



BENDAWALD wins
State Amateur p.4

NORMAN design breaks
ground p.4

Golfing MAINE in
the fall p.6



AUGUST 2007

Golf

IDAHO



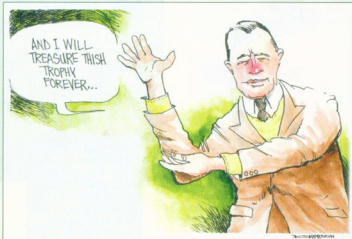
Lone Star

Osprey Meadows on its own pace

It's about to get hotter in Tulsa

In the heart of Tornado Alley, the best golfers from around the world will sweat it out in the August heat for the Wanamaker trophy in the 89th PGA Championship being held at Southern Hills Country Club. Here are a few tidbits to help you keep cool during the season's fourth major.

- The first PGA Championship was played at Siwanoy Country Club in Bronxville, NY in 1916.
- Walter Hagen is the only player to have won 4 consecutive PGA Championships (24', 25', 26', and 27'). He and Jack Nicklaus hold the record at 5 total PGA Championship wins.
- As the PGA Championship does not invite any amateurs, the final 20 of the 156 slots are given to the top 20 finishers at the PGA Club Pro Championship. This year the championship was held at Crosswater Golf Club in Sunriver, Ore. Ryan Benzel, an assistant pro at Seattle Golf Club, finished second and will play in this year's championship.
- **The morning after Walter Hagen's 1925 PGA Championship win he realized that, in a drunken haze the night before, he had lost the Wanamaker trophy. He managed to keep the loss a secret until 1927 when he**



admitted to losing it and a replacement was made.

- Sahalee CC in Sammamish, Wash. hosted the 80th PGA Championship in 1998. Before then, the last PGA Championship in the Northwest was held at Portland Golf Club in 1946 and won by Ben Hogan.
- From 1916–1957 the championship was played in match-play format, changing to stroke play in 1958.

Agassi, Graf invest in Tamarack

Since retiring in 2006, tennis player Andre Agassi, 37, has become a risk taker: He snowboards.

"He got bitten hard," his wife, Stefanie Graf, 38, says of Agassi's obsession. Graf, who won 22 Grand Slam singles championships, prefers skiing. They play almost no tennis.

Agassi and Graf are taking even bigger chances with their money. A few years ago, they visited western Idaho looking for a place to spend time with their two children.

The couple bought a house in Tamarack, for decades a secluded playground for the gentry in Boise, 100 miles downriver. Now, Agassi and Graf plan to build a Fairmont hotel there. The place will be a

condominium hotel.

Picking Tamarack for their first development is a risk for Agassi and Graf. The 3-year-old resort north of Boise is on a two-lane road that can be treacherous in winter. The airport in nearby McCall can take private jets but has no commercial service.

In exchange for building a five-star hotel in the middle of nowhere, Agassi and Graf got dibs on the best piece of property in the whole resort. The eight-story Fairmont will hover over the rest of Tamarack like a perpetual harvest moon.

So far, it looks like Agassi and Graf may have hit another winner. They sold their first batch of units in March. Buyers snapped up all 125 in seven hours.

Tamarack has yet to build a single court.



Ocean Shores Golf Course

OCEAN SHORES, Washington

Colorful past for local favorite

by Kris Fay

It has never been a big spot on the map. From its beginning as a fishing and camping spot for several Native American tribes to its current standing as a pleasant vacation destination, Ocean Shores, Wash., has always had a quiet appeal.

Each year, more than three million visitors hit the town's sandy beaches, and many of those folks make an appearance at the local links, Ocean Shores Golf Course. Surprisingly, the small course has a rich history that most would never have guessed possible.

Originally opened with just six holes in 1961, the full 18 holes was finished in 1966. At that point, developers, which included crooner Pat Boone, began hosting the Celebrity Golf Classic at Ocean Shores, an event that drew the likes of Clint Eastwood, Fred MacMurray and Joe Namath. In 1970 the event was transformed into a regular PGA Tour stop.

The course is a really fun place to play golf. Measuring just 6,252 yards, the course doesn't look that difficult on the scorecard. Tall trees, heavy sea air, winds and well-placed bunkers, however, make the course play much longer and more difficult.

According to assistant professional Jerry Johnson, the two best holes on the course illustrate the fact that length alone does not make a golf course difficult. The 15th and 18th holes, both par threes, offer golfers of all abilities a challenge.

"The 15th is the best hole on the course," said Johnson. "It's only about 140 yards long, but you have to hit through a tight area of trees. It's not an easy hole at all, but it's a fun hole."

The 18th is much longer, measuring roughly 200 yards from the back tees. The difficulty lies in the fact that much of the tee shot is a carry over the water.

Because of its location, most of the play at Ocean Shores comes from the tourists. Regulars include the local residents, many of whom are retired. Many of the tourists who hit the links make Ocean Shores their only round of golf each year.

"We get a lot of families that are on vacation. The kids have a good time and it's something they can all enjoy together," said Johnson.

Despite having a lock on golf business in the area, the course's management team has been intent on improving the condition of the golf course. In addition to having well maintained greens, the course now has a full irrigation system.

"This is the first year we've had irrigation throughout the entire course," Johnson said. "That means the course is green year-round instead of going brown in the summer."

A loop around Ocean Shores is a great way to spend part of your vacation on the Washington coast.



Clint Eastwood

Joe Namath



Osprey Meadows

DONNELLY, Idaho

Majestic golf of the fittest

by David Wood

Proving that nature and a high-caliber golf course can coexist in harmony, a fox was happily trotting back home with a dead hare in its mouth no more than ten feet from me on the tricky 381-yard par-four seventh hole at Osprey Meadows, an exceptional Robert Trent Jones, Jr. layout at the Tamarack Resort.

Just about to attempt my approach shot to the slightly uphill green poised in front of an amphitheatre of pines, the jauntily motoring fox gave me a nonchalant look that implied, "Good luck, pal. You're gonna need it."

He was right. My second, a seven-iron, landed in one of Mr. Jones' evil bunkers lurking just right of the putting surface – which in true Jonesian fashion craftily sloped away from the hazard. A bogey ensued. It wasn't my first that day, nor would it be my last as Osprey Meadows demands your complete attention for any hopes of getting within the same zip code as your handicap. More often than not, you're going to end up like that poor hare. Osprey Meadows is a full-on "survival of the fittest" test of golf in a mesmerizing locale.

At the pinnacle of the golf course architecture food chain, Mr. Jones is given the very best parcels of land to ply his expertise. Few courses are more scenic. This is big majestic land needing big majestic golf. That it has.

Already named by *Golf Digest* in 2006 as the "Best Public Course \$75 and Over," two-year-old Osprey Meadows is going to be racking up awards like Tom Hanks wins Oscars – often.

The mark of a fine course is how many holes you remember. Many come



The 140-yard 15th hole

AT A GLANCE

Ocean Shores Golf Course
500 Canal Drive NE
Ocean Shores, Washington 98569
360-289-3357
www.oceanshoresgolfcourse.com


Blue Tees 6,252 yards ~ 69.6/116
White Tees 5,983 yards ~ 68.3/114
Red Tees 5,209 yards ~ 69.5/116
Green Fees \$25 to \$32

immediately to mind. The strategic 540-yard par-5 opening hole with the wetlands paralleling the entire right side and a tiered green well protected by a huge bunker right and a mini, but fiery, one short left. The beguiling fourth – a double fairway par-5 of 608 yards with two forced carries, wetlands, bunkers, and one insidious tree mocking any attempt at playing the hole in regulation. The par-3 sixth at 226 yards from the tips – the best

hole on the course – with its oblong green completely surrounded by verdant wetlands requiring a heroic strike to reach the promised dry land. The wonderful, but stout, par-4 445-yard fourteenth played up and over a ridge with two hard smacks needed to get near the diabolically

slanted putting surface.

The great holes go on and on. I could rave about all of them except the finisher – a par-5 with its three landing areas and the uncommon occurrence of having to hit a driver, then a half-wedge to a miniscule island for your second, followed by a full-throttle fairway-wood third to the green perched uphill in front of the picturesque resort. It's an all-or-nothing hole, with nothing the winner more often than not. But, why nitpick about one hole when so many cry out for admiration.

Osprey Meadows is well worth the trip. Once there, lace up your golf shoes nice and tight, get ready for battle, and ask yourself: Do you want to be the fox or the hare? 

AT A GLANCE

Osprey Meadows

311 Village Drive

Donnelly, Idaho 83615

877-826-7376 • www.tamarackidaho.com

Blue Tees 6,737 yards – 72.2/136

White Tees 5,916 yards – 68.2/129

Greens Fees \$75 to \$119

River's Edge Golf Course

BEND, Oregon

Up and down along the banks of the Deschutes

by *Crai S. Bower*

Bend will soon have to change its “27 Courses within 27 Miles” slogan, due to another half-dozen planned 18's. This high desert boomtown could just as easily boast “One-within-One,” as in one excellent course within one exit of the city's core because River's Edge Golf Course offers a Great Basin test as challenging and entertaining as many of its more celebrated brethren found outside the city limits.

The general conditioning of the 6,683-yard, par-72 course is very good. Unfortunately the layout, which descends into valleys and climbs up numerous chaparral shelves, is a challenging stroll, but those with intact knees and extra time can certainly give it a go. Still, architect Robert Muir Graves can be excused for crafting a cart course, as his undulating canvas was anything but accommodating.

River's Edge demands a full spectrum of clubs, even with the low yardage from the tips. Graves is not afraid to offer a blind shot or two, beginning with the first hole, a 400-yard dogleg left par-4 that curls down a draw. Another Graves feature is the overly protected green, as pines stand sentry over most surfaces.


This track is rarely level, and the pine and oak borders demand careful placement of your approach. Elevation changes are the norm – the second green rises thirty feet above the fairway, and from there the golfer must climb an additional twenty-five feet to the next tee box before launching to a fairway a hundred feet below.

The 530-yard 5th hole is the only flat fairway on the course, though a left side waste area of ghost trees and pumice boulders deter a “grip it and rip it” strategy. Landing area proves paramount on the 6th as well, a picturesque 344-yard par-4, due to a fronting water hazard and elevated three-tiered green. The 6th green feels flat, however, compared to the rolling sea that is the 183-yard 7th.

Holes eight and nine confirm the intelligent golfer's decision to bury a fickle driver in favor of a three wood or long iron as the trees creep steadily inward along the narrowing fairways.

Don't worry, though, because you can unleash the beast soon enough on the 10th, the only gaping fairway, and on the 524-yard 11th, which plays perfectly into a well struck draw. Holes 12 thru 15 climb and descend, clubbing up and down accordingly. But they in no way prepare you for the 216-yard par-3 16th, with its tee box vista of the entire valley and ensuing three hundred foot descent to a protected green. Wind shifts mean how many clubs to drop is entirely your call.

You'll be climbing again on the 515-yard 17th only to trot downhill at the 400-yard finishing hole.

A series of ups and downs, excellent greens and thoughtful golf await you at River's Edge. I wouldn't play River's Edge were it my only chance to play in this golf Mecca. But convenience and quality combine to make this neighborhood layout a perfect just-landed first tee or last hole played on a broader Bend golf excursion. I suggest you do the same. 



Osprey Meadows



The 445-yard par-4 15th at River's Edge.

AT A GLANCE

River's Edge Golf Course

3075 N. Business 97

Bend, Oregon 97701

866-453-4480 • www.riverhouse.com

Blue Tees 6,683 yards – 72.0/134

White Tees 6,128 yards – 69.9/127

Greens Fees \$74 (M-Th) • \$80 (F-Su)