

# Nelson, Weibring, Sieckmann under one roof — Golf Resources'

By HAL PHILLIPS

What do Byron Nelson, D.A. Weibring and Tom Sieckmann have in common?

Yes, they've all distinguished themselves on the PGA Tour. But they've all collaborated with Golf Resources on course projects from Omaha, Neb., to Iwaki, Japan.

Golf Resources could bill itself as the golf course industry's one-stop shopping venue. The Dallas-based firm provides golf course architecture, management and

agronomic consulting services, all under one roof.

"We try to match the need of any client," said Don Armstrong, the former superintendent at Colonial, who heads the agronomic wing of the firm. "That's why we chose the name, Golf Resources."

Maury Miller, a former thoroughbred in Tom Fazio's stable of proteges, handles the architectural side, while John Hungerford and Dennis Shirley manage the five facilities currently under contract.

The idea is to provide all the start-up services any project might need, but the package can be diversified.

Armstrong, for example, has done agronomic consulting in Arizona for The Boulders and Troon North, not to mention The Kings Course in Waikoloa on Hawaii's Big Island, a new Tom Weiskopf/Jay Morrish design constructed entirely on an enormous bed of lava — a project ripe for agronomic consultation.

Sometimes it works the other way around.

Armstrong was tapped last year to provide consulting work at the nearby TPC Cottonwood Valley, site of the Byron Nelson Classic. Later, Golf Resources secured some design renovation work at Cottonwood — which will be ready before the tournament in May, said Armstrong.

The playing professionals, of course, are part of the mix.

Golf Resources just completed a "Tom Sieckmann signature golf

course" in Omaha. In planning is a 36-hole project in Palm Springs, "signed" by D.A. Weibring and Byron Nelson, who turned 81 on Feb. 4.

Purists may scoff at the inclusion of touring pros who have little or no architectural credentials. But Armstrong isn't apologizing.

"Quite frankly, some of the touring pros capable of working on a course don't have the time to commit," he said.

"These pros are still very involved in the projects. We're there to add the expertise and credibility."

"We think we're offering these guys the opportunity to participate in this side of the business — and providing the expertise to get it right."

Golf Resources has taken its formula to Japan, where it has three projects in various states of construction.

A course in Lepetaw, on the island of Hokkaido, has just been opened for play, while two more — one near Negoya and another on Hokkaido, in Asahigawa — are still in the planning stages.

Under construction is the 27-hole Byron Nelson Country Club in Iwaki, a resort town two hours north of Tokyo.

Armstrong said he hopes the Japanese project will lead to more work for Golf Resources in Asia. He said the firm plans to attend Golf Asia '93, the region's largest golf show, in Singapore from March 25-28.

"We feel like we'll get our best exposure there."

## Lohmann adds staff, targets grow-in help

MARENGO, III. — Bob Lohmann, president of both Lohmann Golf Designs, Inc. and Midwest Golf Development, Inc., has added Dan Murray to his staff.

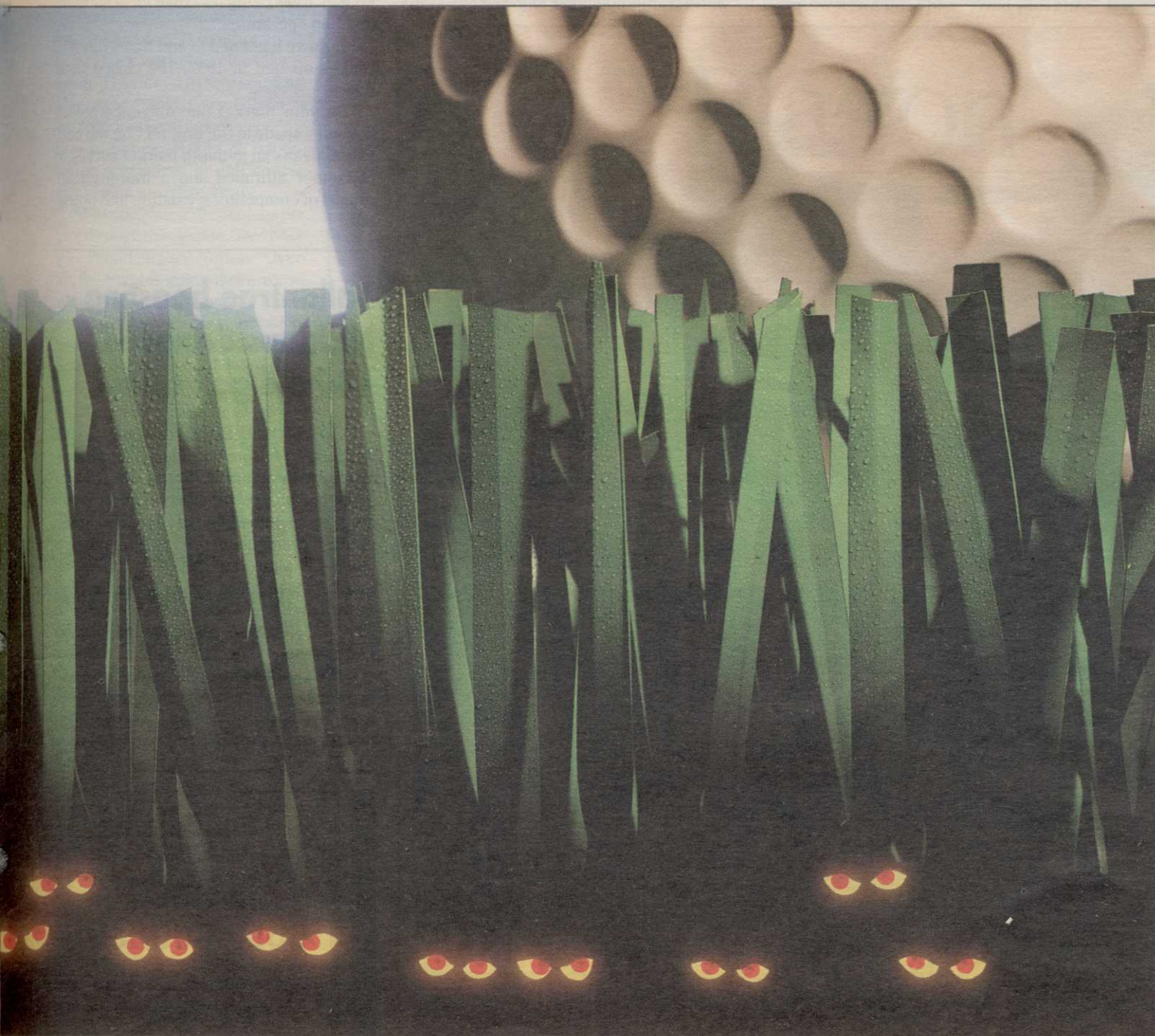
As construction manager, Murray will be responsible for project management, including cost estimating, scheduling and grow-in management.

As a golf course superintendent, he has extensive knowledge of golf course construction and grow-in procedures.

With Murray on board, Lohmann Golf Designs now offers grow-in management services to aid its clients in the demanding task of establishing turf on newly seeded courses.

Meanwhile, Lohmann has decided to provide services to the Denver, Colo., area and actively seek design opportunities in the Rockies and Southwest.

This effort will be headed by Phil Sage, who has been a designer and project manager with Lohmann Golf Designs for five years.



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