



SUMMERHAYS wins
Sahalee Players p.3

INVENTOR on the golf
channel p.8

WHITE HORSE worth
the journey p.6



AUGUST 2007

Golf

NORTHWEST Magazine



Taking Center Stage

White Horse enters the scene

contents



Golf Northwest Magazine

Volume 11 Issue 5

An official publication of the Washington State and Pacific Northwest Golf Associations.

WSGA/PNGA Executive Director
John Bodenhamer
WSGA Sr. Director of Communications
Troy Andrew
WSGA President Bill Bergsten

Washington State Golf Association
www.thewsga.org
206-526-8605

Editorial and production staff
Publisher John Bodenhamer
Asst. Publisher Troy Andrew
Editor Tom Cade
Art Director Ron Snowden
Graphics/Production Trademark GS
Photography John R. Johnson, Rob Perry

355 118th Ave SE, #100
Bellevue, WA 98005
800-643-6410

Advertising sales
PNGA Media
John Tipping, Sales Director
206-818-4653; john@pngamedia.com

All rights reserved. ©2007. No copy from this publication may be reprinted in any form without written permission of the publisher.

feature stories

Summerhays wins at Sahalee 3
Starts run; turns pro

Lee wins Seattle Amateur 4
Goes wire to wire

White Horse a pleasant journey 6
New course did it right

Local inventor on Golf Channel 8
New travel case makes grade

Single golfers make foursome 10
New avenue to find a game

in every issue

Product Feature 12
Everything in the bag

Course features
Ocean Shores Golf Course 18
Osprey Meadows 18
River's Edge Golf Course 19

Tracking the pros 21
Northwesterners on tour

Scoreboard 23



Cover Photo: The par-4 15th at White Horse Golf Club. (Photo by Rob Perry)

WASHINGTON STATE GOLF ASSOCIATION

An official representative of the United States Golf Association

JOIN TODAY!



Your membership benefits include:

- An official USGA Handicap Index
- Eligibility for WSGA & PNGA Championships
- A subscription to Pacific Northwest Golfer magazine
- Support for the game of golf in the Pacific Northwest
- And much more!

TO BECOME A MEMBER, CALL 1-800-643-6410 OR VISIT WWW.THEWSGA.ORG

Background photo: Hole 10 of the Prospector Course at Suncadia Resort in Ellensburg, Wash., host of the Inaugural WSGA & PNGA Senior Championships on June 4-9, 2006. Photo by Rob Perry

Vincent leaves West Coast

Northwest native and former player and golf coach at the University of Washington, O.D. Vincent, left his position of head coach at the successful UCLA program to take over at Duke University in Durham, N.C.

At Duke, Vincent replaces the legendary Rod Myers, who was the men's coach for 34 years until he died last spring from leukemia at age 67.

"I was not looking, and they did seek me out, which is obviously always a nice situation to be in," said Vincent, who has been named Pacific-10 Conference coach of the year in 1999 with UW and 2003 and 2006 with UCLA. He also was named the national coach of the year in 1999.

Vincent's assistant at UCLA, Derek Freeman, has since been named the head coach, and Vincent said that will be the perfect transition for the Bruins.

It was a similar situation at Washington, when Vincent left after five years and assistant Matt Thurmond took over the program that has continued to roll along toward success.

Besides his coaching achievements, Vincent is in the Pac-10 record books



OD Vincent (left) is heading east.

for his playing ability as well. He was the conference medalist in 1991 for the Huskies, becoming the only person named coach of the year and earn Pac-10 medalist honors as a player as well.

Vincent left his coaching position at UW in the spring of 2001 to give competitive golf another chance after playing on the European Tour earlier in his career. In this attempt, he did make it into some PGA Tour and Nationwide Tour events.

Summerhays wins Sahalee Players Championship

Then follows it up with a history-making Nationwide Tour victory; turns pro

Daniel Summerhays of Provo, Utah, fired a final round 5-under par 67 to lap the field in winning the 14th Sahalee Players Championship by seven shots over second-place finisher Eddie Olson, of Aptos, Calif. Summerhays and Olson were the only two players to finish the four rounds of the championship under par.

Summerhays, 23, is the nephew of Champions Tour player, Bruce Summerhays.

Defending champion and local player, Kyle Stanley of Gig Harbor, Wash., finished third.

The week after the Sahalee Players



Photo by Corky Trewin

Daniel Summerhays

Auburn to open new clubhouse

The Auburn Golf Course is set to open a new 8,500 sq. ft. clubhouse at the end of August. The new clubhouse will include a pro shop, 150-seat banquet and meeting facility, and full basement for carts and general storage. The 110-seat full-service restaurant that is part of the clubhouse will open later in the year.



Designed by David A. Clark Architects and built by Briere & Associates, the clubhouse replaces the 2,500 square-foot facility that was originally built in 1958. Over the past several years, the golf course has undergone a complete transformation with the reconstruction of nine fairways, 15 greens and 17 tee boxes. The most recent renovation includes the lengthening of the 11th hole, which now takes golfers 330 yards uphill to a new 6,000-foot green.

Auburn also recently hired Chris Morris as their new head professional.

For more information, visit www.auburngolf.org.

Championship, Summerhays made Nationwide Tour history by becoming the first amateur in its 18 years of existence to win a sanctioned event. He had a two shot victory in the Children's Hospital Invitational, held at the difficult Scarlet Course at Ohio State University. Because this victory ensured his exemption on the Nationwide Tour through the 2008 season, Summerhays decided to turn pro.

For complete results, visit www.sahaleeplayerschampionship.com.

Lee goes wire to wire in winning Seattle Amateur



Richard Lee with the evidence.

Richard Lee started the final round of the 73rd Seattle Amateur at the West Seattle Golf Course with a 7 shot lead at 8-under par. Lee birdied the first hole and when he made the turn he had increased his lead to ten shots. He was on cruise control on the back nine.

Lee had let a few pars slip away and Tyler Kato had birdied his way into contention. When the players reached the 17th green Lee's big lead had dwindled to four. Lee was facing a 10 foot putt for par and Kato was putting for birdie from 15 feet. But Kato's birdie putt would not drop and Lee drilled his putt for a par.

Three past champions were again in the familiar position of playing on the last day, including 8-time Champion David Farnam, shooting a 73 for a 219 total and a 13th place finish. Bryan Stevens, the 1997 champion, shot 79 to finish at 226; and Roy Niznik the 1964 champion, shot 78 to finish at 230.

Special Olympics to be held at Fairwood

Fairwood Golf & Country Club will be hosting the Special Olympics Washington State tournament on Sunday, August 26th. Fairwood is the only private club in the state that sponsors a Special Olympics golf team, and has donated the course for the regional meet, with members providing volunteers.

Fairwood started the team three years ago. Rick Larson, the Director of Golf, is the coach of the "Fairwood Flyers". One hundred athletes and fifty partners will be competing at various individual levels as well as 9 and 18-hole competitions.

Marcus King, former general manager of Fairwood who now is the GM of Sand Point Country Club, started the team and



The Fairwood Flyers

will accompany the national Team USA as assistant coach to the Special Olympics World Games in Shanghai, China. The team leaves for China on September 26 and returns October 13.

EWGA Seattle players advance to semi-finals

Fourteen golfers from the Seattle Chapter of the Executive Women's Golf Association (EWGA) will compete in the EWGA Pacific Northwest Section's semi-final tournament, to be held August 11 at the Circling Raven Golf Club in Worley, Idaho. From there, winners will advance to the EWGA Championship Finals in September at the Hermitage Golf Course in Nashville, Tenn.

The Seattle qualifiers will be led by Val Patrick, who defended her 2006 title as Chapter Champion by carding an 88 at the Olympic Course at Gold Mountain Golf Club in Bremerton on July 15.

Golfers from EWGA chapters throughout Washington, Oregon and Idaho will compete at this region's semi-final event at Circling Raven.

Washington golfer wins Mesquite Amateur



Mike Hermsen

More than 730 golfers competed in the fifth annual Mesquite Amateur, held May 22-25 in Mesquite, Nevada, and when the dust had settled in the desert the big winner was Mike Hermsen from Olympia, Wash.

During the first three days, golfers competed in flights based on handicap, gender and age. On the fourth day, the top four finishers in each of the 22 flights competed in the championship round for

all the marbles.

Hermsen carries a seven handicap and is a member at both Meadow Park Golf Course in Tacoma and Grays Harbor Country Club in Aberdeen. This was his second year of participating in the event and the second time proved to be the charm.

The 2008 Mesquite Amateur will be held May 26-30. Mesquite is located one hour north of Las Vegas.

For complete information, visit www.mesquiteamateur.com.



Scott Alexander's Golf Carts • EZGO

- Used Electric Carts
starting at \$1499!
- Used Gas Carts
starting at just \$1699!
- New Carts
starting at just \$5299!
- We are now a full-service repair shop!
- Financing available!



Located at Gold Mountain Golf Course • (360) 340-4385
7264 W. Belfair Valley Rd. Bremerton, WA

> 800 SLOTS TABLE GAMES DINING DRINKS GOLF HOTEL

GREAT GOLF.

**NO MATTER
HOW YOU
SLICE IT.**



All just cleat-steps away from the fun and excitement of the Northwest's highest paying casino.

With its deep bunkers, tall grass, and water hazards featured at more than half of the holes, our championship course is host to numerous state and regional PGA, PNWGA, and OGA events. It's perfect for golfers of all abilities, inspiring everyone's game with its spectacular vistas and plenty of dry, sunny days. Call today for information about our stay and play packages. **How do you play?**

I-84, EXIT 216 PENDLETON, OR WILDHORSERESORT.COM 800.654.9453 <

WILDHORSE
RESORT CASINO

White Horse an overnight Northwest classic – 13 years in the making

Personal journey leads to satisfying end

by Blaine Newnham

White Horse is a golf course that seems well worth the trip, especially when the trip is a crisp, 20-minute ferry ride from Edmonds across Puget Sound to the hills south of Kingston.

Worth it when the little bus comes to the ferry dock to meet you for the final five-minute trip to the course, even though you won't often find the owner, Bob Screen, posing as the van driver as he did on the course's opening day in June.

"I wanted to find out what people thought of the course," said Screen, who for his troubles got lots of compliments, insights, and a couple of \$2 tips.

White Horse is one of the more exciting - and different - golf course developments to hit Puget Sound in some time, representing not only one man's 13-year battle to get the course built, but the architectural debut of Cynthia Dye McGarey.

While the centerpiece of a housing development, the course is open to the public, with green fees set at \$45 during the week and \$60 on the weekends. In addition there is a five-play twilight card for \$125 that also allows play to begin an hour before the prevailing twilight time.

"It is great golf at a great price and in a great location," said Screen, who lives on Bainbridge Island and made his money as a media and fund-raising consultant to non-profit organizations.

"I had a couple here looking to re-locate.

They told me the course was challenging but beautiful, tough but fair. I think that kind of boils it down," he said.

Looking for pasture land for his daughter's horse, Screen bought the 400 acres on a ridge between Kingston and Indianola in the 1980s. It had been cleared of prime trees in the lumber industry's rush to send logs to Japan.

Screen wouldn't say what the land cost, but by today's standards it couldn't have been much. Looking for the property's best-use scenario, Screen read a comment

fought for his golf course and the 240 lots that would go with it. He often jokes about the delay as being the best thing that ever happened to him, the lapse turning \$40,000 lots into \$200,000 properties, and every legal hassle - and there were many - front-page publicity for the course.

He's proud of the fact that the entire project cost less than \$4 million, that he hasn't gone into debt in the process and that green fees during the week start at \$45. In fact, he said the sale of the first 60 lots paid for the building of the course.



The par-4 9th hole at White Horse.

by Karsten Solheim, the inventor of the Ping clubs, that there was need for more good golf in the stretches of north Kitsap County.

Screen actually sought Solheim out in a restaurant in nearby Suquamish run by Solheim's sister. Together, they walked the property. Solheim saw the gracefully undulating landscape and its makeup - sand - and gave a quick thumbs up.

"Perfect," he said.

More than a decade elapsed as Screen

"I tried to learn from what was happening in the industry," he said. "Golf courses were being sold over and over again, and always for less. That indicated they cost too much in the first place."

Screen is hardly orthodox. He was his own contractor in the building of the course. He hired a woman to design it. He didn't get his makeshift clubhouse into position until the week the course opened. When he sought an architect, he said he

had design-construction bids ranging from \$3 million to \$11 million.

"Same course, same land," he said. "It showed you some people didn't know what they were doing."

McGarey, the niece of Pete Dye, was ready to break out on her own. In going after the job - which she said has become her pride and joy - she gave Screen more innovative

routing for the course than he'd seen from others. For her part, she said, the housing demands by Screen never compromised the course.

"I got what I wanted and Bob got what he wanted," said the 51-year-old McGarey.

Screen admits he is frugal, and yet McGarey got the go-ahead to build 137 sand traps. The cart paths are wide and concrete. No scrimping there.

"My philosophy," said Screen, "is to spend only what is necessary to achieve your objective, but be sure to spend what is necessary."

Screen said from the beginning that he wanted his course to be challenging - and never boring - while also being playable. He said McGarey offered that. She also moved as little land as possible, finding - not creating - corridors of play among the rolling, sandy soils.

"Her concept of tee placements, especially for women and seniors, was so much better than those of anyone else's," he said. "She was light years ahead and we've got a course that can be played by anyone. The women just love it."

With the backdrop of tall trees on every hole and at this point very few houses, the course is distinctly Northwest. In fact, Joe



The par-5 16th hole at White Horse.

All photos by Rob Perry

Lanza, a member of the Canadian Tour who grew up on Bainbridge Island, called it "an instant Northwest Classic."

This isn't a links course, although it is built almost entirely on sand and was eerily dry last winter for those who got a chance to test it. No, the course looks more like Gold Mountain and McCormick Woods and Port Ludlow - with stands of trees - and while more open than the others probably

"My philosophy," said Screen, "is to spend only what is necessary to achieve your objective, but be sure to spend what is necessary."

demands a more skillful shot into the green.

It is, in fact, a second-shot course. Screen and Dye wanted the driver to come out on the tee box. The fairways are much wider than they appear.

The front nine has three rigorous par-4s, two of which measure well over 400 yards. The championship tees can go over 7,000 yards. The five sets of tees produce

dramatically different challenges.

Although there are more than 100 bunkers, they do not detract from the beauty of the environment or the design. Rather than be bright white sand, the color was picked to match the surrounding tree trunks.

After playing the course, officials from the Washington State Golf Association said they could envision playing the state amateur championship there.

Even before it opened, White Horse was tagged with a slope of 144 from the back tees, putting it among the five most difficult courses in the state. The 18th hole, which curves around a pond to a green with water left, sand right and a creek to the back, might be the best finishing hole in the state.

"I'm a little surprised how much people love the challenge of playing White Horse," said Screen. "I think the difficulty intrigues them and draws them back for another round."

The lack of forced carries and the firmness of the fairways seems behind the appeal of the course to women.

"Every day I see something Cynthia did that makes the course enjoyable," he said.

"I'm pleased."

Ryan Moore to bring his friends to town Hosts charity skins game in the Northwest

Clear your calendars for October 8th and 9th. Aaron Baddeley and Bubba Watson will join Northwest PGA Tour players Ryan Moore and Michael Putnam for the "Ryan Moore & Friends" charity skins event hosted by Ryan Moore at the Classic Golf Club and Chambers Bay, both of which are located south of Tacoma, Wash.

The two day event will begin with an exhibition and junior clinic at Classic Golf Club on October 8th and finish with an 18-hole charity skins game at Chambers Bay on October 9th.

For more information, call The Classic at 253-847-4440.



Photo courtesy PGA Tour

PGA Tour winner Aaron Baddeley

Maple Valley man on Golf Channel

Gary Sherrell of Maple Valley, Wash., received the thumbs up from all three panelists for his "Club Glider" invention during his panel audition on the season premiere of *Fore Inventors Only*, the Golf Channel's new original series airing Tuesdays at 10 p.m. ET.

"I want it. How much?" was panelist Stina Sternberg's reaction to Sherrell's invention during his panel audition.

Sherrell's "Club Glider" advanced to field testing starting July 31, where a group of notable golfers previously seen on the Golf Channel will test his invention and provide feedback to the panelists, who will narrow down all inventions to 10 semifinalists. "Club Glider" is a golf travel bag that integrates extendable legs with

caster wheels, making the bag easy to push or pull.

PGA Tour professional Fulton Allem, golf instructor Bill Harmon and *Golf for Women* Senior Editor Sternberg are tasked with critiquing and paring down the 103 inventors to five finalists during the series.

Ultimately, viewers will cast their votes to determine the winner on the series' live season finale on Sept. 4.

The winner will receive shelf space at golf retailer, Golfsmith, for one year; a fully-developed infomercial and \$50,000 worth of commercial and promotional air time on the Golf Channel.



First Tee golfer a semi-finalist



Matthew Lemke

Matthew Lemke, a Renton teenager with an inherited neurological disorder, is one of 14 semi-finalists for the nationwide "RBS Achievers of the Year Award" for participants in The First Tee.

Lemke, 17, is an honor student-athlete at Renton's Lindbergh High School, where he will be a senior.

Two finalists, one female and one male, will be announced during an awards dinner in Philadelphia on August 9. The two finalists will each receive \$10,000 and the twelve semi-finalists will each receive \$1,000, all to fund higher education.

"Matthew has overcome tremendous challenges to become an outstanding citizen and ambassador of our program," said Heidi Wills, executive director of The First Tee of Greater Seattle, in announcing Lemke's selection as a semi-finalist.