Grenelefe West reopens

ORLANDO, Fla. — Another stage has been completed in the multi-million-dollar renovations program at Grenelefe Golf & Tennis Resort near Orlando — the restoration work on Grenelefe West.

After being closed for one month for various reconditioning programs, Grenelefe West reopened its doors on Aug. 8. Tees were rebuilt, some bunkers were redefined and other general conditioning work was done, according to Director of Ground Maintenance John Luper.

"We had some difficult battles with the weather and rain, but overall we are very pleased with the work done on the West," he said. "I think guests who are familiar with Grenelefe West will be pleased with what they see." Grenelefe West will host, for the fourth time, the PGA Tour Qualifying Finals in December.

The West, designed by Robert Trent Jones Sr. and opened in the mid-1960s, was ranked No. 1 in Florida by Golfweek for the six straight years. It has hosted numerous national and regional golf championships and qualifying events.

Walters, Dye plan to recreate Scotland

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — It might take a great deal of imagination to feel transported to Scotland while standing in Las Vegas. But golf course developer Billy Walters is confident he and golf course architect Perry Dye can do it.

Walters and Dye, the team that created Desert Pines here to recreate the feeling of Pinehurst, are now setting out to build an 18-hole links-style course with a Scottish theme meant to evoke the spirit and soul of the Old Course at St. Andrews. They haven't settled on a name for the course yet.

The clubhouse, which will be about 7,000 square feet, will resemble a castle and should be a memorable feature of the new facility, which is being built on 140 acres of county-owned land adjacent to the Stallion Mountain Country Club. The golf course will measure 7,200 yards from the back tees.

Walters told the Las Vegas Review-Journal, "We want our customers when they walk in to play golf here to experience what it is like to play golf in Scotland. Just like we did in trying to recreate something like Pinehurst at Desert Pines with the pine needles and pine trees, we're going to go to the nth degree at this new course to recreate Scotland."

N.H. hits 100th golf course

GOFFSTOWN, N.H. — The new Stonebridge Country Club, a daily-fee 18-hole layout set to open next spring, gives New Hampshire its 100th golf facility.

Stonebridge, a 6,721-yard, par-72 course designed by Phil Wogan and George Sargent, will be the fourth longest 18-hole course in the state when it opens. But it will offer four sets of tees (the shortest playing to 4,719 yards) to give golfers of all abilities a chance to enjoy the course.

The course — located between Concord and Manchester — is set on gently rolling farmland and wooded land with scenic views to the Uncannooc Mountains. Gorham Brook meanders through the property and adds to the ambiance of the course and the challenge, as it cuts across several fairways and fronts some greens. The back nine at Stonebridge will feature three par-5s.

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