

NEW COURSES

Aesthetics, playability are Larry Nelson's aim for Nashville layout

With rock bluffs along the west side of the property, the Cumberland River along the east side, and farmland in between, a new course in Nashville, Tenn., will be enjoyable to play and see, architect-player Larry Nelson feels.

Springhouse Golf Club, Opryland Hotel's resort golf course, is being built and play is anticipated in the fall of 1990.

"Our goal was to create a golf course that would be enjoyable — in terms of aesthetics and playability — for the resort golfer who may play only occasionally and yet be challenging enough to host a major championship," said Nelson, a U.S. Open and two-time PGA champion.

Springhouse golf director Chuck Eade said 27 holes had been planned on the 220-acre site, but wetlands protection and the unusual shape of the property have reduced it to 18 holes. "However, that 18 is spectacu-

lar," he said.

Landscapes Unlimited of Lincoln, Neb., is general contractor for the course. Nashville-based Earl Swensson Associates will design the clubhouse.

The Atlanta and Dallas-based Nelson firm expects an October opening for the Centennial Golf Club course which it designed in just north of Atlanta. Centennial will be a daily fee facility.

Walker designs and renovates

Robert C. Walker Inc. lists one course opened and two scheduled in October.

The county-owned public St. Johns County Golf Club in Elkton, Fla., built by W. R. Townsend, Par 72, Inc., and designed by the Walker golf course architectural firm based in Atlantic Beach, Fla., opened in January.

Play averaged more than 4,000 rounds the first three months. The 18-hole course measures 6,890 yards and embraces 100 acres of course-dividing native wetland and 44 acres of excavated lakes and lagoons.

San Jose Country Club in, Jacksonville, Fla., 6,700 yards, 18 holes and private, is of 65-year old Donald Ross design.

Work involves total redesign and reconstruction, including rerouting of 3 holes. San Jose CC is the owner.

River Run, Davidson, N. C., 18 holes and 6,875 yards, also will be private.

PGA touring professional Raymond Floyd is acting as design consultant.

"Rocky River" runs through the course, hilly with a heavy stand of pine and oak. Edgco is the owner.



Marsh Creek in St. Augustine, Fla., has officially opened its clubhouse and course. Mark McCumber and Associates designed the 18-hole layout.

McCumber team busy on Florida courses

Mark McCumber and Associates, working with McCumber Construction, Inc., is busy on several courses in Florida, and has completed a couple of major projects.

The grand opening was held in May for the clubhouse at Marsh Creek in St. Augustine, where the course was woven in and out of sensitive wetlands. McCumber and the developer, Stokes O'Steen of Jacksonville, worked with environmental agencies for about two years to ensure protection of the marshes throughout much of the course.

Four holes are on tidal marsh and several others have interior marsh areas.

The private country club plays on four sets of tees ranging from 6,845 yards on the back tees to 5,300 on the forward tees. Construction costs ran \$1.7 million.

New York State Kay's domain

Stephen Kay of Westchester, N.Y., is doing extensive work — from renovations to master plans — at golf courses around New York State.

The grand opening for Kay's Hiland Golf Club in Glens Falls, which opened for play last September, will be held in June. The 6,800-yard layout plays to a par 72.

Kay has also completed an extensive remodeling and renovation to The Seawane Club on Long Island.

Lohman's Cedar Creek CC opening

Nine holes of the new Cedar Creek Country Club in Onalaska, Wis., will open in July.

Construction and seeding for the second nine is complete. The 18-hole layout will open in late spring of 1990.

Bob Lohmann, president of Lohmann Golf Designs, Inc., in Crystal Lake, Ill., was designer-architect, Lohmann subsidiary Midwest Golf Development is the course's

builder. Meanwhile, McCumber has taken a tract of land that was void of trees and has turned it into The Vineyards — North Course in Naples, Fla.

The private course, built on a site that was used to grow tomatoes, covers 6,900 yards over 18 holes.

Construction has started on the 18-hole championship Royal Golf Club course at Queen's Harbour Yacht and Country Club in Jacksonville Beach, designed by McCumber and developed by Fred B. Bullard Jr. of Clearwater, Fla.

Also, work should begin in July on an 18-hole course at Bretonne Park in Naples, being built as part of a retirement community developed by Leisure+ Technology, Inc. of Los Angeles.

Also on Long Island, Kay has completed the first phase of "a faithful restoration" of A.W. Tillinghast's Hempstead Golf Club course, and is developing a master plan for North Hills Country Club.

Meanwhile, he is in the third year of a seven-year remodeling project at Blue Hill Golf Course in Pearl River and is involved in the planning for a private 18-hole golf course near Cape Charles, Va., on which he will be the architect and Hale Irwin the designer.

Hawaii getting PGA Tour course

The first PGA Tour Tournament Players Club golf course in Hawaii will be built as part of an 11,000-acre resort residential complex overlooking the North Kona-Kohala shore.

The course is designed by Jack Nicklaus, his first project on the Big Island.

A traditional Hawaiian ground-blessing ceremony in May heralded the Four Seasons Resort's \$160-million, 300-acre first phase, which is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 1991.

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