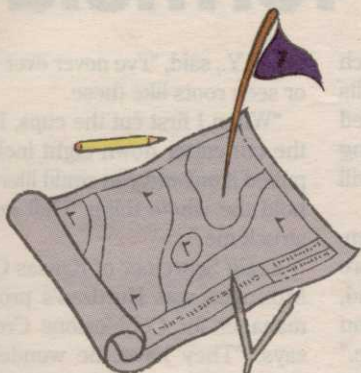


Briefs

**NEW ARCHITECT JOINS HALE'S DESIGN TEAM**

Hale Irwin Golf Services recently added another architect, Stan Gentry, to its team.

Gentry enhances the company's relationship with Dick Phelps in creating "one of the most experienced teams of golf course architects in the country," Irwin said. "We're pleased to have Stan aboard."

Gentry will coordinate each Irwin design project with Richard M. Phelps, Ltd., the golf course architectural firm associated with the company.

Gentry holds a master's degree in landscape architecture from Kansas State University and a bachelor's degree in horticulture from the University of Missouri. He has had experience in landscape design and golf course architecture.

PALMER HIGH ON TREESDALE LAYOUT

PITTSBURGH — In North Pittsburgh, construction has begun on Treesdale, a master-planned community featuring a 7,111-yard golf course designed by Palmer Course Design Co.

"From the beginning, Treesdale provided great potential for a championship course. It will be spectacular and beautiful in many ways," Arnold Palmer said.

Palmer noted the maximum use of the area's natural beauty in the course's design plan. "I have used every acre of terrain — wooded valleys, open meadows, and rolling hills — to create a wide variety of challenges in a picturesque setting. The result is a spectacular mix of landscape with panoramic views."

BAYOU SIGNS ON SOUND FOR CLUBHOUSE

LARGO, Fla. - Bayou Club has awarded a contract for construction of the luxury country club's new clubhouse to Sound Construction Group, Inc. of Clearwater.

"Construction of the clubhouse will make a significant contribution to the Pinellas County economy," said President Randall E. Gentry.

After completion of construction, finishing of interiors and furnishings and remodeling of existing facilities, total cost of the 42,000-square-foot clubhouse at Bayou Club is estimated at almost \$4.5 million.

Encompassing close to 400 acres, Bayou Club's master plan calls for 350 estate homes, an 18-hole championship golf course designed by Tom Fazio which is already in play, the clubhouse, and many country club amenities.

AUTOS, GOLF PARTNERS IN PARK

BLACKS CREEK, Idaho—A \$30-million theme park featuring a World Class Classics antique auto museum and an 18-hole golf course is being contemplated for a site 15 miles southeast of Boise.

The project, which may include the financial backing of Eva and Zsa Zsa Gabor, will be built on a 150-acre tract that could eventually include a motel and convention center, trout-stocked fishing lake, and a retirement village.

Proving a revolutionary old idea

By Mark Leslie

An old idea has found new life with Hurdzan Design Group in Columbus, Ohio.

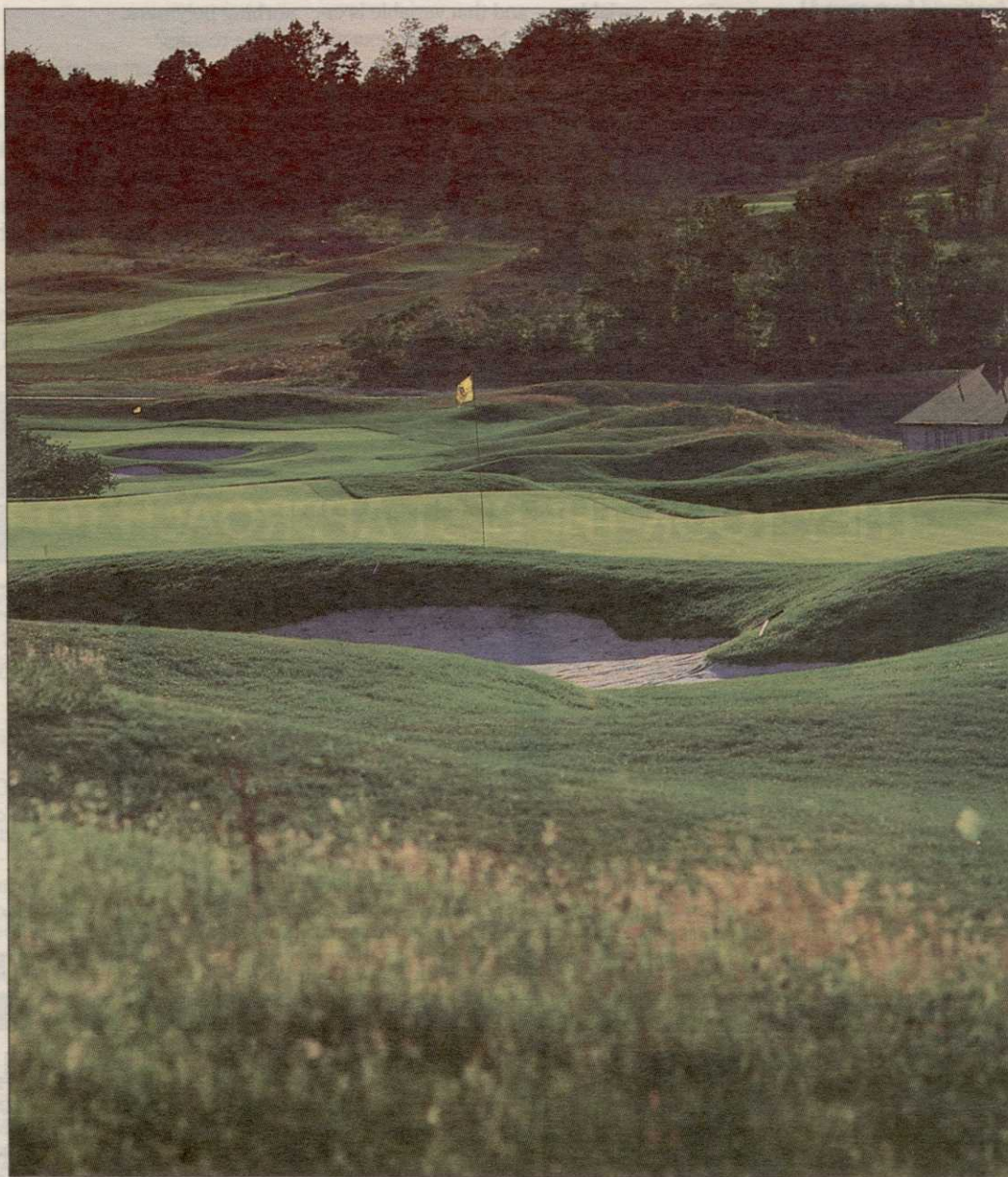
Saying he has become a believer — a believer that theories are theories and reality is reality, architect Mike Hurdzan is now offering clients an old-fashioned alternative to high-tech green construction methods. He has been developing all-sand greens that are easier to grow grass on and cheaper to build.

That is a turn away from U.S. Golf Association specifications, which recommend a laboratory-tested 12-to 14-inch top mix of sand and organic matter, which is placed over an intermediate sand layer, which is underlain with a pea stone blanket and tile.

It is also a return to ancient times in terms of golf course construction, when earthmoving was minimal, irrigation was rare and naturally adapted grasses were planted and maintained, and when the superintendents' main cultural practice was frequent topdressing with pure sand.

Hurdzan's alternative method is simply 12 to 14 inches of pure selected sand, placed over tile. There is no blending of organic matter, no intermediate sand layer, and no gravel blanket. The key is finding the proper sand, which

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An example of pure-sand greens are the 13th green (foreground) and 14th green (background) at Cobblestone Creek in Rochester, N.Y. This photo was taken when the greens were 10 months old.

Photo courtesy of course co-designer Craig Schreiner

Golf communities successes in right situations

Some going under, some hot, some being salvaged

By Kit Bradshaw

Are golf course residential communities going the way of the dinosaur, lumbering into the tar pits of extinction?

If you bought an equity membership in a club that is now on the ropes financially, or

See related story, page 51.

if you can spot your one neighbor three blocks away in a residential community that never got off the ground, your answer would probably be yes.

If you are casting about for financing of a golf course residential community, your resigned answer is yes.

But if you are the sales director of a community that is still viable, despite slower-than-expected home sales, your answer is most likely no. And you



The Carolina Club in Margate, Fla., is a prime success story. Developer Franklin Golf Properties, Inc. built an upscale public golf facility with country club amenities. The course, designed by Karl Litten, is target-oriented with many water holes. Fees are up to \$55 including cart in the peak season.

hope it stays no.

When you talk to people in selected areas of the country, there

is a checkerboard of responses to the question.

In general, golf course residen-

tial communities, like anything connected with real estate today,

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