In Mukwonago, a town in the rolling country of southern Wisconsin about 30 miles southwest of Milwaukee, golfers are playing a beautiful new 18-hole course. Nearby, a rich crop of grass is sprouting on still another new 18-hole course that needs only sun, water and time to ready it for play.

A year and a half ago the wooded countryside, alternately hilly and swampy, was inhabited only by rabbits, fox, quail and other wild life. Then, Francis Schroedel, a Milwaukee builder, moved in with an imposing array of "cats," "clams" and other heavy construction equipment. His construction army cut down hundreds of trees, carved three artificial lakes out of the landscape and filled them with spring water, and installed several miles of cast iron pipe in an irrigation system. In a vast landscaping job, his work crews moved hundreds of thousands of cubic yards of earth and added new beauty to an area that was already naturally attractive.

No. 12 at Rainbow Springs wasn't shaped quite this quickly . . . But it gives an idea of the speed in which the 36 holes at this club were built.

Exactly 143 days after ground was broken, 160 acres of a 945-acre tract had been transformed into an 18-hole course. Billy Sixty, of the Milwaukee Journal sports staff, describing the speed with which builder, Schroedel, worked, facetiously said the entire 12th green was "raked and shaped by a cat-dozer in exactly 18 minutes." He wasn't too far wrong because about five miles of cast iron pipe were installed in the irrigation system in seven days.

When the job was done, Schroedel and his battalions started work on a second 18-hole course on the same tract. This, too, was completed, except for seeding, by the time the first heavy snow fell.

The first course was dedicated last October, seven months to the day after

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Here is the unfinished finishing hole as it was being cut to size by the big machines. Pro shop is now located in the foreground.

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