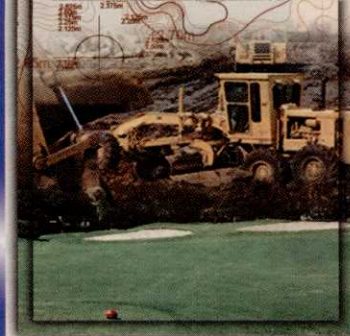


DEVELOPMENT & RENOVATION



BRIEFS

FIRM PROMOTES LUTZ TO VICE PRESIDENT

TOLEDO, Ohio — Arthur Hills/Steve Forrest and Associates promoted Quentin Lutz to vice president of global business development and marketing and media relations. Lutz will be responsible for strengthening and extending the Hills/Forrest brand worldwide. Lutz was formerly the firm's director of marketing and media relations.

NEW OWNERS CLOSE JONES CREEK FOR RENOVATION

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Jones Creek Golf Course here closed in early January for several weeks of renovations. Upon completion, which is expected in early March, the course will convert from private to semi-private. Renovation will focus mainly on reseeding greens at the club, which was recently purchased by Jones Creek Joint Venture from Fairways International Clubs LLC and Jones Creek Golf Club LLC.

NICKLAUS, PALMER, PLAYER TO CO-DESIGN AUGUSTA CLUB

AUGUSTA, Ga. — At press time, work was expected to begin in late January on a 27-hole private course here with a unique twist. Each of the club's three nines will be designed by a different legendary golfer-turned-architect: Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer and Gary Player. The course is part of a 2,000-acre development project.

WEIBRING TO RENOVATE DALLAS MUNICIPAL COURSE

DALLAS — D.A. Weibring will undertake a renovation of Cedar Crest Golf Course here later this year. The Dallas water department will loan \$3 million to the city's parks department for renovations at the municipal course, originally designed by A.W. Tillinghast in 1919. Among the renovations will be the addition of a new pond, where treated wastewater will be held and used for irrigation. Weibring will also add about 20 bunkers and a driving range to the facility.

Sunday River to begin long-awaited course in 2003

By DEREK RICE

NEWRY, Maine — While the rest of the state weathered a barrage of snowstorms in late December, Sunday River Ski Resort was looking ahead to finally starting construction on its planned golf course in the spring.

After nearly five years of planning, the Robert Trent Jones Jr.-designed golf course at Sunday River will begin taking shape soon.

The American Skiing Co. resort began clearing land in the Jordan Bowl area of the property in 1998 in preparation for the 18-hole course, but various factors have delayed the project.

"It's something we've been

wanting to do for a while and we actually started the plans in '98, now it's finally becoming a reality," said Susan DuPlessis, corporate communications manager for Sunday River.

DuPlessis said the development is on track for a spring or summer construction start.

"It looks like everything's on track. We're going to have the purchase and sales agreement, that will be the next step," she said. "The last I heard, we

Continued on next page



A rendering of the planned course at Sunday River, which was designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr.

Hills fast out of the gate in 2003

TOLEDO, Ohio — At press time, golf course architects Arthur Hills/Steve Forrest and Associates were looking at a busy January, with three course openings scheduled within four days in the state of Florida.

The Club at Renaissance in Fort Myers was to open to members and their guests on Jan. 18. Constructed by Golf Forms Inc., the course was described by Hills as, "a challenging but playable layout."

The city of Miami Beach was slated to reopen Bayshore Golf Course under its new name, Miami Beach

Golf Club. Most notable about this course opening is its wide use of Seashore Paspalum, a salt-tolerant turfgrass, said superintendent Jim Torba.

"Imagine a turfgrass that provides a carpet-like playing surface, an emerald green color year-round and can be irrigated with salt water," Torba said. "Seashore Paspalum is revolutionizing the golf course industry."

In addition to the paspalum, architects Steve Forrest and Ken Williams had to work within challenging environmental

Continued on next page



The Arthur Hills-designed Club at Renaissance in Fort Myers, Fla., is one of three Hills courses that opened in Florida in January.

Builder makes Billy Bunkers case

By DEREK RICE

GAINESVILLE, Ga. — Fresh off another Billy Bunker installation at Wade Hampton Golf Club in Cashiers, N.C., Course Crafters Inc. is making the case for the bunkering style for those who can afford it.

Billy Bunkers, named for former Augusta National Golf Club superintendent Billy Fuller, who invented the method, are designed to

improve bunker drainage. Each lateral drainage arm runs straight into an outfall pipe or into individual "smiley" drains located at the terminus of each lateral. A 1.5-inch layer of gravel is laid over the bunker floor, capped by a Trevira liner, which is specially cut to reveal the herringbone drainage pattern. The entire drain-line scheme is then

Continued on page 16



"Smiley" drains are an integral part of the Billy Bunker method.

Spencer finds peace of mind, security in sale of his firm

By DEREK RICE

TOLEDO, Ohio — Golf course architect Denny Spencer may have sold his company, Spencer Golf Concepts, to Columbus, Ohio-based Zande & Associates Inc., but that doesn't mean he's getting out of the business.

According to Spencer, quite the contrary has happened. By selling his firm and going to work for

Zande, he is able to concentrate on golf course design without having to worry about making ends meet.

"With the golf industry being as volatile as it is, I had to take a real hard look at my situation at age 60 and just starting a brand new company, my timing wasn't the best in the world," Spencer said. "When you sit down and take a hard look at

Continued on page 16

Coastal Commission

Continued from page 4

eighth course to the property near Carmel.

Earlier in December, the Hearst Corp. dropped plans to build a 27-hole golf course and golf resort in San Simeon after a lengthy battle with the commission and other environmental groups. Instead, Hearst retained the right to build 27 luxury homes and an inn on the 83,000-acre Hearst Ranch.

Another golf course development that the commission successfully quashed was a planned Ben Crenshaw-designed course to be built in Santa Barbara. The commission voted 10-0 to deny the Dos Pueblos Golf Links proposal based on the discovery of the threatened red-legged frog on the property. That discovery, along with other biological discoveries over the years, caused the commission to reverse the approval it had given in 1994.

Real estate mogul Donald Trump has also clashed with the commission since purchasing Ocean Trails Golf Course near Los Angeles. Trump aims to turn the course, best known for having three holes collapse into the ocean in 1998, into an upscale private course that he said would rival Pebble Beach. However, under a commission ruling, deed restrictions require the course to remain public and any change must be approved by the commission.

In early January, Gov. Gray Davis said he was leaning toward calling a special legislative session to restore the commission as a constitutional agency. At press time, the commission was seeking clarification of the court's ruling before deciding whether to file an appeal.

A spokesman for the commission said it may be possible to avoid an appeal if the legislature can make councilors' terms a fixed length, rather than the current "at will" status. ■

Hills' fast start

Continued from previous page

stormwater management constraints. All non-native plant species were removed, and a new irrigation system was installed to lessen the impact on an already-stressed fresh-water aquifer. TDI International handled renovation of the course.

The firm planned to complete the Florida trifecta on Jan. 22 with the opening of the Bonita Bay Group's Hills-designed Shadow Wood Country Club. Because the course was so carefully routed around existing wetlands, ponds and forests, Hills said, "There was more preservation than clearing at Shadow Wood Preserve."

Golf Forms also undertook the construction of Shadow Wood, which Hills called "moderate in length, fun to play." ■

— Derek Rice

Sunday River

Continued from previous page

were still on target."

DuPlessis said once construction begins, the development will be fast-tracked with a 2004 opening planned.

"Once we get through all the procedural things we need to do with the real estate, it's definitely going to be an aggressive construction schedule," she said.

Having a golf course on its property will allow Sunday River, which is enjoying a successful ski season in the wake of a dismal season last winter, to draw people to its resort year-round. At present, if a guest of the resort wants to play golf, he or she must make the trek to the nearby Bethel Inn and Country Club.

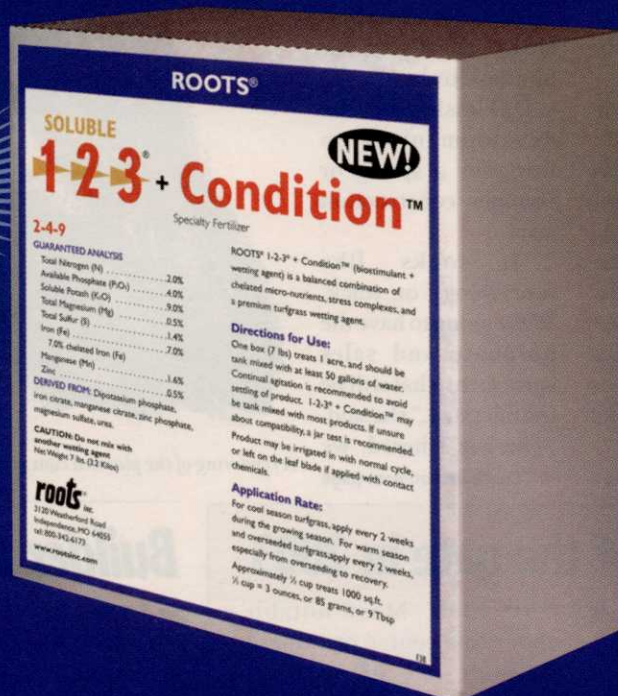
Under the development agreement, the course will be owned and operated by Harris Golf, which owns and operates two other clubs on the coast of Maine, one in Bath and the other in Boothbay Harbor.

The proposed 350-acre site is located near the 286-unit Jordan Grand Resort Hotel and Conference Center. As presently designed, the course will feature panoramic views on more than half of its holes. Development plans also call for a golf school, driving range and clubhouse designed to complement the mountain landscape.

The development is subject to approval by the secured lenders of American Skiing.

Golf Course News will track the construction of the course on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. Watch for installments in future issues. ■

NEW!



for the **Best Turf + Best Condition**

Use New Soluble

1-2-3 + Condition™
Biostimulant plus Wetting Agent

ROOTS® 1-2-3® + Condition™ is a balanced combination of Chelated micro-nutrients and anti-stress biostimulants, plus a premium wetting agent. It increases root development and turf color, while reducing localized dry spots and water repellance.

ROOTS® 1-2-3® + Condition™ delivers the very best turf results under the toughest turf stress conditions.

One 7 lb. box treats 1 acre. 3 boxes per case.

roots inc.

3120 Weatherford Road • Independence, MO 64055 • tel: 800-342-6173 • www.rootsinc.com

GCSAA BOOTH # 4123