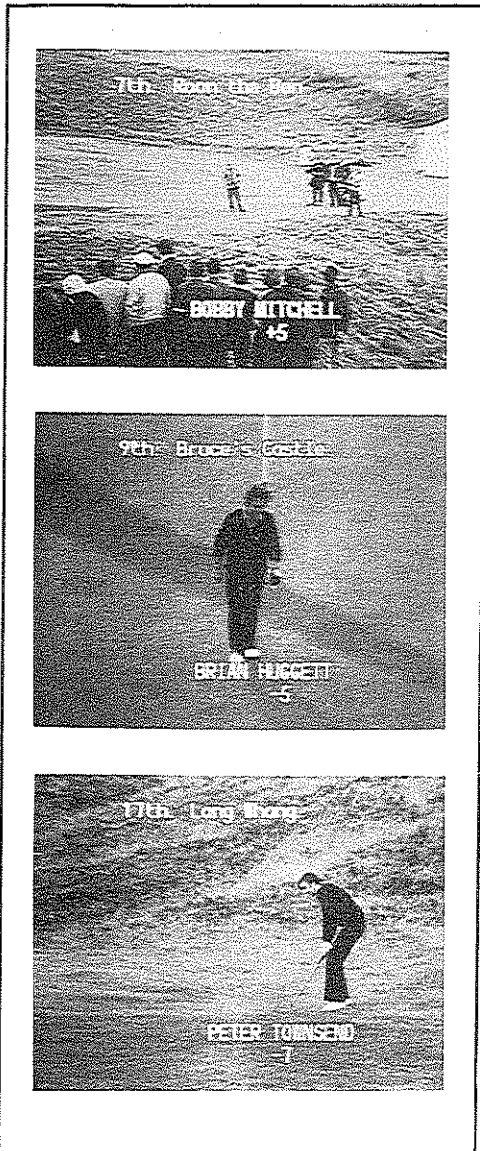## BBC Developments in
Electronic Character Generation

ANCHOR CHARACTER GENERATOR with lower-case letter-
ing facility in use at the Player's 'Classic' Golf
Tournament at Turnbury. The name of the hole, the
name of the player and the score were all selected
from a magnetic data store.

The 'ANCHOR' Electronic Character Generator (EP1M/521), described on Sheet No. 10059 of this series, has been enhanced by the addition of two new facilities - lower-case character generation and magnetic caption-storage.

A full set of lower-case characters is now available, in addition to the facilities formerly provided by the ANCHOR equipment. The addition of the lower-case facility has involved a change in the format of the display from 14 rows of 25 characters to 12 rows of 32 characters. This has been necessary to accommodate the descenders of such characters as 'y' and 'g' whilst preserving the appearance of the character set. A consequence has been that the display capacity has been increased by 34 characters.

The magnetic caption-storage device comprises a disk of magnetic oxide material which is stretched and supported on a conventional disk-reproducer turntable assembly. Over the disk is supported the record and replay head-assembly. The information is recorded on any of sixteen circular tracks, each of which is divided into 16 segments capable of storing a full one-line caption with positioning information. Alternatively, each track can accommodate two full-screen (12-line) displays, since for these proportionately less positioning information is required. The total capacity of the device is 250 one-line captions or 32 full-screen displays.

Using the magnetic store, all the captions required during a programme can be typed in advance, checked and modified on the ANCHOR display and

then stored until required; any caption can be extracted in less than one second by first keying the track and segment numbers on a small keyboard and then using a 'Read' key on the main ANCHOR keyboard.

A caption extracted from the store can be moved on the screen or modified by using the ANCHOR keyboard controls in the normal manner.