

Mahaffey, Forester form partnership

PGA Tour veteran John Mahaffey has announced his partnership with Rick Forester in Mahaffey-Forester Design Group, Inc., based in Houston, Texas.

Forester, who has been both a touring and club professional, was involved in the design of several Gulf Coast golf courses including Bear Creek Golf World, selected as one of the country's top public courses, and Cypresswood Golf Club, which was completed last year.

The University of Houston alumni are longtime friends.

"John will be as involved as his current playing schedule permits," Forester said. "He has good ideas and a feel for what the amateur wants in a golf course."

Mahaffey believes that "people are ready to get back to more traditional architecture" and that there

is enough work to keep the new firm busy.

Mahaffey and Forester plan to work on all types of designs "from small-scale to re-do's to complete 18-hole layouts anywhere in the world."

Mahaffey summed up their philosophy: "You can build a course that is challenging without having severe undulating greens and trouble everywhere."

Citing the Donald Ross-designed Pinehurst #2, Mahaffey said, "The design of this course is so basic. It is just as pleasant from the forward tees as it is at championship length. It isn't boring; it isn't easy. From the back tees, it is as demanding as any course in golf. That's what we will be striving for: Not building monuments to architecture, but classic, timeless design."

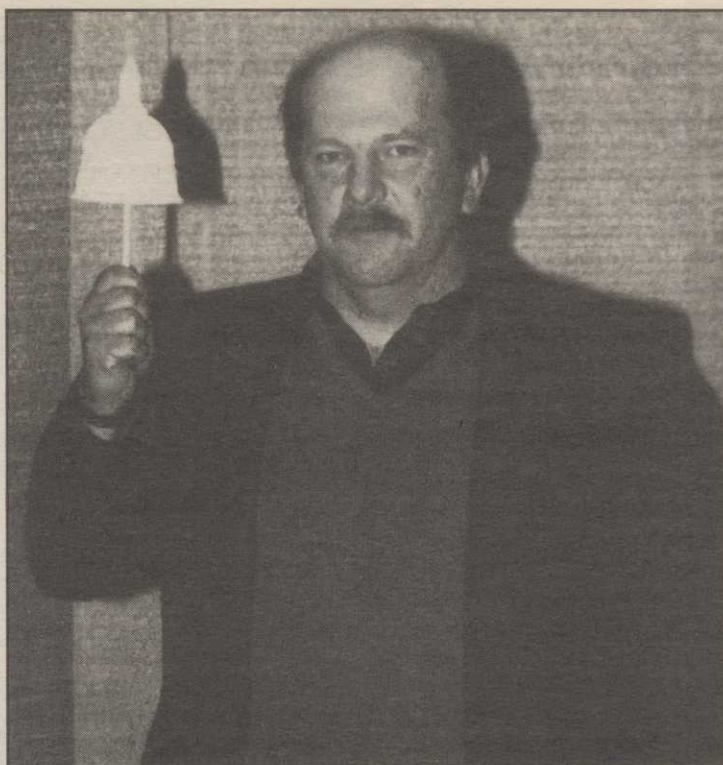


Photo courtesy of Geoff Ferguson
When President George Bush drives off the first tee at Cape Arundel Club, Kennebunkport, Maine, he will play between special White House markers displayed by course superintendent Greg Searle.

Europe conclave planners upbeat

Golf Course Europe '89 planners report a good response to the event and have extended their deadline for lecture papers to mid-June.

Toby M. Rijks of Expoconsult in Holland, which is coordinating the exhibition and conference on golf course management, said his firm is "quite happy" with the response to the Oct. 4-6 show at Rhein/Main Halls in Wiesbaden, West Germany.

Companies wishing to exhibit had until the end of May to sign up.

By early May more than 30 lecture proposals had been presented to Expoconsult. A committee will select submitted papers and extend invitations to international experts to speak at forums on trends and developments in the industry.

All lectures will be given in English and be translated simultaneously into German and French.

Organizers expect golf course superintendents, club managers, greenkeepers, associations of golf experts, national and regional golf federations, club committees, private investors, investment companies, developers, and representatives of government agencies to attend the conference.

People interested may call Expoconsult at 011-31-3465-73-777 or write P.O. Box 200, NL-3600 AE Maarssen, Holland.

Still leaves GCSAA

Bob Still, who resigned May 2 as manager of media relations for the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America "to pursue other opportunities," said he is "definitely interested in staying in the golf industry."

"I have a real love affair with the game and the people in it," he said, adding that in mid-May he was being interviewed for jobs by several golf-related groups.

"We are happy that Bob has been presented opportunities to move ahead in the field," said John Schilling, GCSAA executive director. "His contributions to the association and assistance to the members are greatly appreciated."

Pat Jones, the GCSAA's newly appointed director of communications, said he expects to complete a search for Still's successor by the end of June.

Still, a former broadcaster, developed the GCSAA media guide, poster campaign, and commercials on national and regional golf telecasts. He also originated the association's writing contest for Golf Writers Association of America members and many other projects to improve the GCSAA's visibility and image.

\$300 million park planned

Construction is expected to begin in October on a \$300-million theme park including golf courses that Anheuser-Busch Co. plans to build on Spain's Costa Brava.

A spokesman for the regional government of Catalonia, which must now give final approval, announced that the St. Louis brewer was the sole bidder on the park.

A spokesman said the bid, which excluded land costs, was to build an amusement park, golf courses and other recreational facilities, a hotel-conference center and homes on 2,070 acres in the Catalan province of Tarragona.

NGF offering new appraisal service

To help reduce insurance costs at golf courses nationwide, the National Golf Foundation has announced availability of a certified appraisal service for country clubs.

The Asset Records/Certified Appraisal Program is being provided by the Independent Appraisal Co. of Pittsburgh, Pa., in conjunction with FAI Insurance Counseling Inc. FAI is the

administrator of the NGF-endorsed risk management and insurance package of programs.

The new program is said to accurately define the value of the club's assets.

South T. Smith, NGA Membership Services vice president, said: "This certified appraisal enables golf clubs to substantiate 'proof of loss' in the

event of a claim."

Smith said the appraisal program and asset record would speed the claim process in the event of loss, and would enable clubs to avoid paying for costly over-insurance.

For information, contact Tom Marks at FAI Insurance Counseling, 10 Waterview Blvd., Parsippany, N.J. 07054; 1-800-446-5311.

American Golf buys, plans expansion

American Golf Corp. has announced that it has bought the nine-hole Charles T. Myers Golf Course in Charlotte, N.C., and signed a 20-year lease with the state of California to manage Lake Tahoe Golf Course, formerly the Lake Tahoe Country Club.

The Myers Golf Course, which

will be open to the public, is a par 36 layout over 3,300 yards.

A second nine holes is planned by the County of Mecklenburg within the next four years.

The facility has a clubhouse, golf shop and snack bar.

American Golf has been managing Lake Tahoe Golf Course

for the past four years. A provision of the new lease is that American Golf will design and build a new clubhouse within the first three years.

Meanwhile, American Golf has announced it has leased from New York City the Alleypond Driving Range.

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