

INSIDE GOLF NEWSPAPER

Nile Shrine Golf Course offers a complete golfing experience

It might not be the longest course around, but the Nile Shrine Golf Course in Mountlake Terrace just north of Seattle, offers the kind of course that is playable for all levels of golfers. There is plenty to like when you stand on the first tee and head out on the 18-hole adventure at the Nile Shrine Golf Course. For more, please see inside this section of Inside Golf Newspaper.



WHAT'S NEW IN NW GOLF

USGA now will have a championship in all 50 states after awarding Senior Women's Am to the Anchorage Golf Course

The USGA announced that Anchorage Golf Course in Anchorage, Alaska, will host the 60th U.S. Senior Women's Amateur. The championship is scheduled for July 30-Aug. 4, 2022 and will mark the first time the USGA has taken one of its championships to the state of Alaska. Upon completion, the USGA will have hosted a championship in all 50 states as well as the District of Columbia.

"It's a monumental occasion for us to bring a championship to Alaska, something that has been a long time coming," said Mike Davis, CEO of the USGA. "Players from all over the country dream of becoming USGA champions, so it is important we bring our events to all corners of the United States to expose golfers and golf fans to the inspiration and competitiveness of our championships. We're so thankful to Anchorage Golf Course for working with us to make this dream a reality."

Anchorage Golf Course, located on a hillside overlooking the city of Anchorage, is a municipal golf course designed by architect Bill Newcomb. The 6,600-yard layout features rolling, tree-lined fairways that lead to well bunkered, undulating greens. The course offers views of three mountain ranges, including the tallest peak in North America, Denali (previously named Mount McKinley).

Alaska will join six other states, as well as the District of Columbia, in hosting one USGA championship. Alaska has hosted U.S. Open qualifying every year since 2009 as well as numerous U.S. Senior Women's Amateur qualifiers.

Professionals take care of business at the Hudson Cup

The 72nd edition of the Hudson Cup Matches was held October 22-23 at Meadow Springs CC in Richland, WA. The Matches ended with the Professionals winning with a two day point total of 13 1/2 to 6 1/2 points in the 72nd Hudson Cup Matches. In the 29th edition of the Senior Hudson Cup, the Professionals won the Matches with a two day point total of 11 to 9. The Hudson Cup is patterned after the Ryder Cup with the top 10 Northwest professionals competing against the 10 top Northwest amateurs. The 29th Senior Hudson Cup were being played at the same time. The Senior matches for those 50 and over also feature 10 professionals against 10 amateurs.

Rules Quiz

With your ball on the putting green you mark, lift and clean your golf ball. You then replace your ball in front of the mark. You make your put but forget to remove the ball mark. OK or not OK? See answer on Page 2 of this section.

Golf courses struggle with a closed border



Golf Courses close to the U.S.-Canadian border have found out that while business might be up since the COVID-19 pandemic started, it's been tough in terms of getting Canadian golfers to their courses. The border closed in March and remained closed for months, making it impossible for Canadians to head over the border and play golf at places like Loomis Trail (top) and North Bellingham (left). For more, see inside.

If it's November, it must be time for inactive posting period in the NW

As you may know, Washington Golf and the Oregon Golf Association both observe an inactive score posting season during which rounds played in the area are never acceptable for handicap computational purposes. Most of the golf associations in the Northern areas of the U.S. are seasonal golf associations like WA Golf and the OGA and also observe an inactive score posting period. For WA Golf and the OGA, the inactive score posting period runs from November 14th to the last day of February.

Scores posted on the computer at the home club are never transmitted to GHIN and are automatically deleted by GHIN on March 1 every year. The automatic deletion by GHIN happens to Home Scores only. Other types of scores, Away, Internet, Tournament, Penalty or Combined posted during the inactive score posting period are not automatically deleted by GHIN.

Should a club wish to allow their members to continue to post home scores during the inactive season, the WA Golf staff informs the club, before activating the inactive season posting option at GHIN for the club, that the club should monitor all scores posted during the inactive season and should they find unacceptable scores in a members file, the scores must be deleted by the clubs.



Glendoveer in Portland won't take winter scores.

Riverbend Golf Course begins to show off its newly remodeled range

After several months of construction, the Riverbend Driving Range reopened in late September. The improvements include an expanded all natural grass field, new target markers, new netting and poles and a new parking lot. And there's more to come. The final phase of the driving range remodel is scheduled to begin later this year and will include 14 additional stalls with heaters and Top Tracer, a re-modeled merchandise center, new entrances and new restrooms. The project is scheduled to be completed by late spring.



Andrew Von Lossow proves he is a real ‘ace’ during a USGA Four-Ball qualifier

I have friends who have golfed for years and never had a hole-in-one. And some of these guys are good players. With plus handicaps. No aces. Zero. Zilch. Amazingly, I have three. No idea how that happened, in fact I never saw any of the three go in the hole. Maybe they didn't. Hmmm.

Holes-in-one are tough. The odds of getting at least one in your lifetime are off the charts.

And then there is the story of Andrew Von Lossow. The 32-year-old Von Lossow grew up in the golf business - his dad Jim ran Von's Golf and Putter Studio in Seattle for years before retiring three years ago. He currently lives in Spokane and plays out of Indian Canyon Golf Club.

Andrew carries a plus-3 handicap, meaning he is one of the top amateurs in the Pacific Northwest. But he had never had a hole in one on a regulation golf course in all his years of playing. He had one on an executive-length course, but that was it.

That all changed during his practice and qualifying for the USGA Four-Ball at Wine Valley in Walla Walla. Not only did Von Lossow have one ace, he had two - on back to back days and on the same holes. Try and calculate those odds. Your calculator would blow up.

During a practice round with his partner Alex Simcox, Von Lossow reached the 14th hole, a par-3 playing 163 yards that day. He hit an 8-iron and the ball landed 20 feet short, seemingly safe from going in the hole. But the ball picked up speed and rolled in the hole.

About 15 hours later, Von Lossow was the first group off for the qualifying at Wine Valley. When they reached the 14th hole, it was playing 157 yards. Von Lossow hit a 9-iron, the ball landed on the green and rolled toward the hole. It went in. Two aces. Two days. Same hole.

And the capper for the story would be that Von Lossow and Simcox qualified for the 2021 USGA Four-Ball because of those kind of shots. But it wasn't to be as the pair finished tied for seventh in the tournament and missed out on advancing by three shots.



Von Lossow might not have qualified for his first USGA championship, but he did come away with a story that many in the bar after a round of golf might not believe. But believe it.

I wonder if he bought the field a round of drinks after each ace?

- Golf might have slowed down when the Coronavirus Pandemic hit back in March but it sure

picked up speed when the courses re-opened and people were allowed back on the golf courses and driving ranges. Golf numbers were up across the board nationally and especially in the Pacific Northwest. Rounds were up. Retail sales set records. Driving range visits were so popular golfers had to wait for stalls.

Don't believe it? I visited the newly-remodeled Riverbend Driving Range in Kent, Wash. when it re-opened and even on a mid-week day in the second week of October, people were waiting for stalls to hit. It's no wonder that Riverbend re-modeled its range, adding grass to the hitting area, new targets and will eventually add even more stalls.

Who says golf is a dying sport? Just looking around the driving range that day there were adults, kids, seniors, men and women. Golf is alive and well. Let's hope it stays that way.

Steve Turcotte is editor of Inside Golf Newspaper. He can be reached at stturtcotte@comcast.net.



Even during the late morning in the middle of the week, the range at Riverbend Golf Course was packed.



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Double Bogey



Harold Bluestein PGA



Rules Answer

- Answer: Not OK. Rule 14.1a. If the spot is marked with a ball-marker, after replacing the ball the player must remove the ball-marker before making a stroke. Penalty (1) one stroke.

- Inside Golf would like to thank Paul Lucien for his rules questions each month.



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Nile Shrine Golf Course offers a complete golfing experience

The Nile Shrine Golf Course has been providing golfers of all ages and ability a challenging place to play quality golf without driving a long way. The entire golf course is part of the Shriners Fraternal Lodge. The Shriners are known for their philanthropic work with their Shriners Hospitals for Children® that provide life-changing care to children. Shriners have had a long love affair with golf and continues to this day, as evident with the PGA Tour's Shriners Hospital for Children Open last month.

The Nile not a long course but it's a fun course with a lot of character. No two holes are alike and long ball hitters will need exceptional control, as many of the fairways are narrow with trouble on either side. The popular course is just 15 minutes north of Seattle off I-5 near the Edmonds/Kingston Ferry exit in Mountlake Terrace.

The Nile has proven that it doesn't have to be long to be a challenging test of golf. At slightly over 5,000 yards, accuracy is premium over distance. Like the number 3 hole: a dog leg left, about 210 yards to the corner, with OB left and water on the right side all the way down.

The course has some outstanding par 3s like number 13 that is 182 yards from an elevated tee where club selection is difficult and the wind can be a big factor.

"I've now worked at Nile Shrine Golf Course for 16 years and am excited to work for them for another 16. It's a great organization to work for," said Joe Korn the head golf professional.

The course is very affordable with rates for juniors, seniors and various advertised discounts.

For tee times or more information please refer to www.nileshriners.org or call the pro shop at: (425) 774-9611 ext. 512.



Nile Shrine Golf Course just north of Seattle may not be long, but offers plenty of character along the way.



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NW players earn spots for 2021 USGA Four-Ball Championships; Bjorke wins Champions tourney

The duo of Ethan Evans of Mercer Island, Wash. and Max Herendeen of Bellevue, Wash. shot 9-under par 63 to qualify for the 2021 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball. Qualifying was held at Wine Valley Golf Club in Walla Walla, Wash.

Evans and Herendeen are the only side to advance from this qualifier, and they will now go on to compete in the 2021 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship, which will be held May 22-26 at Chambers Bay in University Place, Wash. The Home Course in DuPont, Wash. will serve as the companion course for the championship.

Herendeen holed out for eagle from the fairway on the par-4 17th and then birdied the par-5 18th, which propelled he and Evans to the top of the leaderboard.

Herendeen, 15, is a sophomore at Bishop Blanchet High School in Seattle. He is a two-time Washington State Junior champion, and last year was named Player of the Year for the Metro Conference while just a freshman.

Evans, 16, is a junior at Mercer Island High School. He won the 2019 WIAA 3A High School Individual Championship, and last month won the Washington State Junior title.

Securing alternate spots in a playoff are the sides of Ethan Casto of Snohomish, Wash. and Cody Oakes of Arlington, Wash. as first alternate; and Nate Hair and Darren Slackman, both of Spokane as second alternate.

Peterson, Sand advance to finals

The team of Brandon Peterson of Ocean Shores, Wash. and John Sand of Hoquiam, Wash. shot 11-under par 61 to qualify for the 2021 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball. Qualifying was held at The Home Course in DuPont, Wash.

Peterson and Sand survived a nine-hole playoff with the side of Reid Hatley of Hayden Lake, Idaho and Jacob Koppenberg of Bellingham, Wash., who also had finished at 11-under.

Peterson and Sand are the only side to advance from this qualifier, and they will now go on to compete in the 2021 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship, which will be held May 22-26 at Chambers Bay in University Place, Wash.

Hatley and Koppenberg will now be the first alternate to come out of this qualifier, while Ryan Kelly of Gig Harbor, Wash. and Jon McCaslin of Olympia, Wash. are second alternate. Kelly and McCaslin had finished at 9-under par, two shots out of the playoff.

NW sends three ladies teams

The side of Lauryn Nguyen of Seattle, Wash. and Suzie Tran of Poulsbo, Wash. shot 8-under par 64 to earn medalist honors in qualifying for the 2021 U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball. Qualifying was held at The Home Course in DuPont, Wash.

Nguyen, 16, and Tran, 14, played in the final group, and birdied three of the last four holes to vault to the top of the leaderboard. Last month, Nguyen won the Washington State Junior Girls' Championship.

The other two sides to advance from this qualifier are sisters Alexa and Momo Udom, both of Portland, Ore., and Montgomery Ferreira of Tacoma, Wash. and Lily McCauley of Olympia, Wash. Both sides shot 7-under 65, one shot back of Nguyen and Tran.

These three teams will now go on to compete in the 2021 U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball Championship, which will be held April 24-28 at Maridoe Golf Club in Carrollton, Tex.

Securing alternate spots in a playoff are the sides of Amber Li of Bellevue, Wash. and Wenna Zhang of Sammamish, Wash. as first alternate; and Jacqueline Bendrick of Mercer Island, Wash. and Reona Hirai of Sacramento, Calif. as second alternate.

Champion of Champions event

The 11th Washington Golf Association Champion

of Champions consisted of champions from around the state of Washington and Northern Idaho, competing in four divisions – Men, Senior Men, Women and Senior Women at The Home Course in DuPont, Wash.

Bjorn Bjorke of Port Orchard won the Men's title, Victoria Fallgren of Spokane won the Women's, Keith Crimp of Ellensburg won the Senior Men's and Leslie Folsom of Tukwila won the Senior Women's.

In the Men's division, Bjorke took the title with a birdie on the first hole of a playoff against Nathan Cogswell of Kent. Bjorke shot rounds of 72-67, with the 5-under 67 being the low round of the day in the Men's division and propelling him to the top of the leaderboard.

In the playoff, Bjorke hit his tee shot into the left rough. Bjorke stuck his second shot to seven feet from the hole and sank the birdie putt for the win.

This is the second title in this championship for Bjorke, who also won it in 2009. He earned entry into this year's championship via his top-10 finish on the WA Golf Men's Mid-Amateur Points List for 2019. Bjorke is the general manager at McCormick Woods Golf Club in Port Orchard, Wash.

Cogswell, a junior on the Seattle University men's golf team, had been attempting to defend his title, having won this championship last year. Last month, Cogswell won the Northwest Open Invitational, competing against the region's PGA club professionals.

Crimp won the Senior Men's division, also on the first hole of a playoff, and also with a birdie. Crimp shot rounds of 67-73, and was matched by Craig Larson of Tacoma, who lit fire to the course with a 6-under 66 in today's second round to vault into a tie with Crimp for the top spot.

In the Women's division, Fallgren shot rounds of 68-72 to successfully defend her title in this championship, having also won it last year. In her round, she had only seven pars, but her six bogeys were matched by four birdies and also an eagle.

Murphy goes low to win championship at Twin Lakes Am

Oakley Murphy of Riverbend Golf Course in Kent shot a two-round total of 136 to win the championship of the Twin Lakes Amateur Presented by Southgate Electric.

The tournament featured a field of 123 amateurs from the Pacific Northwest at Twin Lakes Golf and Country Club in Federal Way, Wash.

Murphy opened with a 70 but shot a 66 in the second round with eight birdies to move atop the leaderboard and win the 11th annual tournament for the first time. His 136 score was 8-under-par.

Jacob Rohde of Edmonds was second at 138 after leading through the first round with a 68. Tony Willis of Riverbend was third at 139 - he also opened with a 68.

Pat Kennar of Riverbend won the second division with a 154 score while Bryon Henninger of Lake Spanaway Golf Course won the third division with a 167 total.

Seattle University golfer Ann Transier captured the ladies division of the tournament with a two-round score of 151.

Ryan Kelly wins Gig Harbor Amateur

Ryan Kelly shot a two-round total of 128 to win the Gig Harbor City Amateur held at Madrona Links Golf Course.

Kelly had no problems outdistancing the field winning the title by seven shots over second place Jamie Follen. Garrett Clark was third at 136 while Tim Bartz and Charles Lee tied for third place at 139.

Paul Whittaker won the net championship with a 140 score.

Ken Bussey won the second division with a 153 total while Rich Hendrickson was second at 156 and George McAlister third at 157.



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COURSECO

Aerification: An important process for courses to keep the grass healthy

Golfers might not like it, but aerification is an important part of golf courses keeping their grass healthy and green. It happens twice a year - once in the fall and once in the spring. The greens and fairways might be tough to play on when they are punched and sanded through aerification, but the process is vital.

Greens that have been aerated are known as punched greens because the aeration process involves using a machine that punches down into the putting surface and pulls up a small core of the earth, leaving behind a small hole about a quarter-inch to a half-inch across. The process helps circulate air down to the grassroots, keeping it full and healthy all season long.

Greens that have just been punched will have hundreds of these small holes, typically spaced from one to two inches apart. Such greens are often referred to as "punched greens," and while many golfers can

and do play on punched greens, some golfers prefer to avoid the putting surface during the punching period.

What's the point of punching the greens? The short answer is that aerification enriches the soil and allows the grass to "breathe," which makes for lusher, thicker putting greens that can be trimmed down perfectly to provide a smooth surface for short-range putts. Punching the green (also called "coring" the green) counters the tendency of the soil on putting greens to compact over time and circulates air down into the soil and to the grassroots, helping keep the turfgrass healthy.

There are many different names used for punched greens, so if you are venturing to a new area and listening for announcements about the conditions of the course, you should look out for the phrases aerated greens, aerified greens, cored greens and plugged greens.



Aerification in the early fall is important for golf courses to keep their greens healthy throughout the year.

In 1949, the first Hudson Cup was held at the Portland Golf Club

In 1949, two PGA Professionals from Oregon, Larry Lamberger and Al Zimmerman, thought the Pacific Northwest Section PGA should pay tribute to Robert A. Hudson, Sr., a successful businessman from Portland. Hudson is renowned in the golf world as the savior of the Ryder Cup matches after resurrecting it just two years removed from World War II. Because of Hudson's generosity, the Ryder Cup was restored in 1947 at Portland Golf Club after Hudson came forward and covered most of the expenses of conducting the competition, including the cost of transporting the British team to the United States.

The first Hudson Cup matches were held at Portland Golf Club in 1949. The format was patterned after the Ryder Cup, with 36-hole foursome matches the first day and 36-hole singles the second day. The professionals, led by Bud Ward, Stan Leonard and Chuck Congdon, posted a 12.5 to 2.5 victory. When Hudson learned of the matches, he immediately insisted on footing the bill, and continued to do so through 1972. Today, the Pacific Northwest Section

PGA is assisted by funds contributed by Washington Golf, the Oregon Golf Association and the Pacific Northwest Golf Association.

The format was changed in 1966 when the foursome matches were shortened to 18-holes and four-ball competition was added for the first afternoon. Second-day singles, at 18 holes, complete the event, with a total of 20 points available. In 1992, the Senior Hudson Cup matches were added.

About Washington Golf

Founded in 1922, WA Golf is a 501c4 non-profit amateur golf association governed by men and women volunteers. Serving over 71,000 individual members at more than 650 member golf clubs and 270 golf courses throughout the state of Washington and Northern Idaho. WA Golf also serves as a statewide representative of the United States Golf Association and works closely with a number of allied associations within the golf industry.



The 72nd Hudson Cup matches were held at Meadow Springs Country Club in Richland, Washington.

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A close-up of a white golf ball with a red stripe, sitting on a green grass surface.

A group of people are playing golf on a green. One person is in the foreground, and others are further back. There are trees and a flag in the background.

A view of a golf course clubhouse with several outdoor tables and chairs under large green umbrellas. The area is paved and surrounded by trees.

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Courses near the U.S.-Canadian border not getting any help with border being closed for months

• *Editor's note: This piece was previously published by the PNGA and is being used with their permission1ws.*

By John Tipping, Special to Inside Golf Newspaper

Obviously this isn't your typical golf season. In most states and provinces, golf closed down for over 40 days, in what just happened to be a mild-weather spring. Restrictions on protocols and safety procedures added a twist never-before experienced in our lifetimes. Regardless of all that, we've all done our best to make it normal, especially where golf is concerned.

And rounds are up at most Northwest courses, even as other revenue streams like food and beverage, special occasion (weddings and parties), and pro shop spending may be off a bit.

But there is a corner of the Northwest struggling to keep up, and it's all about geography.

The U.S.-Canadian border is still closed (reports had the border re-opening on Oct. 21). For courses near the border – on both sides of the border – that depend on those border-crossing golfers, it's like half of the golfers decided to leave their clubs in the garage this season.

Top-quality courses such as Sudden Valley in Bellingham, Wash. and Homestead Farms in Lynden, Wash. relied heavily on golfers coming across the border from Canada. Although still impacted by the border closure, courses are being creative in drawing new golfers from within their state or province.

In the Northwest corner of Washington, courses such as Sudden Valley, North Bellingham, Shuksan, Homestead Farms, Cedars at Dungeness and Loomis Trail have all been impacted. Among many other courses are Chewelah (Wash.) G&CC, The Idaho Club in Sandpoint and The Wilderness Club in Montana.

Even Semiahmoo in Blaine, Wash., now private, has been impacted by the border closure, as 50 percent of its members are Canadian and many have second homes on property.

"It's been hard not seeing all of our customers and members from Canada," said Josh Williams, general manager at Loomis Trail. "Loomis has always been a second home to many golfers from B.C. Historically, Canada has been around 65 percent of our business.

About 10 miles west of Loomis Trail, Homestead Farms in Lynden has a similar story.

"About 70 percent of our rounds are typically played by Canadians," said Mick O'Bryan, general manager at Homestead Farms. "It has forced us to get creative to attract more local play or play from the south. And that has increased, but as recently as a month ago we were lucky to get 25-30 rounds a day."

Brian Kruhlak, general manager at Sudden Valley in Bellingham, can certainly identify with the challenge, and knows that he is geographically placed better than some.

"I consider us to be smack dab in the middle of the courses getting crushed by border closure, and the ones thriving due to golf being one of the only activities available," Kruhlak said. "We are basically flat with respect to rounds played from 2019, which was our best year ever, so I feel very fortunate for that."

That said, it has taken a personal toll on Kruhlak, as about 10 percent of Sudden Valley members are Canadian, as is Kruhlak himself.

"I am gutted for them not being able to access their property and the relationships they have here with their American friends and family," Kruhlak says. "Thirty-five years ago, when I first came to Sudden Valley, membership and public play dynamic was exact opposite with 90 percent of member and public play being Canadian. If that were the ratio today, we would be devastated."

It's a different picture for those courses on the north side of the border. Peace Portal Golf Course and Hazelmere Golf and Tennis Club in Surrey are the closest courses to the border. Not only have they not experienced the downturn, they have had Canadian residents return to playing these courses on a regular basis instead of travel-



Shuksan Golf Course is one of many courses near the border that usually see a flood of Canadian golfers.

ing south. Even though close to the border, they are still close enough to the major metropolitan area of Vancouver.

What has been affected in Canada is the destination golf properties. Without international travel, and with cross-provincial travel also off the table, these destinations have had to exist exclusively off of British Columbia residents.

Without a doubt, the course experiencing the toughest time is Bald Eagle Golf Club at Point Roberts, Wash., which is closed until further notice. If you are not familiar with Point Roberts proper, it's a sliver of land off the tip of the lower mainland of British Columbia. Technically in the United States, in order to access the area from Washington state you have to cross the Canadian border, then cross back through another U.S. border checkpoint.

So with all this lack of border travel, the Washington clubs have had to get creative and reach to the south to gain additional players. All of the courses have created specials and rate programs that are designed to draw more play from the Greater Puget Sound area.

The courses are less crowded so tee times are easier to get. The courses are played less so conditioning is at high levels.

One thing all the courses have in common is their taking serious the protocols and safety procedures for any golfer who ventures out, or those who go even further and take advantage of any of their stay-and-play packages.

If there has been a silver lining to all the uncertainty that the pandemic has caused, it's been the influx of new golfers, something the game has been desperate to find.

"We have seen people out here we haven't before," O'Bryan said. "Girls and ladies lessons are way up. Youth camps have been packed, and we have adjusted our options to fit those new folks.

"We have a program for youth under 18 years old where they play free with a paying adult, or on their own \$5 for nine holes, \$10 for 18 holes, and anyone home from college can play for \$1 per hole."

Nobody is sure when the border will reopen. Rumors pop up all the time. Border Patrol agents are golfers too, and they play these courses. But even they don't know the future.

But one thing is for sure, when the border does open, the greater Northwest golf community – its courses, the PGA pros, the staff, the greens crew – will be ready and willing to make sure everyone feels welcome.

McDuff's Cafe

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Coston keeps on rolling at Oregon Senior Open, wins fourth in a row

Jeff Coston, the director of instruction at Semiahmoo Resort in Blaine, Wash. won the Senior Oregon Open title for the fourth year in a row, shooting a two-round total of 133 at Wildhorse Resort in Pendleton and the Golf Course at Birch Creek.

Coston has now won the Senior Oregon Open eight times, dating back to the 2009 tournament.

Coston opened with a 66 and then finished with a 67 to outdistance the field by five shots and finish 7 under par. Amateur Brad Karns of Columbia Edgewater in Portland was second at 138 - being the only other player in the field under par.

Amateur Mark Biore of Yakima Elks was third at 140 while professional Mike Kasch of Pasco Golf and amateur Tim O'Neal of Royal Oaks and Scott Larsen of Larz Golf tied for fourth at 141.

Wine Valley pair win NW Pro-Am

PGA Professional Brady Sharp and amateur Tyler Daniels of Wine Valley GC (Walla Walla, WA) won the PNW Pacific Golf & Turf Pro-Amateur Championship by two strokes over the teams of PGA Professional Ryan Benzel and amateur Ben Minyard of Sahalee CC (Sammamish, WA), PGA Professional Jeff Coston of Semiahmoo G&CC (Blaine, WA) and amateur Blake

Kukula of Surfside Golf Course (Ocean Park, WA) and the team of PGA Professional Derek Berg of PNW Golf Academy (Issaquah, WA) with his amateur John D'Amelio of Inglewood GC (Kenmore, WA).

The Pacific Northwest Pro-Am is a two-man team competition with one professional and one amateur playing a four-ball format. The history of the Pacific Northwest Professional-Amateur Championship has been timeless. It all started when a young head professional named John Junor and his amateur partner won back to back titles at the magnificent Seattle Golf Club in 1924 and 1926 (no championship in 1925).

Northwest players at Senior PGA

The Pacific Northwest PGA Section was represented by three players at this year's Senior PGA Club Championship at the PGA Golf Club in Port St. Lucie, Fla. Former PGA Tour player Omar Uresti won the championship over the four day tournament.

The players from the Pacific Northwest all failed to make the two-round cut. Tony Robydek of Tacoma shot 77-71, Jeff Marsh of Vancouver, Wash. shot 80-70, Todd O'Neal of Portland fired a 79-73, Wayne Clark of Everett shot 77-82 while Steve Stull from the Tri Cities withdrew after a 77 in the opening round.

Tour Players With Northwest ties

PGA Tour

- Kevin Chappell • Kirkland • 127th on the list with \$74,184
- Ben Crane • Portland • No Events
- Joel Dahmen • Clarkston • 50th on the list with \$304,117
- Robert Garrigus • Gresham • No Events
- Scott Harrington • Portland • 116th on the list with \$94,411
- Ryan Moore • Puyallup • No Events
- Cheng Tsung Pan • Ex-UW • 78th on the list with \$171,004
- Andrew Putnam • Tacoma • 137th on the list with \$60,770
- Kyle Stanley • Gig Harbor • 145th on the list with \$45,682
- Nick Taylor • Ex-UW • 166th on the list with 33,760
- Aaron Wise • Ex-Oregon • 118th on the list with 90,750

Korn Ferry Tour

- Robert Garrigus • Gresham • 156th on the list with \$20,162
- Andres Gonzales • Olympia • 140th on the list with \$27,490
- Alex Prugh • Spokane • 125th on the list with \$36,900
- Dylan Wu • Medford • 19th on the list with \$190,007

Champions Tour

- Fred Couples • Seattle • 13th on the list with \$598,183
- Bob Gilder • Corvallis • No Events
- Brian Henninger • Eugene • No Events
- Peter Jacobsen • Portland • 125th on the list with \$2,096
- Kirk Triplett • Pullman • 32nd on the list with \$302,295

Mackenzie Tour (Canada) - 2020 Tour Cancelled

- Derek Barron • Puyallup • No Events
- Alistar Docherty • Vancouver, Wash. • No Events
- Chris Killmer • Bellingham • No Events
- Cory Pereira • Ex-UW • No Events
- Chris Williams • Ex-UW • No Events
- Eugene Wong • Ex-Oregon • No Events

LPGA Tour

- Erynne Lee • Silverdale • No Events
- Carolyn Inglis • Eugene • No Events
- Jing Yan • Ex-UW • 98th on the list with \$54,719

LPGA Symetra Tour

- Jamie Huo • Kent • 176th on the list with \$404
- Jimin Kang • Seattle • No Events
- Mallory Kent • Seattle • No Events
- Sadena Parks • Tacoma • No Events
- Kim Welch • Ex-WSU • No Events

Did you know....

• Founded in 1922, Washington Golf will be conducting its 99th Annual Meeting on November 7, 2020. These meetings are attended by Club Representatives and golf industry guests from throughout Washington and Northern Idaho. For the first time in its history, WA Golf will conduct this meeting virtually, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



• The Pacific Northwest Golf Association was founded in 1899, and is one of the oldest golf associations in North America. The PNGA administers the Pacific Northwest Golf Hall of Fame, which was established in 1978, and currently has 69 inductees. Visit thePNGA.org for complete bios of all Hall of Fame members.



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November through February, due to weather, are very difficult times to improve our golf. We can do things to improve, indoors as well as hitting balls outside.

This "Swing Improvement Station" can be used to hit shots, make practice swings, to improve technique, and do specific drills.

Let's get after it!

Most golfers do not own a proper swing plane or path. Most are to steep entering the hitting zone or "over the top" of the proper swing plane. This "Swing Station" will fix that.

Place a 36-inch cone or shaft where the outside edge is even with your toe line and extend to the hosel of your club. See photo 1.

As you make a backswing, your club head moves slightly outside the cone or shaft. See photo 1.

On the downswing, the club moves on the inside of the cone. See photo 2. Most golfers need to feel like they are making an inside loop to achieve this. Imagine Matthew Wolf or Jim Furyk. It is necessary. Keep your shoulders closed to the target and feel like you are mostly using your hands and arms on the downswing. Most golfers overuse their body on the downswing.

Place a shaft behind an impact bag and master spinning the bag to the right of the shaft. See photo 3.

This Station will improve your path. You can take away the impact bag in Photo 3 and make proper practice swings or even hit balls!

Do this at home, at the golf course, better yet do both.

Jeff Coston is a former PGA Tour Player, Hall of Fame member and Golf Digest #1 Teacher in Washington. Jeff can be reached for appointment by calling Semiahmoo at 360 201-4590. See jeffcoston.com.



Most golfers do not own a proper swing plane or path. Most are to steep entering the hitting zone or "over the top" of the proper swing plane. This "Swing Station" will fix that.



Photo #2



Photo #1



Photo #3

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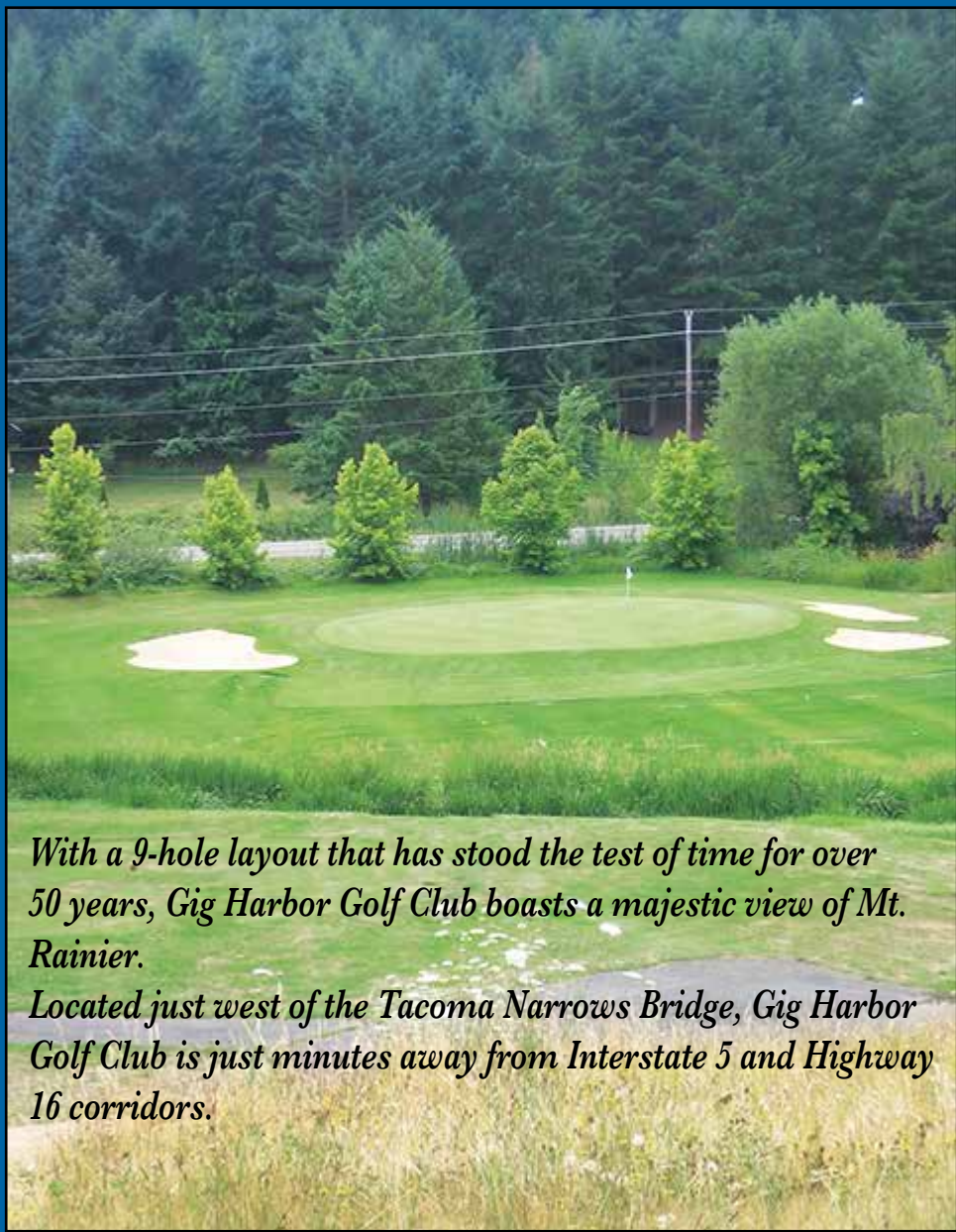
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Troy Kelly grew up in the Northwest and had tremendous success as an amateur golfer. He carried that success into his collegiate career at the University of Washington where he earned First Team All Pac-10 Honors, placed 2nd in the NCAA National Championship and was a two-time All-American. After college, Troy earned his card and competed for over 10 years on the PGA Tour.

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Scott Alexander: Helping the NW golf scene and more

By Terry Mosher
Kitsap Daily News

It may be a stretch to describe Scott Alexander as the King of Golf in the state of Washington, but you certainly could be accurate with the nickname when talking about the region boarding the Cascades to the East and Puget Sound and the Olympic Mountains to the West.

Alexander, 64, and a 1974 graduate of Gresham High School in Oregon, should also be given a big assist in the effort for Village Greens Golf Course to still grace the environments of Port Orchard. But there will be more on that later.

For 28 years Alexander worked at Gold Mountain (1984-2012) where he led the effort to build a second 18-hole course and put the courses on the national map (2 USGA championships). Then in 1990 he started what would become a 500-cart rental business (Alexander's Golf Carts) that since 2013 has run by himself, revolutionizing how the golf business operates as well as concerts, football (Seahawks and Washington Husky football), fairs, hydroplane racing at Seafair, rodeos, drag races and more.

Alexander, along with two others, also bought the property and obtained the permits to build Trophy Lake Golf & Casting, which opened in Port Orchard in 1999.

"What I am most proud of is getting two golf courses built that people will enjoy for hundreds of years," says Alexander.

Still, to really know Alexander and wife Ivaly, you dig deeper and find they are community first people who give themselves to better others and do it without flashy headlines. In fact, no headlines at all.

Joe Perdue, 60, co-owns a golf course in Maine and also runs Village Greens, taking over after a county proposal to close it. When he first met Scott Alexander he was 14 and bringing a bag of shag balls to practice all day at Kitsap Golf & Country Club.

"Scott was practicing these high pitch shots over the trees that surrounded the putting green down there," says Perdue. "When I showed up with my shag bag, he watched me struggle for a while, finally took pity on me, dropped everything he was doing and spent nearly two hours with me on my pitching and chipping that afternoon.

"That's always been the way Scott is."

This is my favorite story, and illustrates best the character of Scott, who lives in Bremerton with Ivaly and their 22-year-old daughter, Tucker, a recent graduate of the University of



Scott Alexander

Arizona.

"When I was working for Scott at Gold Mountain, he and Ivaly had gone to a Sonics game and afterwards went to Ivar's," says Perdue. "They went past a homeless guy that didn't have any shoes. The guy had big feet and Scott, who wears a 14, gave the guy the shoes he was wearing.

"But that's who Scott is."

Alexander said they began chatting with the homeless guy and noticed his feet were sticking out of his shoes.

"It looked awful," Alexander said. "We had parked our car down near the ferry terminal and went to Ivar's to get something to eat. He was chatting with us. A nice guy. Not an out-of-his-mind guy. Just down on his luck."

So Scott gave him his shoes and walked barefoot back to the car.

"It just seemed like the right thing to do," Alexander said.

Perdue is correct. That is just Alexander being himself. Giving what is needed to be given.

Alexander got his passion for golf from his parents, both avid golfers. But they were also involved in a lot of community stuff and that obviously rubbed off on him.

Alexander, who is on the board of directors for the Kitsap Athletic Roundtable and is in the Kitsap Sports Hall of Fame, has been a volunteer golf coach at the University of Washington since 2006 and has, with Ivaly, turned his large amount of empathy into working through the AVID program at Bremerton High School. He and Ivaly mentor six students from freshman through to their senior years, helping some that are struggling either at home or in school, or in both, and help them find their path to success.

His golfing began when he was four and played at a small course in eastern Oregon with his brother Frank, who is years older. When the family moved to Gresham two years later they had a family membership at Mountain View Golf Course in Boring, Oregon and later golf came at Columbia Edgewater Country Club in Portland, a famed course that has hosted numerous PGA and LPGA Tours events.

When Scott's dad was transferred in 1973 to manage JC Penney in downtown Bremerton, Scott stayed behind in Oregon to finish high school at Gresham, staying with a family friend.

He would eventually play a year of golf at Olympic College (he's in the school's Hall of Fame) and three more years at Seattle University (he's also in that school's Hall of Fame) and in 1984 began the journey to remake Gold Mountain to be one of the best public links courses in the state.

"He almost didn't end up at Gold Mountain," says Perdue. "When the city took the course back from the Tyson family, they hired a guy named Mike Stoltz to run the place. Mike wasn't there long and after he left they went to Scott, and lucky for the city, he was still interested."

Alexander, who is on the board of directors for the Kitsap Athletic Roundtable and is in the Kitsap Sports Hall of Fame, has been a volunteer golf coach at the University of Washington since 2006 and has, with Ivaly, turned his large amount of empathy into working through the AVID program at Bremerton High School. He and Ivaly mentor six students from freshman through to their senior years, helping some that are struggling either at home or in school, or in both, and help them find their path to success.

Troy Saunders, who graduated from Bremerton and just completed his second year at University of Washington Tacoma, says Alexander has been the main help for him through the AVID program. To him, "both (Ivaly and Scott) are amazing."

"We stay off the radar, although we are so committed to Bremerton students and Bremerton families," says Ivaly. "Poverty and racial inequality in Bremerton are at all-time highs. Students in particular are suffering. We have incredible teachers, but we have a poverty rate that makes it impossible for hungry kids to learn properly."

This is not a Teflon effort on their part. They are all in and attend their students' activities, including sports. If they have a game, Ivaly and Scott are there to encourage and applaud them. Nothing is left to chance. The goal is to turn their lives around and on and help them find the path that is right for them.

"So many kids don't have men in their lives and don't have love or enough love," Alexander says. "We show them we are interested in them. It's great when you know you made some difference in a kid."

That is who Scott is. That is who Ivaly is.

Perdue would not be at Village Greens if not for Alexander, who when he discovered the county was going to close it down snapped to attention and convinced county commissioners he could find somebody to run Village Greens and turn it into a success.

Alexander gave Perdue a heads up and soon enough Perdue jumped in and convinced the commissioners he could make it work. So give Alexander an assist.

Maybe even a statue.

"I'm not sure if Gold Mountain would have survived much longer if the city hadn't hired Scott when they did," says Perdue. There should be a statue of Scott by the entrance to the new clubhouse."

As much as Scott has done for golf, the same could be said for him and Ivaly for what they do for kids and the community.

In a time of a pandemic and divisiveness in our country, it's nice to know there is some goodness too.





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Rules of the Game: Make sure you know what to do when it comes to your golf ball moving

Last month we looked at accidental versus unintentional actions on our part that cause movement of the ball at rest. This month let's look at accidental and deliberate actions that impact a moving ball and how some of them are a problem rules-wise while others are not.

Rule 11 is all about a ball in motion and what happens when it is deflected or stopped, both accidentally and intentionally. The easiest first ... A ball in motion that is accidentally deflected by any outside influence is played as it lies. A common example of an outside influence is the cart of the group ahead when you hit a career drive. Yell 'Fore!' and hope you have a decent lie.

One of my most entertaining "outside influence" situations was a dog that ran out from the neighborhood and snatched the ball on the bounce from the fairway. The player was required to estimate the spot where the ball was when the dog took it and drop a ball there. The player lost the ball and some potential yardage, but gained a great story to tell.

Your ball strikes you or your equipment after you hit a tough bunker shot? Again, no penalty and play it as it lies – you've already had some nasty luck on that one.

Now let's look at intentional actions on the part of the player. Your mother always said it's the thought that counts. She was right and in golf it can lead to some extra strokes.

Picture your ball rolling towards a big branch. You fear it will come to rest under the branch so you rush up and remove the branch leaving your ball in a clear lie, just as our player in the photo. Your fellow players gasp. You clearly intended to influence to where the ball would roll. You get



The moral of this rule: Don't attempt to influence a ball in motion.

a two-stroke penalty for your efforts.

The next scenario is one that can happen with overly enthusiastic players.... they see a ball rolling toward an unpleasant lie and one grabs a rake and lays it down to stop the ball before it rolls to impending disaster just as the second picture depicts. The ball stops at rest against the rake, clearly stopped by the rake. Here intention plus result means there is a penalty. The player who put the rake down gets a two-stroke penalty. If you act on the request of another player, you both get the penalty. Ouch!! Had the ball stopped short there would be no penalty as intention alone in this case does not result in penalty.

Better to take your lumps with an unpleasant lie, even an unplayable is only one stroke.

The moral of this rule: Don't attempt to influence a ball in motion. Until next month, stay safe.



Try moving a branch while the ball is in motion and you will receive a two-stroke penalty in your round.



Don't think about moving the rake while the ball is in motion or you will receive a two-stroke penalty.



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The Mortgage Corner: With rates this low now is the time to make the refinance move

A mortgage refinance is the replacement of your existing mortgage with a new loan that may have different or more favorable terms, such as a shorter repayment term, a lower interest rate, or lower monthly payments (total finance charges may be higher over the life of the loan).

Refinancing is a term that intimidates some homeowners, but don't worry — the Cross Country Mortgage team is here to educate you, and provide the necessary support so you can meet your financial goals. Refinancing often results in a more favorable financial situation.

Benefits Of Refinancing Include: Lowering Your Interest Rate. Obtaining a lower interest rate can help you save money over the life of the loan.* Refinancing can reduce your monthly payment initially, but that doesn't always mean it will save you money in the long run, as total finance charges may be higher over the life of the loan. Fees and interest rates also need to be considered when calculating if your new mortgage will save you money over the entire life of the loan. A licensed loan officer will be able to help you decide if refinancing is right for you. We'll help you calculate at which point you will break even and begin to save.

Modifying the Term of Your Loan: Changing the term on a mortgage (for example, from 30 years to 15 years) can help you achieve specific financial goals. Shortening your term may help you avoid penalty clauses if you plan to pay off your loan early. With a shorter term, you will pay less interest over the life of your loan. You may also be able to extend your repayment term if needed.

Debt Consolidation: Consolidating multiple debts into one easy-to-manage loan can make life easier and potentially save you money, particularly



if other debts feature higher interest rates.

Predictability: Converting your existing loan from an adjustable rate mortgage into a fixed rate mortgage will provide you with fixed monthly payments that remain the same throughout the duration of the loan.

Mortgage Consolidation: Converting multiple mortgages into one mortgage can make repayment simpler and potentially save you money.

Free Up Cash: With a cash-out refinance loan, you can get access to funds home improvements, college tuition or unexpected medical expenses. The purpose of this type of loan is to extract equity from your home.

There are many different refinance programs to consider: Conventional Loans, VA Interest Rate Reduction Refinance Loan, FHA 203(k) Refinance, FHA Streamline Refinance, USDA Rural Streamline Refinance

Dan Sargent is a mortgage broker with Cross Country Mortgage. He can be reached for appointment at 253.297.7423.

Everett golfer claims title at the Seattle Amateur Championship

Mark Strickland of Everett Country Club turned back Cody Roth of Bellingham Country Club in a two-hole playoff to win the Seattle Amateur Championship at West Seattle Golf Course.

Strickland and Roth both finished with three-round totals of 202 to set up the playoff.

Cole Gritton of The Classic, Gabe Spach of Inglewood Golf Club and Colten Kleis of Bear Creek Country Club tied for third at 206.

Ben Boriga of Everett Country Club, Spencer Clapp of Fairwood Country Club and David Fonua of Jefferson Park tied for sixth at 208.

Oregon Net Championship

Kim Johns and Joe Murray took home titles at the 36th Oregon Net Championship played at McNary Golf Club in Salem.

Johns, from Portland, shot a net 1-over par (80-77 / 73-70) to earn the women's crown. She posted four birdies and an eagle in her 1-under par final round. Anita Johnson (Portland) finished second at net 7-over par. Sharon Baugh (Albany) and Denis Chumrau (Vancouver) took fourth and fifth respectively. On the men's side it was Murray (Aloha) who held off Chris Simpson (Brush Prairie) by one stroke for the win.

Oregon Mid-Amateur Championship

Jack Dukeminier edged out Robbie Ziegler to win the men's title, while Gretchen Johnson won her second straight women's crown at the 32nd Oregon Mid-Amateur Championship played at OGA Golf Course in Woodburn.

Dukeminier (70-66), from Beaverton, posted a 6-under par 66 in the final round for the come-from-behind victory. He finished the competition at 8-under par, too much for Ziegler's 7-under

par effort. This marks the second Mid-Am title for Dukeminier, who also won the title in 2017 at Arrowhead Golf Club Johnson, from Portland, cruised to the women's title, firing an opening round 72 and following with a 1-over 73 on the final day. She held a five-stroke advantage entering the final round.

Portland's Tennant wins Senior title

The two-time defending U.S. Senior Women's Amateur Champion, Lara Tennant of Portland, Ore., added another prestigious trophy to her mantle by winning the 42nd California Senior Women's Amateur title, held Oct 5-7, 2020 at The Ranch Course at Alisal in Solvang, Calif.

The three-time PPGA Senior Women's Player of the Year (2017, 2018, 2019) shot rounds of 67-76-76, and finished seven shots ahead of second-place finisher Lynne Cowan of Rocklin, Calif.

PGA Section honors merchandisers

The Pacific Northwest Section PGA selected the top merchandisers in three categories, as recognized by their peers, for outstanding performance during the 2020 golf season in the Pacific Northwest.

• Merchandiser of the Year – Public: Matt Brown – Highlands GC & Manzanita Golf Links Gearhart, OR & Manzanita, OR. Before the pandemic, Matt diversified his golf shops for success.

• Merchandiser of the Year – Private: Craig Hunter – Sand Point CC, Seattle, WA. Craig used the weeks of closure caused by the pandemic to remodel his shop and welcome back members once the shutdown was lifted.

• Merchandiser of the Year – Resort: Nick McCaslin – Kalispel G&CC, Spokane, WA. Nick has created a unique atmosphere in the pro shop at Kalispel and achieved tremendous growth.

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