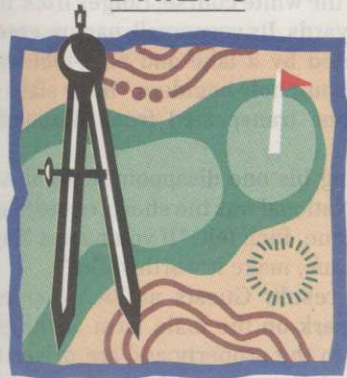


BRIEFS

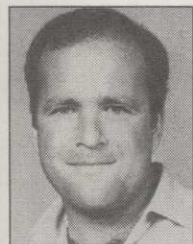


CURLEY, SCHMIDT PARTNERS

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Golf course architects Lee Schmidt and Brian Curley have agreed to form a new golf course design company. The new alliance, Schmidt-Curley Design, will be based here. The two designers are reunited after having worked together in the 1980s at Landmark Land Co., where Schmidt was the director of golf course design and construction. Since 1991, Schmidt has been a senior design associate for Jack Nicklaus, responsible for numerous projects worldwide. Curley recently made news with his buy-out of the Design Division of Landmark Golf Co., which he headed since 1992.

RESORT SIGNS MCCUMBER

SPARTANBURG, S.C. — The latest venture for McCumber Golf and Mark McCumber & Associates will be the design of a golf learning center for Renaissance Park in the city's downtown. Renaissance Park will also include a Doubletree Hotel, conference and exhibit hall and amphitheater. The learning center will include a 300-yard practice range, short-game area with bunker, putting course and nine-hole short course. Provisions will be made to incorporate nature trails around the perimeter of the course.



Mark McCumber

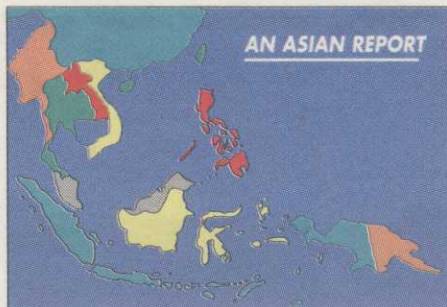
GRIFFIN JOINS FOUGHT DESIGN TEAM

AURORA, Ore.—Jimmie Griffin has joined John Fought Design, a division of OB Sports, as design/construction manager. Working with Bob Cupp Design in Atlanta since 1989, Griffin was primarily responsible for the contract management of projects in Canada and the United States. He has also worked with Jack Nicklaus Golf Services.

KAY INKS 5 COURSES

BRONXVILLE, N.Y. — Stephen Kay has been contracted to begin design on five courses. He will design three Jersey projects: Scotland Run National Golf Club in Gloucester County, which is scheduled to open in the summer of 1999; the Heritage Golf Club in Randolph, which will get underway this year; and The Grande at Holmdel — a housing development with an executive course, scheduled to begin construction in 1999. Kay will also design Logan's Reserve in York, Pa., and an 18-hole course for the I.G.A. Membership Co. in Dutchess County, N.Y.

GOLF COURSE NEWS



AN ASIAN REPORT

Poellot maintains presence — for now

By MARK LESLIE

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — Cringing from the threat of civil war in Indonesia and the continuing economic woes stifling development throughout Asia-Pacific, many golf course architects and others are pulling out of the region. Others in the industry are maintaining a toehold, hoping to ride out the crises. One of those is J. Michael Poellot, who has been designing golf courses in Asia since the early 1970s.

"We have weekly partners' meetings and we have to constantly discuss whether it makes sense to keep this office going," said Poellot, who has maintained headquarters here since the early 1990s. "We've committed to hang in there another 3-1/2 months and give the economy a chance to pick up."

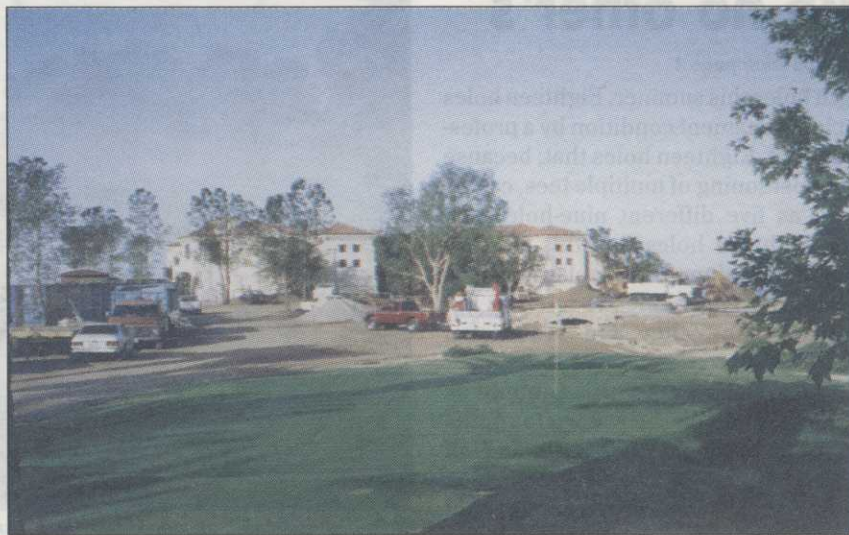
At this point, Poellot said, "virtually all of our projects in Asia are shut down except on mainland China, which seems to be somewhat immune to what is happening around it."

Although he had not predicted the economic downturn, he said: "We had a sense that it was coming because the market was over-heated. There was too much development too quickly, and you see that happen everywhere. We saw it in Japan."

Poellot said that in recent history the Asian-Pacific economy has been cyclical, going up or down every seven

Continued on page 50

Not your normal backyard



One of three greens Carter Morrish designed for Bill O'Connor on an estate overlooking Malibu.

'Seven or eight years ago, when the madness was at its height, many so-called courses were laid out over private grounds...'

— Van Tassel Sutphen in *The Outing Magazine*, 1906

By MARK LESLIE

The current rage of building putting greens, and entire golf holes, on a person's property is not new, but rather a second coming of sorts. Two decades after Sutphen wrote those words in *The Outing Magazine*, Donald Ross laid out Overhills Golf Course on the Rockefeller estate at Pinehurst, N.C. But in the ensuing 70 years not much was heard of personal practice greens — until now.

Today's second coming of "estate golf courses" is one of often more modest pretensions and dimensions than their predecessors. While the very wealthy operate in their own stratosphere (see page 1 story), more people have the land for and can afford a single putting green, or a three- or six-hole practice facility.

"There is a big push everywhere to put in golf greens," said Rees Jones, who designed a course for an Atlantic Golf Club member across the road from the club itself in Bridgehampton, Long Island. "The impetus is not prestige. It's the love of the game. They love golf, and if they have enough property and money to do this... People landscape their yards and build patios or gardens. This is just another form of landscaping, but it's usable."

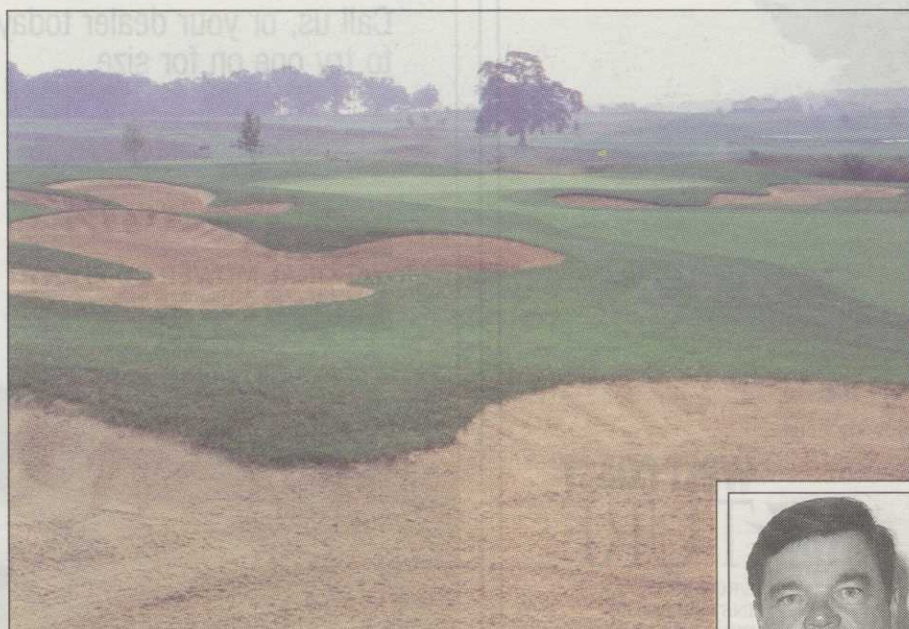
Others who have designed greens and short "backyard courses" agree.

"I think these are people working on their game, to develop their skills," said architect Ron Kirby who, when he worked with Denis Griffiths, enjoyed a 1,000-square-foot green and a handful of tees 30 yards away outside their

Continued on page 42

Q & A

Lohmann, Mr. Renovation, takes ASGCA reins



The Merit Club, above, designed by Bob Lohmann, right, was named 5th Best New Private Club in 1995 by *Golf Digest*, and will host the U.S. Women's Open in 2000.



MARENGO, Ill. — Bob Lohmann assumed the reins of the American Society of Golf Course Architects from outgoing President Alice Dye at the ASGCA's annual meeting in late April in Los Angeles. Well known for his renovation work in the Midwest, Lohmann also has designed a number of new courses. Forest Preserve National in Oak Forest, for which he worked as principle designer, was selected as one of the top new public courses in 1984. He graduated in 1974 with a degree in landscape architecture from the University of Wisconsin. We caught up with Lohmann at his offices here just before he succeeded Alice Dye for the ASGCA.

Golf Course News: What will you be focusing on as president of the ASGCA?

Bob Lohmann: We will keep going with what we've been doing the last couple of years when Denis [Griffiths, 1996 president] talked about affordable and accessible golf and Alice [Dye, 1997 president] picked up on that and added a stress on

Continued on page 44

Poellot overview of Asia-Pacific region

Continued from page 39

years. The first golf boom came during the 1970s. The 1980s were "the most recent heyday," he said, "with golf going crazy from one end of the region to the other. A lot of it was a spin-off of

The 8th green surrounds at Mt. Malarayat Resort in The Philippines, a JMP design, opened last fall.

the dramatic success the Japanese were having. I don't think there was a corner of Asia that golf did not infiltrate at that time — from Vietnam to Cambodia, even Burma.

"Coupled with a growing environmental debate, this hopefully short-term glitch in the economy has brought a halt to

things in Asia."

While Malaysia is considered "the strongest of the Asian Tigers right now," China appears the one country where golf construction is continuing relatively strongly, Poellot said. "We have a dozen projects in China, and six are under contract and proceeding."

Buoying the Chinese building wave is competition between provinces to attract foreign businesses.

"They feel that to attract foreigners they need amenities like a nice development with a golf course, a place for them to live and feel comfortable," he said. "They are building golf courses in some of the most remote parts of China. As a consequence, the game is picking up development among the Chinese."

He claimed some of the courses being built in China are "as good as anything in America in terms of playability and championship caliber."

Although Poellot has not done business in Australia or New Zealand, he rated other nations:

- Indonesia is "an ugly picture" that could experience a serious civil war, he said. The country has "a serious problem that is more than economic. It is political. There is so much cronyism. President Suharto's sons run the banks, and nieces and nephews run the development companies. Until free enterprise hits that country, it will be a continuing problem."

The situation there is further complicated because its large, indigenous, mainly Christian Chinese population is wealthier and seems to be weathering the storm better than the native, mainly Muslim Indonesians.

"They are at each other's throats," Poellot said. "If things don't improve I could see a serious civil war there... It has gotten into an Islamic-Christian confrontation as well, with Muslims attacking Christian churches."

- Thailand is "still seriously depressed."

- The Philippines have slowed down and developers have taken a wait-and-see attitude.

"There is every reason to believe that those who weather the storm there will come back well and as strong as they were before," Poellot said. "But I think a lot of people getting financially beat up through this period may never recover."

- In Hong Kong the anticipated fatal fallout from China's takeover hasn't materialized. Indeed, Poellot said Hong Kong residents who haven't had any land, have moved off the island to places, including China, where they can have more space.

"They are buying nice land on
Continued on next page

These Are Not Your Run-of-the-mill Chelated Iron Sources.

Glucoheptonates—natural organic chelates—set MultiGreen II® and MaxiGreen II® apart from all the less effective micro-nutrient sources.

These natural sugars prevent the micro-nutrients such as iron, zinc, copper and manganese from reacting with the soil, and keep them available to the plant for maximum root uptake.

Additionally, these sugars affix to the feeder roots. Being negatively charged, they act as additional CEC (Cation Exchange Capacities) and attract the positively charged nutrient cations, including Potassium, Phosphate, Calcium and Magnesium. Then, these nutrients are held for root absorption.

At the same time, the glucoheptonates are consumed by soil microbes as feedstuffs, multiplying the microbe population with added benefits.

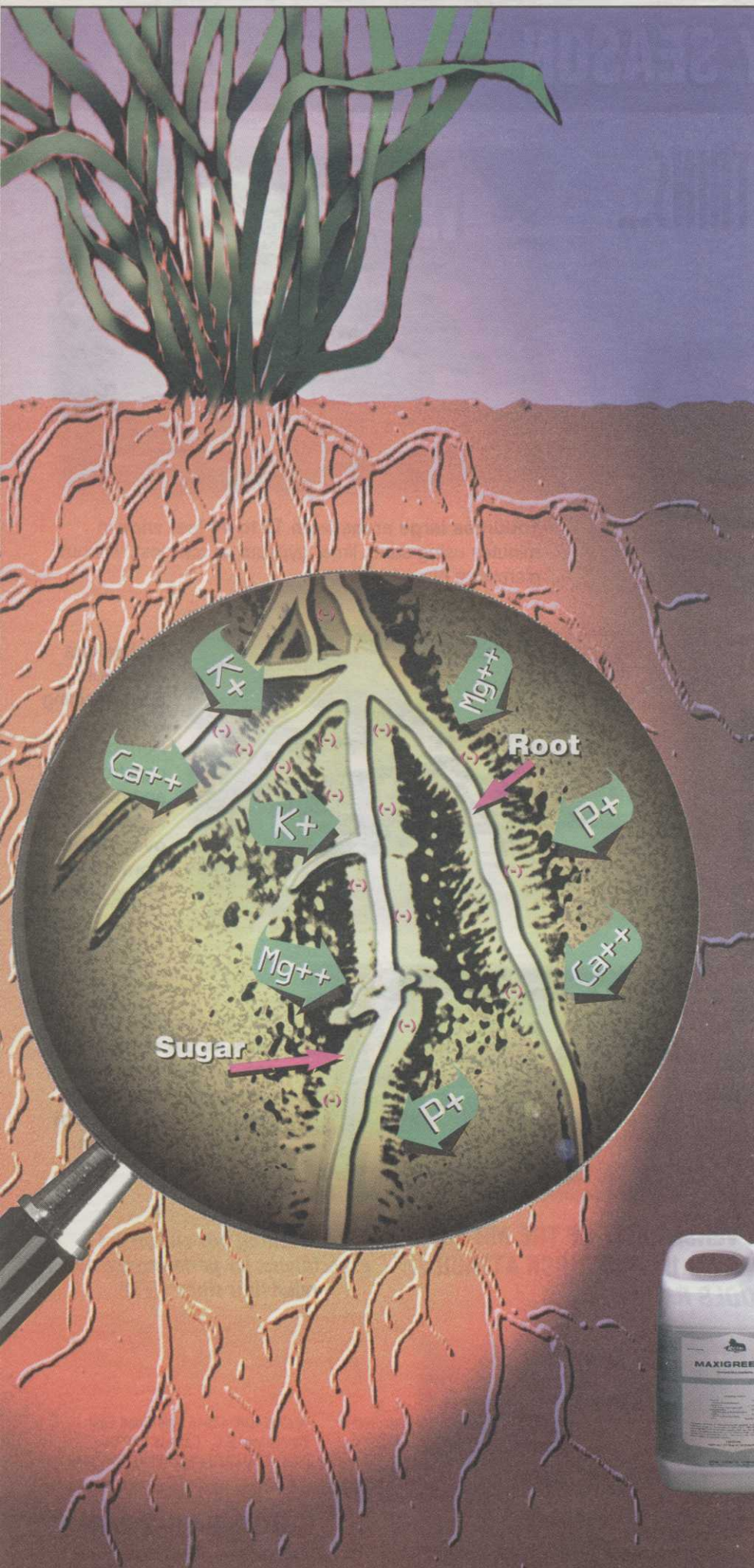
Some of our advantages are hidden, but the superior results aren't.



New Standards for Turfgrass Excellence

P.O. Box 900
Alpharetta, Georgia 30239
(800) 621-5208

CIRCLE #130



Grand Casino Tunica: From Mississippi Riverbed to 18 holes

Grand Casino Tunica's The Cottonwoods Golf Club, designed by Hale Irwin and Stan Gentry of Hale Irwin Golf Design, opens for play on May 11. Sitting on 200 acres of the resort's 2,200-acre property, Cottonwoods was once riverbed on the Mississippi that has been reshaped to rolling hills and elevated plateaus.

The course measures 7,000 yards. The casino hauled over three million yards of dirt to the area, adding 18 feet to land that was once below the Mississippi River water line. Grand Casino Tunica

also added a lake to its existing family of waterways. The fully sodded course includes thousands of trees, bushes, and regional flowers; three lakes; and 80 sand traps.

Over half of Cottonwoods' holes border on water, including an island green. The golf course's drainage system and grassing plan allows for winter play. The course boasts bentgrass greens, Bermudagrass tees and rough and Zoysiagrass fairways.

An island green is indicative of water's role at Cottonwoods.



Design 3 starts job

RAVENNA, Mich. — Moss Ridge Golf Club broke ground on March 2 halfway between Muskegon and Grand Rapids.

A group of investors led by Richard Kent chose Design 3 of East Lansing to master plan the 18-hole championship course and 54 home sites skirting its perimeter.

The 254-acre site is "very diverse, offering golfers a variety of terrain, orchard and water," said architect W. Bruce Matthews III. The 6,700-yard, par-72 layout has nine holes playing through rolling orchards and six holes adjacent to water.

Domres Construction of Manistee is the general contractor.

Poellot on Asia

Continued from previous page
golf courses, which they never could have done in Hong Kong," he said.

• Japan has "some homework to do yet," he said. "They are certainly better than they were a few months ago. They are taking the right steps, but there are still a lot of cobwebs to clean out of some of the corners: graft and improprieties in economic circles. People keep being discovered as being involved in kickbacks and other inappropriate behavior. They have discovered that the iceberg is a lot deeper than they first thought.

"They are beginning to realize that if they want to get back on-stream, they have to do some purging before too long — more than superficially. They need to cut taxes and they need to get the people fired up."

Regarding the role the International Monetary Fund (IMF) might play, Poellot said he wishes administrators "could even be stronger than they have been.

"In a way it's disheartening to see the IMF throw all this money into a country. There are so many companies in so many countries that are suffering because of the Asian crisis. They ought to be given a little boot-strapping. Let the IMF help the little companies and resolve the problem from the grass roots up, rather than from the upper end, where it inevitably gets mismanaged."

Rooted In Research.



Toro Multi-Purpose™ has been put to the test. In a recent university study, this organic soil conditioner, used as a supplement to a standardized N-P-K fertility program, resulted in impressive increases in root mass. Scientists documented increases of more than 27.5% over turf treated with the same nutrient applications *without* Toro organics.*

Results outside of the lab are just as intriguing. Dennis Ingram, CGCS, Forest Oaks Country Club (site of the 60th Annual Greater Greensboro Chrysler Classic), writes: "Toro BioPro products give me a predictable growth pattern, and an increase in rooting mass. Compared to past years, the rooting mass is 30-40% higher."

Apply Multi-Purpose through fertigation, conventional spray, or tank mix it with N-P-K nutrient blends as an organic supplement to attain these results for your turf. Call your Toro Distributor for details.

To receive a free summary of the thirteen week study on BioPro® products conducted at the University of Minnesota (1996-1997), call Toro at 1-800-448-9011. You'll be glad you did.



The efficient and environmentally responsible solution.

*Graphic represents root dry weight only.

www.toro.com/agronomics

TORO
BIOPRO®

©1998 The Toro Company