

Hole of the

▶ Hole No. 14 | Banyan Golf Club | West Palm Beach, Fla.

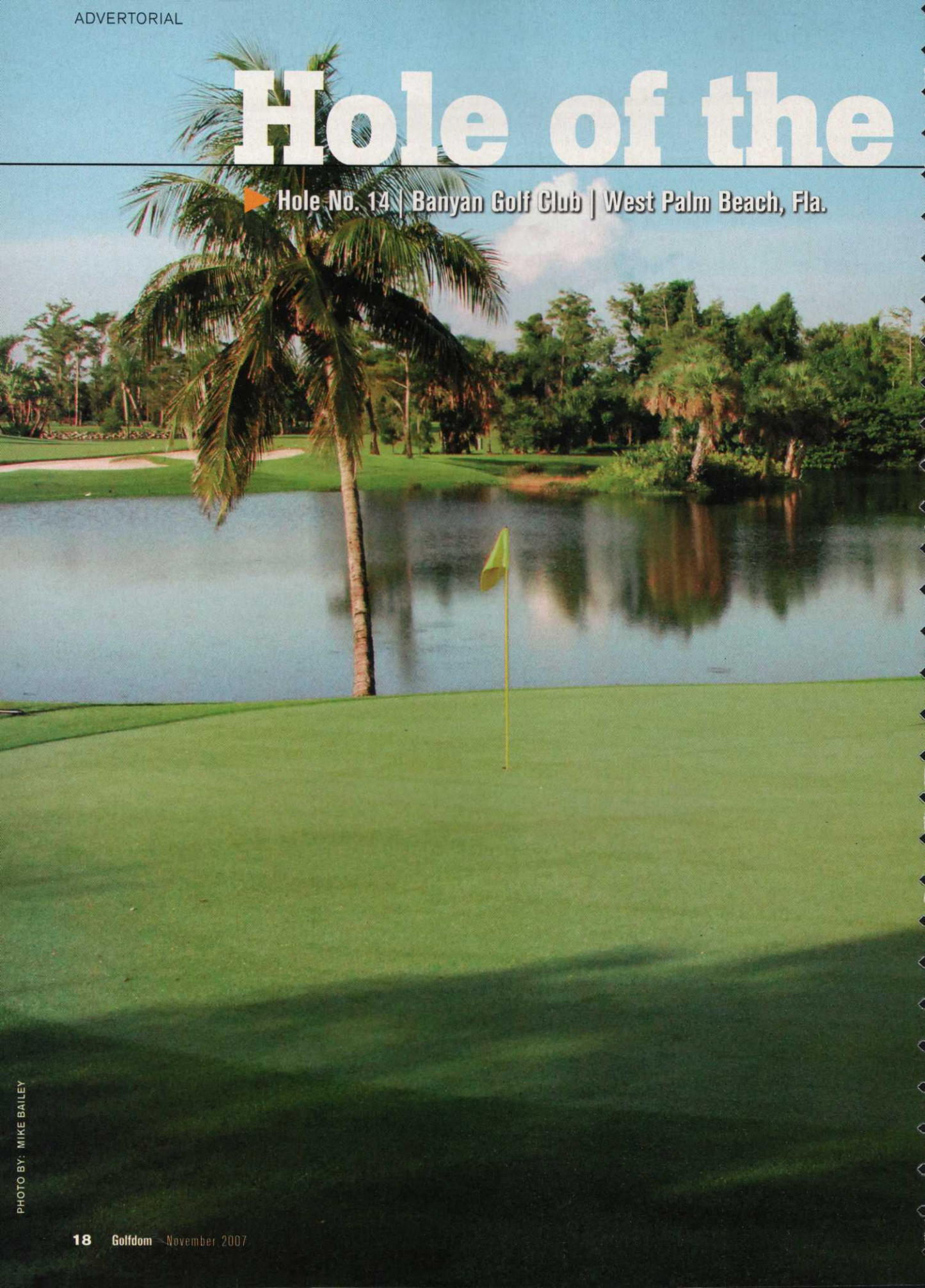


PHOTO BY: MIKE BAILEY

Month



Hole Stats

Distance: 516 yards

Par 5

The Turf

Green: TifEagle Bermudagrass

Fairway: Sea Isle 1 Paspalum

Tucked within West Palm Beach's urban development is Banyan Golf Club's 200 scenic acres, which act as a natural habitat for wildlife that includes birds, foxes, squirrels and alligators. Opened in 1972, the private, par-72 course was designed by architect Joe Lee and has become one of the most exclusive in Palm Beach County.

Bunkers line the left side of Hole No. 14, with water on the right starting at 300 yards. The drive from the tee gives the impression of hitting uphill and has a slight dogleg to the left. The narrow second shot leads to a green with two terraces descending from left to right.

"It's really demanding to get to the green in two shots," said golf course superintendent Clint Smallridge. "If the hole is played the way it was designed, pars are likely but birdies are very rare."

Smallridge and his crew of 26 maintain the course's 7,150 yards, which have been completely renovated over the last 10 years. To meet the playing expectations of the private, low-handicap membership, his crew cuts greens at one-tenth of an inch or less and topdresses fairways, greens and tees several times a year to keep them hard and fast.

Ninety-five percent of Banyan's weed control is handled through pre-emergent herbicide applications to keep the course clean of *Poa annua* in the winter and goosegrass and broadleaf weeds in the summer. Banyan's commercial applicator sprays Pendulum AquaCap® herbicide on the entire course at a rate of 2 pounds of active ingredient per acre. Smallridge rotates with other products for a total of four to five pre-emergent applications per year.

"AquaCap does a wonderful job," Smallridge said. "I have virtually no weeds and I do virtually no post-emergent control. Thank goodness for it; it has taken so many aggravating problems off my back. If we had weed problems, the course would be like a beautiful house with an unmade bed or unmowed lawn. Weed control is essential in my book."

To see past Holes of the Month, download a desktop image and more, visit www.betterturf.com.

Pendulum AquaCap® herbicide is a better formula for pre-emergent success. For more information, contact your BASF distributor or BASF sales representative. Or, visit www.betterturf.com.



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