

BRIEFS



PALMER NAMES GONZALEZ VP

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — Barbara González has been appointed vice president and director of business development for the Palmer Design Co. González has been with the company for 22 years — since its inception during the early 1970s. She travels extensively in Europe, the Pacific Rim and domestically for discussions with prospective clients and participates in many trade/conference exhibitions. She is a full member of the Urban Land Institute.



Barbara González

FOSTER PROMOTES SCHAUPETER

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — Arthur Schaupeter has been promoted to lead design associate with Keith Foster Golf Course Design here. He will manage the firm's plan production and specification development. Meanwhile, Jason Hollen, a landscape architecture graduate of West Virginia University, has joined the design staff.

CUPP IMPROVING STONEBRIDGE

NAPLES, Fla. — Stonebridge Country Club, a 313-acre residential development centered around an 18-hole golf course here, has completed its first phase of improvements. Upgrades included widening the landing areas of holes 1, 2, and 4. Stonebridge developer Taylor Woodrow Communities recently acquired several preserved acres that were part of the community's property. Taylor Woodrow has committed \$300,000 to improving the golf course. Bob Cupp, who designed the original course along with Gene Bates, is overseeing the course improvements.

ST. JAMES ADDING 18

SOUTHPORT, N.C. — St. James Plantation is constructing a second 18-hole championship golf course in the community's second phase of development. Called The Members Course, the track is being built by the community's developer, Homer E. Wright, Jr. Golf course architect is Clyde Johnston & Associates, of Hilton Head, S.C. The new course complements the existing 18-hole Dye-designed layout. The new clubhouse, the second for St. James Plantation, will be designed by architect David R. Polston of Wilmington, N.C.



Clyde Johnston

GOLF COURSE NEWS

Back in 1936 Tilly foresaw a world with no sand nor traps

By J. BARRY MOTHES

PORTLAND, Maine — "Golf Course of Future Will have No Sand Nor Traps, Expert Predicts"

A headline from the *National Golf Enquirer*?

No, just Albert W. Tillinghast getting a bit apocalyptic back in 1936.

Tillinghast, the Philadelphia playboy and renowned golf course architect who designed Baltusrol, Winged Foot and the San Francisco Golf Club to name a few, was hired by the Professional Golfers Association (PGA) of America in the mid-1930s to advise its member clubs on alterations. At the time, 11 national championships had been played on his courses in the preceding 16 years.

As part of his charge, Tillinghast traveled the country for more than a year as a PGA-sponsored adviser. He met with golf course superintendents and pros, toured golf courses and offered advice. By September 1936 he had visited 322 courses. In September 1936, Tillinghast visited Portland



On the golf course A.W. Tillinghast foresaw in 1936, there would be no saving or threatening sand bunkers like these at the Jay Morrish-, Tom Weiskopf-designed Buffalo Creek Golf Club in Rockwall, Texas.

Country Club here.

A few excerpts from his visit reported by the Portland Sunday Telegram:

"The golf course of the not too distant future will have neither rough nor sand, except [where] it be unavoidable," A.W. Tillinghast, widely known golf course architect, predicted Saturday afternoon.

"Mr. Tillinghast expressed his strong disapproval of sand on golf courses, and said that golf courses 10 years hence

would have none of it... Of course, he said, seaside courses will be bound to have some sand on them, but why should a beautiful inland course be cluttered with it?"

But, Tillinghast added, "Sandless courses won't be any less difficult to score than those of today... The science of golf courses will be built into the contours of the greens and the approaches to them..."

Continued on page 32



The rebuilt 16th hole greensite as per Langford at Ozaukee Country Club in Megeen, Wis.

QA Forse masterminds 'oldies' remakes, longs for his own

Having grown up at the Donald Ross-designed Mountain Ridge Country Club in New Jersey, it's no wonder Ron Forse now makes his living in large part remodeling "courses by the classics." The West Virginia University landscape architecture alumnus, who has worked with architects Brad Benz, J. Michael Poellot and Ron Fream, is also designing his own tracks. He is collaborating with Ross Forbes for a new nine at Methodist College in Fayetteville, N.C., and the two are in the midst of eight long-range improvement plans, including a remodeling of the Herbert Strong-designed Nassau Country Club on Long Island. Managing editor Mark Leslie caught up with him at Portland (Maine) Country Club, a Ross-designed, oceanside track Forse was visiting.

Golf Course News: Are people more aware of course designers than they were five, 10, 20 years ago?

Ron Forse: Yes. Now guys who aren't big internationally are being promoted. People like Art Hills. It's like "designer" labels to some degree. People are putting the names of the architects on advertisements, promotional materials and scorecards. This is a news occurrence. People now know because of the media attention to architects. In the mid-'80s people all of a sudden became aware.



Ron Forse

Continued on page 30

Myrtle Beach's North Course faces major changes from Palmer

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. — Arnold Palmer and the Palmer Design Group have returned here this summer to oversee substantial changes to the famous North Course at Myrtle Beach National Golf Club, a 54-hole complex. The course closed May 1, and is scheduled to re-open in October. The South and West Courses at Myrtle Beach National remain open throughout the summer.

The North Course was originally designed by Arnold Palmer in the early 1970s. It was among the first courses at the Beach, and one of the first courses anywhere to feature an "island" green. The North Course's par-3 3rd hole, with an island green and "SC" shaped bunkers has remained the signature hole for the entire Grand Strand.

What began as a minor updating of the North Course has evolved into a project of total course design and visual enhancement under the direction of the Palmer Group. The bentgrass greens will be re-shaped and enlarged, and then sodded with the new hybrid Crenshaw bentgrass. Many trees have been removed. Several fairways will feature increased undulation, and bunkers and lakes will be reshaped. The 3rd hole is undergoing major enhancement, with the addition of bulkheads and a new bridge.

Myrtle Beach National is owned by the Myrtle Beach National Co.

ZEPHYR SPRINGS ADDING 9

ZEPHYR HILLS, Fla. — Zephyr Springs Golf Club began construction of its back nine in mid-June. It will also include renovation of the irrigation system. When completed, the par-70 course will play approximately 5,000 yards. The 18-hole course is expected to be open by late-November. Design work was done in-house at International Golf Group, Inc. Tifton Golf Services is course construction contractor.

Young increases design presence in Southeast

Golf course designer Mike Young has several projects underway in the Southeast, including The Heritage Club in Atlanta; River Point Golf Club in Albany, Ga.; and Old Cove Golf Club near Tuscaloosa, Ala. Another course, the Henderson Golf Club in Savannah, opened in March.

Young began construction in March on the 18-hole Heritage Club. Located just five minutes from downtown, the new daily-fee course will offer the kind of close-in convenience not seen in the city for more than 25 years. It also includes a 23-acre practice facility which is likely to become home to a national golf school.

Developed by Whitecrest, Ltd. of Atlanta, The Heritage Club plans a spring 1996 opening.

Scheduled to open this fall is River Point Golf Club, an 18-hole layout. Located along the Flint River in Albany, the course is being built in conjunction with development of upscale family homes.

In the town of Northport, near Tuscaloosa, Young recently broke ground on Old Cove Golf Club. Situated on a 500-acre piece of farmland dotted with coves, the 7,000-yard course is expected to emphasize high-level maintenance. It should open this fall.

Phillips comment

Continued from page 10

from story to story, dropping one-liners with deadpan precision — Pete sat down to thunderous applause. But the master of ceremonies, GCBA Executive Director Phil Arnold, couldn't resist:

"Pete Dye," Arnold told the audience, "gives speeches like he designs courses: No notes."

...

I want to make sure Robert Dedman Sr. — the Day II key-note at Golf Course Expo — isn't overlooked when discussing the upcoming conference and show. Sure, he doesn't have his own American Express commercial, but Mr. Dedman has been one of golf's most prescient observers for more than 35 years.

His company, Club Corporation International, got its start with the management of private clubs. As its portfolio of private golf and city clubs grew, ClubCorp was soon acknowledged as the premier golf management firm in the world, a position it occupies to this day.

Yet when the golf industry changed, so did Dedman and ClubCorp. As the daily-fee and resort markets began to overtake private course development in the 1980s, Dedman created new divisions — ClubResorts and GolfCorp — to deal specifically with the very different needs of public-access courses.

And isn't that what Golf Course Expo is all about? Owners, managers and superintendents at daily-fee, resort and municipal golf courses face different challenges from those faced at private courses. They have different vendor needs, different educational needs, different operational needs.

Seeing as public-access courses outnumber private courses by 2:1, isn't it time we addressed them? Come November, Dedman and Golf Course Expo will do just that.

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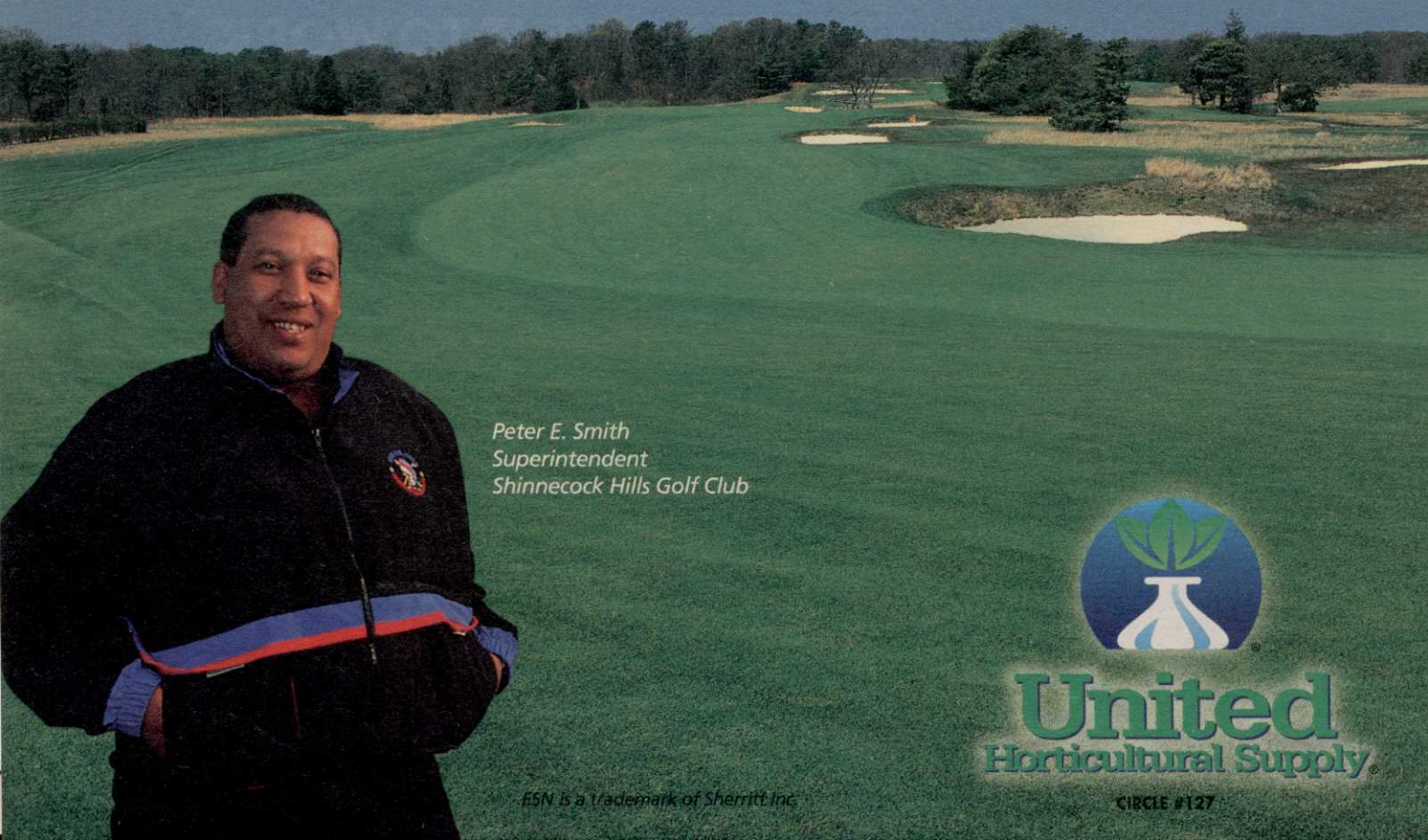
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goals with this smart new technology and for raising the standards for fertilizer performance and environmental stewardship."

As superintendent, Smith knows well the tradition of excellence that surrounds the course. It's a distinction learned from his father and grandfather, superintendents of Shinnecock before him, who together with Peter have dedicated more than 90 years toward the development and success of Shinnecock Hills Golf Club.

For more information on ESN precision controlled nitrogen, call (800) 847-6417.



Peter E. Smith
Superintendent
Shinnecock Hills Golf Club



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CIRCLE #127

A Tillinghast tale

Continued from page 29

"What if the duffer is able to get a par on the new course once in a while that he doesn't get now? Why continue to torture that already harassed person with sand traps?"

Tillinghast, who lost millions in the Depression and would leave golf completely by 1937, apparently had plenty of criticism for his own courses, especially 20 or so in the Midwest. He also allowed that everyone has their own opinion as to what constituted a good golf course.

Tillinghast was reportedly approached by U.S. Government officials to build several hundred golf courses under the auspices of the Works Progress Administration (WPA).

"I refused for two reasons," Tillinghast told the Press Herald. "First, because all my time is occupied by my PGA duties; and second, because in six months I don't expect to see any WPA."

GOLF COURSE NEWS