Briefs

RAFT TAKES ON PROJECTS
BEL Bend, Ore. — Golf designer Bunny Mason, who April 1 bid a fond farewell to Black Butte Ranch after a 25-year connection, the last as director of golf, has plunged into three projects that belie retirement talk at age 64.

Mason's chief designing/construction concentration is on the 18-hole Awbrey Glen course here, which he terms "the dream of a lifetime." He's also working on projects in Gresham and Stevenson, Wash. Black Butte head professional J.D. Mowlds, Mason's successor as director of golf, noted that 28 head pros in the section have worked under Mason, and countless others have benefited from his guidance.

CARTON JOINS BURNS DESIGN
FERNANDINA BEACH, Fla. — Edward Carton has joined Burns Golf Design.

Carton has been in golf course design for six years, including a short time with L. Carton has joined Burns Golf Design.

Hurdzan Design Group, and 5-1/2 years with Tom Fazio.

While with Fazio, he was involved in the design of more than 30 golf courses, including Emerald Dunes in West Palm Beach, Osprey Ridge at Disney World, Caves Valley Golf Club in Baltimore, the town of Oyster Bay (N.Y.) Golf Course and Black Diamond Ranch in Lecanto.

He graduated from North Technical Education Center in 1986 with honors in architectural design and drafting.

CUPP SIGNS ANGEL PARK REMAKE
LAS VEGAS, Nev. — Plans are being made for Cupp Design of Atlanta, Ga., to revise Angel Park Golf Club here.

Designed by Arnold Palmer, the public resort features two 18-hole, par-71 courses, an 18-hole putting course and a night driving range.

John Fought, design associate at Cupp Design, and Bob Cupp will reorganize the existing range and a few strategically placed holes to accommodate a larger membership and add a par-3 course.

INDONESIAN RESORT INKS NICKLAUS
NORTH PALM BEACH, Fla. — Golden Bear International has agreed to build a Jack Nicklaus-designed golf course on Bintan Island in Indonesia. The Nicklaus design will be the first golf course built for Bintan Lagoon Beach & Golf Resort.

"We are excited to be the first to build a golf course on such a rare and beautiful piece of island property," said Nicklaus. "This resort promises to be one of the best in the Far East."

The property is part of the Bintan Beach International Resort. Nicklaus will design the first of three championship courses along the white sand beaches of the island. Construction will begin in the fall.

The 'ins' and 'outs' of the ASGCA
Hills takes over as president
By Peter Blair
Art Hills can thank the Yellow Pages for launching his career.

The newly elected president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects was a struggling, 33-year-old landscape architect trying to raise five children when he placed an ad in the Toledo, Ohio, phone book. Buried in the space were the words "landscape architect." He responded.

"This is exactly what I wanted to do and I..."

Tommy Grisham vividly recalls his first interview with the greens committee at Highland CC in Fayetteville, N.C. It was obvious to the 17-year agronomy veteran that Highland’s vintage mid-40s course "was in distressed condition." Yet the committee members were not of a mind to consider major renovation.

"Most of the time they said, 'Don't think about it. It's too expensive.' But I really knew what was going on. I knew what their techniques and styles were, to the point where I feel I can go in and do Tillinghast or Ross or Seth Raynor and do them so well," Grisham said. "I'm glad my career has gone this way," Grisham said. "I turned down a chance to do a course in Florida in 1983. I wanted to come back east and renovate some of the old golf courses because I thought they were the best. It's taken me some years to really learn what their techniques and styles were, to the point where I feel I can go in and do Tillinghast or Ross or Seth Raynor and do them so well people won't know that I did it.

"This is exactly what I wanted to do and I..."

Hidden gems. That is what professional golfer Ben Crenshaw seeks in his travels around the world. Once in a while he happens upon a priceless diamond — a golf course with character and memorability, a classic.

"I'm passionate about golf courses," Crenshaw says.

"I've always been passionate about golf courses," added Ben's brother and fellow professional, Butch.

"The Lord apparently heard. Following the retirements of Bob Hope and A.W. Tillinghast, the two legends of golf architecture, the Crenshaw brothers, Ben and Butch, stepped into their shoes.

"It's a different era now," said Ben. "But there are still golf courses out there that are just as good or even better than the ones they had."

"And Crenshaw views classic as player/designer

"I'm proud of the fact that I'm a player/designer," said Ben.

"I've always been a player," Ben said, "and I've always been a designer. I've always been a player/designer."
Clark looks back...
Continued from page 18
Clark and his colleagues hope the 35-page, four-color book will clear the path for future golf course developments.
Whereas the United States Golf Association's new Golf Course Management and Construction Environmental Issues is a technical manual, the ASGCA has simplified the issues in layman's terms, Clark said.

"I don't expect someone on a planning commission to read through that [USGA] book. I would expect them to read this, or go to certain sections of it, and to enjoy it," he said.

The ASGCA booklet will include a section on case histories, a checklist for development, a history for the layperson "to get a feel for what a golf course architect does," and a technical section on products used on golf courses, Clark said. He added: "It's a publication that will never be completed. It will be added to. Sections will be taken from it."

A six-page bibliography will lead readers to other publications for technical data.

Clark said the first printing will be about 25,000 copies and may be sold to ASGCA members to pass on to developers, planning commissions, engineering firms and others.

He hopes it will be so well received that others in the industry will donate funds to finance a second printing.

"Every manager, superintendent, pro, everyone in construction and irrigation will benefit from this," he said. "But to expedite the printing, we are looking among ourselves to finance the first printing."

Clark said he has received inquiries from abroad about the document. "I'm sure it will be used worldwide, adapted for other nations," he said.

Clark's advice to his successor, Art Hills of Toledo, Ohio, was: "Do as much as you can. You're going to constantly get requests. Attend as many functions as you can. The idea is to get the word out. When you do attend things and are responsive, people appreciate that. In some golf circles you're looked at as gods. But to the public we have to show the public that we are responsible and professional individuals."

While about 75 percent of his duties centered on the environment, Clark said that may change for Hills.

"Two years ago we were the global bed of architecture. We were the source of the finest architects in the world. Although Americans are still doing a lot of work overseas, now Japan has its own good architects. Europe and France have new architects associations," he said.

While the environment dominated ASGCA attention the past year, the big issue this year may be water, he added.

"Art has to sort of get the pulse of things and see what he wants to focus on," Clark said.