Fream rebuilding his own course in Singapore

By JAY FINEGAN

SINGAPORE — Globe-trotting golf architect Ron Fream has returned to Singapore to rebuild his 19-year-old Serapong Course at Sentosa Golf Club. After more than 500,000 rounds played on this private course, the owners decided it was time for a reconstruction of the entire 18-hole layout.

Fream & Dale Golfplan, of Santa Rosa, Calif., has been directing the work for more than a year. The refurbished track is scheduled to open in mid-October.

The course, which lies beside a busy container shipping port, with the downtown financial district skyline in the background, has been popular since it opened in 1982. "Sentosa Golf Club has long been the most sought-after golf club membership in Singapore," Fream said.

The original course, built from 1979 to 1982, sits on a man-made island. Dredgers moved 3.4 million cubic yards of sand from the harbor floor to create enough terrain for the golf club. Much of where the current course sits today formerly was under 30 feet of seawater.

The extensive rehab of the course involves a new irrigation system and contour shaping and sculpturing of the sandy soil on all holes. The green at the 14th hole, a 465-yard par-4 – the longest par-4 on the course – features a rear pin position just 20 feet from the edge of the harbor.

Architects elect Pascuzzo to top post at ASGCA

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Award-winning golf architect Damian Pascuzzo, of El Dorado Hills, Calif., was elected president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects at the group's annual meeting, held here in May.

Pascuzzo has been involved in all phases of golf course design since joining the design firm of Robert Muir Graves, also an ASGCA member, in 1981. In 1992, he became a full partner with the firm – Graves and Pascuzzo Design.

Among the courses Pascuzzo has designed and remodeled are the Paradise Valley Golf Course in Fairfield, Calif.; La Purisima Golf Club in Lompoc, Calif.; and MeadowWood Golf Club in Spokane, Wash.

As ASGCA president, Pascuzzo will focus on informing developers, golfers and the public about the value of utilizing the talents of an experienced golf course architect throughout the design and development process. He also will promote the third year of the Society's popular Remodeling University program.

"It is a great honor to be elected president of the Society," Pascuzzo said. "Some of the most accomplished golf course architects in the world – such as Donald Ross and Robert Trent Jones – have been ASGCA presidents, so I am proud to serve the organization."

Pascuzzo will be joined on the ASGCA executive committee by other prominent course designers. Jay Morrish, of Flower Mound, Texas, assumes the post of vice president. Clyde Johnston, based in Hilton Head Island, S.C., takes on the treasurer's duties, and Bill Love, of College Park, Md., will serve as secretary. Immediate past president Brian Ault, of Kensington, Md., also will serve on the committee.