Hearn leading design course to Scotland

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Golf course architect Ray Hearn is teaming up again with his alma mater, Michigan State University (MSU), this time for a summer tour of the great courses of Scotland. The Old Course at St. Andrews, the Turnberry Golf Links and Royal Dornoch are three of the stops where participants will experience a blend of golf and course-design seminars.

The June trip comes on the heels of last summer’s MSU-sponsored, sold-out tour of the great courses of Ireland. This time, participants will visit Scotland. Hearn, president of Raymond Hearn Golf Designs, Inc., of Plymouth, will co-host the expedition with Prof. Warren J. Rauhe, director of MSU’s Landscape Architecture Program.

“Scotland is so rich in the fabric and history of golf’s development,” said Hearn. “From the courses like St. Andrews and Dornoch to the characters such as Old Tom Morris, Donald Ross and Alister Mackenzie, it’s a place where you can never exhaust the list of topics to study.”

This year’s trip culminates the dream of Rauhe to take an academic look at Scotland’s great courses while enjoying their splendor.

“What sets this venture apart from standard golf trips to the U.K. are the university certification program and the attention to detail which will make the journey so memorable,” he said.

While in Scotland, Rauhe will oversee the academic portion of the program, including daily discussion and sessions on individual hole and course design, routing and historical seminars.

It all begins with U.S. departure on June 12 and ends June 20, with return travel from Glasgow. There will be forays to such courses as Cruden Bay, Carnoustie and Prestwick.

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