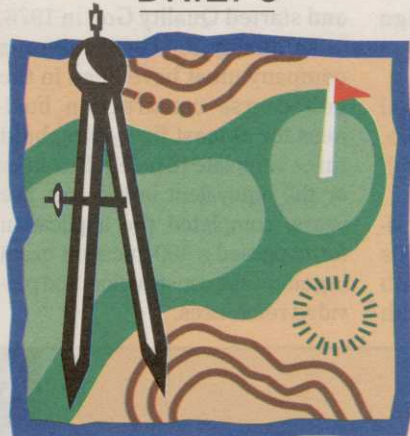


BRIEFS



FOREST HIGHLANDS TAPS KITCHELL

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — Kitchell Contractors will serve as construction manager/general contractor for infrastructure during the expansion of Forest Highlands, a golf community eight miles south of here. The \$15 million project, developed by DMB Associates and the Forest Highlands Homeowners Association, includes lot development for 170 custom home sites with lot sizes averaging three-fourths of an acre, mass grading for a Tom Weiskopf-designed golf course and six miles of roads and utilities. It totals approximately 500 acres. The project began in May and should be completed by the summer of 1998.

PENN STATE HONORS LDR FOUNDER

COLUMBIA, Md.— Frederick D. Jarvis, president and co-founder of LDR International, Inc., has been selected by The Pennsylvania State University, Arts & Architecture/Performing Arts Alumni Board as a recipient of the 1997 Arts & Architecture Alumni Achievement Award. These awards are given annually to alumni of the college who have distinguished themselves in their profession.

Former Player chief to write own Signature

By MARK LESLIE

STUART, Fla. — After overseeing construction of 35 golf courses over the last 10 years for Gary Player Design Co., Jim Applegate now will put his own signature on golf courses. Applegate, the founder and former president of Player Design, already has two contracts on his desk for Signature Course Design and will finish projects already started with Player, he said.

"Rather than a sharp break in business, it's a very smooth, long-term transition,"



Jim Applegate

Applegate said. "In fact, I agreed with Gary last week to work on a project in New York State. We have four or five courses under construction and will finish those as well. It will take 1-1/2 to 2 years."

Signature Course Design, in fact, is "the same staff, same equipment, concepts and philosophy that were developed along with Gary," Applegate said from his offices here.

While the firm is working for its own accounts, if clients desire "name" architects for reasons of marketing, course style or demand, Applegate will put together the team, he said.

Indeed, Signature Course Design has "loose verbal arrangements" with three or four PGA Tour players, including one major LPGA star, Applegate said. "I personally think that's [female designers] been a missing element. There are so

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Tom McBroom's Lake Joseph Club north of Toronto.

McBroom taking full advantage of Canada's 'strong, natural features'

Canadian Thomas McBroom is president of Thomas McBroom Associates, a Toronto-based design firm he founded in 1978. He has designed more than 60 courses, including such widely known layouts as *The Links at Crowbush Cove on Prince Edward Island (PEI)*; *Le Geant at Mont Tremblant, Quebec*; and *Camelot Golf Club in Cumberland, Ontario*, all first- or second-place finishers in Golf Digest's *Best New Course in Canada Awards*. Current work includes projects in *British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, PEI, Vermont and Barbados*.

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Golf Course News: What is your design philosophy?

Thomas McBroom: Golf design begins with the land. Canada has many

strong, natural features that allow an architect to do a lot with rock formations, water and undulating ground. That makes for bold, striking courses and often memorable holes.

GCN: Is there a particular course of yours that solidified your reputation?

TM: Crowbush Cove gained a lot of recognition. The land allowed us to design something similar to Pete Dye's Ocean Course at Kiawah Island [S.C.].

Any architect would be lying if he told you he didn't want to build a course by the ocean. You don't get sites like that very often. Politically and environmentally it took some time to get approved. But it was worth the wait.

GCN: In general, is it hard to get approval for a course in Canada?

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READY TO TEE IT UP IN GALENA

The General at Eagle Ridge, the new 18-hole addition at Eagle Ridge Inn & Resort in Galena, Ill., held its grand opening ceremonies over Memorial Day Weekend, May 23-26. Designed by two-time U.S. Open champion Andy North in collaboration with architect Roger Packard, The General might have been in play last fall — but discretion has once again proved the better part of valor. "The course had an excellent fall and winter to grow in," said Jon Comber, general manager at Eagle Ridge. "We made a tough choice late last summer to not sacrifice the integrity of play an open the course early. Over Memorial Day weekend, we saw the rewards of that decision."

No slowdown seen in Asia's hottest market

By ROB GLUCKSMAN

QUEZON CITY, The Philippines — More than three years into the Filipino golf-development boom, construction companies are still building here and the market for memberships remains strong, despite overall concerns about a building glut and the 1998 presidential elections.

With at least eight major projects completed in the past five years and 20 more under construction — plus dozens more in various planning stages — the country remains Southeast Asia's hottest market for new construction. Despite apparent overbuilding, golf-industry leaders point to strong fundamentals which separate The Philippines from market disasters which have befallen, for instance, the Thai market.

"The big difference here is that you've got real estate underpinning the value of the shares," said Rudy Anderson, regional managing director for ClubCorp, manager of The Orchard Golf & Country Club outside Manila. "It's not a 'right of access' like you have in Thailand. Members actually own the project, the land and improvements, and share values are based on that net asset value."

"All the projects under construction are solidly financed from what we can see," agreed Ed Johnson, area manager for East Asia for Rain Bird Irrigation. "Our business is good, and there are none

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- Weiskopf juggles multiple projects
- Rodney Wright signs two solo deals
- Is anyone busier than Palmer?

Lehman collaborates with Fought at Gallery

MARANA, Ariz. — Tom Lehman, the 1996 PGA Tour Player of the Year and British Open champ, has signed a golf course design agreement in collaboration with John Fought. The project, named The Gallery, is located in here in the foothills of the Tortolita Mountains, 20 miles north of downtown Tucson.

This Lehman/Fought alliance is in keeping with other recent collaborations which feature a prominent "name" player along with a more experienced architect. In this

case, Fought is a former PGA Tour player himself. Fought's playing highlights include winning the 1977 U.S. Amateur and two PGA Tour victories in 1979. When injuries halted Fought's playing career, he redirected his passion for the game into golf course design.

"Working on this project with Tom [Lehman] is a real pleasure for me," said Fought. "He has a terrific feel for the design business and brings a very fresh perspective to the strategic elements. He is also such a

first-class person, that he elevates any project he's associated with. We hope to do more projects together in the future."

Lehman doesn't plan to cut back his playing schedule to pursue golf course design projects. He will, however, significantly reduce his appearances in corporate outings and other outside events to make time for this new endeavor.

"I am very excited to be working with John, and I think The Gallery will quickly become known as one of the finest courses in the Southwest," said Lehman.

Applegate

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many women playing today, it's appropriate for an LPGA player to consult on the ladies' side. The only one who has come close to that has been Alice Dye, and rightfully so: a good player who understands the game."

A legacy of nearly three dozen designs since 1986 with Player, Applegate said, is "the thing I'm most proud of. Gary has his name on some good golf courses."

He particularly pointed out The Floridian in Stuart, designed for entrepreneur Wayne Hui-zenga, the just-opened Raspberry Falls in Leesburg, Va., and Mission Hills North in Rancho Mirage, Calif.

Phil Jacobs, a senior designer based in Player's native South Africa, will relocate to Florida and work with Signature Design during the transition period. Jacobs has overseen all Player design projects outside the Americas.

When working with Player, the U.S. staff was restricted to North and South America. "Now, we will seek work elsewhere," Applegate said. The courses that his firm designs, he said, will be "playable, enjoyable and visually exciting, but ones that are not too difficult to play."

"That means, don't create artificial forced carries, and don't build greens that are so undulating that Tour pros and others can't handle them. With the equipment we have today, these greens are kept at 9 or 10 [Stimp-meter readings]. It's craziness. The average golfer doesn't hit seven or eight greens in a round, and architects penalize him when he does get there. We've [Player Design] been criticized for being too easy on the putting greens; but golfers agree with us."

Regarding the contributions of Touring pros to designs, Applegate said: "They understand shot value and degree of difficulty, and if they pay attention during those pro-ams, they see how regular golfers play."

"To the extent that a really good Tour player can give input, everybody wins. You don't expect them to know about permitting, grading, drainage, grassing — those types of technical issues that you have to deal with. But they can sure help a design."

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While Applegate is its president and sole shareholder, Signature Course Design's senior designer is Tim Freeland and its design associate is J. Scott Applegate, Jim's son who is in charge of CADD system. Freeland was with Player Design for 7 years. Larry Mancour, who owns and operates his own golf course in Michigan, is the firm's construction and design supervisor. Bill Deitsch is its traveling construction supervisor.



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