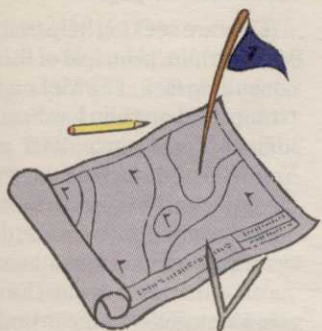


BRIEFS



PLAYER COURSE GETS FACELIFT

MACON, Ga. — River North Country Club, host to the former Ben Hogan-now Nike-sponsored Macon Open, held its grand reopening Oct. 23, after undergoing a major renovation project this summer. After the Hogan stop, bunkers on the front nine of the Gary Player-designed course were reshaped, sodded and sanded in-house by superintendent Arthur Jamison and his maintenance staff. Bunkers for the back nine are to be redone this spring. The greens were cored and rebuilt to USGA specifications and original profile by Hendrix & Dail, Inc./Sunbelt Services of Tifton, Ga., and Palmetto, Fla., a division of Hendrix & Dail, Inc. of Greenville, N.C.

HILLS BUSY, WISCONSIN TO S.C.

Construction has begun on the new La Crosse (Wis.) Country Club. Designed by Arthur Hills, the course will measure 7,090 yards from the championship tees and will be the centerpiece of a 1,200-acre residential development. Meanwhile, Hills is teaming with Greenwood Development Corp. to fashion Coosaw Creek Country Club in North Charleston, S.C. Hills' Southpointe Golf Club is under construction in Pittsburgh. Being developed by Millcraft Investments, Inc. of Pittsburgh, Southpointe is the focal point of a 589-acre mixed-use development.



GOLF SERVICES INKS CONTRACT

LEWISBURG, Tenn. — Golf Services Group, Inc. of Knoxville has been awarded a contract to develop a municipal golf course for the city of Lewisburg. The course will be designed by Gene Bates and Associates of Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., and construction is expected to begin early this year and open in the summer or fall of 1994. The course will be built on land donated to the city by the Edward Roberts family.

RAVINES RENOVATION COMPLETE

ORANGE PARK, Fla. — Ravines Golf & Country Club in Middleburg, just south of Jacksonville, has reopened after extensive renovation. Originally designed by Mark McCumber & Associates in 1979 and built on land that weaves over and around 80-to 100-foot ravines alongside historic Black Creek, Ravines was purchased in 1990 by Kondo Sangyo Corp. of Asaka, Japan, which later commissioned McCumber to redesign and renovate all 18 greens.

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A word scramble that has paid off in North Carolina:



Before Ellis Maples died in 1984, the Maples family got together. In front are Palmer Jr., left, and Willie, sons of Palmer Maples Sr. Back, left to right, are Dan, Ellis, Joe, Gene and Wayne. Dan and Joe are sons of Ellis. Gene and Wayne are Henson Maples' sons.

By MARK LESLIE

Thank you, James Maples Jr. You gave the golf world three generations of Mapleses, whose name is now synonymous with Pinehurst.

Indeed, a person in the development business declared, "Maples: The name is Pinehurst."

James is no longer with us. He died in 1949. But his family's legacy will forever affect golf in not only North Carolina — where his son Frank built Pinehurst Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 with Donald Ross — but wherever else golfers play courses designed by his grandson Ellis and great-grandson Dan.

Today, seven great-grandchildren of James are stalwarts of the golf profession.

There are brothers Gene and Wayne — Gene the executive director of the Turfgrass Council of North Carolina and Wayne the superintendent of The Pit in Pinehurst. Their

Continued on page 48

War or no war, golf moves on

By MARTHA LAYNE

Slovenia and Croatia, recovering from a war for their independence, are pursuing golf course development as a means of boosting tourism and encouraging economic recovery in their countries.

Both countries face an uphill battle. Yugoslavia and its former republics have a reputation in Europe of consistently offering low-quality, low-priced commodities. Early attempts at golf course development, with architectural fees averaging \$5,000 per course, were shoddy at best. With independence, a new sense of national pride is emerging and both countries are turning to America for assistance in developing an excellent product.

Continued on page 42



Legalities aside, Fox Hollow done

LAKEWOOD, Colo. — After two years of legal struggles with equestrians and environmentalists, the city of Lakewood has completed what superintendent Don Tolson calls "a masterpiece" — Fox Hollow.

Equestrians, who had no developed trails before, now have a trail through most the heavily wooded part of the property, crossing Bear Creek three times and twice climbing a hill overlooking the entire course.

"With 450 acres, we were able to build 27 holes, keep the trail apart from the course and set aside all the high-quality habitat," Tolson said. "It's a great piece of property. The soil conditions and water quality are good. Environmentally, we're going to be extremely aware, with integrated pest management practices."

Because Bear Creek runs through the course, architect Denis Griffiths and builder Wadsworth Golf Construction Co. builders maintained a 50-foot buffer for chemical applications and dug two ground-water



The first hole at Fox Hollow.

monitoring wells between the course and the creek. Tolson's crew will monitor the wells monthly through the growing season.

"Our wildlife has prospered through construction," Tolson said. "It is abundant and probably has increased. A pair of nesting

redtail hawks had three babies. There are a half dozen coyotes that are really tame, a herd of about a dozen deer, geese, ducks, great horned owls and a diversified population of songbirds.

Any foxes at Fox Hollow? "Not yet."

Maples family making lasting impact on world of golf

Continued from page 41

father, Henson, was superintendent at Pinehurst Country Club for 30 years.

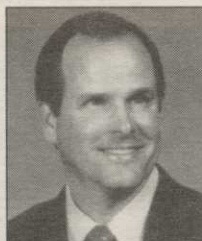
There are brothers Joe and Dan — Joe the professional and superintendent at Boone (N.C.) Golf Club and Dan a world-traveling course architect. Their father, Ellis, was a golf professional, superintendent and architect who designed more than 70 courses in the Southeast.

There are brothers Willie and

'Being exposed to it the way we've been, we got the true story.'

— Wayne Maples, son of Henson

Palmer Jr., and sister Nancy Weant. Willie is the vice president of regional marketing for Merv Griffin's Resorts in Atlantic City and



See Super Focus on Palmer Maples Jr., page 30.

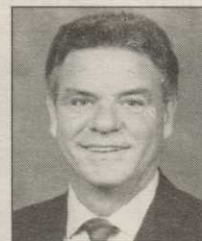
Paradise Island in the Bahamas; Palmer Jr., the superintendent at Summit Chase Country Club in Snellville, Ga. (see story on page 30); and Nancy, an accomplished amateur player in Charlotte. Their father, Palmer Sr., was a long-time golf professional.

Here stands a generation — from its 40s to 60s — grounded

'I got hooked on the idea I could play a little bit.'

— Willie, son of Palmer Sr.

and rooted in golf as much as any family in history. James Maples Jr.'s nine children included Frank, Walter and Angus, who made at



least part of their living on the golf course. Angus helped build Pine Needles in the late 1920s and was a course superintendent. His son Palmer Sr. was a lifetime golf pro.

Walter's son was a long-time golf pro in the Carolinas.

And Frank built courses for Donald Ross, pioneering several pieces of construction equipment, and was Pinehurst superintendent while fathering Henson and Ellis.

"My granddad [Frank] was born in Pinehurst, my dad was born here and I was born here," said Dan from his headquarters... in Pinehurst.

"I was in golf so much it was all I ever knew," said Joe, who was actually born at Mid Pines golf course (now Mid Pines resort) in Vass, N.C.

"We all grew up working in the shop for my dad," said Willie. "Seven days a week we ate, slept and played golf. It was ingrained in me. It was natural for me to go into the business."

Palmer Jr. also tended the golf shop, the bar and grill, and toiled on the course as a youth — deciding he preferred to be a superintendent, "working" the grass and equipment rather than the cash register.

Growing up in this situation, "you pick up maintenance and other things by osmosis," said Dan, who drew his first golf course on paper when he was 6, drove a Jeep when he was 9, and operated his own tractor — building greens for his father — before he had his driver's license.

With the possible exception of Willie, not one of this clan would change his or her career if they could start over again.

"Part of the family went into agronomy, part into the architecture and design end. I got hooked on the idea I could play a little bit," Willie said.

A successful career as a club pro, including three winters on the PGA Tour "hoping to hit a hot streak," followed, and today he holds an exotic job working with celebrities and visitors at Merv Griffin's Resorts, but Willie regrets he did not study landscape architecture.

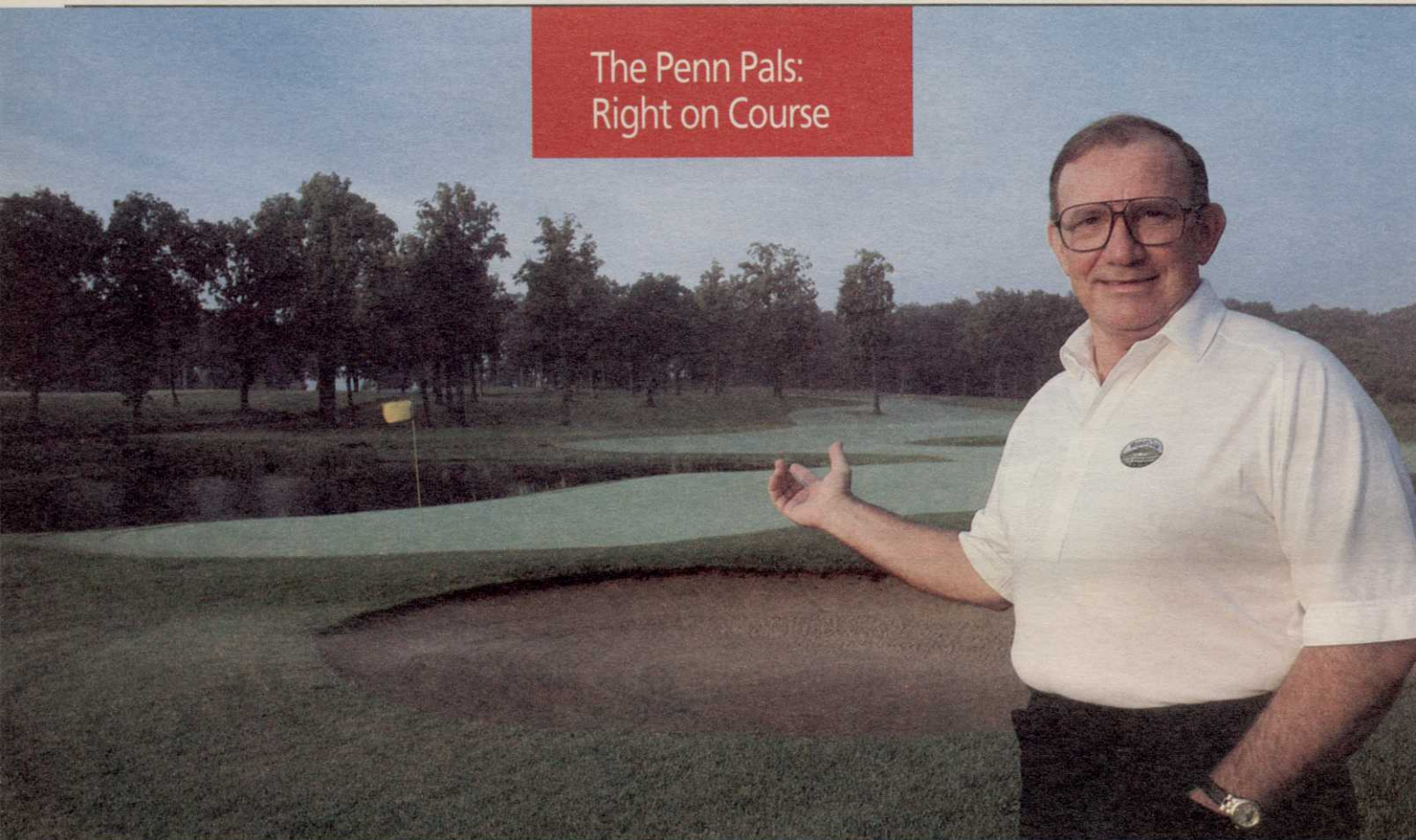
"I'd do it again," said Wayne. "There are ups and downs, but there are in any business. The worst thing about the position is directly related to the weather. Most everything we do out there is a certain amount of gamble. But, being exposed to it the way we've been, we got the true story. We saw the good and bad, the summer and winter. We knew what to expect."

Dan said his move into the golf industry was "no great plan" but a natural evolution. His second year in college, he made "the critical decision to give up [playing] golf and dedicate my time to getting an education."

Dan's and Joe's father, Ellis, was a superintendent and golf pro in the 1930s and 1940s, and got into design full-time in the 1950s.

Joe, now 62, grew up when his father was a pro and super-

The Penn Pals: Right on Course



Oscar Miles, CGCS, overlooks the 6th hole at the Merit Club, Libertyville, Illinois.

PennLinks Greens. Penneagle Fairways. Penncross Tees. The 'Penn Pals' Are Picture Perfect At The Merit Club.

Superintendent Oscar Miles, with Club President Ed Oldfield's affirmation, specified all the grassing of this Robert M. Lohmann designed club. With a clean canvas and open palette, Oscar began with PennLinks greens, Penneagle fairways and Penncross tees, framing them with bluegrass/fine fescue/wildflower and prairiegrass roughs. You couldn't paint a more attractive picture.

Oscar chose PennLinks greens for its rapid establishment, marvelous root system, a crown and stolons that take topdressing, upright, grainless qualities and good, consistent color ... the best putting surface available.

He selected Penncross for tees because they recover from divot scars more quickly.

And the Penneagle fairways? Oscar chose Penneagle for its upright growth, reduced thatch development, low nitrogen requirement and good drought and dollar spot resistance. He seeded at 80 lbs. per acre for immediate turf development and

erosion control. The fairways were playable in 8 weeks. Oscar's crew usually mows fairways in the evening and leaves the clippings; recycling nutrients while reducing removal and fertilizer costs.

Oscar articulates it best: "The unique coloring of the 'Penn Pals' contrasts beautifully with the grassing around them, defining the target areas. And with the dew on the bents early in the morning, they're a marvelous work of art."

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Oscar L. Miles

Maples

Continued from previous page

intendent; and Joe became a pro and superintendent.

Dan grew up in the 1950s and '60s when Ellis was devoted to design. The result? Dan's an architect.

Dan recalls sitting in his dad's Jeep as Ellis staked out greens.

Ellis "taught me how to golf, how to hit every kind of shot — high shot, low shot. The only reason I didn't go into golf full-time was that I liked working in the summer instead of playing in tournaments. I always liked being on a job somewhere since I was 14. Before I had my driver's license I had my own farm tractor and I did all the floating. That was so much more satisfying although I love golf. But, if you spend half a day floating a green or a bunker, you're constantly looking at it, making little improvements. It's an obsession."

RECIPROCAL RESOURCES

Add the years of experience of the Mapleses and they have more than 300 years in the golf business. Imagine the shared knowledge at family gatherings.

"At Christmas we'd all go to Uncle Frank's and see him and Henson and Ellis, and Dad and we'd all play golf," Palmer Jr. said.

Dan added: "My dad and uncles ... lived it and breathed golf. [Their lives were] trying to be innovative and use the latest thing, always experimenting. My grandfather invented a seeder back in the 1940s because he didn't have the labor to do the job. It was just fascinating to be involved at that level."

"There is so much knowledge and talent in the family, I was hoping there would be a facility where one would be a pro, another a super, another the manager," said Willie.

"Dan has accomplished a lot of that," he added, referring to three courses Dan designed and owns — The Sound near the Virginia border; The Pit in Pinehurst, where Wayne is superintendent; and Longleaf Golf & Country Club, where Wayne's son David is superintendent.

Wayne points out that different climates and soils lessen the Mapleses' ability to share information. Yet they do draw on the knowledge at hand.

"It's easy to call on these family if you need any help," Joe said. "I've called Palmer Jr. and come to a solution. If I have a problem with a sandtrap I'll call my brother, Dan. And they call me from time to time."

"It's a sharing proposition. None of us think we know it all."

Willie related two instances when Palmer Jr. traveled to Philadelphia and worked with Willie and U.S. Golf Association agronomists to solve a problems.

And, more than once, Willie has called in Dan to advise developers on land sites for proposed projects.

"Dan's been very helpful helping me out with projects I've been involved with," Willie said. "And I can always call Joe and tell him I'm hooking the ball. He knows my swing. He knows the answer."

"My brother Joe has been the

'My dad and uncles... lived and breathed golf.'



— Dan Maples, son of Ellis

pro-superintendent at Boone for 34 years, so every time I get around him, I try to find out whatever I can from him," said Dan.

Will this Maples mania with golf continue into the younger generation?

Only to a limited extent.

While Wayne's son David is a superintendent, younger son Derek is a marine biologist. Children of the others have chosen different careers.

But Dan hints toward the future of his 10-year-old son Brad — Dan's only son among four children.

"He's grading roads and ponds in a huge sandpile. Exactly what I was doing at that age," Dan said.

Then this story:

"Brad was 6 and I had him with me at Longleaf on the 16th hole. I was explaining design. I had a cart path on the right; he said it should be on the left. That's where it is today."



A fourth-generation architect? Brad Maples works in miniature.

Introducing a fertilizer to help avoid a more serious water hazard.



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