Test green? Schreiner's gone 17 better

By MARK LESLIE

For a meager $15,000 the Clay County Parks Department has ensured it can monitor and, if necessary, treat water exiting the greens on its new golf course in Smithville, Mo.

"This will be included in every course I design," said Outlaw Golf Course architect Craig Schreiner of Kansas City, Mo. "I think you will see a trend start here."

The Outlaw, which will be grassed this spring, could be the supreme test, sitting on the edge of the 7,000-acre Smithville Reservoir, which provides the domestic water for Kansas City and northern suburbs.

Part and parcel of Schreiner's design is an infrastructure to collect leachate from the greens. Collection mains beneath the greens route leachate through a four-inch drain tile and into the top of the 48-cubic-foot collection basins — simply prefabricated manholes. Leachate will flow into the basins, then through reactivated Grade C carbon before flowing through an exit pipe out into the reservoir. The manufacturer of the carbon will pick it up and reprocess it once it has reached its capacity — "probably no more than every five years," Schreiner said.

"We hope to prove that water exiting through the greens and draining into the local streams and lakes is cleaner than the irrigation water we use," Schreiner said.

Palmer track a lesson in history

SPRING ISLAND, S.C. — Archaeological as well as wetlands preservation played a key role in a new Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay-designed golf course here — Old Tabby Golf Links.

On the east side of the 3,000-acre island, just beyond the 18th fairway, lie the tabby ruins of the Edwards Plantation Mansion.

Thus the name Old Tabby, and the high interest of the South Carolina Institute of Archives and History, which worked with Palmer Course Design Co., engineers and Spring Island Development Co.

The late-18th century ruins are from a cotton plantation — some of whose structures were constructed of tabby, a mortar consisting of shells, clays and other natural materials on the island.

The Edwards Mansion adjoins the 9th and 18th holes.

Keeping the tabby theme, tabby retaining walls were built throughout the course, including one that encircles the island green of the 157-yard 18th hole.

Also throughout the property are ponds fed by freshwater springs, marshes, rivers and creeks. One-third of the island is being set aside as a nature preserve.

The end result is one that makes Palmer and Seay exuberant about the quality of course they have designed for the Ridgeland development firm.

Former Soviet Union explores new frontier: Tourism

Joint venture would create multi-course vacation spot south of Vladivostok

POCET, Far East Territory, Russia — American and Russian developers expect to build a major destination resort, The Peninsula, boasting six to eight golf courses on a peninsula south of Vladivostok on the Sea of Japan.

The American firm Golf Management International (GMI) is forming the joint venture with Dalsk, a government consortium appointed to develop the 8,000-acre piece of land which sits on the seven by 21.2-mile peninsula.

American golf course architect Jack Snyder and Forrest Richardson of Phoenix, Arizona, will design several of the courses and Frank Lloyd Wright under-study Vernon Swaback of Scottsdale, Arizona, is the land planner.

"The Far East will become the gateway to Russia. And they want to make this their creme-de-la-creme destination resort," GMI Vice President Turner Renney said from his Arizona Biltmore Country Club headquarters in Phoenix, Arizona, U.S.A.

The Peninsula will be built on land near the peninsula — just a one-hour flight from Tokyo and two hours from Korea, Renney said. He added that Alaska Airlines expects to begin twice-weekly service to Vladivostok in June.

A small airport will be built on land near the peninsula — just a one-hour flight from Tokyo and two hours from Korea, Renney said. He added that Alaska Airlines expects to begin twice-weekly service to Vladivostok in June.

Fairways wind through old hunting fields, past golden marsh and along a forest of 300-year-old oaks. A 500-home development is planned for the island, with amenities including bridle paths, trap and skeet shooting and boating facilities.

The course is expected to open April 19.
All 18 are test greens at Outlaw

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by Michael Hurdzan on which Schreiner was project architect — tests proved hopeful for the golf industry.

"In general, we found that while the concentrations of some of the contaminants were fairly high — and that being primarily the nutrients, nitrogen and phosphorus — the volume was almost insignificant," said John Bartens, Hennepin Parks District water quality manager. "Only about 5 percent of the rainfall made it through the greens."

Primarily, then, the water stayed in the turfgrass and root zone, or ran off the green. Studies by Watschke and Cooper report only traces of chemicals, far below danger levels, running off turfgrass.

Before building the Outlaw, Schreiner sold his idea to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which owns the reservoir, and the Clay County Parks Department, which is leasing the land for the golf course from the Corps.

"We already know what's coming through these brand-new greens and it's insignificant," Schreiner said, referring to the findings at Baker National which opened in 1990. "We're not hiding anything. We've got data that shows that insignificant nitrates and some phosphorus comes through these greens when they're first being established.

"From there, we don't really know. But, should we encounter any problems, we feel we have a system to deal with the leachates that come out. As the greens get older or mature, or if you have an application of a very hot chemical followed by a heavy rain that causes it to leach out faster than normal, you have an infrastructure in place to be monitored. They're on a beautiful reservoir, built by the Corps of Engineers, and the course is built by the Corps.

"We hope to have it set up and ready to go," he said.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Schreiner's next sales pitch will be to the Missouri Department of Conservation, area universities and a superintendents group to fund the testing at the Outlaw.

"This is the perfect study for master's degree-level students," he said. "We have brand-new greens. Nothing's been dumped on them. We've got them set up to be monitored. They're on a beautiful reservoir, built by the Corps of Engineers, and the course is built by the Clay County Parks Department."

Schreiner estimated the monitoring cost to be around $10,000 a year. "That gets a half-dozen quality samples done," he said.

Morrish, Weiskopf opening Broken Top and Buffalo Creek

BEND, Ore. — The opening of the private 18-hole Broken Top course, in the shadows of the snow-capped Cascade range, is scheduled to take place Independence Day. The ceremonies will include a playing tour by Tom Weiskopf, who designed the course with partner Jay Morrish.

The course is the centerpiece of a new 2,000-acre community. Broken Top neighbors the massive Deschutes National Forest with spectacular views of the Three Sisters Mountains, Mt. Bachelor, and Broken Top Mountain, the dormant volcano after which the course and community were named.

In designing the Broken Top course, Weiskopf/Morrish showcased the varied terrain and scenery of the Central Oregon landscape. Integrating huge rock outcroppings, slopes and forested lands, the 7,200-yard, par-72 course tests skill and strength, and promises the Northwest's premier golf experience in terms of beauty, course design and construction quality.

Meanwhile, Buffalo Creek Golf Club, a public-access layout in Rockwall, Texas, designed by Weiskopf and Morrish, will hold its official grand opening April 20.

The design, according to the general manager Joe Cotter, produced "the highest quality championship course conceivable, and was developed to challenge the very best golfers while providing an enjoyable golfing experience for the average player."

Buffalo Creek is an upscale facility on the order of others of that concept emerging around the country, offering activities and services like those at private clubs.

Chris Rath is the course superintendent.

Garl designing first track in Detroit area

MILFORD, Mich. — Architect Ron Garl intends to move a lot of earth when he builds Prestwick Village Golf Club.

Garl of Lakeland, Fla., will add character and definition to the 18-hole track which will be the centerpiece of a 425-acre residential community.

Course construction begins in September, with opening expected in mid-1995.

"This is my first course in the Detroit area and I'm excited about the possibilities with this intriguing site," which features gently rolling land, said Garl.

The project will include a 25-acre "state-of-the-art" practice facility.

Rivercliff GC adds 9

BULL SHOALS, Ark. — Construction is nearly complete on a nine-hole addition to Rivercliff Golf Course here — making the course the only 18-hole track in the retirement area around this community.

The Tee To Green Golf Course Construction Co. of Bedford, Texas, began work on the course last September, and TTG President Steve Hutchinson said it should be completed around June 1.

Set in the hills of the Souther Ozark Mountain region, the course will have two natural flowing streams and two manmade lakes.

Four wooden bridges blend in with the hillsides at strategic places on the course. Hutchinson took extreme care to preserve the beauty of the rocks and trees of the area.

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