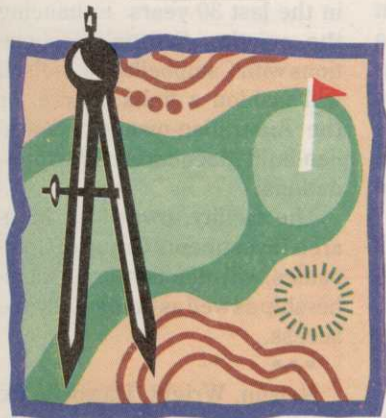


BRIEFS

**NORMAN OPENS U.S. DESIGN OFFICE**

TEQUESTA, Fla. — After designing 17 golf courses around the world, Greg Norman Golf Design of Sydney, Australia, has opened an office here.



Greg Norman

Norman said it made sense geographically to locate in Florida, following the recent success of The Medalist Golf Club in nearby Hobe Sound and other ventures in Georgia and Puerto Rico. The office is located at 218 South U.S. Highway One, Suite 301, Tequesta, Fla. 33469; 407-743-8818.

KITE/CUPP SELECTED IN AUSTIN

AUSTIN, Texas — Glenfield Development, Inc. and Kite/Cupp Design plan to build a member-owned luxury golf club here. Devoted exclusively to golf, Glenfield Golf Club will feature a links-style 18-hole course and only 275 memberships. The club will be located along Onion Creek, southeast of the new Austin/Bergstrom International Airport. Ground breaking ceremonies are scheduled for this summer. Robert Cupp will design the course in association with 1992 U.S. Open Champion Tom Kite.

TURNBERRY REDO COMPLETE

AVENTURA, Fla. — The greens are rebuilt to U.S. Golf Association specifications, the tees are leveled, and the bunkers are newly sculpted, completing Turnberry Isle Resort & Club's \$1 million renovation to the 18-hole North Course. An entirely new drainage system was installed, new layers of gravel, sand, and topsoil were added, and each green was replanted with Bermudagrass.

WILSON A VP AT LANDSCAPES

LINCOLN, Neb. — Landscapes Unlimited, Inc. has promoted Roy Wilson to vice president. Wilson heads up the company's Irrigation Division. In addition to managing 10 irrigation installations, he is also responsible for irrigation estimates, bidding and as-builts. Wilson joined Landscapes in 1977 and has served the company as an irrigation installation superintendent and project manager.



Roy Wilson

Clark AFB course resurrection renders insights

By MARK LESLIE

MIMOSA, The Philippines — Resurrected from the (literal) ash pile, the former 18-hole Clark Air Force Base golf course has been transformed into a 27-hole private resort club, with memberships, that is expected to open in October.

Called Mimosa Resort, the project is one of several built on property that served as Clark AFB until Mount Pinatubo erupted in October 1991, dumping about three feet of ashes on it and devastating the course. When the Americans left the base, the Philippine government took over and auctioned off portions to private developers. The government expects to open a major

airport here in 1998.

Robin Nelson of golf course designers Nelson, Wright, Haworth said 18 holes — a mammoth facelift of the old course — will open in October along with a brand-new nine holes.

While it covered the property with ash, the Pinatubo eruption left the huge mimosa trees lining a number of fairways, and Nelson, Wright, Haworth used them in their new design, rerouting the fairways so none of trees were lost. Builders also added six lakes encompassing seven acres, all of which come into play.

The developer, Mondragon International Philippines Inc. — headed by Tony Gonzalez, the country's former

director of tourism and ex-chairman of Philippine Airlines — plans to construct a lodge for the project.

One blessing of the Pinatubo ordeal, Nelson said, was that "we were able to study the effect of ash on the turfgrass. We found that in small quantities it's an excellent top dressing material."

The Mimosa Resort course was built with a future volcanic eruption in mind. It is fitted with massive hoses able to wash ash off the fairways, and with several vacuum-like devices able to sweep ash off the greens.

Meanwhile, Nelson, Wright, Haworth has designed another 27-hole course in San Pablo City 90 miles south of

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Palmer singles out restorations

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — Pointing to a greater need for architectural and construction assistance in restoration and remodeling as older classic courses compete with new ones, Palmer Course Design Co. has announced a renewed commitment to classic course restoration.

Wes Moon and Joe T. Veal will concentrate on this market by offering totally hands-on construction supervision and feature shaping.

Moon has returned to the United States after an extended stay in the Philippines. He was instrumental in the feature shaping of The Legacy Course at The Orchard Golf and Country Club in Dasmarias, Cavite, Philippines. The Legacy Course was recently selected to host the Johnnie Walker Classic, one of the premier golf events in the Asian/Pacific region. Prior to joining the staff of Palmer Course Design Co., Moon spent many years shaping Palmer courses.

For two years prior to joining Palmer Course Design Co., Veal was construct-

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**THE PATE PLEDGE**

Jerry Pate Golf, directed by the golfing great, promises top-notch golf at its new design, Kiva Dunes, which sits between the Gulf of Mexico and Bon Secur Bay in Fort Morgan, Ala. Expected to open in April, Kiva Dunes is a semi-private, 18-hole track that stretches from 4,994 to 7,092 yards. Owners Larry Drummond and Jim Edgemond of D&E Investments are planning single-family housing on the site, including some beachfront lots on the Gulf of Mexico.

Dye receiving Ross Award



Pete Dye

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland — Pete Dye, who developed a new style of golf course architecture during the past 25 years, has been chosen by the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) to receive its 1995 Donald Ross Award.

Dye is the third ASGCA member to receive the award. In 1976 Robert Trent Jones was honored with the initial Ross Award, which is presented annually to an individual who has made contributions to the field of golf course architecture. Geoffrey Cornish, who like Jones and Dye served as president of the society, was honored in 1982.

The Ross Award will be presented to Dye at a banquet here on Tuesday, April 25, at the Russacks Hotel during the ASGCA's annual

meeting in Scotland.

"It is fitting that we honor Pete Dye in Scotland," noted ASGCA President Don Knott, "since he has long admired Donald Ross and has formulated much of his design philosophy and design characteristics from the great links courses of Scotland. Pete Dye, through his designs, has reintroduced the American golfer to the 'real' game of golf."

In order to thwart today's pros, who get longer distance each year from high-tech golf clubs and balls, Dye creates hazards on his courses that require constant thinking and precise shotmaking. Dye and

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Free-standing ranges up 236

MIDLOTHIAN, Va. — The number of free-standing golf ranges (those not associated with a golf course) in the United States has grown by 236 facilities, according to preliminary results from Forecast Golf Group.

The total number of free-standing golf ranges in the United States as of Dec. 31, was 2,184. This represents a 12.1 percent increase over the 1993 numbers of 1,948 facilities. The industry statistics represent Forecast's preliminary results from its year-end research and analysis. Final results are expected this month.

According to James E. Turner, vice president of Forecast Golf, "Based on the number of inquiries we receive from new golf range developers, we expect the development of new ranges

to continue. Therefore, the number of golf ranges will continue to increase, but not at the double-digit growth rates we have seen over the past few years. This indicates

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Service joins buyers, sellers

MIDLOTHIAN, Va. — Forecast Golf Group has initiated a new service, called the Range Exchange, for the golf range industry. The Range Exchange brings together buyers and sellers of golf ranges, striving to reduce the time involved in purchasing and/or selling a golf range.

According to Jim Murphy, president of

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Q&A with Brauer

Continued from previous page

ronmental concerns and the ever present desire for a "new look" among better architects are the primary causes of the new wave design. I sense that everyone's designs are beginning to look alike, with excessive mounding and we are all realizing once again that the best way to create a unique golf course is to utilize the natural features on the site to create a unique "sense of place." This is the first lesson any aspiring landscape architect learns in Landscape Design 101.

Minimalism has been an important feature in my work, primarily as an assistance in cost control. On a good site, nothing drives up the cost of golf course construction faster than stripping topsoil, shaping the fairway to create man-made rolls and knobs, and re-topsoiling that fairway. Of course, erosion-control measures must be implemented for all areas graded. Typically, the cost of such fairway shaping can run between \$2,000 and \$4,000 per acre, resulting in a total increase in golf course construction costs of \$200,000 to \$400,000. On rolling site, I have never believed that it is worth the money to grade in the fairway unless a change of grade will create vision to the target areas, level the fairway to provide a fair stance or lie, or to create drainage that would not otherwise exist where the site is so flat.

Only the most egotistical designer would think that he could better create naturalistic rolls than what was provided by nature itself. In fact, most designers tend to have a limited pallet of ideas in creating fairway rolls as compared to the infinite variety of nature. Thus, we often see golf courses in which extraordinary amounts of money have been spent for grading, but the effect is more repetitious than if no changes were made to the landscape at all.

Beyond these changes, I do not expect golf course design to return to copies of early American design. No designer, whether golf course architect, building architect, or civil engineer, has ever been successful by copying styles of the past and ignoring the current needs of his/her client. Golf courses must now be designed as business entities and design elements such as bigger greens and tees to distribute foot traffic, better drainage to allow quicker return to the golf course after a rain, not to mention the new design challenges of incorporating environmental sensitivity and wheelchair accessibility according to ADA regulation, plus a myriad of other new regulations in requirement must have precedence in design over mimicking a particular historical style.

The great designers of the past were following the same rule I've outlined. They were satisfying the needs of their clients, utilizing existing construction technology, and responding to the economic realities of the day as they knew them. Since these have changed dramatically over time, we should not expect that the final result of today's designers would resemble the final results of de-

signers from yesteryear any more than they actually do.

I will admit that there is a certain sadness to this. As much as I admire the beautiful contour edges of an Alister Mackenzie bunker, and try to emulate them, I find that modern practicalities of machine maintenance, as well as our experience in those steep slopes causing maintenance problems each time it rains, that my version of these bunkers are flatter, larger and placed just a bit farther from the green. While I have heard golf course design critics lament the fact that many modern bunkers appear to be

cookie-cut, these are the practical reasons that force them into these shapes. It takes genuine creativity to vary the size, contour, shape and character of bunkers to provide a unique experience on each hole.

When designing a new course, I always bear in mind that great natural site does give me the opportunity to practice minimalist architecture, natural elements in place of man-made elements to create a pleasant golf experience. I am also well aware that the great variety of work being done by many architects derive their inspiration from early American

designs and who embrace minimalism, create the variety in the world of golf that we all desire. I fully expect that eventually our recent courses will be collectively viewed as those of a particular design era and will be judged as such, much as our older courses are now judged through our perspective today. In all probability, the best examples of that design will survive as classics. Other lesser examples will be modified to satisfy then current business conditions and then to rid the golf course of design elements which prove to be impractical or unpopular.

Palmer Design
eyes renovations

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tion manager for McCurrach Golf. He has over the last several months helped train fellow staff members fine-tune their skills on the AutoCadd computer system.

Their first project will begin this spring at Palmer's Bay Hill Club in Orlando. With Palmer directing the design, Moon and Veal will completely renovate the Charger course.

"The specs called for tee to green bentgrass. I compared and saw how much better Southshore was. Now in less than a year, these greens are the best in the area."

*Bob DiPalma, Superintendent
Minisceongo Golf Club
Pomona, New York*

Minisceongo Golf Club, the dream of developer Eric Bergstol, is tucked into the scenic hills of



Owner/developer, Eric Bergstol imagined a unique golf course when he purchased the land for Minisceongo Golf Club.

Rockland County, New York. Roy Case, as architect, began carving into the heavily-wooded, challenging landscape in March 1993 with Bob DiPalma already on board as superintendent.

The specs called for bentgrass — tee to green — with bluegrass banks and fescue roughs.

With so many new bentgrasses on the market competing with the old-time favorites,

Bob DiPalma thought it wise to visit some test plots.

"I saw the darker color and upright growth of Southshore compared to some of the others. That did it! We placed the order...enough Southshore for every tee, fairway and green.



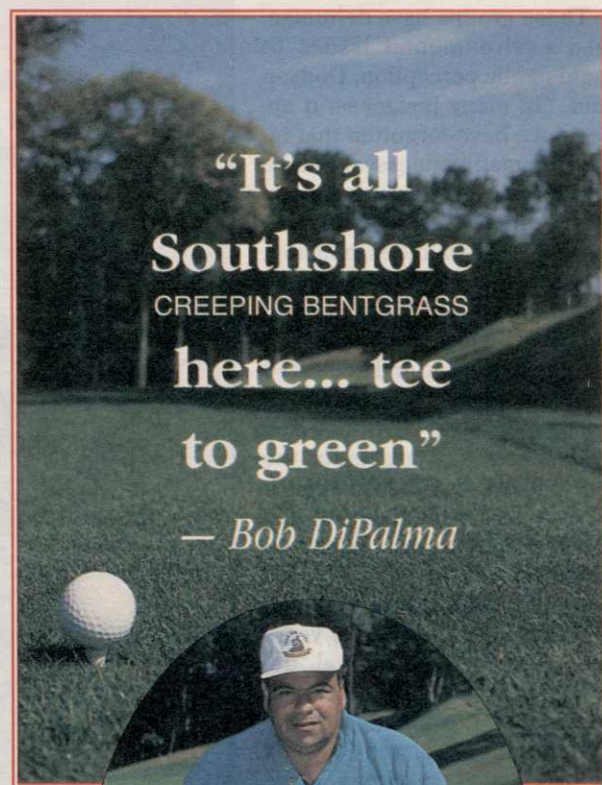
The out-of-play roughs at Minisceongo Golf Club are seeded with Reliant Hard Fescue for low-maintenance, natural beauty.

"Look at these greens! They were seeded in September 1993 and all 18 holes were opened for play July 1, 1994.

Now, less than one year later, the greens are the best in the entire area, bar none! Even with the severe winter and extremely hot summer we had, they came through beautifully. No disease problems and we used very little chemical. We're already seeing 12" roots on most of these greens.

"The tees and fairways are coming in nicely despite some washout problems. By next season this entire course is going to be top-notch. Eric is so pleased with what Southshore has done here, he's already considering it for his next project,"

— Bob DiPalma.



**"It's all Southshore
CREEPING BENTGRASS
here... tee
to green"**
— Bob DiPalma



This double green at Minisceongo Golf Club serves the sixth and fifteenth holes. Photos were taken less than one year after seeding.



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