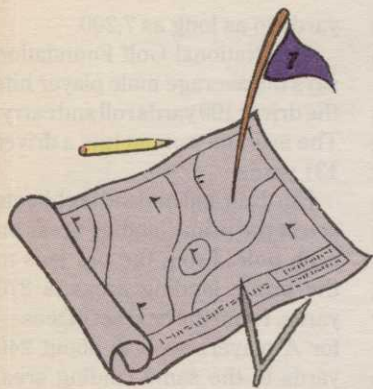


BRIEFS



CANFIELD BROKERING GOLF

Jeff Canfield has opened a brokerage in Glen, N.H. for golf-related properties, primarily in Northern New England. Canfield has been in the development/brokerage business for eight years and can help arrange financing. J.A. Canfield & Co. Brokers can be reached at 603-356-6315 or by writing P.O. Box 203, Glen, N.H. 03838.

IRWIN'S PANTHER CREEK OPENS

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Panther Creek Country Club, a Hale Irwin-designed course, opened May 24. Panther Creek is a 414-acre, 18-hole private golf club and residential community. The course challenges golfers with a series of strategically placed hazards. "Our focus on the greens complex, with subtle contouring of the greens and strategic placement of the hazards, will give golfers a fair challenge when judging their approach," said Irwin, who designed the track with Richard Phelps. The golf course was developed by Panther Creek Development and retained Helmkamp Construction as the general contractor.



Hale Irwin

SAND CREEK ADDING NINE

CHESTERTON, Ind. — Sand Creek Country Club has begun work on nine new golf holes on the southeast quadrant of the more than 500-acre property. Designed by consultant Jerry Mobley and Austin, Texas golf course architect Charles Howard, the new holes incorporate the varied landscape while remaining consistent with Sand Creek's original 18, designed by Ken Killian and Dick Nugent. Howard said, "You have more terrain to work with. This land has 35 feet of elevation difference. It's a very interesting part of the design. It will be the main difference in the perspective of the golf holes."

GLACIERS HELPED NEWCOMB DESIGN

WASHINGTON, Mich. — Receding glaciers actually formed the course 9,000 years ago, but the Glacier Club will open in early August here. William Newcomb designed the 18-hole championship track, with major help from glaciers on nine holes. The centerpiece of a golf community, The Glacier Club course winds around seven lakes and ponds and features five tees per hole, oversized greens, 70 sand bunkers and 17 grass bunkers.



The 11th hole shows a fraction of the beauty of AnnBriar Golf Course.

AnnBriar: A daughter's field of dreams comes true near St. Lou

By MARK LESLIE

WATERLOO, Ill. — Stan the Man Musial playing the harmonica. Fourteen St. Louis Blues hockey players attending. California Angels General Manager Whitey Herzog lending support. Was this the grand opening of a public golf course or the induction ceremony at a sports hall of fame?

"It was something else," understated William Nobbe of his AnnBriar Golf Course, which opened here May 28 with the gusto of a new National Football League stadium.

Ann Nobbe, William and Nancy's daughter, who suggested building the course on the family farm before her tragic death in a car accident in 1990, wouldn't recognize the old alfalfa fields and woods.

Crews from part owner Alois Lühr's Lühr Brothers Inc. construction firm of Columbia moved 800,000 cubic yards of dirt for architect Mike Hurdzan, cutting fairways up to 10 feet into the ground and building mounds up to 25 feet high between holes.

The formerly flat fields comprise the front nine of AnnBriar, while the back nine runs through ravines, with a few holes cut through deep woods.

Hurdzan used five sets of tees on most holes, and as many as seven on others, pushing the track's yardage from 5,100 to 6,900 yards.

Ann Nobbe was "very excited about this," said Nancy. "You feel like she's looking down, smiling, and saying, 'You did a good job.'"

Nancy Nobbe said that "playing, you feel like you have the whole course to yourself. You can't see golfers on the other holes. You hear birds chirping. It's absolutely wonderful."

The course has attracted a lot of people from St. Louis and some of the bigger towns in Illinois. "They're excited about it and think it's the best thing they've seen in a long time. So we can't help but be a little pumped up," William Nobbe said.

Hurdzan sprigged zoysiagrass on the fairways. Most tees are also zoysia, except shady spots, which have ryegrass.

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THE MAKING OF A NAME



John Harbottle III

Harbottle puts his signature on 1st course

By MARK LESLIE

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, Nev. — John F. Harbottle III has had a hand in designing a score of golf courses from America to Brazil and Japan, but the most important of all to him is The Golf Club at Genoa Lakes.

The Genoa Lakes track opened July 4 weekend as the first "John Harbottle" design, though PGA Tour pro Peter Jacobsen collaborated on it.

The semi-private daily-fee course is "very important to me," said the 34-year-old Harbottle. "It's the foundation for my future."

"You do a lot of training with others. But when you get a chance to do a course on your own, it's worth its weight in golf to get one under your belt."

Harbottle, who has tutored under Pete Dye and is former director of golf course architecture for Perry E. Dye Design, said the Lake Genoa site was perfect for him. The developer, Jeff Dingman, acquired 225 acres, featuring more than 30 acres of wetlands and "a tremendous amount of wildlife habitat," Harbottle said.

"A portion is alfalfa fields, which

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Q & A

Cornish golf architecture's chronicler

Geoffrey Cornish, an elder statesman and chronicler of the architecture and architects of golf, has roamed the world of golf for the best part of a century — since he was hired in 1935 to evaluate soils for Capilano Golf Club in Vancouver, then under construction by famed architect Stanley Thompson. Cornish has authored 241 golf courses and co-authored the definitive book on course architecture, the critically acclaimed *The Architects of Golf*, with Ron Whitten.



Geoffrey Cornish has built nearly a score of golf courses in Maine. His new nine at Bath (Maine) Country Club will feature this dogleg on the par-5 15th hole.

GCN: You've been designing golf courses over half a century.

GC: Yes, I was off in the Army for five years [1940-45] and taught four years at the University of Massachusetts [1948-52]

GCN: And you've been teaching golf course design at Harvard University and other places for several years.

GC: Seven years at Harvard. And Bob Graves and I have been doing it for 10 years at Golf Course Superintendents Association of America meetings.

GCN: So is teaching in your blood?

GC: I enjoy doing it. It's a great way to learn with all the young people and their questions.

GCN: Have any of your students stepped

into the course design business?

GC: Oh, yes. Bill Robinson and I taught at Penn State back in 1970. I think six of that class are in the society [American Society of Golf Course Architects] today. Tom Clark, who was president last year, was in that class. We do find — particularly with the

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Multiple tees an industrywide doctrine, says Hurdzan

By MARK LESLIE

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Designing golf holes with five sets of tees soon will be standard practice, according to course architect Mike Hurdzan.

"We believe that's the current way to go. If this is already not industrywide, it is going to be," said Hurdzan, citing his latest layout, Annbriar Golf Course in Waterloo, Ill., which boasts at least five sets of tees, and in many instances six or seven.

Alice Dye, wife and co-designer with architect Pete Dye and a longtime proponent of "forward tees," was Hurdzan's "primary influence" for designing multiple tees.

"She said we need more than two sets of tees. And I said, 'She's right,'" Hurdzan said. "Then it struck me that we need more than two sets of men's tees. We need a set of pros' tees."



Mike Hurdzan

"It was common for us to have two sets of tees for men. But we only had one set for ladies, which made no sense. Likewise, it doesn't make any sense to have the pro play with the better amateur," he said.

"We're trying to set up the course so that the shot values tend to be relatively the same. Once you reach the landing area, there's

nothing you can do to equate the course. It has to be done with multiple sets of tees.

"Women who play the front tees love the golf course. With the slope ratings, all women don't have to play the same set of tees. Some play one set of tees and it doesn't affect their handicap. Another group plays another set and it doesn't affect their handicap."

Ideally, Hurdzan wants his courses to play as short as 5,000

yards to as long as 7,200.

The National Golf Foundation says the average male player hits the driver 199 yards roll and carry. The average woman hits a driver 131 yards.

Hurdzan and his lead architects select the prime landing areas on each hole. From the pro tees to the prime landing areas is 270 yards. From the next set of tees — for A players — it is about 240 yards to the same landing area. The next set of tees — for the average male golfer and professional lady golfer — is about 210 to 215 yards.

The next set — for seniors, A ladies and middle-aged juniors — is 175 yards. The forward tees are set at 140 to 150 yards for beginners, super-seniors and people with not a lot of upper-body strength.

"We design from the back tees to the green, then fit the front tees in. If you make the terrain fit for the back set, it works well for forward tees," Hurdzan said.

AnnBriar

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"We went to bluegrass-rye in the rough; tall fescues in the secondary rough; then hard fescues, chewings fescues and native grasses in accent areas, the tops of mounds, and in the out-of-play areas," Hurdzan said.

He chose fescues, he said, because "they add color and those are going to be the driest, hottest areas. Those grasses can survive better than anything else. They are environmentally sound. You don't have to worry about pesticides, water, fertilizer and mowing."

Steve Maas, who was on board for construction and grow-in of Coeur d'Alene Resort in Idaho and the Country Club at Castle Pines in Colorado, is superintendent at AnnBriar.

...

Visit AnnBriar and, depending on who's in town playing the St. Louis Cardinals, you could spot the Atlanta Braves' Tom Glavine and John Smoltz, or Turner Broadcaster Network's Don Sutton, or Herzog, a country boy who knows a number of people in the area.

"Evidently, there's something about the course in the Cardinal visitors' clubhouse," Nancy Nobbe said. "We're close to St. Louis. Five of the Atlanta Braves played here. It was fabulous."

"Some Phillies came out to play last week but it rained. Whitey Herzog and his wife were out last night..."

The future of AnnBriar bodes well, gauging from results of its seven-day advance tee time.

"Usually, a half hour or 45 minutes after we open on a Sunday morning, we've sold all the tee times for the next Sunday," William Nobbe said. "Last Monday 315 people played here. But we don't want that much play."

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