BRIEFS

BEIDEL FORMS OWN FIRM
MT. PLEASANT, S.C. — Edward Beidel, Jr., who worked for Hassenplug Associates for 16 years, eight as chief designer and project manager, has opened his own golf course/landscape architectural practice here. Beidel graduated from Penn State in landscape architecture in 1976 and started working in September for X.G. Hassenplug in Pittsburgh. He helped design seven or eight golf courses with Hassenplug, performed routing plans for 30 to 35 courses, and did land-planning work. Beidel is working on his first solo project, a golf facility in northern Philadelphia.

BATES HIRES WOLFARD, RUELL
Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. — Gene Bates Golf Design has hired Steven Wolfard and Jim Ruell, both of whom were formerly with Golden Bear International in North Palm Beach. Wolfard will be based in Dallas and primarily be responsible for golf course design and construction for the Western states, Canada and Japan. Ruell will work out of the Palm Beach Gardens office along with designer Bob Cupp Jr., and will be responsible for the Eastern United States and projects in the Caribbean and Europe. Designer Matt Swanson has relocated as project manager for a golf course project located in Lenexa, Kansas, being designed jointly by Gene Bates and Fred Couples.

OLSON COURSE TO OPEN IN S. KOREA
As Dong Jin Country Club in Ichon, South Korea, nears its grand opening in March 1993, finishing touches are being applied during the final turf growing. In the 27-hole double-green championship golf course was designed by Cal Olson of Costa Mesa, Calif. Even though approximately 10 million cubic meters of earth and rock were moved during the grading operation of Dong Jin because of the steep terrain, the final course now rests naturally in the dynamic mountainside. The course has many large rock outcroppings and strategically placed water features.

HILLS' CYPRUS HEAD OPENS
PORT ORANGE, Fla. — The Golf Club at Cypress Head, a new Arthur Hills design, has opened for play here in March 1993. The 18 hole public facility is owned by the city of Port Orange and managed by GolfTrust, Inc. The par 72 course measures 6,856 from the championship tees and 5,880 from the front tees. The Golf Club at Cypress Head is a joint venture between Pioneer Heights Novoloporo and the city of Port Orange.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

Effluent users seek balance in cost, laws
By HAI PHILLIPS
Irrigating golf courses with reclaimed water is nothing new. But in Arizona and Florida, course developers and managers are struggling to reconcile the responsible use of effluent with the state-derived pricetag.

"We want to be good citizens," said Jack Mathis, president and acting executive director of the Florida Golf Council. "Eleven percent of Florida golf courses use reclaimed water. But golf courses can't be the entities that absorb the cost."

Golf courses in the Sunshine State need permits from the local water management districts in order to pump ground water. These permits say courses must use effluent if it's "available," and if it's "ecomonical."

Availability is one thing. But according to Mathis, utility companies are selling the treated water for anywhere between $1 and $2 per 1,000 gallons. That's $20,000 dollars a month for water many golf courses can't get elsewhere."

"We don't really have a water problem in Florida, other than March, April and part of May," said Mathis. "What's happening is, golf courses are caught in a device. Utilities have a dire need to get rid of this effluent, and they're seizing the opportunity to stick it to golf courses."

And who determines what is "ecomonical?"

"That language has not been challenged yet," said Mathis. "But it's only a matter of time."

In Arizona, where life would be unimaginable without water and air conditioning, golf course developers are scrambling to get their hands on reclaimed water. Only Tuscon has created the necessary piping infrastructure to fully accommodate golf course irrigation needs.

"We don't have a water quantity problem. We have a water management problem," explained Bill Rodin, president of the Arizona Golf Association. "The state and individual municipalities want effluent use, but there's no incentive economically."

Ruelle will work out of the Palm Beach Gardens office along with designer Bob Cupp Jr., and will be responsible for the Eastern United States and projects in the Caribbean and Europe. Designer Matt Swanson has relocated as project manager for a golf course project located in Lenexa, Kansas, being designed jointly by Gene Bates and Fred Couples.

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$14M Scottsdale project draws from aqueduct
SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — The City of Scottsdale, in conjunction with several local golf developments, is building a new distribution line for non-potable water from the Central Arizona Project's (C.A.P.) aqueduct. The $14 million project will consist of 14 miles of 36-inch pressurized line, 1.5 miles of 20-inch gravity distributed line, five pumping stations, an 8-million gallon reservoir, and a 62,500-gallon steel tank. Construction costs of the public/private venture will be shared by the city and participating golf course developers.

The CAP takes water from the Colorado River and diverts it into a canal, which provides drinking and irrigation water to California and Arizona. A group of area golf courses—all served by the new distribution line—transferred their water rights to the city of Scottsdale in exchange for $5 million. The remaining $9 million was picked up by the golf courses.

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Lafey-designed Glenmore opens
CHARLOTTEVILLE, Va. — Glenmore Country Club, an 18-hole private golf course five miles east of Charlottesville on Route 250, opened Oct. 15.

Owner Frank Kessler's daughter Candy, who competed on the mini-professional tour, is director of golf, Timothy Thomas course superintendent.

Glenmore's tradition as a great horse farm where cattle and prize-winning thoroughbred horses were raised has been carefully maintained. Named for the soft rolling glens and meadows, the area is rich in Colonial American history. It is immediately east of the town of Louisa, and a 70-foot bunker fronts the 12th green.

Siberian resort planned by Frem
Ronald Frem of Santa Rosa, Calif., has completed master planning drawings for the Dasbego Resort being developed at Khabarovsk, Siberia, Russia. The facilities will include an executive meeting center, business hotel, casino, health spa, and championship golf course. This Russians-American joint venture is the first world-class golf resort in Siberia.

The 18-hole, par-72 course is designed not only for major competitions at 6,400 meters, but with five sets of tees, it plays to 4,800 meters. A golf teaching academy is part of the project. Provision has been made for a second 18-hole course when demand increases. The Dasbego project will cater to Russian and Japanese businessmen and tourists. Summer golfing tourists from Japan, Taiwan, and Korea will be the secondary market. Ground-breaking will occur in the spring of 1993.

Lost City hopes visitors will find Gary Player track
Bophuthatswana, Africa — "The Lost City," a $1 billion mega-destination resort under development here, soon may be the destination of golf safaris. An 18-hole par-72 golf course, the first desert style track to be laid out in the south African region, will be the centerpiece of recreational amenities. Rock and Waterscape Systems Inc., an Irvine, Calif., firm specializing in simulated rock and water features, is playing a major role in creating the opulence and mystique of a royal African kingdom resurrected after being destroyed by an earthquake and abandoned for centuries.

The Gary Player-designed course, scheduled to open next April, will use the natural bushveld terrain, with rock features and eroded gullies incorporated as hazards. A crocodile pool highlights the 13th hole. Greens will have six distinct pin placements. Each hole will have between four and five tees. Most of the terrain of the course at The Palace of the Lost City borders the Pilanesberg National Park. Golfers may see rhinos and bucks as they wait to tee up.
Developers seek to maximize effluent use

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counter: Most effluent is sold to golf courses at a rate of approximately $400 per acre foot (one acre foot amounting to 318,000 gallons). Golf facilities are allowed from 4.0 to 4.9 acre feet, per acre, per year — which is enough to ward off the scaring desert sun. Unfortunately, reclaimed water is very expensive and it simply isn't available in outlying areas, where golf courses might be built. The most painful irony is this: Most major cities are dumping the treated effluent for nothing. Even Tuscon returns nearly 80 percent of its effluent to the water table.

Rodin believes this roundabout water policy is hurting the development of reasonably priced golf courses in Arizona. Ritzy resorts and private clubs can foot the bill, while daily-fee ventures never get off the ground — the foreseeable margin is too tight. "I don't know where it's going to end," he said. "There's no question that golf is key to tourism here. If we can't get more reasonably priced golf courses here, we're in trouble."

The permitting process in Arizona isn't much help. In order to obtain an aquifer protection permit, golf course owners have to prove reclaimed irrigation water won't percolate into the ground water. Considering the state's sandy soil, this is no small task.

Further, golf course owners must use only enough water to allow for plant growth, plus evaporation. This essentially means no percolation. "You show me a guy who can grow healthy turf without percolation and I'll show you God Himself," maintained Rodin.

As state agencies in Arizona and Florida continue to set regulations — and precedent — on the use of reclaimed water, Mathis and Rodin agree the golf course industry must mobilize.

"It would be safe to say it is a very dynamic situation," said Mathis. "Unless we take a pro-active approach and meet these things head on, we'll get blindsided."

Scottsdale program benefits city, courses

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up by the golf facilities, which include Troon, The Boulders, Desert Highlands, Desert Mountain and the TPC of Scottsdale.

State Farm Insurance Co. and D.C. Livestock Co. have joined the project by contributing $694,000 apiece. Both firms have golf courses in the planning stages.

"This program provides real advantages for the golf courses and the city," explained Marty Craig, water resources engineer for Scottsdale. "We feel like this is a long-term solution. This should provide water for 100 years."

The project was made possible by the November 1989 passage of nearly $287.2 million worth of general obligation bonds for the purpose of funding a variety of public works projects called for in Scottsdale's five-year capital improvements program. Approximately $80 million of that package was committed to non-potable and potable water delivery systems for the North Scottsdale area. The city is also planning a $672 million water treatment facility.

A $1-million, 16-inch potable water distribution line, extending approximately five miles will be constructed concurrent with the non-potable line, according to Phil Turner, PE., project manager for Greiner, Inc., the city's construction administrator.

Plans call for the CAP/Non-Potable Water Distribution System to enter service. The untreated water will be stored in the new reservoir, which is the first step toward a city-operated wastewater treatment plant. When that plant is completed, the reservoir and pipeline will begin to transport effluent.

Flickwir joins LinksCorp as VP

NORTHEFIELD, Ill. — LinksCorp, a national golf course acquisition firm and management company, has named David Flickwir executive vice president and chief financial officer.

Flickwir, 41, joins LinksCorp from American Golf Corp. in Santa Monica, Calif., where he had worked for 13 years, most recently as vice president of acquisitions. He also was responsible for developing leads, financial analysis and negotiating contracts for public, private and resort golf courses.