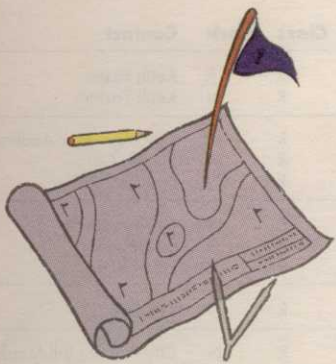


BRIEFS



NICKLAUS CUTS STAFF

Jack Nicklaus' Golden Bear International, reportedly with one-third fewer golf course projects than a year ago, has cut its staff from 72 to 43.

Golden Bear General Manager of Golf Services Mark Hessman said the reduction has been gradual over the last 18 months, reflecting a slowdown in the golf development marketplace worldwide.

Hessman said the firm has 22 golf projects compared to 35 a year ago, and it has closed its London office and is changing the role of its Asian headquarters to a sales office.

Nicklaus intends to halve his design fee from a reported \$1.25 million to \$1.5 million. That price will secure Nicklaus and son Jackie's services.

FLICKWIR JOINS LINKSCORP

NORTHFIELD, Ill. — LinksCorp, a national golf course acquisition firm and management company, has named David Flickwir executive vice president and chief financial officer.

Flickwir, 41, joins LinksCorp from American Golf Corp. in Santa Monica, Calif., where he had worked for 13 years, most recently as vice president of acquisitions. He also was responsible for developing leads, financial analysis and negotiating contracts for public, private and resort golf courses.

BURNS' OHIO COURSE SEEDED

WOOSTER, Ohio — Grow-in of Hawks Nest Golf Club is well under way with seeding being done place in September and opening scheduled for early next summer. The course is owned by Betty and Earl Hawkins, owners of the local Hawkins Cafeteria and the Hawkins Market supermarket chain. The project will be an upscale daily fee course.

The course is being designed by Burns Golf Design from Fernandina Beach, Fla. and constructed by Central Florida Turf from Avon Park.

HECKENKEMPER REDESIGNING 3 MUNIS

Randy Heckenkemper's Planning Design Group of Tulsa, Okla., is remodeling three of Oklahoma City's municipal courses — Lake Hefner, Earlywine and Tröspen Park golf courses.

Lake Hefner will be open to the public in October. An additional 18 holes will be constructed at Earlywine. The remodeling of each of these golf courses will provide maximum use of the existing facilities.

Additional golf courses designed by Heckenkemper are Forest Ridge Golf Club and Southern Hills Golf Club, both located in Tulsa.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

Landfill course catches world's attention

By MARK LESLIE

Today, St. Lucie County, Fla. — tomorrow, the world. That is the hope of government officials, environmentalists, and an international engineering firm involved in Fairwinds Golf Course.

The Fairwinds story is one of turning a long-term financial drain into a long-range asset for St. Lucie County.

Today, on the site where pollutants in a closed landfill were contaminating ground water, a system designed by Hazen and Sawyer of Ft. Pierce, Fla., reclaims con-

taminated water beneath the landfill, treats it and re-uses it to irrigate the course.

Ron Sigmon, project director and special permitting agent for the county, said: "So far as we know, we're the first ones to try to do this."

Course architect Jim Fazio thinks the public could anticipate similar projects in the future, saying there are a number of trench-and-fill landfills in Florida similar to St. Lucie County's.

Sigmon said: "I would think this is a thing of the future. The reason is, golfers seem to be willing to pay their fair share

for recreational activities. As opposed to a park or tennis court, a golf course generates revenue."

Ed Alley, Ft. Pierce branch manager for Hazen and Sawyer, agreed the idea has application in other areas, but warned that each site is unique.

"Your ultimate goal is to comply with regulations and clean up the ground-water contamination," Alley said. "If you can do that and incorporate a public recreation project that is self-supporting, you've got a situation in which everyone wins."

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Contaminated ground water treated, used on Fairwinds GC

By MARK LESLIE

Refrigerators, cars, tires, construction debris. All this and more was on the St. Lucie County landfill property, said course architect Jim Fazio.

What looked like a sorry spot to build a golf course is now expected to draw 80,000 rounds in its first year of operation. But getting there was not easy.

"Cars were stacked up 30 and 40 high," said Chris Nelson, project coordinator at Guettler & Sons, which built the course. "To see it before and now, it is absolutely beautiful."

Ron Sigmon, the county's project director and special permitting agent, said the major problem at this and many other landfill sites was petroleum products. Contaminants come from engine blocks, gasoline, diesel,

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Heavy, metal trash filled the St. Lucie County landfill, left, before Guettler & Sons and architect Jim Fazio turned the site into Fairwinds Golf Course, above.

Iowa State setting the stage for course construction degree

AMES, Iowa — A golf course and landscape construction course believed the first in the country, is being designed at Iowa State University.

Dr. Nick Christians of the Horticulture Department said, if approved, the program will probably begin in the fall semester of 1994.

Reception to the idea "has been excellent," he said. "A lot of very positive comments have come in from around the country."

Though it is improbable it will begin next fall, Christians said interested students could get a start in the basics by enrolling in horticulture and turf management.

The four-year major in the Horticulture Department will combine basic science and communication with horticulture, design, engineering and business skills.

The curriculum will also include entomology, plant pathology, agronomy, computer-aided design and video imaging.

He said more graduates from Iowa

State's golf course management program have been entering the course construction field the past few years.

Christians said: "Right now, we're at the fact-gathering stage. We have to submit a proposal to the board of regents for approval. It's moving quickly."

Avoiding college politics, Christians said the program would not compete with landscape design.

"We want to work with that program, not in competition. We're trying to teach the intermediate person who will implement the design, not the designer himself," Christians said. "The golf course area will be a specialization, though some studies will overlap."

Iowa State will draw on existing faculty for most of the instruction, and the proposal calls for hiring an additional instructor experienced in both design and construction."

Interested people can contact Christians at Iowa State at 515-294-0036.

Uwharrie Point wins accolades

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, N.C. — North Carolina's newest golf course opened here in mid-July to rave reviews from members and guests.

The Old North State Club at Uwharrie Point, a lakeside course designed by Tom Fazio, is "an outstanding course in every respect," said Dick Aultman of Charlotte, who will serve as head instructor at the private club on the shores of Badin Lake. "This is one of Fazio's finest creations. It has everything necessary for greatness: length, beauty, challenges, terrain ... the works!"

Fazio said: "I am especially proud of this course. It is unique in many respects, including terrain, variety of vegetation, and the vast amount of shoreline it occupies."

Fazio was involved in the initial planning stages and laid out the course to take full advantage of the unusual site from an environmental and playability standpoint.

Fifteen holes have a view of Badin Lake. "We were able to take full advantage of the lake, several streams and the area's wetlands to provide challenges as well as scenic splendor," Fazio said.

The par-72 layout features four sets of tees measuring from 7,102 to 5131 yards.