



BRIEFS

WORK COMPLETE AT HANOVER CC

HANOVER, N.H. — Hanover Country Club has just completed the construction of four new holes and the renovation of the other existing holes. Architect Ron Prichard restored the circa 1899 layout to its traditional design and Dahn Tibbett Golf Services of Marshfield, Mass., accomplished the reconstruction. During the yearlong project all greens, tees, and bunkers were rebuilt along with the addition of the new holes. The club is expected to open for play again in mid-2002.

RULEWICH UPDATING PALMETTO DUNES

HILTON HEAD, S.C. — Roger Rulewich has started work on a complete face-lift of the Robert Trent Jones Course at Palmetto Dunes Resort, here. Rulewich was involved in the original design and construction of the course more than three decades ago while working with Jones. The architect will redesign and rebuild all greens, tees and bunkers and the entire course will be regrassed with improved Bermudagrass varieties. In addition, all fairways will be regraded and contoured and a new drainage system will be installed. Rulewich will also add junior tees to encourage juniors and beginners to play golf. Construction and grassing is scheduled to be completed by June and the course will re-open for play in October.

HARVARD DESIGN SCHOOL ANNOUNCES WINTER/SPRING SEMINARS

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — For one week in January and one week in March, the Harvard Design School Office of Executive Education will offer continuing education seminars related to the planning and design of golf courses and resorts. A wide range of disciplines such as architecture, urban planning and design, marketing and business management, and construction and project management will be addressed.

With fees ranging from \$475 to \$1,285, the one- to three-day courses will take place here in the school's George Gund Hall. Instructors include golf course designers Brian Silva and Robert Muir Graves; architects Kenneth DeMay and Richard Diedrich; designers and environmentalists William Burbank and Michael Hurdzan; and golf development consultant Barbara Hanley.

Pinehills GC opens Rees Jones course, Nicklaus design to follow

By JOEL JOYNER

PLYMOUTH, Mass. — New England's latest golf course facility, Pinehills Golf Club here in historic Plymouth, opened its 18-hole Rees Jones layout last Memorial Day weekend and has exceeded its projected golf rounds for the year. The upscale, daily-fee club is hoping to follow up on that success this year with a new Nicklaus Design course, drawn up by Jack Nicklaus II, scheduled to open this May.

In its first five weeks of operation, the Jones course averaged 200 players a day. "The course has been well received," said head pro, John Tuffen. "We're looking forward to opening the Nicklaus course next year. Construction is complete, and they finished seeding Aug. 1. It was playable last fall, but we're waiting until this year to open it up to the public."

THE JONES COURSE

The entire development, with the surrounding community developed by The Green Companies, consist of approximately 3,000 acres with 350 acres set aside for golf.

Jones had a large piece of property that provided several options. "The soil is really sandy, high-and-dry, and we were able to utilize a lot of the ridges," Jones said. "The biggest challenge for me was to maximize the terrain."



All the tees on the Jones course are rectilinear. The eighth hole is pictured above.

The bunkers resemble the old-style A.W. Tillinghast or Alister MacKenzie bunkering. "They're real sculptured, fairly dramatic, and they're one of the major characteristics of the golf course. Several of the fairway bunkers are located as

protective bunkers," said the architect.

There are bunkers located on every hole, and many of the fairways are routed along the ridges. "Most of the bunkers are below the fairways or below the targets and actually help keep the ball in play on missed shots," Jones explained. "They're not just sticking out of the ground. They're more recessed and cut into the lower terrain."

Four sets of tees allow play from 5,388 yards to 7,175 yards. "Basically, we design all our courses over 7,000 yards and add multiple tees," said Jones. "A course of 7,000 yards is no longer a long course anymore with the shafts now available, the metal head drivers, the Pro V1 and Nike golf balls. The course is long, but there's opportunity for all caliber players to find a comfortable challenge."

Grass hollows and pockets, cuts that hold a shot in, sculptured bunkers and ramps into greens give the design character. "It's not a spartan golf course," said Jones. "It's also a course you really need to think yourself around and determine what kind of shot you want to hit or are capable of hitting. It makes the game more enjoyable when a player needs to develop and apply strategy."

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The seventh hole at The Club at Patriot's Glen

Matthai unveils second in Md. at Patriot's Glen

By JOHN TORSIELLO

ELKTON, Md. — Jeff Matthai and Morris and Ritchie Associates, Inc. have addressed the need here for a mid-level public golf course with the opening of The Club at Patriot's Glen.

"What we wanted to do with Patriot's Glen was fill a niche," said Matthai, who is a project manager for Morris and Ritchie Associates, Inc. of Abingdon, Md. The company's golf division has served as project engineers for several acclaimed courses, including Bulle Rock Golf Course in Havre de Grace, Md., and Beach Tree Golf Course in Aberdeen, Md.

"There have been a lot of upscale, daily-fee courses built in the area [between Baltimore and Philadelphia] with green fees in the \$95 to \$140 range. There are a number of existing municipal courses in the \$20 to \$30 range. Patriot's Glen is in the \$45 to \$55 range. We feel that the course is a bargain for a truly fine public layout," said Matthai.

This is Matthai's second solo design. His first course, Mountain Ranch Golf Course in Joppa, opened last year.

Trent Wright, general manager/director of golf at Patriot's Glen, said the reception for the new course has

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Renovation work is underway at Silver Creek

Silver Creek membership puts renovation on fast track

By DOUG SAUNDERS

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Architect Mike Strantz has started work on the renovation of Silver Creek Country Club despite the sagging economy that has crippled the nearby Silicon Valley region. The commencement of work on the nine-year-old layout is the culmination of a fast-paced approval process where a committed membership took control to make things happen.

Silver Creek Country Club is a Ted Robinson-designed course built on a hilly site in South San Jose as an anchor to a housing development created by Shea Homes. Club membership was limited to property owners in the gated community and the course proved popular, drawing more than 300 members. As is the case with many real estate driven properties, the best real estate went for the housing first and Robinson had to work with some awkward topography for the course.

Over the years the membership lodged many opinions of how the course could be better. With the final phase of development completed, Shea Homes offered the club membership the opportunity to take over club operations last

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