

2018 BESTS: MOMENTS » NEW COURSES » GEAR WE LOVE » TOP TEACHER

GOLF



**27 REASONS
WHY WE'RE
BULLISH ON GOLF** p.68



**PAIGE'S WORLD
LESSONS FROM
THE QUEEN
OF COOL** p.18

**SAVE FIVE STROKES
WITH YOUR NEXT
RANGE SESSION** p.28

There's no stopping
**brooks
koopka**

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Mr. Major comes clean on winning big, plans to knock DJ from No. 1 and—sorry, haters—how 2018 was just the beginning
by SEAN ZAK



BEST NEW GOLF EXPERIENCE

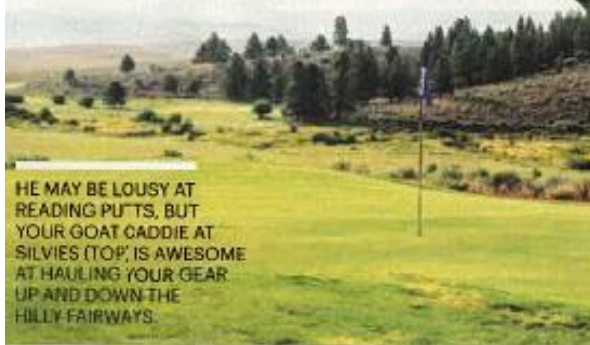
THE RETREAT & LINKS AT SILVIES VALLEY RANCH (MCVEIGH'S GAUNTLET)



SENECA, OREGON

1,177 YARDS, PAR 23

silvies.us



HE MAY BE LOUSY AT READING PUTTS, BUT YOUR GOAT CADDIE AT SILVIES (TOP) IS AWESOME AT HAULING YOUR GEAR UP AND DOWN THE HILLY FAIRWAYS.

LEFT: DAVID JARTE; ABOVE: SENeca GOLF

As golf tries desperately to become more inclusive and more innovative, it needs facilities that greet all players with a bear hug. Silvie's Valley Ranch extends its arms with a giant smile. Seneca, Oregon isn't easy to get to—it's 220 miles west of Boise and 320 miles southeast of Portland—but if you're craving an amusement park of serious golf, together with the City Slickers experience of an actual working ranch, Silvie's is tough to top. It boasts not one, but two championship courses that are played in reverse on an every-other-day basis, a nine-hole par-3 course, and—new for 2018—McVeigh's Gauntlet, a seven-hole spread of par 3s and short par 4s that features goats for caddies. As gimmicks go, it's a great one, especially considering the layout's steep, rugged terrain. The leashed goat-caddies are well-prepared; they tote a handful of clubs in leather golf bags, fully equipped with satchels for supplies and drinkholders for your beverages. As entertainment goes, from golf to goats to cattle drives to rifle shooting, Silvie's Valley Ranch is worth the journey.