

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

A UNITED PUBLICATION **VOLUME 13, NUMBER 9** SEPTEMBER 2001 • \$7.00 www.golfcoursenews.com

Golf Trust saga continues

In one more blow to Golf Trust of America, Diamond Players Club has terminated two course leases......3

Managing on-course liability

Preparing your staff to handle medical emergencies should not be an afterthought......4



INTRAWEST TAKES ON COYOTE MOON

Coyote Moon Golf Club, (hole number 16, above) has hired Intrawest Golf to provide management services. The popular daily-fee layout, designed by PGA Tour pro Brad Bell, opened last fall in California's High Sierras. The 18-hole layout winds through piney forests and sweeps over valleys, ravines and lakes. See story on page 15.

COURSE MAINTENANCE

Armyworms invade Northeast7
Cook qualifies as Master Greenkeeper7
Superintendent Scott orchestrates Fazio design8

COURSE DEVELOPMENT

Architects warn against golf technology3
Mirabel takes shape on old Norman site11
Palmer puts affordable golf in Vail11

COURSE MANAGEMENT

GE Capital buys course lender Heller Financial3
Illinois Supreme Court rules for golf course15
Empire Golf debuts in Florida15

SUPPLIER BUSINESS

Flowtronex adds water quality division	18
Sybron settles in with Novozymes	18
OCIO brings out hattle ready' relf our	10

E-commerce struggles for golf foothold

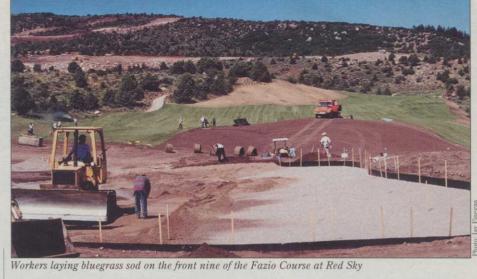
By A. OVERBECK

While e-commerce may actually revolutionize business-to-business transactions someday, the message for now is clear: 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

Continued on page 19



\$100-million Red Sky Golf Club unfolding in the Colorado Rockies

WOLCOTT, Colo. — One of the most lavish golf development projects in history is unfolding amidst stunning alpine

scenery here in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado.

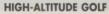
Vail Resorts, best known for its ski operations, is pouring \$100 million into Red Sky Golf Club, currently under construction in the Vail Valley. The 36-hole complex, featuring signature designs by Tom Fazio and Greg Norman, promises not only eye-popping vistas but two long layouts providing plenty of challenge.

Superintendent Mike Valiant "This place is unbelievable," said director of golf Jeff Hanson, formerly head pro at nearby Beaver Creek Golf Club, also run by Vail Resorts, "I think it's going to be the best club anywhere in the West. From the standpoint of playabil-

ity and aesthetics, it will rival anything in the country. We're targeting for each course to be in the top 100 right away."

The 700-acre property, formerly ranch

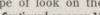
land, slopes steeply up a mountainside from I-70. Colorado's major east-west artery. The club lies about two hours west of Denver and 20 minutes from Eagle County Regional Airport.



The Fazio Course, slated to open next summer, stretches an impressive 7,400 yards. Players will make their way through sage-covered hills, dense forests of aspen and juni-

per, and around a highland lake.

"You'll get two different feels on the Fazio side," said Hanson. "You get a Troon, Scottsdale type of look on the



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

Continued on page 14



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 Architec-

ture 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



Lehman (left) and Fought

praise. More recently, they completed a total renovation of The Farms, an exclusive club near San

Continued on page 12

PERIODICAL

Golf cart vandals nabbed in Washington

BREMERTON, Wash. - Three joyriding teenagers who trashed 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

Continued on page 20