

The Big Picture

THE THINGS THAT SHAPE YOUR BUSINESS

TIDBIT OF THE MONTH

The Maine Courses

Though Maine is located in one of the nation's most remote corners, the Pine Tree State – and the town of Wells in particular – is the focus for a couple of golf-related developments. In Wells, construction is underway on a new private course co-designed by PGA Tour veteran Brad Faxon and architect Brad Booth. If all goes well, Maine National Country Club will debut in summer 2009. Also in Wells, work is continuing on a new Brian Silva-designed layout. The semiprivate Old Marsh Golf Club will open next summer. For details on these and other golf projects around the United States, visit www.golfconstructionnews.com.



COURTESY OF:



Coping Mechanisms for the Unemployed

Nobody has to tell golf course superintendents that they're employed in a turbulent industry. They get let go every day. If you find yourself unemployed, you'll undoubtedly be worried about a lot of things, including loss of income. Here are some ways to cope:

- Don't go it alone. Let your family members support you during this tough time.
- Share with your family your plans and activities, even though you're not working. Let them know of any new responsibilities you can take on until you find another job.
- Try to build family spirit. Yes, you need their support, but they also need your support.
- Seek outside help by joining a support group for the unemployed. You'll get ideas on how to cope during this period.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor



Golf Rounds Played

The percentages below represent the change in the number of rounds played in July 2007 compared to the number of rounds played in July 2006.

REGION	JULY	Y.T.D.
New England ME, VT, NH, MA, RI, CT	6.4%	4.8%
Middle Atlantic NY, PA, NJ	4.4%	0.4%
East North Central MI, OH, IN, IL, WI	7.1%	1.8%
West North Central ND, MN, SD, NE, KS, IA, MO	5.4%	-1.5%
South Atlantic WV, DE, MD, VA, NC, SC, GA	4.5%	-0.4%
Florida	0.8%	-0.8%
South Central KY, TN, AL, MS, OK, AR, LA	-3.7%	-6.8%
Texas	-12.8%	-11.4%
Mountain MT, ID, WY, NV, UT, CO, AZ, NM	1.4%	-0.3%
Pacific WA, OR, AK, HI	0.4%	3.3%
California	3.8%	5.1%
TOTAL UNITED STATES	3.7%	-0.2%

GOLF DATATECH

Down in the Dumps

Next time you get dirty in your job, remember that there are others who have it a lot worse than a few grass stains on the pants, mud on the hands and a tad of BO. Consider these "worst jobs in science," ranked by Popular Science magazine (this is not a joke):

- Whale-feces researcher – Studies whale crap.
- Garbologist – Sifts through garbage to analyze consumption patterns and how fast waste breaks down.
- Hazardous-materials diver – Swims in sewage.
- Olympic drug tester – Tests athletes urine ... over and over.

