

GOLFChicago

Chicago's Premier Multimedia Golf Source & Authority

August 2019, Vol. 23 No. 5

**PORTER
MOSEY
ON GOLF,
HOOPS,
AND LIFE**

LANGFORD REDISCOVERED

THE OTHER SIDE OF GOLF

GOLFChicagoMagazine.com

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Features

- 12 The GOLFChicago Interview**
Loyola's Porter Moser on Golf, Hoops and Life
- 16 Langford, the Great Forgotten Architect**
Neal Kotlarek Explores the Work of Chicago's Unknown Designer
- 18 The Other Side of Golf**
Wherein We Find the Game in Unusual Forms and Places



Cover and above: Porter Moser. Photo: Tom Yaam Photography and Loyola University

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Departments

- 5 Opening Shot**
- 6 The Good Stuff**
Todd Mrowice Prowls the Aisles
- 8 Instruction**
Connie DeMattia's Setup for Success
- 10 Sweet Home Chicago**
- 21 On The Shelf**
A Singular Woman in Golf
- 25 GOLFChicago Map And Directory**
Where to Play and How to Get There
- 23 On The Corkscrews**
Stephen Hawk Explains Vino's Terminology
- 30 Final Putt**
Tim Cronin on Nicole Jeray Fighting the Good Fight

OPENING SHOT

DAVE
AND
TIM

August brings the dog days, and not just because of Sirius' position in the night sky.

The heat can be unbearable – it was for a time in July – and the cool of autumn and fall golf seems a million days off. (It isn't.)

To keep cool, we go old-school a bit this month, with Neal Kotlarek's look at one of the greats of American golf course architecture, William Boice Langford. We lost him in 1977, but he finally gets his due with induc-



"I made a list of all the mistakes in your golf swing. I hope you have some extra time, because this may take awhile."

tion to the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame in October. Langford's courses in Illinois include Butterfield and Ridgemoor country clubs, along with Kankakee Elks, the latter of which you can play without knowing a member. His best known course – built with long-time associate Theodore J. Moreau – is Lawsonia's Links course in Green Lake, Wis., which is golf as pure as can be

made by the hand of man. That's where Neal first became acquainted with the genius from Chicago's Austin neighborhood, and where his look at Langford begins.

For flavor, we bring back the words of the man himself, in a rarely-seen essay from *The Chicago Evening Post* of 1915, when Langford was just starting out. It's as timely today as it was then.

For something a bit lighter, we sent Neal to play miniature golf. He discovered parallels between the putt-putt game and Topgolf, putting it all under the umbrella of Entertainment Golf.

We're also up to date with our cover story, an interview with golf nut Porter Moser, who guided Loyola to the men's Final Four last year. Moser is not only a fine coach, but a fine storyteller.

There's also instruction from Connie DeMattia, Todd Mrowice's monthly look at the Good Stuff, a preview of the return of big-time golf to Medinah Country Club in the form of the BMW Championship within Sweet Home Chicago, and a few thoughts on this year's Phil Kossin Illinois Women's Open in Final Putt.

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THE GOOD STUFF

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Scotty Beams Us to Teryllium

It's been 22 years since the original Scotty Cameron Teryllium-inserted Tel3 hit the market and changed the putter game. Starting Aug. 16 you can get your hands on a modernized version called the T22. Available in Newport, Newport 2, and Fastback 1.5 models, these flat sticks have all of the qualities you'd expect from a Scotty. \$599



Step Forward in Style

Long gone are the days of leather saddle shoes. The golf shoe game is advancing and are now an integral part of your performance and style. The new Under Armour Fade RST 2 kicks are the perfect blend of style and comfort. The Molded US Rotational Resistance combines spiked and spikeless for superior traction on all surfaces. \$109.99



Find Yourself with this Garmin

Garmin leads the golf technology field in just about every category, and the new Approach G80 handheld shows exactly why. Garmin has combined a touchscreen GPS (pre-loaded with 41,000 courses) with a data-crunching launch monitor to make the ultimate device. Easily take this device from the range to the course. \$499.99



Ping Glides into New Wedges

Ping has completely revamped its wedge line with the new Glide 3.0 designs. They are higher spinning and more forgiving, and have a softer feel, which means they're an upgrade over their predecessor. Multiple sole grinds available including a throwback Eye2 inspired design. \$160



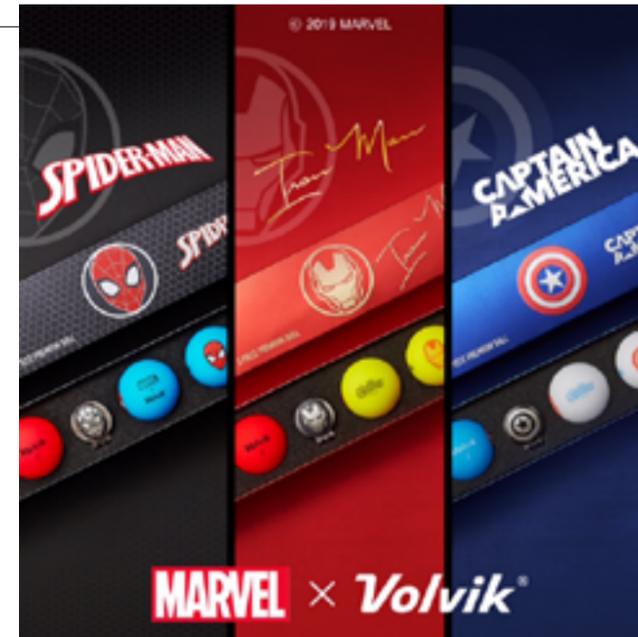
Tour Edge Goes a Set Further

The Iron-Wood is just one of the many achievements from Batavia's Tour Edge Golf over the years, and the new HL4 line gives the Iron-Wood an extra shot of overall playability. A thinner forged face pairs with a heavier sole, positioning the weight below the ball for optimum launch. Available as a set (from 18-degree 2 to 59-degree lob wedge) or individual clubs. \$80 steel, \$90 graphite (per club).



Titleist Sees the Lighter Side

Titleist adds to the uber-popular TS line of drivers with a very non-Titleist kind of club. The TS1 driver is one thing more than others. Light, light, light. At only 275 grams, this driver is designed for moderate swing speeds to enjoy the Titleist experience that faster swing speeds have been hogging. \$499.99



Marvel at These Volvik Balls

Just because the Avengers were in the Endgame that doesn't mean they can't assemble again on a course near you. Volvik takes its matte-finish, three-piece Vivid golf balls and gives them a super spin with Spider-Man, Captain America, and Iron Man designs. Each pack includes four balls and a hat-clip ball marker. Hurry, they'll be gone in a snap! \$24.99





Setup for Success

Your address position involves your posture, weight distribution, the width of stance, aiming and ball position.

Posture is critical in making a good golf swing. The most important thing here is to create a spine angle, a tilt to the spine that you are able to maintain throughout the swing. To do that you must be in balance, bent properly from the hips and with some flex in your knees.

A good guideline for weight distribution is if someone were to push you gently, either forward or backward, you would be able to maintain your balance. Your hands will hang almost straight down, allowing you to sole the club to the ground. Your weight should be distributed between the balls and heels of your feet and equally distributed between both feet. You should be able to tap your heels and wiggle your toes. At this point you have counter-balanced your weight. You should be able to draw a vertical line from the back of your shoulders through your knees to the balls of your feet. Now you are in balance.

The width of your stance has a lot to do with the length and shape of your swing. A good rule of thumb is that your stance with a mid-iron (6-iron), measured at the inside of your heels, should be the width of your shoulders. Of course, there are variations. The wider your stance, the wider or lower or flatter your swing is going to be. A wider stance inhibits the hip turn. A narrower stance encourages more turning of the hips and a longer, more vertical swing.

Your stance will narrow as the club gets shorter. The width of your feet will never be as wide as it should be with a driver. You do not need as much speed for the finesse shots, so you do not need as much support from the base.

How to Stand Properly to the Ball

The hardest thing about teaching amateur golfers about aiming the body and clubface is that they let their ball flight dictate alignment; however, when practicing to hit the ball straighter (which in most cases is what we all would like to

do) it is ideal to practice alignment to a target, and alignment dictates your ball flight. This being stated, it is best to set the club face "square" or aiming down your starting line. Now set your body perpendicular to the club face or parallel to the line on which you want the ball to start. The shoulder and forearm alignment is more important than the feet. Why? Because the hands and arms are holding and directing the path of the club while the arms are attached to the body in the shoulders.

How to Position the Ball

The position of the ball in relation to your stance is one of the most important and most overlooked fundamentals in golf.

Your ball position determines to a great extent the direction in which you swing. If you play the ball too far forward, your shoulders will aim to the left at address, and tend to swing to the left of your target line. If too far back in your stance, your shoulders will aim right at address, and tend to swing to the right of your target line.

Where is the ball positioned? This is very important, because it is not about the position between your feet, but rather the position to the left shoulder! You can use your feet as a reference, but only if you are certain to have taken a balanced and proper setup with your body. A driver should be positioned even with your left shoulder joint, which should be opposite your left heel, and steadily moved back with each club until you get to the middle of your stance with a wedge.

As clubs get shorter and more lofted, it is the added loft that dictates the ball moving back from the left shoulder joint. Lofted clubs will "square up" sooner than less lofted clubs in a centrifugal motion. A good golf swing is a centrifugal motion around your spine.

Connie DeMattia is the director of instruction at Cantigny Golf in Wheaton, and can be reached at (312) 925-7968 and cdemattia@cantigny.org.



Aiming Body and Clubface



Weight Distribution



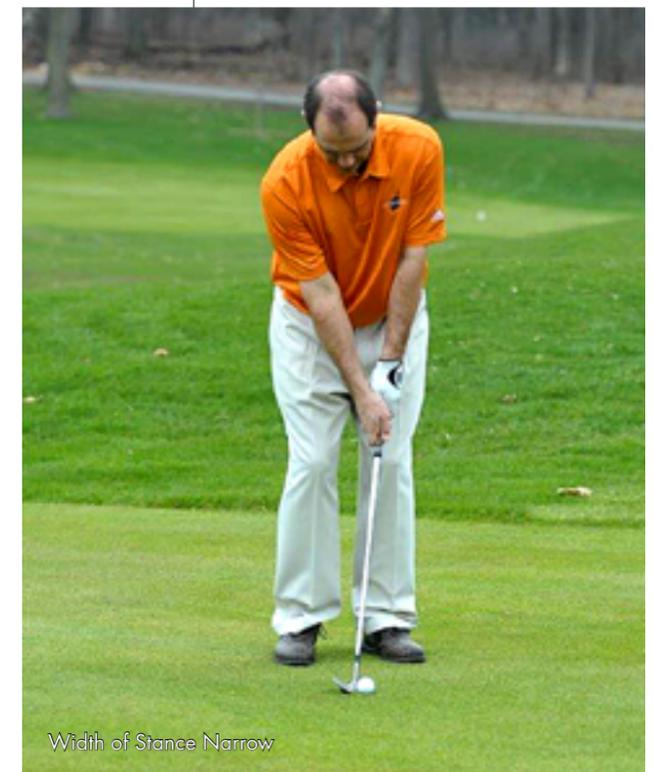
How to Position the Ball



Width of Stance Iron (Full Swing)



Impact



Width of Stance Narrow

Sweet Home Chicago

Huzzah, Todd Sones!

A well-deserved honor landed on the doorstep of veteran golf instructor Todd Sones last month. The proprietor of Impact Golf at White Deer Run in Gurnee, whose recent instructional book, *The Scoring Zone*, was featured in these pages in recent issues, was named the winner of the PGA of America's Horton Smith Award for educational service to his fellow professionals.



Sones, a member of the PGA for 34 years, was described in the announcement as "a passionate advocate for continuing education," noting that he "devotes considerable time to mentoring his fellow PGA professionals, including an interactive teaching series in the Illinois Section for younger members."

Sones' Impact Golf School opened in 1997, and he's devoted virtually all his time to it since. The hard work has paid off, with the school recognized as one of the top golf teaching facilities in the U.S. on numerous occasions.

He's been a fixture in the area for so long his impact – to choose a word at random – sometimes goes unnoticed. But Sones' pupils have had success locally and nationally, as has he. The PGA Master Professional is a two-time Illinois Section Teacher of the Year, a three-time Section winner of the Horton Smith, and has been on *Golf* magazine's list of America's top 100 teachers since 1996. That's a record of longevity that few have matched.

In recent years, Sones has served on the National PGA Coaching and Teaching Committee – working on the new teaching methodology the PGA hopes will help revitalize the game – and the Illinois PGA Education Committee.

The BMW Motors In

The last time big-time golf was played at Medinah Country Club, the sun was setting on a warm September Sunday

and the European Ryder Cup team was celebrating like Dan Gurney at Le Mans, spraying Champagne upon any and all within range.

It was a scene of unbridled joy minutes after the greatest comeback – or collapse, take your pick – in Ryder Cup history. The Euros came back from a four-point deficit in the final three hours of singles play on Course No. 3 to pull the putting green out from under an American team that looked like sure winners at lunch.

That was almost seven years ago now, and if some of the names have changed from then to the upcoming BMW Championship, others have not. Phil Mickelson and Keegan Bradley – the latter the winner last year at Aronimink – will be there, as will Tiger Woods if his achin' back allows, along with Bubba Watson and Matt Kuchar, along with the stars who have emerged since, including Brooks Koepka, Jordan Spieth, and Gary Woodland. Oh, and Rory McIlroy as well, last seen at Medinah racing to the clubhouse via squad car to avoid missing his tee time after, shall we say, sleeping late. (Wide awake on the tee, he beat Bradley 2 and 1.)

Woods won the last two stroke-play tournaments on Medinah's beefy No. 3 course, the 1999 and 2006 PGA Championships. The first time around, he held off 19-year-old Sergio Garcia, who should be around this time as well, for his second pro major and the first of an incomprehensible seven in 11 starts. The second time, Woods ran away and hid, beating Shaun Micheel by five strokes and Garcia, Luke Donald and Adam Scott by six to make it three PGAs and a dozen pro majors.

The BMW – a sponsor for next year's shindig at Olympia Fields has not been announced – was called the Western Open until the playoffs came along, and the switch was slow to catch on with Chicagoans, but the last several years, here or elsewhere, the box office has been boffo and the action has been worth the price, delivering healthy revenues to the caddies-to-college Evans Scholars Foundation. Last year, Bradley held off Justin Rose in a sudden-death

playoff. Two years ago at Conway Farms, Marc Leishman beat Rose and Rickie Fowler. Jason Day and Zach Johnson also won at Conway, and Jim Furyk went 'round that links in 59 strokes in the second round in 2013. The 70-player field – the top of the PGA Tour in the tournament before the whole shooting match is decided – is deservedly a draw.

Furyk could be in the field at Medinah, but neither he nor any of his cohorts will fire a 59. Right? Right? Drop by from August 15 to 18 to find out.

Those coming from a long way out might consider the closest lodging to Medinah, the Eaglewood Resort and Spa – known way back as Nordic Hills and found online at eaglewoodresort.com – a high-end hotel that just happens to be next door to the fifth hole on No. 3 and boasts 18 holes itself. And at a hair over 6,000 yards, what the resort calls the "Little Green Menace" will nip at you but not bite.

Senior Time at Royal Fox

The Illinois Senior Open sneaks under the radar most of the time, but this year's playing at Royal Fox Country Club in St. Charles on Sept. 16-17 may change that. It's the first time the 50-plus set has teed it up at Royal Fox, a seven-time site of the Illinois Open. What's more, the clubhouse and course has undergone a refurbishing under new ownership.

Designed by Dick Nugent and opened in 1990, the second group of owners went bankrupt shortly after the 2016 Illinois Open. In came a group headed by food merchandiser Eddie Greco with a winning bid, followed by renovations to the clubhouse – especially downstairs, where the indoor pool has been replaced by casual dining.

"We saw different ways we could improve each area," general manager Brian Tulk said. "Our 30,000 square foot clubhouse is the epicenter of Royal Fox."

The course, which winds through woods and between luxury homes, hasn't been changed as much, though the bunkers have been rebuilt, and some overgrown areas have been cleared.

Gary March, whose opening 63 last year spread-eagled the field at McHenry Country Club, is the defending champion, but watch out for the usual suspects, including a pair in last year's top six, Roy Biancalana, who lives nearby, and Connie DeMattia, this issue's featured instructor, to make a run.

Locally-grown Custom Fit Clubs

Custom fitting is all the rage these days, and almost a must for those trying to get the most out of their game, so it's good to see Tour Edge, the St. Charles-based club manufacturer, getting in it. Company founder and

chief designer David Glod has come up with a trio of irons designed for custom-fitting.

All are under the HL4 name, with a set of pure irons, an iron-wood set, and the Triple Combo. "HL" stands for Hot Launch, and the "4" indicates the fourth generation of the series overseen by Glod. All three seven-piece series start with the 4-iron and carry through four wedges, three of which can be added on in both left- and right-handed models.

"The HL4 irons are traditional in looks only," Glod explained. "Their advanced game-improvement tech and design techniques make them beautiful performers at a price well below the majority of irons available."

Beat the Bugs

The buzz factor in golf isn't always good. Take this spring and early summer, for instance. If it has wings, it's out and about and aiming for us.

That means a serious bug spray is necessary to make outdoor living possible. Proven 14-Hour Insect Repellent Lotion fits that niche. There's no odor, it's non-toxic (no DEET) and safe for kids, and works like a charm. The secret is the extracts from black pepper plants, enhanced with aloe vera. They combine to chase everything from skeeters to the pesky no-see-ums away. Find it at most local retail outlets, or via Amazon.

—Tim Cronin and Neal Kotlarek



The GOLFCChicago Interview

Porter Moser and his Loyola Ramblers

– and Sister Jean – became the toast of

Chicago in March of 2018, when they made an

improbable march to the NCAA Final Four.

Moser was hardly an overnight success, in

basketball or golf. In this interview, he speaks

about both sports, and more.

GC: Tell us about your golf game.

PM: Well there's not much to say. I wish I was better. I love it. I just don't get a chance to get out as much but I absolutely love it. I played a lot when I was younger and two things happened to my golf game. The biggest one is I had four kids, and once they traveled for basketball, baseball, they were all different. I almost feel guilty carving out six hours on a Saturday.

The only thing that happened at my golf game is when I went to work for Rick Majerus. Coach Majerus, he (was) not a golfer, he's a grinder with no kids so we spend a lot of time talking balls, but I'm going to pick it back up. I'm going to pick it back up eventually but it's just to be outdoors, competitive against the course, I love it, I just wish I was better and spent more time practicing.

Porter Moser Rambling Thoughts on Golf and Basketball

by Dave Lockhart and
Dave Weretka

Photos: Tom Yaam Photography
and Loyola University



GC: When you were a kid were you around the game at all? At what age did you started playing?

PM: You know, we lived right off Cress Creek Country Club in Naperville and so we belonged there. We used to go over and golf with my dad and my high school buddies. I would golf pretty regularly through high school and then when I went to Creighton and played college basketball, I didn't really golf in college and then I picked it up a little bit when I started coaching and then when I started having kids my

game just went away.

GC: We measure ourselves with the golfers by handicap, so once they ask you, what would your handicap be roughly?

PM: Let me just say I shoot for the mid 90s. That's what I'm shooting for. If I shoot for 95 to 100 that's the area I always seem to get 2-3 penalties. That's what gets me; then I always have that one shot that cost me every hole.

GC: Do you have a favorite place you like to play in Chicago or another golf destination?

PM: I do have a great golf story since you bring that up. I was the head coach of Arkansas-Little Rock at age 32, and meet (Augusta National members) Warren Stephens and Joe Ford. Joe Ford was the CEO of Alltel; he's the one that actually put the green jacket on Tiger. Joe Ford called me up. "Do you want to go to Augusta and go golfing for two days?" And I'm like, sure, I really didn't deserve that I guess. Ford says "I'm going to pick you up, meet me in my private plane in the hangar there in Little Rock. We're

going to go with my buddy Pat and his son.” So I get on the plane and I walk into the private plane and it’s Pat Summerall, so we flew with Pat and his son Luke.

We went to Augusta and I stayed in the Butler Cabin, which is nuts. I mean you have the TV, the chimney, the fireplace. If you panned the camera to the right there’s one bedroom. That’s where I stayed for two days. It was the most incredible experience. I love talking about this, but I got up in the morning at like 5 and just walked the grounds and I really felt like I was in heaven. It was probably the closest thing to it. And just by myself, there’s some grounds crew people. That was the Holy Land of golf. It was the first time I ever had a caddie and it was amazing because I’m all over the map and I didn’t lose as many balls cause the caddies are walking around, like “there it is.”

GC: What else is special about the game that draws you in a little bit? Are there any comparisons at all between basketball and golf?

PM: Well the one comparison in my mind is putting and free throws. You see a four- or five-foot putt and when there’s a little pressure on it is different because your mind starts playing games and there’s a saying that goes, talk to yourself, don’t listen to yourself. You know that’s the thing you talk to yourself – I’m going to make this, I got this –instead of listen to all the demons. You know, always I relate that to free throw shooting, and get to talk to yourself and stay positive, and stay in the moment. Same thing with these short putts and it’s different.

I always hear, it’s funny when you hear an older person that never played say, “I don’t know how you guys miss free throws.” I could go out there and just say well yeah – in the YMCA. There’s nobody in the gym. Pressure is an extra factor, but just like free throws and putting you’re going to practice. You see guys that are just spending time on the putts but I do kind of relate those short putts with the pressure to free throws. You’re supposed to make them but there’s a little bit other factors involved.

GC: You had some offers from a couple of big schools and you decided to stay here at Loyola. You want to build the program here. Tell us a little about your decision.

PM: Well I took this job eight years ago and I

was just so blessed to be in Chicago, the city that I love, where I’m from, and to see where it was and to see where we’re going and I feel along this journey ... I feel like I have had a purpose, whether it was with the people, the alumni, with the kids at my camp, whether it was my players. I just feel like I belonged and that was a factor obviously, getting to the NCAA tournament. Some of these leagues, it’s four or five bids to a league, so it becomes harder for Missouri Valley to get multiple bids. That’s a factor that we’ve got to really address. But as far as Chicago and Loyola – I love it. I love seeing people you know around where we go, whether its Wrigley Field or downtown or anywhere on our campus. I just feel like there’s a lot more things we can do at Loyola and it’s a big factor why I chose to stay.

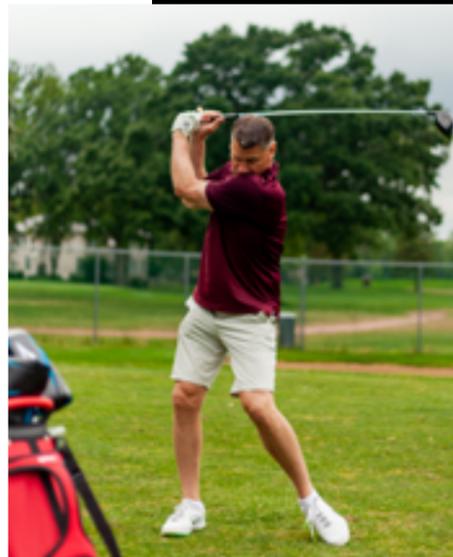
GC: Life basically changed after that Final Four run. Talk about some of the things that are different out there now.

PM: Without a doubt and it never gets old. Someone came up to me last night and it was like, “I know it’s old,” but they started telling me a story. “I’m from the class of ’84 and we all got together with our friends,” and I guess it never gets old. I get chills talking about it. How we connected the university, connected to the city. When I got the job everyone said, “Porter, you can’t do it at Loyola, it’s a pro town, it’s a pro town and I kept on saying it’s a sports town.” If you’re blue

collar, if you’re tough, if you do it the right way, they’re going to embrace you. Chicago embraced how we did it. We did it with great kids, the No. 1 graduation rate in the country with Harvard. So academically, we’re knocking it out of the park and I think they really related to the toughness of our team, I love that about Chicago, and I want to keep building that.

GC: You mention that you have four kids. Have they caught the golf bug?

PM: My youngest have, my older ones they still think they’re going to be – you ask one million 15-year-olds what are you going to do when you grow up and they want to be in the NBA. So he might, but I want to keep encouraging them. I wish they would, but my 12-year-old, Max, he



gets the bug. We’ve golfed a couple of times at Canal Shores. We run over there. He’s getting the bug and he’s going to take some lessons this summer.

GC: What else about the game draws you in that you really like about it? Do you have any plans to play more golf in the future; any destination travel trips?

PM: What draws me in? I play an indoor sport and I love the outdoors, so I love that part. I love the camaraderie of it. I love calling some buddies, walking around, driving around, talking, getting away, feeling the breeze and I love the competition of it, for me to try to get better at it. Me and coaching – I know I’ve got to practice but it doesn’t make a difference, I still get mad when I miss a shot. I’m like, I know

better. I got to practice if I expect to get that shot but that draws me in.

GC: Do you use it as a recruiting tool to maybe play with the kid’s parent or play with the kids and tell them listen, you need to come to Loyola and play basketball for me?

PM: No, but like (Clayton) Custer and (Ben) Richardson, those guys are like really good some. I’m holding off playing with them, but they played in the Loyola golf outing; they’re going to play again this year. And those guys are really good. Our freshman Paxson Wojcik, he’s a really good golfer. So it’s funny because there’s a handful of our guys play and but I’ve never

used it as a recruiting tool. I think we might not get the kid if they took me golfing.

GC: What’s the best thing about your game? Is there a strength in your game?

PM: Well, two, three weeks ago, I had a golf bag that I had Wilson Fat Shafts from twenty-five years ago. At times I’ve hit it far fine. Most times, I just don’t know where it’s going. So I’ve got to start with that, because my short game is definitely not my strength. My putting is not my strength. So if I had a strength every once in a while, I can hit it off the tee box a long way.

GC: Okay do you have any favorite players or favorite golf stories you can share with us?

Over the past decade or so, I have found myself forgetting things. Things like the location of my keys. Recollections like when and where I last used a certain credit card. And I have to cop to once even misremembering my – gulp! – wedding anniversary. Despite those ghastly memory lapses, I have never forgotten the first time I stepped onto the tee of a William Langford-designed golf course.

For the uninitiated, Langford thrived during golf's "golden era," when the likes of Donald Ross, Alister MacKenzie, Harry Colt, A.W. Tillinghast, and Stanley Thompson roamed the earth creating spectacular courses that would somehow maintain their integrity and challenge 80, 90, or 100 years later.

Imagine an America a little more than 100 years ago that had less than 750 courses. Over the ensuing 14 years from 1916 to 1930, nearly 6,000 new courses dotted the American landscape. In an era when Colt was designing Royal Portrush in Northern Ireland (1929) and Tillinghast was designing Winged Foot Golf Club and Baltusrol on the East Coast, Langford was plying his trade across the Midwest, first alone and quickly in partnership with Theodore Moreau, who was his longtime shaper.

William Langford, whose courses have style and provide a fair and sometimes stern test, is finally getting his due. He's one of six notables slated for induction into the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame in October. He'll be the fifth full-time professional golf architect so honored, joining Tom Bendelow, Robert Bruce Harris, Charles Maddox, and Dick Nugent. (Members Charles Blair Macdonald, who brought golf to Chicago, and the three Foulis brothers, contemporaries of Macdonald, also designed courses, but for Macdonald it was an avocation while the main job of all three Foulis brothers was golf professional.)

Langford's early works on private clubs in the greater Chicago area include original designs of Aurora (1914), Ridge (1917), Park Ridge (1919), Gary (1919, now known as Innsbrook), Bryn Mawr (1921), the 27 holes of Butterfield (1922), Ruth Lake (1922), Acacia (1923) and Westmoor (1926, now public and known as Schaumburg Golf Club), plus revisions of Riverside (1916), La Grange (1918), Westmoreland (1919, with a return visit in 1939), Idlewild (1920s), Glen Oak (1922), Ridgemoor (1927), and Skokie (1938).

The Great Depression all but stopped the golf business well before his Skokie assignment, but after World War II, he scored one more private club assignment: Village Green in Mundelein in 1955.

While many of Langford's projects were for private clubs, he was a great supporter of public golf and even operated a number of daily-fee courses in Illinois during his lifetime. He also served for many years on the USGA Public Links Committee.

His public course designs in the greater Chicago area include a trio of courses that still exist: what's now known as Winnetka Golf Course (1917), Marquette Park on Chicago's South Side (1925), and Hieland Lodge (1927), which after several ownership changes is known as Kankakee Elks. Of the several other courses that Langford designed, one he also owned is notable: Mid-City Golf Course at Western and Addison, just north of the Riverview Amusement Park, was an 18-hole course Langford and Moreau designed on the site of a filled-in brick quarry. It might have been the first landfill course. Their design headquarters was in the clubhouse, and from 1924 through its closure in 1951, after several revisions, it was where Langford ran his operation. (Today, the WGN television studio complex sits on some of Mid-City's acreage.)

Besides being a prolific designer, Langford was also a visionary. A member of the three-time NCAA champion Yale University golf teams from 1906 to 1908, Langford applied his master's degree in mining engineering to create stunning courses that took advantage of natural hills, ravines and valleys of a property. He

Langford, the Great Forgotten Architect

By Neal Kotlarek

PJKoenig Golf Photography

began writing about the art of golf course design in the 1910s and championed the construction of six-hole golf courses that could accommodate modest budgets and would also cater to the time constraints of busy working folks. (The one six-hole course he designed was for the Doering family on their private estate in 1931.)

Of the over 250 courses Langford built, his public course gem was the very property I encountered way back in the summer of 1973 that introduced me to his work. The Links Course of Lawsonia finished construction in 1930 and to this day has remained one of the top public golf courses in not just Wisconsin but in all the Midwest. Meticulously built using 1920s-era steam shovels, the course features wide-open, flowing fairways, cavernous sand bunkers and, of course, Langford's signature plateau greens.

While many of the works of Langford's contemporaries have diminished in challenge due to the onset of club technology, it is critical to note that the Links course at Lawsonia has not just stood the test of time over 89 years, it continues to challenge even today's top players.

In July, the course hosted the Wisconsin State Amateur and was praised by contestants for its quality and beauty. Long-time Wisconsin golf writer Gary D'Amato writes that he'd be "hard-pressed to pick a course in Wisconsin that is more interesting, challenging, and memorable, including the ones that have hosted major championships." A heady statement, indeed, considering that the state's impressive championship course line-up includes the likes of Whistling Straits, Blackwolf Run, Erin Hills, and Sand Valley.

The best way to truly appreciate the magnificence of the Links course is in the early morning or early evening, when shadows are cast across the fairways and bunkers. One cannot truly appreciate the steepness of the undulating fairways and bunkering during the mid-day sun. Of course, the imposing depth – some more than 10 feet – of the bunkers becomes blatantly obvious to players as soon as they are confronted by a greenside shot that requires nerves of steel and a wide-open sand wedge.

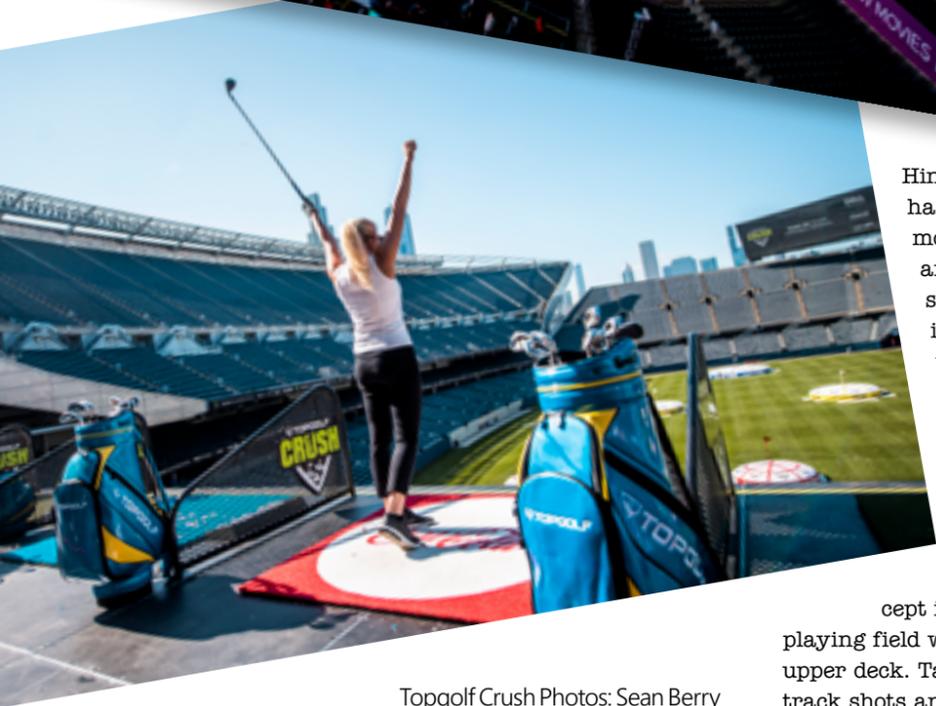
With broad fairways lined by wispy fescue and a virtually treeless landscape, the Links course prods players to bomb away off the tee. Approach shots are another matter altogether as anything left or right of the massive greens may stray into the aforementioned precarious bunkers. Even shots that reach the greens require refinement as all of the putting surfaces are quick and steeply undulating.

continued on page 17



THE OTHER SIDE OF GOLF

BY NEAL KOTLAREK



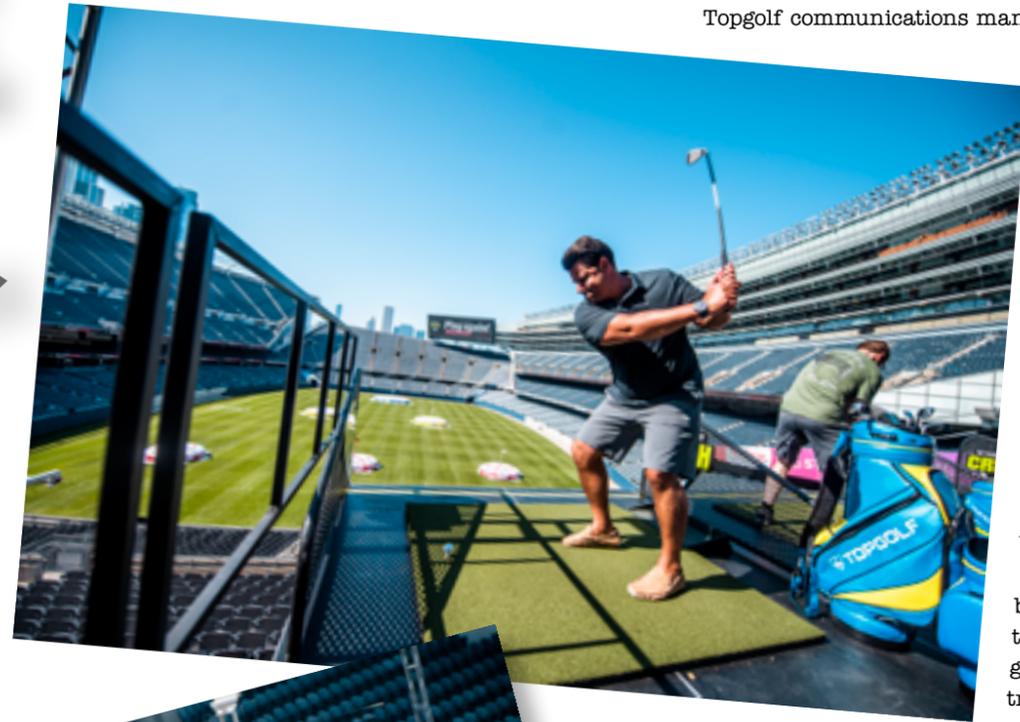
Topgolf Crush Photos: Sean Berry

Golf can be many things. It can be challenging. It can be exasperating. It can be intriguing. But entertaining? Perhaps only to my caddies when they bet against me.

This is only one man's opinion, of course. In reality, there are many bright minds making investments large and small on golf concepts that are more about fun and entertainment and less about slogging through 18 holes at your local muni.

With sites at Wood Dale and Naperville, Topgolf has been a major factor in introducing millennials and Gen-Zers into the game. Brett Hintz, Topgolf's director of operations, has pointed out the two facilities are more than mere driving ranges. "We are about fun and entertainment," Hintz said. "While the entire concept of Topgolf is based upon the game of golf, we've come to learn that many of our patrons visit because we've created a welcoming atmosphere around food and fun that also involves golf."

Hintz spoke in mid-July while co-hosting a Topgolf Crush event at Soldier Field. That concept involved placing target areas on the playing field while launching golf balls from the upper deck. Target areas contained sensors that track shots and award points for accuracy. Monitors located behind each hitting bay used Toptracer technology



to record each shot and tabulate scores. The event served to emphasize the Topgolf concept of combining golf with social gatherings, food and cold beverages.

Topgolf communications manager Morgan Schaaf said that the Topgolf Crush events are scheduled in baseball and football stadiums across the country to provide additional exposure to the Topgolf concept and offer unique settings to existing Topgolf participants seeking a different way to experience the game.

"Topgolf has an international fan base of nearly 100 million," Schaaf said. "With 50 venues across the U.S., we entertain more than 17 million guests annually. The brand is about excitement and fun. We love golfers. But we also love people who want to try golf. Or who want to hang out at a fun, safe, and interesting environment. We encourage families to come. We encourage groups of friends to visit. And we want couples to get to know each other better while hitting golf balls."

Topgolf was unveiled in 2000 by British twin brothers Steve and Dave Jolliffe, who sought to improve the driving range experience with golf balls containing microchip sensors that can track a player's shot pattern. In 2005, the concept reached the U.S. with the Wood Dale venue fitted with heated hitting bays to allow golf to be played even during cold weather. By 2015, the company had 28 locations, including its Naperville facility which was basically Topgolf 2.0. Its improvements included Toptracer technology (as seen on the PGA Tour when balls are tracked off the tees and fairways in blue or red streaks), a wider variety of dining and bar options, and party areas that include fire pits, lounge furniture, pool tables, video game consoles, shuffleboard, meeting space, and HDTVs.

All of the Topgolf venues offer events, tournaments, fund-raisers, kids/teen parties, and golf instruction.

"Topgolf is more than a golf experience," said Hintz, who will manage the company's newest location in Schaumburg in coming months. It's a place to meet friends and to make new friends. You can visit to hit golf balls and work on your game. Or you can visit to watch the Cubs game and enjoy a cold microbrew before hitting golf balls. Or you can just enjoy some outstanding food while watching people play golf. We are a sports bar. And a restaurant. And a driving range. Topgolf is all about entertainment."

There's that odd parallel again: entertainment as it relates to golf. Huh?

Perhaps the original attempt to pair this odd couple together occurred in 1928 when a Tennessee man named Garnet Carter patented a game called "Tom Thumb Golf." Carter built a miniature golf course at his Lookout Mountain hotel. The course had a fairyland theme and featured obstacles that needed to be avoided en route to the hole. It was an immense hit, reaching a peak in 1930, partly through Carter's Fairyland



Manufacturing Corporation, which by that year sold over 3,000 of his Tom Thumb miniature golf course franchises across the country.

While the craze faded, miniature golf never disappeared, and has a long and storied history across the Chicago metro area. A story from 1930 noted that many of these installations weren't putting-only courses, but pitch-and-putt layouts that would take up a vacant lot or two, and that 65 were expected to be built in the Chicago area, with Chick Evans the designer for one of the companies, by the end of the 1930s. The Hyde Park Golf and Racquet Co. boasted of a course in that Chicago neighborhood with holes as long as 50 yards.

The game eventually evolved into the putt-putt standard that survives today. Par-King Skill Golf, one of the area's more notable courses, originated in 1963 in Morton Grove at the 4G Fairways driving range (which fascinatingly stood for "George's Gorgeous Golfing Garden"). The course was soon referenced as "Minigolf's Taj Mahal" by a leading trade magazine due to the elaborate set-up, which included a hole under a model of the Prudential Building—then one of the tallest skyscrapers in the U.S. In 1977, Par-King was moved to a larger venue in Lincolnshire and today features two 18-hole courses, 19 moving obstacles, and seven water holes. Among the coolest features of the course are a miniaturized version of Mount Rushmore and an almost life-sized version of a futuristic rocket ship.

Closer to Chicago, Novelty Golf in Lincolnwood just celebrated its 70th anniversary by featuring discounted play and a live music concert. Owner Craig Klatco oversees two fun 18-hole courses along with hitting cages, a photo booth built in 1954, and the Bunny Hutch restaurant. Klatco has family entertainment in his bloodlines as his grandmother opened Hollywood Kiddieland in 1949, located at Lincoln and McCormick avenues. The family grew the business to include Hollywood Putting, a mini-golf course that stood adjacent to a small midway headlined by a small roller coaster.

While that business closed in the 1970s, the miniature golf course was transferred to the current Novelty Golf location near Lincoln and Devon Aves. The course features lions, a "Chicago" bear (prowling, of course, over a foot-

ball field), a knight in shining armor, Frankenstein's head and even a 10-foot tall Les Paul guitar obstacle. Hours at Novelty Golf, which is open until the end of October, are from 10 a.m. until midnight.

Miniature golf thrives in the suburbs. From Haunted Trails on Harlem Ave. in Burbank—mini go-karts are another attraction there—to Troy's Lost Mountain Golf adjacent to the Zigfield Troy par 3 and range in Woodridge, to Wilderness Falls in Bolingbrook, there are all manner of themed courses open day and night through the season, attracting families by day and often teens on a cheap date at night.

Sometimes, the golf is serious in miniature. The 2009 U.S. Open ProMiniGolf Championship—honest—was held at Ball Fore, a Chicago Ridge Park District course in Worth, where Kevin Lacey ignored the multicolored greens and won by seven strokes.

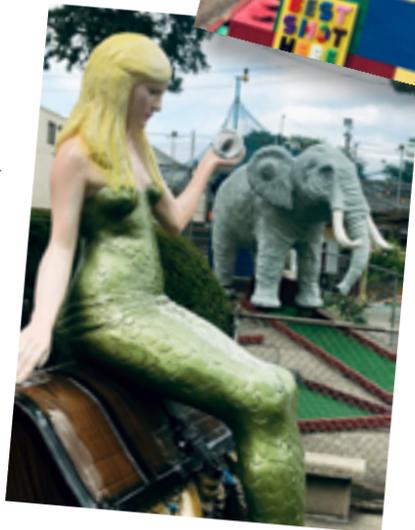
This October, golfers looking for a hybrid between Topgolf and miniature golf will be able to experience Five Iron Golf in Chicago's Near North Side. The company leased 11,000 square feet of retail space at the base of the 60-story Millennium Central at Dearborn and Ontario streets. The 5i facility will offer 12 high-tech simulator stations featuring sensors

that indicate spin rate and swing speed. Existing 5i locations in New York include ping-pong, shuffleboard, widescreen TVs, full bar service, food, instruction, and in-house club fitting.

"You're going to see simulators and other experiential concepts taking over urban markets in the next several years," Five Iron Golf CEO Jared Solomon told the *Chicago Tribune* in a June interview. "The younger generation gets bored just going to a bar."

The owners of Topgolf echo Solomon's sentiments exactly as the company has announced plans to open Topgolf Swing Suites at the Chicago Athletic Association hotel later this summer and at 900 North Michigan Shops at the end of this year.

Featuring simulator bays, the concept allows not just golf to be played, but also hockey, baseball pitching and something called zombie dodgeball. While maybe not your grandfather's idea of a golf venue, the concept sounds, if anything, quite entertaining. ●



ON THE SHELF

TIM CRONIN

A Singular Woman in Golf

Long before the fight for equal pay between the sexes, back in the era when old men with old minds were still arguing that women should stay in the kitchen and out of the voting booth, along came Marion Hollins.

She was a household name among golfers back in the day, but today is largely unknown.

Given her resume, she should be well known. Born into privilege, Hollins took advantage of that and became what some called the leading American sportswoman of the first half of the 20th century. She was an accomplished horsewoman, apparently the first woman to drive in an auto race—

the Vanderbilt Cup, which rivaled the Indianapolis 500 for headlines in the early days of racing—and was a brilliant polo player.

All of that would be enough for toasts in her honor, but then comes her position in golf. A fine player, she won the U.S. Women's Amateur in 1921, beating Alexa Sterling eight years after losing in the final. Eight years later, she was the bright light behind the founding of the Cypress Point Club, just a wedge or two from Pebble Beach. A year later, she founded Pasatiempo, the public course not far away.

And that, plus encouraging words to Bobby Jones, convinced him to hire Alister MacKenzie, designer of Cypress Point and Pasatiempo, for his new private club, Augusta National.

But Hollins was with MacKenzie almost every step of the way. David Overbridge explains as much in *Champion in a Man's World*, his 1998 biography of Hollins, whose extended family he married into decades after her death. Overbridge takes us back to the construction and the indecision over how the 16th hole would be designed, noting that both Seth Raynor, whose design was largely discarded when he died before construction began, and MacKenzie, whose routing was being built, wanted a dog-leg par 4 leading to a green on a rocky peninsula.

"Marion had disagreed, however," Overbridge wrote. "She argued that it

should be a par 3, directly across the ocean. She wanted the hole to be a heroic opportunity. The men had told her that it was an impossible drive, but she thought otherwise. To prove her point, she teed up a ball and with a brassie sent it on its way across the water. Where her ball landed is today the center of the green."

Like that, one of golf's greatest holes was born. MacKenzie's legacy was enhanced.

Hollins' status as a standard-bearer first appeared when she was the force behind the formation of the Women's National Golf and Tennis Club on Long Island, which survives as the Glen Head Country Club. She had Devereaux Emmet design it, and wrote, "On every hole there are one or more alternate lines of play besides that of the direct line to the green. This permits the shorter or cannier player to attempt a softer line of direction, although usually it costs an extra stroke to do so."

One could write that about any well-designed course today.

Perhaps Hollins faded into obscurity because of an early death—at 52, several years after a concussion from an auto accident from which she never fully recovered. Pasatiempo, financed after she struck oil and made a fortune, was sold after she went through that fortune. She lived out her years at Pebble Beach, not a bad place to do so, through the generosity of Samuel F.B. Morse, who had hired her to sell real estate and develop Cypress Point originally. Her last hurrah was winning the 1942 Pebble Beach Women's Championship—her eighth triumph in a tournament she created.

Her end was bitter, but until then, Marion Hollins was ahead of her time.

Champion in a Man's World
By David E. Outerbridge
Sleeping Bear Press (1998)
\$24.95 originally
Available through Amazon, Abebooks,
eBay, HalfPrice Books



Langford on Hazards

Hazards Should Encourage Thoughtful Golf

By William Langford

Hazards should not be built solely with the idea of penalizing bad play, but with the object of encouraging thoughtful golf and of rewarding the player who possesses the ability to play a variety of strokes with each club. John L. Low has said that no hazard is unfair wherever placed, and while this is true, a hazard is obviously the wrong place to play one's shot, yet the proper placing of hazards will bring about very much more interesting golf than a haphazard arrangement of them is apt to do.

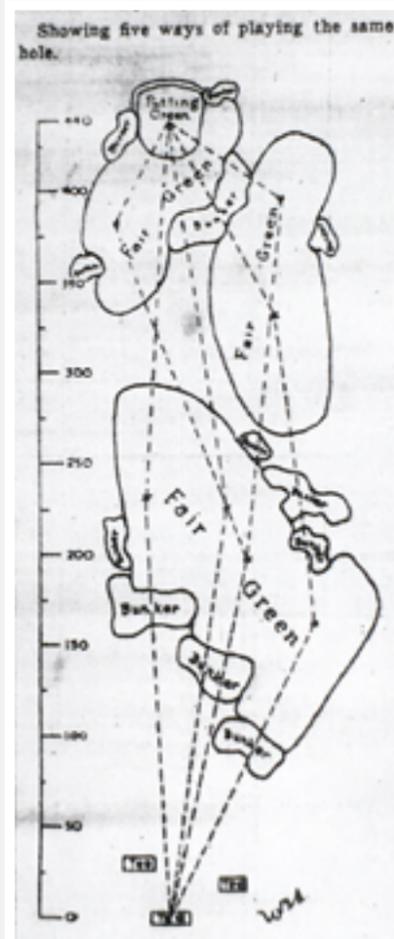
Topographical features may arbitrarily determine the location of hazards on a hole, and if the ground is at all rolling, will certainly influence the bunkering system to a large extent. As the number of topographical combinations are infinite, so is the possible arrangement of hazards on holes of any given length.

The only general statement that can be made is this: Hazards should be placed so that any player can avoid them if he gauges his ability correctly, so that they will make every man's game more interesting no matter what class player he is, and offer a reward commensurate with the player's ability.

The accompanying sketch is an attempt to show shot hazards arranged according to this principle. The dotted lines show the course taken by the ball.

Here, there are five ways of playing the same hole, at least one of which is well within the ability of every golfer. The echelon arrangement of bunkers for the tee shot allows three carries of widely varying length. The second shot bunkers are placed so as to offer a reward proportionate to the risk taken at the tee.

This essay is adapted from one that originally appeared in The Chicago Evening Post of February 25, 1915. The diagram of the hole is Langford's, with "fair green" the terminology for fairway at the time.



Langford

continued from page 17

Located in Green Lake (about 35 minutes from Fond du Lac), the Links of Lawsonia is ranked 58th on *Golf Digest's* 100 Greatest Public Golf Courses list and 64th among *Golfweek's* Top 100 Classic Courses in the U.S.

The Chicago area includes two of Langford's public course projects – the first nine of the 18 holes at Winnetka Golf Course (known as Skokie Play Field when it opened in 1917), and the design in 1960 of a short par-3 course on that same property. While neither course parallels the size and scope of the Links at Lawsonia, Langford's touch can be found around the subtly rolling greens on both courses.

Four years before they opened the Lawsonia course, Langford and Moreau designed Hieland Lodge, 18 holes financed by Sid McHie, the publisher of the Hammond Times on the banks of the Kankakee River near Aroma Park just east of Kankakee. With at least three owners, including the Kankakee Elks club in recent decades, and reopened for public play a few years ago, the property itself contrasts greatly from the Lawsonia project, as it was built through dense forests and incorporates only a handful of bunkers. That said, the course remains preserved virtually as originally built with the par-3 No. 5 the only change. Grass mounds at the edges of fairways, a throwback to the early days of American golf course architecture, are notable. While relatively short at 6,430 yards, the course is made more challenging by the sharp angles called for in approach shots to the plateau greens.

Ranked among the state's top 15 courses you can play by *Golfweek* in 2017, the course is highlighted by a series of short, fun par 4s and a delightful set of par 3s. Best yet, the course can be played for a bargain \$40 with cart on weekends and \$30 with cart on weekdays.

Given the vast number of courses built by Langford and Moreau, one can't help but wonder why the duo never achieved the acclaim of contemporaries like Colt and MacKenzie. Indeed, superstar contemporary designer Tom Doak considers Langford "underappreciated." Bradley Klein of *Golf Advisor* contends that the pair did not have the wealthy client base nor were provided prime property opportunities.

No matter, the legend of William Langford has only grown over the decades as more golfers become exposed to his vision and genius. In a word: unforgettable.



ON THE CORKSCREWS

STEPHEN HAWK

We're two-thirds through summer, and it's just too damn hot to be drinking much of anything other than ice-cold beer or some chilled vino, in a can no less. So this seems like an excellent opportunity to review some wine terms you may not be familiar with, but should prove helpful.

Acidity is one of wine's essential components, along with others such as tannins, alcohol, and fruit. But a wine should have just the right amount. Too high, and the wine will be tart, biting, and sharp. Too low, and it will be dull and flat, commonly characterized as flabby. In dry table wines, appropriate acid levels are between .6 and .75 percent. Sweet wines go a bit higher, with a range of .7 to .85 percent. As important as acidity is, its contribution should be subtle.

Aeration is the process by which air is deliberately introduced to wine, sometimes called letting a wine "breathe." While air in a sealed bottle is anathema to wine, many are convinced that aeration, especially for young, high-tannin red wines, softens them and opens their flavors. This is the main reason for decanting or swirling the wine in the glass. There are also a number of gadgets available to hasten the process. Some people even suggest whirling a bottle of wine in the blender!

Aging a wine allows it to mature, especially high-quality red wines. Once fermentation is complete, the wine is aged in barrels or casks (usually oak). This time spent in wood softens flavors and adds tannins. After some months, the wine is bottled and further aging can occur in the bottle. If a producer chooses to bottle age, it will increase a wine's cost, as the winery must maintain the inventory. Fortified wines such as port and sherry can be, and often are, bottle aged for years.

Appellation in the wine world is a designated growing area governed by rules and regulations that vary from country to country. The goal can be to define and maintain quality, to demarcate a unique growing area, or both.

Botrytis is a fungus that can be either friend or foe to a winemaker. In its benevolent form, it is known as noble rot.

Say What? (Part 1)

It causes grapes to shrivel, concentrating both sugar and flavor, while the acid level remains high and deters a cloying sweetness. Dessert wines particularly benefit from botrytis, most famously Sauternes. Too much moisture just before harvest, however, can cause botrytis, which is then called gray rot, to destroy an entire harvest.

Brix is the system used in the U. S. to measure the sugar content of grapes and wine. The grapes of most table wines have about 20 grams of sugar to 100 grams of juice. About 55 percent of the sugar is converted to alcohol during fermentation, so juice with 20° Brix will result in about 11 percent alcohol. Brix measurements are taken throughout the growing season.

A **Bung** is a plug, usually cork, used to seal the **Bung Hole** in a wine barrel. The winemaker periodically removes wine through this hole to check its progress in barrel.

The **Cap** is the mass of grape solids that float on the surface of red juice during fermentation. The cap needs to be frequently agitated to help extract color, flavor, and tannins. Traditionally a long paddle was used to submerge the cap several times a day, but pump overs are more common today.

Clarification is the process of removing particles of expired yeast and grape matter. The winemaker can simply let the particulates drop to the bottom of the storage container, or the wine can be fined or filtered. Neither process is used in some so-called "natural" wines.

Cooking Wine is an unnecessary abomination. It is made from wine you wouldn't drink on its own, and has been heavily salted. When cooking, use the wine you'll be drinking with dinner, or something equally compatible.

Corked Wine has been contaminated by 2,4,6-Trichloroanisole in the cork. Detectable at levels as low as 30 parts per trillion, TCA is harmless to humans but lends the tainted wine a moldy, wet cardboard odor and flavor. Cork taint is much less common than even ten years ago, thanks to alternative closures as well as strenuous efforts to eliminate it by growers in Portugal, where most of the world's natural cork comes from.



smhawk@winervana.com

Cuvée is a French term meaning "contents of a vat." In the Champagne region, it refers to a blended wine, as almost all Champagnes are. These traditional house styles are closely guarded secrets, passed down through generations of family-owned wineries. In other parts of France, cuvée can also apply to still wines, referring to wines blended from different vineyards or varieties.

Domaine, also French, means "estate" or "property." Historically the term has most often been used in Burgundy, but shows up in California as well, usually when the estate is owned by a French company.

Eiswein, German for "ice wine." It is a rich dessert wine made by picking grapes that are frozen on the vine and then pressed in unheated wineries before they thaw. The meager but concentrated juice is quite flavorful and high in sugar and acidity. These wines age extremely well. Canada is also suited for the production of ice wine, and now outpaces the Germans. Because of extremely low yields at harvest (and some years cannot be harvested at all), ice wines are often sold in 375 ml bottles and at rather high prices. Unfortunately, due to climate change it is predicted that the production of ice wine will become ever more difficult and isolated, further driving up costs.

PM: Well, obviously, like everybody, we got caught up in that when Phil and Tiger rivalry at their prime. That was just riveting to see Tiger and how good he was, but I have an unbelievable golf story about pro golf. I grew up in Naperville and a lifelong friend, Phil LaScala who's the head basketball coach at Lake Forest High School. He used to caddy and remember the Western Open? Back then you couldn't bring your own caddies, so they had like a lottery. We were seniors in high school, Phil drew like the fifth pick at the Western Open, and he selected Tom Kite. And so on day four he was in the running and Phil was trying to caddy all summer to earn money to pay for college. And here is Tom Kite in the thing, and we're all at a barbecue at his dad's house. We're watching on CBS. And Tom Kite hits the putt to win the Western Open and the first person he hugs is Phil, his caddie, who's our lifelong friend. Man, Tom Kite gave him everything in his bag, a big check to pay for, basically paid for his first year college and Tom Kite became our favorite golfer at that time because it was so fun to see. You just don't have any more where you have a lottery for caddies. And that was just a great story for a great guy and a great friend with Phil with Tom Kite.

GC: How do you get prepared mentally for big games?

PM: Well, we're talking about like the pressures of being in the NCAA tournament and opposed to a regular season game and the pressures of being in a major and it is so mental. For me in the NCAA tournament, we wanted the guys to enjoy it, embrace it. You know, there was a lot more media. There's a lot more pressure there and you know, and but we embraced it. We said we were going to laser like focus when we were going to prepare film, walk through practice. But I really think we stayed loose and embraced the moment instead of just really playing mental gymnastics on it. Because it is, it's overwhelming sometimes, the tension, the pressure, the amount of eyes that are on you. We went to our shootaround practice at the Final Four in San Antonio. There were 37,000 people at our practice.



Jim Nantz is interviewing me and I'm looking out at 37,000. You've got to embrace it. So I always kind of look at that with these majors, with these guys. Obviously, the majors are the ones you're really going to make your legacy on. Same thing with wins in the NCAA tournament. So you just mentally got to embrace it because like I said, talk to yourself, not listen to yourself, because the pressure becomes overwhelming, and if you don't embrace it and have fun with it and use it as a positive, it can consume you. There is a huge part of the focus. And we talked about that and because there are distractions everywhere and the

mentally tough really kind of have these blinders on when it gets to that.

I'll never forget doing the national anthem at the Final Four is really, when it hit me. Now there's 77,000 you just kind of got a breath, you're looking around, and you're seeing like celebrities right on the courtside and you're sitting there and then you've got to really turn it off. You've just got to. What's your task at hand? I think golf's got to be like that. I look at these guys with so many crowds behind them and with those shots and it's just it's a whole level of pressure golf that with whatever all those eyes on you.

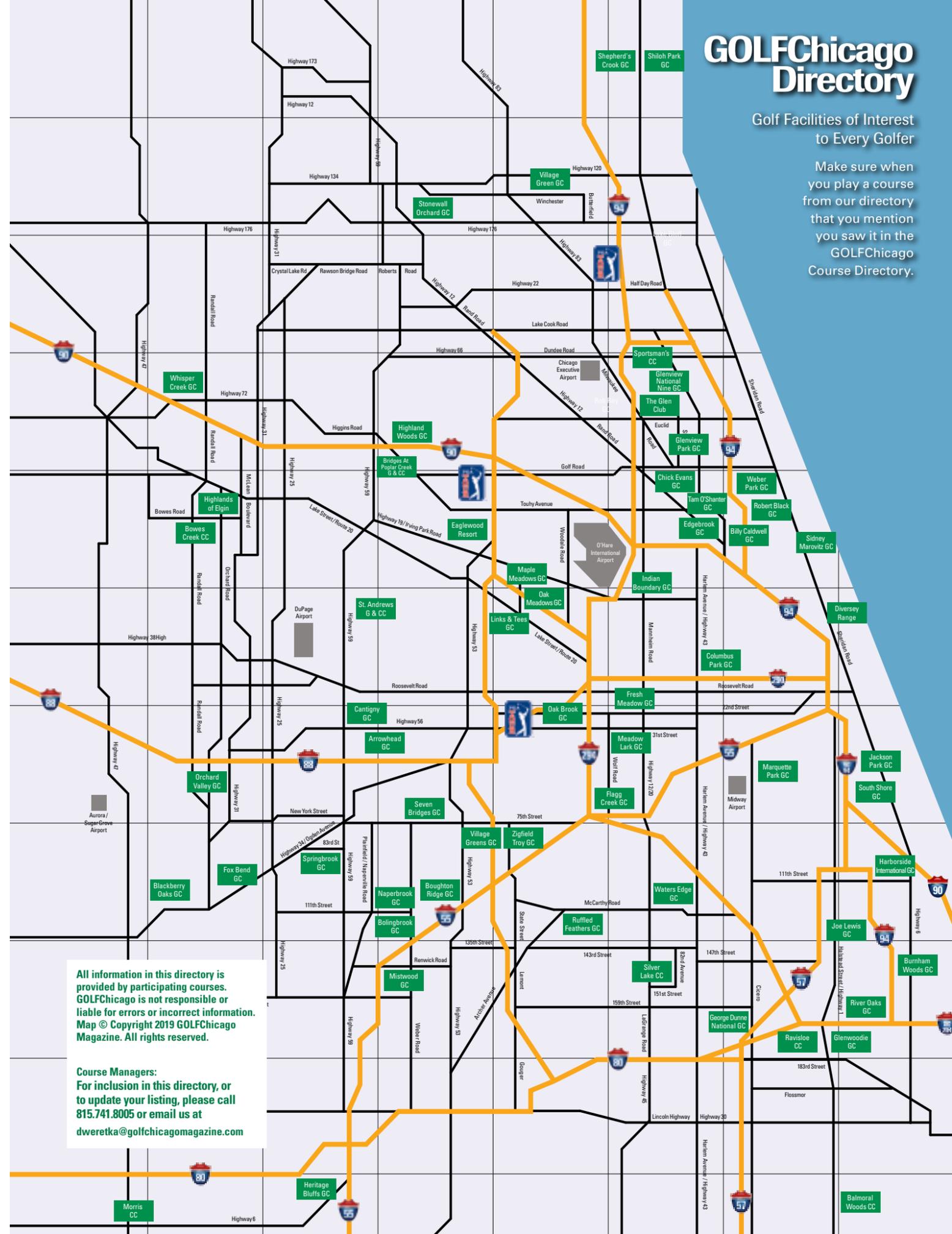
GC: We've got a basketball season coming up here in a couple of months. What are your thoughts for Loyola Ramblers this season?

PM: You just couldn't resist, could you? Well, you're going to expect the team that's going to play together, play hard, play fast. We're faster than we've ever been. We've got some new recruits that are extremely fast. We've been old at the guard spot with (Clayton) Custer and (Marques) Townes. We're going to be young at the guard spot. Cam Krutwig in the middle is back. But we only have one senior. I love the culture of the guys. I love going to practice. The one thing I can't guarantee you, I'm not going to put a number of wins on there, but I can guarantee you. We've been selling out that arena, we play our tails off, and it'll be fun to watch. I hope they continue to fill the arena for us.

GOLFChicago Directory

Golf Facilities of Interest to Every Golfer

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Arrowhead

630-653-5800
26W151 Butterfield Rd.
Wheaton, IL 60189
arrowheadgolfclub.org

Arrowhead Golf Club is recognized for its beautifully maintained course and inviting atmosphere. Arrowhead is a public course which offers impeccable golfing conditions at affordable rates on three separate par 72 18-hole layouts surrounded by forest preserve. The West, East, and South Courses feature new bunker renovations and enhancements. The practice area includes a lighted driving range, putting green, and chipping green. Group and individual golf lessons are available.



Balmoral Woods Golf Club

708-672-7448
26732 S. Balmoral Woods Dr.
Crete, IL 60417
www.balmoralwoods.com

A fun public golf course on IL-394 in Crete 40 minutes south of Chicago. The 18-hole course with a driving range is spread out over undulating terrain and features a number of holes with mature oak trees. Also the annual home to the Will County Amateur in the Spring. A "must play" course on the south side and a great venue for your next event or function. Book tee times online or check out other information about the property at www.balmoralwoods.com.



Blackberry Oaks Golf Course

630-553-7170
2245 Kennedy Rd.
Bristol, IL 60512
www.blackberryoaks.com

Located just forty minutes west of Chicago, Blackberry Oaks Golf Course was built to blend and enhance the natural assets of the property, such as Blackberry Creek, the wetlands, the prairie lands, and mature oak groves. Blackberry Oaks is a true "Link with Nature." Blackberry Oaks Golf Course features 18 holes of golf, a practice range, an exceptional junior golf academy, and a fantastic restaurant. Please visit www.blackberryoaks.com to learn more and to reserve a tee time. Home of the Blackberry Amateur, the premier Midwest amateur golf event. www.blackberryoaks.com



Bowes Creek Country Club

847-214-5880
1250 Bowes Creek Blvd.
Elgin, Illinois 60124
bowescreekcc.com

Ranked as *Golfweek's* Best Courses You Can Play, Bowes Creek Country Club gives you every option to play your ideal round of golf. Along with annual memberships, we offer a "member-for-a-day" pass, allowing you the privilege to play unlimited golf with cart as well as full use of the practice facility. If playing a quick round of nine or eighteen holes suits your game better, we offer that as well. Bowes Creek allows the public golfer to experience the private club, without an annual membership.



Maple Meadows Golf Club

630-616-8424
272 Addison Rd.
Wood Dale, IL 60191
DuPageGolf.com

Maple Meadow's Championship "West 18" features a modern prairie design, and is honored to be a qualifying site for the Illinois Open and the host course for the DuPage Junior Classic. Choose from four sets of tees and enjoy immaculate bent grass fairways and greens. Maple Meadows' convenient location features easy access from O'Hare, I-290, I-355, I-294, and Route 83. Find our best specials and promotions only on www.DuPageGolf.com.



The Preserve at Oak Meadows

630-595-0071
900 N. Wood Dale Rd.
Addison, IL 60101
DuPageGolf.com

After extensive renovations, the 288-acre The Preserve at Oak Meadows is a new world-class 18-hole course, practice facility, and environmental haven—designed by golf architect Greg Martin. *Golf Digest* Green Star Award Winner
Golf Inc. Renovation of the Year
Golf Digest Best Courses You Can Play
ASGCA Design Excellence Award
The Preserve's location features easy access from O'Hare, I-290, I-355, I-294, and Route 83. For news and tee times visit DuPageGolf.com



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• Highland Woods: 18 Holes
• Indian Boundary: 18 Holes
• Joe Louis: 18 Holes
• Meadowlark: 9 Holes
• River Oaks: 18 Holes



Fox Bend Golf Course

630-554-3939
3516 Route 34
Oswego, IL 60543
www.foxbendgolfcourse.com

Fox Bend is Oswego's own welcoming and challenging public course. This 18-hole, par-72 course boasts lush fairways, mature trees, and challenging greens. With 34 well-positioned bunkers and water coming into play on 11 holes, the course tests skills of all levels. USFGA FootGolf is also available on select days. Enjoy a drink or dinner on the deck overlooking the scenic course at Pearce's restaurant, or book the Pavilion for your next outing or special event. Take advantage of tee time specials and book online.



Cantigny Golf

630-668-8463
27w270 Mack Rd.
Wheaton, IL 60189
cantignygolf.com

Designed by Roger Packard, Cantigny is both challenging and breathtakingly scenic. Cantigny Golf's Red Oak Club loyalty program rewards customers with free golf and other benefits. The Young Executive Program offers reduced green fees for golfers 39 and under. Cantigny's 27 holes are ideal for outings ranging from 16 to 220 golfers. The course employs a full-time golf-event coordinator to ensure an exceptional experience for planners and guests. In 2019, for the fifth time, Cantigny will host the Illinois State Amateur Championship (July 16-18).



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Coyote Run Golf Course

708-957-8700
800 Kedzie Ave.
Flossmoor, IL 60422
www.coyoterungolf.com

Coyote Run, which opened in 2005, sits on the former site of Cherry Hills. It has been completely redesigned by Greg Martin. A hidden gem in the southern suburbs, Coyote Run's course conditions rival that of the best country clubs in the area. Only 20 minutes from Chicago, Coyote Run is conveniently accessed from I-80, I-294 and I-57. Great senior rates are available Monday through Friday. Visit www.coyoterungolf.com for the best rates available.



Green Meadows Golf Club

630-810-5330
18 W. 201 W. 63rd St.
Westmont, IL 60559
DuPageGolf.com

Green Meadows is a fun nine-hole gem that offers quality conditions in a traditional parkland setting. Featuring three par 4s and six par 3s, the Green Meadows layout is the perfect blend of challenge, enjoyment, and value for all skill levels! Senior discounts are available every day, and DuPage Golf Discount Card holders save on every round. Look for Green Meadows behind the Westmont water tower on 63rd St. Find our best specials and promotions only on www.DuPageGolf.com.



The Glen Club

847-724-7272
2901 W. Lake Ave.
Glenview, IL 60026
theglenclub.com

Chicago's finest semi-private golf experience. The Glen Club is a stunning Tom Fazio designed championship course located on the former site of the historic Glenview Naval Air Station. In the heart of a 195-acre refuge, The Glen Club features rolling terrain, dramatic elevation changes, tranquil lakes, and striking vistas. Enjoy the grand 48,000 square-foot clubhouse, superb dining, 21 overnight guest rooms, a grand ballroom, and the finest in corporate amenities and membership.



Glenview Park Golf Club

847-724-0250
Shermer Rd.
Glenview, IL 60025
golfglenview.com

Experience pure golfing enjoyment at the Glenview Park Golf Club. After a complete renovation in 2014-2015, the course has re-opened to rave reviews. Bent grass from tee to green, rolling fairways, and meticulous landscapes await you on this 18-hole, 6,133 yard par-70 course. The Glenview Park Golf Club offers the amenities of a private club, but is open to the public and close to home. *Golf Inc.* magazine voted the Glenview Park Golf Club the Best Renovation of the Year in 2016. Come out to see what everyone is talking about. Host of the USGA - 2017 U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball Qualifier.



Glenview Prairie Club

847-657-1637
2800 W. Lake Ave.
Glenview, IL 60026
golfglenview.com

Meticulous conditions like no other 9-hole course
• Affordable Rates.
• 4 sets of tees to meet all skill levels
• 90 minute pace of play for a quick 9
• Challenging, fun, and enjoyable for all.
After your round stop in for a cold beverage in our beautiful clubhouse setting overlooking the 9th green. Craft Beers, Fine Wines sport and soft drinks available. Make Glenview Prairie Club your home club for a premier 9-hole experience!



Glenwoodie Golf Club

708-758-1212
19301 S State St.
Glenwood, IL 60425
glenwoodiegolf.com/

Glenwoodie, just 25 minutes from Chicago, has been a favorite championship course for serious and recreational golfers in Chicago and Northwest Indiana for over 90 years. Consistently ranked in the top 35 public courses, the 18-hole, par-72, 6902-yard course features bent-grass fairways and large rolling greens surrounded by groves of majestic oaks.
• 14,000 sq. ft. Clubhouse and Community Center with Fully Stocked Golf Shop
• Full Service Bar and Grille, and Outdoor Patio
• Electric Cart Fleet
• Lighted Practice Range/PGA Professional Staff





Golf Center Des Plaines

847-803-GOLF
353 N River Rd.
Des Plaines, IL 60016
GolfCenterDesPlaines.com

9 Holes: Par 27
Yardage: 80 - 210
Chicagoland's only fully-lighted 9-hole course is open late year-round, and until midnight August-Fall. The 80-bay lighted and heated Driving Range is one of the Top 50 Ranges in the country: automatic ball tee-up, 300-yard outdoor landing area, plus 11 grass tees. The 1-1/2 acre Short Game Area features three sand bunkers and multiple putting greens; you can practice chip shots from up to 60 yards out. Unlimited Memberships are available for the Course and Short Game, and the Driving Range. Restaurant, Sports Bar, Pro Shop, and GolfTec Lessons.



Harborside International G.C.

312-782-7837
11001 S. Doty Ave. East
Chicago, IL 60628
harborsidegolf.com

Located just south of the loop in the City of Chicago, Harborside features two championship-style links courses designed by renowned architect Dick Nugent. Harborside is home to Chicago's largest practice facility, a prairie-style clubhouse, and The Pier at Harborside restaurant. Harborside's Port and Starboard courses rank annually among the Midwest's list of best courses you can play.



Heritage Bluffs Public Golf Club

815-467-7888
24355 W. Bluff Rd.
Channahon, IL 60410
heritagebluffs.com

18 Holes: Par 72
Yardage: 5,035- 7,171
Located near the intersection of Interstates 80 and 55 just south of Joliet, Heritage Bluffs is the pride of the Channahon Park District. The tranquil surroundings make a day playing golf fun and relaxing. Along with our award-winning course we also feature a large all-grass practice range along with a large putting green and a separate chipping green and bunker. After your round you can relax in our Grille Room or out on the patio, enjoying a full menu of delicious food and beverage choices.



The Highlands of Elgin

847-931-5950
875 Sports Way
Elgin, IL 60123
highlandsofelgin.com

The Highlands of Elgin has become a premier destination for thousands of golfers throughout the region. Nine new holes reclaim an old stone quarry, and take maximum advantage of the unique and dramatic landforms that were left behind, including a twelve-acre quarry lake. Four holes hug the top of the bluff thirty to forty feet above the water, providing golfers with incredible views and numerous shot options on each hole. The prairie-style clubhouse features an expanded golf shop, locker rooms, event rooms, and a full-scale food and beverage operation.



Ravisloe Country Club

708-798-5600
18231 Park Ave,
Homewood, IL 60430
ravisloe.com

Ravisloe Country Club has been one of the most acclaimed golf courses in Chicagoland since its inception. Bearing the signature of world-renowned course designer Donald Ross, it has played host to many great golfers and features rolling mounds, deep bunkers and challenging greens. Located just 25 minutes from Chicago, 10 miles from the Indiana state line and across the street from the Homewood Metra Station, Ravisloe is your one stop destination. Wine-Dine-Stay-Play with Ravisloe, La Voué Bistro and La Banque Hotel.



St. Andrews Golf & Country Club

630-231-3100
2241 Route 59
West Chicago, IL 60185
standrewsgc.com

36 Holes:
Course #1: par 71,
5116 - 6920 yards
Course #2: par 72,
5341 - 6818 yards
Since 1926, golfers have sought out St. Andrews for its two championship courses. With its vast rolling terrain and mature trees, St. Andrews offers a high-quality golf experience for players, golf outings, leagues, and permanent tee-times. Guests will also enjoy the award-winning 32-acre Practice Center with premium range balls and 10 heated, sheltered hitting bays. Other amenities: golf carts with GPS, J.J.'s Bar & Grill, exquisite lakeside ceremony site, and live entertainment.



Springbrook Golf Course

630-848-5060
2220 W. 83rd St.
Naperville, IL 60564
golfnaperville.org

Springbrook Golf Course commands some of the finest views of Naperville's open space and trails. The facility features a challenging, parkland-style championship course, a recently renovated practice facility with a one-acre turf practice tee, a large practice putting green, and two short-game practice greens with bunkers. Golfers of all skill levels return time and again to play. Enjoy post-game refreshments on the expansive patio with great views of the course. Springbrook also offers lessons, outings, a well-stocked golf shop, and more.



Stonewall Orchard

847-740-4890
25675 West Highway 60
Grayslake, IL 60030
stonewallorchard.com

Cutting through hundred-year old oak and pine trees, Stonewall Orchard Golf Club has quickly become one of Chicago's most prolific public golf courses. Since opening in 1999, the Arthur Hills-designed gem located in northwest suburban Grayslake has served as Final Stage Qualifying site for the U.S. Open, and currently sits in rotation with Olympia Fields and Medinah Country Club as host site for the Illinois PGA Section Championship held every Fall.



Mistwood Golf Club

815-254-3333
1700 W. Renwick Rd.
Romeoville, IL 60446
mistwoodgc.com

Mistwood Golf Club, with its recent multi-million dollar renovations and new state of the art golf-learning center, has become one of the premier golf experiences in the Chicagoland area. Mistwood, host of the Illinois Women's Open, features new Scottish-style stacked sod-wall bunkers, which are not something seen in traditional American golf. Other amenities include a full-service pro shop, golf instruction, and wonderful dining.

- *Golf Magazine's* "2013 Best U.S. Renovation You Can Play"
- Golf Range Association of America "2013 Top 50 Golf Ranges."



Naperbrook Golf Course

630-378-4215
22204 W. 111th St. /
Hassert Blvd.
Plainfield, IL 60585
golfnaperville.org

Located in Plainfield, scenic Naperbrook Golf Course is a "links style" course that features rolling hills and wide fairways. Challenges in the way of ponds, a double green, and hidden bunkers await golfers of all levels. Additional amenities include a ten-acre driving range, separate lesson tee, and practice putting greens. Enjoy post-game refreshments on the picturesque patio; Naperbrook also offers lessons, outings, a well-stocked golf shop, and much more.



Orchard Valley Golf Course

630-907-0500
2411 W. Illinois Ave.
Aurora, IL 60506
orchardvalleygolf.com

6th Best Public Course in Illinois by *GOLF* magazine. One of Chicagoland's best public courses, Golf Digest ranks Orchard Valley 4½ Stars! A true championship layout featuring wetlands, lakes, roughs, water hazards, marshes, and more.

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60061
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Tam O'Shanter Golf Course & Learning Center

847-965-2344
6700 West Howard Street
Niles, IL 60714
golftam.com
One of the most important courses in popularizing the game of golf in America is located right here in Niles, Illinois. In 1953, Tam O'Shanter Country Club hosted the first-ever nationally televised golf tournament. Today, a public 9-hole par-33 course remains, maintained with the goal of providing playing conditions reminiscent of those Hogan, Palmer, and Nicklaus enjoyed years ago. Swing out for a scenic round and walk in the footsteps of legends at Tam O'Shanter! Year-round instruction available!



Water's Edge Golf Course

708-671-1032
7205 West 115th St.
Worth, IL 60482
watersedgegolf.com

Rated Best Places To Play by *Golf Digest*. Water's Edge is Chicago's south side destination course. This championship 18-hole golf course offers bent grass greens and fairways, and a complete day/night practice and range facility, along with The Edge Bar & Grill for great meals and daily specials.

PLUS... a program for everyone!

- SAVE on every round with the Edge PLUS Pass
- UNLIMITED twilight golf and range with the Edge Practice Club



Weber Park Golf Course

847-674-1500, ext. 3600
skokieparks.org
9 Holes: Par 27
Yardage: 1,095

Located just twenty minutes north of Chicago on I-94, all ages will enjoy Skokie's Weber Park Golf Course. This 9-hole, par-3 golf course features bent grass greens, beautiful landscaping, and is ideal for learning to play golf, working on your short game, or gathering a few friends for a fun round of FootGolf.



Whisper Creek Golf Course

847-515-7680
12840 Del Webb Blvd.
Huntley, IL 60142
whispercreekgolf.com

Luxury Golf at a Whisper of a Price!
Whisper Creek Golf Club is a fair test for a gamut of golfers. From beginners to scratch golfers, anyone who appreciates a day on the course will come away feeling rewarded by a round at Whisper Creek.

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The same is true in golf. Enter a tournament, and the goal is to win.

Nicole Jeray had that goal in mind for this year's Phil Kossin Illinois Women's Open, and for good reason. The Berwyn native had won twice before, once at Mistwood in 2003, and had made it into a pair of playoffs more recently. A consistent contender with more LPGA experience than any other player in the state, Jeray is always a threat to cash in.

"It's my passion, playing golf tournaments. I feel really lucky to still be able to play," Jeray said.

Not just because she first made the LPGA Tour in 1994. It's her longstanding battle with narcolepsy and cataplexy, diagnosed two years after she joined the circuit, that sometimes makes life harrowing. Through good nutrition and medication, Jeray has those two foes under control and can enjoy life, which for her revolves around golf.

After years trying to grind out a living on the LPGA circuit and the stepping-stone Symetra Tour, she joined the staff of Mistwood Golf Club late last year. That meant playing in the Illinois Women's Open was a home game for her.

"It's nice to play here at home at Mistwood," Jeray said. What she didn't say was that gave her an inherent advantage on the field. She's mostly stationed at the Performance Center, teaching individuals and working with the Positive Coaching Alliance group program, but she's also seen just about every wind, course condition, and pin position Mistwood has to offer.

That made her one of the favorites for the IWO. She was three off the lead after an opening 1-under

71, and was two off the pace following a second-round 70, sharing fourth place with Jessica Porvasnik of Hinkley, Ohio. When the trio of leaders all faltered down the stretch, it came down to Porvasnik, whose birdie of the first hole in the final round helped her go out in even-par 36, and Jeray, who bogeyed the first and was four off the pace of leader Kasey Miller with seven holes to play.



Miller, in the final group, would go in the wrong direction down the stretch, with bogeys at the 15th and 17th holes. And Jeray, just ahead of the final trio would rally, beginning with a near-perfect shot on the par-3 14th, a 177-yard 4-hybrid that stopped no more than two feet under the cup, and probably closer.

Birdie. Then another on the par-5 15th thanks to a 10-foot downhill putt that trickled into the hole. Then another on the par-4 16th, another 10-footer.

Just like that, Jeray was among the leaders. She saved par on the 17th and kicked herself for a fat wedge shot at the last that meant settling for par and a 71, but it appeared that even with Porvasnik making birdie, there was a four-way tie for first, and for Jeray a chance to win a third Illinois Women's Open title in as many decades – and in a playoff, no less.

But the live scoring had a glitch in it. Porvasnik's birdie at the first hole was clicked in as a par, and couldn't be corrected until the official card was turned in. All day long, she was really one better than the scoring indicated. Porvasnik knew, and Jeray, playing with her, knew.

Finally, everyone knew. Porvasnik was the worthy winner at 5-under 211, with Jeray, Miller and recent Northwestern grad Monica Matsubura sharing second a stroke back.

"I was charging, and then I woke up," Jeray summed things up. "I would have been nice to make one more."

Playing otherwise mostly in LPGA Legends tournaments these days – she even got some TV time last year in the Senior LPGA Championship at French Lick Resort in Indiana – Jeray really wanted a third title in three decades.

Guess what? She can still do it. Remember the millennium and the excitement over 1/1/2000, the rollover of the calendar's odometer? That was great

fun, but the second millennium's thousand years didn't really end until the end of the 1,000th year, a.k.a. Dec. 31, 2000.

The same thing applies to decades, which end not with a 9, but with a 0. The current decade thus ends with the end of next year, so Jeray has a calendar-created mulligan for three wins in three straight decades. The clock is still ticking, so the goal is still there.

Jeray really wanted

a third title in

three decades.

Guess what? She

can still do it.

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