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The Best of 1989! Wadsworth voted No. 1 builder of '89

BY PETER BLAIS

"We've always felt that how well we've done our job depends on how the architects see what we've accomplished. We want to see them get what they want out of their design.'

That's how company founder and chairman of the board Brent Wadsworth explains the success of Wadsworth Golf Construction Co., voted 1989 Builder of the Year in Golf Course News' survey of architects.



Brent Wadsworth Voted Best Builder of 1989

Wadsworth received nearly one-fourth of the votes cast, more Continued on page 29

Fazio named top architect of the year

BY PETER BLAIS This has been a good year for Tom Fazio. But so was last year, and the year before that and the year before that and...

They all kind of blend together for me," answered the man voted the 1989 Architect of the Year in Golf Course News ' first survey of course designers, when asked if this year was special.

"I'm just amazed at the quality of products we (architects)



Tom Fazio Voted Best Architect of 1989 are able to build today. High quality is what developers and own-Continued on page 28

Subsurface injection project wins raves

BY MARK LESLIE

The success of work on equipment that injects pesticides below the surface of the turf where grubs live should prod researchers to develop a wide range of new products to fight pests.

Ohio State University Professors Harry Niemczyk, an entomologist, and Erdal Ozkan, an agricultural engineer, have completed a season of research on their project and are excited by its prospects.

Niemczyk cited data showing that the "liquid injection subsurface placing system" they are developing can put the product Continued on page 31



A panoramic view of Pinon Hills Golf Course in Farmington, N.M., shows the 11th green in the foreground and the elevation changes on No. 15 tees in the background. For more information on this course, designed by Finger Dye Spann of Houston, Texas, and others, see pages 10 and 11.

Florida project targets families

BY MARK LESLIE

The family orientation of a proposed golf facility turned it from a loser to a winner in the zoning process and will turn it into a reality this spring in Orlando, Fla.

Golf Unlimited will start construction in January on the Lake Under Hill Golf Center, which will include a fully lighted, nine-hole par 3 course, complete driving range, putting course and miniature golf layout.

But the 26-acre facility was a wipeout in June when heavy opposition from neighbors contributed to an Orange County Commission denial of zoning approval on the grounds the project was too commercial for the mainly residential area.

"We got an extension of the request," said

Golf Unlimited's Jack Irwin, "and met with homeowners and told them the facility would enhance, not hurt, their neighborhood. We went back to the commission with neighborhood support and got unanimous (5-0) approval.'

The turning point, Irwin believes, came when neighbors realized the project will stress the family.

"We planned it with the family in mind," he said. "Dad can bring the kids out and teach them or let them play miniature golf while he and his wife are playing.'

It is a concept Irwin expects to continue working with. He already plans a second family golf center in Orlando and may look for other opportunities working out of his Orlando and Knoxville, Tenn., offices.

The idea of lighting a course has been successful at two facilities in Myrtle Beach, N.C., and another in Daytona, Fla.

But the Orlando project is believed the first with its particular amenities.

"We'll give the average player - who can't afford to belong to a country club and works all day - and the beginner a chance to play in the winter and summer. It will be great for seniors," Irwin said.

The longest of the nine holes will be 160 yards, and Irwin said: "The lights will be very high-quality; you'll be able to follow the flight of the ball all the way. It will be a firstclass course with wall-to-wall irrigation Continued on page 8