

Smyers' Kokopelli opens for limited play

MARION, Ill. — Steve Smyers has completed the design and construction of Kokopelli Golf Club here. Stretching across 200 acres of rolling meadows and woodlands, the 7,150-yard par-72 Kokopelli is open to the public for limited play until the desired level of membership is reached.

Developed by southern Illinois native Gary Mayer, Kokopelli offers a pure golf experience with no homes. Open meadows and thick stands of oak, birch, sycamore and maple provide the setting, while buffalograss and native fescues border the fairways, creating the look of Midwestern prairielands.

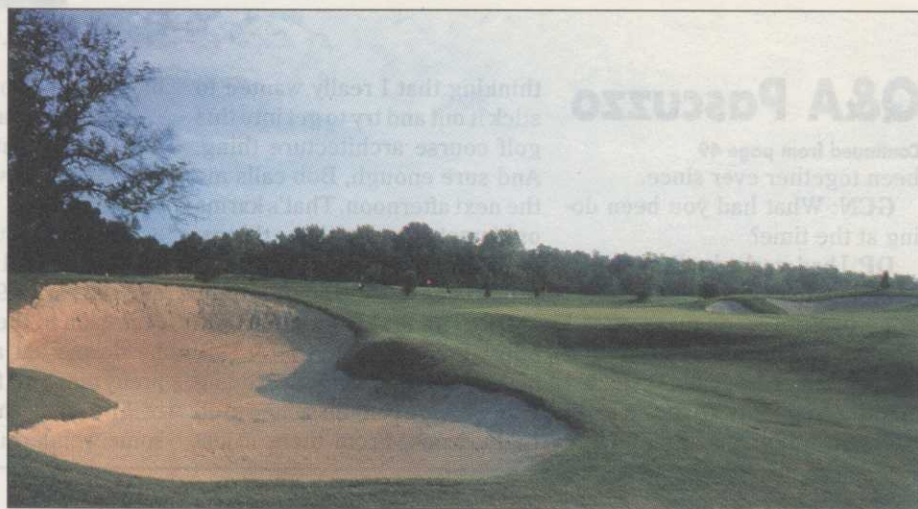
Aided by Kokopelli's rolling terrain and good soil, Smyers was able to create a test of golf with a modest construction budget, allowing Mayer to keep green fees in the \$25 to \$30 range.

Smyers' design uses every area and natural feature on Kokopelli's 330-acre tract of land, including a coal-mining strip pit filled with clear spring water that comes into play on the dramatic par-4 13th and par-3 14th holes. In doing so, he took advantage of the prevailing wind and created great balance and variety in the course by positioning each hole in a different direction than the preceding one.

"The contours of the putting surfaces

relate to the contours of the fairways which relate to the length of the hole, the direction of the prevailing wind and the lay of the land," Smyers said.

"Greens have rolls, slopes and contours and all are carefully positioned in accordance with the strategy of the golf hole. Some contours are there to accept a golf shot, others to work the golf ball off of ... Slopes and contours can aid or penalize the golfer, depending on where he positions his shots."



Fazio adds riding, walking trails to Conn. design

EASTON, Conn. — A Tom Fazio-designed 18-hole golf course, incorporating a public walking and riding trail, is planned by Trout Brook Valley here.

Having filed a plan with the Conservation Commission of the town to develop the private golf club and 103-lot subdivision on 687 acres, Trout Brook Valley hopes to begin construction in 1998. The property is located on the western border of the town.

The walking and riding trail will offer recreational access to the property that has not been allowed in the past.

"This is a great opportunity to build a premiere golf club and fine homes in a very private country setting," said Marc C. Bergschneider, chairman of National Fairways, which has offices in Greenwich and Fairfield. "We designed this project to conform with the inherent rural nature of Easton, limiting the number of homes and protecting the open space."

POLK COUNTY GETTING COURSE

OCALA, Fla. — WestAmerica Corp. will build an 18-hole golf course and other facilities on 285 acres it is buying in Polk County, within a 10-minute drive of Walt Disney World. Daniel M. Boyar, president and chief executive officer said, WestAmerica plans to develop this property into a destination timeshare resort which will also include 500 residential units, a swimming pool, shopping arcade, and other facilities. The purchase contract with Dr. James P. Gills of Tarpon Springs calls for a closing on or before July 10. The total purchase price is \$5.7 million.



TO: Robert Sackman, GCS

FROM: The Greens Committee, Tall Oaks Country Club

RE: CONGRATULATIONS!

Dear Bob,

We want to thank you for the exceptional job you and your staff did with the course this past year. Despite some rather harsh weather conditions, you were able to keep play at its all time best. In fact, guests from surrounding clubs frequently commented on what great shape our course was in and wondered what your secret is. We know it's a lot more than magic, but whatever you do — aside from your hard work — it has made the membership very proud.

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