

Bradshaw leaves NGF

Kit Bradshaw, for two years the public relations manager for the National Golf Foundation, has resigned her position and is working as a freelance writer.

Bradshaw, who has a background in real-estate and development as well as golf, said she will perform public relations and marketing both in and outside the golf industry.

She will also continue as the regional field editor for Florida for "Better Homes and Gardens" magazine, working out of her Jupiter home.

Japanese buy N.Y.C. area properties

Japanese banks and syndication groups have bought nine golf courses or course sites in the New York City vicinity in recent months, and are racing to remodel or build their facilities first.

"Now that they've acquired the property, it's become a race to get facilities remodeled or built first," said Jim McLoughlin of The McLoughlin Group, who has served as a consultant to several of the Japanese buyers.

The latest purchase was Garrison Golf and Country Club in Philipstown. Urban Life Co., Ltd. of Osaka, Japan, bought the 340-acre facility for \$17.4 million from Wil-

liam E. Wilkinson of Syosset, N.Y. McLoughlin said Americans shouldn't worry that they won't be able to play the courses the Japanese are buying.

"We're telling our clients they can't automatically fill their golf courses with Japanese clientele," McLoughlin said.

He said 1,300 Japanese companies have offices in Manhattan alone and 15,000 to 18,000 Japanese executives live in the New York City area.

Those executives are living in the United States without their families, so they are "essentially bachelors" and form the pool the

newly Japanese-owned courses will try to attract.

But because that pool is limited, McLoughlin said, the Japanese owners are "changing marketing plans for a mix of Japanese and Americans."

Urban Life, for instance, intends to improve the Garrison course but otherwise keep it as it is now—a primarily public club with a limited number of annual private memberships, according to spokesman Yoshitaki Kishi.

For the nine new owners, "It's now a race to get credibility, to get open, and to market their courses," McLoughlin said.

NEWS

Ross Society's first conclave at Pinehurst

The Donald Ross Society has become "a viable entity" in just its first year of existence and will hold its first meeting May 3-6 at Pinehurst, N.C., according to its executive vice president.

Barry Palm, of West Hartford, Conn., said society members will stay at the Pinehurst resort to meet and play in their first Donald Ross Scholarship Tournament on the Pinehurst #2 course.

On Friday night, May 4, Wayne Ashby will host fellow society members at a reception at his home, which is Ross's old house and abuts the third green of Pinehurst #2. Ashby will display his Ross memorabilia, Palm said.

A banquet Saturday night will highlight the meeting with CBS Sports' Ben Wright giving the keynote speech and the society presenting its first Donald Ross Scholarship, of at least \$5,000, to a student of golf course architecture.

Palm said the Ross Society is growing by four to five members a week. As of March, 155 people had paid the \$100 charter membership fee.

Having worked on the first meeting for almost a year, Palm said he is "very gratified and very enthusiastic" about the response to the get-together. He said members will attend from throughout the country.

About the group's growth, he said: "It's something to say we have 155 members and we're not even a year old yet. It demonstrates the feelings for preservation of older courses. A lot of people are very sensitive to preserving what was built 50, 60 years ago and maintaining it the way it was."

"I know a lot of courses have contacted us asking for information on old courses. There is a movement towards restoring courses to their original state, and we have plans and blueprints to restore them."

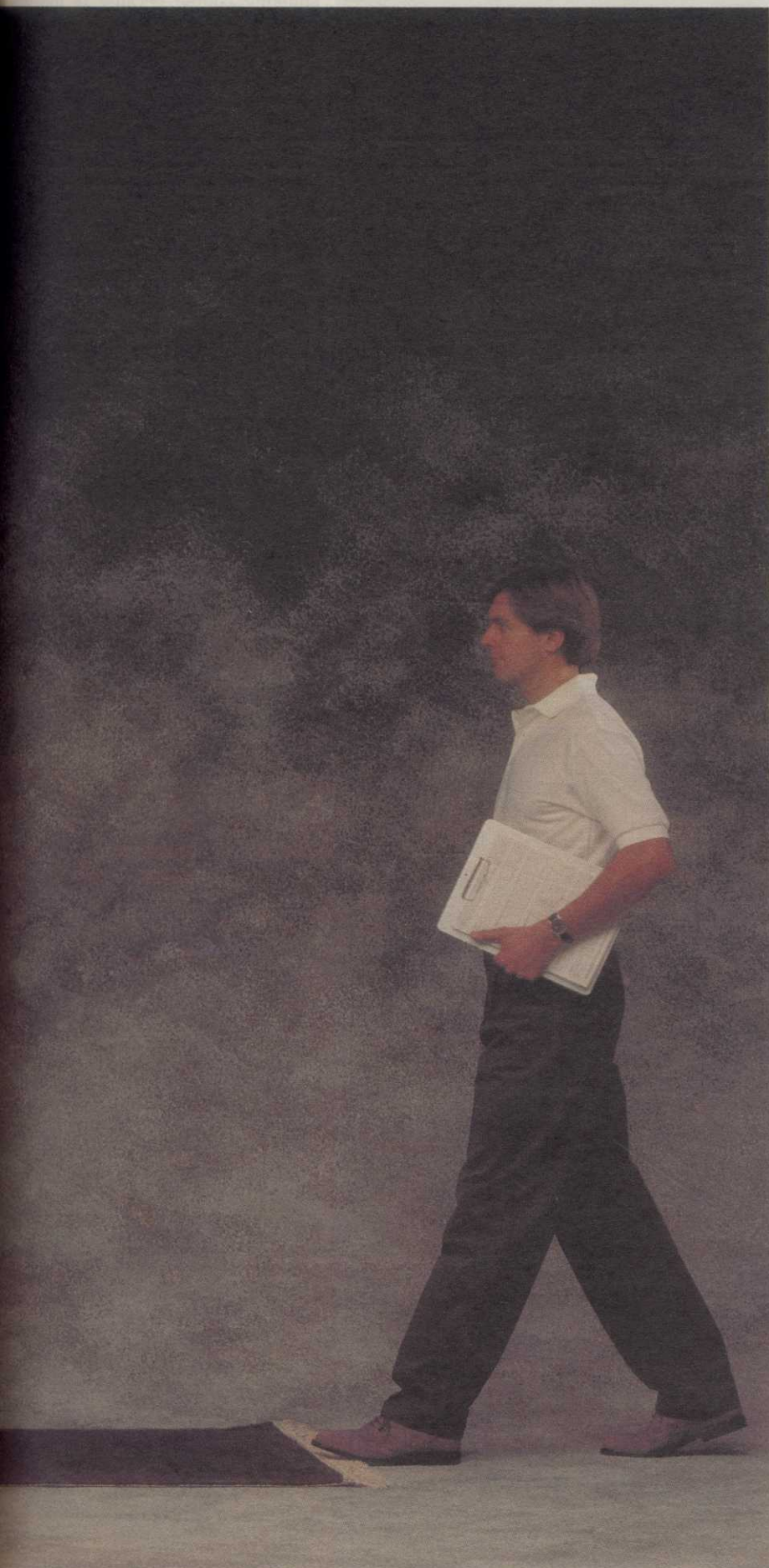
More information is available from Palm at 7 Fairlee Road, West Hartford, Conn. 06107.

Palmer group inks agreement

Arnold Palmer Golf Management Co. has signed an agreement with the Hansen Group of Ambler, Pa. to operate BallenIsles Country Club of JDM in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

The 10-year contract to operate the former JDM Country Club, also previously known as the PGA National Golf Course and headquarters of the PGA of America, is the fourth Palmer/Hansen accord.

Palmer also operates Philadelphia's Oak Terrace, Commonwealth National and Ballen Rose for Hansen.



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