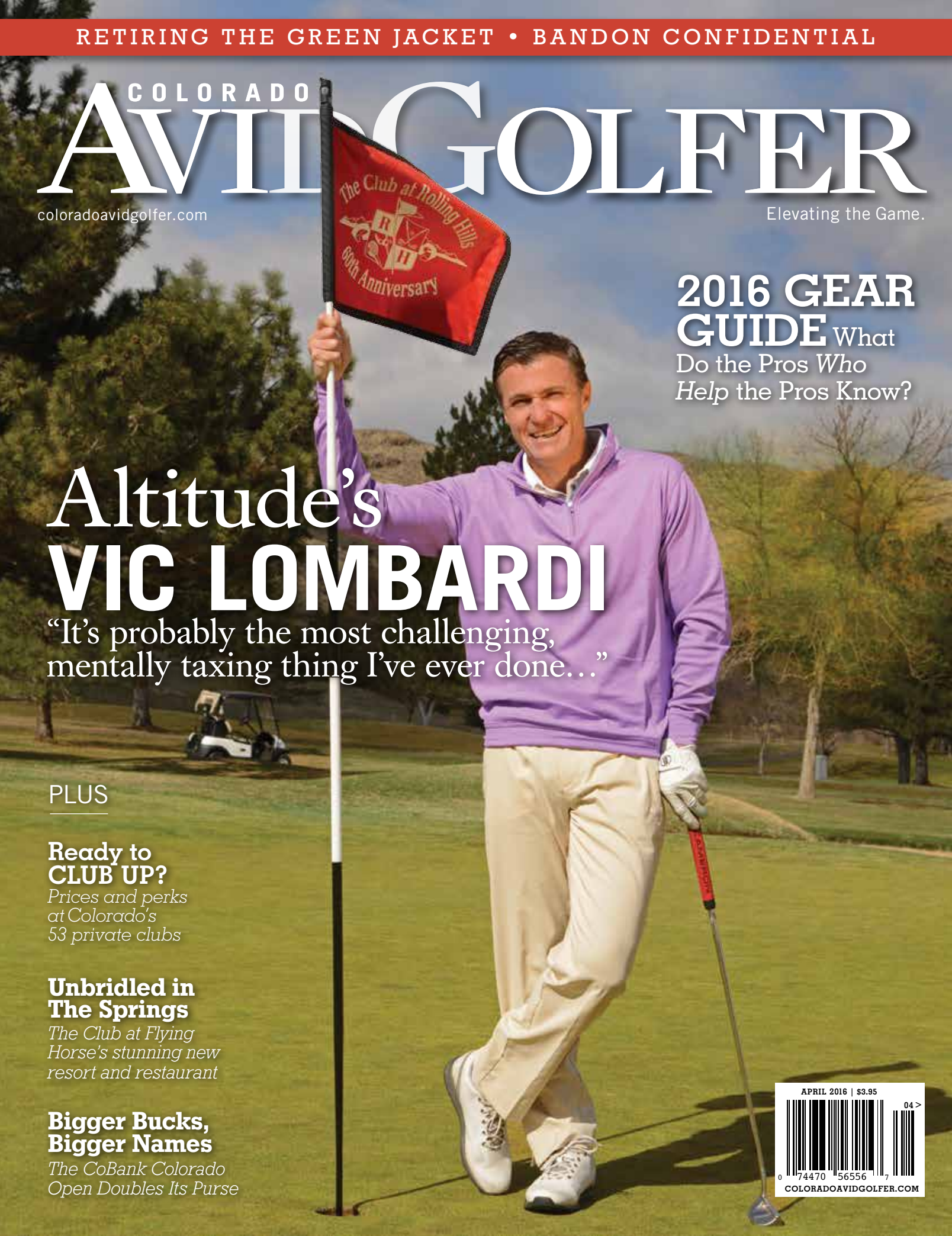
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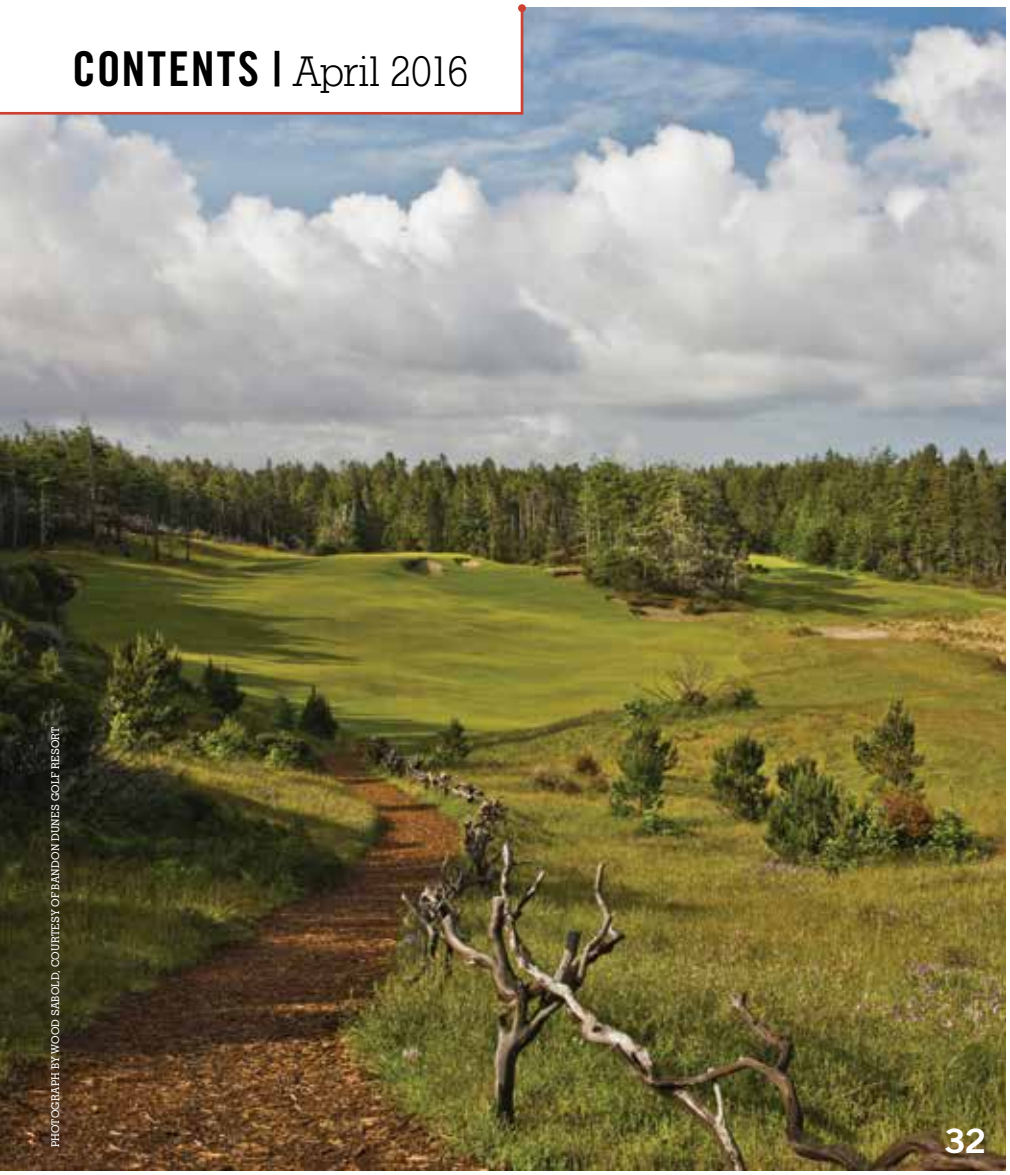
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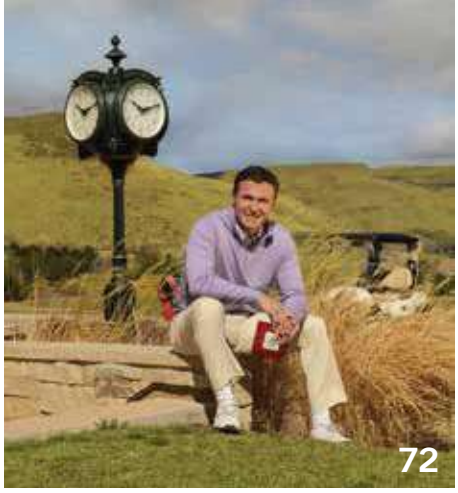
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April 2016 | Volume 15, Number 1

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Colorado AvidGolfer (ISSN 1548-4335) is published eight times a year by Baker-Colorado Publishing, LLC, and printed by American Web, Inc. Volume 15, Number one. 7200 S. Alton Way #A-180, Centennial, CO 80112. *Colorado AvidGolfer* is available at more than 250 locations, or you can order your personal subscription by calling 720-493-1729. Subscriptions are available at the rate of $17.95 per year. Copyright © 2016 by Baker-Colorado Publishing, LLC. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is prohibited. Postmaster: Send address changes to *Colorado AvidGolfer*, 7200 S. Alton Way #A-180 Centennial, CO 80112.The magazine welcomes editorial submissions but assumes no responsibility for the safekeeping or return of unsolicited manuscripts, photographs, artwork or other material.

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59 WEEKENDS OF PLAY

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GOLF COURSE	1/1 - 5/31	6/1 - 8/31	9/1 - 12/31	AVAILABLE TEE TIMES	WEEKENDS	ROUNDS
Antler Creek, Falcon	$30	$40	$35	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 11	Yes	3
Breckenridge Golf Club, Breckenridge*	$75	$99	$75	SS: M-S anytime. PS: S-T after 12	Yes	3
The Bridges, Montrose	$35	$55	$35	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 11	Yes	3
Broadlands, Broomfield	$40	$40	$40	M-T after 12	No	3
Broken Tee, Englewood	$32	$32	$32	M-Thurs after 12	No	3 P/S = 9
Buffalo Run, Commerce City	$41	$41	$41	M-F anytime, S-S after 2	Yes	3
Cedaredge Golf Club, Cedaredge	$35	$40	$35	Any day, anytime	Yes	Unlimited
Cheyenne Mountain Resort, Colorado Springs* **EXCLUSIVE**	$60	$75/$95	$60	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 1	Yes	3
Club at Crested Butte, Crested Butte **EXCLUSIVE**	$45	$79	$79	Anyday after 1	Yes	3
Colorado National, Erie	$42	$49	$42	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 12	Yes	3
CommonGround, Aurora* **EXCLUSIVE**	$46	$46	$46	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 12	Yes	3
Country Club at Woodmoor, Monument **EXCLUSIVE**	$39	$45	$39	M-T after 11, F-S-S after 12	Yes	2
Eagle Ranch, Eagle **EXCLUSIVE**	$35	$55	$35	Any day after 11	Yes	2
Eagle Trace, Broomfield	$30	$30	$30	M-T after 11, F-S-S after 12	Yes	3
Eagle Vail, Avon*	$55	$99	$55	M-T after 11, F-S-S after 12	Yes	3
Family Sports Center, Centennial	$19	$21	$19	M-T before 4, F-S-S after 1	Yes	Unlimited
Fitzsimons, Aurora **EXCLUSIVE**	$26/$30	$26/$30	$26/$30	M-F after 11, S-S after 1	Yes	1 P/S = 3
Foothills, Denver	$36/$51	$36/$51	$36/$51	M-T before 8; after 1, F-S-S after 1	Yes	4
Four Mile Ranch, Cañon City	$35	$35	$35	M-F anytime	No	3
Fox Hollow, Lakewood	$48	$48	$48	M-T after 1, F-S-S after 2	Yes	Unlimited
Golf Granby Ranch, Granby	$54	$54	$54	Anyday after 11	Yes	Unlimited
Grand Elk, Granby	$32/$39	$45/$54	$39/$45	M-T after 11, F-Sat after 12	Yes	3
Grand Lake, Grand Lake*	$40	$50	$40	M-T after 11, F-S-S after 12	Yes	3
Green Valley Ranch, Denver **EXCLUSIVE**	$35	$40	$35	SS: M-T before 9; after 12, F-S-S after 2 PS: M-T before 9; after 1, F-S-S after 2	Yes	1 P/S = 3
Haymaker, Steamboat	$57	$77	$57	Any day after 11	Yes	3
Heather Ridge, Aurora **EXCLUSIVE**	$23	$23	$23	M-T after 12	No	3
Heritage at Westmoor, Westminster	$45	$45	$45	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 1	Yes	Unlimited
Heritage Eagle Bend, Aurora	$34/$40	$50/$56	$34/$40	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 11	Yes	3
Highland Meadows, Windsor*	$34	$44	$34	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 12	Yes	3
Highlands Ranch Golf Club, Highlands Ranch	$47/$58	$57/$68	$47/$58	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 12	Yes	SS: 2, PS: 1 = 3
The Homestead Golf Course, Lakewood	$38	$38	$38	M-T after 1, F-S-S after 2	Yes	Unlimited
The Greg Mastriona at Hyland Hills *Gold Course*, Westminster **EXCLUSIVE**	$39	$39	$39	M-T after 11, F-S-S after 1	Yes	3
The Greg Mastriona at Hyland Hills *Blue Course*, Westminster **EXCLUSIVE**	$20	$22	$20	Any day, anytime	Yes	Unlimited

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The Greg Mastriona at Hyland Hills *Par 3 Course*, Westminster **EXCLUSIVE**	$12	$12	$12	Any day, anytime	Yes	Unlimited
Indian Tree, Arvada **EXCLUSIVE**	$37	$37	$37	Season 1-2 any day after 12, Season 3 any day, anytime	Yes	3
The Inverness, Englewood*	$56	$76	$56	M-T after 11, F-S-S after 12	Yes	3
Keystone Ranch, Keystone*	$69	$90	$69	Any day, anytime	Yes	Unlimited
Kings Deer, Monument **EXCLUSIVE & FREE GOLF OFFER**	$25	$40	$30	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 11	Yes	2
Legacy Ridge, Westminster	$45	$45	$45	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 1	Yes	Unlimited
The Links, Highlands Ranch	$33/$38	$37/$42	$33/$38	M-T anytime F-S-S after 12	Yes	1 P/S = 3
Littleton Golf and Tennis Club, Littleton **EXCLUSIVE**	$29/$31	$29/$31	$29/$31	M-T after 11, F-S-S after 12	Yes	3
Lone Tree Golf Club, Lone Tree	$51	$62	$50	M-T after 11 F-S-S after 1	Yes	SS: Unlimited, P: 2
The Meadows, Littleton	$40/$54	$40/$54	$40/$54	M-T before 8; after 1, F-S-S after 1	Yes	4
Murphy Creek, Aurora **EXCLUSIVE**	$35.50/$43	$35.50/$43	$35.50/$43	M-F after 11, S-S after 1	Yes	3
Omni Interlocken, Broomfield*	$60	$70	$60	M-T anytime, F before 12 S-S after 12	Yes	3
Pelican Lake Golf Club, Windsor*	$45	$60	$50	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 12	Yes	3
Pine Creek, Colorado Springs	$39	$44	$39	M-T after 12, F-S-S after 2	Yes	2 P/S = 6
Pole Creek, Tabernash	$50	$50	$50	M-T after 11. F-S-S after 12	Yes	Unlimited
Quail Dunes, Fort Morgan	$26	$26	$26	Any day, Anytime	Yes	Unlimited
Raccoon Creek, Littleton	$38/$45	$38/$45	$38/$45	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 12	Yes	4
The Raven at Three Peaks, Silverthorne	$55	$89	$55	Any day after 12	Yes	Unlimited
Redlands Mesa, Grand Junction **EXCLUSIVE**	$50	$50	$50	Any day, anytime	Yes	3
The Ridge at Castle Pines, Castle Rock* **EXCLUSIVE**	$50	$60/$75	$50	Sun-T anytime, F- Sat after 1	Yes	1 P/S = 3
The River Course at Keystone, Keystone*	$75	$105	$75	Any day after 11	Yes	Unlimited
Saddle Rock, Aurora **EXCLUSIVE**	$37.50/$45	$37.50/$45	$37.50/$45	M-F after 11, S-S after 1	Yes	1 P/S = 3
South Suburban Par 3, Centennial	$9	$9	$9	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 12	Yes	Unlimited
Sumo Golf Village, Florence	$25	$30	$25	Any day after 12	Yes	2
Thorncreek, Thornton	$40	$40	$40	M-Tanytime, F-S-S after 3	Yes	Unlimited
Tiara Rado, Grand Junction	$35	$35	$35	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 12	Yes	3
Todd Creek, Thornton	$40	$45	$40	M-F after 10, S-S after 1	Yes	Unlimited
Vail Golf Club, Vail	$50	$89	$50	Sun-T after 1	Yes	1 P/S = 3
Walking Stick, Pueblo*	$32	$32	$32	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 12	Yes	Unlimited
Yampa Valley Golf Course, Craig*	$30	$30	$30	M-T anytime, F-S-S after 12	Yes	1

South Suburban:Par 3- Cart not included
* Some seasons may vary

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Golf Done to a Turn


PHOTOGRAPH BY TED MCINTYRE

I'M AT THE MEAT COUNTER at my local King Soopers when it hits me. That boneless rib eye behind the glass looks remarkably like an aerial view of a golf hole—a slight dogleg left, with the fat shaping a bunker at the elbow and the marbling suggestive of the cut of the grass. At the tip of the steak, just beyond a ribbon of fat representing a water hazard or waste area, hangs the meaty lobe of a green.

Rarely has grass-fed red meat fed dreams of lush bentgrass fairways.

Clearly I'm hungry for golf. Or maybe I've just been working too hard.

Either way, after a long winter, I've got golf on the brain and I'm sure you do too.

This issue, which marks the beginning of *Colorado AvidGolfer*'s 15th year, kicks off the season with two annual staples: our gear guide (p. 23) and private club directory (p. 45). Both present different kinds of clubs that can transform the way you experience the game.

As someone who has played the same Dimension Z irons for the last 10 years, I'm in the market for some updated sticks. And with my son graduating from college in May, I can now afford to join a private club, although, to paraphrase Groucho Marx, I don't know if I'd want to belong to a club that would have me as a member.

Sportscaster Vic Lombardi belongs to The Club at Rolling Hills in Golden, which is where we photographed him for our cover story (p. 72). Lombardi grew up in North Denver, not far from Willis Case Golf Course, but never played golf until his senior year at the University of Notre Dame. He says his January jump from CBS4 to Altitude Sports wasn't just good for his career; it was potentially good for his golf game. A change in work schedule could finally get him enough practice time so he can finally break par, which he's shot twice, carding 72s at Broomfield's Omni Interlocken Golf Club.

Lombardi and agent Peter Schaffer won our 2008 Corporate Cup at Red Sky Golf Club's Fazio and Norman courses. On June 3-4, for the 11th straight year, Red Sky will host this premier event. See page 33 for details and contact Special Events Manager Ryan McLean (720-493-1729 ext.15; ryan@coloradoavidgolfer.com) to find out more.

Not many people know that the Silver Sage Restaurant in Red Sky's member clubhouse is open to the public for dinner. Fewer still probably know that another private club, The Club at Flying Horse in Colorado Springs, recently converted its member's dining area into The Steakhouse at Flying Horse, a fabulous public restaurant I savored with *CAG* food writer Gary James and our lovely wives. That experience, which we followed with a night at Flying Horse's spectacular 40-room Lodge, appears on page 76.

And for the record, the filet mignon I had that night didn't resemble a par-3, though the chef certainly aced it. —JON RIZZI



From the Inbox

What a spectacular shot on the cover of the 17th hole at the Telluride Ski & Golf Club! I've never played there, but it is certainly on my list now. There is nothing like mountain golf, and this issue only served to highten my excitement for the season. I love the snow, but I'm ready for it to melt.
—Terry Forman, Omaha, Neb.


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IT'S THE UNOFFICIAL START of the golf season as the Masters returns to Augusta National April 7-10. Do you have a pick to win this year? Tell us by entering our Masters contest, just one of our regular monthly giveaways, at *facebook.com/ColoradoAvidGolfer*.



Missing the Green

LEE MCCOY, a senior at the University of Georgia, tweeted "Pinch me" following a fourth place finish at the Valspar Championship in March where he was paired on Sunday with fellow 22-year old (and No. 1-ranked) Jordan Spieth. The amateur McCoy, who grew up on the Innisbrook course where the tournament was held, played on a sponsor's exemption. He would have earned $292,800 for his showing had he been a professional.

When asked about the money he could have earned McCoy said, "I think I've got like $350 in my bank account right now, so that's mostly gas money. It hurt." After the tournament he set off on a 7½-hour drive to Georgia for a 36-hole college tournament the following day. Good thing gas is cheap.



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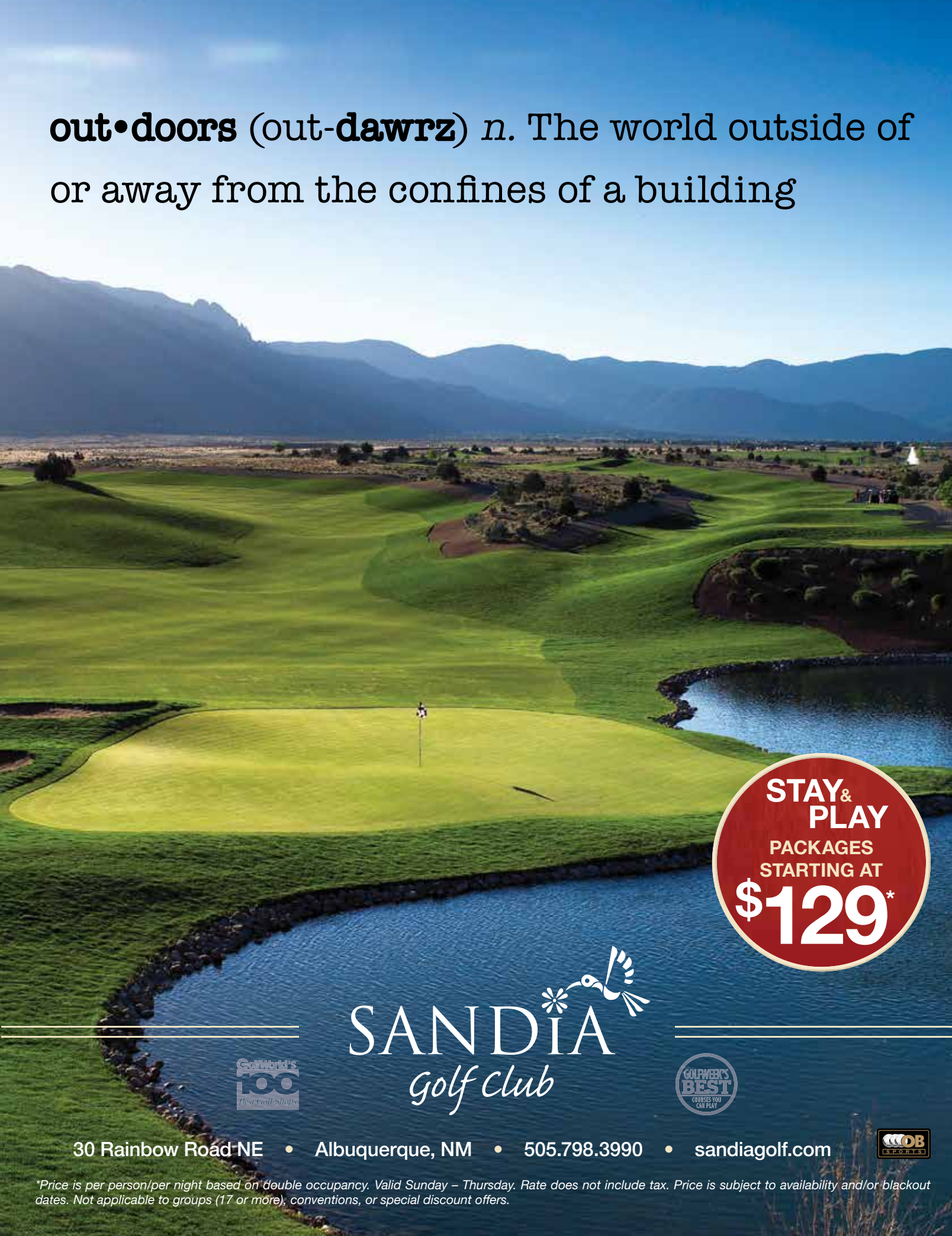
Congrats to our Expo prize winners!

Larry S. – Stay & Play Package to the Raven at Three Peaks and Beaver Run Resort
Linda J. – Foursome to the Ridge at Castle Pines
David A. – Foursome to the Club at Cordillera

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Navy Is the New Green

At the Colorado Golf Association, it's out with the old and in with the blue.

By Jon Rizzi

GOLF IS ABLAZE with blazers. Witness the similar tartan styles worn by winners of the Heritage and the Colonial; the pink ones donned in Bermuda by the winners of the recently discontinued Grand Slam of Golf; and the snazzy gold number that makes the Australian Masters champion look like an undersized Pro Football Hall of Fame inductee.

And, of course, on Sunday, April 10, the 2016 Masters champion will slide on the Green Jacket—far and away the most iconic piece of clothing in all of golf, if not in all of sports.

Colorado golf also has many jackets. But now there's one fewer green blazer in the mix. After 37 years of forest green, the Colorado Golf Association officially changed its uniform blazer to navy blue. "It was time for change," notes CGA Executive Director, Ed Mate. "The green jackets served the CGA for nearly 40 years but with our new look and new logo the uniform needed an update."

The sartorial switch continues the rebranding that began last year during the CGA's centennial, when the organization shed its "pine needle" logo for an identity that communicated Colorado's geographical uniqueness and the organization's stewardship of the game's traditions and its future. A commitment to that future also manifested itself recently with the formation of the Junior Golf Alliance of Colorado, a landmark partnership between the CGA and the Colorado Section of the PGA.

So, although the CGA begins its second century wearing a different color coat, its mission remains to represent, promote and serve the best interests of golf in the state of Colorado. The organization represents the 43,000 Colorado golfers who have an official USGA GHIN handicap index. In addition to enjoying the numerous benefits of CGA membership (such as priority tee times and discounted green fees at the CGA-owned CommonGround Golf Course), these golfers support the organization's programs such as the Solich Caddie & Leadership Academy, the Hale Irwin Elite Player Program and other unique programs provided to a growing variety of youth-serving nonprofit partners. The CGA delivers many of these programs at CommonGround, which it has owned since 2009.

"A jacket color really doesn't matter," Mate says. "What matters is the person in the jacket and their dedication and passion for the game of golf. For 100 years the CGA has been led by volunteers and professional staff dedicated to serving the game of golf in Colorado. Whatever jacket we are wearing, our impact extends well beyond the course and into the community."

"Golf 101" will run regularly during the Colorado Golf Association's 101st year. For more information: *coloradogolf.org*; 303-366-4653.

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TAKING STROKES: Bob Fletcher puts his art before the course.

Teeing Up the Muse



BOB FLETCHER'S STUDIO sports a view of the second fairway at Arvada's West Woods Golf Course. "Talk about inspiration!" the artist says. A lifelong golfer, the sexagenarian Fletcher has flirted with a single-digit handicap, but his work keeps him from playing more often. His current index hovers at 13.7, and that's just fine with him. The more strokes he gets on the course seems to correspond to the number of brushstrokes he gets to apply to his canvases, many of which capture his love of golf.

That passion expresses itself in the deft edging and shading with which Fletcher captures the game's legends. Five of his stylized portraits—of Bobby Jones, Ben Hogan, Harry Vardon and the Tom Morrises—fetched more than $6,600 during a Green Jacket Auction (greenjacketauctions.com) that ended last December. More will go up for bid around the Masters.

Vintage golf tableaux populate many of his other works. His membership in the Society of Hickory Golfers has produced numerous scenes of plus-foured men and long-skirted women. Although golf has served as his muse, Fletcher also paints landscapes, still lifes, portraits and regularly takes commissions. "Each painting leads me in its own way," he says. "They all take me down a different path."

Fletcher also sculpts. His 42-inch-high bronze of Arnold Palmer tossing his visor at the 1960 U.S. Open stands outside Cherry Hills Country Club's Hall of Champions. Randy Condit of Condit Exhibits, which built the hall, saw Fletcher's works at Loveland's annual Sculpture in the Park show and approached the artist. Fletcher created the piece, along with a limited edition of smaller versions that were sold to members to benefit the Chick Evans Scholarship Fund.

Fletcher says painting, sculpting and golf are all very similar. "Each requires some level of hand-eye coordination, a great deal of practice and abundance of patience," he contends. "Frustration can be converted to reward as you flounder one moment and flourish the next."

In addition to online auctions, Fletcher has flourished by selling his work through his own website, by appointment and occasionally at fairs and on consignment. "I try to be a businessman about it," he says about his pricing. "I figure if I don't have any pieces left at the end of a show, I've priced them too low."



Fletcher has also immortalized Tiger, Phil, Freddie and the Big Three. "I like today's players too," he says. That includes Rickie Fowler, although "I don't like his hat. I'm old school. I like the bill of the cap to be bent." *robertfletcherart.com*



REBOOT: Green Valley Academy's Jason Witczak

GVRGA Gets A Kick

KICKING A FOOTBALL and driving a golf ball have more than a tee in common. Jason Witczak should know. He's done both at the professional level.

The new PGA Director of Instruction at Green Valley Ranch was a professional placekicker in the early 2000s for the NFL's Tennessee Titans and Buffalo Bills. He also competed in NFL Europe and the Arena Football League, where he once booted a 57-yard field goal and set a record by going a perfect 10 for 10 on extra points in his final game.

Witczak, however, didn't just suddenly trade in his cleats for Softspikes. He's taught golf for 18 years, and in addition to football, the Wisconsin native played collegiate golf for the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and Marshall University. He honed his playing and teaching skills at the knee of the great Manuel de la Torre at Milwaukee Country Club, won his professional debut at the 2005 Southwest PGA Section Pro-Assistant tournament and qualified three times for the RE/MAX World Long Drive Championship.

"Football was fun, but I knew I could teach golf the rest of my life," he says, adding that he strives to bring the gridiron values of teamwork, perseverance and training to Green Valley. "I want to surround myself with people who love what they do and create a passionate atmosphere where everyone can thrive," he says. Fewer than two weeks after his arrival, he'd already repainted the place, set up a Titleist Regional Performance Center for club-fitting and dedicated an area for TPI-style workouts.

"My background is kinesiology," he explains. "But fitness isn't just about being muscular. Fitness can simply be walking nine holes." Having had great success working with elite juniors at Orange Tree and Camelback Ranch in Scottsdale, Witczak loves the fact that Green Valley Ranch has its own chapter of The First Tee and plans "funneling and college-placement programs" at the facility. Between GVR's par-three course ("It blew me away," he says), The First Tee chapter and his refurbished academy, Witczak sees numerous opportunities for parents and children and husbands and wives to spend time together. "Golf's about human development, improving relationships," says the father of three sons under the age of five. "The unique path I've taken has taught me a lot, and it's just the beginning." *gvrgolfacademy.com*



BLESSING AND A PURSE: (l-r) Hamill, Laura, CoBank's Arthur Hodges and the Colorado Open Golf Foundation's Eric Kenealy.

The Colorado Open Doubles Down

TEXAS MAY HAVE the most land, California the best weather and Florida the most courses. But Colorado now has the largest state golf open purse in the country. On March 1, **Kevin Laura**, the CEO of The First Tee of Green Valley Ranch and the CoBank Colorado Opens, announced that the 2016 **CoBank Colorado Open** would double the size of its purse, from $125,000 to $250,000. The winner's share, previously $23,000, has jumped to $100,000.

The idea to increase the purse started at last year's Colorado Open, in which PGA Tour veterans **Notah Begay**, **Chris Riley** and **Shane Bertsch** competed. During the pro-am, Begay raved about the Green Valley Ranch course to his partner, Colorado Open Foundation Founder and Green Valley Ranch Golf Club Owner **Pat Hamill.** Begay then said sweetening the payday would take the tournament to a whole new level and attract more players like him.

Hamill clearly listened, tasking the foundation with generating commitments from additional corporate and individual sponsors without having to rely entirely on higher entry fees (which did go up 50 percent). Among the corporate sponsors stepping up were Duffy Companies, First Western Financial, GolfTEC, Highstreet IT Solutions, Hill Petroleum, Oakwood Homes and Precision Building Systems. "We could not be more pleased to see such strong support for the open from other sponsors in the community," says CoBank CEO **Bob Engel**, whose company is in the first year of its five-year title sponsorship. "The open is an important institution with a proud history in the state of Colorado. It's very gratifying to see it achieve such positive momentum."

The substantial increase in prize money will no doubt result in a much deeper field than in the past. With dates of July 21-24, Laura believes he'll fill many of the 56 non-exempt spots in the field with players from the Web.com, Canadian and PGA tours. "Three of our four qualifiers—July 6th at **Inverness**, July 12th at **Eagle Ranch** and July 14th at **Legacy Ridge**—take place before the Monday qualifier at the Web.com's Utah Championship, and the PGA Tour has the Canadian Open that weekend," Laura explains. "A player can qualify to play here and have this as a lucrative option."

Or, as CoBank Colorado Open defending champion **Jimmy Gunn**, who has exempt status on the Web.com Tour, puts it: "This change in purse and first place money will make me think long and hard about taking the week off from the Web.com Tour and defend my title." *ColoradoOpen.com*





PRICED RIGHT: The Country Club at Woodmoor.

A Deal in the Pines

FOR THE THIRD TIME in six years, the club just east of exit 161 on I-25 in the Black Forest has a new name. Formerly known as Woodmoor Pines Golf and Country Club and then Monument Hill Country Club, **The Country Club at Woodmoor** has changed more than just its logo since Greenwood Village-based Monument Investors, LLC bought it last August. "We want to make this a showplace," **Armen Suny**, a partner in Monument Investors and longtime club member, said right after the purchase. "The club needs some love and attention and we plan to do that."

A respected veteran of the golf industry with a resume that includes positions at Cherry Hills, Castle Pines and Shadow Creek, Suny has more than lived up to his words. The club put in 4,000 feet of cart paths, expanded greens, improved drainage and made numerous other capital improvements to the 47-year-old Press Maxwell-designed course. The pool and tennis courts have also undergone improvements, and this April will bring the opening of completely refurbished and modernized dining and lounge areas. These upgrades have not cost the club's 900 members one cent in assessments.

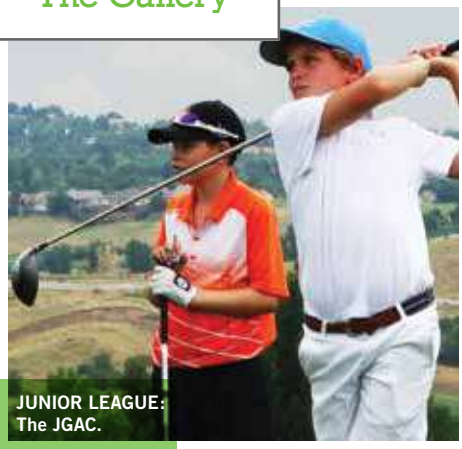
While some wonder if this will become a fix-and-flip case study, you can't argue with Suny's partner, General Manager Ken Limes, when he says, "We're the best deal in Colorado golf right now." Limes, who spent 19 years as the Head PGA Professional at Columbine Country Club, has a point. A family golf membership at the semi-private club is $500 with monthly dues of $170. "We're still semi-private but with another 200 members we'll get back to fully private in a few years," says Limes. Meanwhile, he says, the club is only a half-hour south of Park Meadows mall and a round on the tight, pine-lined course runs $50, including cart. *ccwoodmoor.com*; 719-884-7243.

Mulligan

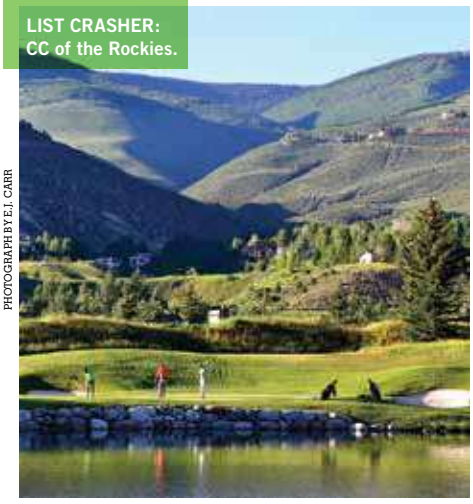
A GALLERY ITEM in our Spring issue misidentified the lead instructor at GolfTEC's outdoor facility at Family Sports Center. The correct PGA Professional is **C.J. Perry.** Sorry for the confusion.



Golf By Numbers



JUNIOR LEAGUE: The JGAC.



LIST CRASHER: CC of the Rockies.

PHOTOGRAPH BY E.J. CARR

86 events populate the master schedule of the **Junior Golf Alliance of Colorado**, the heavily publicized partnership forged between the Colorado Golf Association and the Colorado PGA Section. The season kicks off April 16-17 in Colorado Springs with the Boys and Girls Junior Tour (comprised of aspiring collegiate golfers) competing at the **Country Club of Colorado**, while the higher-handicap Junior Series players tee off at **Valley Hi Golf Course**. Four JGAC Majors for top-ranked boys and girls highlight the Tour season. On June 13-15, **Eisenhower Golf Club** in the Springs will welcome exempt players and qualifiers to the 40th Colorado Junior Amateur Championship. The invitation-only 42nd Colorado Junior PGA Championship takes place July 13-15 at **Indian Tree Golf Course** in Arvada, with spots on the line for the national PGA Junior Championship the following month in Rhode Island. Thirty-two boys and 32 girls will square off in the 66th Colorado Junior Match Play Championships August 1-3 at **The Ridge at Castle Pines North**. And the season culminates October 8-9 with 40 boys and 20 girls vying for the the 1st Annual JGAC Tour Championship at **Cherry Hills Country Club**. Junior Series players are divided by age, with each group's season ending in a championship. Kids 10 & Under play 16 events leading into their August 10 championship at **Boulder Country Club**. The 11-to-13-year-olds end their 30-event season with a championship at **CommonGround Golf Course** September 10-11. And on the same dates, 14-to 18-year-olds vie for medalist honors at **Pelican Lakes Golf Club** in Windsor. *coloradojuniorgolf.org*

4 Colorado courses—**Ballyneal Golf Club** (in Holyoke), **Colorado Golf Club** (Parker), **Castle Pines Golf Club** (Castle Rock) and **Country Club of the Rockies** (Edwards)—made *Golfweek*'s biannual ranking of Modern Courses (built after 1960). Four was also the place in which the Tom Doak-designed Ballyneal finished for the second consecutive time, following only Sand Hills (Mullen, Neb.), Pacific Dunes (Bandon, Ore.) and Friar's Head (Baiting Hollow, N.Y.). The Jack Nicklaus-designed Country Club of the Rockies, which opened in 1984, cracked the list for the first time. It ranked 82nd, the same spot **Cherry Hills Country Club** occupies on *Golfweek*'s Best Classic Courses list. *golfweek.com*

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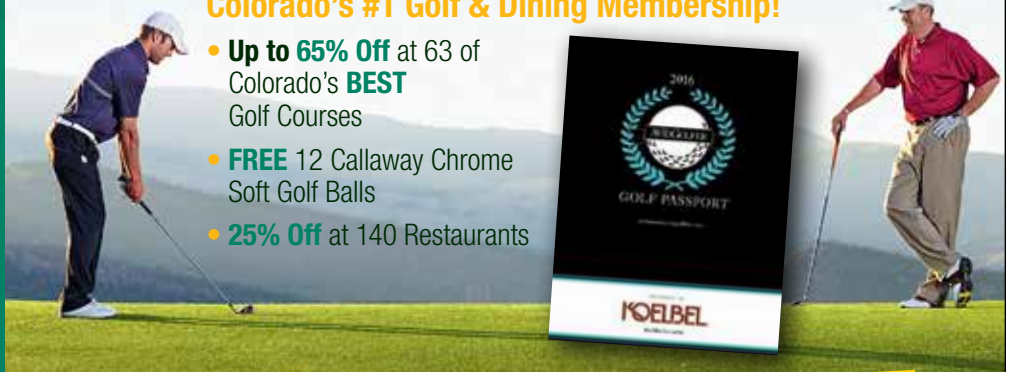
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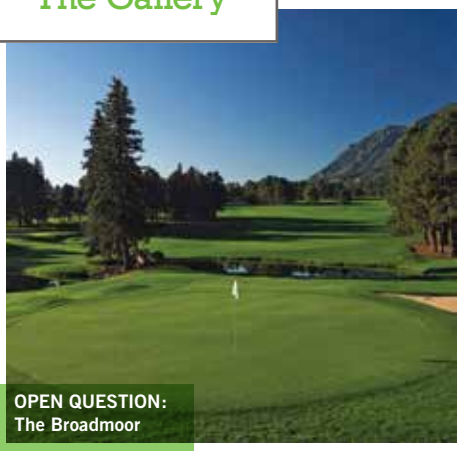


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LADIES' FIRST:
Leslie Core-Drevecky

Golf By Numbers

8 USGA championships will have taken place at **The Broadmoor** when the **2018 U.S. Senior Open** coincides with the resort's 100th Anniversary. Asked recently whether the Colorado Springs venue could host a U.S. Open, the USGA's Senior Managing Director of Open Championships **Mike Butz** laughed. "I learned never to say never," he said. "In 1981, I left Merion thinking it could never hold another U.S. Open, and 32 years later, guess where we had it? And the course acquitted itself quite admirably." *broadmoor.com*

1 year after welcoming **Leslie Core-Drevecky** as its first female president, the **Colorado PGA Section** announced it will stage its first **Colorado PGA Women's Championship** June 22-23 at **Cherry Creek Country Club** in Denver. The event will be open to female Colorado PGA Members and Apprentices and LPGA Professionals who work or live in the Colorado PGA's domain. In addition to being proud of the event, Core-Drevecky says, it will "allow our female PGA Professionals to showcase their skills on the golf course, and in turn, open the eyes of our community to the Section's commitment to Diversity & Inclusion." *coloradopga.com*

2 golf pros want to serve you a "Morning Cup of Golf" every Saturday from 7 to 9 A.M. That's the name of the show hosted by veteran radio personality **Stan Fenn**, who's the PGA Director of Instruction at Tinmath's **Harmony Club**, and **Doug Perry**, the Head PGA Professional at **City Park Nine** in Fort Collins. Featuring both national and local guests, educational and call-in segments with prizes awarded, "Morning Cup of Golf presented by Michael Trinen's RBC Wealth Management" airs weekly April 2 through September 24 on KCOL-AM 600 and the iHeart Radio app on your smartphone or computer. *Colorado AvidGolfer*'s Jon Rizzi will be a weekly guest. *600kcol.com*

25 years have passed since **Janet Moore** captured the first of her five **Colorado Women's Golf Association** Stroke Play titles at **Denver Country Club**. None of the others came at the august club on 1st Avenue; it hasn't hosted the event since the 75th version in 1991. DCC did, however, also host the 50th Stroke Play Championship, and with the CWGA turning 100 this year, it will return to DCC August 2-4 with Moore in the field. *coloradowomensgolf.org*



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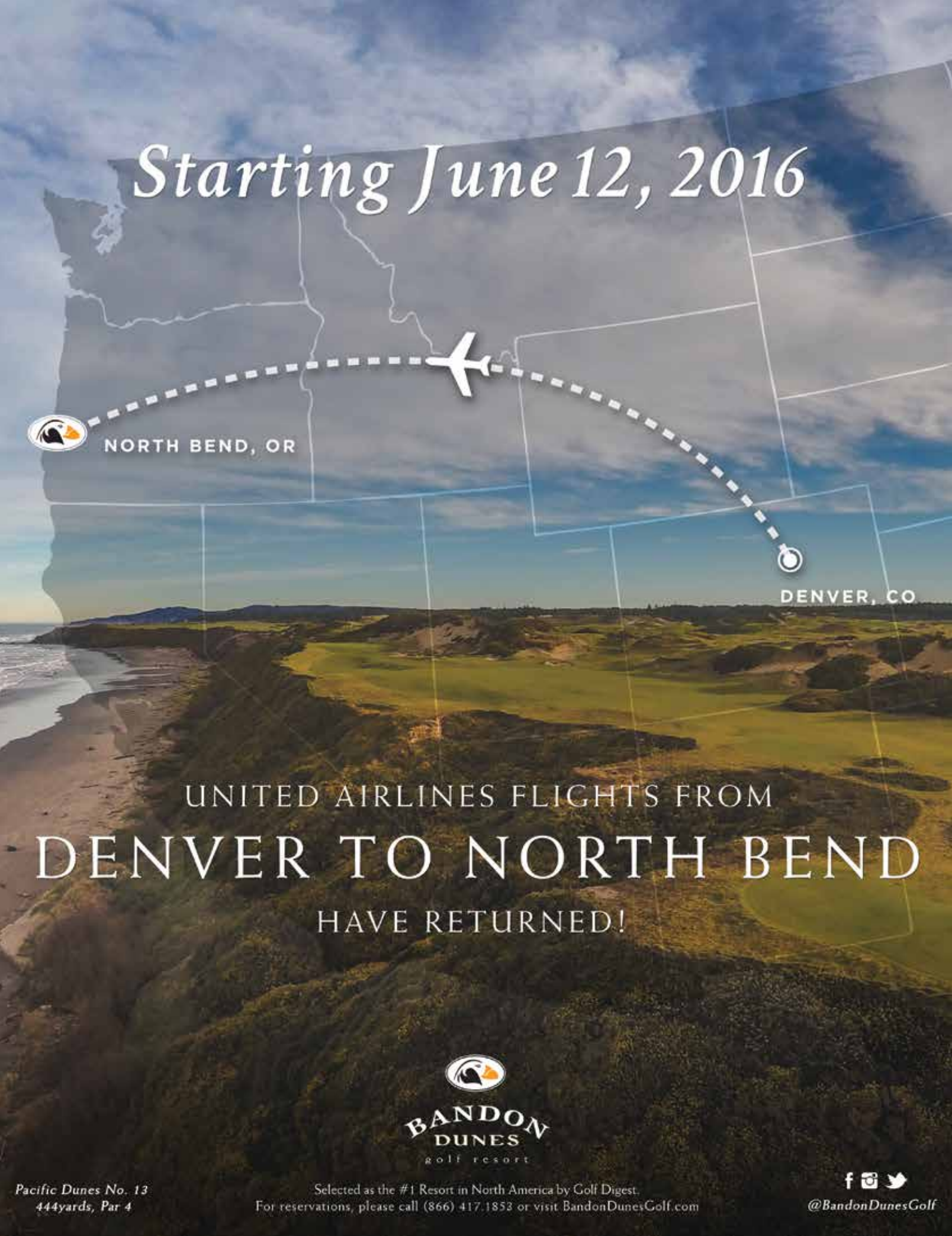
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2016 GEAR GUIDE

By Ted Johnson



THIN IS IN. The design features found in bigheaded drivers of recent vintage have spread to the rest of the golf bag. Fairway metals and hybrids now have super-thin faces with variable thickness, all the better to yield tremendous spring-like effect and more forgiveness on off-center strikes. Iron heads have followed in the multi-material design with high-tech forging to yield thin faces. The hollow heads include slots for more spring and inner materials like tungsten weights for forgiveness and polymers to enhance feel, sound and confidence. The only club immune to the thinning trend is the flatstick. With the anchoring ban now in effect, putters weigh in heavier and now feature counterweighting options to promote a steady stroke.









DRIVERS



Cobra King LTD
+ How Rickie Fowler does it
+ "Spaceport" won't come loose, low center of gravity = high launch
- For better players **$450**



Srixon Z 355
+ Counter-trending: Heavier head
+ For strong players who can't feel the lightweight heads
- Suits strong, fast swings, not slow swings **$360**



TaylorMade M2
+ Best features for most golfers
+ Multi-material head has extreme weight low away from face
- Limited adjustability won't suit tech heads **$400**



Parsons Extreme 081
+ 16 moveable weights
+ Super-high end, requires fitting and time to build, but worth it
- D'Lance Golf in Englewood is sole local fitter **$700**



Ping G LS Tech
+ Most complete driver on market
+ "Dragonfly" construction = lighter, stronger, and more aerodynamic
- Not much to complain about = no excuses **$350**



Callaway XR16
+ Forgiving but fast for more carry
+ Boeing designed head for better aerodynamics, thus greater speed
- Better players want more control **$350**

HYBRIDS + FAIRWAY METALS



Ping G Hybrid
+ Great face flex for distance
+ Unique interior design leads to super thin face for distance
- Gaining popularity among pros **$230**



TaylorMade M1
+ Most adjustable model
+ 4 degrees of loft adjustment, 2 weights for left/right shape
- Costly, but better players love options **$300**



Honma TW727 Hybrid
+ Known for best seniors line
+ High-strength steel face produces distance, mid-level trajectory
- Made in Japan; 2-3 weeks build time **$280**



Cobra Fly Z+
+ Clean, compact design
+ Stainless steel "Speed Channel" face = more ball speed
- Better players love its maneuverability **$160**



Tour Edge Exotics EX9 Tour
+ Titanium face for hot impact
+ Face performance and weighting produce laser-like penetration
- EX9 with steel face is $40 cheaper & good **$200**



Knuth High Heat Hybrid
+ Hot face for added distance
+ Driver can yield big gains in distance; hybrid is no different
- Visit knuthgolf.com *for release date* **$260**

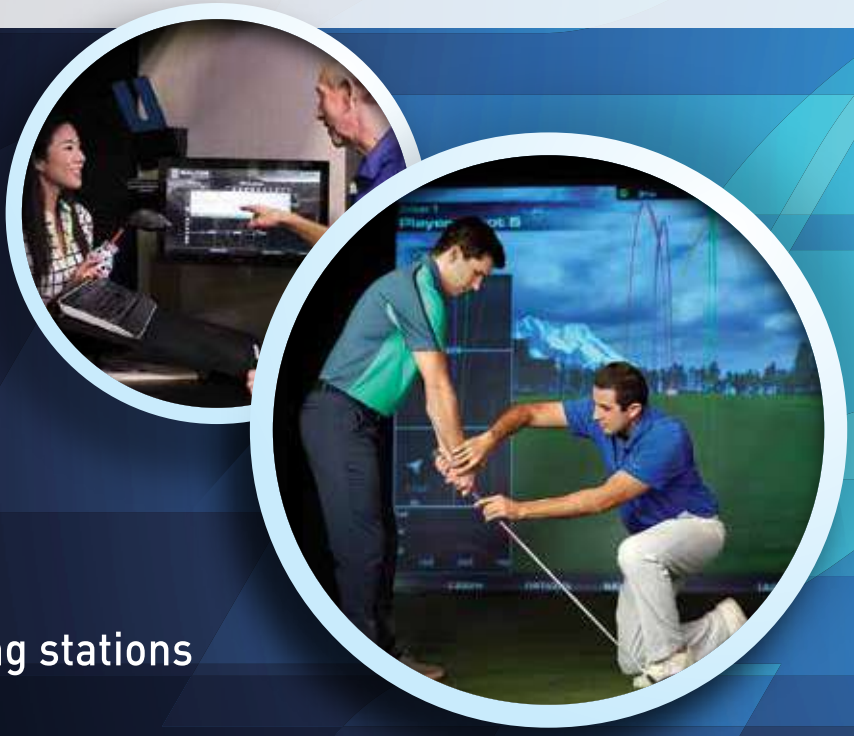
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IRONS



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- As always, helps to hit it in the middle $1,000



Callaway Apex
+ Forgiveness hidden in player iron
+ Tungsten weight in long irons; none in short irons for control
- It's the best of both worlds, and the cost shows $1,200



Wilson Defy
+ Beginners & seniors look here
+ Slow swing speeds and new swings get plenty forgiveness
- Could grow out of these quickly $700



Ping I
+ Looks can be deceiving
+ Friendly iron in a pro-type head; tungsten weights, longer shafts
- Not about distance but consistency $1,000



TaylorMade M2
+ Designed for ball speed
+ New sole slot for higher launch; interior weighting for max speed
- Oh, this is about distance only $800



Srixon Z 945
+ Ultimate maneuverability
+ Thin top line, compressed weighting behind sweet spot = control
- Are you as good as Hideki Matsuyama? $1,000

WEDGES



Callaway MD3
+ 3 sole grinds & lofts 46-60
+ Lots of ways to maximize control in the scoring range
- Cast, not forged… do you want more feel? $130



Cleveland RTX CB
+ Sharper edges, added grit
+ Finding right wedge very complicated but needed
- 36 options? Cleveland created app to fit $130



Miura K Grind
+ Craftsmanship, feel, versatility
+ "Hands of God" founder Katsuhiro Miura added fluted sole for any lie
- Know how to play this Stradivarius? $275



Hogan TK 15
+ Lofts increase 1 degree between 48 and 63
+ Each head weighted differently; lower lofts more heel-toe structure
- V Sole is only grind available $150



Mizuno S5
+ 10 lofts in 50-60 & 5 sole options
+ Higher lofts more spin and control, lower less for better control
- Again, knowing game and conditions key $130



Titleist Vokey SM6
+ Different Cg for different lofts
+ 46-50 degrees have low Cg for high flight, distance; 56-60 have high Cg
- Know where your wedges are needed? $150

TEE UP THE TEAM

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- Face nicks always plague Bettinardi **$300**



Carbon Ringo 1/4
+ Colorado company on the rise
+ Heel-toe weighting and obsidian finish = stunning look and feel
- Will customize loft, lie and more upon request **$290**



Odyssey Work Tank Cruiser
+ Ultimate in counterbalancing
+ Adjustable head and grip weights; pros love stability, no wrist break
- Heaviness takes some getting used to **$249**



Parsons Extreme Brandon
+ High-end milling, fitting
+ New company sets standards for materials and precision
- Only D'Lance Golf in Englewood fits it **$400**



Seemore Giant FGPt
+ Same model as Zach Johnson
+ Twice as big, tungsten weights, Seemore alignment lines
- Learn that your eyes play aiming tricks **$250**



Titleist Cameron Futura X7M
+ Aluminum mallet head
+ Has a softer feel than steel Futura 5; easy to line up & stroke
- Large head takes up bag room **$400**

BALLS



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Titleist DT TruSoft
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+ Slower swing speeds will notice soft feel yet good distance
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Nike RZN Tour Platinum
+ Four-piece balls with more ball speed
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OnCore MA 1.0
+ Hollow core & perimeter weight
+ Straighter putts, less side spin on drives for more accuracy
- Seems like old liquid center days? **$35**



Srixon Z Star
+ Upgraded "Spinskin" cover
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COLORADO BALLET

Colorado Ballet 2nd annual GOLF Tournament

Honoring Colorado Ballet Artistic Director Gil Boggs

Currently in his 10th season as Colorado Ballet's Artistic Director, Gil Boggs was a former principal dancer with American Ballet Theatre and the former Academy Director of Chelsea Piers Golf Club in New York City.

Monday, June 6, 2016

Lakewood Country Club

1:30 pm Shotgun Start

For more information, visit coloradoballet.org/golf and to register, go to blacktie-colorado.com/rsvp and enter event code: balletgolf



Tips from the Pros Who Help the Pros

By Ted Johnson

PGA TOUR REPS make sure the best players in the world play their best. **AARON DILL** of **Titleist**, **WADE LILES** of **TaylorMade** and **DEAN TEYKL** of **Callaway** tell us avid amateurs how we can become "more Tour-like" in our scores.

On getting fitted…

DEAN TEYKL: If you don't have the equipment that fits you and you make a perfect swing, it's not going to go where it's supposed to go. Get your irons fit and your driver fit and your ball fit. A lot of people overlook the ball.

WADE LILES: You hear guys say, "I'm not going to play a senior shaft." Most should. With balls spinning less, you need a weaker shaft and more loft. Without it, your misses will be more dramatic and you won't get as much distance.

TEYKL: We are making golf balls that naturally launch higher and spin less. Few guys on Tour play drivers with 8.5 degrees of face loft. Our average is 9.7 to 10, some considerably higher.

LILES: Three years ago your launch angle was the big number. Now we're fitting guys for angle of descent, how your ball falls out of the air. If it falls too steeply you're not getting the run-out.

AARON DILL: Work from the green back. That's where your scoring shots are, since the average 15-handicap only hits the green in regulation on 400-yard holes 25 percent of the time.

On the short game…

TEYKL: Tour pros spend the most time chipping and putting. They have a swing DNA with the driver, so they continually work on 40-yard shots, chip shots and bunkers.

DILL: The wedge is sort of a lost issue. There's so much focus on drivers, but you make more birdies with wedges than you do with metal woods.

LILES: Players used to keep wedges for years. But with the new regulations (per the USGA's 2010 ruling), the grooves wear quicker and guys will go through three wedges a year in each loft.

DILL: If you're playing a stronger lofted wedge you can use the same shaft because you're swinging at the same or similar speed. As soon as you swing a higher-lofted wedge, you want more feel. The shaft should be a little softer and heavier. That translates into a lower launch and more spin.

On the rest of the bag…

TEYKL: We find on Tour that more guys are putting in 5-woods—and, on certain courses, 7-woods—than hybrids. They're easier to get out of the rough. Bigger heads won't twist as much.



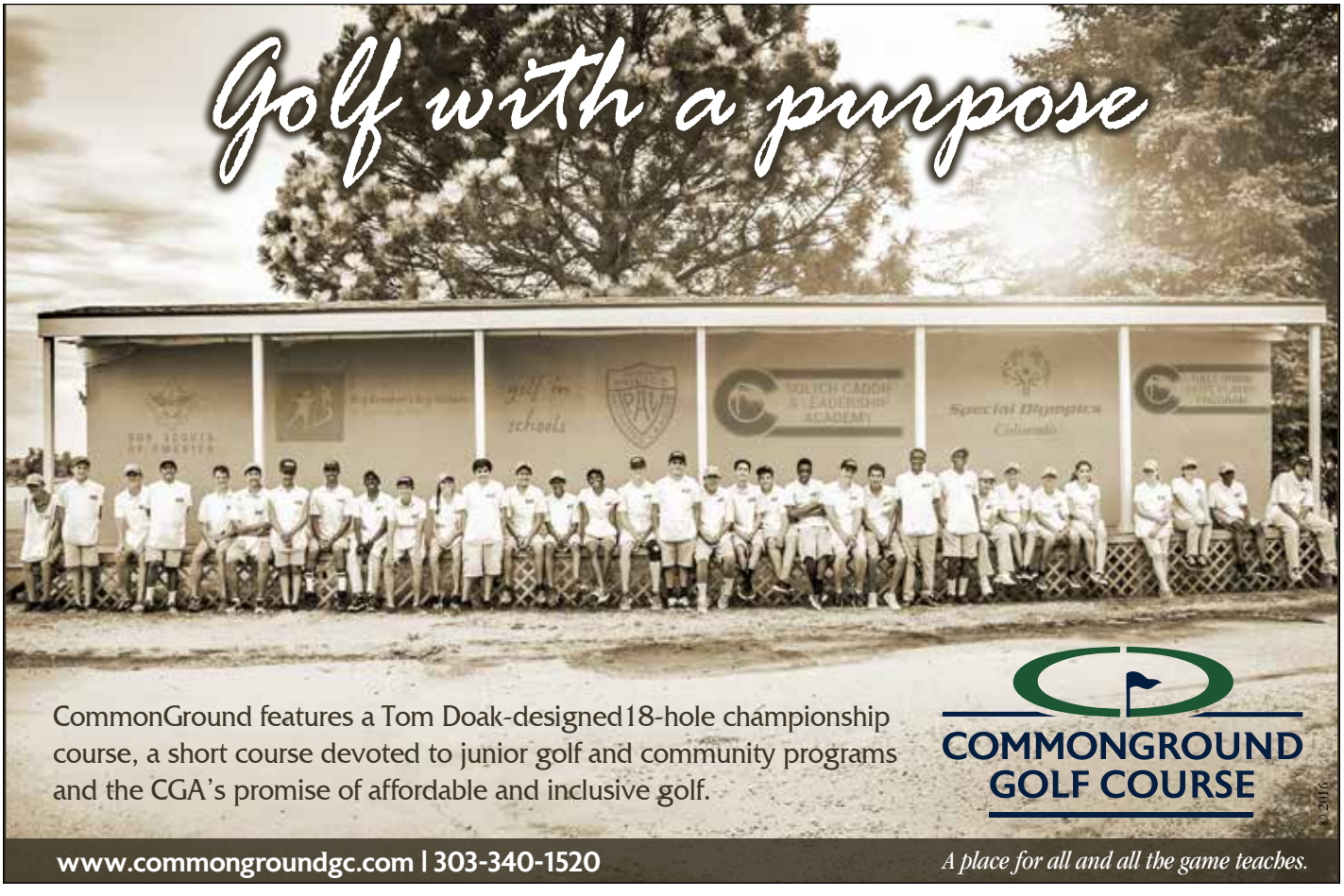
Clockwise from top: Aaron Dill of Titleist, Wade Liles of TaylorMade and Dean Teykl of Callaway

LILES: Irons get more forgiving all the time. Try to get a new set every three or four years.

DILL: Don't just automatically pull lob wedge. A sand wedge is often a better choice. When you increase loft up to 58 or 60 degrees, it's hard to get good contact and flight the ball with spin. Less loft can get you more spin and good launch angle.

On putting…

TEYKL: Pros obsess about putter contact the way amateurs think about drivers. It's where they make their money. You need to find your stroke DNA. Are you straight-back, straight-through or does your toe close? Pick a putter that allows you to do that every time. Then decide if you want an insert. Your distance control will improve.



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taylor morrison
Homes Inspired by You

Bandon Confidential

To gather the best insider advice on Bandon Dunes, we went to the on-course experts: the caddies.

By Andy Bigford

WHILE BANDON DUNES was reimagining and reinventing the concept of world-class resort golf in North America, it was also creating a sanctuary for a colorful segment of the culture that has nearly disappeared: the professional caddie.

Visionary Bandon founder Mike Keiser's unrivaled execution of this walking-only, pure links golf experience on a wind-swept, remote coast of Oregon is an improbable game-changer. Bandon has captured the imagination—and discretionary income—of the world's savviest golfers, who during the summer high season are ponying up roughly $1,000 a day for the privilege (lodging, greens fees for 36 holes, caddies, meals and miscellaneous). It begins, of course, with the four acclaimed and distinct golf courses (Bandon Dunes, Pacific Dunes, Bandon Trails and Old McDonald), all of which have soared into the top 10 of various resort golf course ranking lists. As Bandon's legacy has grown to make it the definitive "must-play" golf destination, the sub-story is what it's done to boost the caddie business—and how important those caddies are in this back-to-the-future experience.

With an estimated 70 percent of rounds played with a cart in the U.S., and with most resort courses requiring carts for all play, the once-proud caddie profession has battled to stay relevant over the past 50 years. Enter Bandon Dunes, which now employs 300 caddies in the summer

PHOTOGRAPH BY WOOD SABOLD, COURTESY OF BANDON DUNES GOLF RESORT

NO GUSTS, NO GLORY: Bandon Dunes' 428-yard 5th often plays as a three-shotter into the wind.

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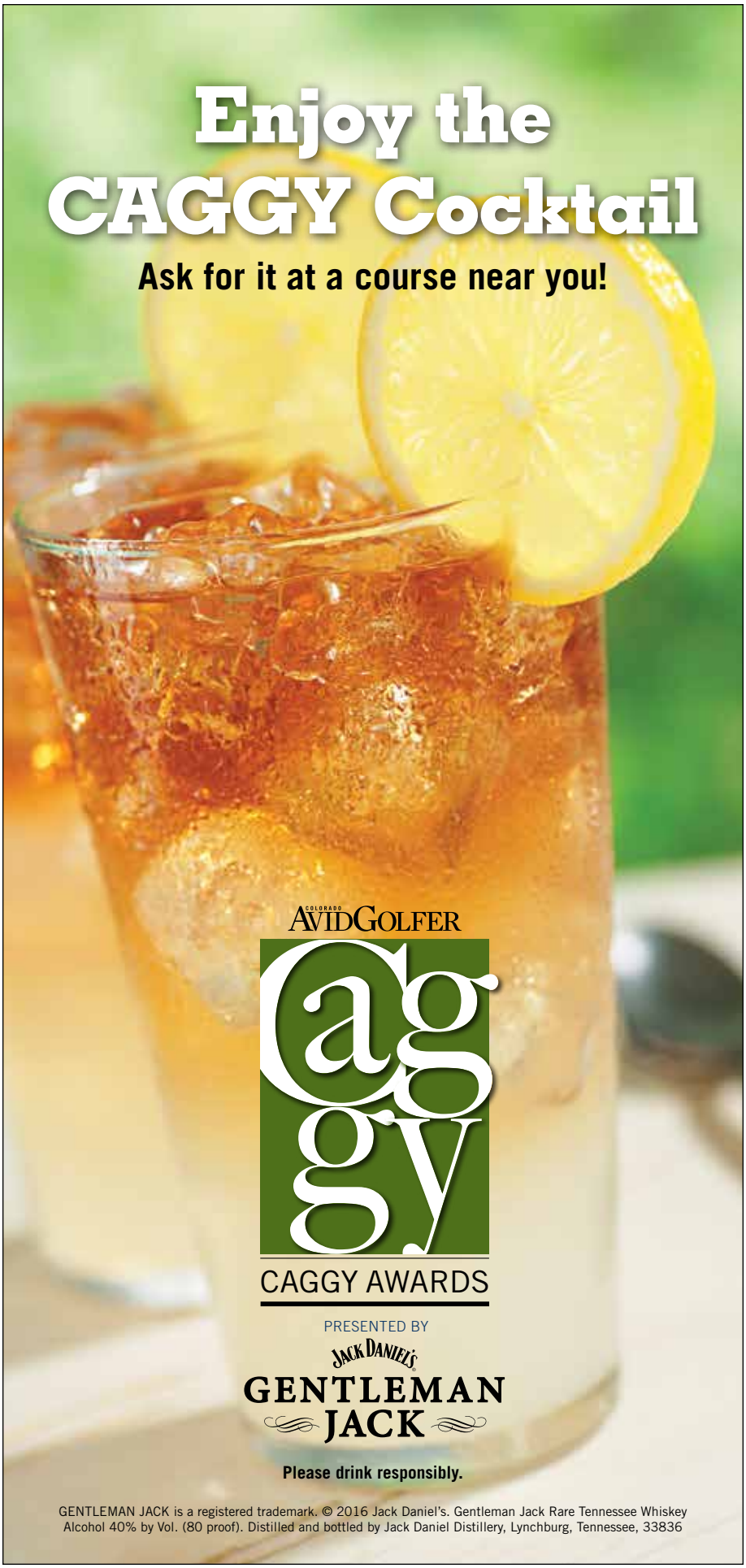
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Info to Go

Denver-to-Bandon travel

As the saying goes, playing golf at Bandon Dunes is just like Ireland, except it's easier to get to Ireland.

That's no longer the case for Colorado golfers, who can now take advantage of a United Airlines direct flight between Denver International Airport and Southwest Oregon Regional Airport (OTH) in North Bend, Oregon, about 30 minutes from Bandon.

The twice-a-week round-trip flights, which allow time for an afternoon round on arrival and a morning round on departure, run from June 12 to October 5. Call 855-417-1854 for more information.

The other lengthier options are to fly into Portland and drive about 4.5 hours, or into Eugene, roughly 2.5 hours by car.



and does it in the style expected from Keiser, starting with a clean, modern caddie yard featuring its own putting green. The caddie HQ includes plenty of parking for the staff, an excellent cafeteria, lockers, massage chairs, internet access and a media room with a big-screen TV. Caddies enjoy free playing privileges when there are open tee times (as do all Bandon employees), with the idea that playing the courses only makes them more knowledgeable in guiding guests.

At courses around the country, caddies sit and wait anxiously for a loop. The veterans at Bandon can usually count on a pre-scheduled "dub-dub," which means double-bagging two rounds a day, usually for the same players and for the length of their stay, which is the Bandon way (unless you request a change). The fee is $100 per round per player, plus tip. With a $25 gratuity per round, caddies can pull in $500 a day for a "dub-dub." One of our caddies, a 25-year veteran who has looped in major championships, splits his time equally between Bandon and a premier, old money country club in the south. He



PHOTOGRAPHS BY WOOD SABOLD, COURTESY OF BANDON DUNES GOLF RESORT

CALL YOUR BLUFF: The 4th at Pacific Dunes slopes hard right.

MECCA MAKER: Mike Keiser has more plans for Bandon.



happily earns two-thirds of his six-figure income in Oregon.

On a visit to Bandon last June, our group of eight found the friendship, camaraderie and insight of the caddies to be an invaluable, core part of the Bandon experience. Here's what we gleaned from our professional loopers:

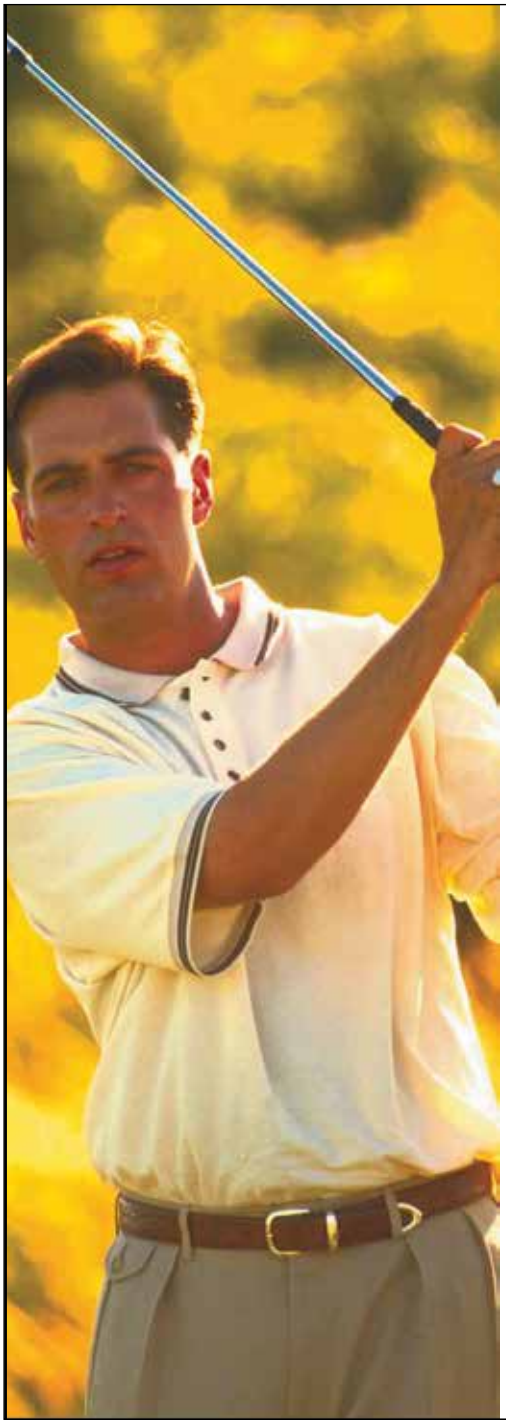
BOOK WISELY: Go in with a plan when booking your tee times, and make sure you play all four courses. A typical four-day visit is 18 on arrival day, 36-36, and then 18 on departure. Summer tee times begin at 7 a.m., when it may be overcast but is also calm. Playing Bandon Trails and Old Macdonald on the same day is the toughest walk. Book Bandon Trails, which is more inland and protected, for the afternoon, when the wind is up on the other three, more coastal courses. Find



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TOUGH SLOG A 36-hole day at Old Macdonald (above) and Bandon Trails earns bragging rights.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY WOOD SABOLD, COURTESY OF BANDON DUNES GOLF RESORT

time for an evening round at the 13-hole, par-3 Preserve (it's adjacent to the Bandon Trails clubhouse); the $100 greens fee goes to support the Wild River Coast Alliance, which protects Oregon's south coast. Plan a cocktail hour at the Punchbowl, the diabolical putting-green course next to the first hole at Pacific Dunes.

ARRIVE IN SHAPE: It's normal to train for marathons and mountain climbs, not golf outings. Ditch the cart and walk several rounds in the leadup to your Bandon trip, while also increasing your fitness regime in general, and it will pay dividends.

TAKE A CADDIE: What did you expect? Unless you've been here before, took copious notes, and are a green-reading savant, you'd be foolish to play without one. Relax and embrace the on-course partnership; there is no need to be nervous or self-conscious—your caddie has witnessed golf games that are much worse (and much better) than yours. Inquire about the caddies with the best reps; you can request them when you make your tee times.

LAYER-UP: Every day seems to have three different climates, and you'll want a base and mid-layer as well as a waterproof rain jacket and pants. Most days range between 45 and 65 degrees, but as the day progresses the wind picks up and the shell comes out of the bag. Bandon's coastline has a marine layer, which dampens the air, so be ready and dress accordingly.

FEET FIRST: Don't try to break in new golf shoes on this trip. Instead, bring two pair of comfortable, walking golf shoes, and change your shoes and socks between rounds. The firm ground is nice for long drives, but tough on the feet.



PERFECT CAPPER: The 18-hole Punchbowl putting course by Pacific Dunes.



FORGET THE SCORE: Set your bar at a reasonable level. Only about 10 percent of golfers will play to their handicap. Tight lies, no two bunkers alike, heavy air and swirling winds will add to the challenges. Play a best-ball game in your foursome and focus on that, rather than on your gross score.

PLAY THE BUMP-AND-RUN: Bandon's greens are more receptive to low-running shots than ones with higher trajectories, so spend time practicing your run-up shots before the trip. Find a patch of hardpan at your home course and hit a few hundred balls to get in the groove.

BRING THE RIGHT TOOLS: Thick-flanged irons and high-bounce wedges are tough to hit cleanly off Bandon's tight lies. Lower-lofted drivers can bore through the strong winds and the ball will run forever. There are plenty of holes where you can use a 3-wood or hybrid off the tee. Follow your caddie's lead, even when he tells you to aim 30 yards left of the green—or to hit a 3-iron from 100 yards and a 9-iron from 190.

SMELL THE ROSES: One golf pro called Bandon a "golf prison;" this is not the place to bring a non-golfer spouse or children. It's easy to spend a week here and only see the golf courses, the interior of Bandon's restaurants and the ceiling of your lodge room. If you don't want to be that person, treat yourself to a tour of the nearby seaside town of Bandon, just 10 minutes south of the resort. Chartered fishing trips, hiking, cycling, horseback rides and four-wheeling are among the attractions, along with local restaurants. Enjoy the Alloro Wine Bar & Restaurant for fine dining, Tony's Crab Shack for less formal, and Arcade Tavern for a shot and a beer. For photo opps, cruise Bandon's Beach Loop drive. Bandon Crossings, a top-rated public course (with carts!), is located just 10 minutes south of town.

DON'T SMELL THE ROSES: After each day's first round, you pay the half-priced "replay" rate for as much golf as you can handle for the remainder of the day. Some golf-obsessed visitors will go 54 holes, and during the Summer Solstice, a group of very fit golfers plays 72. A more achievable and economical goal is to play 36 and then take advantage of the replay freebie on the par-3 Preserve.

Contributor Andy Bigford is the editor of Warren Miller's forthcoming autobiography, *Freedom Found, My Life Story*. For more on Bandon Dunes Resort, go to *bandondunesgolf.com*.



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Taking Dead Aim

Dave Miera targets his fellow beer hunters with Boggy Draw Brewery.

By Cody Gabbard



TROPHY LIFE: Miera pours his personality into Boggy Draw.

SPORTING OVERALLS, thick goatee, and a frame worthy of his "Beef" nickname, Dave Miera could easily pass for a barbecue pit boss. The imposing exterior melts away with a welcoming handshake and deep, mountain drawl. Dave is the founder and owner of Boggy Draw Brewery, which opened last year at S. Platte River Drive and Hampden and has quickly become a Denver-area staple with a surprising variety of ales on tap, ranging from traditional porters and pale ales to barrel-aged and kettle-soured offerings.

With the plethora of breweries throughout the area, many taprooms focus on a distinguishing central theme. Dave has chosen one near and dear to his heart—hunting. Located near his hometown of Mancos in the San Juan National Forest, the Boggy Draw wilderness was the first place he hunted as a child with his father, who passed away shortly after the trip.

The theme didn't come together until he started the build-out of the brewery and taproom. A carpenter by trade, Dave both designed and built the interior himself with lumber from Mancos. "I found out there was a mill in my hometown, and the guy that runs it graduated with my uncle," he remembers. "I just showed up at his house and found out that he was a home-brewer, which was kind of cool."

The cuts of wood allowed Dave to design larger tables than he originally intended, and he utilized the natural rugged look of scrub oak for the table legs. The wall décor is a bit sparse, with most of the startup costs presumably—and logically—going towards equipment. Still, it will only take a few more trophy mounts and sporting art to transform Boggy Draw's long, high-ceilinged taproom into your cabin-away-from-home.

Miera knows hunting can be a touchy subject for some people, but he emphasizes Boggy Draw is for anyone looking to have a good time. "I want people to come in here knowing we've got good beers, and that we're a very open environment," he says with a chuckle. "Just come in and have fun with us."

Actually, it's surprising more hunters aren't brewers, as both require an enormous amount of patience and precision. For Dave, hunting provides an escape from the day-to-day grind. "More than anything, the best thing is being in the woods by yourself," he explains. "You don't have to worry about who's running the country or who's bombing who. It's just a good time to be out by yourself with your thoughts and believe what you believe." Asked if he still has the time to hunt, he replies without hesitation, "Oh yeah, you make time."

Plans also call for distribution to more than just the four other bars currently tapping his beers. He's even thinking about pitching a custom beer to local hunting clubs and lodges, as well as hosting an educational class where patrons fill out their hunting license applications.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY PHIL MUMFORD





PHOTOGRAPHS BY PHIL MUMFORD



BOGGY MEN: Nick Evanuska, Dave Miera and Ben McMaster.

Dave caught the brew bug in 1989 as a college student after picking up a copy of Charlie Papazian's *The Complete Joy of Home Brewing*. The idea of going pro percolated until 2008, when a visit to Pagosa Brewing Company "rekindled my interest, and pretty much ever since I've tried to make this happen," he says.

And happen it has. Since opening Dave has had to produce more than he anticipated, but not more than he could handle. "In my business plan I thought I'd have eight beers in the first year, and I've got 16 beers on tap," Dave chuckles before taking a sip from a Boggy Draw mason jar-like mug. "It's happened a little bit quicker than I thought, but it's just about adapting. We'll probably end up with 24 taps here."

Multiple taps mean a style for every palate. One of Boggy Draw's flagships, Lemondrop Pale Ale, appeals to both a hardcore enthusiast and novice drinker. Although it has a fairly high abv of 7.2%, it is very drinkable, not overly bitter, with a medium hoppiness coming in the form of aroma and a flavor with notes of lemon zest and citrus fruit. Stronger still is Dave's signature Mach V Porter, with a foundation comprised of vanilla honey, maple syrup, almonds and cinnamon. True to its Speed Racer-inspired name, this rich imperial porter revs at 8.5% abv.

The cream ale, Space Cowboy, is bit more body than lighter versions, with a sweet corn aroma and flavor, and hint of bittering balance. Another version (and nod to rocker Steve Miller's "The Joker"), Gangster of Love, ages Space Cowboy inside gin barrels from Boulder's Vapor Distillery. The result is a silky-smooth beer with additional floral aromas, and flavors of vanilla, tropical fruit, and licorice.

Although the staff proudly wears hunter-orange t-shirts and some taps are made from deer antlers, you won't see a crowd of stereotypical hunters sidling up to the bar. Each guest seemed to have a special spot they made a beeline to, and rested their arms on the bar like it was in their own basement.

Looking at these comfortable men and women brought to mind my big-game-hunting, Budweiser-drinking father back home in Kentucky. Boggy Draw might be the one place I could get him to try a craft beer.

3535 S Platte River Dr., Sheridan.
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Home-brewer and Contributor Cody Gabbard regularly writes our Tapping In column.



2016 Chevrolet Volt Premier

Luxury Loves Company

BMW's superior 750i xDrive belongs in the same conversation—if not the same garage—as the thrifty Chevy Volt.

By Isaac Bouchard



BMW 750i xDrive

BMW 750I XDRIVE

EPA ratings: 16/25mpg; 19mpg combined
Price as tested: $129,245

Sometimes you don't realize how good something is until it's gone. Such is the case with the new 750i; it is conventional in appearance and approach, its brilliance only shines brightest once it is absent. Perhaps its very BMW-ness works against it, as it appears at first glance much like other sports sedans from the fabled marque.

The 7-series certainly is well-proportioned and gorgeously detailed. Cast a careful eye over the one-piece polished window frames, complexly elegant LED lights and grill profiling and you know this is exactly how the masters in Munich wanted it to look: dynamic and understated (and when your company also own Rolls-Royce there's no reason not to make your own flagship the latter), with a cockpit of surpassing loveliness. Leather that would do justice to the finest gloves or handbag covers most surfaces, stitched in complex and compelling rhythms; inlaid wood abutted by polished trim highlights controls that are similar to those in a 3-series, but respond with more smoothness refinement.

Likewise the iDrive system, which is more complex than in earlier BMWs, but still fathomable—and if it is not, the company will send an expert to coach you in its use. The party piece here is Gesture Control; a world's first (in cars, anyway—videogames have had it for years) that allows you to swat away unwanted phone calls or twirl your finger to raise the volume on the captivating accurate Bowers & Wilkins audio system.

Useless? One might think so, especially given the absence of popular luxury aids like remote start. But once back in more pedestrian transport you find yourself unconsciously gesticulating, wishing Gesture Control was present. More helpful for urbanites is the Autobahn and Driver Assistance Plus systems, that will almost pilot the car through rush hour traffic, steering, braking and accelerating, all in a suitably dignified manner.

The Mercedes S-Class is the sales leader in this category—by a clear margin—and therefore it makes sense that BMW would differentiate itself with a more driver-focused look inside and out for the 7-series, and hone the car's dynamics to please both driver and passengers.

The BMW does this better than most anything on the market right now. Rear accommodations are plutocrat-class, with obscenely pampering seats and gadgets galore, while the driver is more rewarded than the pilot of sportier cars from the same stable.

Some of this owes to the new Carbon Core structure that the 750xi is built around; it is so rigid that the suspension can be tuned to be magic carpet smooth in ride quality (even slightly better in certain respects than the S-class) yet lively through the corners, with a planted, flat stance and willing reflexiveness to a driver's commands.

There's no more steering feel than in any other modern BMW, but the helm is so accurate and the body control so well resolved that this incredibly large sedan soon becomes an extension of the pilot's will. The powertrain certainly does its part; 445 horsepower of twin-turbo V8 and about the most intuitive transmission ever conceived see to that. The 7-series smashes the 0-60 benchmark in 4.4 seconds.

So: The 750xi rides and handles as well or better than any car to which it might conceivably be compared. Most of its tech is both cutting edge and well resolved, and it is supremely quiet and relaxing to drive. But does it move the needle for potential buyers in an political atmosphere that rewards candidates for loud and loutish behavior? For those who have the confidence not to show off and like to change the course of others' destinies while slipping by almost unnoticed, the answer is decidedly yes.

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BMW 750i xDrive

2016 Chevrolet Volt Premier

2016 CHEVROLET VOLT PREMIER

EPA ratings: 106MPGe; 42mpg gas only
0-60mph: 7.8 sec
Price as tested: $40,825

The first Volt was a technological tour de force, the most usefully frugal vehicle you could buy. Once it depleted its roughly 40-mile range as a pure electric vehicle (EV), it could switch over to its gasoline engine and drive anywhere. Volt Gen II takes most everything about that seminal car and improves it, making it an excellent choice for those focused on "sustainable" motoring.

If this new Chevrolet doesn't look as distinctive as its forebear, its overall aesthetic remains pleasing, with such smart exterior details as polished grills and clear coat trim. The interior boasts a layered, sweeping dash and generally well-designed cockpit. Yes, many of the plastics are thin and hard, but this Volt weighs almost 300 pounds less than the first, a commendable feat. Most things you touch regularly, like the seats, wheel and shifter, are far nicer, and the displays make a BMW i3's look 8-bit retro.

Chevrolet focused on how hypermilers really use vehicles like this, and basically improved all aspects of the driving experience. The 18.4 kWh battery is lighter and more powerful, meaning this Volt can routinely exceed its rated 53-mile range on pure electricity; when it's time to slow you can pull a steering wheel paddle to engage battery regeneration, often bypassing the well-tuned brake pedal entirely.

Multiple drive modes mean you can save EV'ing for the city or extra electric motor muscle for mountain climbs. 0-60mph is substantially faster at 7.8 seconds, thanks to that bigger battery, an innovative aluminum 1.5-liter Atkinson-cycle engine and a new configuration for the two electric motor/generators.

This drivetrain isn't only faster and more efficient, it is generally more refined too: Only at idle does the engine sometimes betray its roots; most of the time the potent motor torque makes it feel much more refined and expensive. The Volt's ride is supple over most surfaces, though bigger craters betray its compact-car origins. Steering is linear and direct and the handling quite entertaining, something the Chevrolet shares with other EVs like the Tesla and Leaf.

Volts have shown themselves to be incredibly reliable, despite the astonishing complexity of the hardware and software; this is indeed Moonshot stuff, but done with the kind of care that got the astronauts back to Earth. It makes a very compelling case as an only vehicle, something that the otherwise superb BMW i3 cant really accomplish for most, and while it doesn't have the kind of cockpit ambiance of the Audi A3 e-tron, it costs less, has greater range and is actually more engaging to drive.

Automotive Editor Isaac Bouchard is president of Englewood-based Bespoke Autos *(bespokeautos.com)*. Read more of his reviews at *coloradoavidgolfer.com/list/drives* and *bespokeautos.com*. Reach him at *Isaac@BespokeAutos.com*.



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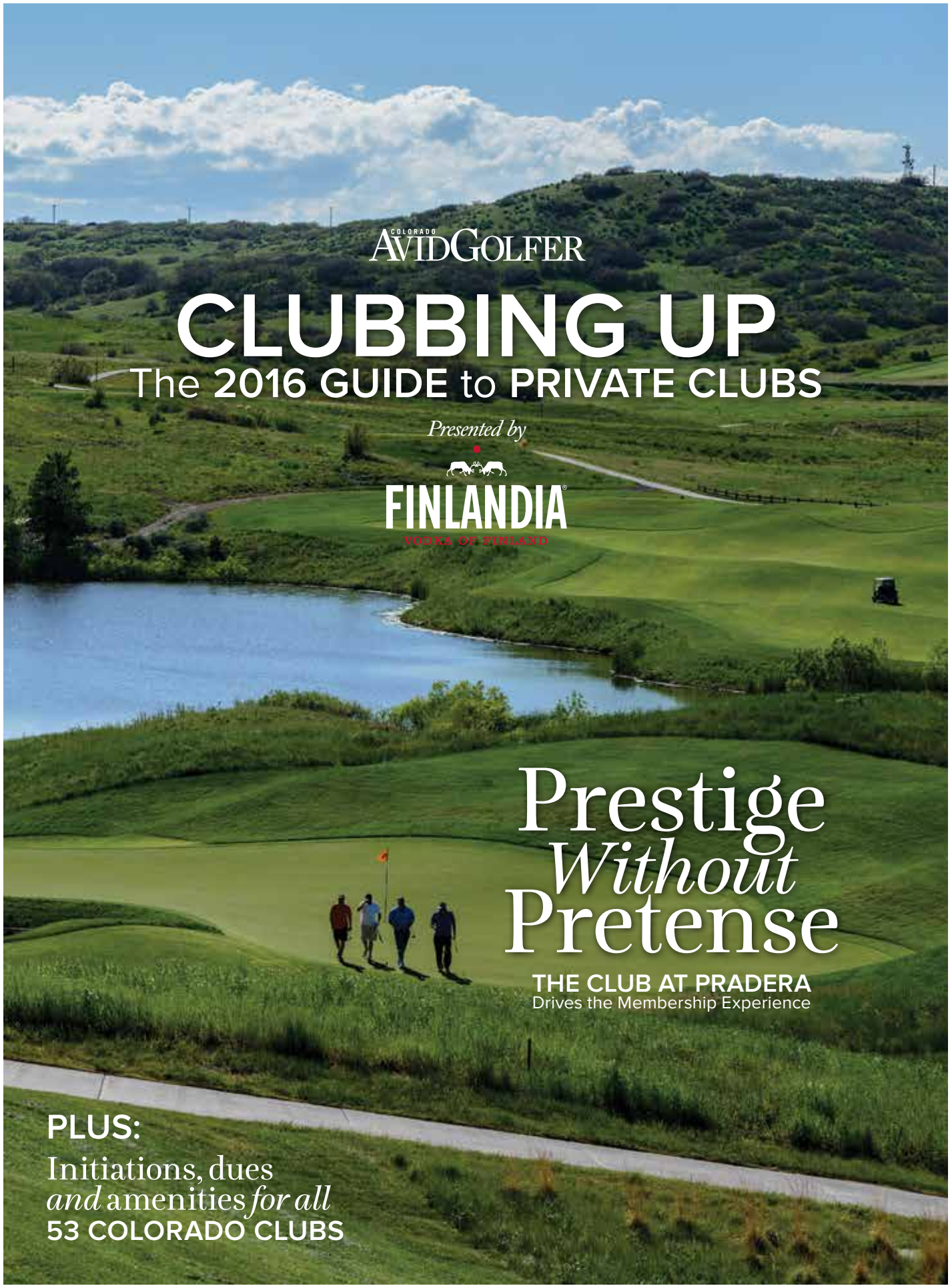
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COLORADO AVIDGOLFER

CLUBBING UP

The 2016 GUIDE to PRIVATE CLUBS

Presented by

FINLANDIA®
VODKA OF FINLAND

Prestige *Without* Pretense

THE CLUB AT PRADERA
Drives the Membership Experience

PLUS:
Initiations, dues *and* amenities *for all*
53 COLORADO CLUBS



The Member Experience

TRÉS PARKER: The Arcis-owned Club at Pradera (above) and The Pinery offer programs like wine clubs and lockering.

OWN IT. That's today's mantra. We hear it all the time in reference to people taking responsibility for their behavior. You've got to own your actions.

We hear it in business, where proprietorship—acting "like a boss"—often trumps actual prosperity.

Ownership has also long enjoyed preeminence in the private-club world. Belonging to a member-owned club has traditionally meant holding an equity position and participating on boards and committees that direct the organization's financial, social and operational activities. This setup mostly runs smoothly, but since everyone has a seat at the table, it also occasionally leads to disagreements, especially when talk of assessments arises.

And it seems to be arising often. Members continue to own the majority of Colorado's private clubs, many of which are updating clubhouses, improving facilities and upgrading programming to keep pace with other clubs, satisfy existing members and attract new ones. Some clubs have drastically reduced initiations while increasing monthly dues. Though still "member-owned," they no longer consider themselves "equity clubs" in the sense that they will automatically refund initiation fees to resigning members. A few have established two "initiations"—a "refundable" one that can cost twice the amount of a "nonrefundable" one.

Once considered deposits, these nonrefundable initiations basically provide the club with operating capital. Oh, and should you need or want to spread the cost of admission over time, installment plans remain an option—but unlike in recent years, you might pay a few extra thousand for the convenience, depending on the term and the club.

That is, unless you were born after 1977. Looking to court younger members (including those elusive Millennials), just about every club out there offers reduced-cost junior memberships payable over as many as 10 years to people who haven't reached their 40th birthday.

But what's their commitment? With the demands of the post-recession workplace leaving less and less time to spend at the club, members may not want to pass that time in board meetings and fielding complaints about the overgrown tree on hole eight or the need for more elliptical machines. Even a prestigious club presidency can feel more like an onus than an honor. When it comes to clubs, membership may have its privileges, but ownership—maybe not so much.

This isn't to say that member-owned clubs like Rolling Hills, Lakewood and Perry Park don't continue to deliver a top-notch experience. They do by continuing to reinvest in their product, improving programming, amenities and not deferring maintenance. Major capital projects are on the rise. Over the last few years, we've seen Valley give its course a major facelift; The Country Club at Castle Pines majestically expand its dining area and initiate a major course renovation; the members of Red Rocks debut a gloriously transformed clubhouse; and The Ranch commit to a spectacular $5.5 million clubhouse makeover. Columbine is currently spending $20 million on the construction of a new clubhouse and wellness center.

Some member-owned country clubs, like Fort Collins and Pueblo, have elected to contract golf management companies to handle operations. So have a number of privately owned clubs, among them Fox Hill (managed by OB Sports) and Cordillera (Troon).

Perhaps the most compelling trend is clubs owned and operated by companies such as ClubCorp, the industry giant that runs the popular Blackstone in Aurora and Black Bear in Parker, and Arcis, whose 76-course portfolio comprises 24 private clubs, including the Parker-based clubs of Pradera and The Pinery.

Arcis purchased the clubs, which lie less than five miles from each other, from BrightStar Golf in 2013. The impact has been dramatic. Arcis' deep pockets and decisively member-centric approach represents a major cultural shift, and it has resulted in upticks in the number of members and programs at both clubs. "We're in a true partnership with our member advisors," says Arcis' Mark Liwecky, the membership and sales director.

"At most Colorado clubs, members pay 12 months of dues but only use the club seven or eight months," he explains. "We have year-round programming now. We earn their business every month. We give people reasons to use the membership they're paying for."

Those reasons include everything from fitness classes, family-night activities, indoor golf training and tennis programs, wine tastings, culinary experiences and a staggering number of social events. An additional $60 per month in dues affords Pinery members access to Pradera facilities and vice-versa. It's called a Summit Membership and it brings the monthly dues to $524 for Pinery members and $569 for Pradera members. That's at least $120 less per month than comparable clubs charge—and none of those have 45 holes of spectacular golf on two distinctly different courses, 11 tennis courts, three pools, two fitness centers and two fine-dining restaurants.

Pradera and Pinery members don't own their club but they do own their experiences—which, ultimately, is all any of us can truly claim equity in.



20 Full Memberships Available at $2,500

For over 40 years we have been providing an extraordinary golf experience at an exceptional value. This Spring, to fill our 300 member cap, we're offering 20 Full Golf memberships at the very attractive price of $2,500.

Here's your chance to experience all the benefits of an outstanding private club. Readily available tee times, a course always in tournament condition, plus an eventful, year-round dining and social scene.

.For more information on these memberships, contact Herb Miller at 303.681.3305, Ext 4 or hmiller@perryparkcc.com. And visit our website at www.perryparkcc.com.

PERRY PARK COUNTRY CLUB
7047 Perry Park Blvd., Larkspur, CO 80118





DOUBLE DE

ARCIS GOLF'S THE CLUB AT PRADERA A

REDEFINE THE

Renowned for its hometown feel and breathtaking topography, the small town of Parker, Colorado is fast becoming known for something else: Its pair of remarkable private golf and lifestyle clubs, located just two miles apart from each other in the shadows of the Rocky Mountains. Operated by leading golf management firm Arcis Golf, The Club at Pradera and The Pinery Country Club represent the newest breed of private clubs, delivering superb golf as well as an array of fitness, swim, tennis and social amenities designed to engage every member of the family.

Distinctive in character yet equally impressive, both clubs offer an expanse of exclusive privileges and a unique sense of belonging that make choosing between the two a difficult task – or at least, that used to be the case. Now, thanks to the clubs' new Summit golf membership, members can enjoy access to both luxurious clubs, encompassing 45 holes of magnificent golf; two gorgeous clubhouse facilities; two private restaurants; three swimming pools; eight outdoor and three indoor tennis courts; two fitness centers; impressive junior golf and tennis academies; inclusion in year-round events at both clubs; and other superb benefits, all for one attractive price.

It's sibling revelry at its best according to Arcis Golf's Mark Lewicki, membership sales director for both clubs, who helped to launch and refine the Summit membership. "Each of these extraordinary golf gems has its own unique strengths and advantages, making this dynamic two- club membership option hard to beat," said Lewicki. "Individually, each is a best-of-class lifestyle club that exceeds members' needs and expectations at every turn. And together, they offer unrivaled opportunities for golf, socializing, recreation and family bonding, not to mention an amazing variety of amenities and four-season activities. There are simply no other clubs in the South Denver area offering the full country club experience during all seasons of the year."



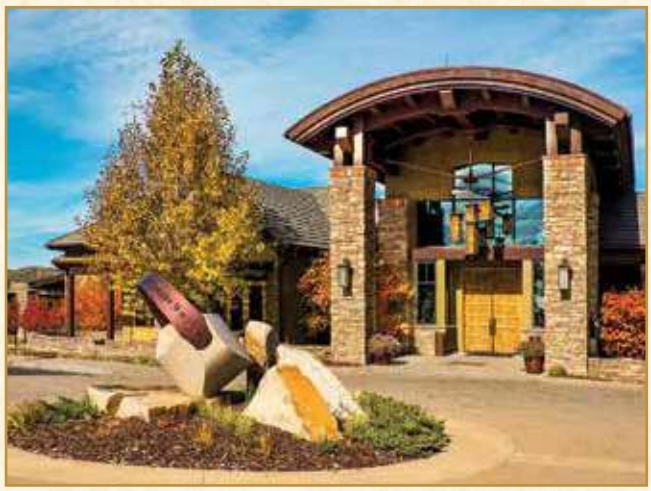






"Each of these extraordinary golf gems has its own unique strengths and advantages"

The Club at Pradera is the centerpiece to the Pradera luxury home community; however, residence is not required for membership. The club's majestic Colorado mountain clubhouse and superlative Jim Engh-designed Irish links-style course set the tone for a unique setting that blends old world Irish charm with upscale, modern influences with a Colorado twist. Engh, whose bevy of award-winning courses has raised the bar for golf in Colorado, makes a bold statement at Pradera, where each hole combines stunning aesthetics with unpredictable cleverness. In many cases, the holes were sculpted to blend harmoniously with their pristine natural surroundings in homage to Ireland's wispy ragged Irish links, with some areas completely untouched. In others, the land was reshaped with ponds and wetlands, creating a more modern look and feel. The result is an astonishing collection of visually stunning, strategically diverse holes that are as imaginative as they are fun to play for golfers of all ages and abilities.



LIGHT

AND THE PINERY COUNTRY CLUB

PRIVATE CLUB EXPERIENCE

World-class sports, recreational and leisure amenities abound at Pradera, anchored by the club's magnificent Marsh & Associates-designed clubhouse – a focal point for member hospitality that is distinctly Colorado casual. A fine dining restaurant, indoor and outdoor dining in Longs Peak Grill, full-service golf shop, expansive golf practice facility with music on the range, two all-weather tennis courts, state-of-the-art fitness center, pool complex, and miles of rugged trails for hiking, biking and ambling offer innumerable opportunities for family fun and recreation, while a year-round schedule of events ranging from wine dinners and summer concerts to golf and tennis league play, family barbecues and holiday festivities help foster lifelong friendships and lasting memories.







The Pinery Country Club's cozier, more intimate clubhouse reflects the understated elegance and stately nonchalance of this traditional full-service luxury private club. Three distinctive, extraordinary nine-hole courses, which can be played in any combination, enable golfers to enjoy a unique and adventurous challenge every time they play. The Mountain Nine features dramatic elevation changes, panoramic vistas, and play among dense Ponderosa Pines, while the Lake Nine boasts the most exquisite views on the property – climbing from the clubhouse past Bingham Lake to the 5th green and 6th tee, where the entire frontage from Pike's Peak to Long's Peak is visible. From there, the Lake course tumbles down into the Valley Nine, a Scottish links-style layout in a high plains setting which is highlighted by the club's diabolical 3rd hole, the most challenging at The Pinery.

The Pinery's superb golf is complemented by a collection of top-notch sports and recreational amenities, including an extensive golf practice facility; exclusive tennis facility featuring six outdoor courts, three indoor courts and a tennis and sport shop featuring the latest premium-brand tennis apparel and equipment; a fitness center offering Matrix strength-training equipment; three swimming pools; casual poolside or upscale private dining experiences; and an extensive year-round schedule of member dining and social events, ranging from weekly kids' club activities and culinary experiences to holiday parties, parent-child golf and tennis championships, daddy-daughter dances and other unique opportunities. Spa services including facials and professional massage therapy are also available.

The Club at Pradera and The Pinery Country Club represent Arcis Golf's first of what is now enviable collection of private and resort clubs and including many of the nation's most lauded golf and lifestyle clubs. To explore membership opportunities at The Club at Pradera or The Pinery Country Club in Parker, Colorado, including the two-club Summit membership, please contact Mark Lewicki at:

(303) 607-5672 | mlewicki@theclubatpradera.com

For more details, go to **www.theclubatpradera.com** and **www.thepinerycc.com**.

PRADERA

THE CLUB AT PRADERA

THE PINERY

COUNTRY CLUB



THE PINERY COUNTRY CLUB *Parker*

Initiation: $12,000 **Dues:** $464/mo.
Call: 303-841-5157 **Click:** *thepinerycc.com*
Contact: Sarah Wilcox, *swilcox@thepinerycc.com or* Mark Lewicki, *mlewicki@thepinerycc.com*





- 27 holes of golf split into three distinct nines (Lake, Mountain and Valley), each with its own character
- Numerous weekly competitive and recreational golf leagues for men, women, juniors and seniors
- 2016 launch of the Elevation Junior Golf Academy developing players ages 4 to 18
- Highly regarded casual and finer dining including the elegant "Vintage Table Presents" nights
- Six outdoor and three indoor tennis courts cater to year-round tennis program for all ages including more than 30 USTA teams, daily tennis drills, private/group tennis lessons offered by 1 of 5 pros
- Three-pool swimming complex with heated family, lap and toddler pools along with poolside dining service
- Year-round programming for all family members including junior golf, junior tennis, swim team and multi-sport summer camps for kids
- Fully equipped fitness center for cardio, strength and free weights along with classes such as TRX, Zumba, Pilates, Pre-Teen and Teen Conditioning
- Summit Golf Membership option to add The Club at Pradera amenities including 18 holes of golf, 2 tennis courts, Clubhouse and patio dining, fitness and more
- Owned by leading firm Arcis Golf with travel benefits to other Clubs

THE CLUB AT PRADERA *Parker*

Initiation: $15,000 Non Refundable **Dues:** $489/mo.
Call: 303-607-5672 **Click:** *theclubatpradera.com*
Contact: Mark Lewicki, *mlewicki@thepinerycc.com*



- Award-winning clubhouse with expansive patio dining overlooking an 18-hole Jim Engh-designed golf course
- Golf leagues for men, women, couples, juniors and seniors with an average age in the 40s
- Extensive practice facility with classic rock music piped into the range and greens
- Summit Golf Membership option to add all the amenities of The Pinery Country Club, just three miles away, including 27 holes of golf, indoor/outdoor tennis, multi-pool complex and dining
- 2016 launched the Elevation Junior Golf Academy developing golfers ages 4 through 18
Active outdoor lifestyle membership, including golf, fitness, tennis and aquatics (with Summit membership)
- Golf, sport, corporate and junior executive golf memberships available with no assessments or food minimums ever
- An ever-changing menu, including the custom fine-dining "Knife and Cork Presents," which pairs elegant entrees and wines
- A Wine Club for members to explore new wines, attend exclusive events, locker up to 12 bottles in the dining room and to purchase wine at a discount
- Fitness Center with Cybex machines for strength, conditioning, muscle tone and individual weight training plus available group fitness classes including PiYo, Bootcamp, HIIT, and more
- Owned by leading firm Arcis Golf with travel benefits to other Clubs





RED ROCKS
Country Club



The New Red Rocks

Red Rocks Country Club is everything you have imagined in a private country club. It features a mountain-style 18-hole championship golf course with a challenging layout and stunning views. The newly expanded and wonderfully refurbished clubhouse, featuring natural stone, unique and innovative textiles and a calming, neutral color palette will accentuate the unmatched natural beauty and the magnificent mountain views of the area.

Red Rocks Country Club enhances its welcoming sense of community with a new and beautifully appointed bar and outdoor patio, the ideal place to relax and recharge with friends and family. New dining and event rooms feature floor-to-ceiling glass, outstanding culinary delights, and a vast array of events from wine and beer dinners, children's programming, weddings and business parties.





www.RedRocksCountryClub.org | (303) 352-2030
16235 W. Belleview Avenue | Morrison, CO 80465

Red Rocks Country Club is a private club located in Morrison, CO. All applicants are subject to the Club's membership application and screening process.



BLACKSTONE COUNTRY CLUB *Aurora*

Initiation: $4,000-$5,000 **Dues:** From $259/mo.
Call: 720-330-7087 **Click:** *blackstone-club.com*
Contact: Membership Office, 720-330-7087





- Reinvention complete including clubhouse renovations, private-event area makeover, golf course improvements and resort-style pool experience
- Outdoor patio dining featuring live music Friday nights
- Exceptional dining experience with seasonal menus, Chef's Table and signature service
- Industry-leading benefits program offers 50% off* à la carte dining at the Club, traveling benefits in the ClubCorp Network and more
- 7,313-yard Jay Morrish-designed golf course with full driving range, practice areas
- Two tennis courts, junior Olympic-sized pool and state-of-the-art fitness center
- Extensive social calendar including holiday parties, wine dinners, brunches, barbecues and more
- Chophouse-themed restaurant with casual country club dining and terraces looking out on Colorado's Front Range
- Spacious ballroom and private event room ideal for hosting any type of occasion
- Golf Memberships with access to both Blackstone and Black Bear start at $259 and include access to the ClubCorp Network of more than 300 private clubs when traveling.

*O.N.E. benefits exclude alcohol, service charges and applicable taxes. Benefits are subject to the benefit terms and conditions, which may be found on *clubcorpnetwork.com*. Membership application or conversion form required, and membership is contingent on successful completion of the Club's enrollment process. Other restrictions apply. See Club for details. © ClubCorp USA, Inc. All rights reserved.

BLACK BEAR GOLF CLUB *Parker*

Initiation: $2,000-$5,000 **Dues:** $209/mo.
Call: 720-330-7087 **Click:** *blackbearclub.com*
Contact: Membership Office, 720-330-7087



- Reinvention complete, including clubhouse and golf improvements
- Enhanced patio and activity space featuring live music Friday nights
- Exceptional dining experience with seasonal menus, Chef's Table and signature service
- Industry-leading benefits program offers 50% off* à la carte dining at the Club, traveling benefits in the ClubCorp Network and more
- 18-hole Jeff Brauer-designed golf course with more than 200 feet in elevation changes and views from Pikes Peak to Longs Peak, full driving range, practice areas and instruction
- Extensive social calendar including holiday parties, wine dinners, brunches, barbecues and more
- Champions Pub with casual fare and a main dining area with traditional dishes
- Elegant clubhouse with a romantic courtyard and gazebo
- Golf Memberships with access to both Blackstone and Black Bear start at $259 and include access to the ClubCorp Network of more than 300 private clubs when traveling.





*O.N.E. benefits exclude alcohol, service charges and applicable taxes. Benefits are subject to the benefit terms and conditions, which may be found on *clubcorpnetwork.com*. Membership application or conversion form required, and membership is contingent on successful completion of the Club's enrollment process. Other restrictions apply. See Club for details. © ClubCorp USA, Inc. All rights reserved.



NEW Craft Grill at
Black Bear Golf Club


NEW Blackstone
Country Club Grill

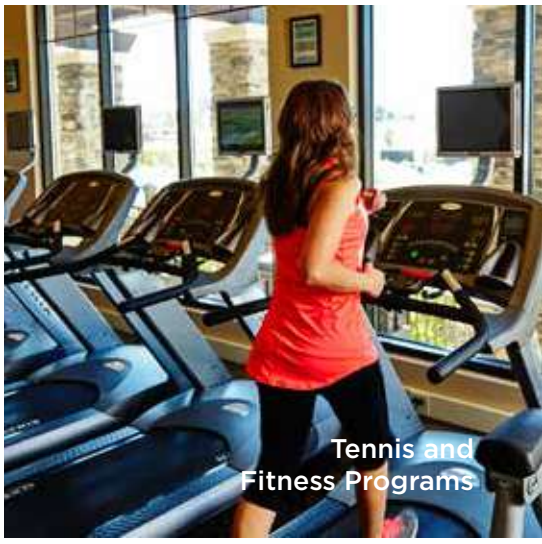
COME FOR THE FUN. STAY FOR THE EXPERIENCE.

Discover the NEW Blackstone Country Club & Black Bear Golf Club.

**We've invested more than $1 million to create the ultimate club experience.
Enjoy a great value with access to both clubs.***


Resort-style Pool with
NEW Poolside Bar


36 Holes of
Championship Golf


Tennis and
Fitness Programs

Stop by and experience the Club today. 720.330.7087 | blackstone-club.com

Blackstone Country Club | Black Bear Golf Club | ClubCorp® The World Leader in Private Clubs®

*New membership offerings subject to benefit terms and conditions. Membership is contingent on successful completion of the Club's enrollment process. See Club for details. © ClubCorp USA, Inc. All rights reserved. 30813 0316 SMJ



This Cherry's *on Top*

CHERRY CREEK COUNTRY CLUB was honored this year with several *Colorado AvidGolfer* CAGGY Awards.

"BEST VALUE"

Cherry Creek Country Club is priced very competitively in comparison to other high-end clubs in the Denver Metro area and around the country. And when you consider that Cherry Creek Country Club is the only club in town with a Fitness Center that can rival any commercial gym, making your fitness membership superfluous, it is easy to understand why Cherry Creek Country Club won the *"Best Value"* award. This year, the finished square footage of the Spa & Fitness Center will effectively double in size to 14,500, adding even more value to your membership. And don't forget the exclusive, private full-service Spa with a team of certified therapists and top of-the-line skincare products.

"BEST CLUBHOUSE" & "BEST LOCKER ROOMS"

The Club was also recognized for the *"Best Clubhouse"* and *"Best Locker Rooms."* This year the Clubhouse is even better with the addition of the Wine Bar and Dining Room. This new room has a more casual and contemporary vibe than the formal dining area and will be the perfect place to unwind after your round and sip from a glass of one of the hundreds of wines they have to offer. Not to be overlooked, the Association of Golf Merchandisers recognized Cherry Creek's Golf Shop at the PGA Merchandise Show with an AGM Platinum Award as one of the top 100 Golf Shops in the country.

"BEST OVERALL EXPERIENCE"

The team at Cherry Creek Country Club believes your experience is not just determined by the course and club amenities, but by the people behind them as well. Whether it is the golf staff, maintenance staff, or the dining, spa, or housekeeping staffs, the members benefit from having some of the best professionals in the industry. Wherever your day takes you, you're sure to have your *"Best Overall Experience"* throughout the year at Cherry Creek Country Club.

"BEST FOR FAMILIES"

This award is dear to the hearts of the Cherry Creek team. With third-generation golf course owners and operators, they know how important future generations are to the game of golf and believe it is their duty to act as stewards for them. To that end, they have integrated into their full course, a USGA-rated short course that kids and beginners can play. They also feature their enormously popular athletic skill building Kid's Camps in the summer as well as a kid-friendly pool. The Club also has year-round family events, from the Labor Day fireworks display and carnival to the Polar Express Breakfast with Santa, and more fun every season in between. Cherry Creek Country Club provides opportunities to bring kids out to the golf course and familiarize them with the game, making this Club experience certainly *"Best for Families."*

The entire team at Cherry Creek Country Club takes great pride in their recent CAGGY Awards and would like to thank everyone who voted for them as they look forward to an even better 2016!

CHERRY CREEK
COUNTRY CLUB



FAMILY FUN!



Contemporary **NEW WINE BAR**



KIDDIE POOL and **REGULATION POOL**



State-of-the-Art **PRIVATE SPA.**



Busy **SOCIAL CALENDAR**



The Newly Completed 14,500-square-foot **SPA & FITNESS CENTER.**



INVERNESS GOLF CLUB *Englewood*

Initiation: $4,370 (individual)/$6,320 (family) per year
Dues: None (renewing members pay $500 less)
Call: 303-397-7878 **Click:** *invernessgolfclub.com*
Contact: Dave Steinmetz, *dsteinmetz@destinationhotels.com*





- 2016 CAGGY Award winner for Best Conditions (Resort); Best Wedding/Party Venue; Best Course To Hold A Tournament
- "Best Places To Play," *Golf Digest*
- Four Stars & Certificate of Recognition, *Golf Digest Places To Stay*
- Golden Links Award, *Corporate Meetings and Incentives*
- Greens of Distinction Award, *Corporate and Incentive Travel*
- Four on-site restaurants, wide array of banquet facilities, full-service 302-room Hotel and Conference Center
- Renowned throughout the region for outstanding course conditions and customer service
- Complete bunker renovation completed over the past two years
- Three PGA Professionals on staff offering private, group, and corporate lessons and clinics to golfers of all ages and abilities
- Corporate passbook memberships also available ($4,500 for 50 passes; $2,500 for 25 passes)
- Three-time host of Colorado Open and site of 2013 Junior Solheim Cup

RED ROCKS COUNTRY CLUB *Morrison*

Initiation: $12,500-15,000 **Dues:** $6,400/year
Call: 303-352-2030 **Click:** *redrockscountryclub.org*
Contact: Michelle Peterson, *mpeterson@redrockscountryclub.org*



- Located 25 minutes from Downtown Denver in the red sandstone foothills
- Designed by Phelps-Atkinson Golf Course Design with four sets of tees playing from 4,721 to nearly 7,000 yards
- Newly renovated and expanded clubhouse includes a new bar and grill, separate dining room and private event space
- Expanded outdoor dining with an indoor/outdoor bar and a wrap-around patio with a cozy fire pit
- A stunning outdoor pavilion welcomes special parties and events
- 42' x 82' heated swimming pool with slide and heated baby pool
- Pool parties every Friday with live entertainment from Memorial Day to Labor Day
- Fishing, gardening, hiking/biking, fitness programs and winter sports
- Social and Golf memberships available
- Member of the Private Club Network, with access to more than 100 Private Clubs






where I played in a charity tournament and fell in love with the course
found a no-assessments membership that is perfect for me
chipped-in for birdie on the par 4, 17th
and discovered my new favorite "19th hole"– The Spotted Dog
THE INVERNESS IS
EVERYTHING
GOLF
THE INVERNESS
EVERYTHING LIFE
If golf is your world, your world is about to get a lot bigger. Not only does an Inverness golf membership mean playing a 7,057-yard, J. Press Maxwell PGA Championship course renowned for challenging water features, sloping fairways and fast greens, it also means unlimited access to two pools; a state-of-the-art fitness center; full-service spa; and five restaurants and bars. At The Inverness, we're *Everything Golf* — and so much more.
Call today to learn more about our no-assessments membership.
INVERNESSHOTEL.COM | 303.397.7878
200 INVERNESS DRIVE WEST | ENGLEWOOD, COLORADO



CHERRY CREEK COUNTRY CLUB *Denver*

Initiation: $40,000-$60,000 **Dues:** $650/mo.
Call: 303-597-0300 **Click:** *cherrycreekcountryclub.com*
Contact: Karen Hart, *KarenHart@cherrycreekcountryclub.com*





- Jack Nicklaus-designed golf course ranging from 4,981 to 7,450 yards, including an officially rated short course stretching from 3,123 to 4,036 yards
- Award-winning clubhouse with plush locker rooms, dining area, men's grill and outdoor patios
- Gated enclave in prime location, 15 minutes from downtown, DTC and Cherry Creek North with resale home prices ranging from $800,000 to $2.6 million
- Busy family-oriented social calendar ranging from kids' cooking classes to weekly live entertainment to a blowout fireworks display complete with barbecue and bouncy castle
- Only Denver country club to include a full fitness membership in dues: weights, machines, lockers, classes and programs at no extra charge
- Full-service spa, with six massage tables, sauna, Jacuzzi, mani-pedi stations and meditation space
- Sophisticated dining and abundant event space
- Adult and kid pools, two tennis courts
- Weeklong kids' camps throughout summer featuring individualized athletic instruction in golf, tennis and other sports
- Resident HOA fees include landscaping and snow removal

LAKEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB *Lakewood*

Initiation: $37,500 **Dues:** $585/mo.
Call: 303-233-4614 **Click:** *lakewoodcountryclub.net*
Contact: Carol Kaiser, *cskaiser@lakewoodcountryclub.net*



- Historic club with mature, impeccably maintained, 100-year-old Donald Ross-designed golf course and solid golf pedigree
- Friendly social environment with family focus
- Conveniently located 12 minutes from downtown Denver and Front Range communities
- Newer, traditional-style clubhouse offering full-service locker rooms for both men and women along with multiple dining options
- Completely new fitness facility, along with remodeled pool facilities
- On-site meeting and banquet spaces to accommodate intimate gatherings for as few as 15 people or a ballroom that accommodates up to 250
- Active member tournament schedule along with many member social events and activities year round
- Fantastic service levels in all areas of the club
- Promote a pace of play of four hours or less for 18 holes of golf
- Phenomenal value









Lakewood Country Club

£€€

Celebrating 100 Years as a Donald Ross Design Golf Course

£€€

For information call 303-233-4614
www.lakewoodcountryclub.net







THE RANCH COUNTRY CLUB *Westminster*

Initiation: $10,000 **Dues:** $520
Call: 303-460-9700 **Click:** *theranchcc.com*
Contact: Ali Canyon, *acanyon@theranchcc.com*





- Currently undergoing a $5.5 million clubhouse renovation slated for completion in June 2016
- 18-hole Phelps-Atkinson designed course with new practice facilities, tees and greens
- Fitness Center and Kid's center addition
- Patio designed to take full advantage of the club's hilltop location and unparalleled mountain vistas
- Improved Social spaces transform the club into a family destination with offerings for every member of the family
- Eight tennis courts (4 indoor and four lighted outdoor)
- 25-yard lap pool and diving pool with new children's pool and play area
- Junior PGA instruction programs
- Indoor-outdoor fireplaces including fire pit on western patio
- Family-friendly

THE COUNTRY CLUB AT CASTLE PINES

Castle Rock
Initiation: $28,000 **Dues:** $750/mo.
Call: 303-688-7400 **Click:** *ccatcastlepines.com*
Contact: Alicia Huss, *ahuss@ccofcastlepines.com*



- Located 30 minutes south of Denver in the exclusive gated community of Castle Pines Village
- 7,400-yard Signature Jack Nicklaus Championship Golf Course
- State-of-the-art practice facilities including a short irons practice range, multiple chipping and putting greens
- Spacious clubhouse with stunning views
- Newly remodeled outdoor dining terrace with fireplaces, a pizza oven and smoker
- Award-winning casual and fine dining available in the Jack Nicklaus Signature Room, grille, Front Range Room and Panorama Bar along with nightly specials
- Full annual calendar of social events including wine dinners, live music events, holiday events, and more
- Active men's, ladies, and junior golf programs
- Golf Course open year-round, weather permitting
- Limited Full Golf, Junior Golf and Social Memberships available with travel benefits to other clubs







Setting the new standard

Enjoy choice tee times | Admire spectacular views

Relax over dinner and drinks | Play year round tennis

Family friendly | Kid's Club | Fitness center

Limited memberships available at reduced rates during clubhouse expansion & renovation.

The Ranch Country Club | 11887 Tejon St, Westminster, CO 80234 | (303) 460-9700 | www.TheRanchCC.com

The Ranch Country Club is a private club located in Westminster, CO. All applicants are subject to the Club's membership application and screening process.

THE CLUB AT CORDILLERA









We believe our lives are best lived while enjoying the rewards of membership here ~ our private slice of heaven that provides ample opportunity to relax, connect, and savor Mother Nature's majesty. It is our personal four-season playground, and it feeds our passion for an outdoor life invigorated by crisp mountain air, awe-inspiring scenery, aspen tree lines, fresh alpine snow, and summer blossoms.

Our spirit is grounded in the variety of our communities ~ each uniquely situated at its own elevation, and positioned to provide the ultimate member and mountain living experience.

Schedule a visit today to see how we are changing the way private clubs are experienced.

The Club at
CORDILLERA
Cordillera-Vail.com

Troon Privé®
PRIVATE CLUBS OF DISTINCTION

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Contact: Suzanne Morgan, *smorgan@troon.com*

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PRIVATE CLUB DIRECTORY

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Aspen Glen Club	0545 Bald Eagle Way, Carbondale 970-704-1905; *clubcorp.com*	$100,000	$970/mo.	No	535	Swimming, tennis, fitness center, spa, ClubCorp reciprocity	Nicklaus Design (1997)	Jess Westley
Ballyneal Golf Club	1 Ballyneal Lane, Holyoke 970-854-5900; *ballyneal.com*	$18,000	$4,500/yr.	No	250	Bird hunting, bocce, sporting clays, lodging, dining, putting course	Tom Doak (2006)	Kelsey McBride
Bear Creek Golf Club	12201 Morrison Road, Denver 303-980-8700; *bearcreekgolfclub.net*	$40,000	$792/mo.	No	350	Dining	Arnold Palmer/ Ed Seay (1985)	Kirk Rider
Black Bear Golf Club	11300 Canterberry Parkway, Parker 720-330-7087; *blackbear-club.com*	$2,000-$5,000	starting at $209/mo.	No	N/A	Privileges at all ClubCorp facilities	Jeff Brauer (1996)	Membership Office
Blackstone Country Club	7777 Country Club Drive, Aurora 720-330-7087; *blackstone-club.com*	$2,000-$5,000	starting at $259/mo.	No	N/A	Swimming, tennis, fitness, dining, privileges at all ClubCorp facilities	Jay Morrish (2006)	Membership Office
Bookcliff Country Club	2730 G Road, Grand Junction 970-243-3323; *bookcliffcc.com*	$2,500	$350	No	520	Swimming, tennis, golf, exercise center, spa & massage, dining	Dick Phelps (1958)	Kari Canaday
Boulder Country Club	350 Clubhouse Road, Boulder 303-530-4600; *bouldercc.com*	$38,500	$551/mo.	Yes	485	Swimming, tennis, fitness, dining, wellness center, youth summer camp	Press Maxwell (1965)	Kate Kippenberger
Broadmoor Golf Club	One Lake Circle, Colorado Springs 719-577-5790; *broadmoor.com*	$80,000	$635/mo.	Yes	N/A	All resort privileges	East: D. Ross (1918) West: R. T. Jones (1964) Mountain: J. Nicklaus (2006)	Sherry Clark
Castle Pines Golf Club	1000 Hummingbird Drive, Castle Rock 303-688-6000; No website	$135,000	$17,000/yr.	Invitation only	350	Fitness center; dining	Jack Nicklaus (1981)	N/A
Castle Pines, The Country Club at	6400 Country Club Drive, Castle Pines Village 303-688-7400; *ccatcastlepines.com*	$28,000	$750/mo.	No	395	Dining	Jack Nicklaus (1985)	Alicia Huss
Catamount Ranch & Club	33400 B Catamount Drive, Steamboat Springs 970-871-9300; *catamountranchclub.com*	$45,000	$10,000/yr.	No	395	Swimming, tennis, private lake, water sports, fitness, skiing	Tom Weiskopf (2000)	Nicole Piret
Cherry Creek Country Club	2405 South Yosemite St., Denver 303-597-0300; *cherrycreekcountryclub.com*	$40,000-$60,000	$650/mo.	No	450	Swimming, tennis, Full Fitness Facility, spa	Jack Nicklaus/ Jack Nicklaus II (2002)	Karen Hart
Cherry Hills Country Club	4125 South University Boulevard, Cherry Hills Village 303-350-5200; *chcc.com*	$120,000	$795/mo.	Invitation only	500	Swimming, tennis, dining, indoor practice	William Flynn (1922); Renaissance Golf (2009)	B.J. Johnson
Colorado Golf Club	7803 East Stroh Road, Parker 303-840-5400; *coloradogolfclub.com*	$55,000/ $85,000	$825/mo.	Invitation only	375	9-holeShort Course, , Family Pool Complex, dining, fitness, Full-Room AboutGolf Simulator + indoor practice bays, Hiking/Riding trails	Ben Crenshaw/ Bill Coore (2006)	Tom Ferrell
Colorado Springs Country Club	3333 Templeton Gap Road, Colorado Springs 719-634-8851; *cscountryclub.com*	$10,000	$520/mo.	No	425	Swimming, tennis, dining, fitness	Dick Phelps (1957)	Kevin Sanger
Columbine Country Club	17 Fairway Lane, Littleton 303-794-2674; *columbinecountryclub.org*	$50,000	$545/mo.	No	400	Swimming, tennis, Par 3 (1956)	Henry Hughes	Robert Cuillard
Cordillera, The Club at	655 Clubhouse Drive, Edwards 970-569-6480; corillera-vail.com	$35,000-$50,000	$12,500/yr. ,	No	1,085	Swimming, tennis, Nordic center, dining, hiking, fishing, skiing	Valley: T.Fazio (1997); Mountain: H. Irwin (1994); Summit: J. Nicklaus (2001)	Suzanne Morgan
Country Club of Colorado	125 East Clubhouse Drive, Colorado Springs 719-538-4084; *ccofcolorado.com*	$12,000	$475/mo.	No	450	Swimming, tennis, fitness, sailing, spa, watersports, pickleball	Pete Dye (1973)	Jessica Woehle
Country Club of the Rockies	676 Sawatch Drive, Edwards 970-926-3080; *countryclubofthe rockies.com*	$125,000	$9,250/yr.	Yes	350	Facilities through Arrowhead development	Jack Nicklaus (1984)	Pentii Tofferi
Denver Country Club	1700 East First Avenue, Denver 303-733-2441; *denvercc.net*	$105,000	$749/mo.	Invitation only	585	Swimming, tennis, ice rink, fitness, paddle tennis	James Foulis/ Bill Coore (1902)	Molly Elm
Eagle Springs Golf Club	28521 U.S. Highway 6 & 24, Wolcott 970-926-4400; *eaglesprings.org*	$60,000	$14,000/yr.	Invitation only	250	None	Jay Morrish/ Tom Weiskopf (1995)	Mike Steiner
Eaton Country Club	37661 Weld Country Road 39, Eaton 970-454-2106; *eatoncc.net*	$1,000	$195/mo.	No	450	Dining	Frank Baumgarner (1968)	Shelly Bowden
Flying Horse, The Club at	880 Weiskopf Point., Colorado Springs 719-487-2601; *flyinghorseclub.com*	$25,000	$530/mo.	No	450	Swimming, tennis, fitness, spa, indoor golf facility, lodging, dining	Tom Weiskopf (2005)	Wendy McHenry
Fort Collins Country Club	1920 Country Club Road, Fort Collins 970-482-1336; *fortcollinscc.com*	$3,000/$9,000	$440/mo.	No	489	Swimming,indoor and outdoor tennis, dining, fitness, privileges at ClubCorp	Henry Hughes (1960); Pete Dye (2001)	Heidi Elser
Fox Hill Club, The	12389 East Highway 119, Longmont 303-651-7600; *thefoxhillclub.com*	$3,000	$409/mo.	No	450	Swimming, tennis, fitness, dining, privileges at Colorado National, Fort Collins & Greeley CCs	Frank Hummel (1972)	Scott Stevenson
Frost Creek Club	1094 Frost Creek Drive, Eagle 970-328-2326; *frostcreek.com*	$20,000/ 15,000	$5,000-$7,500/year	No	425	Swimming, tennis, fitness, fishing, spa, equestrian center	Tom Weiskopf (2007)	Kevin Denton
Garden of the Gods Club	3320 Mesa Road, Colorado Springs 719-632-5541; *gardenofthegodsclub.com*	$25,000	$450-$525/mo.	No	N/A	Wellness Center, Swimming, tennis, fitness, dining, spa, salon, lodging	Press Maxwell (1961)/ Mark Rathert (1997)	Tracey Kalata

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CLUB	ADDRESS PHONE and WEBSITE	INITIATION **	DUES *	WAITING LIST	MEMBER CAP	FACILITIES	COURSE ARCHITECT	CONTACT
Glacier Club	40290 Highway 550 North, Durango 866-521-8575; *theglacierclub.com*	$30,000/ $70,000	$736.66/mo.	No	675	Swimming, tennis, fitness	Arthur Hills (1974), Todd Schoeder (2004)	Glacier Club
Glenmoor Country Club	110 Glenmoor Drive, Cherry Hills Village 303-257-1313; *glenmoorcc.org*	$75,000	$515/mo.	Yes	475	Swimming, tennis, fitness, dining, massage, kids activity room	Pete Dye (1985)	Teri Kubik
Greeley Country Club	4500 West 10th Street, Greeley 970-353-0528; *greeleycc.org*	$1,500- $7,500	$250- $499/mo.	No	500	Swimming, tennis, racquetball, access to Ft. Collins & Fox Hill CCs, Kemper Sports facilities	Perry Maxwell/ Tom Bendelow (1932)	Eric Crawford
Harmony Club	4176 Club Drive, Timnath 970-224-4622;*harmonyclub.info*	$7,000-	$330/mo. $12,500	No	350	Indoor, heated golf facility, pool, tennis, fitness, pickleball court	Jim Engh (2007)	Renée Vacek
Hiwan Golf Club	30671 Clubhouse Lane, Evergreen 303-674-3366; *hiwan.com*	$25,000	$525/mo.	No	N/A	Dining, swimming, tennis, fitness center, fishing, yoga and pilates	Press Maxwell (1962)	Daniel Sherman
Inverness Hotel & Golf Club	200 Inverness Drive, Englewood 303-397-7878; *invernesshotel.com*	$4,370	$3,870/yr. renewal	No	400	Swimming, tennis, fitness	Press Maxwell (1974)	Dave Steinmetz
Lake Valley Golf Club	4400 Lake Valley Drive, Longmont 303-444-2114; *lakevalley.com*	$7,000	$336-$392/mo.	No	478	Dining, practice facilities, private swim and fishing lake	Press Maxwell (1964)	Rob Mount
Lakewood Country Club	6800 West 10th Avenue, Lakewood 303-233-4614;*lakewoodcountryclub.net*	$37,500	$585/mo.	Yes	450	Swimming, tennis, fitness	Tom Bendelow/ Donald Ross (1908)	Carol Kaiser
Maroon Creek Club	10 Club Circle Road, Aspen 970-920-1533; *mccaspen.com*	$200,000	$24,500/yr.	Invitation only	350	Swimming, tennis, fitness, spa,dining	Tom Fazio (1995)	David Chadbourne
Meridian Golf Club	9742 South Meridian Boulevard, Englewood 303-799-8402; *meridiangolfclub.com*	$6,000	$390/mo.	No	475	none	Jack Nicklaus	Tim Murphy
Perry Park Country Club	7047 Perry Park Boulevard, Larkspur 303-681-3305; *perryparkcc.com*	$9,500	$460/mo.	No	300	Dining	Dick Phelps (1969)	Herb Miller
Pinehurst Country Club	6255 West Quincy Avenue, Denver 303-985-1551; *pinehurstcountryclub.com*	$32,000	$535/mo.	No	450	Swimming, tennis, dining, fitness	Press Maxwell (1960)	Tiffany Messer
Pinery Country Club, The	6900 East Pinery Parkway, Parker 303-841-5157; *thepinerycc.com*	$12,000	$464/mo.	No	650	Swimming, indoor/outdoor tennis, fitness	David Bingham (1972)	Lorryn Langton
Pradera, The Club at	5225 Pradera Parkway, Parker 303-607-5672; *theclubatpradera.com*	$15,000	$489/mo.	No	450	Tennis, fitness	Jim Engh (2005)	Brittney Freyschleg
Ptarmigan Country Club *	5416 Vardon Way, Fort Collins 970-226-8555; *ptarmigancc.com*	$5,000	$375/mo.	No	500	Swimming, tennis, dining	Jack Nicklaus (1988)	Ryan Flack
Pueblo Country Club	3200 8th Avenue, Pueblo 719-543-4844; *pueblocountryclub.com*	$1,000	$343/mo.	No	850	Swimming, tennis, dining, special events	Henry Hughes (1902)	Buck Streich
Ranch Country Club, The	11887 Tejon Street, Westminster 303-460-9700; *theranchcc.com*	$10,000	$520/mo.	No	425	Swimming, tennis,dining, indoor hitting facility	Dick Phelps (1974)	Courtney Wolfe
Ravenna, The Golf Club at	11118 Caretaker Road, Littleton 720-956-1600; *ravennagolf.com*	$8,500-$35,000	$500	No	395	Dining	Jay Morrish (2006)	Hack Haberland
Red Rocks Country Club	16235 W. Belleview Avenue, Morrison 303-352-2030; *redrockscountryclub.org*	$12,500- $15,000	$6,400/yr.	No	425	Swimming	Stanley Harwood (1976)	Ali Canyon
Red Sky Golf Club	1099 Red Sky Road, Wolcott 970-754-8400; *redskygolfclub.com*	$140,000	$9455/yr.	No	425	Swimming, tennis, hiking trail, dining	Tom Fazio (2002); Greg Norman (2003)	Todd James
Roaring Fork Club	100 Arbaney Ranch Road, Basalt 970-927-9000; *roaringforkclub.com*	$20,000- $175,000	$5,025- $16,250/yr.	Invitation only	500	Swimming, tennis, fly-fishing, dining, fitness	Jack Nicklaus (1999)	Sam Broome
Rolling Hills, The Club at	15707 West 26th Avenue, Golden 303-279-3334; *theclubatrollinghills.org*	$45,000	$613/mo	No	425	Swimming, indoor/outdoor tennis, fitness, dining, banquet facility	Press Maxwell/ Dick Phelps (1967)	Marta Kostelny
Snowmass Club	0239 Snowmass Club Circle, Snowmass Village 970-923-5600; *snowmassclub.com*	$12,500	$670/mo.	No	375	Swimming, spa, tennis, fitness, cross-country skiing	Jim Engh (2003)	Joanna Mallory
Sonnenalp Club	1265 Berry Creek Road, Edwards 970-477-5375; *sonnenalpclub.com*	$45,000	$5,975/yr.	No	395	Swimming, tennis, spa, fitness, dining	Jay Morrish/ Bob Cupp	Heidi Cofelice
Valley Country Club	14601 Country Club Drive, Centennial 720-630-2463; *valleycountryclub.org*	$23,000	$600/mo.	No	425	Swimming, tennis, fitness, dining, childen's activity center	William Bell (1960)	Kate Karnik
Woodmoor, The Country Club at	18945 Pebble Beach Way, Monument 719-481-2272; *ccwoodmoor.com*	$500	$229/mo (family)	No	1,300	Swimming, tennis, fitness	Press Maxwell (1969)	Ashley Olsen

EDITOR'S NOTE: This information is accurate to the best of our knowledge. Contact the club directly to confirm.

* Initiations reflect full golf memberships for individuals. When given, ranges can account for incentives, promotions, refundability or multiple levels (associate, junior executive, individual, family, etc.)

** Dues reflect full golf. They do not account for food and beverage minimums, service fees, capital assessments or other surchages. Ranges reflect levels of membership.



Vittorio Victorious

Veteran sportscaster Vic Lombardi's move to Altitude takes his career—and his golf game—to new heights. BY JON RIZZI

AS THE OLDEST OF FOUR children of Italian immigrants in North Denver, Vittorio Giuseppe Rocco Lombardi would play often at nearby Willis Case Golf Course–but never with golf clubs and only after it had snowed.

"That was the sledding hill," he remembers. "When I was a kid, golf never registered. It was too slow."

Vittorio anglicized into "Vic," and team sports represented a way to assimilate. He learned English from his coaches. For street cred, he briefly claimed Vince Lombardi as his grandfather. He was a ball boy for the Nuggets. He played football, basketball and soccer for Holy Family High School, a half-mile west of the two-story house in which his parents still live.

His golf initiation did not come until his senior year at the University of Notre Dame, the school at which he first honed the broadcasting chops that would eventually lead to 28 Emmy Awards (14 for best Sports Anchor) during his 18 years at Denver's CBS4.

The intramural jock quickly discovered a round of golf wasn't a pickup game of hoops.

IN-AIR TALENT: Lombardi celebrates a birdie by flying like one.

"My buddies said to meet them at the student course," Lombardi says. "I'd just gotten done playing basketball, so I show up wearing my flip-flops and a half-tank top, and I'm carrying my old plastic boom box. They were already three holes in. They were looking at me, like, 'Dude, what are you doing?' I learned real quick."

Twenty-five years later, Lombardi sports the crisp golf attire befitting a member at The Club at Rolling Hills in Golden, where he carries a 7.4 index. The club is only six blocks from the Applewood home he shares with his wife, Terri, and their three children, Dante, Isabella and Alexis–all of whom regularly join Vic's parents, Ezio and Bambina Lombardi, for Sunday dinners. So do Vic's brothers, sister and their children. "That's why I won't leave that part of the city," he says.

Given his loyalty to his family, his hometown and its teams, few thought Lombardi would ever leave CBS4. Arriving here in 1998 after seven years in the Austin and Phoenix markets (where he couldn't help but get serious about playing golf), Lombardi said anchoring the sports desk at CBS4 represented his dream job–and it showed in his enthusiasm, passion and sincerity.

Credit for that approach, he says, goes to veteran Denver television personality Ron Zappolo. "When I first got here, he told me: 'You can't lie to yourself. You've got to be who you are. If you're true to yourself, you'll have fun doing your job.'"

He took the advice to heart. Although his "reporter involvement" sometimes borders on the narcissistic (trying out for the Colorado Crush) or sophomoric (vandalizing a Joe Flacco poster on the 16th Street Mall), he believes part of the way to get the viewer to interact with a story is to convey what it's like to be on the inside. "Mostly it's because I'm curious by nature," he explains. "It's not enough just to be there. I want to feel it, too."

Last year, however, Lombardi felt restless. "I was living my dream. I thought I'd retire at Channel 4. But it got to a point where it got predictable. I knew I had to try something else."

So the reporter who joined CBS4 just in time for the Broncos second Super Bowl victory left the network 18 years later, shortly before the team's third.

"It was the toughest decision of my life," he admits. "I'd been talking to them for a year. It took that long."

Lombardi's new gig has him doing Nuggets and Avalanche pre- and postgame–"which we adlib; no reading the teleprompter, which is what you do on local news"–but the slower pace will allow him to approach sports in more of a long-form way. "We're going to do live programming, more original programming and documentary-style programming," he says. "There are so many rich stories in this town that I want to do *30 for 30*-style programs about. There are things I want to tackle, and this is the only place that gives me that platform and that time."

As of this month, one of the things Lombardi will do is appear–literally–on radio from 1 to 4 every weekday afternoon with Kyle Keefe. It'll be heard on 950 AM–which Altitude owns, along with three FM stations–and simulcast on the television network, à la *The Dan Patrick Show.*



READ IT AND WEEP: Rolling Hills' greens can "eat you up."

PHOTOGRAPHS BY LARRY LASZLO

The combination intrigues Lombardi. "Television is the polished person; radio is the real person," says the man who until last December also hosted a morning radio show with Mike Evans on KKFN. "On television I'm more careful; on radio, I'm lucky sometimes I don't curse or lose control. That's what I love about it."

Lombardi also loves that his new schedule will afford the opportunity to play more golf. Some of his rounds may come in the form of on-course interviews similar to the type he did for CBS4 with athletes like Todd Helton. But most of his tee times will come in the early mornings or in the late afternoon. "I want to join the Tuesday and Thursday men's leagues at Rolling Hills. I've never been able to because I had to do the evening news."

He'll try to get in some father-son rounds with Dante, who plays on the D'Evelyn High School golf team, but not with Ezio. "My dad sees a golf course, he says, 'What a waste of cow pasture,'" Vic says with a laugh. "Yet all his sons are addicted to it. My brothers, Adelio and Mario, and I play all the time."

Lombardi's on-air partner, Kyle Keefe, is also a frequent golf companion. He remembers the first time he played with the Lombardi brothers. "It was a very competitive game that went down to the last hole," he says. "I tapped in, took off my hat to shake everybody's hand. Suddenly we're all holding hands around the hole. They tell me it's their tradition to have first-timers with them lead them in a prayer. I'm thinking they're good Catholics, so I'm like, 'Oh… God… dear God... uh... God. Thank… you… for… the… Lombardis?' They just started busting up, laughing. They were totally punking me. They apparently do it to everyone the first time they play with them."

"There's a choke factor in our business. When that red light goes on, you'd better produce, the same way you'd better produce when you have to make that five-foot putt at Pebble."

"Kyle's the best golfer at Altitude," Lombardi concedes. (Keefe's a 5.8.) The two ham-and-egged their way to win their flight in the 2014 Broadmoor Invitation–and we have the jackets to prove it. Lombardi also paired with his agent and longtime friend Peter Schaffer to win the 2008 edition of the Colorado AvidGolfer Corporate Cup at Red Sky Golf Club. "The fact that we were in the thick of it the entire time–it was intense, nerve-wracking and a little embarrassing because I was emceeing the



PHOTOGRAPH BY JAKE KUBIE



GOOD MATCHES: Lombardi and Altitude radio co-host Kyle Keefe (left) won their flight at the 2014 Broadmoor Invitation; he and Peter Schaffer (right), took the 2008 Colorado AvidGolfer Corporate Cup.

thing," Lombardi remembers. "But we won because of my partner, not me. That's the best he ever played in his life."

Lombardi says he "lives on social media." Even though he tells stories, Tweets, Periscopes and makes himself available to everyone during a round, he takes his golf seriously. He loves to compete. "I don't like to lose on the golf course," he says. "Ever." After all, he maintains, sports is about winning and losing. During his 20s and 30s, that fierce competitiveness often got the better of him during pickup basketball games. "I didn't like that part of me to be honest with you," he admits. "But it exists."

He's played with Broncos punter Britton Colquitt five or six times. "And every time coming down the stretch I always beat him by a stroke or two–and he gets pissed!" Lombardi says. "I love it!"

"He's really good when there's something on the line–whether it's one dollar or 20 or 50 or a beer," says Keefe.

Lombardi says that "clutchness" owes a lot to his professional broadcast training. "A lot of what I do is based on adrenaline," he explains. "Your breathing has to be correct. You have to make sure you enunciate



correctly. You can't be jacked up. You have to be calm. That's very similar to golf. There's a choke factor in our business. When that red light goes on, you better produce, the same way you'd better produce when you have to make that five-foot putt at Pebble."

He maintains he's not a gambler, though he concedes, "I find to get the competitive juices going, you have to put a couple of dollars on the line."

However, there are limits. "Alfred Williams has taken a lot of my money," Lombardi says of the former Broncos linebacker and current talk-show host. "To him, golf is gambling more than it is golf. Every time I play with him, I get to that uncomfortable level. And that's where he beats me. He'll keep pressing and pressing."

(Lombardi did get a modicum of satisfaction when Williams, frustrated by Rolling Hills' notoriously tricky greens, once walked off the course, swearing he'd never play there again. "That course can eat you alive," Lombardi laughs. "But I watched Eric Decker shoot a 74 there with rented clubs.")

Though athletic, Lombardi says he compensated for his average talents by outhustling everyone on the basketball court and football field (given the Notre Dame connection, *Rudy* invariably comes to mind). "But in golf, you can't outhustle," he says. "You can't run faster to the ball. You can't swing harder. You have to be more calm than anything else. It's probably the most challenging, most mentally taxing thing I've ever done. In a given round, I can laugh, I can cry, I can fight myself, I can beat myself up. I can quit the game and go back wanting more."

So why keep doing it? "The fact that it can never be beat–and I want to beat it. No matter how low you go, how well you shoot, there's always that 'I could have done this, I could have done that, I can perfect this, I can perfect that.' The tiniest micro-movements in your body can affect not only your score, but your day and your livelihood. It changes your entire demeanor. It changes your personality like no other."

Lombardi, who turns 47 in May, admits he couldn't imagine feeling this passionately about the game when he was younger. "To me, golf was just a bunch of old guys wasting their day, decaying on a perfectly manicured lawn.

"And now," he says, "I'm one of those guys."

Jon Rizzi is *Colorado AvidGolfer*'s editor.



PHOTOGRAPH BY LARRY LASZLO



Changing the Horse in Mid-Springs

The addition of plush lodging, guest tee times and a superb steakhouse elevates The Club at Flying Horse from a top private club to a must-go Colorado Springs destination. BY JON RIZZI

SELF-POSSESSED REFINEMENT and exquisite attention to detail have defined The Club at Flying Horse since it opened in northeast Colorado Springs 11 years ago.

Complete with turrets, porticoes and a grotto, the club's 43,000-square-foot, palazzo-style clubhouse appears to have been airlifted directly from the Tuscan countryside. Its equally impressive Athletic Club & Spa treats members with world-class facilities for tennis, swimming, basketball, fitness, yoga, Pilates, massage and much more.

Naturally, of course, there's golf on Flying Horse's challenging 7,301-yard Tom Weiskopf Signature layout and in the club's Indoor Learning Center.

Enhanced by views of Pikes Peak, The Club at Flying Horse boasts all the ambience and amenities of a high-end resort.

And as of last November, it has also become one.

Comprising a 40-room boutique hotel and four 1,650- square-foot, two-bedroom Villas, The Lodge at Flying Horse reflects the same welcoming atmosphere and anticipatory sense of hospitality that makes the club so special. Classic Homes, which owns the club and developed the surrounding 1,500-acre Flying Horse community, spared no expense in creating intimate accommodations that would attract corporate clients and high-end groups desiring an alternative to cookie-cutter conference centers.

At the same time, the Lodge also appeals to couples, families, golfer groups, weekenders, wedding parties and other visitors to the area.

"Whether you're here on business or pleasure, you want to feel at home," explains Managing Director Fredo Killing, who has overseen the property's development from the ground up and masterminded Flying Horse's lodging component.

On the corporate side, that "hominess" translates to two high-ceilinged, 1,520-square-foot conference rooms, Milano and Turin, with fireplaces, floor-to-ceiling windows, crown molding and the flexibility of accommodating 26 to 90 people. State-of-the-art HD audiovisual equipment and screens come standard, as do sleek ergonomic chairs, outlets and USB ports at every space, free Wi-Fi and floor-to-ceiling windows that presenters can discreetly screen during audiovisual presentations—or if those mountain and golf course views become too distracting. The rooms adjoin 10,000 square feet of outdoor space for alfresco lunches or post-meeting libations.

The Lodge also offers a smaller executive meeting room, Verona, with natural light and an 84-inch built-in presentation monitor. The Lodge conference rooms complement the Clubhouse's five meeting spaces, including a grand ballroom. All-inclusive meeting packages include breakfast, lunch buffets and other prix-fixe options.

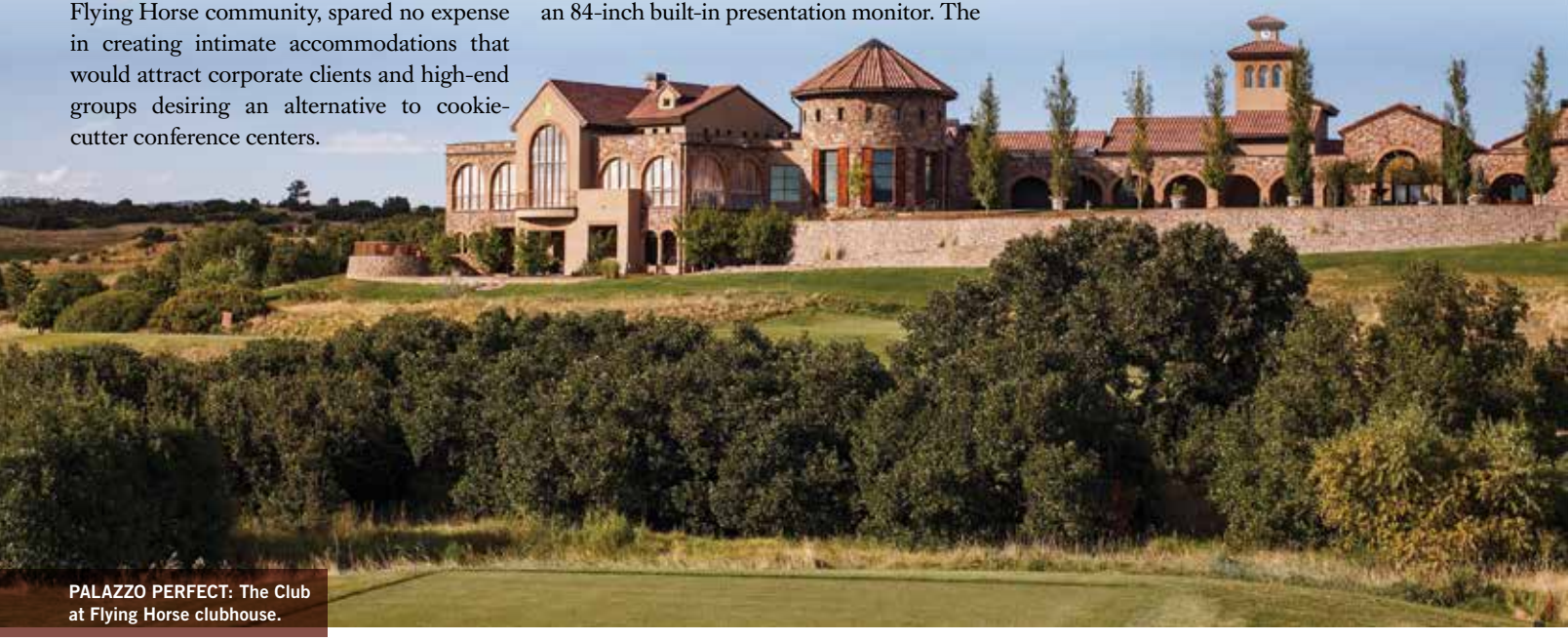
"We won't nickel-and-dime you like an airline or a hotel," Killing promises. "The price we give will include everything; all you have to pay is the tax."

Staying at the Lodge certainly won't tax anyone.

The attention to detail begins before you even enter your room. Rich knotty alder baseboards and crown moldings trim the Lodge's warmly painted corridors, which the architects have deftly staggered to eliminate the perception of endless, alley-like hallways. To avert awkward guest encounters, no room door opens directly opposite another one across the hall.

The rooms are blissfully hermetic. None borders a vending area and all benefit from double walls on both sides with an airlock in between. Two feet of soundproofing lie between the first and second floors, so you can crank the 55-inch flatscreen or your iPod without bothering your neighbors. When

PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF THE CLUB AT FLYING HORSE



PALAZZO PERFECT: The Club at Flying Horse clubhouse.





STAYING THE HORSE: (clockwise from top) Villas along the back nine; the clubhouse patio; Lodge bedroom; Villa great room parlor; a Lodge conference room.





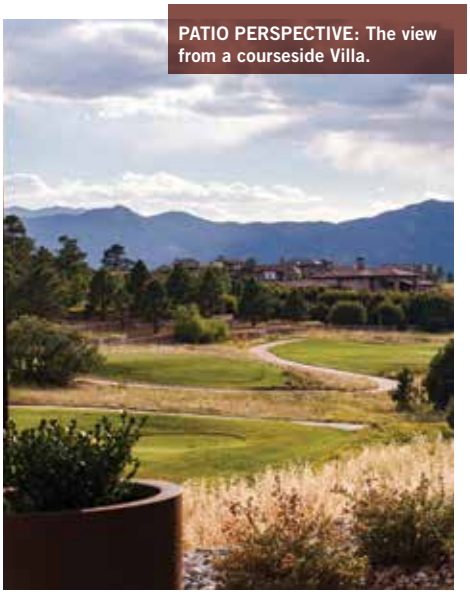


you shut the door, it seals to the threshold to block hallway light and noise. Doorbells and electronic privacy alerts prevent those inopportune knocks from housekeeping.

At 580 square feet, the smartly appointed rooms are more square than rectangular, creating a sense of spaciousness that's amplified by 13-foot-high ceilings. The upmarket furnishings enrich the space with delicious options. Do you collapse into a cosseting wingback or onto the pillow-top mattress set on a heavy wooden bedframe? If you want to read a book, work or check email, lights, outlets, and USB ports appear everywhere, obviating the irritation of reaching behind nightstands and headboards to turn on switches and plug in devices.

Flying Horse even does in-room coffee right with Nespresso machines. Savor an americano from your covered balcony overlooking the ninth fairway or Pikes Peak, head over to the Athletic Center for a morning workout and return to shower in your room's granite-walled bathroom, where another detail awaits: the shower control knob is set away from the water stream, keeping you from experiencing that initial burst of cold water from the either the rainfall or standard showerhead.

PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF THE CLUB AT FLYING HORSE



PATIO PERSPECTIVE: The view from a courseside Villa.

Similar details define the Villas, which opened last May. Situated along the 16th and 18th greens, the 1,650-square-foot structures feature four independent two-bedroom suites with a rounded 600-square-foot great room parlor separating each bedroom. Private terraces, fireplaces, walk-in closets, and oversized bathrooms and showers come standard in all Villas, each of which boasts the kind of appointments–hardwood floors, knotty alder cabinetry and molding, private terraces, 60-inch HDTVs, granite countertops, oversized bathrooms and showers–found in high-end residences.

Both the Lodge and Villas evoke the feeling of belonging. Moreover, guests have access to the same suite of amenities–including spa treatments and tee times–as Flying Horse members do. Members still have their own dining area, but The Steakhouse at Flying Horse *(see page 78)* is open to the public.

But if you understandably don't want to leave the comforts of the Lodge, one quick call and the restaurant will prepare a memorable meal for home–er, *room*–delivery.

For rates and more on **The Lodge at Flying Horse**, call 719-487-2662 or visit *lodgeatflyinghorse.com.*





THE GREAT STEAK-OUT: A perfectly turned 32-ounce porterhouse; the drum-lit dining room; Chef de Cuisine Ketil Larsen.



Unbridled Deliciousness

The Steakhouse at Flying Horse satisfies the appetites of members, guests and a hungry public. BY GARY JAMES

THE CLUB at Flying Horse in Colorado Springs exudes elegance, and members enjoy a myriad of outstanding amenities, including a private main dining room. Around mid-November, the club opened The Steakhouse, a newly revamped dining room, granting dinnertime access to non-members. Finally, the public can enjoy beautifully balanced food prepared by the gifted Ketil Larsen.

Born in New York City, Larsen called the Denver area home when he worked in numerous restaurants in both front- and back-of-the-house positions.

In 1993, he moved to Colorado Springs, and took a position at Phantom Canyon Brewing Company, where he won awards and participated in many local galas and charity events. He also assisted in opening eight other brewpubs across the country, using menu items and recipes from his repertoire. Nine years ago, Larsen started at Flying Horse as Chef de Cuisine.

"Things are booming up here," he explained. "We want to give the people that live around here something to enjoy."

The Steakhouse has its own entrance in the beautiful Tuscan-style clubhouse, and much of the outdoor patio has been enclosed, offering more seating with spectacular views of the Tom Weiskopf-designed golf course, Pikes Peak, and the Front Range. It's a contemporary restaurant, and Larsen is excited to bring new ideas to his current position as Executive Chef.

For starters, the escargot isn't the standard Bourguignonne recipe of snails cooked in red wine, garlic and butter and placed in store-bought ceramic shells. Rather, Larsen's technique calls for Pernod and pancetta, white wine, garlic and shallots, served with a grilled baguette and a parmesan crisp.

The Roasted Artichoke, with parmesan and lemon butter sauce, rarely appears on a traditional steakhouse menus. The Crispy Garlic and Lemon Butter Calamari, lightly breaded for a crunchy, tender bite, arrives spiced with pepperoncini, cherry peppers and lemon aioli.

Here's an insider tip: order the Shrimp and Crab Stuffed Tempura Avocado off the bar menu–it's out of this world, as creative and delicious as it sounds, topped with spicy mayo drizzle and soy glaze.

And the Beef Tenderloin Carpaccio is a revelation. Instead of thinly sliced raw beef obscured by garnishes and wadded into a ball, Larsen uses capers and a coarse mustard aioli with some salt and shallots on each piece–roll your own, put it on a warm crostini and swoon. The Lobster Bisque with chilled shrimp and lobster relish is divine as well–less cream and sherry, more roux and puréed vegetables as a thickener makes for a perfect level of reduction and a serious lobster flavor profile.

"Trendy" salads are anathema to Larsen, but the Chopped and Shredded Salad is a murderer's row of robust flavors–shredded Brussels sprouts, red cabbage,

PHOTOGRAPHS BY PHIL MUMFORD



OPENING STATMENT: The sleek bar and entry.



black kale, Romaine, carrots, scallions, apples, dried cranberries, brown sugar bacon, goat cheese, toasted sunflower seeds and apple vinaigrette dressing.

True to its name, the Steakhouse menu is heavy on steaks–great 16-ounce prime rib eyes and New York strips. You'll also find a like-sized All Natural Bison New York Strip–lean but melt-in-your-mouth tender (order it cooked to no more than medium rare). There's a stellar grass-fed filet mignon, and the 32-ounce porterhouse is a meal for two–unless you're, well, me. At first, Larsen bought pre-portioned steaks; now the chefs cut their own. "We set the broiler for steaks at 1400 degrees, so we always get a fantastic char," the chef notes. All-Natural Colorado Lamb Rib Chops and the Tomahawk Pork Chop are delicious options.



FOR STARTERS: Roasted Artichoke with lemon butter sauce.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY PHIL MUMFORD



CUP DE GRACE: Peanut butter mousse in a chocolate ramekin.

Seafood gets more than a nod with the 8-ounce Maine Cold Water Lobster Tail. Larsen doesn't serve it–or any dish–with drawn butter, preferring a creamy lemon butter sauce–basically a beurre fondue, an emulsified blend of water and melted butter.

If you're tired of farm-raised fish, try the Organic Shetland Island Salmon Fillet. Sustainably raised in lower-density pens in ocean waters near Scotland, it's great pan-roasted. Larsen's take on the Japanese classic Miso Glazed Black Cod has a sweet and savory taste and a texture to die for, baked until the meat flakes and served with baby bok choy, dashi and daikon.

Even the side dishes are innovative. The Creamy Grits are prepared with white cheddar and chives, and they're perfect, tender…and Larsen's kitchen secret, dammit. There's an exquisite selection of homemade desserts. Few culinary feats make me happier than when a chef nails a crème brûlée, but it was topped by his Peanut Butter Mousse Cup.

The stunning full-service bar pours hand-crafted, reasonably priced specialty cocktails. I enjoyed a "Chairman of the Board" Manhattan, made with Breckenridge bourbon and garnished with a razz cherry –a cherry that's dried, rehydrated with raspberry juice, and dried again. *Zing!* There's also an extensive list of old and new world wines. Check out the awesome four-story spiral-staircased "wine tower," where members can locker their favorite bottles.

"We've learned a lot in three-and-a-half months, and we're going to get even better," Larsen vows. That's a high standard for a dining experience I'll dub "grand Larsen-y." The only crime would be to miss out on it.

The Steakhouse at Flying Horse
719-487-2635 or *flyinghorseclub.com*

Read more of Gary James's restaurant writeups in the Lifestyle section of *coloradoavidgolfer.com*.



No Jacket *Acquired*

Absent from the list of Masters winners are a number distinguished golfers.



ONE MAN WILL win the 80th edition of the Masters this month. The rest of the competitors will watch on with eyes as green as the jacket awarded to the champion. Some of the most famous names in golf, many of them in the World Golf Hall of Fame, have never won at Augusta. Some came painfully close, finishing second multiple times or losing in a playoff. Others were already envisioning the Butler Cabin, only to have the golf gods cruelly detour them to the press tent to explain what went wrong on Sunday afternoon.

10 of these players have won the Masters; 10 haven't. Which is which? (circle your answers)

CRAIG WOOD		BYRON NELSON	
TOMMY ARMOUR		CARY MIDDLECOFF	
CLAUDE HARMON		TOM KITE	
TOM WEISKOPF		IAN WOOSNAM	
WALTER HAGEN		BOB GOALBY	
MARK CALCAVECCHIA		JOHNNY MILLER	
GREG NORMAN		ROBERTO DEVICENZO	
CRAIG STADLER		KEN VENTURI	
SAM SNEAD		SANDY LYLE	
BOBBY JONES		HENRY PICARD	

ANSWERS: The players with no jacket: Ken Venturi, Johnny Miller, Tom Weiskopf, Mark Calcavecchia, Walter Hagen, Greg Norman, Roberto DeVicenzo, Tommy Armour, Bobby Jones, Tom Kite



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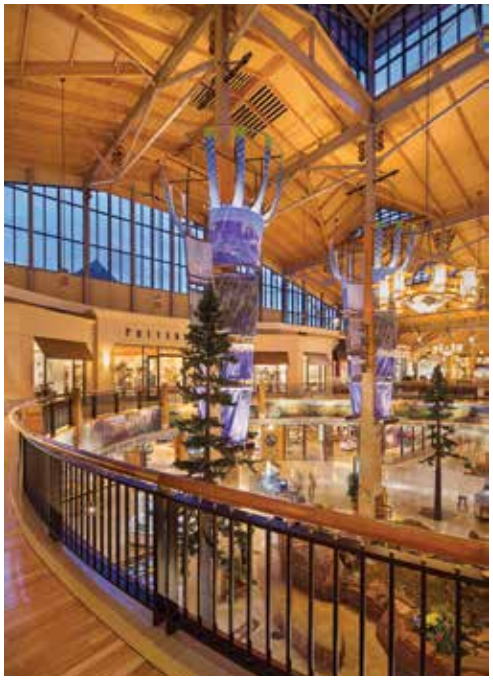
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