Ervin values environmental integrity of his sites

Lindsay Ervin has been designing golf courses since joining late architect David Gill in Wisconsin when he graduated in landscape architecture from Purdue University in 1968. In 1973 he went to work with Greenhorn and O'Mara, a large multidisciplinary consulting firm in Maryland. Shortly afterward, he designed Hog Neck Golf Course in Easton, Md., an award-winning golf course that served as a springboard to a successful career. Ervin is a member of the American Society of Golf Course Architects and his firm, Lindsay Ervin & Associates, Inc., is headquartered in Crofton, Md.

... Golf Course News: You have been aggressive in environmentally conscious design. Has this always been your philosophy in design?

Lindsay Ervin: Yes, it has always been. I have always wanted to ensure that we would maintain the integrity of the environmental aspects of the site. I have always liked to use the quality natural parts of the environment for the design of the golf hole as much as possible — the wetlands, special forested areas, natural topography, features of the ridge to incorporate in the design rather than tear them down. Nowadays, environmental regulations force you to stay away from them to start with.

GCN: Has the industry as a whole been more environmentally conscientious in recent years?

LE: Over the last 10 years it's been more conscientious.

GCN: Have we become better able to address environmental concerns?

LE: Knowing how to professionally apply fertilizers and treatments.

Continued on page xx

PLUMMAGE TO PINEHURST

Architects to mark 50th anniversary
March 26 to 31

PINEHURST, N.C. — The American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) will return to the home of one of its founders — Donald Ross's beloved Pinehurst — for its golden anniversary here March 26-31.

President Jeff Brauer said the society will extend its meeting a day to accommodate several special 50th anniversary activities. Seminar topics will include the evolution of golf course architecture during the society's first 50 years; the future of golf course development in America; the continued strength of public golf; and the impact of changing environmental legislation.

ASGCA members will play their tournament over three Ross courses and honor someone who has made significant contributions to golf course architecture at the 1996 Donald Ross Awards dinner. Ross, who designed hundreds of courses, spent the majority of his time in Pinehurst. He hosted the first society meeting in Pinehurst and was elected honorary president.

Expected to attend the annual meeting are about 100 of the society's members, including Robert Trent Jones Sr., the only living founding member of the original 14. The other 13 founding members were Billy Bell, Robert White, William Langford, Robert Bruce Harris (the first president), Stanley Thompson, William Gordon, Bill Diddle, Perry Maxwell, Jack Daray, Robert "Red" Lawrence, J.D. McGovern, Wayne Stiles and Ross.