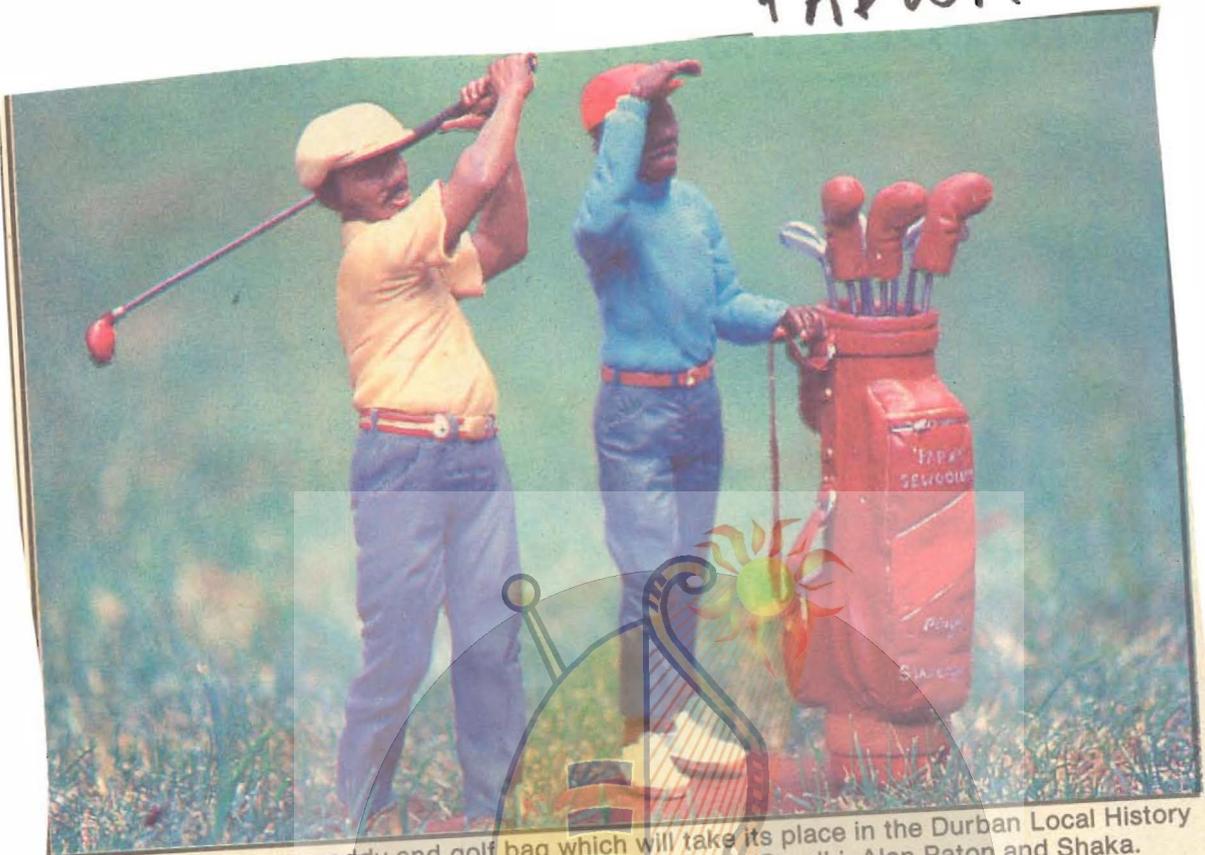


PAPWA



The model of Papwa, caddy and golf bag which will take its place in the Durban Local History Museum alongside those of, among others, Mahatma Gandhi, Alan Paton and Shaka.

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The man apartheid tried to forget

Yogin Devan

SEWSUNKER "Papwa" Sewgolum, the golfing maestro whose prize-giving for winning the 1963 Natal Open in pouring rain outside the Durban Country Club shocked the world, has joined a host of "movers and shakers" at the Durban Local History Museum.

Papwa, who died in 1978, is the first sporting personality to be honoured with a figurine and he joins other famous personalities, such as Shaka, Dingaan, Alan

Paton, King Edward Ma-
singa, Mahatma Gandhi,
Albert Luthuli and John
Dube.

Gillian Berning, cura-
tor of the museum, said
the museum had decided
Papwa should be the first
sporting personality chosen
for a figurine because
"he was an exciting and
different character."

"Although he was a
sportsman, he played an
interesting political
role."

Black golfers and even
some of Papwa's col-
leagues still flash back to
the painful moment of his
colourful career in 1963

when Papwa, after beat-
ing golfing great Gary
Player, collected his
prize in the rain outside
the clubhouse because his
skin colour did not allow
him to go inside in terms
of the Group Areas Act.

Many people believe
Papwa, regarded as the
"ugly twin" of South Afri-
can golfing — the "pretty
twin" was Player —
would have equalled
Player had he been given
the breaks. A hat-trick of
victories in the Dutch
Open, two in the Natal
Open and one in the
Grand Prix are an indi-
cation of this.

The man who was
Papwa's manager, F M
Paul, said this week he
was happy the great golfer's
role in the country's
sporting history was re-
cognised.

Charles Buchanan of
Durban, who sculpted the
Papwa figurine, said it
was one of his more chal-
lenging pieces.

Unlike the other figu-
rines in the museum,
Papwa's comprises three
pieces — one of himself,
another of his caddy and
the third of his large golf
bag.

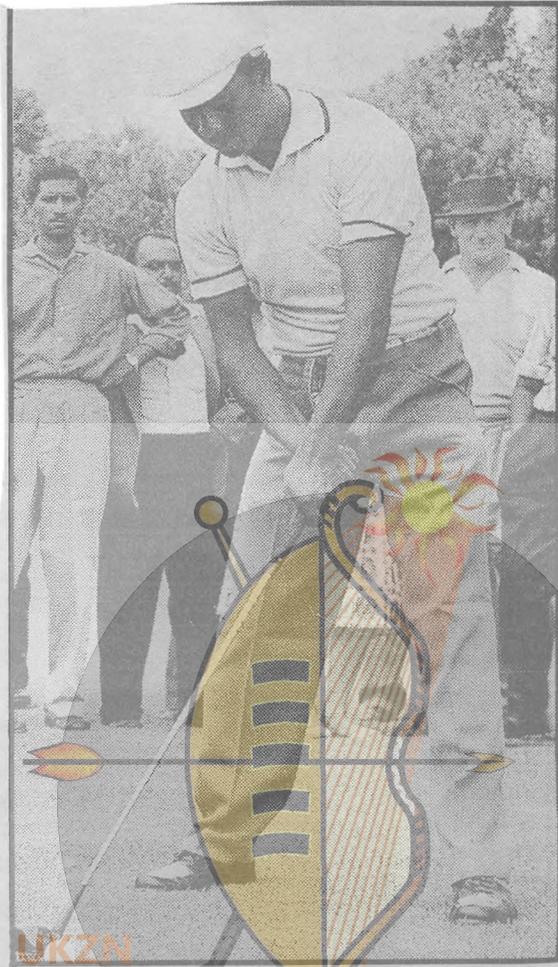
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Papwa's awkward-looking highly unorthodox overlapping grip posed a problem for Mr Buchanan.

"The first model had to be scrapped because it failed to present his notorious left-over-right hand grip."

A picture of Papwa in action, clearly showing his unorthodox grip.



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Flashback: Papwa receives his cheque for winning the 1963 Natal Open, beating Gary Player. The award was made outside the Durban Country Club in pouring rain as Papwa's colour barred him from entering the club because of the Group Areas Act.

24/01/1993

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