Maxwell designing Corporate Club

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Maxwell Golf Group, Inc.'s Golf Course Design Division is designing an 18-hole layout for a group of private investors here.

The facility, to be named The Corporate Club, will be the first design project in the Bluegrass State for the Jackson, Miss.-based company.

"We're extremely excited about the opportunity to be involved with this particular project," said MGG founder and president Frank M. "Max" Maxwell Jr. "The owners have some impressive goals for the facility and they have given us one of the most beautiful pieces of property you can find in the area."

The facility will be private, with executive villas incorporated into the design. The Corporate Club will be the firm's first new course design project for an exclusively private club.

"The situation is somewhat ironic," Maxwell said, "in that when we were approached by the owners, they had no idea of our experience with 'Scottish links-style' designs and that's exactly what they had in mind with their open and rolling piece of farm land." Maxwell also mentioned that The Corporate Club will be centered around a group of old brick farm buildings on the property which are all painted white with red roofs.

"The buildings, which are present throughout the property, are priceless because they will provide a striking contrast to the deep green color of the surrounding turf," he explained.

Meanwhile, MGG has been working on the design of a new semi-private golf course north of Baton Rouge in Zachary, La. Copper Mill Golf Club is an 18-hole layout which will be the centerpiece of a new upscale residential development sharing the same name. Target opening date is this fall.

"The owners wanted to take the theme of a 'Scottish links-style' course to the next level," said Maxwell. "Copper Mill will have the old-world traditional golf course styling blended nicely with the agronomic conditioning and aesthetic appeal which we as Americans have come to expect from an upscale facility."

Maxwell claimed the 14th hole will become "The Longest Hole in America." The par-6 will play 880 yards [one-half mile] from the tip. "On the other hand," he laughed, "the alternate route to the green, which is shorter and riskier, is only 760 yards."

Maxwell was quick to note, however, that the 14th hole is not merely a gimmick. "The design of the entire course will be fun to play and have that world-class look and feel," he continued. "This will be one of those courses which golfers can't wait to play again." Copper Mill will, however, provide Maxwell with the opportunity to realize one of his oldest design ideas — a downhill par six with the chance to "get home in three for an eagle."

Joint venture eyes North Dallas facility

DALLAS — Olympus Real Estate Corp. and Castle Hills Golf Partners, Ltd. have entered into a joint venture to develop Castle Hills Golf Club & Academy. An 18-hole daily-fee course, which will be expanded to 27 holes in the future, the facility is scheduled to open in early 1999.

The North Dallas course was designed by Jay Morrish and will include a teaching center.

The venture plans to solicit proposals for daily management of the facility.

Castle Hills Golf Club will be located on a 2,500-acre master-planned development formerly known as Bright Ranch. The project will include 3,000 single-family homes, numerous multi-family sites, retail and commercial office parks and a 350-room, $60 million conference center.

Ray G. Wicken, managing partner of Castle Hills Golf Partners, said Castle Hills will feature the most comprehensive golf facilities in the state, including three golf holes for on-course instruction.

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