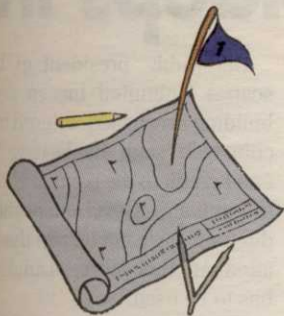


Briefs



NORMAN, ROBINSON TEAM UP

Golf pro Greg Norman and architect Ted Robinson of Laguna Beach, Calif., are teaming to design and build several courses.

Three will be in the United States. Two projects in Australia are pending.

The U.S. courses are in Point Roberts, Wash., (south of Vancouver); Lana'i, Hawaii ("The Experience at Koele"); and Royal Melbourne Country Club in Long Grove, Ill. The Hawaiian course is open for play.

Norman said, "I like the old style of golf course, the McKenzie style," referring to famed golf course architect Alister McKenzie's natural use of the land.

Robinson is known for building courses that create a natural, harmonious feel with their surroundings.

REES JONES HAPPY WITH TALAMORE

SOUTHERN PINES, N.C. — Rees Jones was asked to design a course that would be different from other Pinehurst courses yet exciting to play. He feels he accomplished this in the new 18-hole Talamore at Pinehurst, which opened Sept. 26.

"The rugged piece of ground at Talamore is unusual for Pinehurst. It allowed me to design a diversity of holes," said Jones. "There are long par-4s requiring use of your long irons as well as British-type a-drive-and-a-flip' par 4s."

The Sandhills terrain lends itself to easy shaping. This enabled Jones to shape subtle mounds into the holes.

"Talamore requires both finesse and position of the golfer," Jones said.

Talamore at Pinehurst has been in the grow-in stage since May. "It's just shy of a miracle the course is ready. Chandler Masters, the course superintendent, has had his work cut out for him," said General Manager John Musto.

The rains of this past summer required more sodding than originally anticipated. The key task was to get the Penncross bentgrass planted and up before the heat of summer. "We squeaked by with the planting of the greens," Musto said. "Like most superintendents, Chandler has babied them and they are in fine shape."

COUPLE MOVES INTO WORLD OF GOLF

WOOSTER, Ohio — Betty and Earl Hawkins, owners of the local Hawkins Cafeteria and the Hawkins Market supermarket chain, are branching out into the world of golf.

Lamenting the lack of public golf courses in the Wooster area, Betty Hawkins decided to build one, and contracted with Burns Golf Design of Fernandina Beach, Fla. Construction is scheduled to begin next spring.

The project, an upscale daily-fee 18-hole course, is expected to draw golfers from as far away as Cleveland and the Akron-Canton area. The course is located on State Route 3, six miles north of Wooster.

The 200-acre site features rolling terrain, 30-foot-deep ravines and numerous specimen trees. Water will come into play on several holes.

Burns Golf Design also is doing a nine-hole addition to a municipal course for the city of Ashland, 20 miles west of Wooster, and an 18-hole state park course in Georgia.

Environment, finances dominate world of golf course designers and builders

By Mark Leslie

Environmental regulations and protective measures are the most critical issues facing the golf course industry, according to a Golf Course News survey of course builders and architects.

The environment was at the top of the list on 51 percent of the ballots, sometimes sharing equal billing with financing or water. Financing was listed as the major concern by 29 percent of those voting, the need for less expensive courses 10 percent, water use 8 percent, and the pesticide law 2 percent.

As president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, Tom Clark said he is "totally concentrating on the environment and permitting issue and on the financial issue. After developers have gone through this (permitting) rigmarole to get their projects in place, they can't get the money. We (Ault,

Clark & Associates) have 28 courses that are looking for financing."

Clark said that while his Kensington, Md., firm routes courses for 80 to 90 projects each year, "we're lucky if two get started in a year."

"We have several developers who have spent \$300,000 to \$400,000 on engineering and environmental studies and are not even close to breaking ground," Clark said. "In a lot of instances you have to have very deep pockets. And it all gets reflected with the consumer, who is the golfer. A lot of these are public, daily-fee courses — things we need desperately. The counties and communities are in favor of the golf course, but still have to go through the arduous permitting process. In one case we have in Washington, D.C., ... seven different regulatory agencies were involved in just the irrigation pond."

Clark complained that after the federal government writes legislation or guidelines, states and counties add stricter laws. "It

really discourages any development," he said.

"This isn't universal," he said. "We're trying to identify certain areas around the country where you can get things done. It's getting tougher and tougher."

He specified the East and West coasts and New England as the regions with the toughest environmental laws, basically because so many regulations apply to specific areas.

Golf course builder Paul Clute of Hartland, Mich., agreed about the great differences between regions, specifying wetlands laws as the most crucial.

"Determination and enforcement varies dramatically geographically," Clute said.

Architect Steve Burns of Fernandina Beach, Fla., pointed to the recent Supreme Court ruling that local governments can draft more restrictive pesticide regulations than federal laws. "Hopefully, this won't lead to a lot of communities, with no technical knowl-

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Palmer careful to protect, use Biscayne Bay

MIAMI, Fla. — Deering Bay Yacht and Country Club, Arnold Palmer and Mother Nature have created a unique 18-hole course for an exclusive residential community on an environmentally sensitive site on Biscayne Bay.

With four sets of tees, the course plays from 6,800 to 4,900 yards.

"A trademark of a golf course by the Arnold Palmer Course Design Co. is that it is challenging but enjoyable for golfers at all levels of ability," said Armando Codina, chairman of the Codina Bush Group which is developing the community.

Built on a site surrounded by protected mangroves and other native vegetation, the course was designed to maximize water recovery and prevent run-off from flowing into Biscayne Bay. It is contoured to capture rain and irrigation run-off, and the recovered water is used in the irrigation sprinkler system, eliminating the need to use county water in grounds maintenance.

The water recovery system



The 389-yard, par-4 4th hole at Deering Bay Yacht and Country Club in Miami, Fla., plays along the mangrove-fringed main channel of Biscayne Bay. Architects Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay designed the hole so that the fairway opens up about 225 yards out, just past a jutting mound on the left. A receptive green lies ahead.

also includes a littoral zone with sloping-bank ponds and wetland grasses which makes the area more attractive to wintering and resident birds.

Additionally, the course was designed to avoid destruction of the mangroves. "We didn't want to disturb the mangroves, so we

dramatically elevated the 12th tee. This tee alone cost \$300,000 to build, but it's worth it," said Codina.

Undulating greens, 16 lakes, beach bunkers and wetland areas make the layout aesthetically pleasing.

"We have planted marsh grasses, which enhance the natu-

ral beauty of the course," said Paul Douglas, Codina Bush Group project director for Deering Bay. "The course complements the environment, attracting birds and other wildlife and creating a beautiful place in which to enjoy the game and the outdoors."

Andersen sets real estate academy

Course developers, investors and operators will be in Lana'i, Hawaii, on Nov. 11-14 for the "Arthur Andersen Academy for the Golf/Real Estate Industry."

The invitation-only event will offer executive seminars on current issues affecting the golf course industry. Participants can also play golf alongside host Hale Irwin, as well as Andrew Magee, Billy Ray Brown, Caroline Keggi, Kay Cockrill and other PGA pros. Play will be at "The Experience at Koele," one of the top new courses in the world.

Held at the Manele Bay Hotel, the program will feature speakers from major consulting

firms in the golf industry, including Arthur Andersen, Golden Bear International, Ben Hogan Properties, International Management Group and Castle & Cooke/Island of Lana'i.

Topics will include major new golf developments; contemporary financing techniques; development entitlements — accepting the political/sociological challenges; course design for resort and residential projects; maximizing financial operating results; foreign course ownership opportunities; and, club membership at resort hotels — Pebble Beach and Boca Raton Resort.

Call Chris Garvey at 213-614-8557.

Major fix-up at Countryside CC

CLEARWATER, Fla. — Countryside Country Club has begun a \$1.3-million renovation of its 27 holes.

Gary Player Design Group of Palm Beach Gardens is managing the redesign of the nine-green Bayhead Course, originally built in 1980.

Wadsworth Golf Construction Co. of Oldsmar, Fla., is responsible for the re-construction.

The Countryside project includes renovation of the fairways, irrigation systems on the Bayhead, Lake and Pine courses.

The overhaul is the final phase of a \$5.3-million capital improvement campaign.