Golf Jokes

On Scotland's Carnoustie Course, an American named Stefanovich drove magnificently off the 10th tee. His brand-new ball sailed over the bracken at the dog-leg and out of sight onto the far fairway.
But when he got to where he thought his ball would be- no ball. Just a native golfer who looked suspicious.
"See a ball here?" The American inquired pointedly.
"Nae."
"That ball in your hand?"
"Aye. My ball."
"My ball had 'Stefanovich' on it."
"A bonnie coincidence, laddie. That's just wha' I'm playing this morning': a 'Stefanovich.'"

On the first tee at Australia's Indooroopilly Golf Club, a visiting American swung his driver wildly over the ball.
"That's interesting," he apologized.
"Your course seems about two inches lower than the one at home."

"You must be absolutely the worst caddy in the world."
"I doubt it, sir."
"Why?"
"Too much of a coincidence."

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L AND M encores

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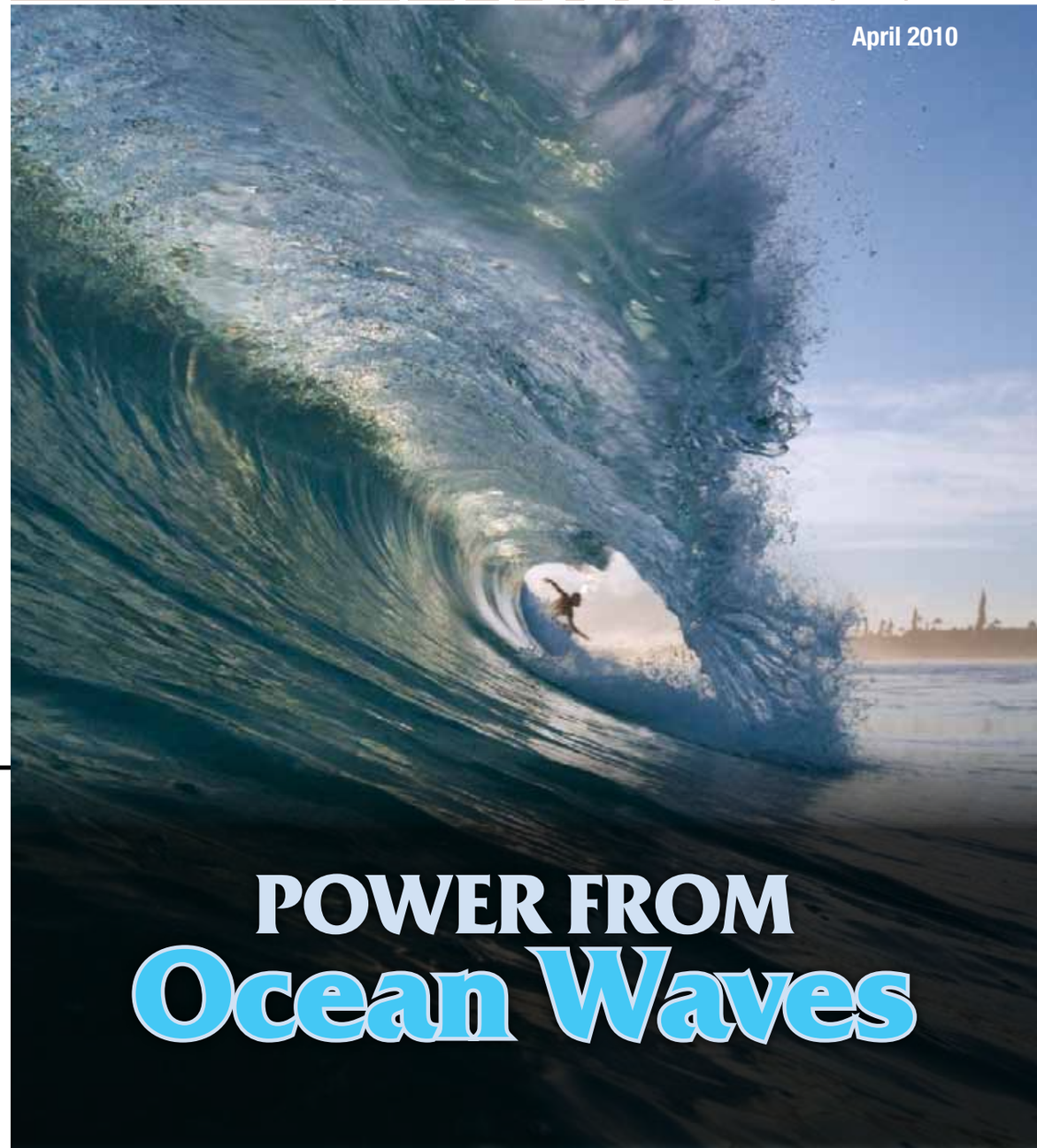


POWER FROM Ocean Waves

In our working career we have put in a lot of "windshield time" driving a car on a highway.

The act of driving probably uses about five percent of one's brain leaving the other 95% to ruminate, maybe on a recent conversation or on an article in the morning paper. From a lot of highways, wind farms – consisting of large numbers of wind turbines – can be seen turning, IF the wind is blowing. We read somewhere that wind turbines in the US of A work an average of 30% of the time WHEN the wind is blowing hard enough to turn the blades.

We have "ruminated" that ocean action, be it waves, swells, tides, or just ocean water moving, happen a lot more than 30% of the time –probably approaching 100% of the time.

We read an article originally published in the Smithsonian Magazine, July 2009 "Catching a Wave" by Elizabeth Rusch and featuring a professor at Oregon State University named Annette von Jouanne. We reprint part of the article word for word with permission.

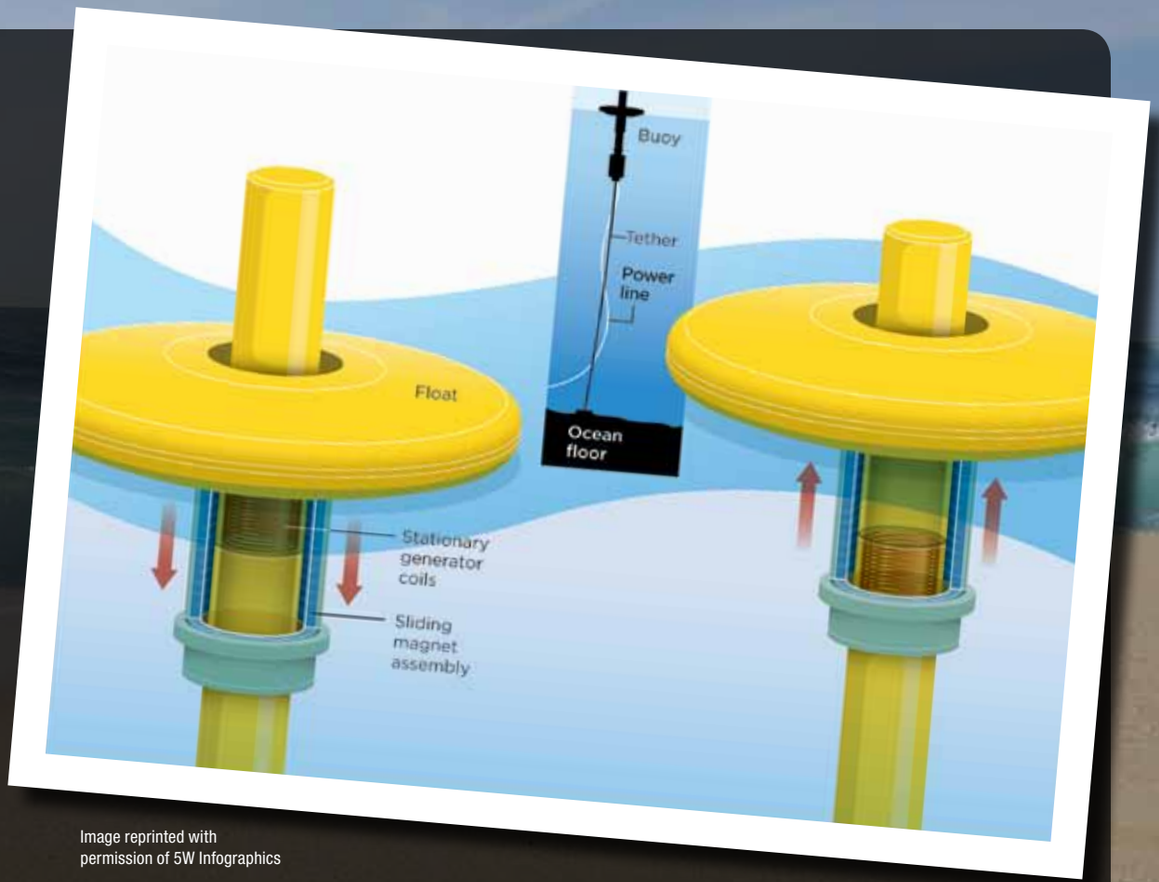
"As the sun set, it hit me: I could ride waves all day and all night, all year long," says von Jouanne. "Wave power is always there. It never stops. I began thinking that there's got to be a way to harness all the energy of an ocean swell, in a practical and efficient way, in a responsible way."

Today, von Jouanne is one of the driving forces in the fast-growing field of wave energy – as well as its leading proponent. She will explain to anyone who will listen that unlike wind and solar power, wave energy is always available. Even when the ocean seems calm, swells are moving water up and down sufficiently to generate electricity. And an apparatus to generate kilowatts of power from a wave can be much smaller than what's needed to harness kilowatts from wind or sunshine because water is dense and the energy it imparts is concentrated.

All the energy is also, of course, destructive, and for decades the challenge has been to build a device that can withstand monster waves and gale-force winds, not to mention corrosive saltwater, seaweed, floating debris and curious marine mammals. And the device must also be efficient and require little maintenance.

Still, the allure is irresistible. A machine that could harness an inexhaustible, non-polluting source of energy and be deployed economically in sufficient numbers to generate significant amounts of electricity – that would be a feat for the ages.

At Oregon State University, she related her wave-tossed epiphany



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to Alan Wallace, a professor of electrical engineering who shared her fascination with the ocean's power. "We started saying, there's got to be a way to harness this energy," she recalls. They studied the wave-energy converters then being produced and looked up centuries-old patents for contraptions to extract power from waves. Some resembled windmills, animal cages or ship propellers. A modern one looked like a huge whale. The gadgets all had one problem in common: they were too complicated.

Her breakthrough was to conceive of a device that has just two main components. In the most recent prototypes, a thick coil of copper wire is inside the first component, which is anchored to the seafloor. The second component is a magnet attached to a float that moves up and down freely with the waves. As the magnet is heaved by the waves, its magnetic field moves along the stationary coil of copper wire. This motion induces a current in the wire – electricity. It's that simple.

Alex Chisholm