Golf course architect Bruce Hepner has left the firm of Forse Design to join Tom Doak and Renaissance Golf Design, Inc. of Traverse City, Mich. Hepner will collaborate with Doak on 18-hole projects as well as work on his own restoration projects. Hepner, who is working out of a West Leisenring, Pa., office until moving to Traverse City at the turn of the year, is restoring two Donald Ross tracks in Michigan — Rackham GC in Royal Oak and Franklin Hills CC in Franklin. Hepner designed automobiles in Detroit for eight years before returning to college and earning a civil engineering degree in 1990 from Michigan Technical University. He joined Ron Forse in Uniontown, Pa., that year.

**BRIEFS**

**HEPNER JOINS DOAK**

Golf course architect Bruce Hepner was designed by Al Zikorus and course management, Inc., of Shelton. The daily-fee course will be known as Gainfield Farms. Opening is scheduled for the summer of 1994. The layout has begun on a new nine-hole course at Gainfield Farms. Opening is expected.

**GAINFIELD FARMS UNDER WAY**

SHELTON, Conn. — Construction has begun on a new nine-hole course here. The daily-fee course will be known as Gainfield Farms. Opening is scheduled for the summer of 1994. The layout was designed by Al Zikorus and course contractor is Eastern Land Management, Inc., of Shelton.

**AGSCHA RELEASES PAMPHLET**

The American Society of Golf Course Architects has published its 1993-94 membership list featuring all the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the 117 members. The pamphlet also includes a state by state listing of members. To receive a free copy of the 1993-94 AGSCHA Membership List, send a stamped, self-addressed business envelope to: The American Society of Golf Course Architects, 221 N. LaSalle St., Chicago 60601.

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**Effects of '93 flood to be felt in 1994**

By HAL PHILLIPS

TOLEDO, Ohio — The effects of this year's Midwestern flooding will not be seen until next year, according to golf course builders working in the nation's heartland. But projects due to open next year will almost certainly be delayed by the damaging wet season in the Midwest and the severe drought in the Southeast.

Members of the Golf Course Builders Association of America indicated their workload had not suffered, despite the heavy rains of May, June and July.

"Usually it's so dry this time of year, you have to worry about clumps of dirt — but not this year," said Bill Kubly, president of Nebraska-based Landscapes Unlimited. "I think in terms of course openings, you're still seeing the results of last year's efforts.

"There's definitely been a [construction] slowdown because of all the rain this year. But you won't see the effects of that until next year.

Illinois-based Wadsworth Construction has been forced to go slow on projects in Minneapolis and Wisconsin, while another in St. Louis was abandoned altogether.

"We haven't had any projects in the direct area of flooding," said Brent Wadsworth of Illinois-based Wadsworth Construction. "But there's been so much rain all spring and summer, we haven't been able to get a whole lot done. I mean, a huge area of the country has been affected: From Illinois and Tennessee west to Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming."

A Landscapes Unlimited project in Sioux Falls, S.D. — a Dick Nugent design called Prairie Green — has been delayed by Mother Nature. Another in Des Moines — a Tom Fazio project called Glen Oaks — is situated on high ground, but the flood conditions caused much more discontent.

"My crew in Des Moines were without running water for two weeks," Kubly said. "People were telling them when to bathe and when not. I went up to check on them and things were still pretty high, but those aren't exactly ideal conditions."

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**Americanization of Asian course design continues**

YAMANASHI PREFECTURE, Japan — Despite the golf course development lull in Japan, Von Hagge Design Associates are moving forward on two projects.

Von Hagge's Mike Sneekle reports that, after three years of "political gymnastics," his firm has received approval to begin work on Minobu Golf Club here, in the shadow of Mt. Fuji. Local and national authorities requested a slew of modified routing plans before approving the project.

However, Minobu GC will be worth the wait, says Sneekle. The rugged piece of property lies in the foothills just south of the Fuji River valley. To help negotiate the severe topography, von Hagge will employ an extensive network of retaining walls between two and 15 meters in height. Sneekle estimates that two million cubic meters of earth will be moved during construction.

Two more von Hagge Japanese projects are scheduled for completion this year: Maoli Resort in Hokkaido and Arima Royal near Kobe.

Meanwhile, the von Hagge Design team expects to break ground on Ajiou Country Club in early 1994. This 54-hole complex is owned by Ube Industries.

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**Chung An Golf & Country Club**

CHUNG SAN, China — Not unlike many of his fellow designers, Jack Nicklaus has been busy on the Chinese Mainland. His first 18-holes — The Chung Shan Hot Springs Resort — will open here this fall.

Meanwhile, in Shenzhen, another 18 holes should open for play next year at the Mission Hills resort. Another 18 holes are planned for this southern Chinese project.

Construction has begun on another Nicklaus project in Shanghai, where a 1995 opening is expected. Other Nicklaus projects scheduled to open this year include Chung An Golf & Country Club.

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**Bill Amick: Champion of modified golf**

Bill Amick may be from Scipio, Ind., and maintain a house in Florida, but he could call Europe his home nowadays. The 61-year-old Amick, who has spent most of the last 40 years designing golf courses, has spent much of the last several years flying from Florida to Europe and back. He is popular in Belgium, Italy and Portugal.

President of the American Society of Golf Course Architects in 1977, Amick was also the founding president of the American Modified Golf Association.

Bill Amick: Far more full-length courses.

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