

GOLFChicago

Chicago's Premier Multimedia Golf Source & Authority

March 2013, Vol. 17 No. 1



Michigan's Shanty Creek

The Hottest Big Sticks

**Dave Pelz: Short Game Guru
Beyond Bunkers**

GOLFChicagoMagazine.com



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**Chicago
Golf Show**

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NOTES FROM GREG AND DAVE

Chicago possesses each of the essentials necessary to produce a golfer's doldrums; snow, ice, sleet, and sub-zero wind chill readings. While 2013 is still in its infancy, we have already been nailed by each and every one of these elements. Throw in a few tantalizing days in the balmy 50s and even 60s to get our golf juices flowing, only to be followed hours later by an icy slap-in-the-face reality of a Midwestern winter. In just a few disjointed weeks, we've been offered the rare chance to sled, shovel, and swing a club. Life could be worse.

Perhaps the only charming thing about January is that it leads to February. The shortest of months brings, for golf junkies like us, our favorite weekend prior to

the Masters *toonament* in April. Since neither of our wives reads the scribbles on this page, we can say that the Chicago Golf Show weekend is truly our favorite weekend of the month. Taking a short break from searching for the perfect card, testing out chocolate-enrobed cherries, and seeking out the freshest of flowers for our



incredibly intelligent and ever-engaging wives (covering our tracks just in case), we stroll across the show aisles to swing the newest clubs, take in a lesson with Hall-of-Famer Lanny Wadkins, and dive headfirst into conversations with fellow golfoholics about which courses to schedule in 2013.

"Hi, my name is Greg. I haven't played golf since November and my putter is six years old."

"We love you, Greg."

"Hi, my name is Dave and I have been golfing for 25 years. Last year, I lost 40 yards off the tee, and then relocated 17 of them with my RocketBallz driver. I am lamenting over my power failures. I need help"

"We Love you, Dave!"

Yes. We reside in our element at the Chicago Golf Show. If you, like us, find hope in a new putter or a turbo-charged big stick, then go ahead: make a guilt-free purchase. If a new living room set burned through your budget, then keep your wallet in the pocket and enjoy a free lesson from one of our finest Illinois PGA teaching professionals. While the Chicago Golf Show is yet to be marketed as a therapeutic, we know for a fact that it cures what ails ya. Fore!

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*At participating golf courses

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Greetings, Fellow Golfers.

Welcome to the 30th annual Chicago Golf Show *presented by the BMW Championship.*

Hard to believe it has been *three decades.* We are glad that you are here! The Show owes its success to the thousands of golfers who attend each year and to the hundreds of exhibitors who choose our show to connect with customers both old and new. We thank you one and all and commit to do our best to earn your continued loyalty.

We're excited and honored to have the BMW Championship as our presenting sponsor. It is one of the PGA TOUR's most prestigious events. This year, for the first time, the BMW Championship will be played at Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest, Sept. 9-15, as part of the FedEx Cup Playoffs. The Western Golf Association will conduct the event for the benefit of the Evans Scholars Foundation, which has been sending caddies to college for more than 80 years.

For the fourth consecutive year, every Chicago Golf Show attendee is eligible to receive a free round of golf, courtesy of GolfVisions, Inc., which operates a dozen courses in the Chicago area. Our fans *love* free golf, and they have GolfVisions' owner Tim Miles to thank for it. Once again, Golfvisions' courses will honor as many as four coupons per foursome! Yes, folks, *everyone* in your group can play for free, thanks to Tim's "no restrictions" policy.

We thank the Illinois PGA for many years of continued support. Every year, dozens of Illinois PGA members are on hand to provide free lessons in the full-swing, short game and putting to help our attendees enjoy the game more. It is a unique feature of the show that our attendees truly appreciate.

Enjoy the show!

Sincerely,
Tom

Tom Corcoran
Chicago Golf Show



2013 Chicago Golf Show

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Don't let sticker shock frighten you away from the Zero-G golf bag from Sun Mountain. If you have made a vow to walk more in 2013, then the value of Zero-G is in the belt. Zero-G's hip belt transfers the majority of the bag weight away from your shoulders and to your legs. The innovative hip belt fits waist sizes from 30" to 50"—plus there is extra padding for extra lumbar support. The bag is user-friendly, period. Simply slide the straps over your shoulders, then fasten the belt around your waist. Does the hip belt make a difference? Oh, yeah! It is a completely new experience for those who are tired of straps cutting into their shoulders or the strain on your back after a round. Trust us, you'll spend less time at the chiropractor and more time walking on the course.

Weighing just over five pounds, the Zero-G has X-Strap® dual strap system with molded airflow shoulder straps, and eight pockets that include a water bottle pouch and a waterproof valuables pocket for your phone and other electronic devices.

\$275

www.sunmountain.com



Stretch Jacket

When playing conditions are more suitable for ice fishing than playing golf, Sunice's Hurricane collection keeps you swinging. The Albany jacket has 25% more 'stretch' than other performance jackets and utilizes Gore-Tex®, an exclusive fabric for Sunice, to protect you from the wind, the rain, and cold temperatures. One of the newest features is an iPod storage pocket with waterproof zippers.

With Sunice's Albany jacket, you'll finish the round while your buddies are soaked to the bone, shivering and waiting in the clubhouse. The Albany jacket comes with a lifetime waterproof guarantee.

\$400 www.sunice.com



Black Gold

STX Golf's Pitch Black Putters are proof that we all look better in black. With a black nickel head and shaft, and sharp, contrasting sight lines, this modern flat stick is dressed to the nines with a seamless view in the playing position.

STX's F.E.E.L. Technology insert encourages optimal roll, so "never up, never in" catcalls are a thing of the past. The Pitch Black 3, shown here, is face-balanced with a roll pocket sole that elevates the center of gravity. If you are a player who requires a more traditional style, the Pitch Black 4 is a blade, but is the size of a small mallet-sized putter.

This one is even designed for players with a paintbrush stroke!

\$149.99 www.stxgolf.com



Fit to Your Game

Bridgestone's E-Series golf balls have a new, larger dimple pattern that reduces drag for more ball speed. The E5 balls promote a higher ball flight for more carry. If you slice, and are looking for the softest value-priced multilayer ball on the market, then grab a box of E6s. The E6 balls incorporate an anti-spin core that reduces sidespin. In addition to white, the E6s are available in optic yellow, orange, and pink.

For you straight-knockers, the E7 balls are for distance. The new core was specifically designed to increase ball velocity.

Any way you cook it, Bridgestone's E-Series has a ball for you!

\$26.96 per dozen

www.bridgestonegolf.com



Ninja Shafts

nVentix® Golf, the company behind the NUNCHUK® series of precision graphite golf shafts, has released the NUNCHUK xi. The NUNCHUK xi compliments nVentix Golf's NUNCHUK golf shafts for drivers, fairway woods, and the NUNCHUK 370 for hybrids. This graphite/iron shaft provides a tighter shot dispersion than traditional graphite shafts, but yields far less vibration than steel iron shafts.

With the new NUNCHUK System, golfers will experience identical feel from club to club in their iron sets. nVentix Golf claims their 'one shaft fits all' system takes the guesswork out of clubfitting. For such a mighty claim, it is worth a demo from your professional clubfitter.

\$75 per shaft www.nventix.com



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Kemper To Manage Chicago's Harborside Courses

KemperSports of Northbrook has been selected by the Illinois International Port District to provide golf course management, marketing, and agronomy services for Harborside International Golf Center in Chicago. Located 15 minutes from downtown Chicago, Harborside features two award-winning 18-hole golf courses (Port and Starboard), and a 24,000 square-foot clubhouse highlighted by a Phil Stefani Signature restaurant. The Starboard course has been named to *Golfweek's* Top 50 "Best Municipal Courses" in the U.S. list for 2011-2012 and both courses are ranked in the publication's "Best Courses You Can Play" in Illinois.

"With two great golf courses located just minutes from the Chicago Loop, Harborside is a premier golf facility," said Steve Skinner, chief executive officer of KemperSports. "We plan to introduce a variety of new programming at Harborside to cater to the residents of Chicago and surrounding areas. We look forward to elevating the service, playing conditions, and guest experience at the property to make Harborside a must-play for Chicago golfers and visitors to the city."

For reservations and more information, visit the Harborside website: www.harborsideinternational.com.

In playing golf for more than fifty years, I don't believe there ever was a round in which I used more than six clubs... Today there's a stick in the sack for every shot... Golfer's used to be made on the golf course. Now they are made in the machine shops.
—Donald Ross

Bolingbrook Sports Dome Offers Women's Golf League

The newly renovated McQ's Sports Bar and Dome has introduced new programs catering to women and juniors. The "Pink Tee League" is held Wednesday nights throughout the winter and is defined as a special ladies night that combines golf instruction with a social "happy hour." Golf instruction is served up between 5:30 – 7 p.m. at the complex's indoor range in conjunction with drinks and appetizers served between 6:45 – 7:15 p.m. in the adjoining sports bar. Registration for the league is \$50 and includes an individual lesson from a PGA professional plus a welcoming gift. Each session afterwards is \$25.

Juniors of all ability levels are encouraged to check out the new "MPC program" held at the dome's Mistwood Performance Center (the MPC that inspires the program's name). Participants engage in practice sessions "with a purpose" that focus on maximizing one's full playing ability. Led by award-winning instructor John Platt—the 2011 Illinois PGA Teacher of the Year—the classes include sessions on the dome's high-tech equipment, including Trackman, SAM Putt Lab, and V1 Software. Sessions are held on Tuesday nights and Thursday evenings. Registration is \$150. Each session afterwards is \$25.

For more information about McQ's Pink Tee League or its specialized junior golf programs, visit www.bolingbrooksportsdome.com or www.theplayersservice.com.

BMW, Champions Tour Events Headline Exciting 2013 Event Calendar

While it will be difficult to maintain the buzz generated by the 2012 Ryder Cup Matches at Medinah C.C. last year, organizers of two area events will have the world's premier golfers to help draw attention and galleries to their tournaments. The Western Golf Association brings the BMW Championship to Conway Farms in Lake Forest September 9-15. One of the PGA Tour's premier events, the BMW is the penultimate event in the FedEx Cup playoff format. The top 70 ranked players in the world—including Rory McIlroy, Tiger Woods, and Luke Donald—are expected to participate. Tickets for this exciting event are available at www.bmwchampionshipusa.com. Proceeds from the tournament support the Evans Scholar Foundation which awards scholarships to deserving caddies.

Come June 17-23, the Encompass Championship will be coming to the prestigious North Shore Country Club in Glenview. The tournament will feature a pro-am format where Champions Tour professionals partner with amateurs and celebrities for an event-within-the-event competition. Eighty-one Champions Tour professionals including Hale Irwin, Tom Watson, Ben Crenshaw, and Bernhard Langer are expected to compete in a traditional 54-hole stroke play format for the individual title and prize money.

For more information, contact the sponsor's website: www.encompassinsurance.com.



The trouble that most of us find with the modern matched sets of clubs is that they don't really seem to know any more about the game than the old one's did!—Robert Browning

Golf Academy Offers Winter Classes At Cantigny

It's not too late to sign up for expert lessons provided by the Cantigny Golf Academy. Managed by staff PGA professional Greg Baresel, the lessons are part of a five-part winter work shop held on select Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. for the bargain prices of \$10 for adults and \$5 for juniors. The theme of the February 27th class is "Gain More Yards Off the Tee." The ensuing session on March 20th tackles the topic "The Best Way to Practice." To sign up for one or more of the winter sessions, call 630-260-8236 or e-mail gbaresel@cantigny.org.

Recognized as one of Chicagoland's top golf schools, the academy features a Trackman Combine—a new technology that enables golfers to test their skills and better understand their strengths and weaknesses. For more details, visit www.cantignygolf.com, or call 630 260 8199.

Area Inventor Introducing Adjustable Putter to Marketplace

Steve Warner has been an avid golfer for 50 years. He has played competitively at all different levels and was confident his game matched up with anybody's. Except for one thing: he had a tendency to pull his putts when the pressure was on.

"It happens to even great players," Warner says. "Some of us eventually groove our putting strokes to pull the ball a little or push it a little. And that 'little' is the difference between making a putt and missing it.

Unlike others who just accept their golfing fate, Warner was determined to do something about his problem. He took a door shim and attached it to the face of his putter as a correction. Lo and behold, the putts that always leaked to the left started going in the hole. Over and over and over again.

"It was a revelation," Warner says. "I knew I was onto something that could help golfers who had tendencies to push or pull their putts."

And, just like that, the AFT putter was born. The product name is in direct reference to the Adjustable Face Technology Warner used to fashion a putter head that can be adjusted to overcome any putting stroke tendency.

Warner is presently producing three different models, all in milled stainless steel. Both loft and face are adjustable on each. "Four footers don't get missed anymore," he says. He adds that his expectation is to receive exposure for the putter on one of the professional golf tours "in coming months."

AFT Putters are now available at the PGA Superstore in Lombard with distribution expected to expand in coming months. For more information, visit: www.warnergolffco.com.



John Deere Classic Earns Award for Community Involvement

The 2012 John Deere Classic was recognized in December by the PGA Tour with its "Most Engaged Community Award." According to tournament chairman Clair Peterson, the award is an important milestone for event organizers. "The John Deere Classic is very proud to receive [this] award for the second consecutive year and the third time in the last several years," he said. "The 20,000 people and the 493 organizations represented in the Birdies for Charity program work the grass roots, get people involved, and get donors involved. Their involvement and the financial success of the tournament enabled us to give each charity an eight-percent bonus on top of the Birdies for Charity pledges collected."

Tour star Zach Johnson won the 2012 John Deere Classic with a birdie on the second hole of a sudden death playoff. A former Masters champion and nine-time PGA Tour winner, Johnson also serves on the tournament's executive board. The 2013 John Deere Classic is set for July 8-14 at TPC Deere Run in Silvis, Illinois. For more information on this year's event, visit www.johndeereclassic.com.

If profanity had an influence on the flight of the ball, the game would be played far better than it is.

—Horace Hutchinson



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YOU SIMPLY CAN'T MISS.**



Wood Wind Golf Club, Westfield, IN



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- ★ RIVER GLEN COUNTRY CLUB ★ WOOD WIND GOLF CLUB



IndianasPremierGolf.com

Western Springs Amateur Wins IJGT Event in Florida

Daniel Hudson of Western Springs fired 72 – 70 = 142 to finish 2-under-par and win the season's first International Junior Tour Golf event in the Boys 15-19 division held January 19-20. The two-day tournament held at Harmony Golf Preserve featured golfers 14-19 representing 14 states and six countries. Hudson came from five strokes back of Tyler Dierwechter of Florida following the first round to best Dierwechter, James Cresswell of Pennsylvania, and Giovanni Trione of Rome, Italy. All three finished at 3-over-par 147 to trail Hudson by five strokes.

"It feels great to win," Hudson said after the tournament. "This is my first career win as I had eight second-place finishes last year on other tours. It feel good to finally be the champion."

The IJGT provides exceptional junior golfers with the opportunity to compete over some of the country's premier courses, including Harbour Town Golf Links at Hilton Head, South Carolina, and TPC Sawgrass in Florida. To obtain more information about the IJGT, please visit www.IJGT.org or call 800-792-9143.



Daniel Hudson

Golf is more fun than walking naked in a strange place, but not much.
—Buddy Hackett

XGolf Simulator Featured at White Pines Golf Dome

The acclaimed technologically-advanced XGolf simulator is the latest state-of-the-art swing aid to be employed at the White Pines Golf Dome in Bensenville. The XGolf is most often used for simulating a golf round on a world-class golf course but can also be employed for club-fitting and golf lessons.

"The XGOLF Simulator is the best one I have ever seen," says Mike Munro, president of White Plains Golf Dome. "We did our due diligence before we obtained it, and no others were as accurate, informative, and, most importantly, as much fun as this simulator."

White Pines is one of Chicagoland's most popular indoor golf complexes and features three large target greens, a 45-ft. long contoured practice green, lessons from some of the state's top instructors and regularly-scheduled demo days featuring the hottest new clubs. "But the number one thing we offer," Munro says, "is great fun at affordable prices."

For more information, visit www.whitepinesgolfdome.com.

A golf match is a test of your skill against your opponent's luck.—Anonymous

Illinois Golf Pro Ogden To Become Hall of Famer

The late legendary North Shore Country Club golf professional Bill Ogden will be inducted into the national PGA Golf Professionals Hall of Fame in Port St. Lucie, Florida, on March 12th. Ogden, who passed away at age 78 in 2005, was considered one of the most inspiring state PGA pros in Illinois section history. He took great pride in mentoring young PGA professionals and saw 43 PGA assistant professionals go on to earn head professional positions during the course of his career. Ogden was the 1970 Section PGA Golf Professional of the Year. He competed in 31 major championships between 1953 and 1972 and captured a record six Illinois PGA Player of the Year titles. He was inducted into the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame in 1990.



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Bring It On Home!

Like most golfers, you're probably lucky to find the time to practice or play once a week, usually on a Saturday or a Sunday. After all these years, I've finally realized golfers don't always need to access a golf course to get better. They just need to access golf. You can find the time to practice more if you do it at home. Whether

it's eight-foot putts or pitching balls from a mat to a laundry basket, you'll do your game worlds of good if you just let yourself access the game. Hit shots, stroke putts, take full swings with almost GOLF practice balls. It's doable!

Believe it or not, I was in the same boat, which is why I designed my "ultimate" golf

INSTRUCTION

SHORT
GAME
ADVISOR



Dave Pelz



backyard behind our new home in Austin. My setup allows me to hit almost every conceivable putt and short-game shot under realistic golf conditions. Thanks to the quality of the synthetic turf I used to construct my backyard dream, my wedge shots stop like they do on real greens and my putts roll true.



Basically, with the help of SYN Lawn Golf, I've built the short-game practice facility of my dreams in my backyard. There's a good explanation for my backyard obsession: Improving your short game and overall scoring is easier if you can work in the comfort and convenience of your own yard.

I intend to make my short game the best it has ever been. My real goal, however, is to inspire you to find a way to practice your wedge game and putting at your own home on weekday evenings and without having to dress up or drive to the course or range (and to do this with your wife, kids, or friends to make it just that much more enjoyable).

Transforming your backyard into a legitimate practice area really isn't as difficult—or expensive—as you might think. If you're ready to install a synthetic green in your backyard, you can visit www.synlawn.com for expert guidance. If you prefer to keep things simple, just designate a target (a laundry basket will do) and with some backyard-safe balls, you can work on key scoring skills like distance and trajectory control. Just as importantly, you can groove the feel of properly-struck shots and take that feel to the course.

Try this a few nights a week: Pitch and chip balls to a specific target in your yard. Chip three "low-running" shots with the ball back in your stance (off your back ankle). Then pitch three balls with a "medium" trajectory with the ball in the middle of your stance (remember to smoothly accelerate through the ball as you swing). Thirdly, if you have room to safely play a lofted "lob" shot, play three with the ball forward in your stance, aim left of the target, open the club face, let the length of your backswing control the distance the ball carries and accelerate to a full finish. Take note of which technique produces the best results.

Then, the next time you're on the course, do the same drill on the practice green and see which technique works for the conditions you find around that green. Move around to different positions and you'll begin to develop an eye for which shot suits the given lie and landing conditions. What starts in the comfort of your own yard can truly help you lower your handicap. Start today!

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Build a Foundation

Training in the off-season is the expectation for most athletes in today's world, and this is for good reason. Good performance during the season is typically related to off-season efforts. Off-season programs for conditioning and core stability are not typically performed by amateur golfers. But core stability is essential in developing a golfer's game. A round of golf involves walking eighteen holes while carrying a bag loaded with clubs, balls, umbrella, and whatever else we can stuff in all those pockets. Not to mention the energy it takes to swing a club. Fatigue is an issue for golfers, and a solid foundation is needed to confront that reality.

The core muscle group is oftentimes defined as the abdominal muscles. In actuality, the core involves multiple muscle groups including the abdominals, back extensors, shoulder and scapular stabilizers, and hip and thigh muscles. Good core stability requires strength, flexibility, and coordination of all these muscle groups. All golfers should consider participating in a local sports enhancement program. For starters, they should consider performing the following core strengthening and stabilization exercises three to four times a week for 10 to 20 repetitions:

Plank exercises challenge the major muscle groups of the trunk, legs and shoulder girdle. The forward plank is performed by propping on the elbows and toes while keeping the legs, trunk and head in a straight line (picture 1). Hold between 5 and 10 seconds for each repetition while maintaining proper form. For a challenge, try lifting up one leg 6 inches while maintaining the plank position (picture 2).

The side plank is performed by lying sideways while propping up on one elbow and the outside of the lower foot. The goal is to keep the body in a straight line from heel to head (picture 3). If you are looking for more of a challenge, try completing the follow through of the golf swing while maintaining the position. If you want a little more of a challenge, try propping up on your hand instead of the elbow.

In addition to the plank exercises, consider push-ups, pull-ups, and lunges for great general stabilization exercises. Perform push-ups with your hands in narrow (military), shoulder width and wide

positions. Pull-ups can also be performed with narrow and wide grips and perform 10 to 20 repetitions. If needed, rest the feet on a stool and use the legs for assist. Lunges are a great leg and lower trunk exercise and will help keep the legs lively during the round.

The key to a strong golf swing comes with the development of the core muscle group. Successful golfers need that stability to produce a consistent and efficient swing. Golfers are athletes and should train, work out and stretch to achieve optimal performance.

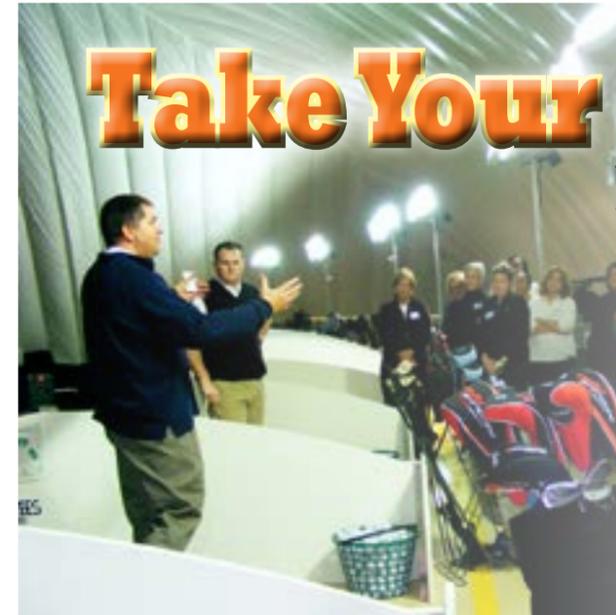


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Branson: Beyond Banjos and Backbeats

By Mark Button

The postcard-perfect layout flows through the rolling landscape with everything purists expect from a Fazio course.

For exactly 100 years, Branson, Missouri, has been home to some of the best down-home country and bluegrass entertainment in the nation. The area's history actually dates back as far as 1907, when Harold Wright Bell's book, *Shepherd of the Hills* became a national bestseller and started a tourism boom to this quaint town about 45 miles from Springfield, Missouri.

It was in 1912, however, when Branson's entertainment roots were planted. The tourists who came to see the land that inspired Wright Bell's mostly fictional account of mountain folklore often stuck around to hunt and fish in the bountiful area. During the evenings, locals took to singing and dancing to entertain the visitors. That continued through 1967, when Branson's first theater opened.

Since then, Branson has flourished into one of America's favorite playgrounds for live shows. The little town with less than 10,000 full-time residents boasts a Las Vegas-like entertainment scene without the debauchery. About eight million tourists a year visit the city, where they are treated to more than 100 shows a week at the city's 50-plus venues.

Acts such as Roy Clark, Shoji Tabuchim, Charley Pride, Wayne Newton, Buck Trent, and Tony Orlando all have long-running shows along the strip, which offers more seats than New York's Broadway District.

Traditionally, Branson hasn't been known as a golf destination. That's changed, however. Live music and entertainment will always be the headliner, but there is now enough spectacular golf—much of it intensely challenging—to group Branson alongside some of the country's most visited-golf havens.

One of the premier courses in the area gets its name from a story that has all the makings of a three-act play fit for production at one of Branson's celebrated theaters. The *Mystery of Murder Rock* involves a Civil War-era bushwhacker named Alfred



Bolin, whose gang of misfits ambushed and terrorized locals and visitors alike. Part of the legend has it that a chest of stolen silver remains buried in the hills, guarded by Bolin's ghost.

Believe that if you like, but this much is certain. The golf course built at Murder Rock in 2007 stands as one of the most dramatic and memorable in the region. Perched on the highest elevation point of the county, Murder Rock features sweeping vistas across wind-swept peaks and valleys. A challenging variety of short and long holes fights for attention with the seemingly endless views across the Ozark Mountains.

Every bit as scenic and memorable as its celebrated neighbor, Branson Creek, Murder Rock has two advantages: a classic, full-service clubhouse and more affordable green fees. Murder Rock's rates range seasonally from \$42 to \$72. Don't visit Branson without playing Murder Rock.

Branson Creek, voted No. 1 in the state 11 years running by *Golf Magazine*, is another "can't miss" course. The Tom Fazio-designed gem is a classic example of how a pure golf experience can beat the frills and extras at some high-end resorts. The postcard-perfect layout flows through the rolling landscape with everything purists expect from a Fazio course, including the dramatic bunkering and perfect greens with subtle, confounding breaks. Rates range from \$48 to \$99.

With so much to do and see in Branson, there will be days when you want to get a premium golf fix at an accelerated pace. Thousand Hills is the solution. With course conditions and service that rival any in the area, the par-64 layout set along one of the main thoroughfares in town will charm you into thinking every golf course should be this relaxing.

With nine par 3s, eight par 4s and one beastly par 5, Thousand Hills measures 5,111 yards from the back. However, with more than a few forced carries, rock outcroppings, and well-placed water hazards, it's anything but a pushover. Five of the par 4s stretch beyond 380 yards, and the 533-yard par 5 finishing hole has two forced carries before you get to putt. With rates from \$39 to \$59, it might be your favorite course on the trip.

A trip through Branson also will not be complete without a visit to the Payne Stewart Golf Club, ranked No. 1 in the state by *Golfweek*. While more difficult than most in the area, golfers smart enough to play from the appropriate tees for their skill level will come away wowed by the breath-taking routing through the rises and falls of the Ozark Mountain topography.

The two-time U.S. Open champion Payne Stewart grew up less than an hour north in Springfield, and the massive clubhouse serves as a museum for the colorful Ryder Cup star who passed away too soon in 1999. Staff bags and shoes used by Stewart rest behind glass next to replica trophies, an array of photos and other memorabilia on loan from the Stewart family.

Other courses to consider in the Branson area are LedgeStone, a tight, hilly course with a premium on accuracy, and Port Royale, a residential course frequented by many of the area's entertainers.

With direct flights available from Chicago, along with the 22,000 available hotel rooms in the area, Branson's eclectic variety of golf experiences make a harmonious complement to the country's most popular live music destination.

For more information, visit explorebransongolf.com. Mark Button is the editor of *Texas Links Magazine*

Murder Rock Hole 7



Branson Creek Hole 18



Branson Creek Hole 17



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VR S Covert Nike Golf

If you are holding a red driver, and your thoughts connect to a Lamborghini... then you are holding Nike's new VR S Covert. This visually stunning club has 15 different adjustments that should meet the needs of all golfers. The user-friendly adjustment system allows players to tweak loft and face angle. The longest driver produced by Nike, the VR S Covert has three proprietary platforms: High Speed Cavity Back, FlexLoft adjustability (8.5-12.5), and a NexCore face. This combination is unlike any driver the company has ever manufactured and takes the brand to the premium performance tier for big sticks.

\$299.00

www.nikegolf.com



XCG6 Exotics Tour Edge

Local manufacturer Tour Edge has up'd the ante in their premium club line. The XCG6, the latest driver in their Exotics collection, incorporates an adjustable hosel for custom ball flight control. With four different face-angle/loft settings, the XCG6 can be all things to all swings. There is also magic in the sole. This driver delivers a higher MOI for more pop, not to mention a variable thickness face that pushes the spring-effect allowed by the USGA.

The XCG6 offers two stock shaft options that are designed to maximize the club design. The Matrix Ozik HD lessons side spin, while the ultra-lightweight Graphite design Tour AD promotes higher swing speeds for more yards. Go hit it, boys. This driver will wear out the grooves on your wedges.

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Things That Make You Go BOOM! The Hottest Drivers for 2013

RocketBallZ Stage 2 TaylorMade Golf

Displaying alluring graphics like the R1, the RocketBallZ Stage 2 is fueled for more distance.

Also employing TaylorMade's Loft Sleeve Technology, RBZ 2 offers 12 positions within the window of 1.5° loft adjustment. After players dial it in, Stage 2's huge clubface inspires a robust swat. With the company's Inverted Cone milled into the inner side of the clubface, players should expect higher ball speed on off-center hits, not to mention added forgiveness. Add a Fujikura RocketFuel shaft and light grip for 300 grams of total club weight, and this ultra-light driver is a ball compressing monster!

\$299

www.taylormadegolf.com



R1 TaylorMade Golf

The TaylorMade legacy of adjustable drivers continues with the R1, which can be tuned 168 different ways. With Loft-Sleeve Technology, the R1 offers 12 loft settings (8° to 12°) and seven face-angle positions. Add two movable shot-shape weights and golfers can reach their potential and find the middle of the fairway.

Perhaps the most eye-catching aspect of the R1 is the graphics. The white crown incorporates orange, gray, and black graphics that are also alignment aids. While there are performance benefits from the graphic pattern, these racing stripes are beyond cool and are reminiscent of a 1970 muscle car!

R1 is equipped with a 55-gram Aldila RIP Phenom shaft, which features Aldila's Hyperbolic Flex Technology™ to promote optimal launch conditions, ball speed and feel.

\$399

www.taylormadegolf.com



AMP CELL Cobra Golf

Cobra's AMP CELL, the Orange Crush of 2012, is offering four colors for this season. The bang in the AMP CELL driver is MyFly™ technology that allows golfers to select from six different loft/trajectory settings for an optimal ball flight. The E9 Face Technology™ improves distance and accuracy on mis-hits from heel to toe and above and below the centerline. Cobra continues to bring the most forgiving drivers to the market; moreover, with SmartPad™ technology, golfers can deliver a square face at impact without adjusting the sole plate. The AMP CELL Driver is also available in an offset model (\$249).

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www.cobragolf.com



St. Andrews: Sacred and Hallowed Ground

Every golfer dreams of playing St. Andrews as it is . . . and as it was. If renovations were proposed to any other golf course, opposition might possibly exist. But as these revered grounds are considered the birthplace of golf, any changes made upon them are worthy of passionate debate and reflection.

Golf evolved because St. Andrews is both arbitrary and capricious; simultaneously confounding and engaging, favoring no one and challenging everyone. St. Andrews is the result of a pact made between God and nature. As architects, we chase its genius. Indeed, the golf industry is indebted to its very existence.

The recently proposed changes to St. Andrews are an appropriate lightning rod that exposes the complexity of today's golf industry. Renovations to this iconic venue evoke passionate value judgments to the very issues we confront as architects. Length, maintenance, challenge, construction cost, the environment, history, and tournament

capacity are but a few of the issues we must deal with regularly on a variety of projects, both large and small.

If St. Andrews were a building, it would be safeguarded in historic trust. But it is not a building. It is a living and breathing entity that provides recreation and enjoyment. This course belongs in historic trust—not as a relic, but as a temple for participation to be used and appreciated by average golfers and professionals alike.

Due to the sacred and hallowed nature of this golf course, I personally believe St. Andrews should be left untouched. That said, if those in charge of St. Andrews wish to change the golf course as a reaction to the ability of the modern golfer, they have every right to do so. Therefore, I hope changes will be accomplished carefully and judiciously.

So the real issue becomes not if St. Andrews should be renovated, but why. The changes proposed are a direct reaction to the modern

BEYOND BUNKERS

Greg Martin

game, equipment advances, and score relative to par. If technology has mitigated the strategic challenge at the birthplace of golf, then shouldn't we simultaneously examine the capacity and boundaries of modern equipment? If such could be accomplished, reconstruction becomes unnecessary. But, I'm afraid, that kind of complete analysis and overhaul of the game will not occur any time soon.

The beauty of golf is bigger than 'protecting par'. The game of golf was designed for match play—a format that pits player against player rather than player against par. The uniqueness and charm of St. Andrews was fused in match play and remains dynamic under that format.

Stroke play and equipment technology are the real problem here. The simplest fix is also the right fix: use a match play format when taking on the heavenly grounds of St. Andrews. You will have an unforgettable experience, guaranteed.

Palm Valley - 18th Hole



PICTURE perfect

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Tame the Wolf at Lost Pines Resort

OFF THE BEATEN
CART PATH

Texas

Nestled along the lower Colorado River and just minutes from the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport, Hyatt® Lost Pines Resort [lostpineshyatt.com] is one of the best-kept secrets in the Lone Star State. Wolfdancer Golf Club, the Arthur Hills/Steve Forrest-designed golf course at the resort, is a journey across the Lost Pines region of central Texas. With dramatic elevations and a rugged wilderness terrain, the 7,205-yard layout is a series of deceiving sightlines off the tee box and gripping approach shots across deep ravines and dry gulches. Each hole is situated between oak, cedar, elm, and pecan trees. These hardwoods facilitate a feeling of isolation on each hole. Much like the Lost Pines Resort, the course is an escape from the hustle and bustle you left at home.

Wolfdancer's shot values are like that of a private golf club. Players should not expect to score well during their first handshake with the course. With decidedly preferred lines of play, and downright tricky green complexes, it is best to settle in the saddle and enjoy the landscape until a second round is underway. However, even if you leave the course with your 10-gallon hat in hand, Wolfdancer is a Texas treat that will be remembered long after returning to the Windy City.

The resort is far from a bed and birdie weekend. Beyond golf, the resort offers the Renegade Trailhead Equestrian Center for horseback riding, trap shooting, 18 miles of trails, kayaking and rafting in the Colorado River, the Crooked River Water Park, and even nightly s'mores at their outdoor fire pits. With 491 guest rooms, casual and fine dining, not to mention a lively bar, there is no need to leave the resort until your bags are packed.

Between March 1 and May 24, 2013, the resort's "Tame the Wolf" Golf Package gives travelers the opportunity to stay, play, and "tame the wolf" on their own or with family and friends. The package even includes complimentary Callaway golf club rentals! For \$375, two golfers receive golf, clubs, accommodations, and a \$25 food and beverage credit (1 per person). Replay rates are just \$50, so catch an early flight and enjoy twilight in the Hill Country. For more details, visit tinyurl.com/bhmzadg or call 512-308-1234; be sure to mention the promotional code: Tame2.



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Summer in

By Greg Jourdan

Not that many years ago, Michigan was a charming if sleepy Midwest state celebrated as both the country's automotive capital and as the place where fresh cherries come from during the summer. Flash forward thirty years to the present and tune your car radio to just about any format and you will hear Tim Allen extol the virtues of Michigan Tourism. The former "Home Improvement" star talks reverently about the rushing crystal clear rivers, of the pristine forests, and of the awesome beauty that is "Pure Michigan."

While the auto industry has had its ups and downs over these past few decades and cherry production was way down due to last year's early-season warmup and subsequent freeze, the one constant that has helped elevate Michigan into a vacation destination is outstanding and affordable golf. Shanty Creek Resorts in Bellaire was among a handful of northern Michigan properties that led the re-positioning of the state as a golf paradise. Already known by the late 1970s as one of the Midwest's foremost ski complexes, Shanty Creek was transformed into a premier golf resort in 1986 with the unveiling of The Legend Course designed by Arnold Palmer. Cut through mature forests and around and over the creek that inspired its name, the layout was recognized as one of the best new courses in America by the national golf magazines. Thirteen years later, it was déjà vu all over again after the resort's Tom Weiskopf-designed Cedar River course was unveiled to the public. Make no mistake: when Tim Allen fawns over Michigan golf on his radio spots, he and his copywriter are at least partially inspired by the fantastic championship layouts at Shanty Creek.

While the Weiskopf and Palmer courses draw golfers seeking challenge, the resort has also implemented a program that is designed to excite players of all ages and skill levels. Imagine little Ben and Anna hitting a handful of golf shots and racing to the green to putt. However, the excitement ends when the twosome proceeds to six or seven putt into regulation cups. To help avoid such disappointment, in 2012 the resort installed a second set of cups on each hole at their Schuss Mountain Golf Course. The alternate cups are 8" and are a game-changer for kids and beginners alike.

Shanty Creek

Shanty Creek





Schuss Mountain

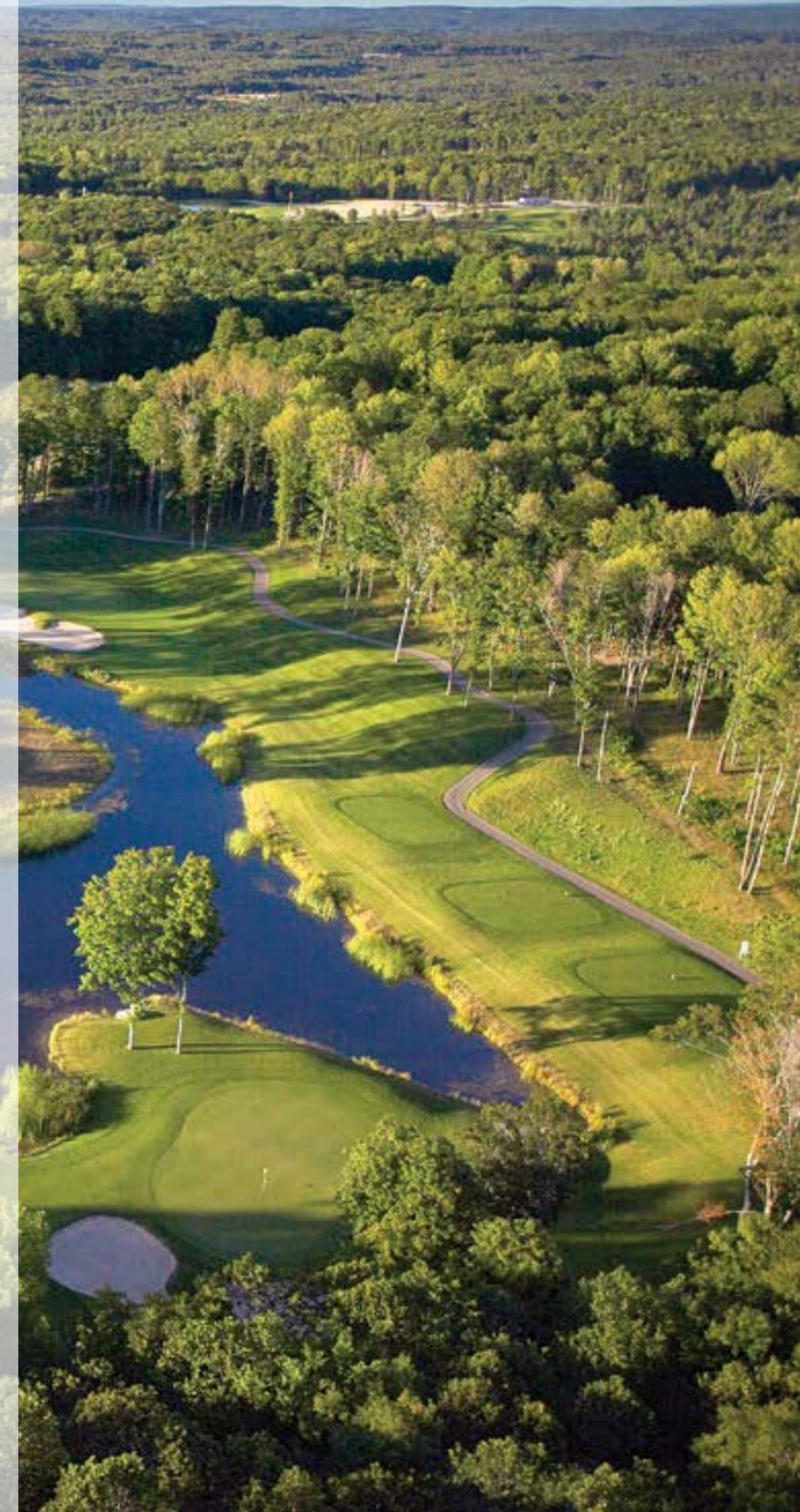
Now using Schuss Mountain's Frisbee-sized cups. Little Ben raps a 30-footer to within six feet, and then drops his next putt. The eight year old leaves the green Gangnam Style. He has a new passion in his life.

Two of the resort's four courses are geared for families. The aforementioned Schuss Mountain is routed between hardwood strands and provides foursomes with a platform to create memories that will last a lifetime. The course has plenty of mustard for the 'real' players, but the large cups and forward tees keep the entire gang in the game. If dad cannot bring himself to play the big cups, each hole maintains 4" cups to appease the party-pooper purist.

The Summit Golf Club is a manageable parkland track that plays over 6,200 yards; however, each hole also has 'par 3' tees to keep the game moving for beginners. At the tee of the fifth hole, beginners will get their first lesson in golf architecture. Across the pond lies the seventh hole, a par 3 that is shouldered on the right by a stone retaining wall and pond. This sneak peak of the excitement to come is what golf's great designers strive to create. During my mid-week, peak-season visit, the green fees at Summit Course (after 4pm) were less than \$15 per player.

The resort's two premier courses are sure to please discriminating golfers. Cedar River is one of Weiskopf's finest design efforts. Like most great courses, there is no single signature hole on Cedar River, as her 18 holes flow like her pristine namesake—gently and purposefully. While the three hole stretch of 6 through 8 were my favorites, hole 13 is still in my craw. This drivable par 4 is less than 300 yards from the tips. However, slapping a 7-iron to the generous landing area is not an option in the pure Michigan air. A perfect tee ball cleared the tree in the center of the fairway, but came to rest in a lie that resembled a breakfast egg. Just feet from an eagle putt, yet a double blunder on the scorecard. Next time! The routing does not return to the clubhouse until the job of manufacturing shots, negotiating fast, undulating greens, and chasing old man par reaches the 18th hole. Cedar River will provide plenty of stories for the pigeons back home.

The Legend course is heroic from the second you plug a peg in the ground. The tee box greets players with a



Cedar River

downhill, left to right long hole. For most of us, a draw on the first tee is as likely as an invitation to play at Crystal Downs Country Club. So, play it as a three-shot hole and try to keep your ego in-check until you settle in—there will be plenty of time to go swing for the fences.

Golf for the entire clan may be your *raison d'être* for a trek to northern Michigan, but Shanty Creek is a resort that packs a punch of non-golf activities to thrill the family. Lodging options include the newly renovated Summit Village. The Lakeview Hotel is the centerpiece of the resort, with a full-service hotel and convention center, swimming pools, a fitness center. The on-site dining room morphs from a pre-round breakfast buffet to an elegant evening fireside dining experience with spectacular views only matched by the culinary delights.

After an activity-packed day of hiking, golf, and a dip in the pools, The Spa at Lakeview will complete the healing circle. (Read on to see where to send those ankle biters.) The world-class "hands on" talent will nurture mind and spirit with treatments designed to knead the stress out of your body. At the very least, you owe yourself and your better half (if not your short game) a 25-minute Golfer's Massage. Scratch that, at the very least, you deserve a daily wrap, massage, or treatment.

While you over-indulge at the Spa, the Creek Adventure Camp offers full-day and half-day sessions to educate and entertain the kids. Whether they are catching frogs, wading through Cedar Creek, or playing games, the camp's staffers engage little Ben and Anna with experiences that are meaningful and memorable. Be sure to take an extra day away from Chicagoland and trek over to Sleeping Bear Dunes National Park. A day of climbing pristine dunes and jumping into Lake Michigan is pure joy for kids of all ages.

Shanty Creek is where family traditions begin. You can pure a 7-iron, cure your aches, and even secure memories for a lifetime...all in a Shanty Summer day.

For more information, visit www.shantycreek.com, or call 866-695-5003.



Cedar River



Shanty Creek

CENTRAL MISSOURI'S LAKE OF THE OZARKS GOLF TRAIL

With breathtaking views...all the golf you could dream of on 14 beautiful and challenging courses...and comfortable and convenient accommodations set against the background of our shimmering Lake and rolling Ozark hills... don't you think it's time **YOU** hit the **TRAIL**?

just play it!

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ROCK
GOLF CLUB
OF THE WILDERNESS

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Our breathtaking views and natural setting make for a distinctive layout that golfers rave about. Whether you're looking for a great venue to challenge yourself, impress clients, or just a getaway, Wild Rock is the perfect destination.

608.253.4653 | WildRockGolf.com | Wisconsin Dells



On The Tee with Peggy Kusinski

The game of golf didn't come easy for Emmy-winning NBC5 Chicago Sportscaster Peggy Kusinski. In fact, golf never even entered her consciousness until 1980 when she was forced to give the game a whirl as part of a Resurrection High School gym class. In her mind, she thought "What? This is ridiculous – I don't know anyone who even plays golf." Little did she know that blowing out both knees her senior year would eventually lead this all-city/all-state basketball player right into golf's good graces. It would take a few years and a number of chance meetings with people who *did* play golf for Kusinski to take up the game. But now hooked, she's become as passionate about golf as she is about her work as an anchor/reporter for NBC5 Sports.

During her years in academia, Kusinski participated in team sports including volleyball and softball. Following a successful run in high school basketball, Kusinski intended to play for the SIU Saluki squad as a walk-on but had her dreams crushed when she didn't make the cut. It was a huge blow to her ego, her future, and to her athletic endeavors. "I didn't want my athletic career to end like that," she said. "I guess I was pretty naïve because I just assumed I'd be able to walk on and play."

"As I tell young women athletes now, 'you may be the best in your high school but just wait until you get to college. You may not even be the best on the bench as the talent pool for college is so much deeper. You have to work harder and with much more intensity and commitment to make it at the college level. Believe me, I know from experience!'"

Without basketball to focus on at SIU, Kusinski turned her attention to earning her degree in radio and television. After graduation, she began her broadcasting career as an intern for Warner Saunders at WMAQ-TV. Her career now off and running, she eventually landed in Bristol, Connecticut as a production assistant at ESPN-TV. While working the 6 p.m. to 3 a.m. shift, Kusinski asked her co-workers what they did all day to kill time before their shift started. Their answer: "We play golf." Duly intrigued, Kusinski began to encounter the true joys of the game—spending time with co-workers, enjoying the great outdoor, and

experiencing the exhilaration of a perfectly struck tee shot.

Her career now also in full swing, Kusinski went on to serve as a producer for CBS and NBC during the Albertville Winter Olympics and the Barcelona Summer Games, along with on-air commentary at the 2000 Summer Olympics from Sydney, Australia, for ABC Sports. She also made headlines of her own when she became the first woman to host a sports talk show in Chicago, co-hosting WMAQ-AM's "Sports Huddle." Her other work in Chicago included radio gigs with ESPN Radio 1000 and was as a sidekick of my personal favorite radio program, *The Kevin Matthews Show*.

In 2000, Kusinski joined the NBC5 team as a sports reporter. She continues to contribute regularly to the "Sports Sunday" show. Her work has garnered two National Emmy Awards as a producer at ESPN, nine local Emmys—five of which were earned while working for WMAQ, including two from 2007 and 2011 for "Excellence on Camera." Her career is still going strong and her beat includes covering the Bears, the Blackhawks, and everything in between.



SHE GOT GAME

Sheri Warren

Not to mention that she's doing all of this while raising 10-year-old twins Jason, Jr. and Shea, and 4-year-old daughter, Stella Blue with husband, Jason.

With a successful career and a busy family life, one would surmise that this would be the least likely time that Kusinski would get into golf. Kusinski stated, "I actually met my husband, Jason, because of golf. I had been invited out to Medinah by my friend Jane Mikita (hockey legend Stan Mikita's daughter). I was playing so poorly that after 9 holes, Jane said 'let's just quit and go inside for a snack.' As we were heading into the clubhouse, we ran into her dad and Jason Kinander...who is now my husband! Once I married into that golf-crazed family, I had a choice to either join them or spend a lot of time home alone. I chose to take up golf and join them!"

Kusinski adds, "So much of our life revolves around Medinah's social activities and golf. My nephew plays for Ohio State, my sister-in-law played for Tulsa, my late father-in-law, West Kinander, was instrumental in opening the door to women members at Medinah, and my husband Jason was a co-chair of the 2012 Ryder Cup. Like I said, this family is really into golf so it was either join 'em or sit on the sidelines. I don't mind being on the sidelines for my work but when it comes to golf, I'd much rather be on the course – not watching from the sidelines!"

Kusinski continues, "My golf season starts in the spring and lasts until Bears training camp opens. Then my schedule gets too hectic. I do try to get some rounds in at Medinah on Wednesdays and Saturdays. But once football season starts, it's pretty much 'wait until next year' for me. I do love the game and as bad as I am at it—my handicap is pretty high—I still love everything about it ... being outdoors, spending time with friends and family, and just enjoying the challenge of this most difficult yet addictive sport."

As one of the most honored, respected, and talented sportscasters in the business, Peggy Kusinski epitomizes the Chicago sports scene: gritty yet graceful; tenacious yet tender-hearted; engaging yet eloquent. And always entertaining.

ALL WE DO IS GOLF.

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Little Green Book of Golf

From The Links:
Golf's Most Memorable Moments
 By Dr. Joshua Shifrin
 \$21.95 (Hardcover)
 244 Pages
 www.globepequot.com
 ISBN: 978-0-7627-8293-2

Much like a folktale, the facts of golf's amazing feats take on new life as they are passed from one generation to the next generation. *From The Links* is a delightful collection of stories that led to the hall of fame, moments that produced hall of shame labels, and even the wildly arcane situations that read like fiction.

Author Dr. Joshua Shifrin may have a PhD in psychology, but his knack at summarizing golf legend in just a few short pages implies that he is also a bathroom

reader. What would Dr. Freud think about that habit?

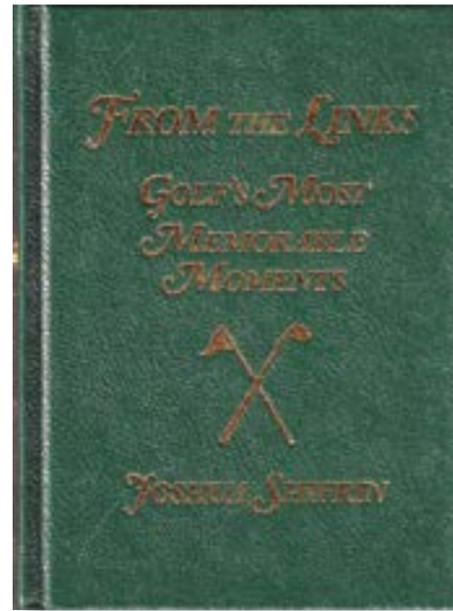
The stories span golf's history with tales from Scotland in the 1800s to the 2010 Masters. Our favorites include an ambush by killer bees on Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player, the 1971 Martini Invitational, and the Turnesa brothers and their "golf gene."

Our favorite story is of a little known Texas professional, Carl Cooper. Playing in the H.E.B. Texas Open, Cooper hit a drive 787 yards! His drive went wide right and caught the cart path, then continued rolling until it was 331 yards past the green.

The game is as much about telling and listening to stories as it is hitting shots. If you enjoy your golf scripture in small doses, then *From The Links* is an ideal companion to the late night yak on Golf Channel. It is also darned good commode reading.

ON THE SHELF

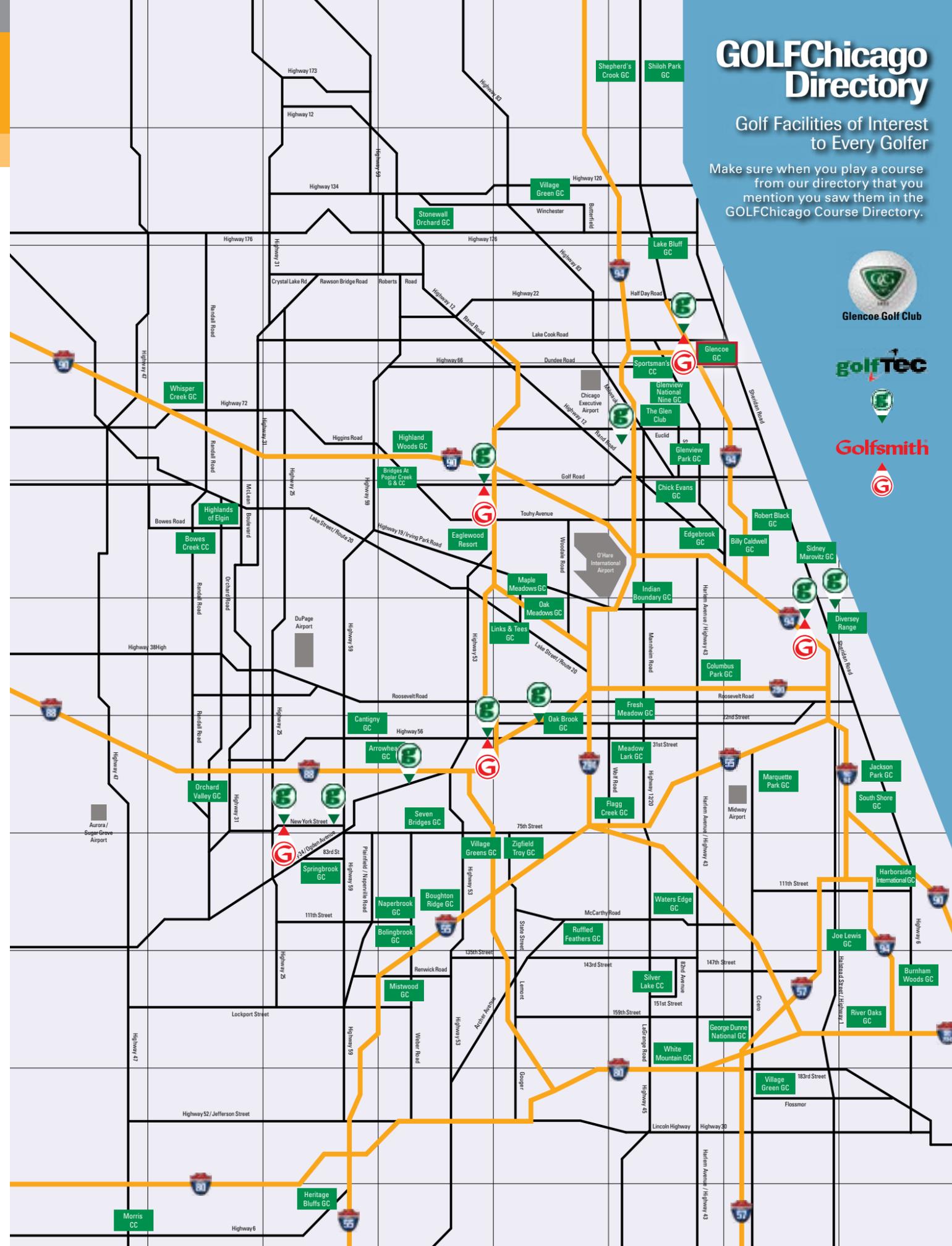
Between the Covers



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Bittersweet Golf Club

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

In Season Rates:
Monday - Friday
Early Bird: 6 - 8 am:
\$35 with a cart and range balls
Prime: 8 am - 2:30pm:
\$39 including cart
Twilight: \$29 with cart
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings:
Up to 144 Players

Weekend and Holidays
5 - 10 am:
\$59 Cart, \$49 Walking
10 am - 12 pm:
\$49 Cart, \$39 Walking
12 - 2:30 pm
\$39 Cart, \$29 Walking
After 2:30:
\$29 Cart, \$24 Walking

18 Championship Golf Holes
Par 72 Yardage:
4952 - 6751
Rating/Slope
70.0/121 - 73.3/135
Premier Practice Facility
with PGA instruction
Lighted grass tee driving range

Named best golf course by the readers of the Daily Herald in 2010, Bittersweet Golf Club is a challenging and scenic 18-hole golf facility conveniently located in Gurnee, Illinois, with easy access to the toll way (I-94 and Eden's Expressway). Bittersweet offers the public 18 holes of challenging golf and an excellent practice facility with lighted driving range with natural grass tees.



The Bog

800-484-3264
262-284-7075
3121 County Road I
Saukville, WI 53080
www.GolfTheBog.com

18 Holes: Par 72
Yardage: 5100 - 7200
Top Course Rating: 75.3
Slope: 143

Seasonal Rates:
\$55 - \$95
Carts: \$15
(view website specials)

- Arnold Palmer Design
- Ranked in the Top 10 Best Overall Golf Courses in Wisconsin by *Golf Digest*
- 4.5 Stars by *Golf Digest* Highest Rated Golf Course in Milwaukee
- 297 acres of wetlands, woods, rolling hills, and wildlife habitat.
- Bentgrass greens, tees and fairways; bluegrass roughs; native grasses, and wildflowers.
- Five sets of tees for all levels of golfers.
- 117 bunkers and 10 holes where water hazards come into play.

- Premier Practice Center**
- Range Tees: 40000 sq ft
 - Putting green: 4000 sq ft
 - Bunker and chipping area
 - Target greens: 6
 - Full Amenities
 - Golf Outing Specialists!
 - Located off I-43, Exit 96 just 25 minutes from Milwaukee

www.GolfTheBog.com



Bolingbrook Golf Club

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

18 holes
Yardage: 7104 - 4931
Rating/Slope
73.8/135 - 68.2/116

Mon - Th: \$98,
includes cart with GPS and range balls
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Practice Facilities: Yes
Banquet/Outings: Yes

Located just forty minutes southwest of Chicago, Bolingbrook Golf Club combines the elements of a world-class facility and championship golf. 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
www.bowescreekcountryclub.com

18 Championship Golf Holes
Yardage: 6794 - 4756
Rating/Slope:
73.2/142 - 68.1/121

Member for a Day Rates allows unlimited play for the day
Mon - Th: \$79 / golf, cart, and range
Fri - Sun: \$98 / golf, cart, and range
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Practice Facility: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquet/Outings: Yes

Here at Bowes Creek Country Club, our patrons are not treated like an everyday customer. You can buy a membership for the year or you can pay to be a Member for a Day! Instead of standard green fees, we offer a daily membership. The Member for a Day Fee will allow you to play unlimited golf with cart and allow you full use of the practice facility. There will be no limit to the amount of golf you want to play that day because you are... Member for that Day!

A Rick Jacobson Designed golf course, it is everything you want in a golf course. "We tried to give the course a rustic look and used big, sweeping bunkers with fingers of grass drifting into the sand and fescue grasses as lips on the bunker faces," Jacobson said.



Cantigny Golf

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

27 holes
Yardage per 18:
7,055 - 5,183
Rating/Slope:
74.2/140 - 70.4/122

Mon - Th: \$85 walking
Fri - Sun: \$95 walking
Cart: \$20 (7 days)
Caddie:
\$20 per person plus tip
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight rates: No
Practice Facility: Yes
Banquet/Outings: Yes

Cantigny was named "Best New Public Course in America" by *Golf Digest* in 1989, and since then has been a "Top 100 Public Course." It has hosted numerous championships, including three Illinois State Amateurs and the 2007 U.S. Amateur Public Links. Designed on spectacular terrain by Roger Packard, the course's beauty will take your breath away. The impressive Cantigny Golf Academy opened in 2008, and junior golfers thrive at the 9-hole Cantigny Youth Links.

Great golf and excellent food go together at Cantigny. As an incentive to sample the cuisine, golfers in 2012 will receive a \$10 voucher good for same-day redemption at Fareways Grill inside the clubhouse. You'll get a voucher when you play 18 holes at the regular rate during non-peak times—Monday through Thursday all day and Saturday/Sunday afternoons.



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www.cpdgolf.com

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With six courses, three driving ranges, and two miniature golf courses there's golf enjoyment for the whole family no matter where you live or work in the city. Play Your Favorite CPD course today!

PLUS...save EVERY DAY, secure early tee time access, and more with the CPD Players Advantage Card!

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2045 W. Pratt Boulevard

Sydney R. Marovitz – 9 Holes
3600 N. Recreation Drive (Lake Shore Drive)

Jackson Park – 18 Holes
6401 S. Richards Drive

Columbus Park – 9 Holes
5701 W. Jackson Boulevard

Marquette Park
6700 S. Kedzie Avenue

South Shore
7059 South Shore Drive

Diversey Range
141 W. Diversey Parkway



Flossmoor Country Club

708.798.4700
1441 Western Avenue
Flossmoor, IL 60422
www.flossmoorcc.org

"South Chicago's Premier Private Golf Club"
Founded 1899

Golf Course Architect
Herbert J. Tweedie, 1899
Redesigned by:
Raymond Hearn, 2009

Yardage, Rating/Slope
7136, 75.5/144
6764, 73.7/138
6437, 72.2/134
6112, 70.6/130
5503, 72.9/133

- Member Amenities
- PGA Professionals On Staff
 - Newly Designed Pool Complex
 - Meeting & Banquet Rooms up to 300
 - Top-rated Jr. Golf Program
 - Tennis Programs For All Ages
 - Excellent Dining Experience

Flossmoor Country Club provides golfing enjoyment, competition and family entertainment in the south suburbs of Chicago. In 1899, Flossmoor Country Club was founded and is now one of the oldest existing clubs in the Midwest and home to a classic style, world-class golf course. With rich history and traditions, the "Flossmoor Experience" emanates through various member golf tournaments and social events culminating in the finest club experience Chicago has to offer.



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Forest Preserve Golf offers something for every golfer. With ten courses, four driving ranges, and a miniature golf course, you are sure to find a place to call your home course.

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6150 Caldwell Avenue

Burnham Woods – 18 Holes
14201 S Burnham Avenue

Chick Evans – 18 Holes
6145 Golf Road

Edgebrook – 18 Holes
6100 N Central Avenue

George Dunne National – 18 Holes
16310 S Central Avenue

Harry Semrow – Driving Range & Mini Golf
1150 E Golf Road

Highland Woods – 18 Holes
2775 Ela Road

Indian Boundary – 18 Holes
8600 W Forest Preserve Avenue

Joe Louis – 18 Holes
13100 S Halsted Street

Meadowlark – 9 Holes
11599 31st St

River Oaks – 18 Holes
1 Park Avenue





The Glen Club

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

Offering a unique blend of membership and daily fee play.

2013 Green Fees range from \$105 - \$185. General public may reserve starting times seven days in advance. Practice range is included in green fee. Carts: \$24 Caddies are available upon request.

Renowned golf course architect Tom Fazio brilliantly transformed the once-flat runways of the Glenview Naval Air station into a nationally acclaimed 18-hole layout, featuring dramatic elevation changes, meandering lakes, and running streams. Following its debut in 2001, The Glen Club was thrust into the national spotlight earning recognition from *Golf Magazine*, *Golf Digest* and *Sports Illustrated*. The Glen Club has hosted numerous professional and elite amateur events and is the home course for Northwestern University's men's and women's golf teams.

- A *Golf Magazine* Top 100 You Can Play in the United States.
- *Golf Digest* Best places to Play 4.5 Stars.
- Home of The Illinois Golf Hall of Fame.
- Stay in one of our finely appointed overnight rooms.



Glencoe Golf Club

847-835-0250
621 Westley Road
Glencoe, IL 60022
www.glencoegolfclub.com

Par 72 | Yardage: 6,539
Rating / Slope
Blue: 71.6/130
White: 70.3/127
Red: 72.8/127

Weekday Fees
Early bird: \$30.00
Prime: \$ 41.00
Twilight: \$ 28.00
Super Twilight: \$ 23.00
Weekend Fees
Prime: \$ 49.00
Twilight: \$ 32.00
Super Twilight: \$ 23.00

- Sr./Jr. Discounts
- Grass Tee Range
- Outings Available

The Glencoe Golf Club, known for excellent course conditions and lightning-fast greens, is a great escape from the sights and sounds of the city, located only 20 minutes north of Chicago, just off the Edens Expressway.

The Golf Academy will now be featuring two of the area's best players to share their formula for success through private lessons, clinics, and summer camps. Bill Sakas and Travis Johns have both competed with impressive results in the professional ranks and bring that knowledge to their teaching. Learn the basics or improve your competitive edge with experienced instructors who back up their knowledge with tournament golf experience.



Glenview Park Golf Club

847-724-0250
800 Shermer Road
Glenview, IL 60025
www.golfglenview.com

18 holes
Par 70
Yardage: 6,133

Mon - Th: 18 holes \$39
Mon - Th Twilight:
9 holes \$24
Mon - Th: Super Twilight:
(after 5 pm) \$20
Fri - Sun: \$48
Fri - Sun Twilight:
9 holes \$30
Fri - Sun/Holidays Super
Twilight:
(after 5 pm) \$20
Cart Fees:
9 holes \$10/rider
18 holes \$16/rider
Twilight \$13/rider
Tee Time Specials
available at www.golfglenview.com

Experience pure golfing enjoyment at the Glenview Park Golf Club. Beautifully landscaped with an extensive variety of trees, shrubs, and flowers, this 18-hole, 6,133-yard, par-70 course features a choice of three bent grass tee boxes on every hole. The Glenview Park Golf Club offers the amenities of a private club but is open to the public and close to home. Since 1955, when the Glenview Park District purchased the Chesterfield Golf Course and began operating it as the Glenview Park Golf Club, the course has been continually upgraded and improved to add to your golfing enjoyment.



golfTec

10 Chicagoland Locations
www.golftec.com

Chicago - Halsted Row
60657
2847 N. Halsted Road
773-755-4653

Chicago - Lincoln Park
60614
2782 N. Clybourn Ave.
Building C
773-871-4653

Deerfield 60015
360 S. Waukegan
Suite B-2
224-330-4020

Des Plaines 60016
353 N. River Road
847-299-5431

Downers Grove 60515
2020 Butterfield Road
630-932-4653

Fox Valley 60505
4302 E. New York Street
630-723-5215

Naperville 60563
1163 E. Ogden Avenue
Suite 401
630-579-9390

Oakbrook Terrace 60181
18W100 22nd Street
Suite 101B
630-396-2020

Schaumburg 60173
905 E. Golf Road
847-517-1845

Vernon Hills 60061
701 N. Milwaukee Ave.
Suite 116
847-327-0605



Golfsmith

5 Chicagoland Locations
www.golfsmith.com

Aurora - Fox Valley 60504
Yorkshire Plaza
4302 East New York
Street
630-585-0872

Chicago - Highland Park
60035
135 Skokie Valley Road
847-579-0219

Chicago - Lincoln Park
60614
2782 N. Clybourn Avenue
Bldg. C
773-281-1494

Downers Grove 60515
2020 Butterfield Road
630-495-4880

Schaumburg 60173
905 E. Golf Road
847-969-0347

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The Highlands of Elgin

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

18 Championship Golf Holes
Yardage: 6510 - 5568
Rating/Slope:
71.6/128 - 66.8/116

Mon - Fri:
\$35 walk / \$54 ride
Weekends / Holidays:
\$43 walk / \$62 ride
Jr./Sr. Rates: Weekdays
Only
Practice Facility: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquet/Outings: Yes

The new quarry nine and the original nine holes flow over beautiful rolling terrain, creating a diverse collection of holes. The new nine holes reclaim an old stone quarry, and are routed to take maximum advantage of the unique and dramatic landforms that were left behind. 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 with stunning golf course views is now open. The clubhouse features event rooms with expansive ceilings, full-scale food and beverage operations, locker rooms, and an expanded golf shop. The facility also features a lighted practice facility offering bent grass tees, 30 hitting stations, short game area, and a 9,000 sq. ft. putting green.



Harborside International G.C.

312-782-7837
11001 S. Doty Ave. East,
Chicago, IL 60628
www.harborsideinternational.com
harborside3@aol.com

36 holes
Port Course
Yardage: 7,164 - 5,164
Rating/Slope:
75.1/132 - 70.4/123
Starboard Course
Yardage 7,166 - 5,110
Rating/Slope:
75.0/132 - 70.5/120

Mon - Thu: \$82 includes cart & range balls
Fri - Sun: \$95 includes cart & range balls
Twilight Rates: Yes
Practice Facilities: Yes, 57-acre
Banquet/Outings: Yes, Phil Stefani's

Located just 16 minutes from Downtown Chicago, directly on I-94, Harborside is the home of the PORT & STARBOARD Courses designed by Dick Nugent in the links tradition of windswept Scottish and Irish seaside courses. Ranked by *Golfweek's* 2010 "Best Courses You Can Play" Starboard #11 & Port #12 in Illinois and also the host of the Champions Tour in 2002. Amenities include a 24,000 sq. ft. Prairie Style Clubhouse with food and banquets by the Phil Stefani Restaurant Group and a 57-acre practice facility. Harborside is truly "Chicago's Course."



Lake Bluff Golf Club

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

18 holes
Yardage: 6589 - 4969
Rating/Slope:
71.3/124 - 67.0/114

Mon - Fri: \$39 walking
Sat - Sun: \$49 walking
Cart fees:
\$18 (Mon - Sun)
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Practice facilities: Yes
Banquet/Outings: Yes

Lake Bluff Golf Club was established in 1968 and in its 44-year history the course has become a "must-play" destination for golfers. Located on the scenic North Shore of Chicago, the golf course is one of only a few public facilities offering private club caliber amenities.

Lake Bluff Golf Club takes pride in the conditioning and playability of the course with features such as a million dollar state-of-the-art irrigation system. The professionally stocked Pro Shop and the Village Grill, which serves delicious food and a wide selection of beverages, are a couple of the superior amenities available to guests of the club.

Tee times specials are available exclusively through the club's website.





Mistwood Golf Club

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

Yardage: 6,768 - 5,231
Rating/Slope:
72.2/137 - 69.8/126

Mon - Th: \$35 - \$41 walking
Fri - Sun: \$42 - \$61 walking
Cart Fee: \$18
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Practice Facilities: Yes
Banquet/Outings: Yes
IPGA Pro: Visanu Tongvarin

Home of the Illinois
Women's Open
Rated 4½ stars by *Golf Digest*

Centered around a beautiful 67-acre lake, Mistwood is designed to challenge and reward golfers of every level. From the moment you arrive at Mistwood you will relish a classic golf experience including impeccable split fairways, highly-manicured and terraced greens, and an expert and attentive staff. Designed by Ray Hearn, Mistwood hosts the prestigious Illinois Women's Open and proudly features the five best finishing holes in the state. Other amenities include an 18-acre practice facility, a full-service pro shop, golf instruction, and a spectacular restaurant offering a versatile menu.

Driving Directions to Club: Exit I-55 at Weber Rd and proceed south 4 miles to Renwick Rd. Turn right. Club is one mile on the right. Only 40 minutes from downtown!



Orchard Valley Golf Course

630-907-0500
2411 West Illinois Avenue
Aurora, IL 60506
www.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, waterMarchs, and more.

- Excellent course conditions and guest service
- 6,750 yards from the tips, yet enjoyable for all skill levels
- Conveniently located minutes off I-88 & a short drive from the western suburbs
- Visit Orchard's Bar & Grill for fantastic food & drink specials

PLUS...a program for everyone!
SAVE on every round with the OV Rewards PLUS program
UNLIMITED twilight golf and range with the PPP card.
Annual Memberships and MORE!



Seven Bridges Golf Club

630-964-7777
One Mulligan Dr.
Woodridge, IL 60517
www.sevenbridges.com

18 holes
Yardage: 7111- 5262
Rating/Slope:
74.6/144 - 68.5/130

Spring Rates: \$42 - \$75
Summer Rates: \$48 - \$107
All Rates include golf cart equipped with GPS
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Practice Facilities: Yes
Putting and Chipping Green & Hitting Bay
Banquet/Outings: Yes

Seven Bridges Golf Club, conveniently located in Woodridge, Illinois, enjoys a reputation for being one of the most innovative golf courses in the market. Depending on tee placement, Seven Bridges provides a setting in which golfers of all levels have to rely on their own guile to make the right shot-making decisions. A scenic, perfectly-groomed course, this Dick Nugent design has matured and grown into its well deserved reputation as a challenging yet rewarding test of your game.

Seven Bridges has been awarded 4 stars by *Golf Digest* and is the former host of the Michael Jordan Celebrity Golf Classic.

Seven Bridges offers a variety of programs to suit your golfing needs:

- Golf Pass Program
- Twilight Club
- Permanent Tee Times
- Corporate Memberships



Stonewall Orchard

847-740-4890
25675 W Highway 60
Grayslake, IL 60030-9629
www.stonewallorchard.com
info@StonewallOrchard.com

18 holes
Yardage: 7074 - 5375.
Rating/Slope:
74.7/148 - 71.7/130

Mon - Th: \$70 walking
Fri - Sun: \$77 walking
Cart fees:
\$14 (Mon - Th)
\$18 (Fri - Sun)
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Practice Facilities: Yes
Banquet/Outings: Yes

A Final Stage Qualifying site for the 2009 U.S. Open and host of the Illinois Section PGA Championship, the Arthur Hills-designed Stonewall Orchard Golf Club features 65,000 mature pine and oak trees, rolling fairways, tranquil wetlands and native wildlife across 18 brilliant holes. Consistently ranked as one the top courses in Illinois, Stonewall Orchard's pure greens and perfectly manicured fairways make this a must-play for Chicago's golf aficionados.



Water's Edge Golf Course

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

Best Places To Play By *Golf Digest*

Water's Edge is Chicago's south side destination course. This championship 18-hole golf course with bent grass greens and fairways offers:

- Superior course conditions and friendly service
- 6,400+ yards of golfing excellence, yet playable by all levels
- Complete day/night practice & range facility
- Visit 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.
Much MORE!



Whisper Creek Golf Course

847-515-7680
12840 Del Webb Boulevard
Huntley, IL 60142
www.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.

- Meticulously maintained course conditions
- 7,000+ yards from the tips; yet playable by all levels
- 5-star experience and service with a smile
- 20 minutes west of Schaumburg — an easy commute from anywhere in the Chicago area.

PLUS...a program for everyone!
SAVE on every round with the Whisper Rewards PLUS program
UNLIMITED twilight golf and range with the PDP card.
Annual Memberships and MORE!



White Mountain Golf Park

708-478-4653
9901 179th Street
Tinley Park, IL 60477
whitemountaingolfpark.com

Learn. Practice. Play.

- Executive course offering 9 holes of competitive golf: surprising terrain and sloping greens make this layout fun for anyone — whether you're an experienced professional or a beginner
- Practice Range with 35 artificial hitting stations, over 13,000 square feet of grass hitting stations, and heated, covered stalls
- Mini Golf park offering 18 holes, including water features, elevation changes, and playful layouts
- Professional instruction for all levels and abilities
- Fully stocked golf shop featuring the latest in golf apparel, equipment, and accessories
- Party room perfect for events, fundraisers and more!

PLUS...earn FREE stuff with the Playback Rewards program — join TODAY!

Arrowhead

630-653-5800
26 W. 151 Butterfield Rd
Wheaton, IL 60189
www.arrowheadgolfclub.org
Par 71
27 Hole Golf Course
South/East 72/132
Yardage: 6734
South/West 72/132
Yardage: 6692
West/East 72/131
Yardage: 6637
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes
Restaurant/Bar: Yes

Blackberry Oaks

630-553-7170
Bristol

Bonnie Brook GC

847-360-4735
2800 N. Lewis Ave.
Waukegan, IL 60087
www.waukegangolf.org

Boughton Ridge

630-739-4100
Bolingbrook

Bridges of Poplar Creek Country Club

The Grill at Poplar Creek:
847-781-3664
Banquet: 847-884-0219
Tee Times: 847-781-3681
Driving Range:
847-781-3653
Fax: 847-310-3621
1400 Poplar Creek Drive
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
www.poplarcreekcc.com

Bristol Oaks Golf Club

262-857-2302
16801 75th St.
Bristol, WI 53104
www.bristoloaks.com

The Bull

800-5THEBULL
Sheyboygan Mays, WI

Coyote Run Golf Course

708-957-8700
800 Kedzie
Flossmoor IL 60422
www.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
www.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
www.thefirstteeaurora.org

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

Flagg Creek Golf Course
708-246-3336
6939 S. Wolf Road
Countryside, IL 60525
www.flaggcreekgolfcourse.org
Par 33
Yardage: 2493 - 1865
Weekday: \$18 (res. rate)
Weekend: \$20 (res. rate)
Cart Fee: \$16
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Glenview National 9 Golf Club
847 657-1637
2800 West Lake Avenue
Glenview, IL 60026
www.golfglenview.com
glenviewnational9@glenviewparks.org
9 holes
2,000 yards
Par 31
Green Fees (per 9 holes)
Mon - Thu: \$16
Fri - Sun/Holidays: \$18
Juniors play free* Mon - Thu when accompanied by a paid adult.
*Up to three juniors

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
www.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

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Indian Oaks Country Club
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Shabbona, IL
9 Holes
3,379 yards
www.indianoaksccl.com

Kids Golf Foundation of Illinois
Golf Changes Kids' Lives
630-466-0913
P.O. Box 610
Sugar Grove, IL 60554
www.kidsgolffoundation.org
info@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.
www.addisonparks.org

Maple Meadows Golf Club
630-616-8424
272 Addison Rd.
Wood Dale, IL 60191
www.DuPageGolf.com
West 18 - Par 70
Yardage: 6,438 - 5,339 yds.
Weekday: \$27 walk / \$44 ride
Weekend: \$35 walk / \$52 ride
*Frequent specials on course website
East 9 - Par 34
Yardage: 2,815 - 2,427 yds.
Rate: \$14 walk / \$23 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
www.mdpltd.com

Naperbrook Golf Course
630-378-4215
22204 W. Hassert Boulevard
Plainfield, IL 60585
www.naperbrookgolfcourse.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
www.oak-brook.org/recreation
Par 72
Yardage 6541 - 5341 yds
Weekday: \$65.00 w/cart
Weekend: \$69.00 w/cart
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Oak Meadows Golf Club
630-595-0071
900 N. Wood Dale Road
Addison, IL 60101
www.DuPageGolf.com
Par 71
Yardage: 6,718 - 5,628 yds.
Weekday: \$32 walk / \$49 ride
Weekend:
\$40 walk / \$57 ride
*Frequent specials on course website
Discount Program: Yes
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: No

SentryWorld
866-479-6753
Stevens Point, WI
18 holes
Par 72
6,951 yards
www.sentryworld.com

Shepherd's Crook
847-872-2080
351 N. Green Bay Rd.
Zion, IL 60099
www.shepherdsbrook.org

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

Springbrook Golf Course
630-848-5060
2220 W. 83rd Street
Naperville, IL 60564
www.springbrookgolfcourse.org
Par 72
Yardage: 6,896
Weekday: \$40.00
Weekend: \$50.00
Jr./Sr. Rates: Yes
Twilight Rates: Yes
Banquets/Outings: Yes

Village Greens
630-985-3610
Woodridge

Western Golf Association / Evans Scholars Foundation
www.westerngolfassociation.com

White Pines Dome
630-776-0304, ext. 5
Bensenville, IL
www.whitepinesdome.com

Zigfield Troy Par 3
630-985-9860
1535 W. 75th Street
Woodridge, IL 60517

Start It Up

After stints as a teacher, political activist, newspaper editor, U.S. Treasury employee, and inventor, in 1861 the restless German immigrant Charles Krug established the very first commercial winery in Napa Valley.

Krug was not only a pioneer, but was innovative and inspirational as well. He became the major local winery figure of his era. He introduced the cider press for winemaking (no more foot stomping!), and carefully selected rootstocks, varietals, and vineyards, a novel approach to winemaking at the time.

Upon Krug's death in 1892, James Moffitt became proprietor of the winery, and succeeded in keeping it open during the dark days of Prohibition. In 1943, Robert Mondavi persuaded his parents, Cesare and Rosa, to purchase the winery from Moffitt for \$75,000. Robert Mondavi developed his wine career there, until he founded his own winery in 1966 and went on to become one of the greatest legends in all of California's wine industry.

Cesare rejuvenated the winery, and reestablished it as one of Napa's premier producers. Following Cesare's death in 1959, Rosa ran the winery until 1976 when it was inherited by Peter Mondavi, Sr.

Innovation continued under Peter, who introduced vintage dating, cold fermentation, cold filtration, and fermentation in small French oak barrels. At age 98 he continues to be active in the affairs of the winery, overseeing the operation with his sons Mark and Peter Jr.

2010 Carneros Chardonnay \$14
The color of this 100% chardonnay in the glass is bright yellow with a hint of green. The nose features aromas of tropical fruit, particularly lime, and fermenting bread dough. On the palate, the citrus and peach flavors are balanced with a lively acidity. There is a surprisingly creamy mouthfeel, complemented by a lingering finish. Fermentation was 70% stainless steel and 30% barrel, so the oak is present but not overbearing.

Please your guests and yourself by serving this wine with Chicken ala Kiev, Sea Bass Stuffed with Crabmeat, or Scallops Sautéed in Garlic Butter.

2010 Yountville Cabernet Sauvignon \$28
This cabernet sauvignon favors elegance and finesse over power. The dark purple color is more transparent than inky. Black cherry dominates the nose. The taste displays the same dark fruit, abetted with cocoa and hints of tobacco and vanilla. The supple tannins help to support a relatively long finish. The blend includes 84% cabernet sauvignon, 10% merlot, 4% petit verdot, and 2% cabernet franc. Fermentation was for 20 months in French and American oak. Drink now or hold for up to five years.

Enjoy this wine with Steak Diane, Ragout of Lamb, Herb-stuffed Pork Chops with Wine Sauce, or just with some honest bread and artisanal cheeses.

Do you have questions, comments, or suggestions? Feel free to drop me an email at leo849@mchsi.com.

ON THE CORKSCREWS

Leo McNeal



leo849@mchsi.com

To the Victor Goes the Spoils

Happily, then, everyone is a winner in Wine Battles, a newly launched tournament-style social wine competition. The Battles last from one to seven weeks, and are currently priced at \$68 to \$413. Once signed up for a Battle, you receive two bottles of wine for each week, tasting notes on each wine, a pair of scoring sheets, and tasting guidelines.

Once a week, the players open and sample the wines. (Any number can participate, but I think four to six would be ideal.) Then, compare, contrast, and rate the wines on the scoring sheets. Finally, post your winning wine on winebattles.com.

In addition to declaring a winner at the end of each Battle, it's a fun way to entertain friends (especially those who would like to know more about enjoying wine), your own knowledge of wine will expand, and winebattles.com will use your online flavor profile to recommend new wines you might also like.

www.winebattles.com
(800) 371-4560



It's All In The Cards

The 2013 golf season is an exciting one for Illinois golf; four players with deep Illinois roots earned the opportunity to play at the highest levels of the game this winter.

Luke Guthrie The 23-year-old from Quincy played his way onto the PGA Tour with a wildly successful 2012 on the Web.com Tour where he finished second on the money list by winning twice and recording seven Top 10 finishes. He also won nearly \$300,000 on the PGA Tour in just four starts.

"It's something I've been working for," Guthrie said. "My whole life I've always wanted to be a PGA Tour player."

The start of the season brought some new experiences for Guthrie, but he feels prepared for the adjustment because of his time at the University of Illinois under head coach Mike Small.

"He treats his players and the program as if you're a PGA Tour player. I kind of learned quite a bit under coach from his experiences of what it's like out here and how to best go about it. It's still a new experience for myself to go through it so I'm sure I'll learn a lot of things this year, learn from my mistakes, where to stay, where to eat, all that kind of stuff."

Scott Langley The former NCAA individual champion out of the University of Illinois earned his card by tying for 17th at PGA Tour Qualifying School. His year started off with a bang at the Sony Open in January after a first-round 62 that helped him to a third-place finish.

"He was in the zone. He was worrying about what was going on in the moment and not worried about what he looked like," said Small, Langley's former coach. "He wasn't stepping out of himself and reflecting already on the tournament – he was down to business."

Eric Meierdierks The Wilmette native joined Langley on the PGA Tour via Q-School by tying for 14th. A mini-tour veteran, he won the 2010 Illinois Open, edging Guthrie by one shot. The 27-year-old has played well on the Gateway Tour the last several years but his first two weeks on the tour have presented some early challenges.

"I was comfortable with the movement and the course itself but I kind of got a little sidetracked mentally with the stage I was performing under," he said. "That's the part that's going to take a little bit getting used to. I feel really good about just performing in front of whatever stage it will be on. I just have to treat it like a practice round. Once you learn how to do that it's just golf."

Tour veteran Pat Perez has taken the rookie under his wing, including setting up a practice round at the Sony in a group that included two-time major champion John Daly.

FROM THE FRINGE

Insights on the PGA Tour



Jim Owczarski

"I'm really excited, just with the whole thing, the opportunities that I have and the beauty of having a tour card," he said. "It's more of a marathon than a sprint and I'm feeling really good about my game."

Nicole Jeray The LPGA Tour is nothing new for the 42-year-old, and she's back for 2013 after surviving a playoff during LPGA Qualifying School.

"A lot of times when I'm in contention or whatever my nerves sometimes are not helping me but golly, I wanted it so bad I almost felt like it helped me on a few shots," she said with a chuckle. "It was pretty amazing." Jeray turned professional out of Northern Illinois University 20 years ago, but it doesn't quite seem that long ago for the Berwyn native.

"Can you believe it?" she said. "No, it doesn't feel like 20 years. Sometimes I feel like a rookie. Rules change and events change and the scoring at Qualifying School – it used to be if you shot even par you were in, no problem. Now you've got to take it deep to get in. Everything's kind of changed. I love what I'm doing and I guess when you love what you're doing time flies."

Let us not forget the other Tour players with Illinois connections on tour...Luke Donald (Evanston/Northwestern) begins the year as the world's third-ranked golfer...Crystal Lake native and 2004 Illinois Open champion Joe Affrunti earned his card prior to the 2012 season but was limited to just 12 starts due to a shoulder injury. The Illinois alumnus' status carries over to this year on a medical extension, and he has 13 starts to earn \$649,329 (the equivalent of No. 125 on the money list)...Elmhurst resident Mark Wilson has won five times since 2007, including once in 2012, and he hopes to become an impact player in the majors after missing all four cuts last year... Another Illinois alumnus was in the news in January when 46-year-old Steve Stricker announced he was headed into a "semi-retirement" and paring his schedule down to about 10 events in 2013. Stricker, who is dealing with neck and back injuries, wants to spend more time with his family in Madison, Wisconsin, and start a foundation. Yet he almost won the Hyundai Tournament of Champions in January, finishing second...Kevin Streelman (Winfield) and D.A. Points (Pekin/University of Illinois) are coming off strong 2012s in which they combined to post six Top 10s and 16 Top 25s totaling nearly \$2.5 million. The pair is hoping to finally break into the winner's circle in 2013...Gary Hallberg (Berwyn) posted six Top 10s in 2012 on the Champions Tour – including a second-place finish at The Senior Open – and earning nearly \$800,000...Jeff Sluman also had a great season on the Champions Tour with two third-place finishes and eight Top 10s.



THE BEAR

The 2013 golf season

is an exciting one

for Illinois golf; four

players with deep

Illinois roots earned

the opportunity to

play at the highest

levels of the game

this winter.



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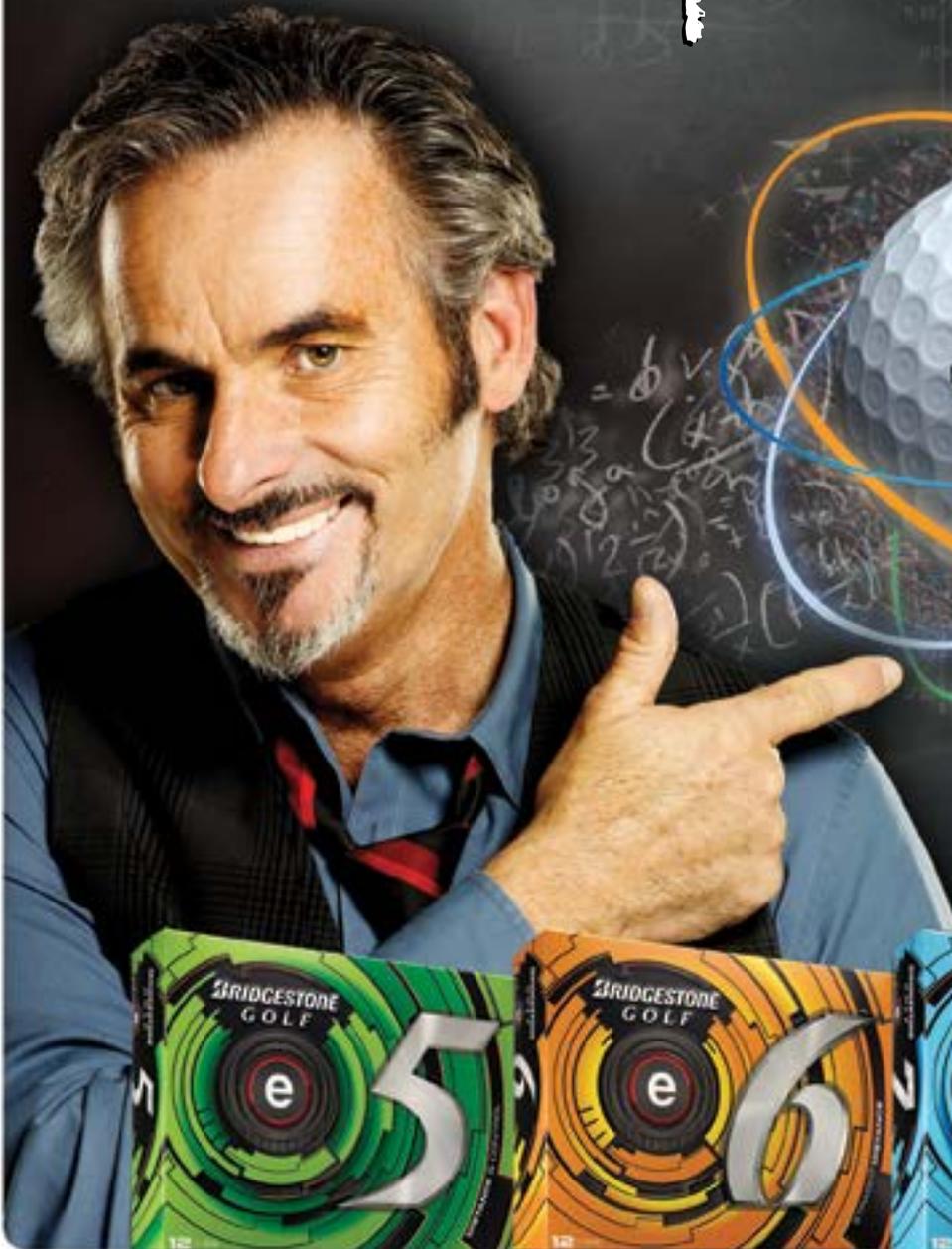
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ALL NEW DUAL DIMPLE FOR FASTER, LONGER FLIGHTS