Palmer-Seay team: A time-honored tradition

Twenty-six years ago golfing legend Arnold Palmer_linked up with architect Ed Seay to design a golf course. More than 125 courses later, they are still together and among the most sought-after architects in the world: Palmer, 66, the golf icon, winner of 60 PGA Tour events; Seay, 58, the consummate course architect and former president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects. Catching them at a rare time when they both were in one place, we asked them these questions.

GCN: Outside of America, things are so varied in regards to regulations. Is there one country you enjoy working in more than the others?
Seay: I've enjoyed Ireland, Japan and Australia. Only in Australia and Ireland was English spoken when we first started. I started working in Japan with Arnold in 1971 and there was very, very little English spoken. We were never without an interpreter. That has changed a lot.

GCN: Are you very popular anywhere. If you want to leap into just about anywhere in the world, everybody knows him.
Seay: You wander through a fish hatchery outside Bangkok and along this strip of land down by the fish ponds. It's about a foot wide and a foot above water. In front of us about 30 guys are beating on straw baskets with sticks. I ask them what they were doing, and I'm told, "They're just..."

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Better relations, products are GCBAA's new goal

By MARK LESLIE

Paul Eldredge, president of Wadsworth Golf Construction Co., headquartered here, said: "The next emphasis should be our alliance with the architects, finding ways to improve the quality of golf courses, working with the environmental issues that face us all, and assuring we don't do anything that would be negative to the continued expansion of golf."

"All the people in the industry — superintendents and allied associations — have begun to work together to identify those issues and come to grips with them before they become a major deterrent to golf."

The GCBAA will address some of these issues at its summer meeting, Aug. 8-10, in Louisville, Ky. A panel on

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Wogan solo no more

By MARK LESLIE

TOPSFIELD, Mass. — Little did George Sargent Jr. know when he took his first job out of college working at the Phil Wogan-designed North Conway (N.H.) Country Club that one day he would be a partner with Wogan. But today that is true.

Long-time golf course architect Wogan and superintendents-turned-contractor/project manager Sargent have incorporated as a new design team, Wogan and Sargent, Inc.

Working out of headquarters here and in Franklin, N.H., Wogan and Sargent have several projects under construction and more in the works.

"I'm fortunate to be working with Phil," Sargent said. "His experience, along with my background in the business, makes a..."

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FOSTER BUSY IN TEXAS

HOUStON, Texas — Following on The Quarry in San Antonio, which opened in 1993, Keith Foster has secured another design opportunity within the state of Texas. The latest, Cypresswood Golf Complex here, has opened in 1993, Keith Foster has secured another design opportunity within the state of Texas. The latest, Cypresswood Golf Complex here, has opened in 1993, Keith Foster has secured another design opportunity within the state of Texas.

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Hole course. The site has stands of pines and magnolias, as well as ground

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EVANSVILLE, Ind. — Tom Doak and Renaissance Golf Design have broken ground on an 18-hole daily-fee course here. Quail Crossing is part of a new residential community now under construction. The developer and contractor is Kilmer’s assistant pro and architect, has designed more than 60 golf courses since 1956.

The routing and land plan were both designed by Renaissance, which is also providing the shaping of greens and bunkers. The final plan for the 310-acre property calls for a par-71 course of just more than 6,500 yards, overlooked by 175 housing lots, 85 percent of which have golf course frontage.

The course is styled in imitation of Shinnecock Hills, with fairway bunkers framed by little bluestem and other prairie grasses, selected in conjunction with Quail Unlimited to provide suitable habitat for the birds after which the course is named.

An old coal-mining spoils area near the center of the property has been used for portions of five holes on the front nine, turning a negative for the development into a positive for the golf. This allows the course to reap the benefits of a central “core” without housing intrusion. Care was taken to preserve trees and add native grasses to make these holes feel like part of the course.

• The abrupt elevation changes add drama at the par-4 7th, with a second shot through a notch between spoil piles, and at the tiny par-3 8th, with a 40-foot drop to a narrow green.

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Fort Ord could expand by 5 new courses

MONTEREY, Calif. — A civilian reuse plan for the former Army base Fort Ord suggests that as many as five new golf courses could be built at the site to go along with the two that are already there.

Although the plan won’t be finished until July, a draft is now being reviewed by the members and staff of the Fort Ord Reuse Author- ity. Several different neighboring cities and Monterey County have jurisdiction over parts of the site and could eventually decide to build golf courses.

According to the current version of the plan, up to two new golf courses could be built in the city of Marina, another in the “South Gate” area that is to be annexed to the city of Del Ray Oaks, and two in unincorporated areas near California State University at Monterey Bay and near the Bureau of Land Management’s nature preserve in the eastern half of Fort Ord.

The plan also calls for up to 17,600 new housing units and 2,000 hotel rooms and 12 million square feet of office parks and research space.