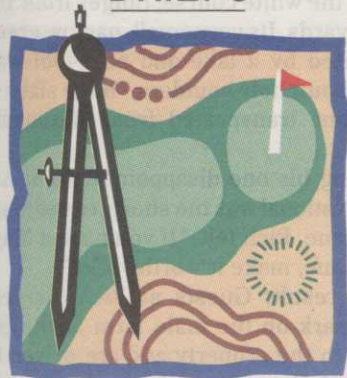


BRIEFS

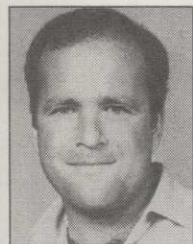


CURLEY, SCHMIDT PARTNERS

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.



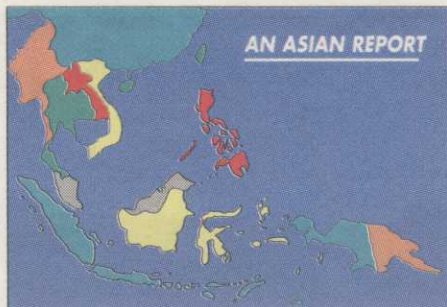
Mark McCumber

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.



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."

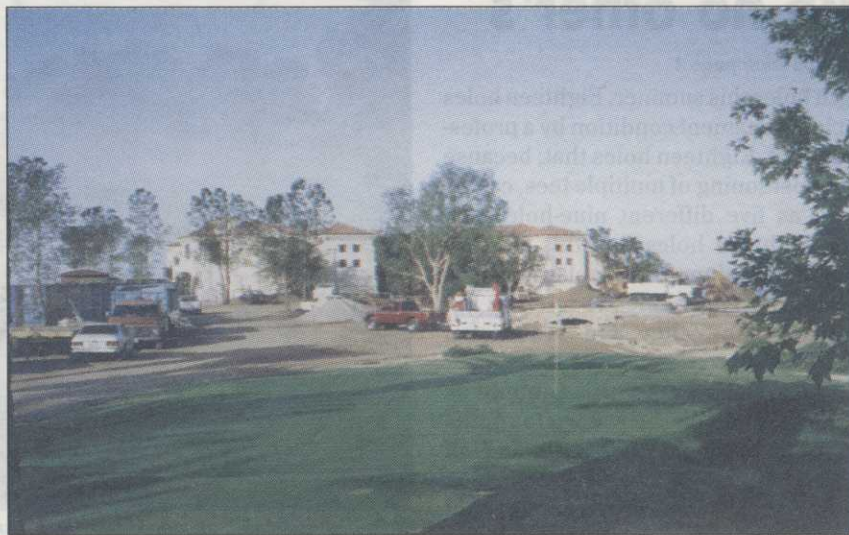
At this point, Poellot said, "virtually all of our projects in Asia are shut down except on mainland China, which seems to be somewhat immune to what is happening around it."

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."

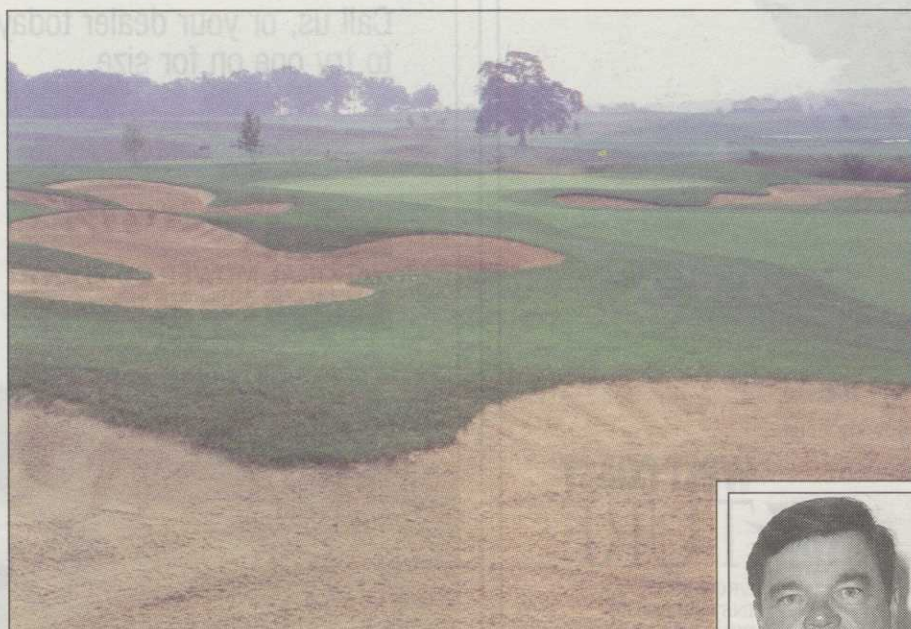
Others who have designed greens and short "backyard courses" agree.

"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

Q&A: Lohmann

Continued from page 39
 professionalism. I'd like to go a little farther and spread the word that members of the ASGCA are the best architects. So many people worry about do-it-yourself golf course architects. I think if we show we're the best, we don't have to worry about all the pretenders any more. As a society, we've done a lot of positive environmental efforts. We design the very best golf courses, and satisfy the needs of our clients, which is important to me. Some people want affordable golf courses, cheap because they don't have enough money to build them. Some want spectacular and they have deep pockets. And some want spectacular but don't have the money. As architects, it's our charge to be creative enough to develop a golf course that can be both spectacular and affordable. It may not be as spectacular as some of the \$30-million courses built today, but it can be enough different, creative and new that it will attract golfers. At the same time it has to be "maintainable" and "affordable" — the million-dollar words. It's smart planning, by what I think is the best group of designers, that will save time and money and satisfy our clients' needs.

Another thing I find today regarding design is, we have to get away a little from being so defined in our design.

GCN: What do you mean?

BL: We hear this a lot when we get into golf course renovation and new courses where they're trying to watch budgets. They say, "We don't need a bunker there; nobody would hit it there." Or, "We want bunkers that will define the fairways, only in the landing areas." Some people want to minimize the fairways to reduce maintenance costs. I think we have to get away from that and get back to some of the traditional designs that were deceptive and elusive. In yesteryears they used grass or sand cross-bunkers, swales, dips and rolls to give a different look as opposed to big mounds and chocolate drop golf courses on which people get carried away. At the same time, we have to remember that the people playing golf today don't always like deception and elusion. They may want to play in less than four hours for less than \$25 and not lose any golf balls. You have to understand who your client is and develop a product for them.

If you're working for a municipal, you can design a course that is able to hold a local or state or regional tourney. If you can do that, you will satisfy the needs of all the golfers in the area.

I have seen a lot of public golf

courses that hold tournaments that are very successful, and it's because of the creativity of the architects who added multiple tees, the option of where to land the ball on the fairways, options on the greens for multiple pin placements, bunkers in different areas to guard different portions of the greens, and swales and dips and small berms to challenge the golfer to play a shot to a certain part of the fairway or green.

How many people think you need 150 acres for a golf course? You never know. Fitting the course to the site is the most important thing in developing a really good golf course.

It's also our challenge to design a course that can be maintained to the point where people say, "I like the beauty of this course as well as the challenge and the creativity in the design."

GCN: There is so much renovation work going on, and it is a specialty of yours. How important are renovations to the golf industry as a whole?

BL: Tremendously important. One of the reasons for the big renovation boom is the competition from the new golf course developments. We've seen so many times where members at older courses have fiddled away on little things to try to improve their course and really have not

done much. Some new developer comes to town who is going to build an upscale course, and the old club turns around and does a major renovation. They needed it 20 years ago, but now they finally do it because of the competition. There are courses in Chicago where we battled to put in forward tees for ladies, but some of those old, traditional courses have a solid membership.

Continued on next page

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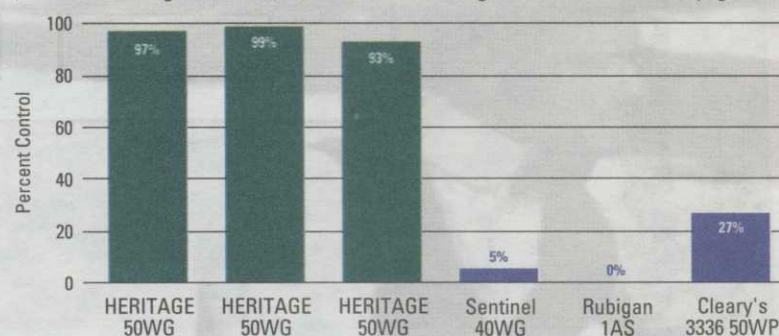
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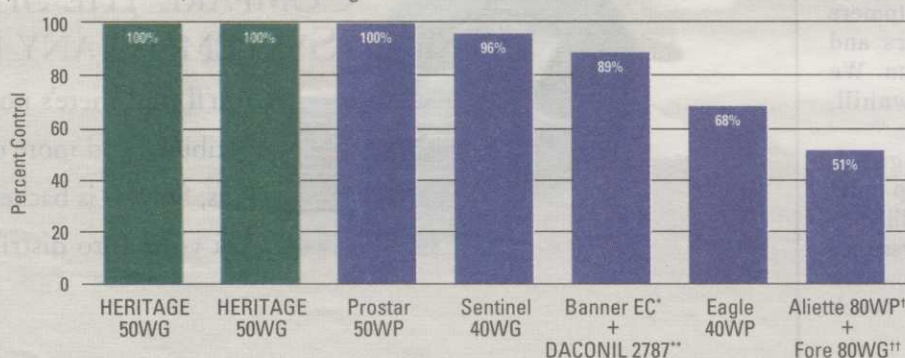
	HERITAGE 50WG	HERITAGE 50WG	HERITAGE 50WG	Sentinel 40WG	Rubigan 1AS	Cleary's 3336 50WP
Oz./1,000 sq. ft.	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.25	1.5	2.0
Number of Applications	2	2	1	1	2	2
Application Interval (days)	14	14	—	—	14	14
Final Reading	17 DAA 2	17 DAA 2	31 DAA 1	31 DAA 1	17 DAA 2	17 DAA 2

Dr. Don Scott, Purdue University, 1995

US 67-95-P354

¹ Also isolated from plots: 2 species *Rhizoctonia*; 3 species *Pythium*; and several species *Curvularia*.

Brown Patch (*Rhizoctonia solani*) on Colonial Bentgrass



	HERITAGE 50WG	HERITAGE 50WG	Prostar 50WP	Sentinel 40WG	Banner EC + DICONIL 2787**	Eagle 40WP	Aliette 80WP + Fore 80WG**
Oz./1,000 sq. ft.	0.4	0.2	3.0	0.25	1.0 [†] 4.0 ^{**}	0.6	4.0 [†] 8.0 ^{**}
Number of Applications	2	4	2	2	4	4	4
Application Interval (days)	28	14	21	28	14	14	14
Final Reading	12 DAA 2	8 DAA 4	19 DAA 2	12 DAA 2	8 DAA 4	8 DAA 4	8 DAA 4

Dr. Pat Sanders, Penn State University, 1994

US 66-94-P356

Q&A: Lohmann

Continued from previous page
ship and are not concerned about change. Other courses that may not have the solid backing and are worried about competition, end up doing renovation work.

We find that doing renovations in a big chunk is best way. It's something new, something different that always attracts people. One of the reasons

people do not want to change their golf course, other than dollars, is the disturbance. They want it done in winter or at night, but don't take it out of play. That's just not feasible, especially where you have a short growing season. We want to be able to seed rather than sod a lot of the areas. You need to use that grassing time in the fall. So you have to take the course out of play all at once and get it finished. The disturbance is

done. You have a new product and it's like having a new golf course. They don't have to worry about doing a little every year.

People look at Augusta National, see perfect and think their course should look like that. No matter how good the superintendent is, there are golf courses that just can't be maintained like that — even if you had the money — because of poor drainage, poor grasses, poor subsoil, or all of the

above. Add proper drainage and the newest grasses and other changes, and all of a sudden you have a product that can compete with the new courses. And you already have the maturity of trees; you have the members; and it gives the club new life. It's neat how excited members get to get back and play their course.

GCN: Are these clubs feeling pressure to keep up with the Joneses?

BL: Yes, I think so. And it begins with everybody seeing the new courses and how special they are. They're on the covers of magazines, along with the best new course lists. Newspapers call and ask about our new golf courses. They don't ask about courses we built 15 years ago. When you renovate an old course it becomes a new course and becomes competitive.

If you're looking at a golf course that doesn't have to worry about competition, the one thing that starts people thinking about doing a renovation is if there is a maintenance problem: poor drainage, poor turf, too many trees. Once they look at that problem, they think, "Now let's take a look at everything."

We do a lot of bunker projects. People feel the size is fine and the location is fine, but it needs new sand. It's too soft or too firm or doesn't drain.

GCN: What, specifically, do most clubs want done to facelift their courses?

BL: The number-one thing is the putting green. If you have a superintendent who can take care of the greens, whether clay soil aerified and top dressed over the years, or brand new sand-based, their priority is to get a green that is firm, smooth, fast and true. A good superintendent can maintain quality old-style greens.

Members, then, feel the greens are fine but the green surrounds (bunkers and grass around the greens) are poor. You can make a major difference in the look of a golf course by changing the green surrounds. We do a lot of work not changing putting surfaces, but reshaping the surrounds, redoing the bunkers, perhaps lowering the area around it to give it the feeling of an elevated green. Members think we changed the whole green, but we didn't.

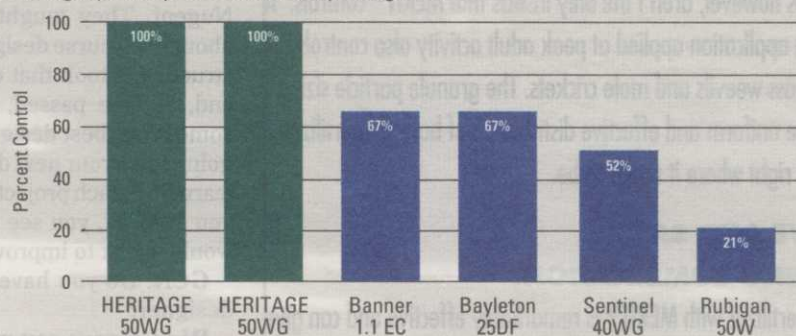
That gives you a big bang for your buck, a good-looking product. Also, you can change its playability and maintainability.

We also get a lot of call for multiple tees, and for adding a tee at a different angle of attack. Another factor that is so important is management of the markers on the tees. A lot of people shove the red markers all the way to the front and the blue markers all the way to the back and never change them. I say, move those markers, putting the white back to the blues on some days when the wind is at your back or the course is playing fast, or moving the blues forward if it is a slow-playing day, or moving the markers from the left tee to the right tee to get a different-looking golf hole. These are things the designer considers when setting up the golf course.

GCN: Do your designs have a
Continued on page 47



Summer Patch (*Magnaporthe poae*) on Kentucky Bluegrass

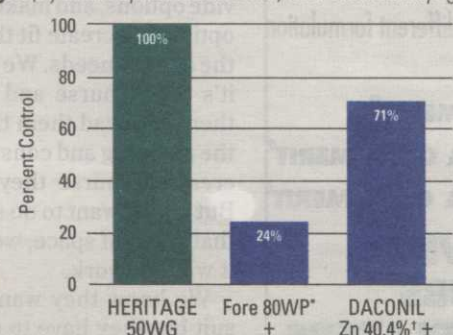


	HERITAGE 50WG	HERITAGE 50WG	Banner 1.1 EC	Bayleton 25DF	Sentinel 40WG	Rubigan 50W
Oz./1,000 sq. ft.	0.4	0.2	4.0	4.0	0.33	0.75
Number of Applications	3	4	3	3	3	3
Application Interval (days)	28	14	28	28	28	28
Final Reading	19 DAA 3	33 DAA 4	19 DAA 3	19 DAA 3	19 DAA 3	19 DAA 3

Dr. Bruce Clarke, Cooke College, Rutgers University, 1994

US 66-94-P362

Pythium Blight (*Pythium aphanidermatum*) on Perennial Ryegrass



	HERITAGE 50WG	Fore 80WP + Subdue 2E	DACONIL Zn 40.4% + Aliette 80WDG
Oz./1,000 sq. ft.	0.4	4.0* 2.0**	6.0* 4.0**
Number of Applications	4	3	4
Application Interval (days)	14	21	14

Dr. John Watkins, University of Nebraska, 1996

USNP-96-P030

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Lohmann design solution benefits city & private club

LOVES PARK, Ill. — The interaction between municipalities and private country clubs therein is generally limited to tax collection. However, with help from Lohmann Golf Designs, the City of Loves Park and Forest Hills Country Club have together killed two birds with one stone. Based in nearby Marengo,

Lohmann Golf Designs (LGD) has overseen construction of three retention ponds at Forest Hills that improved playability at the course while also providing much-needed stormwater detention capacity for the city of Loves Park.

"Forest Hills had a major drainage swale running across the entire golf course," explained

Jay Wille, the LGD senior architect who oversaw the project. "During any substantial rain storm, flowing water would run through the swale, causing unsightly erosion, unplayable conditions and continual maintenance problems. As it happened, the city also needed to expand its stormwater confinement ca-

pability. We were able to provide a dual solution."

LGD and Wille designed a series of three ponds that served the city's stormwater needs while, at the same time, improving the layout's playability and aesthetics. Further, the swale was essentially submerged by piping it underneath several fairways.

"More often than one might think, municipalities and private clubs have compatible goals when it comes to land use," said Bob Lohmann, founder and president of LGD and its sister construction company, Golf Creations. "Jay Wille deserves credit for coming up with an exquisite design solution. But the city and club deserve equal credit for their willingness to recognize common ground."

LGD worked closely with the engineering firm — Hanson Engineers of Rockford — to ensure the integrity of the golf course was not compromised.

"Those holes look far more attractive now," said Wille, "and they're not nearly so soggy."

Soil generated from the pond excavation was used to build several new tees, a new practice range and target green. Indeed, the practice tee was substantially enlarged while extensive new mounding now screens the range from an adjacent road and tennis courts.

Q&A: Lohmann

Continued from page 45

particular "Lohmann fingerprint"?

BL: No, and I don't think I ever will. I've learned from seeing other people's work and talking to clients to see what they want and applying what I know and apply it to their site. I worked for nine years for Ken Killian and Dick Nugent. They taught me a lot about golf course design and construction. I took that experience and, as time passed, I changed some. Your best design is always going to be your next design. You learn from each project, and when you go back, you see things you would tweak to improve.

GCN: Do you have a favorite designer?

BL: I always say my favorite designers are all the dead ones. That way you don't offend anybody. You learn from all those people, but you never know if it's really their work, or their associates', or a superintendent's, or a golf pro's, or whoever. Because there's always something a little different on every course you visit.

The key is to be creative, provide options, and make whatever option you create fit the site and the client's needs. We tell people it's their course and we direct them and lead them through all the planning and construction to create a course they will like. But if they want to do something that is out of space, we tell them it will not work.

We know they want to buy a suit but they have to determine what color they want, so to speak.

There are different options: grasses, soil mixes, and different ways people design golf courses. If you satisfy your client's needs, you've accomplished everything you're asked to do.

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