Player Design finishing six courses to open this year

Gary Player Design Co. has announced that six courses it has designed will be completed this year, and it is working on 16 other projects from San Diego to Connecticut.

Player's partner and company president, Jim Applegate, said Hilton Head National will be the first of the design firm's courses to open. The daily fee resort course is nearing completion and is scheduled for an October opening.

Other courses on the Player docket include:
- Laurel Oak in Sarasota, Fla., a Radnor Corp. project calling for 36 holes, 18 of which will be completed this year. Construction on the second course in the private community is scheduled to begin in 1990.
- Cutter Sound in Stuart, Fla., which is expected to open next February as the centerpiece of a private waterfront community.
- River Run Country Club in Ocean City, Md., the focus of another private waterfront community.
- River Falls Plantation in Spartanburg, S.C., which should be finished in late summer and open next spring. It is a daily fee and mixed use residential project.
- Cypress Knoll at Palm Coast, Fla., the fifth course for ITT at Palm Coast. Construction should be completed in August and the course would open in the fall of 1990. It is in a private community.

Denis Griffiths and Associates, Inc. is working with several major builders in constructing golf courses from Georgia to Ohio and Texas. Two of Griffiths' courses are scheduled to open in the fall — the Chi Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation Golf Course in Clearwater, Fla., which is being built by Wadsworth Golf Construction Co., and Southside Golf Course in San Antonio, which is being built by RDM Construction, Inc.

Two other courses, which are being designed by the Griffiths firm, are expected to open in 1990. They are Veterans State Park Golf Course in Cordele, Ga., on which Griffiths is working with Eighteen Construction, and Heatherwoode Golf Course in Springboro, Ohio, which First Golf, Inc. has been contracted to build.

The Rodriguez foundation's new course, supplanting its nine-hole in Clearwater, will cover 6,000 yards. It will be a daily fee facility.

The municipal Southside Golf Course, being built by the city of San Antonio, will feature huge greens to accommodate an amazing 80,000 to 85,000 rounds per year, according to Griffiths associate Tom Johnson.

The 18 holes will cover 7,100 yards.

Veterans State Park Golf Course is scheduled to open next May. Owned by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, it is located adjacent to Lake Blackshear at the state park. The 18-hole public course is laid out over 7,000 yards.

Griffiths will also design Chicopee Woods Golf Course in Gainesville, Ga., for the Board of Commissioners of Hall County and Goose Pond Island Golf Course for the city of Scottsboro, Ala. Those two municipal courses are not expected to open until the summer of 1991.

Griffiths said bids were due in May on the Georgia facility which will be built in a forest preserve and cover 7,000 yards, and a builder has not been determined for the Scottsboro course, which will be located along the Tennessee River and cover 6,900 yards.

Casper/Nash a blast in Vegas

A majority of the land for the Sun City Summerlin course in Las Vegas, designed by Casper/Nash & Associates, had to dynamited in order to be built upon. Del Webb Corp. handled the explosives and construction for the Casper/Nash layout which covers 6,790 yards.

The 18-hole private course opened in May. It is located at 1120 5th Rainbow Boulevard.