**Managing on-course liability**

Preparing your staff to handle medical emergencies should not be an afterthought.

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**E-commerce struggles for golf foothold**

By A. OVERBECK

While e-commerce may actually revolutionize business-to-business transactions someday, the message now is: Don't believe the hype.

In the past year, e-ideas have been scratched and retooled and company strategies have been rethought and rejected. In the process, gobs of money has been raised and spent developing software and Web sites and rolling out lavish marketing and promotional schemes.

Some companies, such as Carl M. Freeman Golf Solutions, never got off the ground. Still other companies, including Golfsat, GreenIndustryOnline.com and Greentrac.com, have struggled.

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**Development slowdown a healthy trend, experts say**

By ANDREW OVERBECK

JUPITER, Fla. — The downturn in golf course development that was predicted by the National Golf Foundation's 2001 facilities report is becoming evident. The foundation recently reported that for the first half of 2001, just 176 courses were completed. The updated prediction for the year is 378 course openings, down from a record 524 in 2000. This will bring total development numbers back to early 1990s levels.

The significant drop in development, however, is not seen as a negative.

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**Fought-Lehman design team fast out of the gate**

By JAY FINEGAN

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — The new design team of John Fought-Tom Lehman Golf Course Architecture is off to a strong start, with three projects in Arizona, one in California and another in Minneapolis.

Fought and Lehman first came together in 1997 to design The Gallery, an 18-hole private course north of Tucson that opened to high praise. More recently, they completed a total renovation of The Farms, an exclusive club near San Diego.

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**Golf cart vandals nabbed in Washington**

By JAY FINEGAN

BREMERTON, Wash. — Three joy-riding teenagers who crashed 16 golf cars at Gold Mountain Golf Course here have been arrested and are being prosecuted.

"They're getting hammered pretty good because they did about $10,000 in damage around here," said PGA pro Scott Alexander, director of golf at the 36-hole club. "They ended up driving three carts down the road about five miles and we couldn't find them for a week. That turned out to be grand theft— a felony deal."

According to Alexander, the culprits were the same youths who had broken into several other golf carts.
Fought, Lehman
Continued from page 1

Diego.

Earlier this year, the two formalized their partnership, setting up shop here in Arizona. So far, it looks like a winning combination.

SEPARATE PATHS

Fought, the PGA Tour's Rookie of the Year in 1979, left the pro circuit in 1985. Sidelined by a vertebrae problem, he began designing courses and renovations with Bob Cupp.

Later, from 1995 through 2000, he designed a number of courses while working with OB Sports, including Washington National, in Seattle; Cimarron, near Palm Springs; and Langdon Farms, just outside Portland, Ore.

"I resigned from OB Sports last fall," Fought said. "Tom [Lehman] was doing projects with other architects. He came back to me a year and a half ago, and said he particularly enjoyed working with me."

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Lehman, winner of the 1996 British Open and multiple other PGA Tour events, had honed his design skills working with Arnold Palmer and the Hurdzan, Fry team.

"Maybe our biggest asset as a team is that John has all the technical expertise one needs as a designer," Lehman said. "I'm learning and steadily growing in that area."

Six months into their partnership, Lehman and Fought have landed some high-profile projects. They've begun design work for WhiteStone (Phoenix), The Preserve (east of Scottsdale), WindSong Farm (Minneapolis), and Andreas Ranch (Indio, Calif.). They're also crafting a second course at The Gallery.

WINNING NOTORIETY

Lehman, for his part, is deeply involved in the new venture. This is not a deal where he simply lends his name and prestige, "We go look at sights together," Fought said. "We do planning together. He visited The Farms 12 times. This is a real business, and he's involved with the whole thing."

Eagle Ranch
Continued from previous page

course where locals can sometimes get on – Beaver Creek – where green fees run in the $140 range.

Unique to golf courses in the area, Eagle Ranch features the Uplink GPS system on each cart. The unit not only provides golfers with exact yardages, it also allows them to order food from the clubhouse.

Course construction and development were managed by superintendent John Martin, with his two assistants – Derek Rose and Pat Nunn.

"The crew worked very hard here and I was extremely pleased with the grow-in," Martin said. "The contrast of the bluegrass tees and fairways and the bentgrass greens, the many native areas, the restoration of old wetlands and the overall beauty of this area will be very memorable to golfers."

Mirabel
Continued from previous page

places the larger home lots back away from the fairways.

The 25,000-square-foot clubhouse complex, complete with swimming pools and tennis courts, will provide the crowning touch to Mirabel's luxurious lifestyle. Construction on the other club amenities will begin once the golf course opens. Membership here is by invitation only, and the 375 members will fork over an $85,000 initiation fee.

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