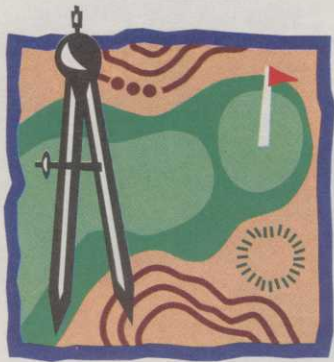


BRIEFS



**WEITZ BUYS FAIRWAY CONSTRUCTION**

**NORTH PALM BEACH, Fla.** — Weitz Golf International here has purchased Fairway Construction, located in Temecula, Calif. No organizational changes will occur, and the current staff in the Temecula office will continue to service all existing clients. Weitz Golf International is a wholly owned division of The Weitz Co., Inc., a construction company established in 1855.



ACQUISITIONS

**ERMISCH SETS UP DESIGN SHOP**

**SHAWNEE, Kan.** — Chuck Ermisch Golf Design has opened an office here. Ermisch is a 1992 graduate of Kansas State University, with a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture. His career has concentrated on both design and field experience. Over his 10 years of industry experience, he has supervised projects for various golf course contractors and has been employed by Don Sechrest of Kansas City, where he was chief designer. For more information, contact Ermisch at 913-438-8422.



Chuck Ermisch

**GOLFPLAN HIRES RAMSY**

**SANTA ROSA, Calif.** — Golfplan, Fream and Dale, has hired Kevin Ramsy as senior golf course architect. Ramsy was previously a senior designer with J. Michael Poellot Golf Design Group and director of golf design with Walter Raleigh Stewart. He is working on the Serapong Golf Course at Sentosa Golf Club in Singapore, Barbarosa Golf Club in Texas and Yong Pyong Golf Club in Korea. Ramsy brings 11 years of golf course design experience to Golfplan.

**COURSE TO MEMORIALIZE BING CROSBY**

**RANCHO SANTA FE, Calif.** — Starwood Development, an affiliate of Starwood Financial, Inc., has reached an agreement with the family of Bing Crosby to name the company's property in northern San Diego County The Crosby Estate at Rancho Santa Fe. The Crosby Estate will encompass 722 acres and feature 501 houses and homesites. The Crosby Estate will include The Crosby National Golf Club, an 18-hole championship golf course designed by Masters champion Fred Couples and Brian Curley.

**Snead opens design firm**

**STUART, Fla.** — Sam Snead has formed Sam Snead Course Design, heralding the entry of the Hall of Famer into the golf development arena. Snead won 185 tournaments, including seven major championships on the regular Tour and 11 majors on the Senior Tour. He competed on 10 Ryder Cup teams, including four as a playing captain.

Heading up the firm will be Sam's son Samuel "Jack" Jackson Snead Jr., along with President Ronald Coruzzi and design associates Edward Carton and Scott Applegate.

Citing a desire to be more active in golf course design endeavors, Snead said: "I hear from players all the time about how difficult a course is and how they will never go back there again. The classic-styled courses that I love don't have those problems. Most of the courses being built today do. I'm just an old mountain boy from the hills of Virginia and I've probably played more golf than anyone alive. I know what it takes to design golf courses that are challenging for the low-handicapper as well as fun and enjoyable for the high-handicapper, for the guy who pays the freight."

Sam Snead Course Design will provide golf course architectural services for Sam Snead Signature course designs, redesigns, and renovations. Additionally, extensive consulting services will be available through Sam Snead Golf Management and Sam Snead Golf Academies.

Through countless rounds of golf Sam and Jack Snead have played together, Jack has been instrumental in the development of his father's course design philosophy, and endeavors to instill those ideas into every Sam Snead design.

Coruzzi has a comprehensive career in the business of golf, including golf real-

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**Eng returns home for Hawktree**

By MARK LESLIE

**BISMARCK, N.D.** — Native son and golf course architect Jim Eng, who gained fame in his hometown of Dickinson when he startled the world with The Sanctuary in Sedalia, Colo., surprised even himself when he beheld his finished product here — 18-hole Hawktree Golf Club.

"I had high expectations," Eng said of the course that opened May 1. "But when we finished, I 'missed it.' The course really blew me away. It's amazing how the site came together. It fits so well within the natural topography."

From the unexpected elevation changes to the tendrils of water, to

the black lignite coal slag that serves as bunker sand, Eng believes Hawktree stands out as a grand experience.

"The exciting thing to me is the diverse character of the site," he said. "Burnt Creek runs through the property and forms a small valley with a stream bed. The creek has fingers of very sharp or severe valleys that run perpendicular to the bigger valley. We ran holes up and down the valleys and used the open areas to create some ponding features."

Areas on both nines jump in and out of woods, and the 4,830- to 7,117-yard, par-72 layout features "open

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The new 4th hole at Samoset Golf Club runs down to the Atlantic Ocean, nearly meeting the resort's famous breakwater.

**Samoset's 4th meets ocean**

By MARK LESLIE

**ROCKPORT, Maine** — One of the top-ranked resort courses in the country just got better. On June 1 Samoset Resort Golf Club here will unveil new oceanside 4th and 5th holes that golf course architect Brad Booth and superintendent Gregg Grenert feel transform the layout into a tougher and more eye-catching venue.

Winter work has become Grenert's trademark over the last six years as he has taken advantage of frozen ground to dig ponds, create bunkers and completely rebuild long lengths of breakwater to dramatically upgrade Samoset.

Although he has more work ahead that will, in the end, mean eight or nine rebuilt holes on the 1973 Robert Elder design, the crowning creation could be the new 4th and 5th.

"That whole complex now is unbelievable," said Grenert, "with the contours and the sloping we put in."

Booth and Grenert brainstormed and Booth drafted a final product which sends the golfer almost into the ocean to the green on the par-5 4th, then along the rugged shoreline on the uphill, par-3 5th.

Shaper Bill Wilkes of Bill Wilkes Inc., in Jaffrey, N.H., "did a fantastic job," Grenert said.

The stonewall breakwater along the left side of the 4th hole now continues on toward Rockland Harbor. Above the 4th green, three new sets of tees face up the hill, with a series of bunkers stepping up the slope to a green impregnated into the hill.

The bentgrass approach frames the bunkers. As Grenert said, the green "looks like it has always been there; a heckuva hole."

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