Redstone GC ready for ‘03 Tour stop

By DEREK RICE

HOUSTON—After a couple false starts due to bad weather in Houston, Redstone Golf Management was finally able to open its first 18-hole course at Redstone Golf Club in early December. Designed by Jim Hardy and Peter Jacobsen, the course will host the 2003 Shell Houston Open two weeks after The Masters. A second 18-hole course, designed by Rees Jones, is currently in progress and is expected to open in fall 2004. The Jacobsen/Hardy course will be private, while the Jones course will open to the public. The Shell Houston Open will move to the Jones course in 2005.

Jacobsen and Hardy turned the existing course at Redstone GC into a 7,508-yard course. Upon completion of the Jones course, the facility, which also includes a 31,000-square-foot tee-planting area for

Audubon sets 50 percent goal for 2007

By ANDREW OVERBECK

SELKIRK, N.Y. — Audubon International has an ambitious membership drive to attain 50 percent participation from the 17,000-plus golf courses in the United States over the next five years.

Currently 13 percent of the courses across the country have joined either the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program or the Audubon Signature Cooperative Sanctuary program. Two percent of all courses in the U.S. have achieved Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary status.

“This is an ambitious effort,” said Kevin Fletcher, director of programs. “Now is the time to be bold and make this happen.”

The plan has five objectives, said Fletcher:

• Make sure that all 17,000-plus courses know the Audubon International program exists.

• Find out why those who know about the program have not joined.

• Do a better job of explaining the benefits of the program to the environment, job satisfaction and overall golf course budget.

• Dispel any myths about the program and its difficulty.

• Work more with the industry as a whole by communicating more with golf course managers, owners, management companies, developers and suppliers.

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