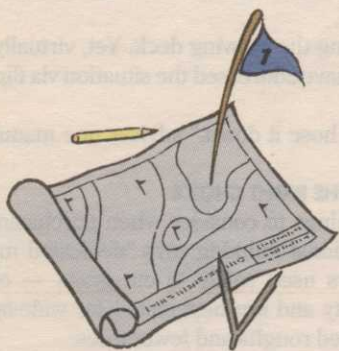


Briefs

**MASON TAKES ON PROJECTS**

BEND, Ore. — Golf designer Bunny Mason, who April 1 bid a fond farewell to Black Butte Ranch after a 23-year connection, the last as director of golf, has plunged into three projects that belie retirement talk at 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 L. Carton has joined Burns Golf Design.

Carton has been in golf course design for six years, including a short time with 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 range 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.

Ross lives!

Kay keen to keep lasting influences

By Mark Leslie

If Stephen Kay had never read that feature article on golf course architecture 26 years ago, he might be a teacher of English classics today. Instead, he is a keeper of the classics — golf courses, that is.

"When I was 13 or 14 I read a two-part article in *Golf Digest* about golf course architecture. I was on the school golf team, and I read that article and thought it was the greatest thing in the world. And I said, 'God, please let me be a golf course architect,'" Kay recalls.

The Lord apparently heard. Following the advice of architects Robert Trent Jones Sr. and Bill Mitchell, Kay followed a well-designed plan that led to a landscape architecture degree from Syracuse University, a turfgrass degree from Michigan State University, and work as both a course and construction superintendent. The result: a six-year hitch as a designer with architect Bill Newcomb of Ann Arbor, Mich., and the launching of Kay's own business in 1983.

Since then, he has gained increasing fame and respect as a champion for the masters of golf course architecture, especially Donald Ross and A.W. Tillinghast.

Though he has designed two courses and is planning two more, Kay has concentrated on renovations. He has completed more than 75 golf course renovations, most in the Northeast, and a number of designs by Ross and Tillinghast.

"I'm glad my career has gone this way," Kay 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

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... while super restores greens to original form

By Frances G. Trimble

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 committeemen were not of a mind to consider major renovation.

Said Grisham, "They wanted to know what to do, but at the same time they said, 'Don't

Continued on page 24

... and Crenshaw views classic as player/designer

By Bradley S. Klein

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.

Such a discovery occurred last summer when Crenshaw visited The Orchards in South Hadley, Mass.

Having signed on to play the Canon Greater

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A bunker on the 18th hole at Oyster Harbor had lost the shape Donald Ross first gave it. Above is the deteriorated bunker; below, the bunker as Stephen Kay rejuvenated it.



The 'ins' and 'outs' of the ASGCA

Hills takes over as president

By Peter Blais

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, 32-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 *golf course design*.

Bryan, Ohio, officials wanted to build a nine-hole addition to the municipal course. Someone saw the ad and called Hills. That job led him to a developer with 350 acres and a dream Hills helped fulfill.

Thirty years after that first addition, Hills, 62, is one of the country's hottest architects. *Golf Digest* recently picked Harbour Pointe in Washington and the Golf Club of Georgia the nation's top new daily-fee and private courses, respectively. Windsor Park in Jacksonville, Fla., finished fourth in the daily-fee voting.



Art Hills



Tom Clark

Clark leaves strong legacy

By Mark Leslie

His term as president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects was "a tremendous year, a transitional year in the development of golf courses," according to Tom Clark.

A partner in Ault, Clark & Associates, Ltd. of Kensington, Md., Clark reflected on the challenges and successes after stepping down as president of the ASGCA in May.

"We opened a record number of courses the year before (1990)," he said. "But, with this recession a lot of the developers — through environmental issues and financing — are finding it more difficult to develop courses... Consequently, we directed everything this year at improving that situation."

The major accomplishment in aiding development is a publication Clark hopes will be printed in July.

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GOLF COURSE NEWS

Clark looks back...

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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

...as Hills takes over

Continued from page 18

Other well-known Hills designs include Eagle Trace in Coral Springs, Fla.; The Champions in Lexington, Ky.; Bighorn Golf Club in Palm Desert, Calif.; Arthur Hills Golf Course in Hilton Head Island, S.C.; Shaker Run in Middletown, Ohio; and Stonecreek in Paradise Valley, Ariz. He has designed more than 100 courses and renovated 70 others.

"I didn't think I'd get into course design, even though I played on my college golf team," said the Michigan State University graduate. "I really didn't do that many courses until I was in my 50s.

"We've built many top-notch courses that haven't received a lot of exposure. We feel very fortunate and are very happy for our clients."

Hills is equally happy with the work of outgoing ASGCA President Tom Clark. Clark has spearheaded the development of an architect's report explaining the benefits of golf courses. It will soon be available to local, state and federal government bodies reviewing golf course projects.

Like Clark, Hills said his primary goal will be carrying golf's positive environmental message.

"The environment is the biggest impediment to new development," he said.

He will also advocate standardizing the distance a golf ball can fly and moderating green speeds in the 9 1/2 to 10 Stimp meter range.

"There is no advantage to having a 10 or 11 green speed. The average guy who plays once a week just can't hold the ball on something that fast. And the faster speeds are making some of the older courses obsolete," Hills said.

The idea is to make courses more playable, but not at the expense of diversity, Hills said. Hills was very complimentary of Pete Dye and Jack Nicklaus, who have been criticized by some for building overly difficult golf courses.

"If you just worry about playability, you end up with a lot of mundane courses," Hills said. "You need to create shot values and a good recreational facility. If people like it, so what if it's difficult?"

Hills said banks and other financial institutions are beginning to loosen their purse strings and more projects should receive funding in the next year. The ASGCA is developing a report on financing sources that will soon be available.

"Communities are asking us (architects) more and more just how they can finance their projects," Hills said. "This should help."

Hills' 10-person office is located in Toledo, Ohio. The new ASGCA president received a degree in horticulture from Michigan State and a bachelor's of landscape architecture from the University of Michigan.

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 com-

pleted. 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, every person in construction and irrigation will benefit from this," he said. "But to expedite the printing, we are looking among ourselves to fi-

nance 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 getting 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 the public sees us with a whole different eye. We need 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.

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