

## BRIEFS

**TURLOCK GREENS REMODELED**

**TURLOCK, Calif.** — Remodeling of the greens has begun at Turlock Golf & Country Club under the design supervision of architect Andy Raugust. The back nine were scheduled to be completed by late February and ready for play in early spring. The club is using washed sod on the new USGA greens. Raugust will also remodel the front nine and that construction is scheduled for the fall.

**BARBARON BUILDING PRACTICE FACILITY**

**OCALA, Fla.** — Barbaron, Inc. of Crystal River has been selected to construct the new practice facility at Oak Run Country Club here. The facility will include a driving range with target greens and bunkering and will include chipping and putting areas and practice bunkers. Oak Run is owned by Decca Development & Construction Corp. of America.

**MAKI BUSY ON TWO FRONTS**

**COLUMBUS, Ga.** — Construction is underway on an 18-hole high-end daily-fee golf course here, serving as a cornerstone of a residential housing development. Fox Chase Plantation is the creation of developer James F. Day, while the course is being built by Bilberry Golf and designed by Lisa Maki of Golf Design Services International. The par-72 course will measure 7,100 from the back tees, Maki said. Meanwhile, Maki expects to begin work in April on Eagles Nest in Sacramento, Calif., south of the U.S. Air Force's Mather Field which closed last fall. Developed by the Takehara family of Japan, it will be an 18-hole stand-alone public facility, she said.

**CHICAGO'S MR. GOLF HONORED**

**AUGUSTA, Ga.** — Joe Jemsek, an octogenarian who pioneered public golf in Chicago and is known in that area as Mr. Golf, will be presented the William D. Richardson Award from the Golf Writers Association of America. The award is given for consistent outstanding contributions to golf. Jemsek owns and operates eight public courses in Chicago. Jemsek is a past Professional Golfer of the Year, chosen by the PGA of America, and has been inducted into the Chicago Sports Hall of Fame. The National Golf Foundation presented him its Herb Graffis Award in 1977 and his family its Jack Nicklaus Family Golf Award in 1991.



Joe Jemsek

**Caribbean sings siren song**

By PETER BLAIS

**C**aribbean golf resort/residential development is warming again after a relatively long cold spell, according to golf industry experts working the area.

Hurricane Hugo devastated certain islands in the late 1980s, denting the Caribbean's reputation as a safe and peaceful retreat, according to Ralph Stewart Bowden, a Virginia real estate counselor who has thoroughly researched the Caribbean market.

Just as the islands were recovering from that natural disaster, a financial calamity struck in the form of a worldwide recession. The financial downturn struck particularly hard and long at the northeast United States, historically the main source of Caribbean tourists and second-home buyers, Bowden noted.

Certain islands and island groups are recovering faster than others and looking at golf to help lead the way. Barbados and the Bahamas are two good examples.

Here's a look at the different regions and how golf is developing in those areas.

**NETHERLAND ANTILLES/LESSER ANTILLES/WINDWARD ISLANDS**

The real estate market has been relatively soft, but golf development fairly strong in the past year in these southernmost islands.

"There hasn't been much in the way of quality golf in the Caribbean, until recently" said architect Steve Schroeder of Robert Trent Jones II International. Jones designed Hyatt-operated Tierra del Sol, Aruba's first 18-

Continued on page 46

**Mexican woes only slow golf**

By PETER BLAIS

Mexico's financial crisis may slow but certainly won't stop golf development there, according to industry experts working the area.

"The recent devaluation of the peso has brought most projects to a halt. That will continue until things settle out," said Joe Finger, a Texas-based course designer with five Mexican projects recently opened or planned.

"In the long term, the devaluation won't affect development that much. We had a similar devaluation 15 years ago and work eventually resumed."

The government devalued the

Continued on page 44



The 4th hole at Joe Finger-designed Cabo Real

**Joe Finger still keeping a hand on design business**

QA &amp;A

Joe Finger, 76, is a technologist at heart. Born in Texas, he obtained a bachelor's degree in engineering from Rice University and a master's from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He worked in the oil refining, plastic manufacturing and dairy businesses before designing his first course, a nine-hole addition to Houston's Westwood Country Club (CC),

back in 1956. Since then, he has designed and remodeled courses throughout the United States and notably Mexico [see story above]. The engineer's attention to detail demonstrated itself in his invention of the Percolometer, a device used for on-the-job control of seed-bed mixtures for greens. Priding himself on getting projects in on time and on budget, he also wrote one of the first books dealing with the costs of course design, "The Business End of Building or Rebuilding a Golf Course," in 1973

**Golf Course News:** You supposedly retired from active design work in 1990. What have you been doing since?

**Joe Finger:** Working my rear end off. I've built two courses in Mexico, have two more on the drawing board and one up in the air. We remodeled the greens at Cedar Ridge in Tulsa [Okla.] and Colonial Country Club in Memphis [Tenn.] We're doing a long-range plan for Pleasant Valley CC in Little Rock [Ark.], which we built for Winthrop Rockefeller 27 years ago. We also did consulting work on the Napa Valley (Calif.) CC clubhouse. I'm doing a lot of gardening and orcharding at home and working for the club [River Hill]. Byron Nelson and I built River Hill back in 1974 and we both have homes

Continued on page 52

**UNEARTHED!****Mackenzie's mysterious manuscript**

By TERRY BUCHEN

**B**OULDER, Colo. — Raymund Haddock, the step-grandson of Dr. Alister Mackenzie, is a successful insurance agent here. Little did he know that his life was going to change dramatically with the discovery of an item stored for years in a cedar chest in his home.

The story begins in 1978 when course architect Geoffrey S. Cornish and writer Ron Whitten were researching their book, "The Golf Course," and discovered in Dr. Mackenzie's obituary that he had written a manuscript shortly before his death but that it had never been published. Whitten called Charles Scribner and Sons in New York, inquired about the unpublished work and was told it had "long since been destroyed!" An unfortunate dead-end, to say the least.

In 1982 Robert Trent Jones Sr. told Whitten he had a typed version of the lost manuscript which he had given to the legendary Red Hoffman. Whitten called Hoffman, who insisted that he no longer had the manuscript and had returned it to Trent Jones. But Jones insisted that Hoffman still had it, and it was never to be seen again. Another dead-end.

Fast-forward 10 years to 1992. The Mackenzie Cup was being played between four 10-man teams representing Cypress Point, Meadow Club, Green Hills, Pasatiempo, The Valley Club and Crystal Downs. At a gathering in the garden of Mackenzie's house along the 6th fairway at Pasatiempo, Whitten told the golfers that 60 years later it was difficult to research Mackenzie. In particular, he was

Continued on page 50



Dr. Alister Mackenzie

Photo courtesy of "The Spirit of St. Andrews"

## Mackenzie mystery unraveled

Continued from page 39

looking for "the lost manuscript" that Dr. Mac had written before his death in 1934. It was titled "The Spirit of St. Andrews" and Whitten had faith that the manuscript still existed. He asked the owner of the house if it could be in storage. The owner was persistent that he had looked tooth and nail to no avail. It was *not* in the house.

In 1993 Haddock entered the picture. An avid but average golfer, he began his quest to

play on courses such as ones designed by his famous step-grandfather. (Dr. Mackenzie had no natural children.) He telephoned Cypress Point head pro Jim Langley, who arranged for him to play the famous layout. Wanting to show his gratitude, Haddock said, "Before my father died, he had given me some folders with papers he had saved from that time when I was a boy living at Dr. Mackenzie's home." Haddock explained he had kept them even when the

family was traveling back and forth across the country in a very small house trailer. "I had always thought they were articles about camouflage which Dr. Mac had written after his participation in the Boer War," Haddock said.

He said his wife had stashed these precious folders in a cedar chest a few years before. As they sat on the floor going through the folders, they found the camouflage manuscript. But then they found a sketch of a golf hole, then another, and at the bottom were three worn binders containing seven chapters of a book titled "The Spirit of St.

Andrews." The three folders contained: the original hand-written text, with a forward written by Robert Tyre "Bobby" Jones Jr.; and an interim edited version of the original manuscript; and a carbon copy of the original typed finished typeset.

Off the Haddocks went to Pebble Beach, where they spent an evening with Langley and Dr. Barry Staley, executive director of the recently formed Mackenzie Society. "I opened my bulging briefcase and began laying some of the items on the large conference table," Haddock said with a chuckle. "As

my hosts watched over my shoulder, gasps could be heard when I first brought out a sketch of one of the holes at Augusta National and then the three binders.

"I am having the manuscript published just as Dr. Mackenzie wrote it, so golf enthusiasts can read about not only the principles of the golf swing, or what constitutes a good golf hole, but to learn more about a man who knew or worked with Bobby Jones, Gene Sarazan, Robert Trent Jones Sr., Marian Hollings, Max Baer and others of the 1920s and early '30s, and whose social circles included

Continued on next page

## Concerns of approval

Continued from previous page

"For some [projects], the best mitigation strategy is to ensure that areas are set aside and permanently protected as compensation for a 'take.' That seems to be the only workable strategy because it's not possible to recreate to the lost ecology values."

While the failure of smaller created wetlands is often blamed on a lack of monitoring at the site, Johnson said: "Another equally valid point of view is that it's devilishly hard to create certain habitat types. The failures are blamed on the implementers, but sometimes the basic concept is flawed. Creation of habitat types that have formed over geologic time, and trying to recreate them with a bulldozer and a few gallons of water is scientifically questionable."

Saying that a creation bank mitigation strategy needs to evolve, he added that it "should focus on preservation of existing sites and enhancement of their management, as opposed to creation."

Interestingly, except for the Nature Conservancy, environmental groups have been mum about constructing wetland banks themselves.

"No environmental groups have approached me about being a bank sponsor," Jones said. "Perhaps that's strange. I think it would be a very worthwhile endeavor for them. Quite frankly, they could augment their existing resources and provide a source of income, plus enhance the environmental quality of their larger tracts [of land] — basically through the restoration of prior converted croplands, or previously filled wetland areas."

"Their [Nature Conservancy's] advantage is that they are non-profit, and that makes it more affordable for the developer," Horton said.

Most of the people in the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) "think the environmentalists don't understand mitigation banking," said Dave Ryan, former EPA controller. "It's change, and change is potentially frightening to them."

"There is a downside. A mitigation bank could go belly-up. But there are ways to safeguard the wetlands."

# You have to start pretty early to get the pick of the crop at the orchard.

*5:30...5:20...5am. Course Superintendent, Ted Woehrle, couldn't believe it. But shortly after the Workman® arrived at The Orchards Golf Club in Washington, Michigan, his staff started coming in earlier and earlier to get the Workman for the day. "We had other work vehicles," recalled Ted, "but everyone wanted the Workman."*

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## Growing Donald Ross Society prepares for reunion

PINEHURST, N.C. — The Donald Ross Society, whose membership has grown to 1,100 in six years, will hold its annual meeting April 20-23 at the Mid Pines and Pine Needles courses here.

Members will play golf, socialize, exchange ideas, and present financial assistance to apprentices of at least two architects working on golf course restoration projects.

The Ross Society "has had a lot to do with the move toward restorations rather than renovations," said Michael Fay, acting secretary and co-founder the society along with Barry Palm, Steve Edwards and Bruce Taylor. "More clubs are seeing their

Ross, [A.W.] Tillinghast, [Alister] Mackenzie or Willie Park Jr.-designed golf courses as an asset with value, and are restoring them rather than building something new and different."

Because of its interest in promoting "pure restoration," the Ross Society is often contacted by club officials whose courses were designed by the "classic architects."

"We will research the [Ross] archives in North Carolina and contact our architects network to see if we can find the original plans of the course considering renovation," Fay said. "We will recommend where to look for aerial photos. Aerials of any-

thing near a body of water are in the naval archives. And we recommend [architects] we know will do true restoration work."

Fay said he works with the superintendent and architect on a job, checking the course before and after the restoration.

The society boasts members in 39 states and six foreign countries. Fay said 25 or so are architects, 30 to 35 are superintendents, and a number are golf professionals, including Jack Nicklaus, Ben Crenshaw, Paul Azinger, Ian Baker-Finch, John Cook and David Graham.

More information on the society and the meeting, people may contact Fay at P.O. Box 403, Bloomfield, Conn., 06002.

## Mackenzie book

Continued from previous page

the likes of Douglas Fairbanks, Harold Lloyd and Charlie Chaplin. Readers of the manuscript can go on my dream trip to Cypress Point, Pasatiempo, Augusta National, The Royal Melbourne, The Eden course at St. Andrews and others, and perhaps feel the true 'spirit of St. Andrews,' " Haddock added.

Peter Alliss of BBC, ABC Sports, called the book "a masterpiece. I've never read a more interesting book on golf — page after page of common sense and information — a bit of magic to lift the spirit."

Dr. Michael Hurdzan, who also has read the manuscript, said: "It is an incredible find for golfers and it is as if the reader gets a chance to sit down with Alister Mackenzie and meet not only a brilliant architect, but one of the most provocative characters the game has produced.

"When you sit down and read the book, it is written in a wonderfully entertaining style, full of great anecdotes of his contemporaries such as Hagen, Sarazen, Jones and other friends of Mackenzie that teach valuable lessons to all golfers."

This manuscript gives "a window, or insight, into Mackenzie's mind as a designer," Hurdzan said.

Reading the original manuscript is like sitting in Mackenzie's living room sipping a few Scotches while listening to the legendary genius talk of the evolution of golf, the general principles of course architecture, the economy of golf course construction, the ideal holes and golf course, the art of greenkeeping, how to shoot in the 70s at age 60 and some thoughts on golf, which are the titles of the seven famous chapters of his book.

In his forward to "The Spirit of St. Andrews," Bobby Jones states: "An astonishing amount of golf — that is, good golf — is played between the ears. If this were not so, I doubt if we should trouble ourselves to play the game."

Haddock added: "Dr. Mackenzie's wife (Haddock's grandmother) was an artist who did the greens drawings, water colors of golf holes and paintings—some of which I plan to have hanging in my home."

What is Haddock going to do with the original handwritten manuscript? "I have not made a decision yet and all I can say, for now, is that I am mulling over a few ideas!" he said.

•••

"The Spirit of St. Andrews," by Dr. Alister Mackenzie, foreword by Robert Tyre "Bobby" Jones, will be available at \$24.95 this month from:

Sleeping Bear Press, Brian A. Lewis, Publisher, 121 South Main St., Suite B, P.O. Box 20, Chelsea, Mich. 48118-0020; telephone 800-487-2323, 313-475-4411; Fax 313-475-0787.

The book is also available from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America in Lawrence, Kan.; 800-472-7878.



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