



**SUGAR LOAF TO EXPAND**

CEDAR, Mich. — Sugar Loaf Resort owners are planning an 18-hole Arnold Palmer golf course as part of a \$5 million development to include up to 100 new homes. The northern Michigan resort currently has an 18-hole course that is 25 years old. The new Palmer course would cover 130 of Sugar Loaf's 1,110 acres on the west side of the resort's ski hill. The existing course is east of the ski hill.

**PUBLISHER AUTHORS GC DEAL**

KILLEEN, Texas — After working most of his life in publishing, Jim Longnecker has jumped into the golf course business. Longnecker recently bought the nine-hole Harker Heights golf course in this town of 65,000 southeast of Waco. He and his wife, Melody, are hoping to begin renovations to the course including building 27 new traps and restoring the greens. A self-described entrepreneur, Longnecker said he was looking through the classified ads in a Houston newspaper and saw the ad for the course.

**Ohio's Blacklick takes summer break**

COLUMBUS, Ohio — One of the most popular public golf courses in central Ohio will be shut down for the summer.

The 18-hole championship course at Blacklick Woods Metropolitan Park in Reynoldsburg was scheduled to close June 1 for work to start on a \$2.5 million renovation project that includes replacing 14 of the course's 18 greens and relocating three of them into more natural ar-

reas of the course.

Blacklick's 18-hole executive-length course will remain open during the project, which is expected to take nearly a year to complete.

The 14 greens to be replaced were originally part of the old Stoney Creek Country Club course, which became Blacklick Woods. The new greens will be rebuilt according to U.S. Golf Association specifications.

**Hurdzan testifies on liability case; no bloody glove**

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Golf course designer Michael Hurdzan recently found himself on the witness stand in state claims court.

Hurdzan, an award-winning designer with an international resume, was a key witness for the private York Temple Country Club in its attempt to stop the city of Columbus from widening a road which borders the 70-year-old course. The club has argued, unsuccessfully so far, that widening the road onto club property will prevent members from driving their cars safely in and out of the club and send golf balls flying onto the busy highway, posing a danger to passing motorists.

The proposed \$4.3 million road-widening project has been planned since the 1980s after a study found there were 117 accidents there in three years. The city says more development in the formerly rural area has made a wider road necessary for the safety of everyone.

Hurdzan, who is based in Columbus, was called to testify about the potential threat of more flying golf balls to passing motorists. The proposed widening would creep five feet inside part of the club's boundary and, specifically, closer to the No. 5 green, which is already quite close to the road.

Hurdzan testified he wouldn't design such a hole because of potential liability problems.

**MATTHEWS PADS PORTFOLIO IN MICHIGAN**

LANSING, Mich. — Course architect Jerry Matthews continues to build a legacy in his home state. The 18-hole St. Ives Golf Course layout is part of a \$5 million development at the Canadian Lakes resort in Mecosta County. The resort has two private courses, but St. Ives will be the area's public facility. Nine holes may be open by July with the full 18 scheduled to be ready by August. The other is an 18-hole 7,200-yard course at scenic Pine Mountain in the popular Upper Peninsula, a longtime winter resort. The as-yet-unnamed course is scheduled to open in July 1996.

**MILLER DESIGNING IN UTAH**

ST. GEORGE, Utah — Construction has started on the 18-hole Johnny Miller Signature Golf Course at the mouth of Snow Canyon near St. George. Miller teamed up on the design with Mike Reid of Provo, a consultant with the Johnny Miller Design Group. Reid, going one further, has said the course will have three "movements" — 11 holes through the Snow Canyon wash, four holes against towering red cliffs, and three challenging target holes carved out of lava flow.



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