle to the target line and the left is pointing slightly toward the target.

Stance is an important component of the starting position. As a golfer, you can constructively analyze your swing in only two positions - start and finish. Therefore take advantage of being able to correct your stance before you swing! This will start you on your way to

making the correct weight transfer which ultimately leads to striking the ball - Dead - Solid - Perfect!

Next week, I'll describe how to integrate your posture with your stance.

Question of the Day! What's all this talk about footwork... when your ankles move your feet?



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