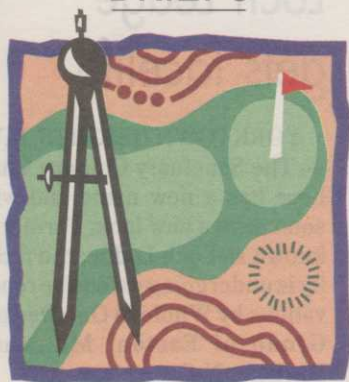


BRIEFS



SNEAD, CUPP TEAM IN GEORGIA

SAVANNAH, Ga. — Sam Snead will join architect Bob Cupp to design an 18-hole golf course as part of the \$98-million Westin Savannah Harbor Resort here. Westin Hotels & Resorts and CSX Realty Development have broken ground on the 290-acre project, which will include a 403-room, luxury hotel. The Westin-managed resort is scheduled to open in the spring of 1999. Troon Golf will operate the golf course.

NC State offers golf course architecture class

By MARK LESLIE

North Carolina State University so liked the golf course architecture short course offered last spring, that it invited Rich Mandell to return to teach this fall — this time for a full semester.

“Our big problem was, there is so much to teach. So we expanded to a full-fledged, three-credit, 15-week class,” said Mandell, vice president of Whole in One Design in Durham. “We’ll design some projects, starting with the students’ own fantasy hole, and include designing specific holes pretending to be Donald Ross or C.B. MacDonald for a day.”

Mandell, a University of Georgia alumnus who has worked for course designers Dan Maples and Denis Griffiths, had 25 students in the Landscape Architecture Program’s short course. They ranged from landscape architecture to turfgrass, sports management, civil engineering and forestry resource students.

History is a major part of the program, beginning with the links courses of Scotland. Students will be introduced to MacDonald, Ross, A.W. Tillinghast, Robert Trent Jones Sr., and others of the past as well as modern-day’s Pete Dye and Tom Fazio.

“We’ll speak about trends in design and how and why things were done in the past and why they aren’t done now,” Mandell said. “For instance, the influence of major equipment on design and construction; and how there was a move to ‘vanilla-ization’ in the early 1950s when, I think, courses were made too golfer-friendly, fairways were flattened to accommodate bad lies, and greens were open in front to accommodate bad shots.”

The class will also encompass routing, designing a course in a real-estate development, construction and construction documents, among other topics, Mandell said.

Phillips’ 1st solo project neighbors St. Andrews

By MARK LESLIE

KINGSBARNS, Scotland — How many golf course architects do their first solo design on true linksland ... in Scotland ... 7 miles from the Old Course at St. Andrews? Number Kyle Phillips among them, if there be more.

Phillips, who started his own company in July after 16 years as a lead designer for Robert Trent Jones Jr., begins construction in October on Kingsbarns Golf Links here, on a site that hugs the rugged Scottish coast.

“I feel humble and very fortunate,” said Phillips, whose only other design in the United Kingdom was the highly ranked 27-hole Wisley Golf Club outside London in 1991. “You have to admit, St. Andrews is the Mecca for us golf junkies. To be able to do something on the sea this close to the Old Course is a phenomenal opportunity and an incredible experience. It’s pure golf, and open to the public.

“When I first saw the property, I wondered how the guys at Pebble Beach felt when they first walked the site.”

Kingsbarns Golf Links is one of the world’s oldest golf clubs around, having started in 1815. But after World War II, its nine-hole course fell into disrepair and little is recognizable today outside remnants of some bunkers.

Giving the club new life is American Mark Parsinen, developer of Granite Bay (Calif.) Golf Club. Walter Woods, retired after many years as head greenkeeper of the Old Course, is a consultant.

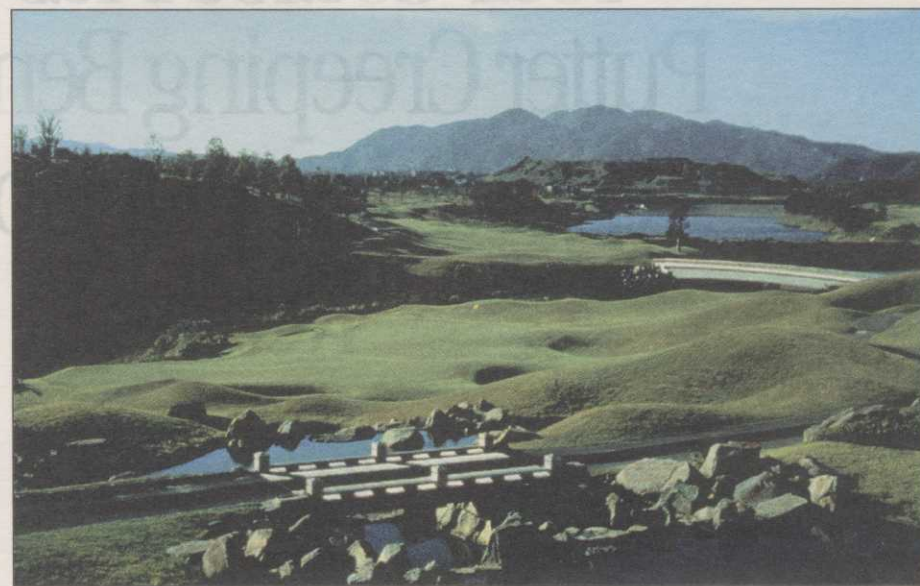
Sitting on 180 acres that run in a linear shape along the ocean, the new track will boast ocean views from every hole with five greens on the water, either at sea level or atop 20-foot cliffs.

It will measure 5,610 to 7,175 yards when it opens. That may be in 1999, but the grand opening is planned for July 2000 to coincide with the British Open at St. Andrews.

Phillips described the Kingsbarns Golf Links design as “modern links as opposed to the older links courses, which were designed primarily for match play.

“We’re trying to maintain the elements of links-style golf but think more about

Continued on page 36



Graham Marsh, right, is coming to America, but staying active abroad in such places as Japan, where he designed Mission Valley Golf Club, above, in Fukuoka.

Q & A

Marsh jumps into No. American marketplace

Graham Marsh has been a steady presence in Asia-Pacific market for the past 10 years, concentrating on resort, hotel and other upmarket projects from the Philippines to Australia. Now, through a recently inked alliance with Kansas City-based HNTB, the 1997 U.S. Senior Open winner has set his sites on golf course design in the US and South America.

Golf Course News: Was there one factor in particular that led you to the North and South American markets? A series of factors?

Graham Marsh: I think it was more of a series of factors. We had spent over 10 years working in Southeast Asia, Australia and the Pacific Rim, and we had to cut our teeth on some pretty difficult projects down there.

We competed against many of the main architects in that region. When I say main architects I mean architects from the United States and Europe and the ones that come out of Japan. Consequently, I had decided to play the Senior Tour and was spending more time in the United States. I spent a year or so over here just looking at the markets. With the buoyancy of the market over here in the U.S., certainly I saw new opportunities.

GCN: Do you have a grand plan for

your expansion?

GM: I’ve always wanted to expand the company step by step and that’s the way we’ve gone about it, in a logical progression, so that we’re growing the core of the business, cutting our teeth and doing it one step at a time while keeping the same team together. That’s important because we are very much a hands-on operation, with a core of design and construction people.

GCN: How many people are involved in that core group?

GM: In my office in Australia, I have 14 people full-time.

GCN: Do you see the U.S. as a different challenge than the markets in Australia and the Pacific Rim?

GM: I think the challenge varies from site to site. If you’re talking about the business challenges, then I think cer-

Continued on page 38



Jack Kidwell



Mike Hurdzan

HALL INDUCTS KIDWELL, HURDZAN

SANDUSKY, Ohio — Golf course architects Jack Kidwell and Dr. Michael Hurdzan of Columbus were among those inducted into the Ohio Golf Hall of Fame in ceremonies at Plumb Brook Country Club here Aug. 18. The semi-retired Kidwell is a fellow and former president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, a certified golf course superintendent and Class A PGA professional. Hurdzan, whom he tutored, is a partner in Hurdzan Fry Golf Course Design and holds master’s and PhD degrees in plant pathology. Both have been active speakers at various golf course superintendents conferences.

SANFORD’S SAWMILL OPENS IN MICH.

SAGINAW, Mich. — John Sanford Jr. has unveiled his latest creation, Sawmill Golf Club, here. The course was built in the sawmill capitol of the world, and an old grist mill remains on the property. Although the land around Saginaw is primarily flat farmland, Sanford moved enough dirt to create elevation changes. Combined with a routing through marshland and natural woods, this gives the Sawmill club a much different feeling than that of the terrain surrounding it.

DESIGN 3 HIRES NAUBORIS

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Design 3, a firm specializing in golf course design, landscape architecture and site planning, has appointed Howard Nauboris as a golf course designer. Nauboris holds a bachelor’s degree in landscape architecture from the University of Guelph in Ontario, and has in-depth experience in golf course construction.

Sodding makes perfect at Lake Las Vegas' project

HENDERSON, Nev. — Lake Las Vegas Resort officials report construction is moving swiftly on the first resort golf course, The Links at MonteLago, located at Lake Las Vegas Resort's MonteLago development. The course is being sodded and is expected to open for public play in early 1998.

This signature 18-hole course is the second Jack Nicklaus-designed course for Lake Las Vegas Resort, the \$4-billion resi-

dential and resort destination under development east of Las Vegas, and is the first of three courses planned for the MonteLago resort community. The entire proposed master plan for MonteLago calls for exclusive resort hotels/casinos, European-style gaming, championship golf courses, residential villas, a world-class spa facility, a commercial resort village and restaurants.

In designing The Links at MonteLago,

Nicklaus drew upon the area's unique topography, creating a green oasis winding through the desert hillside and down to the water's edge of Lake Las Vegas, Nevada's largest privately owned lake.

The 7,184-yard, par-72 course will offer five golf holes directly on 1-1/2 miles of shoreline. In addition, The Links at MonteLago will challenge the golfer with a variety of carries over and alongside canyons.

Loch Ledge gets facelift

YORKTOWN HEIGHTS, N.Y. — The Sanctuary Country Club here has a new name and will soon have a new look. Formerly known as Loch Ledge, the facility is undergoing extensive renovations by Whole In One Design Group of Easton, Md., and Durham, N.C.

The renovation will result in a completely new lower nine. The upper nine will remain intact, with renovation work slated once the front nine is complete. Sanctuary Country Club owner Tom Sung purchased the club a few years ago and plans to develop an inn, botanical gardens and a tennis facility on the property as well.

Many original holes were routed on land not suitable for the resulting product and much of the property was never used. "We are eliminating many blind situations and revealing impressive views at the same time," said Whole In One Design Group architect Rich Mandell. "One goal was to take advantage of the natural topography which was largely ignored in the original design."

The lower nine sits on only 45 acres and Whole In One will incorporate retaining walls of native stone and a double green in order to combat the lack of property.

"One of the problems we are dealing with is a deficiency of space. The double green and the retaining walls allow us to overcome these constraints and still preserve the natural hydrology," said Whole In One President Bob Rauch.

The new nine will be stretched 400 yards, making the course 6,200 yards long.

The renovations will be done in phases, with completion by fall of 1998.

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The Green Seal marks Putter as a world premium turfgrass variety.

Phillips in Scotland

Continued from page 35 stroke play," he said.

Phillips likened the design to remodeling an old home and having "functional obsolescence."

"We still have short walks between a green and the next tee, because it's part of the walking game," he said. "In the old days, tees were on the greens. We will have a little more space there. There will be fewer hidden bunkers. The greens will be 8,000 to 10,000 square feet, which is large but not on the scale of the Old Course, where the average is 20,000 square feet."

And fescues will be predominant through the course, he said.

Another modernism, Phillips said, will be a full practice facility, with chipping area and driving range, to host golf schools.