Landmark's first signature design opens to kudos outside San Diego

RAMONA, Calif. — Mt. Woodson Country Club is the first Landmark signature golf course to open. Near San Diego, the par 71, 6,200-yard layout is the center of residential development by Davidson Communities. The course has housing at the perimeter, not between fairways, in the style of older California courses such as Riviera or La Costa.

"We integrated the course into a fantastic natural environment of mature trees, chaparral and rock outcroppings. This creates a dramatic look and requires accurate shotmaking," said Brian Curley of Landmark Golf Course Design in La Quinta.

"We have featured the existing natural rock terrain by using rocks as lake edging, as retaining walls and as locations for trees. We have used existing rock formations and manicured fairway edges to expose outcroppings. The result is a dramatic contrast between green turf and the exposed rock." Head professional Scott Bentley added: "Many new courses must start from scratch and plant new landscaping. We have the advantage of using greens and oversided oak trees here for 40 or 50 years. We will have a mature, established look at opening."

Amy Strong, festival director, on the Register of Historic Landmarks and symbolic of mission and classic California craftmanship, will be preserved as the Mt. Woodson CC clubhouse.

Building without permits costs developer $15,000

ST. LOUIS - Stephen J. Apted, developer of an 18-hole golf course under construction in western St. Charles County, has been fined $15,000 for failing to obtain required permits.

Contractor Bill Marcrander had started work on the golf course at a point farthest from frontage along Fortissell Road. A dam near the road was high enough to obscure construction work, but a building department deputy discovered the work while driving by.

Grading on the project had been nearly completely completed and a $850,000 underground irrigation system installed without permits or inspections.

When asked about sewage disposal in an area not served by a public sewer system, Marcrander said two septic tanks served the site.

Willoughby's clubhouse garners national honors

Salem, Va. — "People came expecting just another public golf course, and they can't believe it," said the golf director at Hanging Rock Golf Club here.

K.C. Jones Jr. said Hanging Rock architect Russell Breeden "took an absolutely magnificent piece of land and designed a challenging, fun course with whatever you want."

Located in Roanoke County, near Salem, Hanging Rock is the first strictly public course to open in southwestern Virginia in more than 25 years.

Nugent and Western Golf Properties transform Bent Tree

DALLAS, Texas — In less than a year, Bent Tree Country Club underwent extensive renovation and was pronounced in excellent shape by competitors in the Texas Golf Association Mid-Amateur Championship Sept. 22-23.


Six bunkers were added, bringing the total to 88.

Six new regular tees and two forward tees were built. Mounding was added for separation of holes and to create a more rolling look.

Fairway bunkers added in critical positions tightened driving areas.

In addition of a stream that runs the length of the right side of the long par four second hole changed a wide-open hole into one with two tight landing areas.

Back nine changes were more subtle, except for the completely rebuilt 17th hole. Originally a 211-yard par 3 on which the player couldn't see the green, it was shortened to 176 yards by moving the green forward and to the right, bringing a creek into play.

Bent Tree was designed by Desmond Muirhead in 1976.