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COURSE

Pacific

MAY/JUNE 2005 \$2.95

# GOLF

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Changes to the Western Leg

**GOLF ACADEMIES**

- In-depth Immersion  
in the Game

**BARGAIN GOLF**

in Washington State

## Telus **Skins Game** July 4-5

Golf legend **Jack Nicklaus** will tee it up at  
**Whistler's Nicklaus North** along with John Daly,  
Vijay Singh and Alberta's Stephen Ames

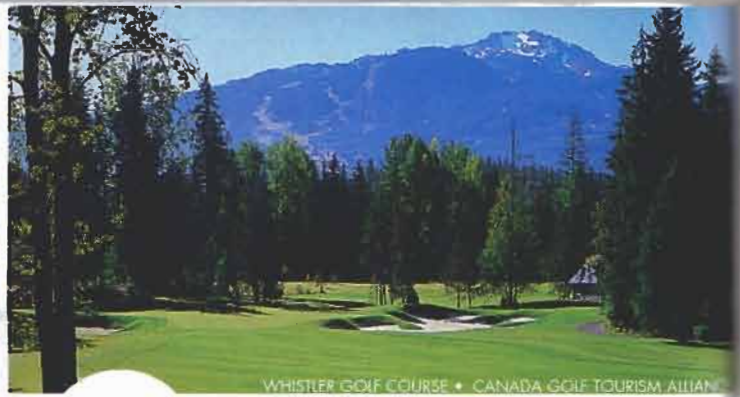


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HIGHLANDS LINKS • CAPE BRETON • NOVA SCOTIA TOURISM, CULTURE AND HERITAGE

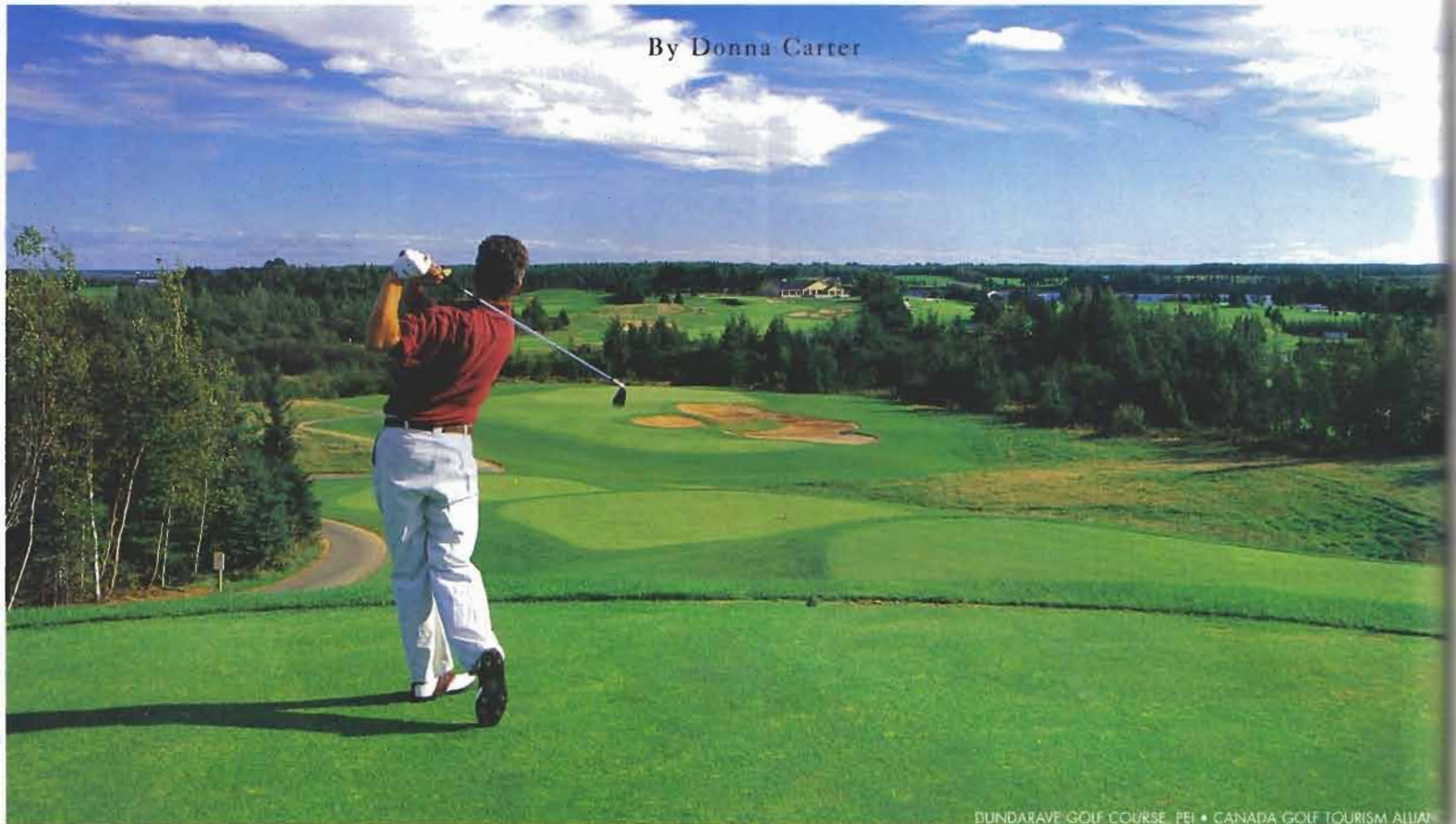


WHISTLER GOLF COURSE • CANADA GOLF TOURISM ALLIANCE

# IN THE SWING F THINGS

CANADA IS THE ULTIMATE GOLF DESTINATION

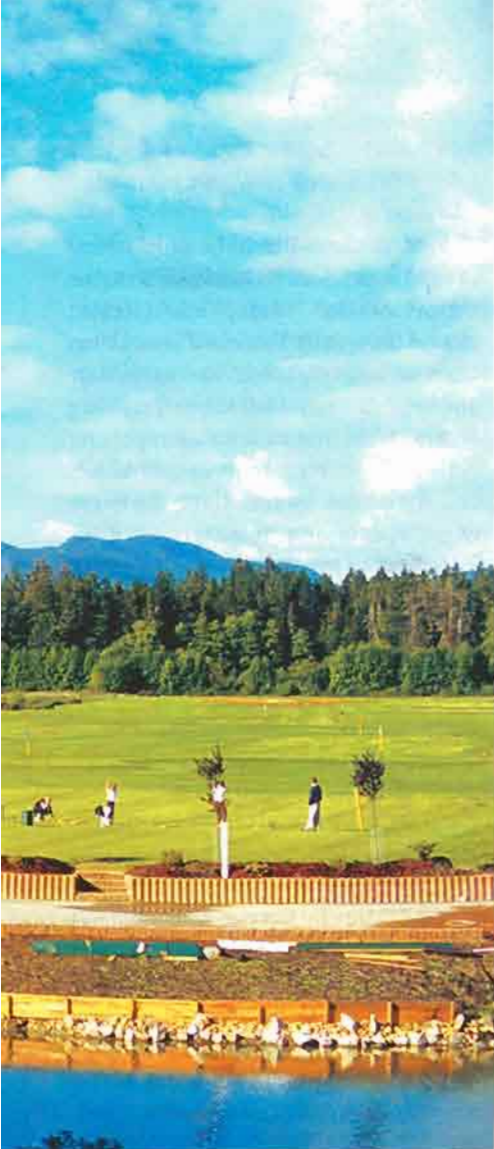
By Donna Carter



BUNDARAVE GOLF COURSE • PEI • CANADA GOLF TOURISM ALLIANCE

THERE ARE MORE THAN 2,000 REASONS WHY CANADA IS A GOLFER'S PARADISE. THAT'S HOW MANY COURSES ARE SPREAD ACROSS THE COUNTRY'S VAST AND VARIED LANDSCAPE OF IMMENSE MOUNTAIN RANGES, PRISTINE FORESTS, SPARKLING LAKES AND SCENIC OCEAN COASTLINES.

**C**ourses range from 18-hole championship layouts to engaging mid-tier tracks, player-friendly resort courses and plenty of executive nines. In this land of amazing links there are options to suit all skill levels, plus a host of golf/stay packages that offer a selection of great tracks at dollar-wise prices. Known for its pure clean air and friendly people, the Canadian golf tableau is enriched by cosmopolitan cities, charming rural retreats and a cultural cornucopia embodying a glorious mix of stimulating entertainment and world-class cuisine.



kind in Western Canada. It has it all. Brent Morrison has developed a golf instructional program that engages the entire philosophy of learning golf for every golfer, no matter what their needs or ability may be.

This is the place you want to go for a two-day or five-day all-inclusive package of instruction and golf. Located at Pheasant Glen Golf Resort in Qualicum Beach, the Morrison Golf Academy offers a full range of instruction options for juniors to adults in single to multi-day programs.

Morrison was recently ranked among the top-10 instructors in Canada in the *National Post*. For the past three years he has been listed among *Golf* magazine's Top 100 instructors and, in 2005, the Brent Morrison Golf Acad-

emy was nominated for *Golf* magazine's Top 25 Golf Schools. These are lofty, well-earned awards for a golf school that does things right.

"Our signature offering is our Collegiate Golf Preparatory program designed for competitive juniors, ages 13 to 18, who aspire to play collegiate golf on scholarships and pursue careers in golf," says Morrison, who has students enrolled in this program from all around the world.

The Collegiate Golf Prep program is multi-faceted and designed to complement the golf instruction. The program also includes fitness training, nutrition education, sports psychology and post-secondary planning. Boarding options allow students to live and study in Qualicum Beach. A tes-

tament to the success of this program is that all graduates now attend universities and colleges in the U.S. on golf scholarships.

The 20-acre training centre was specifically designed for the golf academy with a generous grass tee deck, spacious short-game area and putting green. The facility is open year round for practising on natural grass tees and greens.

There are some golfers who want to receive lessons only from pros who have been out on tour and can really play the game. John Randle, director of instruction at the Golf B.C. Academy at Olympic View, is one of these kind of pros.

Winner of over 40 professional events and member of the Canadian Tour since 1991, Randle has put his experience to good

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Regular lessons with a capable instructor, video analysis,  
course-management training and an opportunity to practise on  
your own will bring tremendous results.

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use at Victoria's Olympic View Golf Course. To add to his accomplishments, Randle was selected Top Regional Teacher in 2005 by *Golf* magazine and was the BCPGA Teacher of the Year in 2002.

The Olympic View facility operates year round with the exception of one or two weeks each year when the course may be frozen or covered in snow. The practice and training facility is one of the best in the province with all grass tees, realistic targets and an excellent short-game area.

Randle, together with his wife Lori have

distinguished themselves along with their staff as the top teaching Academy in Victoria. Instructional programs include: golf schools, corporate excursions, group clinics, women-only programs and private instruction.

Snowbirds from Calgary and Edmonton flock to Victoria in March, April and May when snow still covers the Alberta courses. The flight is only 70-minutes from Calgary and with the time difference between Mountain and Pacific time the golfer arrives 10 minutes after he left.

"We have tripled our bookings this year

for inbound golfers coming to our Academy from either Alberta or Washington State," says Randle.

From outdoors and the beautiful setting of Vancouver Island, we head indoors to the Urban Links Golf Training Centres located around the Greater Vancouver area. Urban Links has taken high-tech video technology and applied it to an indoor, golf training centre. With the rapidly disappearing opportunity to build outdoor golf centres near the downtown core, this is the future of golf in an urban setting.

Golfers hit into a net with instant feedback from both a CPGA instructor and the video cameras set up to capture the key angles in the swing. The feedback from the professional and an understanding of what the golfer's swing looks like from video develops the environment for building a sound and repeatable golf swing.

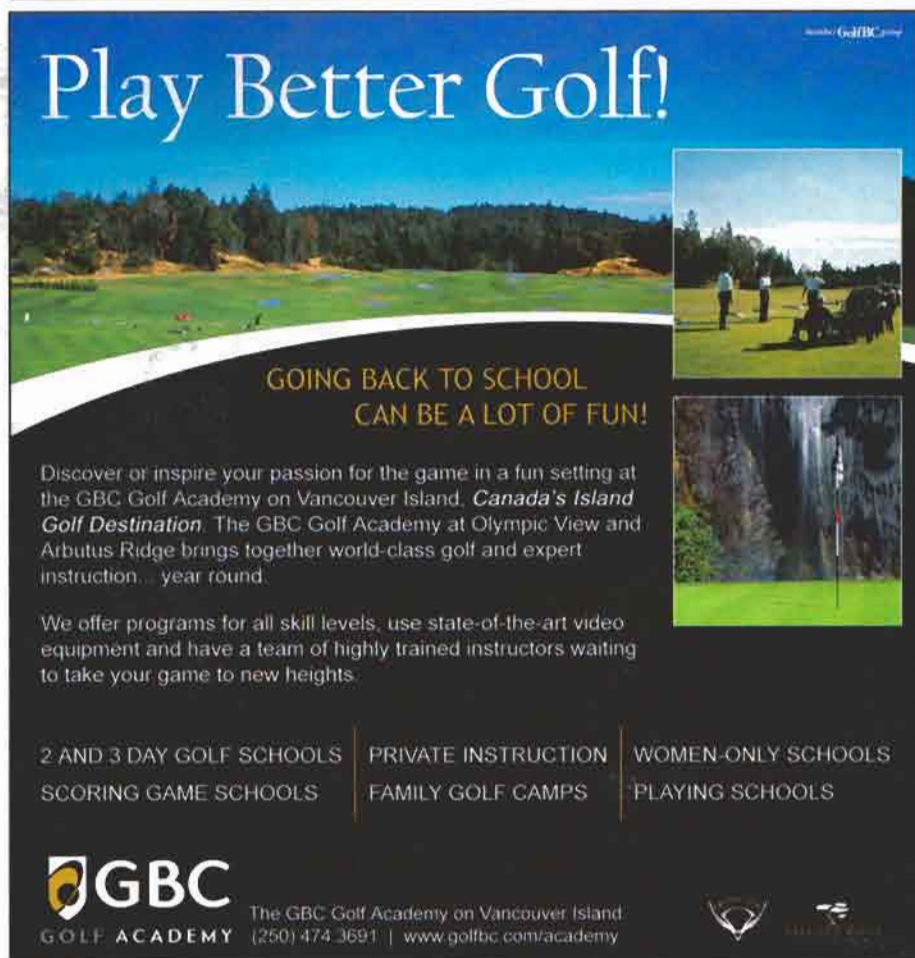
"Seeing your swing is the key to improving it," says Matt Carrothers, Urban Links instructor and director of franchise teaching systems. "Only by learning to see and feel your body's actual movements during your swing can permanent improvements be made. Urban Links puts you in an ideal, visual training environment."

Urban Links has outlets in North Vancouver, Vancouver and Port Coquitlam, with expansion plans across Canada and into the U.S. The business has been developed as a franchise with interest shown in the program from a number of international locations.

Sandra Comadina and the Herizon Golf Schools for women only, at Fairwinds Golf Resort on Vancouver Island, offer a tremendous experience for golfers who want to be immersed in the game. All participants stay at the Schooner Cove Resort, a shuttle takes them to-and-from the golf course with side trips to the Tigh-Na-Mara Resort & Spa with its mineral pools.

"These are women's programs taught by women," says Comadina, who teaches during the week at McLeery Golf Course and then takes the women's groups to Fairwinds for special weekends throughout the season.

"We work on the driving range on the basics and fundamentals needed to play the game. But, we also take the women out onto the course. Sometimes I will even caddy for a few holes just to explain course management, rules, etiquette, speed of play, club selection and any other number of things that come up during a round. People new to the game need to know these things," says Comadina.



# Play Better Golf!

**GOING BACK TO SCHOOL CAN BE A LOT OF FUN!**

Discover or inspire your passion for the game in a fun setting at the GBC Golf Academy on Vancouver Island, *Canada's Island Golf Destination*. The GBC Golf Academy at Olympic View and Arbutus Ridge brings together world-class golf and expert instruction... year round.

We offer programs for all skill levels, use state-of-the-art video equipment and have a team of highly trained instructors waiting to take your game to new heights.

2 AND 3 DAY GOLF SCHOOLS	PRIVATE INSTRUCTION	WOMEN-ONLY SCHOOLS
SCORING GAME SCHOOLS	FAMILY GOLF CAMPS	PLAYING SCHOOLS

**GBC**  
GOLF ACADEMY

The GBC Golf Academy on Vancouver Island  
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GLC Golf Experiences for Women operates on the belief that every woman should take a proactive approach. "The premise of GLC is to provide women golfers with the opportunity to learn every aspect of the game in a non-threatening environment," says Gail Graham, LPGA Tour member and GLC partner. "We offer beginners to advanced players the combined knowledge of an LPGA Tour player, a national champion and a respected CPGA instructor. Experience and knowledge make a powerful package from which every level of player can benefit. Plus, we are out there to have some fun, too, so the environment is relaxed and friendly"

The GLC partnership, made up of Graham, former Canadian Amateur champion Tracey Lipp, and 14-year CPGA instructor Shiella Cowan-Hood, has developed a well-rounded program that touches not only on pure instruction on how to swing the club, but also three interpretations of how to play the game. The combination allows for a free-flowing river of information where students can pick up great tips on how to make every aspect of their game better.

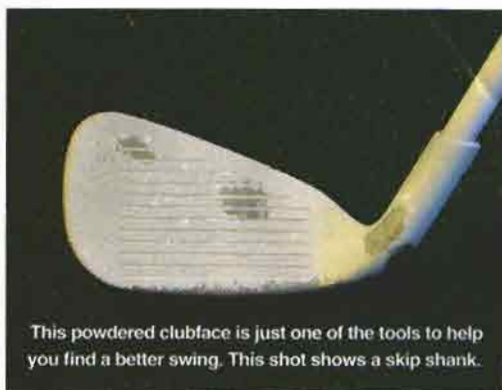
In 2004, GLC's first year, the team produced three successful experiences and 2005 looks to be an exciting year with new schools at Gallaghers Canyon and Vintage Hills in Kelowna in June, Swan-e-set in Pitt Meadows and returning to Beach Grove in Tsawwassen in May, and Nicklaus North in Whistler in July.

New to GLC this year is the division of schools based on ability into "Budding" experiences, for players new to the game or those who want to sharpen their skills and "Blossoming" experiences for those who have some experience in the game and want to take what they have learned to the course.

"GLC's underlying theme is that if you nurture your mind, your game will blossom and so that is why, even with beginner golfers, we focus on the mental and visual side of the game, not just the physical," adds Lipp.

"Most golf schools provide you with the tools to help you swing the club better," says Cowan-Hood, "but we wanted the women who come to our schools to learn not only how to make that swing, but how to get it onto the golf course and, also, how to make their way around the course with some purpose, resulting in better performances and a lot more pleasure from the game."

The "Experiences" also take in the diverse offerings of each of the school's venues. From hitting a spa in Whistler, to taking in the scenery at Swan-e-set, to wine tours in the



This powdered clubface is just one of the tools to help you find a better swing. This shot shows a skip shank.

Okanagan, GLC Golf Experiences for Women gives female golfers the chance to get away for a weekend of fun and self improvement, or stay close to home and work like a Tour player to improve their games.

Westwood Plateau Golf Academy has established itself as a learning centre and hotbed for junior development in the Lower Mainland. The Golf Academy, located on Westwood Plateau in Coquitlam, includes a 9-hole executive course, 3-hole training course, 65-stall driving range, grass tees for students and two practice greens.

This is the kind of place you want to go after work, in the evenings or on weekends, where you can work on all aspects of your game. One of the best parts of the facility is the

five-acre practice area developed for golfers who want to develop their short-game skills under real playing conditions and situations.

"There are four different greens with numerous practice situations dedicated solely for a student's scoring improvement," said John Aasen, director of programming and 2004 BC PGA Teacher-of-the-Year. "With practice putting, chipping, pitching, specialty shots and sand play - successful repetition under these conditions will produce real results."

You only get out of the game what you put into it. The more time and practice you put in, the better player you will be. Golf is really that simple. Practice, play and practice with sound instruction and video analysis and the end result - hopefully a better golfer. **G**

**Learning a whole new ballgame**

"...by far the coolest thing I have ever attended in my entire life..."  
Kylie Frederick, age 16

"I'm amazed by the amount of personalized attention the instructors give to each student... I could not ask for better coaches."  
Jason Gillin, age 18 (recently accepted on golf scholarship to Florida Institute of Technology)

Just a couple of reasons why we're once again nominated for Golf Magazine's list of Top 25 Golf Schools in North America (2005)

**BRENT MORRISON GOLF ACADEMY at PheasantGlen GOLF RESORT**

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