BANDON, Ore. — Hot on the heels of one of the most acclaimed new courses, Bandon Dunes Resort here on the southern Oregon coast is preparing to introduce another new layout, this one by golf architect Tom Doak.

Last year, the big news was Bandon Dunes, which quickly zoomed up the charts to be ranked as the number-one resort course built after 1960; the best upscale daily-fee course of 1999; the 44th-best golf course in the United States and number 80 in the world. All that in its first year.

The noise this year is coming from Pacific Dunes, set to open in July. The par-71 layout, measuring 6,700 yards from the back tees, rests on a stretch of Pacific Ocean coastline that draws comparisons to the revered Alister MacKenzie course, Cypress Point.

Doak, who heads up Renaissance Golf Design, of Traverse City, Mich., has cut a jewel from the coastal terrain and inland dunes.

**HUMONGOUS BUNKERS**

The course, just north of its sister Bandon Dunes track, features undulating fairways, small but thoughtful greens, and a landscape that blends seamlessly with native vegetation and with the tract's wind-whipped sand masses.

Bunkers are another highlight. Two of the largest bunkers on any golf course in America rest along the par-4 second hole and on the 18th, a strong, par-5 finishing hole.

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**Empire Golf opens Pine Hill**

By ANDREW OVERBECK

PINE HILL, N.J. — Developer Eric Bergstol has added another course to his Empire Golf stable with the opening of the Tom Fazio-designed Pine Hill Golf Club here.

The new layout, which is a short drive from downtown Philadelphia, is in keeping with Bergstol’s strategy to build quality public courses in underserved areas. “You have some of the best private courses in the country here,” he said.

But I’ve always believed the public should have the opportunity to play quality golf courses.”

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Architects GC
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be given coherence by Kay’s technical skill and desire to lay the course out to meet contemporary standards.
“T’m a big believer in not building bunkers that will wash out in heavy rain,” he said. “Some of the old-timers didn’t care about that, but we did. So we designed the bunkers in their classic styles but made sure that functionally they were right.
“T was there to say where the bunkers needed to be placed for today’s game – how we’re hitting the ball today, how the fairways are watered,” he said. “And we’re not going to have little dirt tees where you put down some sand and hit off the sand. The tees are built properly for today’s play. Same thing with the greens. It’s not like we’re going to mow the Old Tom Morris green at half an inch. We’re going to mow all the greens at the same height.”
But starting with the first hole – a 518-yard par-5 – the course will reflect a century of course design.
“I sat down with Doug Smith, our vice president, and Ron Whitten, a golf historian, and we came up with the architects,” Kay said. “If there were 200 of them from 1860 to 1960, we got the best 17. We had a lot of examples to look at from a style standpoint. I teach golf design at Rutgers University, so I know it fairly well.”
“We really wanted American architects more than Scottish or Irish,” Kay added, “but we felt we needed to start with the patron saint of golf architects, Old Tom Morris. And then for the second hole, we came right to the United States. And who was the first person doing golf architecture here? C.B. Macdonald.”

Friday, March 9 • 8:30am-11am / 11:15am-1:15pm

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Anchor of The NFL Today on the CBS Television Network’s NFL pregame studio show, Jim Nantz has covered virtually every sport for the Network since joining CBS in 1985. His extensive credits include serving as anchor of CBS’s golf coverage, including the PGA Championship and The Masters.

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