

Nantucket could be home to new course

NANTUCKET, Mass. — Architect Rees Jones could soon be designing a new 18-hole golf course on the 252-acre Coffin Farm on this genteel island off Cape Cod.

The Nantucket Golfing Society, a partnership of approximately 50 golfers who frequent the island, has moved to purchase the sizable farm from the estate of Henry Coffin. Coffin died last year.

The Society plans to have Jones design a golf course reminiscent of those crafted during the early 1900s.

There are other potential developments for golf being discussed on the island.

The pending transaction between the Society and the Coffin family would also allow the society to lease, operate and slightly renovate the nine-hole Sjaconset Golf Course. The Coffin family has operated Sjaconset for more than 100 years.

The society has retained Colorado-based Golf Services Inc. and Connecticut and Colorado-based Links Acquisition Corp. to oversee planning and construction of the new course.

Rochester N.Y. adds public track

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — A city filled with outstanding private courses, like 1996 Ryder Cup venue Oak Hill, is about to get a public-access layout its builders say will fill a long-standing need that has gone unmet in this area.

Gardner Odenbach, vice president of the Dolomite Group in Penfield, and his father, John, are building the 27-hole Greystone Golf Club on 270-acres in nearby Walworth.

Nine holes are expected to open sometime this month.

Craig Scheiner of Kansas City, Mo., designed the upscale, daily-fee course.

Tim Hahn, the son of Oak Hill greens superintendent Joe Hahn, is overseeing construction of the golf course, which features many large, undulating greens.

Scottish-style grass mounding, pot sand bunkers and tall native grasses off some fairways. A large practice facility and Tudor-style clubhouse are also planned.

Neb. volunteers build new nine-hole golf facility

FULLERTON, Neb. — Two years after the Loup River flood destroyed the sand greens course in Fullerton, a new nine-hole golf course has been created with unusual community spirit and hard work.

More than 15,000 hours of volunteer labor helped make Pawnee Hills Golf Course a reality, according to Steve Nathan, a town businessman who is president and treasurer of the group that developed Pawnee Hills.

The course was designed by Marty Johnson of Sioux City, Iowa. Resident Bob Russell donated \$100,000 to build a two-level clubhouse in honor of his family's dedication to Fullerton.

Laborer dies in Houston golf course accident

KINGWOOD, Texas — A man was killed and another seriously injured when a trench caved in at a golf course construction site outside Houston in May.

The worker was killed when his body was engulfed by sand in a cave-in. Juan Lopez, 40, who survived, was dug out of chest-deep sand following the mishap.

The two men were in a trench digging a wet well when the earthen sides gave way and collapsed on them. Rescuers dug with shovels and hands to try to get to the men and freed Lopez who was transported by air for emergency treatment.

FURRY CADDIES DEBUT AT MINNESOTA LINKS

MIESVILLE, Minn. — Bruce Brage is opening a nine-hole golf course this month on his Dakota County family farm that will offer llamas as caddies. Brage, 37, figures using Andean llamas as caddies is just novel enough that it will persuade golfers to give his new Elmdale Hills Golf Course a try. He didn't say what they'd expect for a tip.

"It was the hottest, driest summer Atlanta has seen. But we had the best greens in the area with Crenshaw."

Joe Hamilton, Owner
Lake Spivey Golf Club
Atlanta, GA



These greens at Lake Spivey were renovated and seeded with Crenshaw Creeping Bentgrass in September 1993. These photos were taken 56 days later.

When Joe Hamilton, Owner of Lake Spivey Golf Club near Atlanta decided to renovate all 27 greens, he wanted to do nine holes at a time. After lots of research and many discussions, he took the suggestion of Dr. Milt Engelke of Texas A&M and tried Crenshaw Creeping Bentgrass. The first nine holes were done in September 1991.

"We're a high-volume, middle-maintenance operation with about 60,000 rounds a year. This past summer was the hottest, driest summer Atlanta has experienced. But those nine holes that were renovated with Crenshaw two years ago did so well, they were the healthiest, best greens in Atlanta.

"We monitored those nine against the older Penncross greens and there simply was no comparison. Crenshaw is so much more dense and upright than any other bent we know of. There's so little problem with disease or wilt. Its color and putting characteristics are so superior and it wards off bermuda encroachment.

"Doing the second nine holes in September of '93 was an easy decision. And we'll do the last nine with Crenshaw next fall without question.

"I'll tell you, after seeing the vigor and excellent performance of Crenshaw here at Lake Spivey, it really makes the older bents look like dinosaurs. Crenshaw really moved us into the present, new world of bentgrasses."

Joe Hamilton.



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