

# Rodriguez and Eller win NGF's Rossi and Family awards

JUPITER, Fla. — Juan "Chi Chi" Rodriguez, one of the most popular golfers to ever play the game, has been named the 1993 recipient of the National Golf Foundation's Graffis Award. The award recognizes outstanding contribution to the game in the tradition of Herb and Joe Graffis who co-founded the NGF in 1936, and worked tirelessly to enhance the health and enjoyment of the game.

The NGF presented the award

to Rodriguez, winner of the 1989 Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Old Tom Morris Award, on Dec. 9, at the Hyatt Dorado Beach hotel near San Juan, Puerto Rico during the Senior PGA Tour Championship Pro Am awards dinner.

Until recently, the NGF bestowed two Graffis awards: One for excellence in golf education in the name of Joe Graffis and the other for long-time, overall contribution in honor of Herb. These

two awards were combined in 1992 into a single award. The first recipient of this new consolidated award was Robert F. MacNally, president of the Tommy Armour Golf Co.

Rodriguez's contributions to the game extend far beyond his remarkable 33-years playing career. Over the years his charitable work for children has become legend.

Of all that he has done in this area, he is best known for the Chi

Chi Rodriguez Youth Foundation of Clearwater, Fla., which he co-founded with former golf professional Bill Hayes in 1979. The foundation works mainly with disadvantaged and abused children aged five to 15; helping them develop a sense of responsibility and a measure of self-worth through the golf related work and play programs.

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JUPITER, Fla. — The Harold Eller Family, considered by many

in Tennessee to be the state's first family of golf, has been honored as the National Golf Foundation's Jack Nicklaus Golf Family of the Year Award for 1993.

"The National Golf Foundation could not honor a more deserving family than the Ellers. The influence and impact they have had on Tennesseans is unsurpassed. It's a great tribute to a very special family," said Dick Horton, executive director of the Tennessee Golf Association and Tennessee PGA.



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## Utah developer revives project

MAPLETON, Utah — A golf course project proposed two years ago by city officials — but fell through when landowners backed out — has been revived.

An 18-hole course would be the centerpiece of a 150- to 180-acre development near the mouth of Maple Mountain. Local developer John Henrichsen said the project would include about 125 homes.

"This will be a clean, well-organized, environmentally safe, land-efficient development," Henrichsen said.

Opposition may come from residents who believe the plan would destroy the city's rural atmosphere.

A 1991 viability study by a golf course construction company indicated that a course in Mapleton would be profitable.

## Upscale Ohio golf community planned

AVON, Ohio — A multi-million dollar, high-profile golf course and retirement community is planned here by two developers.

Carnegie Residential Development in Westlake, and Schafer Development Co., Inc. of Avon, head the project. They plan to buy 200 acres to go with the current 575 to embrace clubhouse and tennis courts.

The developers envision a 7,000-yard course on a par with Muirfield of Dublin, designed by Jack Nicklaus, who is among the architects contacted to map out the facility.

Developers hope to clear all land deals before approaching city officials with plans for the golf course facility. Joe Rice, Carnegie spokesman, confirmed that he hopes to break ground by summer on 175 acres of single-family homes and a retirement center.

The 175 acres are in escrow, as are 198 acres for the golf course portion of the project.