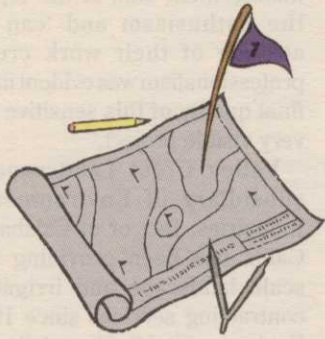


## BRIEFS



## VON HAGGE NAMES PRINCIPALS

SPRING, Texas — Robert von Hagge has announced that Michael J. Smelek, Richard A. Baril and Kelly Blake Moran have been admitted as principals and shareholders in his company, von Hagge Design Associates, Inc. Von Hagge is headquartered here but designs golf courses throughout the world.

## PIPESTONE GIVEN AWARDS AT OPENING

MIAMISBURG, Ohio — Pipestone Golf Course, an 18-hole public championship-length golf facility and residential community, has opened. Designed by Arthur Hills and Associates of Toledo, the course was built by Irvin Construction Co. of Louisville, Ky. During the grand opening ceremony, Irvin's president, James R. Irvin Sr., and project superintendent, Jim Irvin Jr., received awards of appreciation from the city of Miamisburg.

## 96-TEE FACILITY OPENS

WESTMINSTER, Calif. — The 96-tee USA Golf Centers Inc.'s Westminster practice facility opened here in June, becoming Orange County's largest golf range. The center boasts natural grass a mat tees, night lighting, a target green with lakes and sand bunkers, a putting green, three chipping areas with bunkers and a pro shop.

## SURF GOLF &amp; BEACH CLUB REOPENS

NORTH MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. — Surf Golf and Beach Club has opened its "new" course — a renovation of its George Cobb design. Architect John LaFoy, who worked with Cobb, enlarged bunkers and greens and added contours to the greens. The \$1 million renovation was built by Landscapes Unlimited of Lincoln, Neb.

## BEAN IS JENSEN PLANNING DIRECTOR

DENVER — After 20 years of service in the public sector, Brent Bean has joined David Jensen Associates, Inc., a Denver-based land planning and design firm, as planning director. Previously, he was planning director for the cities of Black Hawk, Lafayette and Rifle, and planner for the cities of Boulder and Longmont. He was assistant planning director for Benton County in Oregon. His responsibilities will include project processing and rezoning, preparation of submittal documents, and working with the DJA design team to develop successful processing strategies.



Brent Bean

# Gulf of Mexico developers weighing impact of treatise

By ANDREW WHEELER

BAY ST. LOUIS, Miss. — Golf course developers in the five states bordering the Gulf of Mexico are still assessing the potential impact of a federal and state initiative to protect coastal areas.

At a December 1992 conference, government officials from all five states, environmentalists, business people and the Environmental Protection Agency signed on to the Gulf of Mexico Program (GMP). According to this treatise, its goal is "to protect, restore, and enhance the coastal and marine waters of the Gulf of Mexico and its coastal natural habits, to sustain living resources, to protect human health and the food supply, and to ensure the recreational use of Gulf shores, beaches and waters... in ways consistent with the economic well being of the region."

The agreement sets forth a series of nine

environmental challenges to be accomplished from 1993 to 1997. While their impact on existing and future golf course projects remains unclear, the GMP goals bear a striking resemblance to restrictive conditions protecting other coastal areas: reduction of at least 10 percent the amount of trash on beaches; an increase in Gulf Coast seagrass beds and in Gulf shellfish beds available for safe harvesting by 10 percent; the reduction of the rate of loss of coastal wetlands; and the enhancement of Gulf commercial and recreational fisheries.

"I think golf courses can accommodate environmental concerns," said Jeff Brauer, an architect at Golf Scapes in Arlington, Texas, who does not think these measures will affect development significantly. "Golf architects are committed to being

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## Commentary

### Reality check: Computers do their stuff

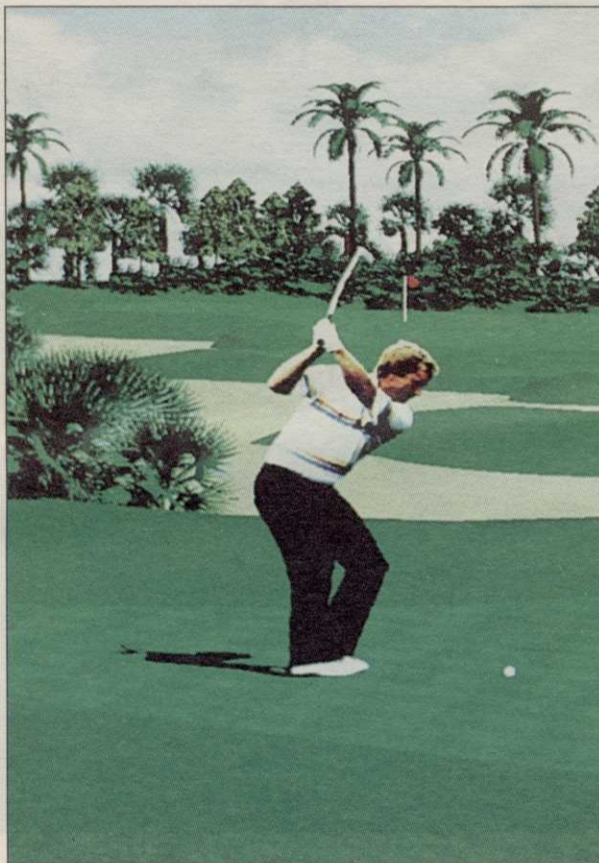
By CARL MISTRETTA

In all phases of daily life, the power, speed and reliability of the modern computer has touched everyone in some way. The design business is no different. Computers help manage all forms of personal and business information.

As a computer-aided designer for Nicklaus Design, it is my responsibility to remain aware of the technological future of our industry. Computers have dramatically improved the profession of golf course design, will continue to do so well into the 21st Century.

The Nicklaus Design team collaborated with Intergraph, a leader in computer technology, to de-

velop a comprehensive golf course design package. To serve the needs of Jack Nicklaus and Jack Nicklaus II, and the entire design



An example what Intergraph technology can do.

velop a comprehensive golf course design package. To serve the needs of Jack Nicklaus and Jack Nicklaus II, and the entire design

team, the system was required to graphically program proposed golf holes, calculate cut and fill, and

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## First certified builders approved

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — The first group of certified golf course builders has been announced by the Golf Course Builders Association of America.

Executive Vice President Phil Arnold announced certification has been earned by Paul Clute & Associates of Hartland, Mich. (Paul Clute, president); Golf Development Construction of Louisville, Ky. (Clarke Fenimore, vice president); Irvin Construction of Fisherville, Ky. (Terry Lloyd, project manager); Moore Golf of Culpeper, Va. (David Canavan, president); Pierman Golf Co. of North Palm Beach, Fla. (Jerry Pierman, president); and Wadsworth Golf Construction Co. of Plainfield, Ill. (Paul Eldredge, president).

"A lot of work has gone into the certification program over the last year, and I'm pleased that I can announce this group of six firms who have successfully completed all aspects of the certification process," Arnold said. "I believe it's very important that the association identify competent and experienced golf course construction firms. Over time, I believe this certification program will be the standard by which all golf course builders will be judged."

Nineteen other companies are involved in the certification process. The process includes completing an application covering the company's history and past

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## QA & A

Rees —  
A Jones  
for all  
seasons

Rees Jones, 51, is the youngest of the famous Jones golf course design family. His father is Robert Trent Jones Sr. and his brother Robert Trent Jones Jr. But Rees has gained his own renown, redesigning golf courses for recent U.S.

Opens and winning Golf Digest's choice for Best New Private Course of 1992 with his Atlantic Club in Bridgehampton, N.Y. We caught up with him



Rees Jones

between golfing rounds at Pine Valley and Merion — an indication that this golf architecture business ain't no bad shakes.

**GCN:** The Joneses are the most well-known of the golf course designing families. Is there something in the genes?

**Rees Jones:** There may be something because my dad can draw and I can draw. It might be partly environment and it might be some sort of innate talent you have. I think the reason you find so many father-son situations is that when you grow up in the golf design business you get into golf and enjoy it. It's not just a profession, it's your avocation, also. So it's a natural tendency to go into the business. You liked the game of golf as a kid, and you traveled with your dad where he built golf courses. It's a pretty good life.

**GCN:** One person who grew up in such a family told me golf was all his dad knew. He couldn't discuss anything else because other things did not interest him and he didn't pay much attention to them. Isn't that a drawback as far as the big picture of life is concerned?

**RJ:** It could be. But [for instance] if you live in the Northeast you'll inherit some interests for the winter.

**GCN:** What's your interest outside of golf?

**RJ:** I'm a big ACC [Atlantic Coast Conference] basketball fan. I go to a lot of basketball games in the winter. One thing about golf, too, is that you can go to different spots. We went out to Arizona to a friend's to spend time. My wife likes Native American culture, so we go to Tucson and Santa Fe. She enjoys museums and takes me with her.

I think you might be right. In this business, you might become too focused. But I think you have to be in order to be good at it. Every site is different, every environment is different. The soils are different... Everywhere you go, it's a new challenge, technically.

**GCN:** So you have to be well read in golf...

**RJ:** Or know where to ask the questions.

**GCN:** You're doing a lot of high-profile renovation jobs. It seems that

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## Intergraph, Nicklaus Design collaborate

Continued from page 25

create plan drawings. Through the programming of specific user commands and the bundling of certain hardware and software products, the "golfstation" system was developed.

I begin the computer design process with survey data provided by the project owner in the form of three-dimensional existing contours.

Using the engineering software "Insite," an existing ground terrain model is built and stored in memory. Terrain models consist of a series of connecting triangles that reflect the elevation of contours to form a mesh that the computer can render and smooth.

In the next step, a design associate receives strategy from Jack or Jack II and completes a detailed 1" - 100' scale contour plan. After scanning the plan into the computer, I digitize the features and contours accordingly.

From these design contours, a proposed terrain model is created with all the elements of a golf hole—tees, fairway, bunkers, water and a green.

I now have the capability to view the hole from any angle or position. Jack is always concerned about visibility of hazards. These models provide the opportunity to stand on any tee or fairway and examine the playability of the hole. If changes are needed, I lower or raise contour elevations and build another model for design review.

The strength of the Intergraph system lies in the speed available to review a proposed hole design. I can transform a paper contour plan to a reviewable scale computer model in less than one hour. Once the model is created, Jack or Jack II can move around in it from any vantage point instantaneously.

Once the designer is satisfied with the model, I use the system to accomplish many tasks. By comparing the proposed design terrain model to existing site model, cut and fill quantities are calculated.

The computer can also quickly generate cross sections and other useful engineering data.

At this stage, I am only limited by my imagination to communicate design ideas.

For example, in ideal situations a dramatic existing natural feature affects the strategy of a hole. By merging a photograph of the feature with the proposed design model, I create photo realistic images to convey golf course design working in harmony with nature.

Another important feature of Golfstation concerns the manipulation of photographs of existing golf courses. The experience and knowledge of Nicklaus design is also available in the renovation and restoration of golf courses. By taking pictures of problem areas, we can alter the photo to demonstrate proposed bunker or

green design ideas. Possessing this capability is essential when attempting to communicate with a concerned Greens committee.

As expected, our clients are ecstatic about the marketing implications of this technology.

Our hardcopy printouts represent realism suitable for any brochure or advertisement. In many cases, various projects have used the computer visualization to attain permitting or help secure financing.

Nicklaus Design currently holds

an exclusive association with the Champion's Group, a clubhouse design-build company based in Chattanooga, Tenn. This relationship affords the opportunity to provide real-time animation of golf hole fly-overs or walk-throughs to Nicklaus Design clients.

Instead of the customary two- to three-month time frame in most cases, we are dealing with only a few weeks.

In my opinion, the secret to perfect animation lies in ensuring the golf course designer creates and

refines the model. I do not want an animation company building terrain models of a Nicklaus Design project.

Our Intergraph equipment and our association with the Champion's Group represents the ideal scenario.

The golf course architect builds and approves the final model. A company specializing in the golf industry then prepares the animation.

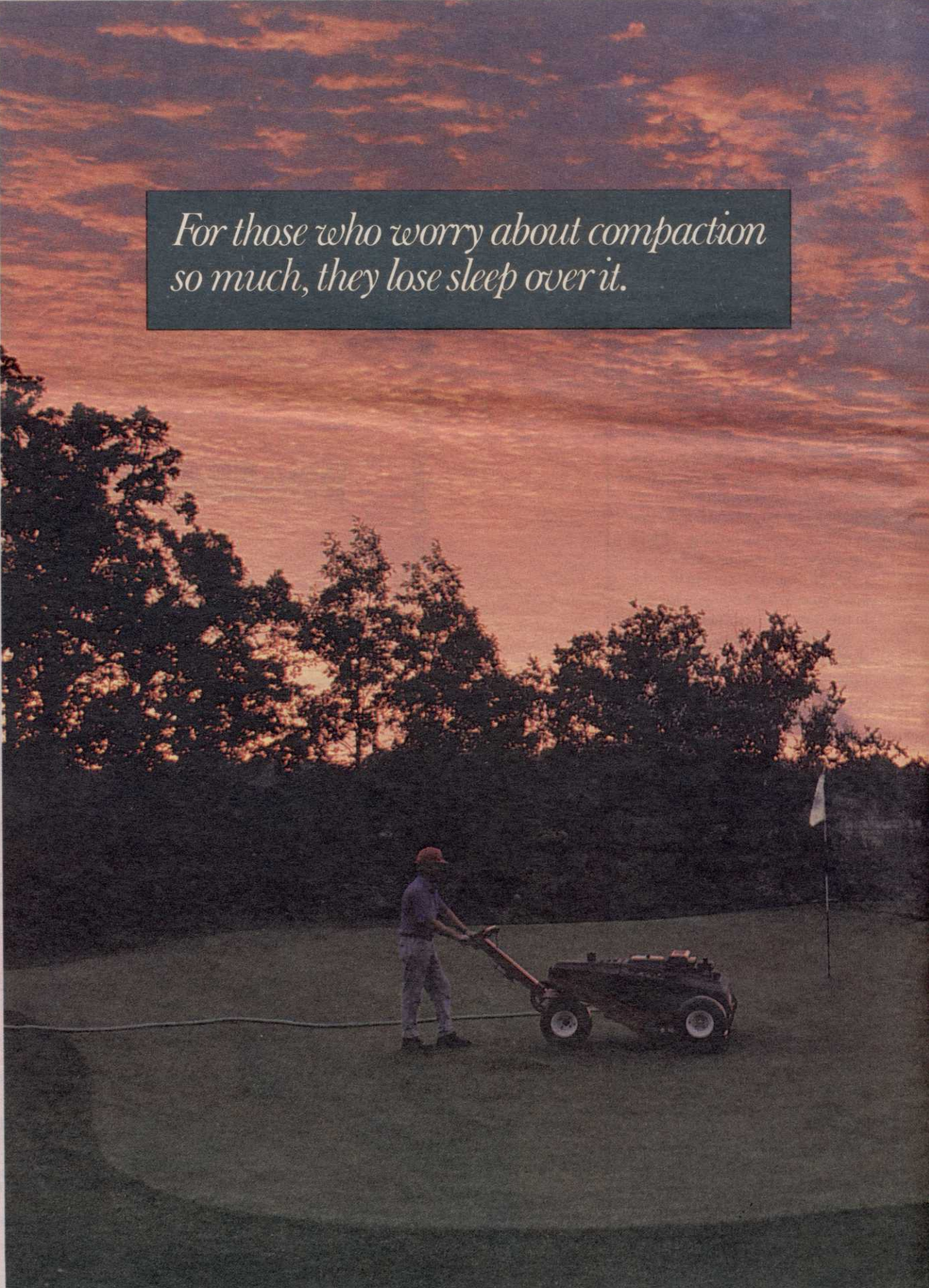
The capability exists to model the 18th hole and then place a computer-modeled clubhouse in its appropriate location. The resulting animation is a powerful marketing tool.

In addition to three-dimensional

design review, computers are also changing the format of information exchange.

The use of blueprints and paper will soon become obsolete. Once the golf course is constructed, the system now serves the superintendent. Contractors provide the as-built information in the form of computer data.

As the golf course matures, a data base has been created and updated, storing any changes to drainage, irrigation, landscape, etc. If a superintendent retires or moves on, his years of knowledge and experience on the golf course remain at the club for his successor.



*For those who worry about compaction so much, they lose sleep over it.*