

BRIEFS



DESIGNER MYSLINSKI JOINS JACOBSON

LIBERTYVILLE, Ill. — Jacobson Golf Course Design has named Doug Myslinski a design associate. Myslinski, a landscape architect from West Virginia University, has been in the golf course construction business for five years with Wadsworth Golf Construction's Midwest region. He had worked in the field as a supervisor for two years and in the Plainfield office as the chief estimator for three years. Duties with Jacobson will include project design assistance, document preparation and on-site supervision.

AURORA TABS KAVANAUGH

AURORA, Colo. — The city of Aurora, Colorado/Golf Division has retained Kenneth M. Kavanaugh Golf Design, of Tucson, Ariz. for a new project called The Homestead at Murphy Creek. This 18-hole daily-fee course will be located in the rolling foothills of the Rocky Mountains with a projected construction date of fall. Kavanaugh was also selected as architect for the destination time share resort project, Seven Canyons, for the New Mexico & Arizona Land Co, in the majestic red rocks setting of Sedona, Arizona.

LANDFILLS TO BE TRANSFORMED

QUINCY, Mass. — Quarry Hills Associates has gotten the go-ahead to build a 27-hole public golf facility on two contiguous landfills in the neighboring towns of Quincy and Milton. Part of the construction of the 27-hole facility, to be called Quarry Hills, is being supported by fill from the massive Central Artery roadway and tunnel project taking place in downtown Boston. The proposed 446-acre Quarry Hills would include a 27-hole golf course, a clubhouse, range, softball and soccer fields, basketball courts and other recreational amenities. Construction is expected to take five years.

HILLS OPENS SOUTHEAST OFFICE

Arthur Hills & Associates has opened a regional office in Charlotte, N.C. Ben



Arthur Hills

Dennett, a design associate with the firm, will manage the office and coordinate Hills' marketing and planning activities in the Southeast. The office is located at 9710 Commons

East Dr., Suite I, Charlotte, N.C. 28277; telephone 704-544-1445.

Hot ... Hot ... Hot!

TPC network takes off with new construction

By PETER BLAIS

The network of PGA Tour Tournament Player Club facilities will reach the quarter-century mark by the year 2000 with seven courses currently under construction or in planning and others being discussed, according to Chris Smith, director of special projects for the PGA Tour.

The latest course to come aboard is the TPC at Wakefield Plantation in Raleigh, N.C. The Hale Irwin design broke ground Sept. 16 and is the first TPC course to be announced as the future home of a Nike Tour event, Smith said.

"It [the number of TPC facilities] is expanding because of the overall success of the TPC network," said Smith, adding that TPC clubs have garnered a number of operational and design awards.

The TPC network runs the gamut from private to public to resort facilities. With the exception of the TPC at Eagle Trace, which yielded the Honda Classic to the recently opened (1996) TPC at Heron Bay, all the PGA Tour Golf Course Properties owned and/or operated by the PGA Tour host Tour events.

The design arm of the PGA Tour — PGA Tour Design Services — works with the architect that the developer hires at each facility to make sure the Tour's needs are addressed. A PGA Tour player is usually also involved as a consultant or designer on the project. "Player involvement is important in the design of all TPC courses," Smith said. "All



TPC at The Canyons in Las Vegas, which opened in October 1996, is one of the latest in the TPC network.

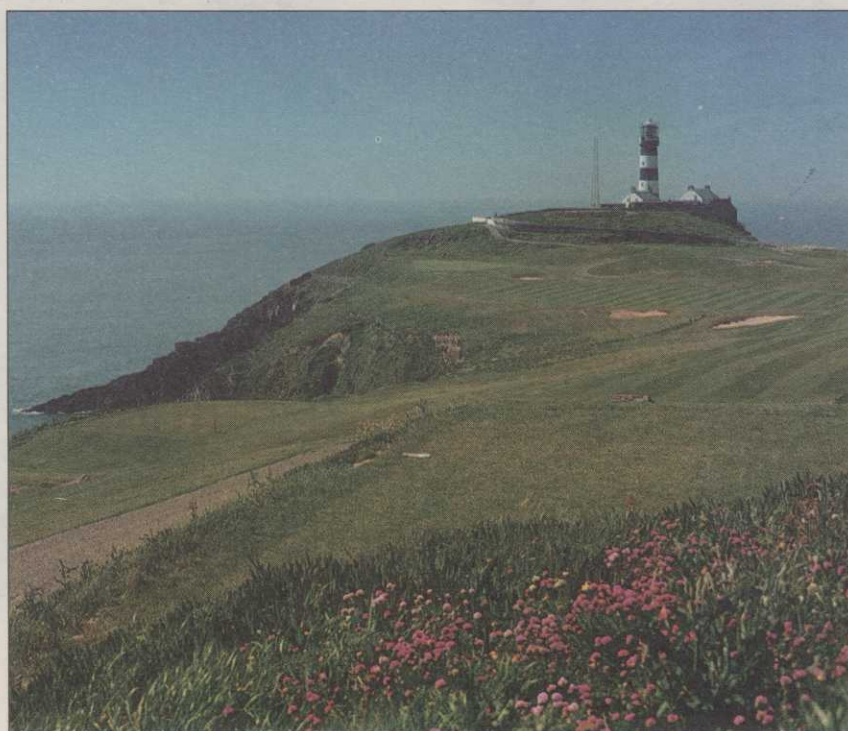
are built with the capability of hosting a major tournament, whether immediately or down the road."

Of the six courses currently under construction or in planning, three already have tournaments planned: The Energizer Senior Tour Championship at the Lanny Wadkins-designed TPC of Myrtle Beach (S.C.) scheduled to open in 1998; the John Deere Classic at the D.A. Weibring-designed TPC at Deere Run in Moline, Ill., opening in 1999; and the Burnet Senior Classic at the TPC of The Twin Cities opening in the year 2000 in Minneapolis.

In addition to the Myrtle Beach facility, three other TPC courses will come on line next year: TPC at Jasna Polana in Princeton, N.J.; TPC at Virginia Beach; and TPC at Snoqualmie in Seattle.

There's a huge benefit to tournament sponsors who use a TPC venue to host their tournament, Smith said. It gives

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The 17th hole at Old Head Golf Links shows off an 18th-century lighthouse, one of its many historical elements.

Old Head: New beauty in the Old Country

By MARK LESLIE

KINSALE, Ireland — The site sits entirely in County Cork on a peninsula whose cliffs plunge down to the Celtic Sea. It contains what its architect calls "the most natural [golf] hole God ever built." And, now complete, it stands as the model for new golf course construction in this country, passing stringent environmental permitting that stretched over five years and resulted in an ecological sanctuary and protection for some fascinating historic landmarks.

The property is Old Head Golf

Links, an 18-hole semi-private course with daily-fee play developed by Irishman John O'Connor, built by local contractor Haulie O'Shea and designed by the American Ron Kirby with consultant Dr. Joe Carr, possibly Ireland's most successful amateur golfer of all time.

"I've never seen anything like this in my life, and others I've talked to agree," said Kirby, who has designed golf courses around the world for more than three decades alongside the likes of Robert Trent Jones Sr., Gary Player

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\$10M in working capital pumped into Golden Bear

NORTH PALM BEACH, Fla. — Golden Bear Golf, Inc. has announced completion of a definitive credit agreement with SunTrust Bank for a \$10 million revolving credit facility to be used to finance the working capital needed to fund the company's continued growth as well as for general corporate purposes.

"We are pleased to have arranged additional working capital financing, especially for our rapidly growing Paragon Construction division, which through June ... has won contract awards in excess of \$90 million for projects expected to be completed over the next nine to 24 months," said Dick Bellinger, president and CEO of Golden Bear Golf, Inc.

"We are also actively pursuing possible additional financing which could take a variety of forms including public offerings or private placements of debt or equity securities, or bank financing."

Under the terms of the commitment, the revolving credit facility will mature in two years with an option for a one-year extension.

Borrowings thereunder will be secured by company assets, excluding certain golf center properties and other assets pledged to secure other long-term indebtedness.



Jack Nicklaus

TPC Network

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them rent-free access to a tournament site as opposed to having to find a spot and paying rent. That translates into a bigger charitable donation.

Myrtle Beach is a good example of a community that worked with the PGA Tour on a new facility, Smith said. The announcement for the new TPC of Myrtle Beach facility was held at The Dunes Club, which had hosted the Senior Tour Championship, Smith said. Myrtle Beach Golf Holiday, the major golf marketing organization for the Grand Strand, is a partner in building of the course.

What does the PGA Tour look for in deciding on a new TPC site?

"Our mission," said Keith Tomlinson, vice president of TPC Development, "is to be in locations that allow us to improve existing tournaments, provide a location that is designed for spectators from the outset, challenge the Tour pro and entertain the average golfer. We also provide a site where the tournament sponsor doesn't have to pay a rental fee. Charities are generally

the sponsor. If we provide a rent-free facility, that leaves more for prize money and charitable donations. So our primary focus for development is in areas where the tournament has outgrown its present facility and needs a new spot to reach its potential."

Tomlinson said he also gets occasional calls from developers saying they have a site, although the local sponsor may not be considering a change. "We'll see if it

makes sense for the tournament and whether it can operate the other 51 weeks as well," he said.

Much of the growth in the TPC network started during the mid-1980s was tied to the need for sites to hold PGA Senior Tour events. For example The TPC of Michigan hosts the Ford Senior Players Championship, the TPC at The Canyons the Las Vegas Senior Classic and the TPC of Myrtle Beach the Energizer Se-

nior Tour Championship.

Sites that have given up tournaments to the new facilities are usually ready to do so, Tomlinson said. They have generally benefited from the marketing exposure the event gave the older course. Now that memberships and/or tee sheets at the non-TPC tourney site are full, giving up the course for tourney week often proves an inconvenience.

The PGA Tour has tradition-

ally opened two to three new TPC facilities annually, Tomlinson said. The Tour hopes to increase that to four to five a year, doubling the number of facilities within the next five to seven years.

The PGA Tour wants to be at least a part owner and operator of all the new operations it opens, Tomlinson said. "There are few if any brand names in the golf business," he said. "We [TPCs] have some brand name recognition."

The Network

The PGA Tour owns and/or operates 14 golf facilities, has seven under construction or planned, has four domestic facilities licensed, but not owned or operated by the PGA Tour, and has six licensed international facilities. They include (opening or projected-opening date in parentheses):

Owned and/or operated

TPC at Sawgrass, Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. (Oct. 1980-Stadium, Feb. 1987-Valley); TPC at Eagle Trace, Coral Springs, Fla. (Dec. 1983); TPC at River Highlands, Cromwell, Conn. (June 1984); TPC at Prestancia, Sarasota, Fla. (Jan. 1985-Club, Jan. 1987-Stadium); TPC at Avenel, Potomac, Md. (Oct. 1986); TPC of Scottsdale, Scottsdale, Ariz. (Dec. 1986); TPC at Southwind, Memphis, Tenn. (March 1988); TPC at Piper Glen, Charlotte, N.C. (Aug. 1988); TPC of Michigan, Dearborn (1990); TPC of Tampa Bay, Fla. (Jan. 1991); TPC at Summerlin, Las Vegas (Nov. 1991); TPC at Heron Bay, Coral Springs, Fla. (May 1996); TPC at The Canyons, Las Vegas (Oct. 1996); TPC at Sugarloaf, Atlanta (May 1997).

Under construction or planned

TPC at Jasna Polana, Princeton, N.J. (1998); TPC of Myrtle Beach, S.C. (1998); TPC of Virginia Beach, Va. (1998); TPC at Deere Run, Moline, Ill. (1999); TPC at Wakefield Plantation, Raleigh, N.C. (1999); TPC of Valencia, Valencia, Calif. (2000); TPC of The Twin Cities, Minneapolis (2000).

Licensed - Domestic

TPC at The Woodlands, Texas (May 1984); TPC at Las Colinas, Irving, Texas (May 1986); TPC at PGA West, La Quinta, Calif. (Jan. 1986); TPC at Snoqualmie, Seattle (1998).

Licensed - International

TPC Batoh, Tochigi Prefecture, Japan; TPC Mito, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan; TPC Mission Hills, Kanchanaburi, Thailand; TPC Mission Hills, Khao Yai, Thailand; TPC Mission Hills, Shenzhen, China; TPC Ichihara, Chiba, Japan.

