

UNIVERZITA PALACKÉHO V OLOMOUCI

PEDAGOGICKÁ FAKULTA

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BAKALÁŘSKÁ PRÁCE

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**HUMOR, RACE AND CLASS DIFFERENCES
IN AMERICAN GOLF FILMS**

Olomouc 2022

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Čestné prohlášení:

Prohlašuji, že jsem bakalářskou práci na téma Humor, Race and Class Differences in American Golf Films vypracovala samostatně a s použitím uvedené literatury a pramenů.

V Olomouci dne:

Acknowledgement:

I would like to express my endless gratitude to my supervisor Mgr. Jiří Flajšar, Ph.D. for his help and patience during the writing process of my bachelor thesis. Also I would like to sincerely thank to my family and my friends for their much-needed support and love.

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this bachelor thesis was to analyze three American golf films, explicitly *Caddyshack*, *Who's your caddy*, and *Tin Cup*, with a focus on given criteria. The first chapter deals with a historical summary where is clarified not only the origin of golf as a sport but also its journey and its development in America. It is explained that the history of golf in the US is closely connected with the establishment of country clubs, racial discrimination, and with wealthy members of society. This social stratification in the composition of golf players was one of the factors observed in the films. Another aspect that was analyzed was racial inequality and racial segregation portrayed in the movies because golf is considered to be not only elitist but also racially exclusive. The last aspect that was analyzed in the films mentioned above was humor. Since all of the films analyzed in this work are comedies, humor was one of the easily observable features. However, not all of the aspects were equally emphasized. Even though not all the films in question appear to be completely serious, they comment on serious problems that unfortunately still occur today and are relevant in America.

1. INTRODUCTION

“If you’re caught on a golf course during a storm and are afraid of lightning, hold up a 1-iron. Not even God can hit a 1-iron.” – Lee Trevino

Being struck by lightning might sound very unlikely for a normal person, but it is not so improbable for a golf player. Living proof of that is Lee Trevino and Bishop Pickering of *Caddyshack*. Furthermore, even if God could not hit with a 1-iron, it is more than certain that Roy McAvoy of *Tin Cup* would manage to do this impossible shot and succeed in getting the ball into a hole. Things that seemed rather impossible could be witnessed in two of the three American golf films.

This bachelor thesis will discuss the origin and development of this elitist and racially exclusive sport. With the support of the historical summary, which could be found in the first chapter, will be subsequently analyzed three American comedies that take place in a golf setting. In the movie analysis is the attention turned mainly to humor, race and class differences. Each of these three aspects is in each of the movies touched upon but to a different extent considering the fact that all of these films are different and concerned with various topics.

One of the reasons why I have chosen this topic was that I consider racial discrimination something that needs to be talked about because that is the only way society can prosper and get rid of it. The fact that we are living in the twenty-first century where medicine and technology are so advanced, but society is still so narrow-minded should be impulse big enough for us to start doing something about it. In such fast and progressive times, social and racial discrimination problems should be called out. Unfortunately, class and race differences in sports, specifically in golf, have not that significantly improved since its arrival in America, which is the reason why I have decided to write about it in this bachelor's project to draw attention to this issue, so it could possibly improve this situation.

The aim of this bachelor project is to analyze three American golf films focusing on three aspects: humor, race, and class differences. In the analysis will be pointed out scenes concerned with given problems providing evidence to support the facts mentioned in the storical summary.

2. HISTORY OF GOLF IN AMERICA

2.1 Origin of the game

The origin of golf, a royal and ancient game, is not entirely certain to this day. Historians can not agree on one possible variant, and in many studies, they are trying to resolve who came up with the idea of this sport first. The mystery behind the establishment of golf will most likely remain unresolved since there are not enough documents that would provide more detailed information about the game's origin.

Frequently are the credits for inventing this bat-and-ball game attributed to the Dutch because their game kolven, which is sometimes referred to as kolf, has many similarities with golf. Kolven used to be played on ice with the intention to hit wooden sticks that were placed on the other side of the playing field with a ball. Just as it is in golf, the ball should be hit as few times as possible. However, the main difference between the Dutch and the Scottish variation is that in kolven are players aiming for a stick above the ground, whereas in golf, is the goal to get the ball into a hole in the ground. (Brasch, 1971, p.16) According to other theories are roots of this ancient game traceable all the way to the Roman period, during which was a game called paganica, which is said to be golf's predecessor, quite popular. This stick-and-ball game grew in popularity and was, from this moment on, spread all around today's Europe. (Damas, 2017, loc, 204) Not so notoriously known ancestor of golf is a Chinese golf-like game that was very widespread during the Song Dynasty in Asia. As reported by professor Hongling, the modern game of golf has roots in the Chinese game called Chui wan, which in literal translation means "hitting ball ". At that time, there were already many games played with a stick and with a ball, but the focus should be on the main difference between all of these games and golf. Golf was the first game whose goal was to get a ball into a hole in the ground instead of hitting an object on the surface. Despite this considerable distinction, golf has most likely evolved from one of these sports. (Brasch, 1971, p. 97)

According to Brasch (1971, p. 96) this game started out as a pastime for shepherds who were trying to hit pebbles with a crook in order to get them into rabbit holes. Simpson provided the same information in his book (1887, p.13), where he stated that the creation of golf must have been a result of shepherds spontaneously hitting pebbles while guarding their sheep on the St. Andrew's fields. Once the shepherd accidentally managed to get the stone into the rabbit hole, he wanted to, or rather he was challenged to, try whether he could do it again, although

this time intentionally. As soon as the herdsmen started to practice this game on the pastureland on a regular basis, they began to add rules and gradually made the game more challenging by increasing the distance between the player and the hole. Scotland may not be the founder of golf, but it is most definitely considered to be golf's home.

2.2 Golf's arrival in America

As previously mentioned, Scotland is the motherland of the modern game of golf from where it has spread across Europe. Thanks to the wealthy Americans who were either of Scottish ancestry or who had traveled to Europe, where they have learned how to play the Scottish ball game, has golf found its way to America. The manager of the J.J. Mott Iron Works in New York John Reid, who was of Scottish origin, introduced the game with John B. Upham in February 1888 to their friends for the first time. They have come to like it so much that they became determined to find a suitable place for a golf course where they could practice on a regular basis. In November of the same year, allegedly under the influence of Reid's Burntisland Scotch, they officially founded a golf club which was named The St. Andrew's Golf Club of Yonkers-on-the-Hudson. (Moss, 2013, p. 12) According to Lee (2018, p. 34) stands behind the foundation of The St. Andrew's Club Robert Lockhardt, who demonstrated the game to Mr. Reid, a huge golf enthusiast who was eventually elected president of The St. Andrew's Club, and provided him with his golf clubs.

The premises of the club were located on a twenty-acre meadow that previously belonged to John C. Shotts. The old farmhouse served perfectly, after renovations, as a clubhouse. (Moss, 2013, p. 12) Originally the newly purchased land, that served as the club's course for a little over four years, consisted of six holes. (Lee, 2018, p. 35) Eventually, they were forced to relocate due to planned construction of Palisade Avenue, which was supposed to lead right through the middle of the club premises. (Moss, 2013, p. 12)

Not far from the first location, they have found a suitable place where they could settle and set up a new golf course. The apple tree orchard with six holes became their new home. Their new location gave the so-called pioneers of golf in America a new name, the Old Apple Tree Gang. (Moss, 2001, p. 22) Although they have benefited from this change, since they were slowly getting bored of the old golf course, they have come to realize that The St. Andrew's Club was falling behind the new modern clubs that were established later. This realization forced them to the club's modernization and incorporation in 1894. (Moss, 2013, p. 13)

At that time, in 1891, was set up by affluent New Yorkers another meaningful club called Shinnecock Hills Club, which was the first professionally designed golf course in America. (Rader, 1999, p.195) The founding members, Duncan Cryder and Edward S. Mead, first came across the idea of setting up an exclusive club during their stay in Europe. With the help of Samuel L. Parrish, who have assisted them with the formation of the club, General Barber, and George R. Schieffelin, who have collected enough money from other golf enthusiasts for the club, a new country club was formed. (Moss, 2013, p. 24-25)

2.3 The country club idea

The establishment of country clubs goes hand in hand with the expansion of golf in America. Playing golf requires considerable land that would serve as a golf course, and maintaining these courses requires a huge amount of money. That is why most of the clubs and the process of setting up country clubs were taken over by the upper class.

The evolution of American country clubs was influenced by the English men's clubs, also referred to as the gentleman's clubs, that were during the eighteenth century popular in England. It was very common for the affluent members of society, the male population, to rent favorite coffee houses or saloons where they regularly organized gatherings. Eventually they decided to set up their own clubs where they could meet up. (Mayo, 1998, p.25).

The country clubs have always been connected with wealth, power, and prestige, and only chosen ones had the privilege to be part of these exclusive associations. Their purpose was to create an environment where the elite could spend their free time and relax while being separated from the lower-class citizens. Not only by a distance, which was represented by the endless landscape, but also by the exclusivity of the club. (Moss, 2013, p.2) Being part of such organizations required not only having a certain amount of money and being able to afford to pay super expensive fees that came along with the membership but unless were the candidates invited by the board, no amount of money could have bought them the place. These clubs are really exclusive, and each has a set of rules according to which the members are chosen. Religion, race, social status, and gender are some of the factors that determine whether one becomes a member or not. (Moss, 2001, p. 31)

Railroad magnate James Murray Forbes invited his friends, Boston's elite, at the beginning of the year 1882, to a dinner where he presented the idea of setting up an exclusive club. His intentions were to create a suitable place for people like himself that would be dedicated to

sports like polo, horse racing, shooting, and later on, golf as well. The property they had in mind that would serve their purpose was a Stock Farm located on Clyde Street. (Smith, 1988, p. 2) Many country clubs settled on infertile land, seacoast, or old farms, where they renovated the old farmhouse into a clubhouse. The location of country clubs was most of the time remoted from the city center, which made them quite inaccessible to some. (Moss, 2013) This was, however, not the case for The Country Club in Brookline, which was placed only a few miles from the city since the board of founding members chose a location close to their neighborhood. (Mayo, 1998, p. 65) Moss specified in his book (2001, p.16) that The Country Club in Brookline already existed before golf found its way to America; however, with its' growing interest, the club has additionally built a golf course.

Before WWII were most of the clubs created by rich people with the purpose of setting up private clubs where the elite could spend their free time doing outdoor leisure activities in the fresh air. As stated by Moss (2013, p. 46), at the turn of the nineteenth century, the formation of country clubs took place in two phases. During the first phase, the upper-class established clubs like St. Andrew's or Shinnecock Hills Club. By 1898 arose from the sudden country club sensation, the so-called "country club idea" that began attracting the attention of middle-classes. In the second phase the "country club idea" changed substantially. Country clubs were representing differences between classes more than ever; club members started investing more money, clubs became more exclusive, and membership fees increased. As a result, being a member has gained in importance.

Mayo (1998, p. 66) describes this movement as "the country club concept" which he explains as a blossoming period for country clubs that took place from the eighties of the eighteenth century. The interest grew quite rapidly, and the number of newly established clubs with it. The meaning of having a membership in such organizations took a completely different turn from what the original Scottish golf associations represented.

2.4 Golf and class

As previously mentioned, the idea of a country club was not revolving anymore around outdoor activities. According to Rader (1999, p.72) served clubs as a demonstration of their wealth and supremacy over others. Since people, who were considered inferior, had no chance of acquiring a membership, it was easy for the elite to distance themselves from them. This was also explained by Moss (2001, p. 1-2) that even from the perspective of an airplane, there was seen a "clear boundary" that divided the rich and the poor. It created a safe space adjusted only

for people who belong to certain social classes. In his experience, even people inside the walls of the club were sorted out according to their position in society.

One of the reasons for setting up a country club was, according to Mayo (1998, p. 63), for recreational purposes in the company of people of the same social status. The club was a way they could take a break, at least for a while, from their everyday problems and also sort of an escape to nature. (Mayo, 1998) The heat of the city in the summer was often unbearable, and escaping to summer resorts where they could spend as much time as they liked outdoors away from the “bad odors“ was a privilege of the wealthy social class. (Spann, 1840, cit. Mayo, 1998, p. 35)

2.5 Elitist and racially exclusive sport

Race is and always has been a determining factor that has an influence on all aspects of people’s lives, not only on their occupation or the place where they live but also on the opportunities they are getting or rather not getting because of the color of their skin. (Greendorfer, 1994, cit. Rosseli, Cunningham, Singer, 2017). Sport, being an important part of life, is not an exception, and unfortunately, of all sports is golf one of the most racially segregated to this day. Slavery and racism have in the past affected the development of sport and the accessibility of sport to minorities. Among the most critical factors which fall under the issue of racial discrimination are socioeconomic status and cultural standards. (Cunningham, 2007). Sports that do not require big initiation fees or generally great deal of money for participating, like basketball or soccer, are very popular and widespread among minorities, unlike golf or polo, which are mostly taken up by the white population. (Cunningham, 2011). Ball games are much more accessible; there is essentially no expensive equipment needed, and they can be played almost anywhere; that is why there are considerably more players from the minorities. On the other side, golf, with all the equipment necessary, is underrepresented by the African Americans or Hispanics since a majority of them were not able to afford to take up such a costly sport. (Cunningham, 2011). When golf arrived and became more known in the US, it started spreading among the affluent members of the society, for the most part among rich white men. Historically has golf always been socially and racially exclusive; this stereotype has not really changed from the beginning, and to this day, is golf overrepresented by the white. These stereotypes are also the reason why the minorities have never really been interested in golf in the first place and why they have always preferred basketball and soccer. African Americans and Hispanics initially ignored golf due to

discrimination and due to the financial burdensomeness that this sport entails. (Cunningham, 2011, cit. Rosseli, Cunningham, Singer, 2017).

Black people have been exposed to this elitist sport ever since the end of the eighteenth century in the role of caddies. Even though they have not been able to play, they have learned a lot about the sport merely from watching the affluent players on the green. (Dawkins, Braddock, Gilbert, 2018) As Damas (2017, loc.388) reported, the enslaved Black people saw the golfers not only playing golf but also during social meetings when they were not taken into consideration as human beings. Unless they were asked to speak, which mostly happened only in situations when the golfers needed advice, they were not allowed to hear or see what was happening on the links. According to Calvin (1998, p.35) were African American caddies frequently about nine years old, and despite such a young age, they have worked up to 16 hours a day, six days a week.

Although they were not allowed to play golf in country clubs, they still contributed to sport with their inventions. Most African Americans who were aware of golf and who were interested in it usually had to settle for playing on improvised fields, just like George Franklin Grant, who played on a meadow behind his house. Because he had to play on uncultivated land, Grant was trying to come up with something that would facilitate the game. (Damas, 2017, loc. 276) From the words of his daughter, Frances Grant, were the golf courses where the poor players practiced golf quite primitive, and her father's invention was literally game-changing. (Calvin, 1998, p.10) In addition to his admirable career, he designed the first-ever reusable tee, which he later on in 1899 had patented. Sadly his revolutionary invention was never acknowledged, and the merit of the invention of the golf tee was credited to William Lowell, who came up with the idea twenty-five years after Grant. (Damas, 2017, loc. 290)

As a response to racial segregation, African Americans decided to form their own golfing organizations and set up their own clubs. They took it even step further when they suppressed the class exclusivity of club members and enabled anyone, regardless of their social class, to be part of the club. With time these clubs started openly talking about the problem of racial discrimination in golf and began speaking out against segregation practices that were preventing black golfers from pursuing a career in golf. (Dawkins, Braddock, Gilbert, 2018) James Mayo mentions in his book (1998, p.31) that even the African American elite could not have been accepted into prestigious country clubs; according to him, they have in the period from the eighties to the late nineties in the nineteenth century, established their own private

clubs. These newly established exclusive clubs have further divided the black community. Since these clubs were also exclusive and therefore not available to the poorer classes, was a majority of black golf players using public golf courses. In the middle of the twentieth century were public golf courses often not racially segregated but the access to African Americans was still restricted on given days or only given hours. (Douglas, Owen, Baldwin, 1997, p.211)

3. CADDYSHACK

Caddyshack, an iconic American golf film which was shot in 1979, is to this day one of the most significant movies taking place in a golf setting. The entire movie was filmed in Florida, most of the scenes taking place in Grande Oaks Golf Club in Davie, which was called Rolling Hills Golf Club at that time. Everyone who was there during the making of the film remembers the over two-months-long process as one big party. (Nashawaty, 2018, p. 146)

The film was directed by Harold Ramis, who paired up with Doug Kenny and Brian Doyle-Murray in creating the script that was, throughout the filming process, constantly changing. Doug Kenny and Harold Ramis, who have previously worked together on a movie called Animal House, decided, thanks to the success of the Animal House, to work together again and create a movie in the same spirit but this time from the country club. They took golf, a topic that is by most people considered boring, and turned it into a sensation by casting stars like Chevy Chase, Ted Knight, Rodney Dangerfield, and Bill Murray. (Hanibelsz, 2009, 3min50s)

3.1 Humor in Caddyshack

One of the most important reasons why people watch films is for them to have fun and relax. In order to do that, is comedy the choice of most people who want to have a great laugh. According to the Cambridge Dictionary is comedy “a type of film, play, or a book that is intentionally funny either in its characters or its action“. In essence similar definition is given by Oxford Dictionary, which says that comedy is “a play, film or TV show that is intended to be funny, usually with a happy ending“. Caddyshack is, to this day, considered by many people the comedy classic and what is legendary about this movie, apart from the famous lines, is definitely the cast.

3.1.1 Chevy Chase

Starting off with Chevy Chase, an American actor and comedian, who was before Caddyshack one of the biggest names of Saturday Night Live show. The movie character Ty Webb that he plays in the film is a role which was written by Ramis and Kenny with Chevy in mind since he embodies everything that Ty represents. (Ramis, 2009, 17min41s)

Ty is a very talented golf player who is not interested in competing or in using his skills to win money. His approach is completely different and his techniques are rather bizarre. One time before hitting the ball he put a blindfold on. “Stop thinking, let things happen, and be the ball.“ he said to Danny while trying to pull out a golf club out of the bag. Other time he was

running around barefoot on a golf link making spiritual sounds and putting himself in all the strangest positions before hitting the ball. (Caddyshack, 1980, 6min27s)

3.1.2 Rodney Dangerfield

Rodney Dangerfield was a famous American stand-up comedian who had never been in a movie before Caddyshack. According to several statements of the cast and crew, was filming not an easy process for him. (Peters, 2009, 23min33s) The word “action“ is a commonly known phrase used by the filmmakers to mark the beginning of filming, and just like a starting gun, it is a signal for actors to start performing. During the filming of Rodney’s first scene, he apparently did not respond to “action“ because he did not know what it meant. (O’Keefe, 2009, 40min20s) That was just one of the things that made him feel out of place. The fact that people did not laugh at his jokes made him even more nervous and made him doubt his performance. As a stand-up comedian, he expected a reaction from audience after telling a joke, but since nobody could have laughed because the material would have been useless for the editors, he had to get used to the process of shooting a film, even though he always took the silence very personally. (Colomby, 2009, 40min52s)

Al, Rodney’s character in the movie, is that kind of a person who would not get offended if anyone ever made fun of him; therefore it seems like he considers it normal to make fun of other people who are often center of attention in his jokes. This we can witness in a scene that took place during a dinner in the clubhouse. He was entertaining his friends with whom he was sitting at the table, always trying to say something funny. He followed one of his jokes, in which he said that owning “anything but land“ is the same as owning a “popcorn fart“, with breaking wind himself to support his joke. (Caddyshack, 1980, 30min55s) This spectacle shows that his jokes were sometimes inappropriate. It continued when he headed to the bar and encountered Judge Smalls. Al greeted everyone at the table, having a funny comment to all of them. He “complimented“ the judge’s wife by saying that she “must have been something before electricity“ implying that she is old. (Caddyshack, 1980, 31min36s) That was not his only remark about the age of other club members. When he saw them dancing, he referred to them as to the “living dead“ and later on he said that he “never saw dead people smoke before“. (Caddyshack, 1980, 36min8s)

3.1.3 Bill Murray

The assistant greenskeeper Carl Spackler, played by Bill Murray, who was the last to be cast in the movie, was in the original script not supposed to have any lines. (Hanibelsz, 2009, 26min52s) Bill's brother Brian was one of the authors of the script, and a lot of ideas were based on their family. He was supposed to make only a cameo appearance, but from the first moment when they started recording, he turned this at first insignificant role into something that no one expected. (Nashawaty, 2018, p.114) All of his scenes were improvised, which sounds rather unbelievable considering the fact that his lines are the most quoted ones from *Caddyshack*. (Nashawaty, 2018, p.39) Carl quickly became the favorite character of many despite the fact that his contribution to the main storyline is not so significant. He is hardly ever seen with any other protagonists together; the assistant greenskeeper's appearance in the movie is a majority of time with a gopher with whom he has a feud.

At the beginning of the movie, we can see a perfectly maintained golf course being ruined by an animal that is making its way by digging tunnels underground and, at the same time, devastating the surface of the golf course. This iconic opening scene introduces the gopher, who ties separate storylines together, for the first time. (*Caddyshack*, 1980, 1min3s) At first glance it may seem that the stuffed animal has no significance for the plot but incorporating the gopher had its reasons. Since there were several storylines which were not connected, they needed to come up with something that would tie the whole movie together. (Nashawaty, 2018, p.188)

Carl is basically the only person that actually sees the gopher, and being an assistant greenskeeper, it is his duty to protect the golf course and to stop the furry rodent from ruining the grass by making holes and tunnels. Their dispute began with head greenskeeper McFiddish commanding Carl "to kill every gopher on the course", but since McFiddish is Scottish, his assistant Spackler did not understand him well due to his thick accent and misinterpreted gopher with golfer saying, "Check me if I am wrong Sandy, but if I kill all the golfers they are going to lock me up and throw away the key.". (*Caddyshack*, 1980, 9min30s)

The reason why are people worshipping Murray for his improvisation might be the scene which is commonly known as the Cinderella story. In this scene, Carl pretends to be at the Masters tournament and, at the same time, pretending to be also the announcer who is commenting on him. He led a long monologue while cutting off the tops of white flowers with a golf club as if they were white golf balls. "Cinderella story, out of nowhere, former

greenskeeper, now about to become the Masters champion. It looks like a mirac... It's in the hole! IT'S IN THE HOLE!". (Caddyshack, 1980, 1h2min) This memorable act was according to Nashwaty (2018, p.185), filmed only in one unbroken take and later on when was Murray asked about the "Cinderella story" in countless interviews he said "I could do something when they turned the camera on. I was wired into what I was talking about. Improvising about golf was easy for me. And it was easy."

3.2 Race in Caddyshack

In Caddyshack are many scenes in which we can observe the differences between social classes, and throughout the entire movie are jokes stacked up one after another. As for the racial aspect of the movie, there are not so many elements for us to follow. All main characters, basically the majority of the cast, are white except for two small roles who had minimum if any text. The story taking place in an exclusive country club already predicts that not many African Americans are going to be cast in significant roles since exclusive clubs are usually restricted to whites only.

The only African American character who appeared in this movie was a club's porterhouse who is versatile, does any job that is asked of him, and is available to the members of the club at all times. The audience could see him in only two scenes out of the entire movie. We can see him for the first time when is Smails bossing him around, giving him tasks to do. As he sent him off to clean his shoes, he met a friend by the lockers and made a joke about the Jew, the Catholic, and the colored boy who went to heaven. Most likely the only "colored boy" employed in the club was around to hear him say that, which infuriated him. He had no power to reply to the judge's insensitive and racist joke, so he just started angrily grinding his shoes to the point when sparks started flying off. (Caddyshack, 1980, 16min37s)

Apart from the angry porter, there was no other African American character in the movie, the only other character that broke the racial monotony was Czervik's guest Mr. Wang who accompanied Al throughout the movie without saying a single word. Wang was seen only taking pictures, smiling, and simply keeping Czervik company. Al's sidekick Wang was played by college professor Dr. Dow. Funny enough most of the cast did not even know whether Wang could speak English. (Hanibelsz, 2009, 25min23s)

3.3 Class differences in Caddyshack

Being a member of an exclusive country club is not only a leisure activity for the wealthy members of society, it is also a lifestyle. Getting into such clubs in the first place is not an easy process and requires, apart from the obvious money, a good position on the social ladder. Once the adepts are accepted by the board of members, their lifestyle often starts to revolve around the club. (Mayo, 1998, p.63)

3.3.1 Members versus caddies

This movie is a satire on a class society in America which is easily observable in a golf club environment. Whether is one good at golf or not, it is not a decisive factor for one to be accepted. There are two groups of people in the Bushwood Country Club; one group consists of mostly old white men with a lot of money, these people are members of the club, and the other group is employees, predominantly young caddies, who on the other side are poor. These two groups are in Caddyshack portrayed as polar opposites not only in the way that they behave but also in the way that they dress and speak.

To get on the land of the Bushwood Country Club, one must pass through a majestic white gate in front of which is placed a huge board with the club's name on it declaring that it is a private property for members only. Follows a long driveway which leads the arrivals to a large clubhouse surrounded by a well-maintained lawn. (Caddyshack, 1980, 4min8s) The interior of the house is made of dark wood, carpets are laid in every room, rooms are spacious, and everything looks neat and spotless. In contrast with a fancy mansion, we come across the shack for caddies, the "caddy shack", which is located quite far away from the headquarters, so it would not be in sight of members of the club. A small wooden hut painted in red color, the same as the uniform of caddies. Looking inside of the shack is everything messy, the windows are dirty, there is a lot of clutter all over the place, and there are stacks of paper lying everywhere. Unlike the clubhouse, there seems to be no order. (Caddyshack, 1980, 10min3s)

Danny regularly caddied for Ty Webb, and during the time they spent together on the green, they always had something amusing to talk about. Once Danny confided in Mr. Webb his concerns about his future and about going to college. Danny's family could not afford to send him off to college, which was one of the reasons why Danny worked as a caddie. If he did not manage to obtain a sufficient amount of money, he would end up working in a lumberyard just as his father threatened him. "What's wrong with lumber? I own two lumberyards." replied

Ty incomprehensibly, not being able to relate to Danny's problems since he, as he later on added, did not even know the location of his two lumberyards. In this scene is demonstrated the difference between a young student from a working-class family and a millionaire. (Caddyshack, 1980, 5min57s)

Once Webb accidentally stumbled over to Carl's house, who belongs to the lower class and who is in every scene wearing either a sweaty or dirty t-shirt, has stubble and is unshaved, and the state of the greenskeeper's residence shocked him. The place where Carl is staying, more precisely a garage in the caddy shack, perfectly corresponds to his appearance. Papers are randomly lying around, food leftovers are getting moldy on the table, garden tools are everywhere, torn couch on which he is most likely sleeping, and all things are disorderly gathered in a room that looks like a tool shed. "This is your place, Carl?" asked Ty whilst looking around. When the greenskeeper confirmed that it was actually the place where he lived, he continued with, "It's really awful.". (Caddyshack, 1980, 1hour15min) Needless to say that compared to Ty's place, which was also remarkably messy, could be Carl's garage considered impossible to live in. During their conversation, they came across talking about Webb's house, and Spackler asked him whether he had a pool. "We have a pond in the back. We have a pool and a pond. Pond would be good for you. Natural spring." responded Ty. His response only shows that he thinks that the dirty assistant greenskeeper, who lives in a shabby garage and sleeps with gardening tools lying all around him, is not good enough for his pool. (Caddyshack, 1980, 1h16min)

3.3.2 Old money versus new money

Social division is also seen among the members of country clubs, given that on the premises rules stable hierarchy. In exclusive clubs, there is always a board of members who govern and manage the club. These members have more competencies than others and with different social ranks are associated different personality traits, style, behavior, and so on. Even though wealth plays an important role in social status, behavior is equally as important. (Fussel, 1992, p.24)

Old money is considered people who have inherited most, if not all, of their wealth and people whose money has been passed on in their family for generations. New money is, on the contrary, people who have earned their wealth and whose fortune has not been inherited. (Fussel, 1992, p.29) Judge Elihu Smails is the cofounder and president of the Bushwood Country Club; therefore, his word is more influential compared to the opinions of other

members. For a judge, he has a quite nasty temper and many times throughout the movie are, his choleric outbursts getting the best of him. In the original script, he was described as “a rich old fart“ which is, according to a dictionary, someone who is boring and old-fashioned. He and the rest of the club members could be considered representatives of “old money“. Al Czervik, on the other side, represents the “new money“. He is a successful business owner and real estate tycoon who earned all of his fortune himself. At first sight is Al completely distinctive from other members of the club. When Al arrived at the club in his polished red car at the sound of a horn with his companion Wang, it did not take long for him to start spending money. Unlike other club members, Mr. Czervik is constantly splurging, tipping the staff with excessive amounts of money. “Here you are kid. Park my car, get my bags and put on some weight, will you?“ (Caddyshack, 1980, 17min56s) said Al while handing bills to the valet. A scenario like this happened on many occasions; he even threw a bundle of money to the band to play something more lively. This behavior only shows that he gained a huge amount of money, not knowing what to do with all of it. He likes to display his wealth and is not really frugal with it; he enjoys spending it carelessly either on his equipment, on a large ship, on partying, or on bets. When we meet the character played by Rodney for the first time, he was in the clubhouse in the golf shop “Orange balls! I will have a box of those, a box of naked-lady tees, and give me two of those, give me six of those.“. (Caddyshack, 1980, 18min22s)

Having expensive equipment and the latest gear is part of being a member of a private country club. The members tend to spend excessive amounts of money just so they can outrun each other and show off their wealth by having the newest equipment. (Mayo, 1998, p.48) This is what Al Czervick’s bag represents in the movie. His bag is, at first sight, significantly unlike the golf bags of other players. His golf bag is shiny, bright in color, and has his name in big, bold letters on it so nobody could overlook it. It is also bigger and heavier compared to a standard golf bag. The exterior of the bag is not the only thing that makes this bag special. Apart from obvious golf clubs, the bag contains a radio, beer tap with Budweiser and cups, an aiming device invented according to him by Alber Einstein, small television, a telephone with wire, and most likely much more. Al owns a remote control with which he controls all possible functions of the bag. (Caddyshack, 1980, 22min27s)

3.4 Conclusion

Caddyshack was the best movie of the listed three, the funniest with the most interesting plot and the most unexpected ending. Even though it was the oldest one, it was really well made, and knowing the stories from behind the scenes made the experience of watching it even more enjoyable. This movie was not really focused on highlighting the racial situation in golf environment, but it revolved more around the class differences; more specifically, the attention was drawn to the struggle between the posh club members and the caddies. Even though caddies were originally supposed to be the most important characters of the movie, the legendary comedians stole them the spotlight with their astonishing improvisation. Out of all the analyzed movies was the humor the funniest and the most universal, meaning that the jokes and the funny situations must simply amuse almost everybody.

4. WHO'S YOUR CADDY?

Another comedy whose story is set in a country club, this time in a Carolina Pines Golf & Polo Club, was first released in 2007 in the US. *Who's your caddy*, directed by Don Michael Paul, is regardless of its sometimes primitive jokes commenting on serious problems that occur in the golf environment and in American society. (Saltz, 2007) One of the most highlighted and stressed-out problems in the movie was the racial injustice and inequality in exclusive country clubs. (Axley, 2010) This is an issue to this day; most of the private clubs have strict rules that forbid African Americans from becoming new members. This can be observed in numerous scenes, and the discrimination against black people is in the film, unlike in reality, not overlooked. At least half, if not more, of the cast are African Americans that are presented as polar opposites to the white, old men who have membership in the club. All of the problems mentioned above are accentuated by the use of humor, and the differences between these two distinctive groups are pointed out with the use of hyperbola and stereotypes. (*Who's your caddy*, 2007)

4.1 Humor in *Who's your caddy*

One of the best ways to present certain problem is to use humor to criticize these problems and draw the attention of a larger audience to them. Sometimes making a joke out of serious matters helps people to realize that the actual situation is not so laughable. *Who's your caddy* is a comedy that criticizes racial inequality in country clubs but sometimes are the jokes used in this movie rather vulgar and primitive. It does not take much thinking to understand them, and a number of jokes are inappropriate. One of the things used quite frequently throughout the movie was noises and passing wind. Alongside C-Note, the film's main character played by Antwan Patton, who is also known under his stage name Big Boi, appeared in the movie also Faizon Love in the role of Big Large. Faizon Love being a comedian, was a primary source of most jokes in the movie and also often the center of attention in humorous scenes. (Ferraro, 2007)

Typical jokes used in golf films are when one party on the golf course is making distracting noises so the other party would not be able to concentrate on the shot. This has been used on many occasions always when Mr. Cummings was about to swing and shoot the ball. The source of these noises was usually Big Large. "Quiet on a tee" a phrase that was also used in *Caddyshack* now also appeared in *Who's your caddy* and this was not the only thing that

resembled all-time favorite American golf film which was released nearly thirty years before this movie. (Who's your caddy, 2007, 22min)

In a scene that is taking place in a powder room where Big Large and two other members of C-Note's group are completely naked doing their personal hygiene is Faizon Love again in the center of attention. (Who's your caddy, 2007, 26min28s)

4.2 Race in Who's your caddy

Throughout history, people have been discriminated because of their race in all aspects of their lives. In the past have, African Americans experienced segregation and prejudice on a daily basis, but since then, society has evolved and moved forward. Racial injustice is in this day and age quite sensitive topic and is very actively talked about. (Rosseli, Cunningham, Singer, 2017) The rights of black people living in America have changed greatly since their arrival on the North American continent, from slavery, through discrimination, to gaining the same rights as white citizens. In country clubs it is nevertheless almost as if the time and the progress avoided them. There are still exclusive white-only clubs that are following the old rules, which forbid African American citizens from being accepted as members. (Dawkins, 2007) In Who's your caddy is race one of the most emphasized topics, and the entire movie is focused on the differences between races and how prejudice influences their lives.

4.2.1 Composition of members of country club

Becoming a member of an exclusive country club is not an easy process. There are many criteria based on which are the applicants judged and later on either accepted or with a bigger probability, denied. We can witness this process in the film when we meet the club's president, Mr. Richard Cummings, for the first time. He and the rest of the board were reviewing candidates for a membership; more precisely, Cummings, whose opinion has the greatest importance, was commenting on the applicants, and the rest of the board was simply smoking cigars and laughing at his jokes. One of the aspiring new members was Bill Clinton on whom Richard commented with "Is this the caliber of person we want in the club?". After this remark, one of the members politely reminded him of the fact that Clinton was president of the United States in the past, to which Cummings responded with "unfortunate accident". Other candidates followed, and with everyone whom he had denied, he gave a reason why there was no way these people were becoming new members. Subsequently, they came across an application of an African American human rights activist Al Sharpton. The fact that Mr. Cummings did not hesitate or did not even consider African American candidate as a new suitable member, no

matter what his social status was, and instead he started choking on a drink as soon as the candidate was presented and immediately denied him a membership draws attention to the fact that most of the exclusive clubs do accept their applicants judging the color of their skin. (Who's your caddy, 2007, 3 min30s)

4.2.2 Difference in language

Even though both parties were American, they did not speak the same language. The way that they spoke and the expressions they have used were very distinctive from one another, and this could have been observed in many situations throughout the movie.

Ebonics, sometimes referred to as African American English or simply Black English, is the English language used by African Americans. (Rickford,1999) In this case, we are not talking about slang since "black language" is not limited by a certain territory, and it is not widely known by people who are not part of the black community. The way that they speak might seem random to the ones who are not familiar with Ebonics, but African American English has its rules like any other language. It is very common for Black English speakers to leave the verbs is and are out of sentences or use the verb to be in a different form than we are used to. (Rickford, 1999) This we can witness in many scenes throughout the movie. Christopher said, "we in the right place" instead of saying we are in the right place, "what up" instead of saying what is up. (Who's your caddy, 2007, 3min46s)

In the scene where is C-Note buying a house is the real estate agent trying to speak the rapper's language and uses expressions that he would have not used himself. It must have been his sales technique that he used, hoping to successfully close the deal. Hearing him speak this way, him trying to replicate ebonics sounded out of place and really strange. (Who's your caddy, 2007, 6min50s)

In a comparison of the way that Cummings and other members of the club talk to the way that C-Note and his companions talk, there are a couple of distinctive characteristics. Talking really loudly, using sound effects to support their statements, and talking really expressively and emotionally are traits of speech of the black representatives. But sound effects are not the only thing that is typical for African Americans in the way that they speak. They often use expressions like "hell no" or "you feel me". The latter phrase was used in the movie in the meaning of "do you understand me" or "do you agree with me" but Cummings responded to this question by saying, "No, I don't feel you." with an outraged undertone. That is definitely

not an expression that the director would use himself, but in this situation, he was simply responding in the same way that he was asked. (Who's your caddy, 2007, 5min35s) The same happened seconds later when he explained that "There is not a chance in hell that you will be number 181. You feel me?" with an ironical undertone to which Christopher responded with "That's cold my brother." (pronounced brotha) and infuriated Cummings again replied with "I am not your brother." (Who's your caddy, 2007, 5min53sec) Blacks tend to call each other names "brother", "girl", "sister", "baby", "yo" with a completely different meaning than what is the denotative, dictionary meaning of these words.

During the first encounter between Mr. Cummings and C-Note in the movie, there are countless examples of language differences. Not only their accents are different their whole vocabulary is diverse. When was Mr. Cumming explaining to the group that barged in that it is simply not that easy to just file an application, he used an expression "a very stringent application process". Big Large, who is part of the rapper's crew, repeated loudly the word stringent, trying to sound just like him but making a mocking face while saying it. Another member of the crew asked whether he could get "stringent on the rocks" showcasing that he did not know what the word meant, mistaking it for an alcoholic drink. In this scene is a member of the club using an expression that the members of the rapper's crew do not know the meaning of. Big Large tried to use this word himself later on saying "that is some astringent shit" expressing objection to what Cummings had just said. (Who's your caddy, 2007, 5min8s)

In today's society it is absolutely unacceptable for anyone to use the word "nigga" when referring to African Americans. This word, that is now, according to the Cambridge Dictionary, "a way of saying nigger, an extremely offensive word for a black person", used to be used without negative or offensive connotations to talk about the blacks. Labeling a person as black used to be until late 1960 also considered offensive and is today considered acceptable by most people. (Martin, 1991) Within a community is the use of the N-word different. Whenever felt Big Large cornered, and when things did not go the way that he would like, he accused white people of calling him "nigga" because in normal situation would be the person who said it punished and judged. Big Large simply used this term to fight back the injustice.

4.3 Class differences in Who's your caddy

Even though nobody is strictly classified into any class and the American society is not so stringently separated into castes like it is for example in India, the position in society has still impactful force on many aspects of life. According to the Declaration of Independence are

“all men created equal“, but it is not really the case in exclusive country club, world in which are the new members admitted based on their social status. As previously mentioned people who aspire to become new members of exclusive club must meet specific requirements.

4.3.1 Various types of rich

The fact that someone has great wealth does not necessarily mean that they have a class that would correspond with their money. (Setts, 2013) Christopher Hawkings could be as well considered upper-class, taking into account his wealth, but he did not come from an affluent family whose fortune is passed down from one generation to another. He earned his money and worked his way up with hard work, which is why he could be labeled as new money. By the board members of Carolina Pines Club, he was labeled “a low-life street thug“ without considering that the rapper is also really rich. When his membership was talked about during a meeting with Ms. Williams, one of the snobs expressed his disagreement by saying that C-Note is “note quite their class“. (Who’s your caddy, 2007, 13min20s)

In order to be accepted, there are many conditions inductees must fulfill but being good at golf is not one of the necessary skills. Talent and hard work are indecisive and have practically zero value when is one considered to be accepted. When Christopher stepped onto the golf course for the first time, he struggled to even hit the ball, and so did his companions. Golf was not the primary reason why he fought so much for being accepted. Later on, when he met Mr. Cummings’s son in the clubhouse, he asked him whether anyone could actually play polo whilst looking at all the trophies from polo matches. “If you got the bankroll, yeah“ was the answer that he received. (Who’s your caddy, 2007, 28min45s)

4.3.2 Music

Music is also an important part of every movie. It guides the audience and tells them who is the villain, when a scene in a movie is sad, when something is about to happen, when it is a happy moment. It is so powerful and significant that it suggests what the audience should be feeling and how the audience should perceive certain scenes. Not even a minute into the movie are the differences between classes and different races distinctly pointed out. Two different groups of people for which were these two different music genres typical might be even said stereotypical. Accompanied with Serenade No. 13 in G Major is represented the rich white population, people that are already members of the country club, playing golf and polo on well-maintained courses. This introduction of the upper class makes them look virtuous,

calm, and noble. These scenes alternate with scenes that represent the other group of African Americans who are driving fast in big black SUV cars while listening to loud rap music. (Who's your caddy, 2007, 30s) The same type of music is used all throughout the movie; whenever there is a scene with Cummings and other representatives of the club, there is always calm music and classical music in the background, and whenever there is C-Note with his crew, rap or hip-hop music is accompanying them.

4.4 Conclusion

Who's your caddy was the only film primarily focused on the racism in the clubhouse and in a golf setting. Its at times primitive jokes like passing gas really loudly and in inappropriate places, occasional nudity, racist remarks, and so on sometimes overshadowed the important message of the film and oversimplified this serious problem in society. The director Don Michael Paul managed to incorporate many forms of racial discrimination into the film, which are still, unfortunately, relevant today. He shed light on the racist and elitist practices of the country clubs. Under his direction, the film also commented on the class society. The jokes in Who's your caddy were not always incredibly funny, and some scenes lacked significance. The idea of creating a movie that would finally call out racist practices of the golf industry was progressive and bold, but the result, in general, was a little bit unredeemed by the jokes.

5. TIN CUP

One of the most realistic American golf films is definitely *Tin Cup* with Kevin Costner, Rene Russo, Don Johnson, and Cheech Marin in the lead roles. This film was first released in August 1996 and it quickly became really popular. To this day *Tin Cup* is considered to be one of the best golf movies ever made; the lead naturally takes *Caddyshack*, which is in contrast with *Tin Cup*, not so much about showing a realistic game of golf. Ron Shelton, the director of this movie, was together with Gary McCord, the technical advisor, putting emphasis on the film being authentic and believable. That is also why, according to Shelton, they were trying to convince professional golfers to come and help Costner and Johnson with their performances, but with the budget they offered, nobody was willing to help. (Nashawaty, 2016) So McCord came up with a brilliant idea which ensured the cooperation of 35 players. As he himself explains, he started calling the wives of the professional players and promised them dinner with Kevin Costner and Don Johnson in exchange for help of their husbands. As the saying goes, “happy wife, happy life“ many of them then accepted this offer, and some of them even made cameo appearances in the film. (cit. McCord, Nashawaty, 2016)

There are many things in *Tin Cup* that the viewers identify themselves with. Even though golf is relatively misunderstood and not so popular compared to soccer, baseball, or basketball, it is still quite influential sport. Another aspect that brings people together and makes a film a bit more likable is the “science of underdogs“. A good question to ponder about is why people tend to root for the outsiders and why do people often sympathize with them. As reported by researcher Nadav Goldschmied lies the love for outsiders in the fact that “we experience pleasure due to misfortune of others“ and resent the ones in power, the ones who oppress others. (Stromberg, 2015) Another possible reason concluded in Goldschmied’s study is the fact that we want the world to be fair, so the audience naturally wants the less fortunate to win. The last feature that could be considered important in the movie is the fact that the boy, for whom is the majority cheering, gets the girl for whom he has been fighting for. According to John Norville, co-writer of *Tin Cup*’s script, their intention was not to make a movie for golfers; they wanted to make a movie for women. Focused on women who do not play golf and for those who are not interested in it at all. (Nashawaty, 2016) Thanks to the inclusion of romantic elements in a golf film, *Tin Cup* gained a larger audience and also popularity among women.

5.1 Humor in Tin Cup

Humor is a really subjective thing, and since everybody is different and laughs at different things, it is important for the filmmakers to come up with jokes that would entertain their diverse audience. There is a thin line between funny and inappropriate that is why in movies, the jokes must be chosen wisely and rather carefully. In an ideal situation should the jokes used in the film bring not only entertainment and a smile or a giggle but also laughter. Laughter is the best indicator of whether the comedy is successful or not.

5.1.1 Unnecessary equipment

A golf bag is essential for every golf player just as much as golf clubs and golf balls which are necessary for the game. As previously stated, in exclusive clubs are the members often trying to have the newest and the best equipment for which they have spent a whole fortune. In the case of Tin Cup are golf clubs not always necessary. Roy needed money to pay an installment of his dept, so he took his most valuable possession, his golf clubs, and sold them at a pawn shop. Approximately at the same time he decided to fight for qualifying for the U.S.Open tournament, so he needed to get his golf clubs back. He and his friend Romeo collected gardening tools together and challenged their old acquaintance to a 400 dollars match. With these gardening tools he managed to beat him, won the money, and bought out his old golf clubs. The funny thing about this scene was the fact that even with rakes, shovel, spade, and a baseball bat, he still managed to win the match. (Tin Cup, 1996, 33min14s)

In the opposite situation, Molly found herself when she got all the “necessary“ gear and gadgets from the golf channel. During their first lesson, she was equipped with elbow and knee braces, a golf watch, a cap with an aiming device, a posture correcting belt, and more useless things she had spent 200 dollars for. She looked as if she was getting ready for a fight, and walking around the green with all of this stuff on would have been really tiring. (Tin Cup, 1996, 6min40s) In spite of the fact that Roy had laughed at her at that moment, she found him later trying on all of this “waste of money“, as he called it, at the time when he had a “glitch“ in a swing. (Tin Cup, 1996, 1h10min40s)

5.1.2 Superstitions

It is pretty common among professional athletes to have specific rituals and lucky charms in which they believe that they bring them luck. One of the most asked questions from interviewers is definitely whether they are superstitious and, if so, what are the rituals or lucky charms that are so meaningful for them. For example, Jack Nicklaus, who is considered to be

the best golfer of all time, must have always had three coins in his pocket. Tiger Woods is known for his red shirt superstition that he must wear on the last day of any tournaments. (SwingU, 2019) When Tin Cup first arrived at the U.S.Open, he was not able to hit the ball properly. All helpless he asked Romeo to help him figure out what was wrong. The caddy first told him to put his change in his left-hand pocket, then to tie his left shoe in a double knot and to turn his hat around backward. The rest of the players were looking at him as if he was crazy, but all superstitions possible could be considered crazy by people who do not believe in them. (Tin Cup, 1996, 1h 22min)

5.1.3 Betting

It seems to be normal for everyone to constantly make bets with one another about anything. Right at the beginning of the film are McAvoy's friends making bet about the bugs; just seconds later, they are betting about who is going to solve the riddle first; at the charity tournament are the players betting on whether Roy can make the shot as he claimed that he would and the list goes on. When Roy qualified for the sectionals after he broke all of his golf clubs except for one, he was bragging in front of Simms that he finished the entire game with a 7-iron golf club. So he challenged him to a bet that he would beat him in any discipline that is concerned with golf. David accepted this bet depending on Roy always being super impulsive, which played in his favor and helped him actually win. Simms suggested that the one who gets the ball the farthest would win, and McAvoy immediately accepted thinking he was going to win since he considered himself to be a better player than his long-lost friend. But he forgot to consider how smart and how cunning David is. Roy was reminded of that when Simms instead of on the links he sent the ball on the road on which the ball kept going even long after he had defeated him. (Tin Cup, 1996, 1hour2min)

5.2 Race in Tin Cup

Tin Cup is once again a movie with a majority of its cast who are white. Despite the fact that it is not entirely about the game and country club, it still takes place in a golf environment for which is casting white actors obvious choice. As previously stated, maintaining the authenticity of Tin Cup was vital for the director. That is why the composition of the cast is not entirely racially balanced because in order to preserve the genuineness and authenticity of the film, it must correspond to reality. Races other than Caucasian are often cast in supporting roles, so the movie would not be completely racially exclusive. (Sinckler, 2014) Despite the fact

that this is a rather logical explanation, it still may be by many considered racial discrimination, but eventually, it depends on the director and on his intentions with the film.

That is the case in *Tin Cup*, where the lead characters are primarily white, except for Roy's closest friend Romeo Posar, played by Cheech Marin. He is Roy's loyal Hispanic friend who occasionally caddies for him. These two have a really close relationship, and throughout the movie is Romeo frequently by Roy's side, always supporting him and having his back. Even though they had a number of quarrels, they still remained close and made it all the way to the U.S. Open together.

Another but rather insignificant role of a member of Roy's friends group was played by the only African American. His name was Clint and he was played by Lou Myers. Except for Romeo speaking Spanish whenever he was infuriated and him using Spanish expressions here and there, there was not emphasized any significant difference between races. There is nothing, in particular, that would make Hispanic or African American people look inferior to white people. Neither Romeo nor Clint was rich upper-class members, but they were equal to the hero of the story. One thing we should turn our focus on is the fact that both African Americans and Hispanic races were depicted in the film in a positive light. Both characters were loyal friends who stood by Roy's side the whole time rooting for him.

5.3 Class differences in *Tin Cup*

The message of each film is hidden in details and in hints that the viewers must decipher in order to understand the real meaning of it. The art of writers is to create such a script so the audience would perceive the message that is not explicitly said. Shelton's intention with the movie was to overcome the impression that golf is a sport solely for the rich because he himself was convinced that this sport, which is often labeled as elitist, was not only for the affluent ones but for the working-class as well. (cit. Shelton, Nashwaty, 2016)

5.3.1 Roy's friends

At the beginning of the movie are introduced the representatives of a blue-collar class, Roy and his friends, who were killing time on the porch of an old driving range. While sitting there, one of them was spinning with a lasso, and the others were watching bugs getting fried on the bug zapper. The entire time all of them had beers in their hands and also in most of the other scenes where they appeared. Their intelligence was questioned when Roy joined them and told them that he got a riddle, with which he was trying to entertain them. They made a bet

whose winner would get all the money they had put together. One of his friends protested against that since Roy was the smartest one of them, that he was going to get the riddle first, not understanding the fact that since he is the one who knows the right answer, he is not going to be guessing. (Tin Cup, 1996, 3min5s) If there is something that one could gather from this scene, it is the fact that his friends are not really all that smart and day drinking and betting is their favorite way of amusement. Their appearance was hardly ever neat; their clothes were most of the time sweated and dirty.

5.3.2 Bets and alcohol

One of the features of the lower class that was highlighted all throughout the movie was their constant betting and drinking. As mentioned in the preceding paragraph, one gets the idea already from the first scene in the movie. Roy is in the majority of scenes seen drinking, which is not exactly good for him considering his bad temper, and we witness countless scenes in which are most people placing bets on ridiculous things. Nobody talks about the fact that Roy's drinking might be a problem since when they first arrived at the U.S. Open, and he was not able to perform well; Romeo assumed that it was because Roy was way too sober to play, and they went and got drunk. By this was probably the writer trying to indicate that the lower class is often under the influence and that they are able to function only with high alcohol concentration in their blood.

5.3.3 Poor boy, rich girl

Roy McAvoy represents the lower class, who, in spite of everything, managed to qualify for the U.S. Open and got the girl whom he was striving for. His first appearance in the film did not leave a particularly strong impression. Most of the time he looked very neglected and worn out; maybe it was just the alcohol that he was continuously consuming or the fact that most of his clothes were sweaty or messy. Although he seemed to be the smartest one in his friend's group, his personality did not really contribute to his image in a positive matter. Later on, came to light the fact that he attended the University of Houston, and his chances for a successful career were promising.

When his college friend David Simms sought him out and offered him a job in his charity tournament, Roy was thrilled just until the moment when he realized that his task would not be to play but to caddy for him. "Caddy?" asked disappointed Tin Cup David, who immediately answered, "Hell, I can't bring a guy in off the street to play in my tournament." (Tin Cup, 18min17sec) This proves that Roy was not considered to be good enough to play

with them; it was not about his talent nor about his skills in golf; it was about where he came from and about his social status.

In view of the fact that Shelton's intention was to prove that class did not matter, there was a scene when Roy started considering qualifying for the U.S. Open to impress Molly. When Romeo suggested that as a joke, Roy took it way too seriously and decided to actually go for it. His friend immediately reminded him of the fact that the U.S. Open was "the biggest golf tournament in the world" trying to put Roy back on the ground, but he justified his decision by saying that it was also "the most democratic golf tournament". He was trying to explain that anyone who would be able to fulfill the mandatory conditions had a chance to play and attempt to win. "They can't ask you if you are a garbage man or a bean picker or a driving-range pro whose check's signed by a stripper." implying that even someone like him, who was considered not worthy enough to play with upper-class players could beat them in this democratic tournament. (Tin Cup, 32min11sec)

Another thing worth mentioning is Roy's trailer, which is standing on top of the hill right next to the driving range in which he is living. In front of it, under an awning are placed three different garden chairs and a small table on which are standing empty beer bottles. Nearby on a dusty lawn without grass lies a small children's inflatable pool with dirty water in it. The fact that Romeo was seen washing two glasses in it is a great illustration of how they care about cleanliness. After taking a look inside, it was as messy as expected after looking at it from the outside. There were holes in the cupboard, gallons of milk randomly standing on tables, and many things placed on the kitchen counter. In general, his place was not organized nor clean; nothing fancy about this trailer that served as a house. (Tin Cup, 1996, 31min19s) There was a scene in which he threw spoilt milk out of the window instead of throwing it into the trash can; one can only imagine what it looked like behind that trailer if that is what he did with all of the trash. Later on, we come to find out that it is not even his trailer, he won it in a bet, and now he was living in it. (Tin Cup, 1996, 33min44s)

On the other side, David Simms and Molly Griswold represent the upper class. It is quite easy to spot the differences between these two different classes, not only judging their clothes but also the way that they speak and the way that they appear and behave in public. Starting with Molly Griswold, a psychologist who was dating Simms at the beginning of the movie. She is educated and elegant, and even though she occasionally behaves a little bit wild and loony, she still has a class. David Simms is a professional golfer and Roy's friend from college. He is

really rich, has a successful career in golf and is respected. Unlike Roy, he worked his way up after college, which is most likely thanks to his personality. In most scenes, he appears put together, intelligent but a little bit boastful, thinking he is better than most people surrounding him. He made fun of his old friend Tin Cup and his lifestyle on several occasions. During a scene when he appeared on the screen for the first time, he kicked into Roy's inflatable pool, asking him whether it was his hot tub which he followed with a laugh after offended Romeo told him that it was the spa. (Tin Cup, 1996, 17 min25s)

5.4 Conclusion

Tin Cup is by many labeled as the most realistic golf movie of all time, but the center of attention was not a golf club but a love story. This film was, out of the given three aspects, focused on class differences the most. Differences were brought up between the guy of the streets standing against upper-class members on the golf course in the biggest golf tournament in the world. Same as Caddyshack were in Tin Cup not so many scenes which would point out race and the issues that are associated with it in a golf environment. Compared to Who's your caddy was the humor much more conservative and required more contemplation. The expected relationship by the end of an overall really amusing film was compensated by an unexpected ending on the golf course. The authenticity of the movie is to the unacquainted not that obvious compared to people who actually play golf and who could tell the difference between playing golf or playing in the movie.

6. CONCLUSION

Movies are powerful tools of today's world used for criticizing society and its problems. It is also a very efficient way how to attract more people and enlighten them about a certain matter. As stated before, problems should be talked about in order to spread awareness about them and hereby come up with a solution or initiate their end.

During the process of analyzing movies arose questions like "Is race relevant in sports? Are people being discriminated on the basis of their skin color or of their origin? How does racism manifest in golf? To what extent does race or class influence the choice of leisure activities? Does class determine our lives and the way we are accepted in society?" All of these questions and more concerning race and class inequality have been explained in the history of golf chapter and subsequently proved by providing examples from movies. In this bachelor's project were mentioned most essential scenes that were preoccupied with humor, race, and class differences. Nevertheless, the reviewed scenes could still be analyzed in more detail, and the scenes not mentioned in this work could be further examined.

To this day is the composition of golf players racially disproportionate and a majority of professional golf players are white. The perception of country clubs and of golf is basically identical for most people, as could be deduced from the fact that all directors have included in their films a character that corresponded with the stereotype. Based on an analysis of the movies, I came to a conclusion that golf is still, to this day, mostly sport for the classes, not for the masses, and that white golf players significantly outnumber players of different races.

During the process of writing, I came across many books and articles that discussed the issue of racial segregation and class exclusivity of golf. Therefore it is clear that quite a lot of people are dealing with this topic. In the future, I believe that this issue will be given more attention which will hopefully improve the current situation.

Presented bachelor thesis aimed to provide analysis of three American golf films concentrating on humor, race, and class differences. One of the goals was to clarify the importance and influence of class and race on participation in golf and on membership in country clubs.

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RESUMÉ

The Bachelor thesis is focused on analyzing three movies with a focus on three different aspects. Among the things observed in the films were humor, race, and class differences. Each film dealt with given topics to a certain extent, some topics were in different movies discussed and pointed out more than others. In *Caddyshack* were the central features humor and class differences, and race differences were not broken down in-depth. *Who's your caddy* on the other side dealt first and foremost with racial inequality and racial discrimination. The last analyzed movie, *Tin Cup*, again addressed mainly the differences in a class society, and it scarcely touched on the theme of racial segregation. The historical overview at the beginning paints a great picture of the racial discrimination in the golf environment and the importance of social class in the country clubs. After analyzing all of the movies came to light the side of golf, which is not really much talked about. All directors presented similar essence and comparable mood, and they all introduced the stereotypes of discrimination that golf players of different races or lower classes feel. Unknowingly and unintentionally, they all agreed on the same patterns, which are typical for golf clubs and golf players.

ANNOTATION

Jméno a příjmení:	Petra Galbavá
Katedra nebo ústav:	Ústav cizích jazyků
Rok obhajoby:	2022
Vedoucí práce:	Mgr. Jiří Flajšar, Ph.D.

Název práce:	Humor, rasa a třídní rozdíly v Amerických golfových filmech
Název práce v angličtině:	Humor, Race and Class Differences in American Golf Films
Anotace práce:	V bakalářské práci, jejíž téma je Humor, rasa a třídní rozdíly v amerických golfových filmech, jsou filmy Caddyshack, Who's your caddy a Tin Cup podrobeny analýze zaměřující se na tři různé aspekty, které jsou více či méně vyobrazeny v daných snímcích. Po krátkém historickém shrnutí, v němž jsou objasněny počátky golfu v Americe, následuje rozbor výše zmíněných komedií, který se soustředí především na humor, rasu a na rozdíly ve třídní společnosti. Pozornost je také věnována tomu, jak rasová a třídní problematika zachycená ve filmech odpovídá realitě.
Klíčová slova:	Analýza filmu, humor, rasa, třídní rozdíly, Americké golfové filmy, historie golfu, Caddyshack, Who's your caddy, Tin Cup
Anotace v angličtině:	In the bachelor thesis, whose theme is Humor, race, and class differences in American golf films, are films Caddyshack, Who's your caddy and Tin Cup subject to analysis which is focused on three various aspects that are depicted in given movies. After the short historical summary, that explains the beginnings of golf in America, follows an analysis of the comedies mentioned above focused essentially on humor, race, and differences in the class society. Attention is also paid to the way how racial and class problems captured in the films corresponds to reality.
Klíčová slova v angličtině:	Film analysis, humor, race, class differences, American golf films, history of golf, Caddyshack, Who's your caddy, Tin Cup
Rozsah práce:	41 s. 87968 znaků
Jazyk práce:	anglický