

GOLF COURSE NEWS

GCSAA International Show and Conference
Preview of show workshop schedule and exposition
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Golf Construction in U.S.

U.S. first-half activity: 1990 vs 1989

	1990	1989	Difference
Open	129	159	-30
Under construction	570	375	+195
In planning	684	416	+268
Totals	1,383	950	+433

Source: NGF

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Fazio repeats as best designer

By Mark Leslie

Tom Fazio, whose stock continues to rise, has repeated as Golf Course Architect of the Year for 1990.

Fazio, with offices in Hendersonville, N.C., and Jupiter, Fla., received 31 percent of the votes cast in *Golf Course News'* second

annual survey of the nation's architects.

Rees Jones of Montclair, N.J., finished runner-up for the second straight year, with 21 percent of the vote. Jay Morrish of Tulsa, Okla., who designs courses with ex-Tour pro Tom Weiskopf, received 19 percent and placed

third.

"It's just sensational what's happening in golf, and the kinds of golf courses and products being done," Fazio said. "The competition level in golf is so high. The desire for quality, dramatics, sensational, tremendous golf is out there and it's an exciting

time."

Asked if 1990 was his best year, Fazio said: "Maybe in terms of five spectacular sites." Yet he raved about the courses that will be completed this year.

"I have a site in Michigan (Treetops Golf Course) that

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A Fazio 1990 creation

Indwelling the hills of his hometown of Hendersonville, N.C., is Tom Fazio's Champion Hills golf course.

This is a view of the 13th hole from the elevated tees before the tees were seeded. America's top golf course architect for 1990 will live in and be part owner of Champion Hills. For more information on course development, see pages 19-22.

Photo by Jan Beljan

Cadenelli to be 'Education President'

By Peter Blais

The Education President. It's a title many want, but few deserve. Stephen Cadenelli is one of the few.

The incoming president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America

wanted to be a teacher when he graduated with a bachelor's degree in education in 1970.

But teaching jobs were scarce 20 years ago. So when several months spent pounding the pavement of

academia led nowhere, Cadenelli followed the asphalt to Greenock Country Club in Lee, Mass.

The head superintendent at Greenock was Peter Solinelli, Cadenelli's fellow co-captain from their days on

the local high school football team. Solinelli hired his former teammate as his assistant.

"Initially, I was just filling in" remembered Cadenelli, who was promoted to head

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Muirfield best conditioned, say pros

From staff reports

Muirfield Village Golf Club in Dublin, Ohio edged out Butler National Golf Club of Oak Brook, Ill. as the best-conditioned course on the

professional tour in a recent *Golf Course News* survey of 30 touring PGA and LPGA players.

Muirfield, site of the Memorial Tournament in early May, received 13 first-place votes.

Butler, for years the host of the Western Open, was the choice of 11 players.

Westchester Country Club (Westchester Classic) in Rye, N.Y. garnered two votes.

Polling one apiece were Glen Abbey Golf Club (Canadian Open) in Oakville, Ontario; Champions Golf

See related story, page 16.

Club (Nabisco Championship) in Houston, Texas; Castle Pines Golf Club (The International) in Castle Rock, Colo.; and Pleasant Valley Country Club (Bank of Boston Classic) in Sutton, Mass.

"Muirfield is by far the best year in and year out," said tour professional Scott Verplank of the Desmond Muirhead/Jack Nicklaus-designed course.

"Muirfield's always the best," added Kenny Knox.

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Tax abatement saves clubs thousands

By Peter Blais

The National Club Association claims it saved tax-exempt clubs thousands of dollars in penalties by intervening with the Internal Revenue Service in the U.S. Supreme Court's *Portland Golf Club v Commissioner of Internal Revenue* case.

The savings for an average club with a \$10,000 unrelated business income tax liability could be as much as \$4,500

Continued on page 33

Muirfield selected as best conditioned on the Tour

Continued from page 1

Muirfield superintendent Mike McBride credited his staff with keeping the 7,116 yards of bentgrass greens, tees and fairways in peak condition the entire season.

"They're very proud of the course," said McBride of his 20-member crew, which swells to 30 during tourney week. "I have a great crew that really takes pride in having the best-conditioned course on the Tour."

As tourney time approaches, McBride takes on extra responsibilities, not the least of which is

coordinating television coverage.

Muirfield began installing underground television cables in 1976, McBride said. The course is underlaid with wires from holes five through 18 and could have complete coverage in time for the 1992 U.S. Amateur, he added. That means no unsightly wires or radio-frequency cameras marring the scenery.

Muirfield also has specially built television towers on hand, eliminating the need for scaffolding.

"The course was designed with the tournament in mind," McBride

said. "We want the television audience and the spectators to have a great view of every shot and to keep things as tidy as possible."

Being named the top course by such a discriminating panel is no small feat, especially considering the heavy rains and occasional snow that frequent the Columbus area when the pros visit in mid-spring.

There was snow on the ground the day before the tournament started two years ago, McBride said. Last spring the Memorial was shortened to 54 holes for the first time in its history when heavy rains forced can-

cellation of Sunday's final round.

"We don't have June, July and August to prepare the course like other tournaments do," McBride said. "We have to utilize every moment of sun in the spring to get ready."

While McBride tries to peak the course for the Memorial, the season doesn't end there. Only \$150,000 of his \$750,000 annual maintenance budget is devoted to the tournament. The rest goes to keeping the course in shape for the locals.

"We try to maintain it at tournament level all year," McBride said. "We don't have different standards for

the pros and our local players. We might not mow quite as often. But cutting heights stay the same. The grooming everywhere stays the same."

Many of the pros had a difficult time choosing between Muirfield and Butler.

"It's not fair to have to select one over the other," said more than one.

"Butler is always perfect," said Joey Sindelar.

"It's too bad we're going to lose it," added Bill Buttner, referring to the club's decision not to hold future Tour events rather than open its membership policies to Tour scrutiny in the wake of Shoal Creek.

Caves Valley developer draws fire

Heavy summer rains and insufficient safeguard by a new private golf course developer may have combined to "drown" in a sea of mud a natural trout stream in northwest Baltimore County.

County officials have directed Whiting-Turner Contracting Co., the firm building the Caves Valley Club, to restore the unnamed meandering tributary of the north branch of the Jones Falls.

Robert W. Sheesley, county director of environmental protection, cited failure of developers to maintain sediment and erosion controls for six to eight inches of mud that blanketed nearly a half mile of the stream.

The silt from the golf course construction covered the gravel bottom that trout need to lay their eggs.

Sheesley said stream damage could be corrected easily by removing the silt.

Leslie B. Disharoon, who is overseeing the \$32 million project, wouldn't discuss stream damage or anything related to the course.

William Pistell, former local president of Trout Unlimited who lives near the project, blames the stream damage on extensive land-clearing for the golf course. He said 174 acres were bared. Gas and power line construction also contributed sediment to the stream bottom, Pistell said.

Hopes stirred for muni course

BRIDGEWATER, Mass. — There yet may be an 18-hole municipal golf course here.

A reorganized Bridgewater Golf Study Committee chaired by Dennis Weingartner is seeking new proposals for a course on the town-owned Chaffee Farm off Vernon, Pine and Spruce streets.

Focus will be on a course with a modest clubhouse facility, practice range and putting area.

Weingartner said, "It is our hope to generate additional revenue to the town." Last year, plans for a course were dashed by the economic downturn.



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