

GOLFChicago

Chicago's Premier Multimedia Golf Source & Authority

June 2013, Vol. 17 No. 4

Battling the Bear at Grand Traverse

**Exclusive
Interview with
Ben Crane**

**Chicagoland is
Muni-Rific**

Dave Pelz: Short Game Advisor

Carl Rabito on the Full Swing

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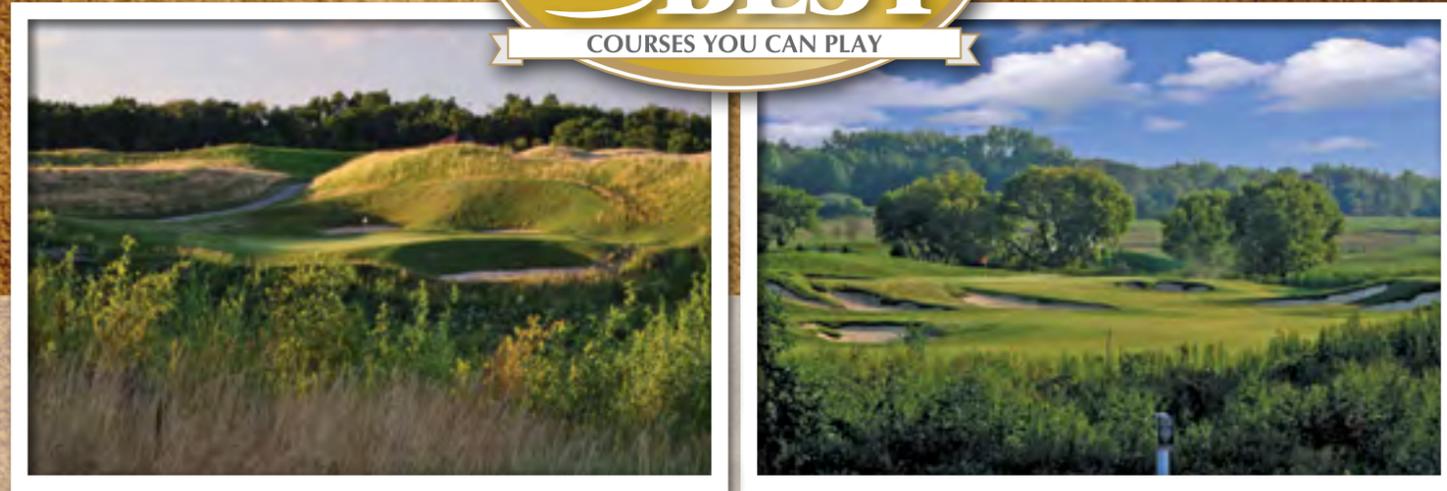
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Photos, cover and this page: Brian Walters

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NOTES FROM GREG AND DAVE

To anchor, or not to anchor... is no longer a question. Beginning in 2016, the USGA will no longer allow a golf stroke to be 'anchored' to a golfer's body. This means you can say goodbye to broom stick and belly putters, especially during tournament play. We applaud this decision for professionals and tournament golfers; however, and just like the stroke-and-distance rule, we are confident recreational golfers will continue to dismiss whichever rule hinders their enjoyment of the game. And this is really the heart of the matter.

Our game has very deep roots in tradition and procedure. This is why we embrace our courses, our playing partners, and our experiences. Golf shares the rich traditions of baseball. But golf is not America's Game. The difference between the two sports is that baseball freely adapts the game to the level of talent playing the game. Is there a version of tee ball for golf? Not yet, but companies like Fastgolf USA (www.fastgolfusa.com) and almostGolf (www.almostgolf.com) have created products to introduce beginners to the game. Would softball leagues be as popular if they were playing the same hardball as MLB baseball? Definitely not! The rules of softball bear little resemblance to MLB, yet softball leagues are never looking to increase participation. Softball is here to stay because of modified rules and equipment for recreational players. These modifications were not handed down from the professional ranks. Tee ball, little league, and softball are participant-driven.

Do we have a point for this discussion? Golf writers and PGA Tour members can argue their positions regarding the anchor putting ban because it is their job. The rest of us should focus more on playing the game, with whatever stick or stroke keeps you on the course, and try to keep pace with the group in front of you. Because in the end, it is pace of play that limits the amount of golf we play, not how we putt the ball toward the cup.

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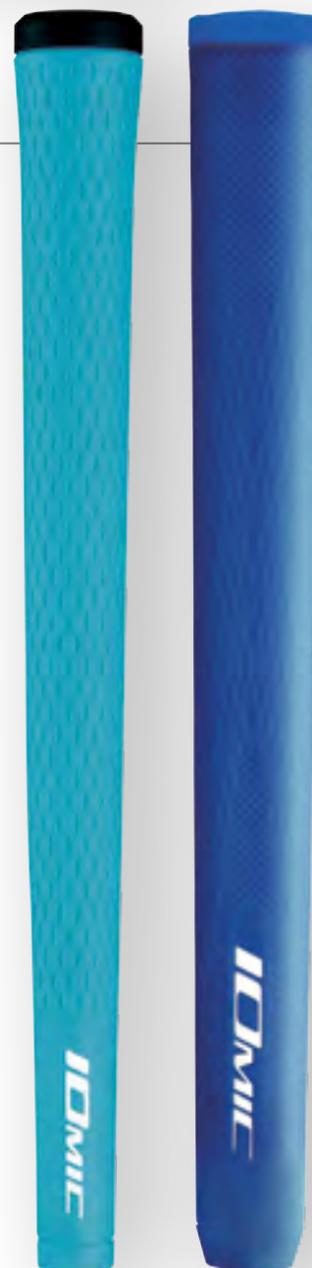


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Golfing for Bones

I am the father of two teenage daughters, and my wife and I have tried to give them a solid foundation to grow and develop. One facet of this is promoting a healthy lifestyle which includes physical activity and eating well. There are many reasons for this and one goal is to develop strong bones and prevent osteoporosis. I would like to say they are avid golfers, but the idea of chasing a ball around the course makes very little sense to them so they run, bike, hike, and dance. Regardless, they are engaging in physical activities that help prevent a disease that affects up to 50% of women over the age of fifty according to The National Osteoporosis Foundation website (www.nof.org).

Osteoporosis is a disease of decreased bone density due to losing too much bone and/or not regenerating bone sufficiently. When bone density decreases there is an increased risk of fractures especially of the spine, hips and wrist. This relates to the female golfer because 80% of the people that have osteoporosis are women and especially post-menopausal women. If you have been diagnosed with osteoporosis or osteopenia, golf may not be an appropriate physical activity. The golf

swing puts pressure on the spine and hips, increasing the risk of fracture. Seek clearance from a physician to ensure that golf is a safe for you. Fortunately, osteoporosis is treatable and preventable through weight-bearing exercise, good posture, proper nutrition, and, if needed, medication prescribed by your doctor.

Weight-bearing exercise improves bone density, and eighty to ninety percent of our bone density is developed between the ages of 12 and 19. If you have children, this is a good reason to get them out to the golf course and enjoy some quality time together. Even though most of our bone density develops by age 19, people of all ages can improve bone strength. The National Osteoporosis Foundation website is a great resource for beneficial exercise and nutritional advice, including the importance of calcium and vitamin D for healthy bones.

Poor posture, such as slouching, places more stress on the body of the vertebrae, and in the osteoporotic person this will increase the risk of fracture in the spine. Maintaining good posture also promotes a better golf swing. Here are two easy exercises you can

THE FITNESS EDGE

Brad Jourdan PT, DPT

perform to promote better posture during your swing and your daily routine.

The first exercise promotes an optimal spine position. Hold a club lengthwise against your spine and try to keep your tailbone, midback and the back of your head on the club to produce a neutral spine position. Then bend forward at the hips as if you were addressing the ball [photo 1]. Try to maintain the neutral spine position as you rotate through your swing with the club along the spine and also during a practice swing.

The second exercise promotes trunk extension and stretches the chest to allow better posture. Hold a club behind your back and reach back while squeezing the shoulder blades together [photo 2].

Perform 10 repetitions of each exercise prior to each round and then at the turn. At home the exercises can be performed daily with a golf club or similar-sized pole. A few exercises, physical activity, and proper nutrition can improve the health of your entire family. This Father's Day, go out and walk the course with your family. If you need to make the hard-sell, then tell them it helps to build better bones.



Photo 1

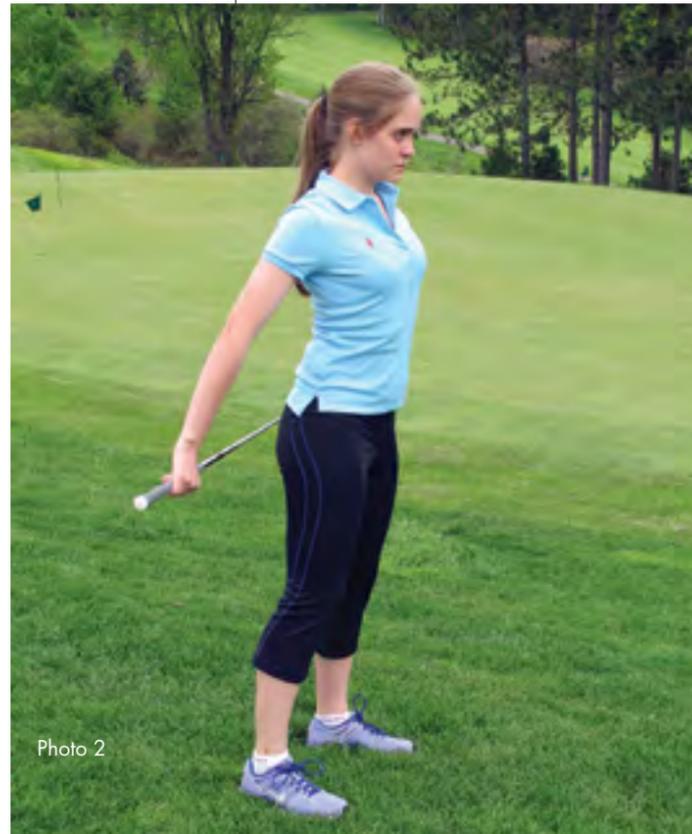


Photo 2



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The GOLFCChicago Interview

Ben Crane started playing golf when he was 5 and turned pro in 1999, the same year he graduated from the University of Oregon with a degree in sociology. He has collected four Tour titles during his career, including the 2005 U.S. Bank Classic in Milwaukee and the 2011 McGladrey Classic. Known across the tour for his deep spiritual beliefs as well as for his support of charitable causes, Crane has lately become popular with the YouTube generation due to his hilarious performances with The Golf Boys—a rap parody group consisting of fellow Tour players Ricky Fowler, Bubba Watson, Hunter Mahan, and Crane. We caught up with Crane prior to him teeing off at The Zurich Classic in New Orleans. Following are excerpts from the interview.

Golf Boy #1 Reflects on Golf, Life, and Going Viral.

By Dave Weretka

Photos Courtesy of The Zurich Classic



GOLFCChicago: Tell us about your charity work in support of New Orleans.

Ben Crane: I couldn't be more thrilled to be a small part of the philanthropic work at the Zurich Classic and the work Zurich does to support the St. Bernard Project in particular. The St. Bernard Project is a nonprofit that has helped more than 400 families get back in their homes after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, which is incredible.

Also, the St. Michael Special School in New Orleans is an amazing school that I'm involved with through the Zurich Classic. Many of the students at St. Michael's have special needs or developmental disabilities. When you go there, you recognize how special those kids are. Zurich has been a huge part of helping those kids grow throughout their lives.

GC: Your grandfather taught you the game when you were five years old. Do you recommend getting kids introduced to the game at a really early age?

BC: I recommend kids become athletic at an early age. I think it's valuable that you play a lot of sports. The life sports are the best to play. The ones that you can play all your life such as tennis, ping pong, and golf.

GC: You qualified for the Tour in 2002 and won the BellSouth Classic the next year. Does that early success come in handy when facing high-pressure situations?

BC: It does help. People ask me when I knew I was good enough to play on the Tour and I say 'the day I made it.' The same goes for winning. The first time I knew I was good enough to win was on

the day I won. It's great to draw upon those past successes. I remember being in some of those pressure situations and being able to recall those times that I excelled in those moments.

Those are imprinted on your mind
GC: You finished 4th in the Houston Open in late March, how is the year shaping up for you?

BC: It's been a rough start to the season, and I put a lot of work in this off-season so I really expected great things. I had a swing problem that I was working on—confused with some ball flight issues and wasn't giving myself enough opportunities. I've made some corrections and my ball striking is coming around. I'm generally a fast starter to the season and not a great finisher so I hope this year is the reverse of that.

GC: Hardest part of being on the road every week?

BC: Being away from your wife and kids and not having a sense of good fellowship where it's consistent at home. Hardest part is the travel. I have three kids and I love being with my family.

GC: What's the best part of being on the road every week?

BC: Golf on the Tour is such a great adventure with new cities and new hotels. I love playing the game, it's a hard game and there are those times when you put it all together and you do play well and it's so much fun.

GC: Favorite scripture passage to set you at ease on the back nine of a tournament?

BC: I love the passage where it says: "Let him who is peace provide you with His peace." I've put that on my yardage books on several occasions. Also I

Peter 5:7, “Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you.”

GC: *Let’s talk Chicago. There’s a certain Chicago cuisine that you will travel to have—what is it?*

BC: There’s a burger joint that was on *Diners, Drive-Ins, and Dives* called BNK Burger Bar. I made a long trip out of my way because I saw the Bison Blueberry Burger, and it did not disappoint. They have a great wine selection and sweet potato fries. My caddie and I went in there and we tried four or five different burgers. We cut them up and sampled them all. I am so in on that place! I don’t eat burgers often but when I do, I’d like to go there.

GC: *When the last putt falls—what kind of mark do you want to leave on the game?*

BC: I want to be remembered as someone who had a lot of fun, who encouraged a lot of people along the way and helped grow the game. But most of all, someone who did it with the right heart and that is to honor and glorify God, to love God, and make Him known.

GC: *Are the Big Four major championships and the Ryder Cup team major goals for you?*

BC: Absolutely, certainly I would love to win some of the majors. I’ve been talking with my pastor friend and my wife—we want to rate ourselves on how much effort we put in, how dedicated we are, and how much we trust God and not on the results. If I could control the results then I would have won every tournament by now. But that’s not the case. I just want God to tell the story and not me because he certainly tells a much better story than I do.

GC: *What element of the game are you working on that you believe will allow you to welcome your first major?*

BC: My mental game. That’s the thing about golf that can be so challenging, having mental consistency. I’ve been putting a lot of time on how I want to

feel on the golf course and really letting my subconscious run the show. Golf is one of those sports where you are not really reacting, you are initiating the action.

GC: *You are on the Tour’s Player Advisory Committee. Obviously, anchored putters are the media’s #1 topic these past few months. You use a conventional putting style but told Golfweek in November that your preference (at least at the time) was for the USGA and PGA to maintain the same rulebook (You said, “it would be weird” if the two groups differed on this topic”). Do you still feel that way?*

BC: If the USGA says ‘outlaw the belly putter’ and the PGA says ‘don’t’—it will be interesting to see if players will play with the belly putter for the season but switch to a conventional putter for three of the four majors where it is outlawed. Guys’ goals are to win majors. I have

friends on both sides of the argument but I don’t have the answer.

GC: *Do you think the game is overprotected with all its rules and regulations?*

BC: I don’t love the TV call-in situations, but I understand that we are governed by the rules. I think the penalty should be whatever the penalty is, not disqualification.

GC: *You are a member of The Golf Boys along with Ricky Fowler, Hunter Mahan, and Bubba Watson. Did you have any idea that your two videos would become internet sensations?*

BC: We expected the second one to take off because the first one was such a hit. We felt like we did a much better job on the second one. It’s been fun to see all the kids involved and kids on the golf course singing the song. It’s been good for the game—time to hang out with some friends and act ridiculous.



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Animal Tamers Wanted

Challenging The Bear and The Wolverine at Grand Traverse Resort

By Neal Kotlarek

Photos by Brian Walters

The outcome was a course that looked very much like a verdant lunar landscape that gave up birdies about as readily as politicians tell truths.

The year was 1985. Ronald Reagan was in his second term of office. Wayne Gretzky, Marvin Hagler, and Joe Montana were in the prime of their careers. And golf in Northern Michigan was at the time more or less something to do in between ski seasons.

While those of us who have covered the golf scene over the past 30 years disagree on most everything, there is remarkable consensus about the one event that transformed this region into a nationally acclaimed destination: the grand opening of The Bear course at Grand Traverse Resort. Located just off the main drag of Traverse City, the resort was in the early 1980s home to a fine layout designed by William Newcomb along with a new six-story hotel and 900 acres of land that had once been cherry orchards. Lawyer and entrepreneur Paul Nine had a unique vision for the next steps to be taken to elevate the resort to national prominence. He called the biggest name in professional golf and gave him marching orders. "I want," Nine told Jack Nicklaus, "the most difficult golf course in the state of Michigan."

When it opened in 1985, The resort's Bear course was as ferocious as its name. At 7,078 yards, the layout was longer than most other resort courses being built around the country. And Nicklaus complemented that length with Scottish-style mounding, pot bunkers, ankle-deep rough, heroic target landing areas, and multi-tiered greens. The outcome was a course that looked very much like a verdant lunar landscape that gave up birdies about as readily as politicians tell truths. Much to Nine's delight, the course lured golfers from around the country looking to test their skills against this intriguing and unique 18. With rooms at the hotel as hard to come by as tee times, Nine built a gleaming 17-story hotel overlooking Traverse Bay.



Twenty-eight years have passed since Nicklaus unveiled his championship course in Traverse City. Much in and around the property has changed. Grand Traverse is now home to a 7,000-sq. ft. luxury spa. The hotel has also partnered with nearby Turtle Creek Casino & Hotel to provide even more accommodation and entertainment options. The golf offerings at the resort have grown accordingly and include another 18-hole championship course and a year-round academy. The Bear remains one of Michigan's toughest tests, has served as host to a Senior PGA Tour event, and is the annual site of the Michigan Open, the state's premier golf tournament, along with dozens of other events—large and small, pro and amateur.

Beyond the almost three-decade success of this resort complex—now called Grand Traverse Resort & Spa—the golf landscape in, around, and beyond Traverse City has exploded during this same time frame. Inspired, undoubtedly, by the enthusiastic response to Grand Traverse, other golf entrepreneurs across Northern Michigan began construction of similarly spectacular championship properties. These include the likes of Cedar River Golf Course and The Legend at Shanty Creek in Bellaire; Bay Harbor's remarkable 27-hole course in Petoskey; the Resorts of St. Ives & Tullymore in Stanwood; Treetops Resort in Gaylord, and Forest Dunes in Roscommon. And this is but a short list of great courses in the region designed by some of the country's finest architects, including Tom Doak, Rick Smith, Ray Hearn, and Tom Fazio. Many of these properties, arguably, would have never have even made it past the drawing board were it not for Nine's partnership with Nicklaus.



The Wolverine Hole #18

"We are proud of the resort's great tradition of excellence in golf and in luxury accommodations," says Timothy Norman, general manager of Grand Traverse. "We have always had a lot of great things going for us—from our deluxe spa, to our private beach club, to the entertainment offerings in Traverse City, to the area's great hiking and biking trails, to rivers for kayaking and canoeing, to our proximity to the wonders of Sleeping Bear Dunes. We not only offer a championship experience for golfers, we offer outstanding alternative options for entire families." Backing up Norman's claims are accolades and awards over the years from USA Today, Family Circle and Travel + Leisure.



The Wolverine Hole #14

Championship golf remains the centerpiece of the resort. Along with the Newcomb-designed Spruce Run and The Bear, the resort added a fabulous third 18-hole course designed by Gary Player in 1999.

The Bear remains the centerpiece golf course and is, fortunately for resort players, not as intimidating as it once was due both to golf equipment innovation and less penal rough. That said, the course is still no pushover as 53 sand bunkers are peppered across landing zones and around putting surfaces. Ponds, lakes, and wetlands are hazards on 14 holes. And trees that were freshly planted in the mid-1980s are now mature and still another obstacle to encounter.

continued on page 41



Donald to Host Taste of The First Tee

Luke Donald will host his 5th Annual Taste of The First Tee at North Shore Country Club in Glenview, Illinois, on Wednesday, June 19th. North Shore CC is the site of the Encompass Championship, a Champions Tour event, which will be played June 20 - 23. The Encompass Championship will be one of the biggest stops on the Champions Tour this summer and Luke's Wine Tasting will be one of the highlights of the event. The Taste of The First Tee will also feature guest speaker Tim Finchem, Commissioner of the PGA Tour.

The First Tee of Greater Chicago's mission is to impact the lives of young people by providing educational programs that build character, instill life-enhancing values and promote healthy choices through the game of golf.

"Four years ago, the Taste of the First Tee began as a way to help raise funds and awareness for the work of The First Tee of Greater Chicago," said Donald, The First Tee of Greater Chicago's Honorary Chairman. "Since its inception, we have raised over \$600,000 to support the programs and we are

introducing the game of golf and its values to over 15,000 Chicago area kids.

This premiere event features a tasting of the Luke Donald Collection of wines, as well as selections chosen from the global portfolio of Terlato Wine Group, specially paired with food selections. An impressive collection of live and silent auction items will be available for attendees to bid on including: signed sports memorabilia, golf packages, and an opportunity to bid on a round of golf with Donald.

Englishman Donald, now a resident of Evanston, was the top ranked golfer in the world for 50 weeks through the 2011-2012 seasons. In 2012 he won the Transitions Championship, The BMW PGA Championship, and the Dunlop Phoenix Tournament. He finished 5th in the 2012 U.S. Open. Donald, a Northwestern University graduate, captured the 1999 NCAA Championship.

Special guest Tour Commissioner Finchem will discuss the state of the PGA Tour and other golf topics with Donald. The USGA's recent ban (effective in 2016) on the so-called long putter will likely be an interesting topic for them to

GROWING THE GAME

Bill Daniels

explore. Prior to the ruling some members of the PGA Tour had opposed the proposed ban.

Finchem is a native of Illinois and has been the Commissioner of the PGA Tour for the past 20 years. During his tenure as Commissioner, Finchem has played a key role in strengthening the PGA Tour's position in the golf world. Since Finchem became commissioner in 1994, the PGA Tour and its tournaments have raised more than \$1 billion for charitable organizations.

Donald's role as Honorary Chairman of The First Tee of Greater Chicago has not been a "star turn." His commitment to the aims of The First Tee has helped benefit thousands of youth in the Chicago area. This night just provides the star power. It will be a night to remember. And someone will get the chance to tee it up with the Chairman.

All proceeds raised at the June 19th event will benefit The First Tee of Greater Chicago and its character education programs for young people. Tickets for the wine tasting, dinner and the program are \$500/person. For more information go to: www.thefirstteegreaterchicago.org.



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86th Mid West Amateur	Sydney R. Marovitz	August 17th & 18th
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Twin Orchards C.C. Hosts Little City Event on June 17th

Recognized as one of the area's longest running charity golf tournaments in the Chicago area, the Little City Invitational will tee off on June 17th at Long Grove's Twin Orchard C.C. Guests receive 18 holes of golf, a cocktail reception, dinner, musical entertainment, silent and live auctions, and awards. Individual tickets to play in the event are \$750 per golfer or \$3000 per foursome. All proceeds from the event benefit the children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities at Little City.

This year's event will honor Kent P. Dauten, managing director and co-founder of Keystone Capital, Inc. Sign-up through the organization's website: www.littlecity.org.

My swing is so bad, I look like a caveman killing his lunch.
—Lee Trevino

Luke Donald To Host First Tee Event on June 19th

PGA Tour star Luke Donald and Tour Commissioner Tim Finchem will headline the 5th Annual Taste of the First Tee event at North Shore Country Club on June 19th. The festivities include a wine-tasting reception from 6 – 7:30 p.m. and a dinner, program, and live auction immediately afterwards. Highlights of the wine tasting will be tastings from the Luke Donald Collection of wines.

Proceeds from the event will benefit The First Tee of Greater Chicago's golf and character education programs. For tickets and more information, visit the group's website: www.thefirstteeofgreaterchicago.org.

Cantigny Golf Academy Welcomes Performance Coach

Cantigny Golf has added Monica Coleman to the Cantigny Golf Academy, one of the region's top practice, learning, and training centers. Coleman's role as performance coach will focus on the critical factors for success in golf. She joins a staff that includes six full-time instructors, a golf fitness expert, and a master clubfitter. Coleman is the managing director and co-founder of 7th Level Sports, a division of the Institute for Professional Excellence in Coaching. She oversees all aspects



of 7th Level, which trains athletes, coaches, and their organizations in leadership and athletic performance.

"Monica adds a very important element of performance to the Golf Academy," said Connie DeMattia, Cantigny's PGA Director of Instruction.

"Self-discovery is the greatest way to learn and Monica is the best at helping others to understand themselves."

For more information, please visit CantignyGolf.com.



GOLFChicago Challenge on Facebook

Does this hole look familiar? If you are the first to correctly identify it, you will win a \$25 Golfsmith Gift Card.

'Like' GOLFChicago Magazine on www.facebook.com, then post your answer after June 15. Earlier entries will be not be eligible for the prize.

Ben Crenshaw to Visit, Instruct at Bolingbrook G.C.

Two-time Masters champion and visionary golf architect Ben Crenshaw is scheduled to appear at Bolingbrook Golf Club on June 18th to provide a free clinic. The winner of 19 PGA Tour events will appear at The Cleveland Golf Experience at the club and provide short-game wisdom and talk about his life and career. Registration opens at 3 p.m.

Visit the Bolingbrook G.C. website to RSVP for what is promoted as a "once-in-a-lifetime event." www.bolingbrookgolfclub.com.

Golf is a day spent in a round of strenuous idleness.
—William Wordsworth

Chicago Courses, Callaway Rock with 'Putterpalooza'

Seven Chicago-area golf courses managed by Billy Casper have partnered with Callaway Golf to hold a nationwide putting competition. Every Friday and Saturday between 8 a.m. – 2 p.m., participating golf courses will hold a competition whereby golfers who sink a 30-foot putt win a free round of golf. Golfers who sink a 10-foot putt earn an Odyssey Drain Patch. Participating Chicago-area golf courses include: Diversey Driving Range, George Dunne G.C., Highland Woods G.C., Indian Boundary G.C. in Aurora, Water's Edge G.C. in Worth, and Whisper Creek G.C. in Huntley Meadows. The competition runs through July 6th.

Malm Repeats as Illinois PGA Match Play Champion

On May 16, Curtis Malm earned his second consecutive Illinois PGA Match Play Championship title. This repeat has not been accomplished since Aurora Country Club's Bob Ackerman's 1987 and 1988 titles. St. Charles Country Club's Malm defeated Doug Bauman from Biltmore Country Club 3 and 1 at Kemper Lakes Country Club (Kildeer).

Malm defeated Glen Oak Country Club's Matt Slowinski 2 and 1 to reach the finals.

They call it golf because all the other four letter words were taken.
—Ray Floyd

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Idlewild C.C. to Host ALS Fundraiser in August

In March, 2011, Mike Meehan noticed weakness in his arms and legs. This weakness progressed quickly and the Frankfort, Illinois, resident quickly lost the ability to stand, much less walk. In January of this year, Meehan was diagnosed with ALS, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. Sadly, Meehan lost his battle with the disease last month.

On Monday, August 19th, Idlewild C.C. on the city's southside will hold a \$200 per golfer (or \$750 for a foursome) event to aid Meehan's family as they cope with the aftermath of this disease. Participants receive golf, lunch, cocktail reception, dinner, beverages, gifts, and prizes. A silent auction is also planned. To reserve a spot for this event, contact Dan Dal Degan at 630-215-7880 or e-mail him at ddd@salesforce.com.

The woods are full of long drivers.
—Harvey Penick

Michigan Community Recovering From Golf Team Tragedy

The northern Michigan city of Grayling continues to mourn the loss of their high school's golf coach and a student following a tragic late April accident en route to an invitational golf tournament. A minivan carrying six members of the Grayling High School golf team collided with another van on a rural road killing coach Jerry Potter, 18-year-old team member Louis Menard and 27-year-old Cassandra Stapleton, a passenger in the other vehicle. Four other team members were hospitalized in critical condition.

The Grayling Golf Recovery Fund was created to assist the families involved with medical bills. Golf equipment manufacturers are also being solicited to replace the team's equipment once they're ready to get back on the course. The golf community is being asked to make donations to the fund via a website: www.graylinggolfrecovery.com. Checks can also be made out to the fund via U.S. Mail and sent to: Chemical Bank, c/o Grayling Golf Recovery Fund, PO Box 696, Grayling, MI 49738.

I never learned anything from a match that I won.
—Bobby Jones

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Quad Cities Course Finally Unveiled to the Public

Decades in the planning, building, and opening, Fyre Lake Golf Club in the rural community of Sherrard opened for play in early spring. The photogenic and dramatic Nicklaus Design golf course weaves through hardwood forests and around and over the namesake lake. The course was originally set to be unveiled in 2011 but that plan was scuttled by an untimely bank foreclosure. Raufelsen Development purchased the property from the First State Bank of Arkansas earlier this year.

The Chicago connection to Fyre Lake G.C. is Northlake's GolfVisions which is now managing the property. "We're extremely enthused to have the opportunity to open a Nicklaus Design course," says Tim Miles Sr., president and CEO of GolfVisions. Green fees are between \$44 and \$55 plus cart. For more information, visit the course's website: www.fyrelakegolf.com.

Vote For Juan! Maryville Academy Instructor Nominated For National Honor

Golfers across Chicagoland now have the opportunity to recognize one of the area's outstanding golf professionals and community leaders. Director of Maryville Academy's Golf Program, Juan Espejo is a finalist in a national competition recognizing the "best of us" as a teacher and community leader. Johnsonville Sausage is seeking to identify and celebrate "the values and behaviors that make us great." Espejo was nominated for his mentorship of children and adolescents who participate in the academy's golf program.

For the past 129 years, Maryville has served as a refuge for disadvantaged and neglected youths from across the community. The objective of the golf program is to teach life lessons through golf by providing basic golf skills and golf-related vocational training. Along with teaching golf skills, the academy trains caddies and offers club-making and club repair classes.

To vote for Juan, visit bestofus.johnsonville.com and click on his name under the "Best of Us – Educators" category. The winner of the competition receives \$10,000. Places 2 – 9 receive \$1000. Voting takes place through June 14th. Voters can vote once per day.

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GIVE *Dad* HIS DAY

Father's Day is June 16th, but you can give Dad something to celebrate every time he tees up. Golfsmith's experts chose these ten items as can't-miss gifts for 2013.



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



7.



8.



9.



10.



6.

1. TaylorMade R1, \$399.99. There are a few reasons it's the number one driver on Tour, and for Dad: 12 loft settings, 7 face angles, and shot-shaping weights. A favorite of Golfsmith's VP of Clubs.

2. TaylorMade RocketBladez, from \$799.99. These new irons feature a driver-inspired Speed Pocket to lengthen and straighten Dad's shots.

3. Odyssey White Hot Pro, \$129.99. Featuring the face insert that sounds as good as it feels, this pro-level putter can get Dad to the score he's looking for.

4. adidas adizero Tour, \$179.99. adidas' lightest ten-cleat shoe ever will make him feel like he's walking on clouds.

5. Titleist Personalized Pro V1 Balls, \$47.99. #1 Dad coffee mugs won't do him any justice, but what about the #1 ball on Tour? Plus, personalization is free at Golfsmith through 6/30.

6. Garmin Approach S2 GPS Watch, \$249.99. Features over 28,000 courses with detailed distance mapping. The Golfsmith-exclusive black and green colorway is Accessories VP Richard Ahlgren's go-to gift.

7. Titleist Sports Mesh Hat, \$27. Cooler heads will prevail with this slick, classic and breathable on-course cap.

8. SkyGolf SkyPro Swing Analyzer, \$199.99. Golfsmith Merchandising SVP Eli Getson loves this lightweight tool for its easy-to-use software and score-dropping swing analysis.

9. Callaway X Hot, \$299.99. The adjustable X Hot can be customized to Dad's swing, and its enhanced sweet spot will give him longer drives than ever before.

10. Golfsmith Gift Cards. Dad knows best, which means sometimes only he can pick the perfect new gear. Golfsmith gift cards are the timeless solution.

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Chicagoland is Muni-Rific!

The Windy City is surrounded by dozens of golf facilities that give golfers a huge bang for their bucks.

By Greg Jourdan

Twenty-five years ago, “municipal” in reference to golf courses was a euphemism for unkempt layouts featuring sisal tee boxes built atop asphalt ramps for the enjoyment of T-shirt-and-jeans-clad foursomes. Slowly but surely, that designation faded from memory throughout the 1990s as developers and municipalities unveiled golf courses that raised the public golf bar above that of even many private clubs. The public golf course building boom forced courses—public and private, alike—to initiate dramatic renovation plans or risk losing their patrons. While in hindsight the building boom over-stretched its market, Darwin’s survival of the fittest left the Chicagoland area with the nation’s best public golf. Without a doubt. Period.

One of GOLFChicago’s favorite mantras over the years has been: “Muni-Rific!” This is a label we apply to outstanding municipal courses. We define a municipal course as one that is owned and/or operated by a government body. This could be a city, village, park district, county, or forest preserve. When you consider muni courses like Bolingbrook Golf Club (Bolingbrook) and Arrowhead Golf Club (Wheaton), it is difficult to think of courses with better facilities. Both of their clubhouses shame most private clubs, and Bolingbrook’s learning center is one of the best in the country. Muni golf is pretty amazing around our neck of the woods.

Recently, *Golfweek* magazine released its 2013 ratings for the best 50 municipal golf courses across the country. The publication’s rankings included several of our favorites across Chicagoland; Highlands of Elgin (#7), Bowes Creek (#13), Harborside International – Starboard (#25), Thunderhawk (#32), and Shepherd’s Crook (#47). Our staffers rolled up their sleeves and began our own listing of favorite Chicagoland muni-tracks. As with any ‘favorites’ listing, these are highly subjective. And, we apologize in advance for omitting some that we haven’t yet had the good fortune to play. That said, if you are looking for a fight, we’ll defend these tracks; moreover, we are confident that our listing proves that our metropolitan offerings surpass any other location in the country...or dare we say, world. Yep, we take tremendous pride in our municipal facilities. And we are all fortunate to live in the Golf Land of Broad Shoulders.



Highlands of Elgin



Bridges of Poplar Creek



Bolingbrook GC

The West

Arrowhead Golf Club

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

Bowes Creek Country Club

City of Elgin
1250 Bowes Creek Boulevard
Elgin, IL 60123
847-214-5880
www.bowescreekcc.com

Bridges of Poplar Creek Country Club

Hoffman Estates Park District
1400 Poplar Creek Drive
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
847-884-0219
www.bridgesofpoplarcreek.com

Fox Bend Golf Course

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

Highlands of Elgin

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

Orchard Valley Golf Course

Fox Valley Park District
2411 West Illinois Avenue
Aurora, IL 60506
630-907-0500
www.orchardvalleygolf.com

Naperbrook Golf Course

Naperville Park District
22204 West 111th Street
Hassert Boulevard.
Plainfield, IL 60585
630-378-4215
www.golfnaperville.com



Bowes Creek CC



Pottawatomie GC



White Pines GC

Oak Brook Golf Club

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www.oak-brook.org

Pottawatomie Golf Course

St. Charles Park District
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www.pottawatomiegc.com

Prairie Landing Golf Club

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West Chicago, IL 60185
630-208-7600
www.prairielanding.com

Settler's Hill Golf Club

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www.settlershill.com

The Village Links of Glen Ellyn

Village of Glen Ellyn
485 Winchell Way
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
630-469-8180
www.villagelinksgolf.com

Village Greens of Woodridge

Woodridge Park District
1575 West 75th Street
Woodridge, Illinois 60517
630-985-3610
www.villagegreensgolf.com

The North

The Arboretum Club

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Buffalo Grove, IL 60089
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www.arboretumgolf.com

Bartlett Hills Golf Club

Village of Bartlett
800 West Oneida Avenue
Bartlett, IL 60103
630-837-2741
www.bartletthills.com

Bittersweet Golf Club

Village of Gurnee
875 Almond Road
Gurnee, IL 60031
847-855-9031
www.bittersweetgolf.com

Highland Park Country Club

City of Highland Park
1201 Park Avenue West
Highland Park, IL 60035
847-433-4000
www.highlandparkcc.com

Lake Bluff Golf Club

Lake Bluff Park District
355 West Washington Avenue
Lake Bluff, IL 60044
847-234-6771
www.lakebluffgolfclub.com

Maple Meadows Golf Club

Dupage Golf
272 Addison Road
Wood Dale, IL 60191
630-616-8424
www.dupagegolf.com

Mt. Prospect Golf Club

Mt. Prospect Park District
600 S See-Gwun Avenue
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056
847-632-9300
www.mppd.org

Schaumburg Golf Club

Schaumburg Park District
401 North Roselle Road
Schaumburg, IL 60194
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www.schaumburggolf.com

Shepherd's Crook Golf Course

Zion Park District
351 Green Bay Road
Zion, IL 60099
847-872-2080
www.shepherdcrook.org

Sportsman's Country Club

Northbrook Park District
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Northbrook, IL 60062
847-291-2351
www.sportsmansgolf.com

Steeple Chase Golf Club

Mundelein Park and Recreation
District
200 La Vista Drive
Mundelein, Illinois 60060
847-949-8900
www.mundeleinparks.org

Thunderhawk Golf Club

Lake County Forest Preserves
39700 North Lewis Ave
Beach Park, IL 60099
847-968-4295
www.thunderhawkgolfclub.org

White Pines Golf Club

Bensenville Park District
500 West Jefferson Avenue
Bensenville, IL 60106
630-766-0304
www.whitepinesgolf.com

The South

Bolingbrook Golf Club

Village of Bolingbrook
2001 Rodeo Drive
Bolingbrook, IL 60490
630-771-9400
www.bolingbrookgolfclub.com

Coyote Run Golf Course

Homewood-Flossmoor Park District
800 Kedzie Avenue
Flossmoor, IL 60422
708-957-8700
www.coyoterungolf.com

George W. Dunne National

Forest Preserve Golf
of Cook County
16310 South Central Avenue
Oak Forest, IL 60452
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Channahon, IL 60410
815-467-7888
www.heritagebluffs.com

Lost Marsh Golf Course

Hammond Port Authority
1001 129th Street
Hammond, IN 46320
219 932-4653
www.lostmarshgolf.com

Prairie Bluff Golf Club

Lockport Township Park District
19433 Renwick Rd
Crest Hill, IL 60442
815-836-4653
www.lockportpark.org

The Sanctuary Golf Course

New Lennox Park District
485 North Marley Road
New Lennox, IL 60451
815-462-4653
www.golfthesanctuary.com

Water's Edge Golf Club

Village of Worth
7205 West 115th Street
Worth, IL 60190
708-671-1032
www.watersedgegolf.com

Wedgewood Golf Course

Joliet Park District
5001 Caton Farm Road
Plainfield, IL 60586
815-741-7270
www.wedgewoodgc.com

More Than a Game of Balls and Sticks

Junior golfers are the future of the game and proper instruction is vital. The goal in teaching junior golf should go above and beyond the mechanics and game itself. Instilling honesty, character, and sportsmanship are topics that should be implemented in teaching juniors. These factors are both good for the game of golf, but also later in life. Getting these topics introduced at an early age is important to set up guidelines for the future.

Proper instruction is important in junior golfers so that you create a solid platform for the future. Short game is known as the most important part of the game. Starting near the green will allow the student to see the success faster. It is important to provide the junior with the basics of the set-up first, and then understand what impact should be. Kids tend to think that you have to get under the ball or help the ball in the air which results in weight staying on their back leg, fat or thin shots, and also a high finish

position. [photo 1]. We teach kids that you must hit down to get the ball up in the air. In order to accomplish this, their weight must be moving to their front leg on the downswing. This motion allows them to hit down on the ball and have the ideal low finish. [photo 2].

The mechanics are only one of many topics in teaching junior golf. Students are also taught bigger life traits while playing golf. On the first day of Bolingbrook camps, kids are handed a junior golf rule book and given a set of guidelines to follow during the camp. Rules and guidelines are also given out in 'real world' scenarios that they will face later in life. The students are also given a set of consequences for breaking these rules. With these rules in place, it shows the students that there are always consequences for their actions. Students are placed in groups while in camps but also have to make decisions independently. Throughout the camp we place juniors in small groups for certain activities and

INSTRUCTION

THE FULL SWING



Carl Rabito



individually for others. Similar to the 'real world,' students have to work together as a team to accomplish certain tasks for the day. During the camp there may be games played where the entire team needs to help out. Participating in team games shows kids the importance of cheering on their teammates while also succeeding on their own. We want the student when they leave to be able to have honesty, character, and sportsmanship.

Every parent wants to see their child succeed in life. Golf is a game, but more importantly, golf is a road map that teaches life lessons beyond the skill sets required to play the game. Juniors learn rules and are instilled with ethics that they can use both on and off the golf course. While playing the game of golf, and understanding the rules, junior golfers realize that honesty and integrity matter. Learning these attributes is a priceless asset that can be learned through one of the greatest games ever played.



Photo 1



Photo 2



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The Downlow on the Downswing

Let's assume that, with practice, you have achieved a correct set-up and you have a reasonably good backswing. These two elements of the golf swing were the lessons in my first two articles this season. Now, you are ready for the downswing and forward swing.

The crossroads of the golf swing occurs during the transition where the golf swing is changing directions from the backswing to the downswing. Most golfers start down from the top by unwinding their shoulders first or uncocking their wrists. The correct movement at this juncture would be from the ground up. The correct sequence movement during the transition should be feet, knees, hips, shoulders, arms, hands, and finally, the clubhead. This linkage system is often-times referred to as timing or the order of movement. This is why golf is called a ground reaction game. During the transition it is vitally important to keep your movement slow. Only in this way will you get the correct sequencing.



Slotting the Club



Downswing, Plane, and Leverage



Weight Movement



Extension and Release



Impact

INSTRUCTION

THE SWING DOCTOR



Dr. Jim Suttie



Slotting the Club

Slotting the club on the downswing is little more than getting the arms and clubhead in the right position during the first part of the downswing. This requires that the arms, and especially the right arm, re-attaches to the side. This slotting is caused by movement of the weight to the front foot while the shoulders and back stay coiled up facing the target as long as possible during this part of the downswing. The longer you can retain this coil, the farther you will be able to hit the ball. This part of the downswing is critical and is often termed "separation" because we are trying to separate the lower body movement from the upper body movement. The movement can be compared to a good baseball hitter where he is striding forward towards the pitcher as the upper body (hands, arms, wrists, and bat) are still loading up.

Downswing, Plane, and Leverage

Once the club is about halfway down, it should be starting to get "on plane". In layman's terms, this would simply mean that the butt of the

club will point directly at the ball. We get leverage in the downswing by maintaining, or even increasing the amount of wrist cock. This is often called "clubhead lag" and is very important if you are to achieve any distance at all. Unfortunately, it is at this point where most golfers throw the club head away by casting it out like a fisherman.

Weight Movement

The golf swing is primarily a rotational or pivot-motion game. But, there is also some lateral motion with the hips towards the target on the downswing. This slight amount of lateral weight motion towards the target allows the weight to get to the front leg. Once the weight is on the front leg, the rest of the motion is all rotational.

Impact

Even though all golf swings might look a little different, the impact position is very similar. Some worthwhile fundamentals of impact would include:

- Hips that are open about 40 degrees while the shoulders are open only 20 degrees
- Weight left
- A forward-leaning shaft
- A flat left wrist.

Extension and Release

After impact, the club head feels like it is being thrown out right of the target. As the body continues to rotate, the momentum forces the arms to extend. The rotational forces are thrown out to the hands and forearms causing a natural release.

The Finish

The finish of the swing is simply a result of good weight transfer and body rotation. The finish will be balanced on the front leg. The chest will have out rotated the hips as the head and eyes will be facing the target. A fundamentally sound downswing goes a long way in developing more consistency in your swing. Work on these fundamentals and watch the scores drop.

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The Putting Notebook

It's that time of year when scoring really matters to serious golfers. The more putts you make, the better you score, so I want to share with you some short, sweet, and simple thoughts that will help you overcome some of your putting woes. If you need further help, join my staff at Cog Hill this summer and we'll be happy to help you play your best. Visit www.pelzgolf.com for details. In the meantime, try these basic steps to help you perform your best on the greens.

Track Your Putts

To improve your putting, it is important to first learn what you are doing. A great way to track your putts is to simply mark your scorecard with "A" (above the hole) and "B" (below the hole) for your putts that don't go in the hole. At the completion of your round, add up your "A"s and "B"s to find out where you are missing most of your putts. We find that most golfers miss their putts high.

Focus Below the Ball

Next time you practice your putting, try keeping your head still through your stroke. This can easily be accomplished by focusing on the ball and then keeping your focus on the spot underneath the ball until holding your finish position. By keeping your head still, the flow-lines of your shoulders and body can remain facing the aim-line. By eliminating unnecessary movements (and inconsistent sources of energy) more consistently centered contact can be achieved. This will greatly help you control the speed of your putts.

To have repeatable and consistent directional control, keep your putter face square to the aim-line and keep the path square to the aim-line. It is human nature to want to watch the ball roll, but if we move the head, we invariably rotate the shoulders, torso and hips, and these motions lead to inconsistent putting. So keep your head still until holding your finish, then just "swivel" your head (not turning your shoulders), while maintaining a healthy setup posture and keeping the shoulders and hips facing toward the aim-line.

A "Yip-Free" Putting Grip

This grip can help anyone who over-breaks his wrists, or feels "yippy" during a stroke. Hold the bottom of the grip with the left hand and clasp the shaft against the left forearm with the right

hand. This freezes the left wrist, preventing the floppiness that is a common ingredient of the yips. One caution: you have to bend over, which can hurt your distance judgment of long putts (as well as your back).



INSTRUCTION

SHORT
GAME
ADVISOR



Dave Pelz



Animal Tamers Wanted

continued from page 20

An enjoyable round of golf on The Bear is basically guaranteed with the selection of the appropriate tees. Even the white or middle tees play to a slope of 140. And that's with the course playing to a relatively modest 6,149 yards. Most of the challenge on the course comes on approach shots which have to overcome bunkers or water. Choosing tees that allow for a short-iron approach instead of a long-iron or wood makes those shots much more doable.

Highlighting the front nine are two spectacular par 3s. The 151-yard (blue tees) No. 4 calls for a short or mid-iron tee shot over wetlands and water to a slippery green further protected by a pot bunker. The 168-yard No. 9 in many ways emulates the famous Pete Dye-designed No. 17 at the TPC course in Ponte Vedra, Florida. While not technically an "island green," the putting surface on No. 9 juts out into a pond and is protected left and right by deep bunkers. Making matters even more complicated is the pond encircling the entire front, left, and right sides of the hole.

The Bear's back nine is a virtual highlight reel of great holes, and features two long par 5s that require approach shots over water. Yet no conversation about The Bear is complete without referencing the 427-yard. No. 18. A long tee shot needs to be kept short of a large lake that rests between the golfer and the putting surface. From there, a heroic iron shot must be made over the lake to a large green protected by a single sand bunker. A par on this hole helps the golfer forget any previous bogeys or double bogeys.

Although not as dramatic as its counterpart, the 7,043-yard Wolverine Course is lots of fun and far less penal than The Bear. Birdie holes are plentiful on the course which plays to 6,487 yards from the blue tees. Conditioning on this course—as with all three properties across the resort—is impeccable. The front nine has a little bit of Bear in it as holes weave over, beside, and around water hazards. But the back nine is more wooded and includes elevation changes.

The resort's Spruce Run course is unfortunately overshadowed by its two highly regarded partner courses. The fact is, however, that this 6,304-yard traditional course is elegantly designed and impeccably groomed. Many holes are protected left and right by towering trees which also serve to isolate them from the rest of the property. Greens are large and relatively flat, thus allowing players to fire away at the pin without fear of long, downhill putts.

continued on page 42

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Darien, Illinois

Animal Tamers Wanted

continued from page 41

Those humbled following 54 holes of great and challenging golf might consider taking a lesson at the Grand Traverse Golf Academy. Managed by 2008 PGA Professional National Champion Scott Hebert, the 2,000 sq. ft. Academy includes state-of-the-art swing analysis along with instruction from top area pros. Private lessons, junior camps, golf schools, and corporate clinics are all available.

Away from golf, the resort abounds with entertainment options, including an indoor water playground, a 100,000 sq. ft. health club, four indoor/outdoor pools, five restaurants, a private beach club on Lake Michigan, and five indoor tennis courts. Guests with four-legged family members are welcome to check their pets into The Dogs Dream Inn billed as "the ultimate dog retreat" for guests. The inn is located on resort property.

The hotel's partnership with Turtle Creek Casino & Hotel includes a shuttle service from Grand Traverse to the gaming facility a few minutes away.

"Our goal is to provide our guests with the best facilities available for leisure activities," says general manager Norman. "We are proud of the resort's long history of being one of the premier golf resorts in all of Michigan."

Twenty-eight years ago when The Bear was introduced to the golf world, one of pop music's top hits was "Don't You Forget About Me" by Simple Minds. The continued success of Grand Traverse Resort & Spa shows that more than a few guests have taken that song's message to heart.

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Encompass Championship at North Shore C.C.

George W. Bush was our president. A gallon of unleaded was priced at \$1.61. The Euro had become the official currency of the European Union. And Bob Gilder edged out Hale Irwin in a playoff to capture the SBC Senior Open at Harborside International in Chicago. That year was 2002.

Much has happened in the ensuing 11 years presidential-wise, petroleum price-wise, and Euro-wise. But somehow, some way, time stopped for Chicago as a host city of a Champions Tour event. This despite the fact that most everyone calls the Second City one of the most avid markets for professional golf in the country.

On June 21 – 23, the long wait will finally come to an end when Tour stars including Fred Couples, Mark O'Meara, and Bernhard Langer tee off at Encompass Championship held on the pristine grounds of North Shore Country Club in Glenview. The event will feature a pro-am format featuring sports, film and TV celebrities during the initial two rounds of the 54-hole tournament. The final 18 will be reserved for the professionals.

PGA Tour Hall of Fame player and Golf Channel analyst Lanny Wadkins said in a February interview that the pros were looking

forward to coming back to Chicago after all the years away. "North Shore Country Club is a great, traditional venue and I know that the players can't wait to play there," he said. Wadkins also made a virtual promise that Tom Watson would also be playing in the tournament. "He owes me one," Wadkins said with a smile. He told a story of how he loaned Watson a Toney Penna driver after watching him hit it all over the course in a practice round. "You can borrow it," he advised Watson, "as it cost me \$100."

Watson went on to win eight major championships with the driver. "And he never even gave me the hundred bucks," Wadkins said.

Chicago area resident and Champions Tour player Chip Beck stated in an April interview that the players were pleased that the tournament will be played on one of Chicagoland's premier private clubs. "It's really exciting that we are coming to Chicago to North Shore which is one of our best golf courses. I've had guys tell me that you just court that course one day and you're ready to play a major championship. It's a real good course and we're looking forward to it."

Asked about the long delay between events, Beck just shrugged. "It's nice that Encompass

came through and finally brought a tournament back to Chicago. It's been too long. This is a great venue for golf. It's a great city, a golfing town, there is probably more golf played here than one-third of the nation as far as golf enthusiasts. So we are excited to have Encompass involved."

Reached at his Chicago home in late April, Encompass President Tom Ealy said that the marriage between the insurer and the Champions Tour was perfect for all parties involved. "Encompass and golf are a perfect fit for our agents, our customers, and all of Chicago," he said. Encompass is part of the Allstate Group of Companies with over 3,200 independent agents who sell automobile, homeowner, and other related insurance products to consumers across the country. Encompass is based in Northbrook.

While most of the attention will be players during the tournament, the North Shore C.C. site is destined to earn time in the spotlight. Home to the 1933 U.S. Open, 1928 Western Open and two U.S. Amateurs, the classic course was designed by H.S. Colt and C.S. Alison and received updates by area renovation guru Rick Jacobson. After receiving rave reviews from many of the world's premier

PROFILES

Neal Kotlarek



Rocco Mediate



Jeff Sluman



Fred Couples



Nick Price

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GOLFChicagoTV

6/15	4.30p
6/23	5p
6/25	10a
6/29	5p

Ch...Ch...Ch...Changes

White Pines Golf Club & Banquets
 500 W. Jefferson Ave.
 Bensenville, IL 60106
 630-766-0304
 Open 6 a.m. - 10 p.m.

For now, the dining experience at White Pines Golf Club is what you might expect it to be at a typical clubhouse. The restaurant is open all day, serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Breakfast features the popular Muffin Melt, french toast, a breakfast burrito, and a couple of omelets.

On offer for lunch and dinner are a wide variety of appetizers, five salads, four kinds of burgers, four selections of wraps, and eleven different sandwiches.

On my visit, I sampled the lightly breaded Tower of Onion Rings [\$7.95], which was delicious, as well as the Everything Burger [\$10.95], a generous half-pound patty made with Certified Black Angus beef, topped with cheddar and American cheeses, grilled onions, mushrooms, bacon, and guacamole on a toasted brioche roll. The burger had

a genuine, rich beefy flavor, and was both satisfying and filling. I also tried the Chicken Parmesan sandwich [\$8.95], a breaded chicken breast with marinara sauce and mozzarella cheese on a kaiser roll. The Chicken Parm is a White Pines favorite. The sandwich was enjoyable, but I would have preferred a more dominant taste of anchovies in the marinara sauce, (I'm probably in the minority on that, though). Both sandwiches came with the excellent homemade potato chips. French fries are available for an extra 75 cents (included with the burgers), but I would recommend the chips regardless.

The Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay I had to accompany my entrees were adequate. One of the five beers on tap would probably be a better choice if you are opting for alcohol. The server, Renee, was charming and attentive.

The current dining room decor is dated. However, that and many other things are undergoing change at White Pines. Chef Rich Mancini has been overseeing both the restaurant and banquet facilities for nearly a year now. Chef Rich has over thirty years of

GOLF NOSH

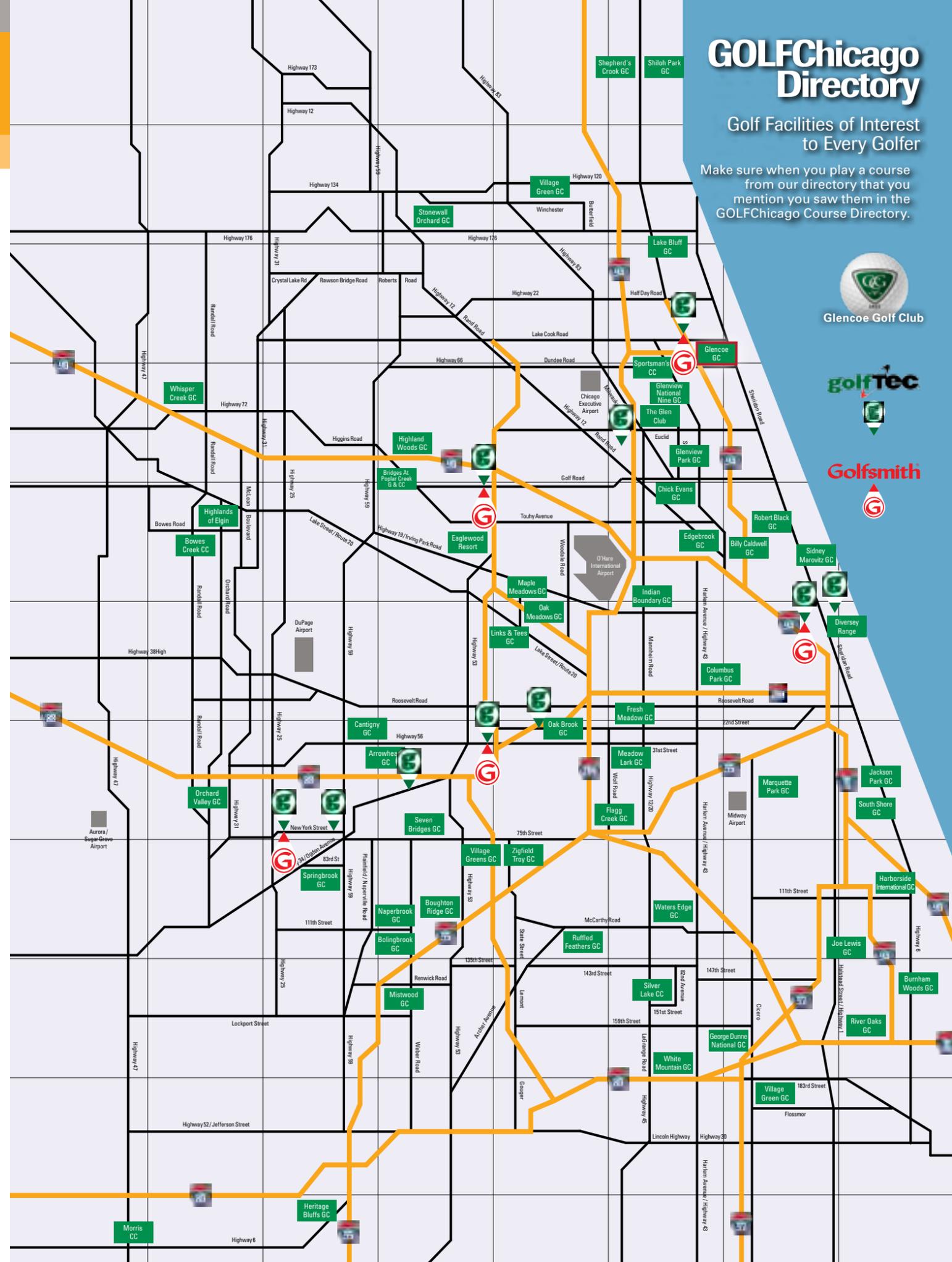
Stephen Hawk

experience in the food business, has owned his own restaurants, has appeared on Fox TV's *Hell's Kitchen* cooking competition, and teaches occasionally at Kitchen Chicago.

Mancini is a hands-on executive chef, preferring time in front of the stove to sitting at his desk. (His office has a Storeroom sign on the door; when he *has* to be in the office, he doesn't want to be disturbed.) The first thing he did at White Pines was toss out the microwaves. He is quickly turning the operation into a 'scratch' kitchen with as many food items as possible being made on the premises. A new bar, featuring six craft beers on tap, will be introduced as soon as the permit approval process is completed. A wine list with selections by the bottle and glass is coming soon as well.

Under Mancini's supervision, the banquet business has doubled, with White Pines hosting fifty weddings last year, as well as plenty of golf outings.

If you're playing White Pines now, be sure to visit the restaurant for a beer and a burger. But in a year, it should be worth a special trip just for the food.



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Arrowhead

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

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Bolingbrook Golf Club

630-771-9400
2001 Rodeo Drive
Bolingbrook, IL 60490
bolingbrookgolfclub.com

Bolingbrook Golf Club features an Arthur Hills and Steve Forrest designed championship golf course, an exceptional practice facility with a learning academy, state-of-the-art GPS-equipped golf carts, and a 76,000 square foot clubhouse with men's and women's locker rooms, lounges, two full-service restaurants, and full banquet facilities. Memberships are available.

Bolingbrook Golf Club was named #28 in the 2010 *Golf World* Readers' Choice Awards for best public course in the country, named to the 2009 *Golfweek* Best Courses You Can Play list, and received 4½ stars from *Golf Digest*



Bowes Creek Country Club

847-214-5880
1250 Bowes Creek Boulevard
Elgin, Illinois 60124
bowescreekcountryclub.com

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Cantigny Golf

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

Designed by Roger Packard, scenic Cantigny hosted the U.S. Amateur Public Links Championship in 2007 and is home to the 2013 Chicago Open, Oct. 7-9. The Illinois State Amateur returns to Cantigny in 2014. The Cantigny Golf Academy is a prime practice and learning center, and junior golfers thrive at the 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links.

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 a good experience for planners and guests.



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harborsideinternational.com

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Glenview, IL 60026
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847-835-0250
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Glencoe, IL 60022
glencoeclub.com

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Lake Bluff Golf Club

847-234-6771
355 W Washington Ave
Lake Bluff, IL 60044
lakebluffgolfclub.com

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Mistwood Golf Club

815-254-3333
1700 W. Renwick Rd.
Romeoville, IL 60446
mistwoodgolf.net

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.



Orchard Valley Golf Course

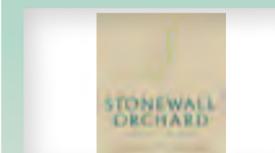
2411 West Illinois Avenue
Aurora, IL 60506
630-907-0500
orchardvalleygolf.com

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To learn more, visit stonewallorchard.com or call 847-740-4890.





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Worth, IL 60482
708-671-1032

watersedgegolf.com

Best Places To Play By *Golf Digest*.

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Waukegan, IL 60087
waukegangolf.org

Boughton Ridge
630-739-4100
Bolingbrook

Coyote Run Golf Course

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

Par 71
Yardage: 6,478
Weekday: \$50 w/cart
Weekend: \$60 w/cart
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes, \$31 w/
cart, Mon.-Thu. only
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Eaglewood Resort and Spa

630-773-3510
1401 Nordic Rd.
Itasca, IL 60143
eaglewoodresort.com

Par 72
Yardage 6,015 - 5,410 yds.
Weekday: \$39.00 w/cart
(Spring Rate)
Weekend: \$45.00 w/cart
(Spring Rate)
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

The First Tee of Aurora & Fox Valley
630-499-0680
1001 Hill Avenue
Aurora, IL 60505
thefirstteeaurora.org

The First Tee of Greater Chicago
773-885-8258
2901 W. Lake Avenue,
Suite A
Glenview, IL 60025
thefirstteegreaterchicago.org

Flagg Creek Golf Course

708-246-3336
6939 S. Wolf Road
Countryside, IL 60525
flaggcreekgolfcourse.org

Par 33
Yardage: 2493 – 1865
Weekday: \$14 (resident)
\$18 (non res.)
Weekend: \$16 (resident)
\$20 (non res.)
Cart Fee: \$16
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Fox Bend Golf Course

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

Par 72
Yardage: 6,890 – 5,325
Weekday: \$38 walk
\$54 ride
Weekend: \$43 walk
\$59 ride
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes
Resident rates available

Grand Geneva Resort and Spa

262-248-8811
Lake Geneva, WI 53147

Green Meadows Golf Club

630-810-5330
18 W 201 West 63rd Street
Westmont, IL 60559
DUPAGEGOLF.COM

Par 30
Yardage: 1,888 - 1,545 yds.
Weekday: \$14 walk
\$22 ride

Weekend: \$16 walk
\$24 ride
*Frequent specials on course website
Discount Program: Yes
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: No
Banquets/Outings: No

Hamilton County Golf

Indiana's Premier Golf Destination!
indianaspremiergolf.com

Indian Oaks Country Club

815-824-2282
Shabbona, IL
9 Holes
3,379 yards
indianoaksccl.com

Kids Golf Foundation of Illinois

Golf Changes Kids' Lives
630-466-0913
P.O. Box 610
Sugar Grove, IL 60554
kidsgolffoundation.org

Links & Tees Golf Facility

630-458-2660
Addison, IL
Recognized in 2011 by *Golf Range Magazine* as one of the top 100 learning facilities in North America.
addisonparks.org

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Maple Meadows Golf Club

630-616-8424
272 Addison Rd.
Wood Dale, IL 60191
DUPAGEGOLF.COM

West 18 - Par 70
Yardage: 6,438 - 5,339 yds.
Weekday: \$32 walk
\$49 ride
Weekend: \$41 walk
\$58 ride

*Frequent specials on course website

East 9 – Par 34
Yardage: 2,815 - 2,427 yds.
Rate: \$16 walk / \$25 ride
Discount Program: Yes
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Martin Design Partnership, Ltd.

Golf Course Architecture and Design
630-482-2532
335 N. River Street
Suite 201
Batavia, IL 60510
mdpltd.com

Naperbrook Golf Course

630-378-4215
22204 W. Hassert
Boulevard
Plainfield, IL 60585
golfnaperville.org

Par 72
Yardage: 6677
Weekday: \$38
Weekend: \$48
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Oak Brook Golf Club

630-368-6400
2606 York Road
Oak Brook, IL 60523
oak-brook.org/recreation

Par 72
Yardage 6541 - 5341 yds
Weekday: \$67.50 w/cart
Weekend: \$71.50 w/cart
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Course Managers:

For inclusion in this directory, or to update your listing, please call 815.741.8005 or email us at

dweretka@golfchicagomagazine.com

Oak Meadows Golf Club

630-595-0071
900 N. Wood Dale Road
Addison, IL 60101
DUPAGEGOLF.COM

Par 71
Yardage: 6,718 - 5,628 yds.
Weekday: \$32 walk
\$49 ride
Weekend: \$41 walk
\$58 ride

*Frequent specials on course website
Discount Program: Yes
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: No

SentryWorld

Closed for renovation for 2013 season
866-479-6753
Stevens Point, WI
18 holes
Par 72
6,951 yards
sentryworld.com

Shepherd's Crook

847-872-2080
351 N. Green Bay Rd.
Zion, IL 60099
shepherdsbrook.org

Shiloh Park

847-746-5500
23rd and Bethesda Blvd.
Zion, IL 60099
shilohparkgolf.com

Springbrook Golf Course

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

Par 72
Yardage: 6,896
Weekday: \$40
Weekend: \$50
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Village Greens

630-985-3610
Woodridge

Western Golf Association / Evans Scholars Foundation

westerngolfassociation.com

White Pines Dome

630-776-0304, ext. 5
Bensenville, IL
whitepinesdome.com

Zigfield Troy Par 3

630-985-9860
1535 W. 75th Street
Woodridge, IL 60517

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Memoirs of a Bagman

Loopers
A Caddie's Twenty-Year Golf Odyssey
By John Dunn
\$25 (hardcover)
279 pages
www.crownpublishing.com
ISBN: 978-07704-3718-3

We are the masters of the quick fix, wellsprings of optimism, and levelers of hard truth..." —John Dunn

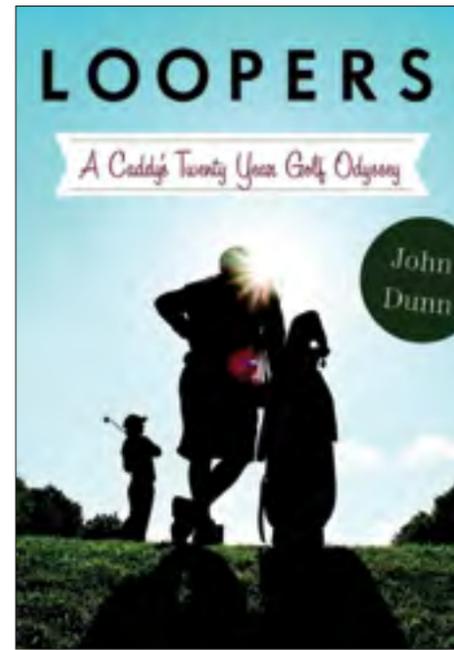
It would appear that 2013 is the year of the caddie in golf publishing. *Loopers* represents our second review of a bag-toting odyssey. John Dunn's *Loopers* is not a Dostoevsky-like unpeeling of golf's dark underbelly, but a revealing look into the life of one caddie; a "lifer" with candid tales about his experiences on, and around, some of the finest courses in the country. Dunn compares his co-workers to a bohemian subculture with "characters

right out of a Steinbeck or Kerouac novel—mad poets and migrant workers chasing the seasons to pick up work..." Some of these caddies are hiding from the stress of life, recovering from relationships, or just doing whatever they can to be close to the game of golf. Dunn takes readers from the course to the campgrounds to the wild parties during peak season at resorts.

Loopers, at its essence, is honest; moreover, it is a reflection of a side of the golf industry rarely documented. Dunn paints a colorful picture that includes his profession's perks, pitfalls, and politics. His canvas includes resorts like Bandon Dunes and St. Andrews, as well as private clubs like Shinnecock Hills and The Olympic Club. But the focus is on the people Dunn worked with and for, including Bill Gates and Kevin Costner. *Loopers* is a treasure trove of character sketches. It is the people that make this game appealing, which is why Dunn hit it on the screws with *Loopers*.

ON THE SHELF

Between the Covers



Un Travail d'Amour

John and Nancy Lasseter are long-time francophiles, and over the years have traveled extensively in France. It was there that they developed their appreciation of and fondness for Old-World style wines.

It was with some irony then that in 1993 they moved to Sonoma (with Napa, the very heart of "New World" style wines) and began dabbling in amateur winemaking. In 2002, they went all-in when they purchased a badly neglected local winery and 27-acre vineyard property.

This sad state of affairs allowed them to start from scratch, however. The land was restored to natural habitat and good health. The vineyards were converted to 100% organic farming practices, supported by a natural eco-system that includes beehives, owl boxes, and insectaires. A new eco-friendly winery building was completed in 2011.

In addition to wine, the Lasseters have a passion for the arts, and they try to bring an artistic sensibility to the winemaking. They commissioned local painter Dennis Zieminski to create the label art. They consider their winemaker, Julia Iantosca (one of only a handful of female winemakers), to also be an artist in the way she uses her skills to handcraft the signature blends favored by the Lasseters.

Lasseter Family Winery is a genuine boutique operation. The total production of the four wines currently available is just 1445 cases. It is truly a labor of love. You can find the wines at lasseterfamilywinery.com.

2011 Lasseter Enjoué \$24
None of my friends like rosés, but I've never understood why. What's not to like? They routinely offer delightful color, plenty of flavor, and great versatility. And so it is with this Lasseter Enjoué (meaning joyful, playful, etc.)

The pale salmon-pink color comes from using red grapes (in this case, Grenache, Syrah, and Mourvèdre, the classic Rhone GSM trio, sourced from the seven-acre Justi Creek Block) in a white-wine style. Both the nose and the taste suggest strawberry, ruby grapefruit, and lime. There is plenty of acidity, so it will work with a wide variety of foods.

Summer is now well under way. Dine al fresco and enjoy a bottle of Enjoué with Coquilles St. Jacques, Tuna with Wine, Tomatoes, and Herbs, or Pork and Veal Pâté.

2010 Lasseter Chemin de Fer \$40
All aboard! 'Chemin de Fer' is French for railroad, and the name recalls a memorable train trip the Lasseters took through southern France many years ago. Although in different proportions, this wine is made with the same Justi Creek Block GSM as is the Enjoué, showing just how varied winemaking can be.

In the glass, Chemin de Fer is transparent ruby in color. The nose features aromas of dark cherry and spice. True to the Lasseters' preference for an Old-World style, on the palate the wine is dry and lean, with flavors of dark fruit. Structure is provided by plenty of acid and tannins, and the wine has a long smooth finish. Be sure to decant this wine and give it up to two hours to breathe.

Couple Chemin de Fer with Chicken Sautéed with Herbs and Garlic, Coq au Vin, or Pan-broiled Steak.

ON THE CORKSCREWS

Leo McNeal



leo849@mchsi.com

MacKinlay's Shackleton Whisky

Looking for a good story to tell your house guests over an after-dinner drink? MacKinlay's Rare Old Highland Malts are re-creations of the original malt whisky shipped to Antarctica in 1907 by explorer Ernest Shackleton on his "Nimrod" expedition. In 2007, some of the whisky that was abandoned by the expedition was found still intact in Shackleton's expedition hut. In 2011, three of the discovered bottles were flown back to Scotland for scientific analysis and replication.

Malts from Glen Mhor and Dalmore distilleries were combined with others to create a malt that is, according to the MacKinlay website "light honey in colour with an aroma that is soft, elegant and refined, and a taste that is both harmonious and exhilarating."

Our personal review is that the whisky is as fabulous as the tale behind its presentation. The bottle is raffia-encased, reminiscent of the straw-bound bottles found in the Antarctic. The label graphics are meticulously hand drawn to ensure a perfect match to the original.

—Neal Kotlarek



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Delayed Ban of Broomsticks and Belly Poles

FROM THE FRINGE

Insights on the PGA Tour



Jim Owczarski

The United States Open, the year's second major championship, returns to fabled Merion Golf Club just outside of Philadelphia this month. Webb Simpson, defending champion, will be placed in the awkward situation of reminiscing about his less than inspiring victory at the Olympic Club in 2012, and the United States Golf Association's announcement in November that it will ban the anchored putting style used by Simpson effective January 1 of 2016.

Frankly, it *should* be an uncomfortable situation for Simpson. And defending British Open champion Ernie Els. And recent Masters champ Adam Scott. And 2012 PGA Champion Keegan Bradley. And 14-year-old Chinese sensation Tianlang Guan.

Yes, as the Rules of Golf are currently interpreted and enforced, these players and the others who anchor putters are not cheating. And, yes, as of 2016 they will be. So in essence, the USGA (and the Royal & Ancient) are saying, well, they kinda are cheating right now.

Plain and simple, it's not a golf stroke and it does help you putt better.

If it didn't, then why are top-flight kids and teenagers and college golfers using it? Because it takes the nerves out of the equation, and makes it easier to perform on the most pressure-filled stage of the golf course—the putting green.

It's a steel-shafted beta-blocker and an unfair advantage.

When the adrenaline pumps, when you're scared, or nervous, or excited—whatever—your body has physical reactions. In high-level athletics, how you manage such reactions (or overcome them) makes you great.

The fact that the PGA Tour is floating out the idea of playing under separate rules is sickening.

It's very reminiscent of the Major League Baseball Players Union fight against drug testing to protect the tainted few, and in the end wound up staining the entirety for the rest of time (Go ahead—name one great baseball player that has played since 2003 you don't wonder about).

That leads us into the next calamity on the Tour's hands—its own drug testing policy. Greg Norman called the current program a disgrace and said the Tour should enact blood testing. Vijay Singh, who admitted to the use of a banned substance, sued the Tour for kinda/sorta going after him following his admission.

Again, the Tour looks awful in its stance on this. It's professional athletics in 2013. In order for your game to be clean, it has to be clean. You can't just

say it is. The long and tired argument that golf is a skill sport and that a PED can't make the ball go in the hole is ignorant and wrong. And, the members of the media who fall in line with this are no better than those who didn't question the explosion of bodies and home runs in baseball at the end of the 20th century.

Golf is an athletic game. The men and women who play have bodies anyone would kill for. They work out religiously. The violence put on your joints, ligaments, tissues, and muscles is nearly unparalleled in any sport. And you're on the road every week, pounding ball after ball after ball, just wearing yourself out. You mean to say a player wouldn't use a little something to feel better over the weekend?

What if you could get a little something to recover from that tweaked muscle a little quicker, especially if a card is on the line? You know, these golf courses are getting longer and longer—who's to say a couple miles per hour on that swing wouldn't get you to that par 5 in two?

Golf is the ultimate democracy—you play to get paid, and it's all on you. If you miss cuts, you lose money. You lose money, you find yourself back on a mini-tour. Just like that, your career could be over.

The pressure is unbelievable. There is no team to pick you up. No guaranteed contract protecting you or your family if you go through a slump.

It's absurd to think individuals in professional golf haven't used—and aren't using—performance enhancing drugs. They're found in high schools, colleges, and of course every other high-dollar sport in the world.

The professional golf tours do a lot of things right. They raise millions of dollars for charity, they entertain us with great play, and there are many, many great men and women who represent themselves and their sport with the utmost amount of class and humility.

Yet it starts at the top, and the governing bodies need to call a cheat a cheat and eliminate the anchored stroke. Immediately. They need to eliminate all doubt of tainted performance with simple blood tests. Immediately.

It is a privilege to be a professional athlete, not a right. You are not owed a trick to make up for a lack of nerve and you are not owed the ability to hit a par 5 in two. Sometimes, you just aren't good enough. That's sports.

They say this great game is only as good as its rules, which right now don't seem that good to me.

The governing bodies need to call a cheat a cheat and eliminate the anchored stroke. Immediately. They need to eliminate all doubt of tainted performance with simple blood tests. Immediately.

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XCG6 irons feature four tungsten sole weights, an undercut cavity, and a super-thin face for the longest iron shots in golf. Guaranteed!

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Fairway Wood	Swing Speed (mph)	Ball Speed (mph)	Spin Rate (rpm)	Carry Distance (yds)
Exotics XCG6 #3-15.0	107.6	157.4	3528	251.8
Callaway X Hot #3-15.0	107.6	154.9	3873	245.1
TaylorMade RBZ Stage 2 #3-15.0	107.1	155.7	4039	244.8
Cobra AMP CELL #3-15.0	107.9	156.7	4545	240.6
Ping Anser #3-14.5	107.2	151.1	3981	238.3
Adams Speedline Super LS #3-15.0	107.2	153.3	4377	237.1
Titleist 913F #3-15.0	107.2	155.2	4822	234.6
Nike VR S Covert #3-15.0	107.4	150.1	5252	222.5

Iron	Club Speed (mph)	Ball Speed (mph)	Spin Rate (rpm)	Carry Distance (yds)	Total Distance (yds)
Exotics XCG6 #6 iron	90.4	119.0	6471	162.9	166.7
TaylorMade Rocketbladez #6 iron	90.5	115.2	7409	153.1	155.0

Trackman robot test results provided by igolf technologies using Titleist ProV1X balls. Fairway wood shot analysis data represents average of all hits at 107 mph club speed. All clubs were tested using stock stiff-flex shafts and Titleist ProV1x golf balls. Iron shot analysis data represents overall average of all hits at 90 mph average club speed. Irons were tested using stock steel stiff-flex shafts.



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