Aesthetics, playability are Larry Nelson's aim for Nashville layout

With rock bluffs along the west side of the property, the Cumberland River along the east side, and farmland in between, a new course in Nashville, Tenn., will be enjoyable to play and see, architect-playe Larry Nelson feels.

Springhouse Golf Club, Opryland Hotel's resort golf course, is being built and play is anticipated in the fall of 1990.

"Our goal was to create a golf course that would be enjoyable — in terms of aesthetics and playability — for the resort golfer who may play only occasionally and yet be challenging enough to host a major championship," said Nelson, a U.S. Open and two-time PGA champion.

Springhouse golf director Chuck Eade said 27 holes had been planned on the 220-acre site, but wetlands protection and the unusual shape of the property have reduced it to 18 holes. "However, that 18 is spectacular," he said.

Robert C. Walker Inc. lists one course opened and two scheduled in October.

The county-owned public-St. Johns County Golf Club in Elkton, Fla., built by W. R. Townsend, Par 72, Inc., and designed by the Walker golf course architectural firm based in Atlantic Beach, Fla., opened in January.

Play averaged more than 4,000 rounds the first three months. The 18-hole course measures 6,800 yards and embraces 100 acres of course-dividing native wetland and 44 acres of excavated lakes and lagoons.

Soil Country Club in Jacksonville, Fla., 6,700 yards, 18 holes and private, is of 65-year old Donald Ross design.

PGA Tour course

PGA Tour course

New courses

Hawaii getting PGA Tour course

The first PGA Tour Tournament Players Club golf course in Hawaii will be built as part of an 11,000-acre resort residential complex overlooking the North Kona-Kohala shore.

The course is designed by Jack Nicklaus, his first project on the Big Island.

A traditional Hawaiian ground-breaking ceremony in May heralded the Four Seasons Resort's $160-million, 300-acre first phase, which is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 1991.

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Steve M. Grunig

NEW COURSES

McCumber team busy on Florida courses

Mark McCumber and Associates, working with McCumber Construction, Inc., is busy on several courses in Florida, and has completed a couple of major projects.

The grand opening was held in May for the clubhouse at Marsh Creek in St. Augustine, where the course was woven in and out of sensitive wetlands. McCumber and the developer, Stoles O'Steen of Jacksonville, worked with environmental agencies for about two years to ensure protection of the marshes throughout much of the course.

Four holes are on tidal marsh and several others have interior marsh areas.

The private country club plays on four sets of trees ranging from 6,845 yards on the back tees to 5,300 on the forward tees. Construction costs ran $1.7 million.

New York State Kay's domain

Stephen Kay of Westchester, N.Y., is doing extensive work — from renovations to master plans — at golf courses around New York State.

The grand opening for Kay's Hilland Golf Club in Glen Falls, which opened for play last September, will be held in June. The 6,800-yard layout plays to a par 72.

Kay has also completed an extensive remodeling and renovation to The Seawane Club on Long Island.

Lohman's Cedar Creek CC opening

Nine holes of the new Cedar Creek Country Club in Onalaska, Wis., will open in July.

Construction and seeding for the second nine is complete. The 18-hole layout will open in late spring of 1990.

Bob Lohman, president of Lohman Golf Designs, Inc., in Crystal Lake, Ill., was designer/architect, Lohman subsidiary Midwest Golf Development is the course's builder.

With multiple tees, course length ranges from 5,305 to 6,815 yards.

Water comes into play on six holes, and the par three seventh features an island green.

Lohmann also is working with Fuzzy Zoeller on the new Boulder Ridge Course in Lake in the Hills, Ill.