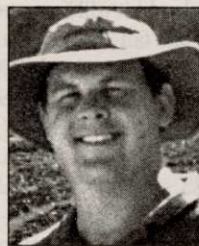


Golfplan changes name to reflect new partnership

SANTA ROSA, Calif. — Golfplan, The Ronald Fream Design Group has officially changed its corporate identity to Golfplan/Fream and Dale, reflecting the new partnership status of vice president and senior golf course architect David Dale.

Fream formed Santa Rosa-based Golfplan in 1972; the firm has since designed more than 150 courses in 52 countries around the world. Dale joined Golfplan in 1988, fresh out of Washington State University,



David Dale

where he earned a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture.

"Ron had me on a plane to Asia within six months," recalled the 38-year-old Dale, whose course credits include Guam International Country Club and Sparrebusch Clifftop Estate & Country Club, Golfplan's new design perched on Africa's southernmost tip. The first nine at Sparrebusch is now open for play; the second nine is scheduled to open in June.

Dale also served as lead architect at Eagle Ridge Golf Club, a layout that opened last fall in Gilroy, Calif.

"I'm really excited about our new focus on the U.S. market, where we now have several projects in the planning phase," said Dale, who will spearhead Golfplan's first two East Coast projects — Ocean View Golf Course in Norfolk, Va., and Shore Gate Golf Club in Oceanview, N.J. — both of which will break ground this spring. "Our work abroad has consistently earned a great deal of attention for its quality and invention. Trouble is, not many American golfers have seen them. I'm confident our current crop of U.S. projects will finally show people here in the States just what our firm can do."

In addition to his East Coast projects, the Missoula, Mont., native is overseeing Golfplan's full-scale renovation of Santa Barbara (Calif.) Golf Club. Dale's design at Bonari Kogen Golf Club — an 18-hole project in the highlands outside Numajiri, Japan — will open for play June 3.

Meanwhile, his work continues at the opulent Nine Bridges Country Club, a \$15-million Gleneagles homage on Cheju Island, South Korea.

"In my view, David's design work measures up to any golf course architecture being produced today," said Fream, 58. "Our new partnership is recognition of his years of outstanding service to Golfplan. With this move, he now has a more tangible stake in how we do business."

Renovated Norman track opens for business at Florida's Doral

MIAMI — Having survived Y2K, the Southeastern United States was hit on Feb. 15 with "GWC" madness — as in The Great White Course at Doral Golf Resort and Spa.

Greg Norman's latest design is the Southeast's first "desert-scape" golf course and presents some distinctive and challenging features.

The Great White was constructed on the parcel of land where Doral's White and par-3 Green courses formerly existed. The new course complements the Blue Monster, home of the Doral-Ryder Open, with its tournament-caliber, championship conditions.

"The Great White is one of the most unique courses we've designed," said Norman. "We took a small parcel of 83 acres and designed a tournament golf course measuring more than 7,100 yards. That is what I'm most proud of. In addition, we designed a course that Florida golfers will really appreciate. It's different than any course in the Southeast. It has many of the same characteristics as a desert Southwest golf course, but in place of cactus, we have palm trees."

The course's desert design features a landscape of tightly packed coquina sand, accented with traditional South Florida foliage, including more than 2,400 native palm trees. The trademarks of the Great White are a series of pot bunkers that are characteristic of the courses Norman played growing up in Australia. There is no rough on the course, with coquina sand used in all the transition areas to separate the holes.

The 130-acre course features gently sloped, well-guarded greens, more than 222 pot bunkers, 20 acres of water and four different types of turf, including zoysiagrass, Tidwarf Bermudagrass, Tifeagle and GN-1.

The design allows the golfer to use the three major skill sets of the game: distance, accuracy and touch.

The par-72 layout, featuring water on 14 holes, has the only triple green in south Florida: holes 11, 13 and 17 each share a putting surface that spans more than 25,000 square feet. The low-profile greens average 6,000 square feet, with the exception of the triple-green complex.

An 18,000-square-foot practice putting area is connected to the 18th green, a trademark Norman incorporated at his Medalist Golf Course in Hobe Sound, Florida.

Norman eliminated golf cart paths. Golfers have the added option of walking the course with or without the assistance of a caddy or using golf carts that can be driven on the coquina sand.

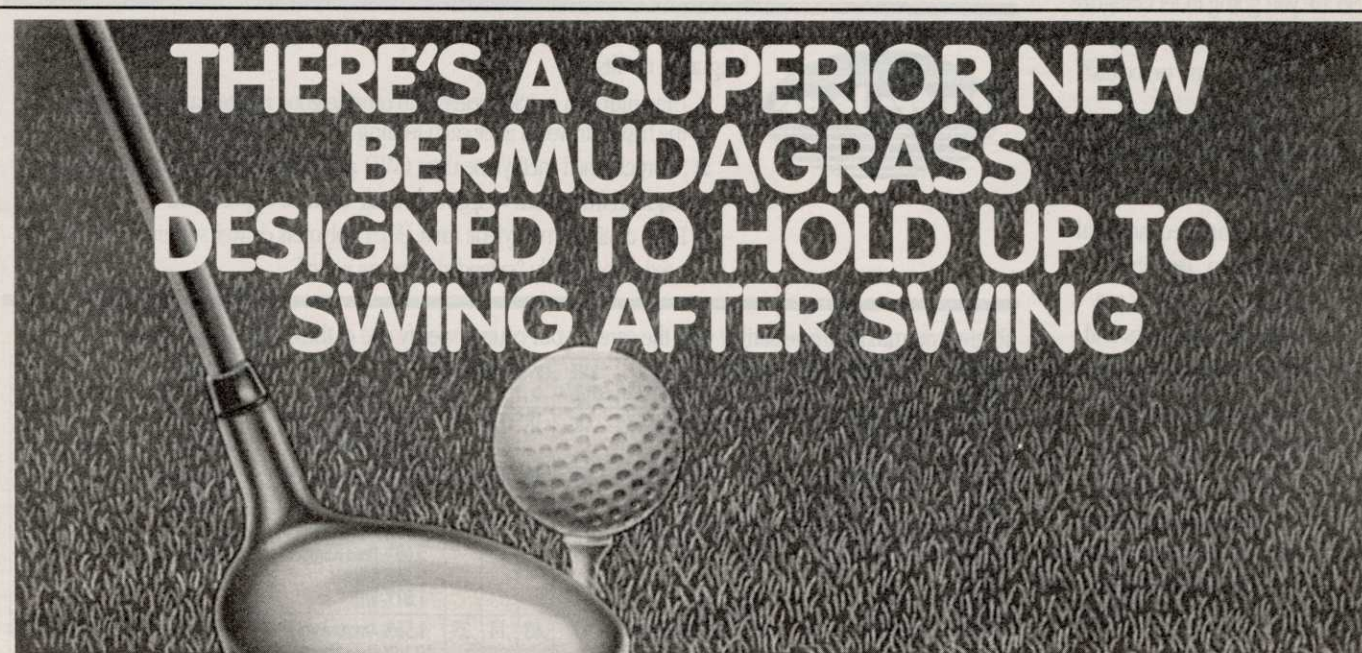
The Great White uses natural marshes and wet lands used as water drainage areas.



The Great White Course at Doral Golf Resort and Spa.

ARMSTRONG GETS NEW MONIKER

FRANCESTOWN, N.H. — Armstrong Associates, a golf course design and architecture firm headquartered here, has changed its name to Armstrong Golf Architects, LLC. As such, it modified its business structure from a sole proprietorship to a Limited Liability Company (LLC). In the past 10 years Armstrong Associates has provided planning and design services to more than 100 golf courses.



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