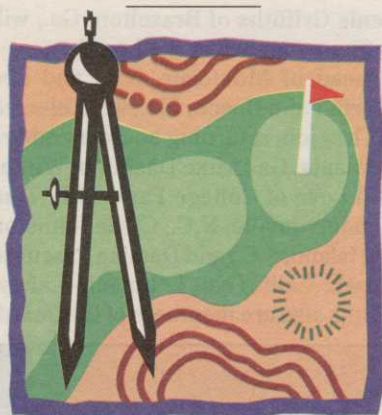


## BRIEFS



## IC&amp;E OPENS CHARLOTTE OFFICE

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Irrigation Consulting & Engineering, Inc. has opened an office here, expanding regional service to its design and management operations in the Mid-Atlantic region. Irrigation Consulting & Engineering, Inc. is based in Pepperell, Mass., with other offices in Cleveland and Elgin, Ill. "Our increased reach offers clients greater local service opportunities, while employing the same proven advances in irrigation design and technology that IC&E has always provided its clientele," said President Brian Vinchesi.

## SCHREINER HIRES HELLMAN

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Craig Schreiner Golf Course Architects has appointed Douglas Hellman vice president of business development. Maintaining an office in Illinois, Hellman will guide the firm's marketing and business development activities in the United States and abroad. He began his career in golf as a project architect with Dick Nugent Associates and was most recently director of business development for Jacobson Golf Course Design, both Chicago-based golf firms.

## GCBA A ON THE WEB

The Golf Course Builders Association of America (GCBA A) has debuted on the Internet, with the completion of its World Wide Web site: <http://www.gcbaa.org>. The site includes names and addresses of all current GCBA A members, as well as general information about the association, and an on-line version of the GCBA A's bimonthly newsletter, *Earth-Shaping News*. The site can be accessed via the *Golf Course News* site at [www.golfcoursenews.com](http://www.golfcoursenews.com).



## TRAVIS, RAYNOR TRACKS FACE CHANGE

HAWORTH, N.J. — The Northeast Golf Co. is developing renovation plans for White Beeches Golf and Country Club here. White Beaches is a circa 1920s Walter Travis layout. Plans are to rebuild and expand many of the tees and restore the bunkering throughout. Meanwhile, Gardiner's Bay Golf Club, which maintains many remnants of Seth Raynor's design philosophy, is planning to restore the bunkering back to the forms and strategic positioning of the original layout. Gardiner's Bay is on Shelter Island on Long Island, N.Y.



## Where Sultan once ran

The 14th hole at Sultan's Run.

JASPER, Ind. — The heralded remodeling plan at Sultan's Run Golf Course here was unveiled May 21. The \$1.5 million project, under golf course designer Tim Liddy, affected all 18 holes.

The original design was done by General Manager Allen Sternberg and then head pro Tom Jones. Wadsworth Golf Construction of Plainfield, Ill., began work on Liddy's redesign in 1996.

## Course situated on former horse farm

"We felt it was time to take a good product and make it a showcase," said head PGA professional Rusty Mason. "What we had the past five years was a good layout, but one that wasn't functional for the long haul. We decided

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## Cement factory, gravel quarry transformed in Mich.

By NORMAN SINCLAIR

PETOSKEY, Mich. — Golf critics are running out of superlatives to describe Bay Harbor Golf Club, taking shape on a five-mile stretch of Lake Michigan shoreline in northern Michigan where once stood a cement factory and sand and gravel quarry. The 27 holes, 18 of which are open this season and nine of which will be ready for limited play in the fall,

"shreds every adjective in the book," said golf writer Jack Berry.

Architect Arthur Hills had high praise for the site, describing it as the opportunity of a lifetime. The golf course is the centerpiece of a mega-million-dollar Victorian-theme development that includes a yacht club, condominium-suites hotel, and shopping and restaurant village.

Seven holes play along the water, some

on bluffs 170 feet above Little Traverse Bay. Hills routed the 27 holes over and through four diverse geological formations — sand dunes, a quarry, lakeshore and wooded uplands.

The Links Course holes flow along the top of the rocky bluffs above the water, with fairways and some greens perched on the edge of those bluffs. Four of the

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## Kay gaining design stature

Stephen Kay entered golf course architect in 1977, joining William Newcomb's firm. He was made an associate in 1980, then started his own practice in 1983 in Bronxville, N.Y. He was voted into the American Society of Golf Course Architects two years ago.

**Golf Course News:** You've been called a new, up-and-coming architect, but you have quite a history. What was your foundation in golf course architecture?

**Stephen Kay:** Besides my academic education of a degree in landscape architecture from Syracuse and a turfgrass management degree from Michigan State, I was a superintendent for a couple of years and worked in construction a couple of years. But when I left Michigan and came back to New York to start my own practice renovating the old classic architects (Donald Ross, A.W. Tillinghast, Devereau Emmet, Seth Raynor) and trying to duplicate what the masters did, that's been a great foundation for me to then leap into new golf courses.

**GCN:** Especially with Blue Heron Pines [in the Atlantic City area], you seem to be doing more new projects.

**SK:** Yes. I did a couple of new courses in the '80s, but my bread and butter was renovation work. Then, Blue Heron Pines



The 534-yard, 1st hole at New York Country Club, a new 18-hole private course designed by Stephen Kay, which opened June 14 in Rockland County.

was really the start of getting a lot of work. The golf course has gotten a lot of nice press... That has snowballed into basically doing one or two new courses every year since 1992.

**GCN:** It seems that The Links at North Dakota has put you up another echelon.

**SK:** Thank you. It probably has in the fact that *Golf Digest* named it second-best

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## ASGCA accepts Fought, Benkusky and Kavanaugh

TORONTO — The American Society of Golf Course Architects elected three new associate members — Mike Benkusky of Marengo, Ill., Ken Kavanaugh of Tucson, Ariz., and John Fought of Aurora, Ore. — during its 51st annual meeting here.

An associate of Lohmann Golf Designs, Benkusky's work includes Bishops Bay Golf Course (GC) in Middleton, Wis., and Boulder Ridge Country Club (CC) in Lake in the Hills, Ill.

As principal of his own firm, Kavanaugh has designed Southwyck GC in Pearland, Texas; The Vistas at Westbrook Village in Peoria, Ariz.; Seasons Ridge GC in Lake Ozark, Mo.; and the Oregon GC in West Linn, Ore.

Fought is principal of John Fought Design/OB Sports LLC and is responsible for such layouts as Big Sky Golf & Country Club in Pemberton, B.C., Canada; and CrossWater in Sunriver, Ore.



Gary Player and Stephen Kay at Manhattan Woods which they co-designed in West Nyack, N.Y.

## Q&A: Kay

Continued from page 39

new public course in the country and *Golfweek* ranked it 41 in the top 100 modern courses. I really didn't design the golf course. God did. The topography is perfect for a golf course. The soil is perfect. We did not build greens. We did the old pushup method. In fact, on six

of the greens the contour was so perfect that after I shot grade, I told the contractor, "That's it. Don't touch it." We sprayed Roundup twice, rototilled it and seeded it. We only moved literally 7,000 yards of earth.

**GCN:** Sandhills [in Nebraska, designed by Ben Crenshaw and Bill Coore] and The Links at North Dakota were both getting a lot of national press when they opened, and they came along

when there was a lot of talk about "minimalism" in design. Do you think the big splash those two courses made an impact on the golf world?

**SK:** I think it has. Minimalism is just a catchword. But I think it is getting developers to start thinking that these big-budget golf courses perhaps could be built less expensively if they don't move as much dirt.

**GCN:** You've studied the clas-

sic designers. Ross, at the end of his life when dynamite started to be used, said this was great stuff.

**SK:** He also became aware of bulldozers.

**GCN:** Do you think he might not have been the minimalist, as we think of him today?

**SK:** The last few golf courses he designed, in 1946 and '47, in the construction drawings show that he was moving more earth, cutting hills down more and rais-

ing greens more to get rid of more blind shots than he used to. After World War II, the factories that were building the tanks started building bulldozers en masse and earthmoving became easier.

**GCN:** So has there perhaps been an overemphasis in trying to keep Donald Ross designs as they originally were, and should there be more emphasis on how he might change them if he were alive today?

**SK:** I do try to put myself in his shoes and think what he would do.

**GCN:** If there were a Stephen Kay fingerprint on a course, what would it be?

**SK:** I don't think there would be. The only thing I do on all my new courses is a Redan par-3. But I do them differently. Sometimes I flash the sand. Sometimes I bring the grass down. Sometimes I do a Redan just like at North Berwick. Other times I do a reverse Redan and have it go from left to right rather than from right to left. I just think it's a great par-3. And it's fun to do every time. Maybe I'll get tired of it, but right now I'm still enjoying doing it every time.

I try to change and be different from course to course so that you wouldn't know.

**GCN:** What would be your dream work load?

**SK:** I'd like to do two to three new courses each year. I would like to do a municipal executive course, so that beginners and the new people I think will come into this game ... would have a place to learn and not be frustrated with a long, hard golf course. I would like to do two nice 18s and one executive course a year, plus five nice renovations, where the clubs want to do some quality work and a good amount of work, say, six holes.

I'd obviously love to do something in Scotland or Ireland. But I question if it would be a better piece of property than the one in North Dakota. I could work until I'm 95 and I don't know if I'll have a better piece of property.

**GCN:** Who do you think is the greatest architect of all time?

**SK:** From the old guys, you'd have to pick from one of three: Tillinghast, Ross or Mackenzie. Ross might have had the best putting surfaces; Oyster Harbor in Cape Cod has the best putting surfaces I've seen anywhere — better than Pinehurst #2. The best bunkers are Mackenzie's and Tillinghast's. Tillinghast also set up some great strategic, risk-and-reward holes. Ross did some very good routing. Lots of times you see the quality of an architect with the routing. A lot of times you'll go to a golf course and there are 15 nice holes and three or four that are just horrible. They are squeezed in to try to make it 18. All the archi-

Continued on next page

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## Kay team busy on Indian course

By MARK LESLIE

DELHI, India — Public golf in India is about to become a reality. The Delhi Development Authority (DDA), in charge of beautifying this city of 6 million, has started the clearing and large earth-moving for its Public Golf Course Lado Sarai situated in the third city of Delhi called Tuglaqabad.

"They're very excited about this project," said Doug Smith, lead architect with Stephen Kay Golf Course Architects in Bronxville, N.Y. "They want to teach

people to play golf.

"It's the talk of the town because they have three private courses, but no public golf courses. The number of golfers is growing. They have long waiting lists to join Delhi Golf Club and The Army Golf Course."

An extensive 30-tee practice range, with a chipping area and putting greens, has already been completed at Public Golf Course Lado Sarai. It may be lighted at night. A full restaurant will be built for

the facility. Plans are to complete construction of the course by next March and open it late in the year.

The famous Qutub Minar monument, a 72.5-meter-high tower built by Qutub-din-Aibak in 1199, is visible from every hole, and the dominant feature of the course will be an ancient, 18-foot-high wall that borders one side of the property.

...

Kay may be familiar to some Indian golfers. He designed the nine-hole Aravalli Golf Course in Faridabad near here in 1988 and nine-hole Royal Bhutan Golf Club in the Kingdom of Bhutan in 1986.

## Kay and Player team on New York project

WEST NYACK, N.Y. — A new 18-hole private facility, Manhattan Woods, is under construction here. Constructed on 220 acres, this course will measure 6,800 yards and play to par 72. Golf course architect Stephen Kay and Gary Player Design Group teamed up on the design.

Construction began in February and the facility is expected to be open for play by July 1998. The construction contractor is Turco Renovations from New York.

## Q&A with Kay

Continued from previous page

teets joke about how we had this great 16- or 17-hole golf course on our drafting table. Doing a golf course is like doing a puzzle. It's not always easy.

**GCN:** Who is your favorite modern architect?

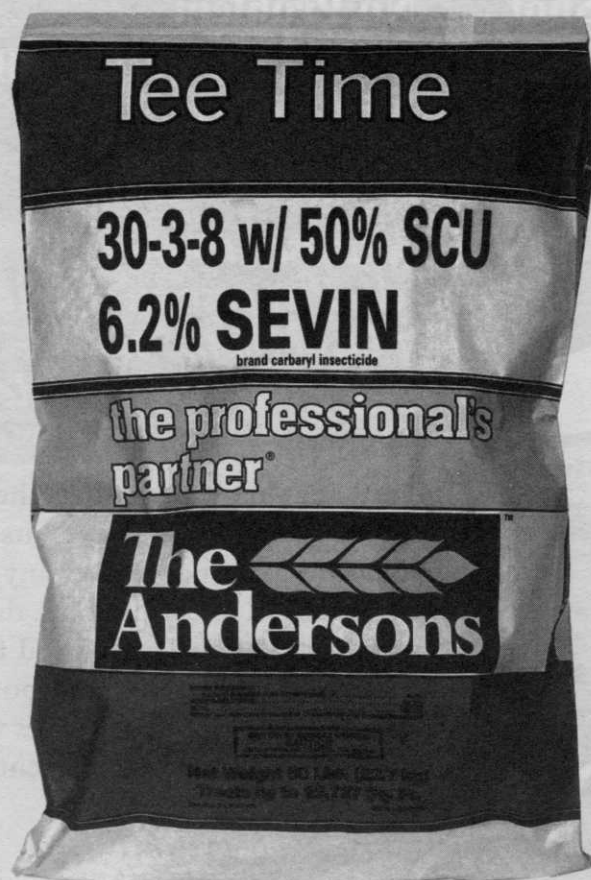
**SK:** People talk about the Golden Age of architecture in the '20s with the Tillinghasts and Rosses. I think the last 10 to 15 years is maybe even a better Golden Age. The quality of architecture is tremendous. There are architects working today who have been in business a long time, that when you look at their work 20 years ago and their work today it's much better work today — because of competition, because of the desire, because of the media. It all goes to Pete Dye and in the '70s. Slowly, but surely, golf course architecture started to become something very much recognized. Golfers cared about it. Magazines wrote about it. There are all these "best-of" lists. Whether they are good or bad, who's to say, but they've obviously brought a lot of media and public attention to golf course architecture.

**GCN:** Does anything weigh on your mind about the design business today?

**SK:** One negative thing: This celebrity label name that clients are wanting. In the '20s there were pros who dabbled in golf course architecture. But if you had a golf course today, who would you rather have had design it — Walter Hagan, or Tillinghast or Ross? I think it would be Tillinghast or Ross. And I think that's what's going to happen 20 or 30 years from now. People won't care that a big-time player who won two majors designed a golf course. They are going to want to know that it was Steve Smyers, or Bob Lohmann, or Stephen Kay. What's sad is, the real architects, the ones who have a real passion for design, are losing out on jobs. And they are paying these celebrities more than they're paying designers and we're working two to three years putting hundreds and thousands of hours in, while they're on site two or three times, get their pictures on it and the owners say it sells memberships. To me, what sells memberships is a good golf course that golfers want to play again and again.

It's getting ludicrous. I think it hurts us. These clients, if they would just think. You would be proud today to have a Pete Dye, or Tom Fazio or Rees Jones golf course. None of those guys are on the PGA Tour and they are designer-label names in a way. They are legitimate, qualified golf course architects. They have deserved what they have gotten. But today you have to have a Tour name. It's sad.

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