

## Board bows to pressure and cancels goose hunt

SCOTTSBORO, Ala. — A gaggle of Canadian geese that has taken over parts of the Goosepond Colony Golf Course was spared a bounty hunt by the public golf course board.

The board voted to cancel a hunt ordered by the club's directors to get rid of hundreds of geese that were eating grass on the greens and fairways and fouling them with their waste.

The proposed hunt, which was to begin in late January, joined together two groups usually opposed to each other: traditional hunters and animal-rights advocates.

The club had planned to hold four daybreak

hunts to reduce the population of the gray-and-black geese, which can weigh up to 24 pounds as adults. Each hunter was supposed to pay \$50 for the hunt and be limited to two geese. There are an estimated 500 to 1,000 geese on the course at any one time.

Cheered by the cancellation, conservationists and others who supported the geese said they will try to trap and move the geese this spring to Mobile and other parts of the state. In the meantime, the greens will also be treated with a special non-lethal chemical to keep the geese from eating the grass.

## Jacksonville set for Fazio design

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — An exclusive equity golf club with a Tom Fazio-designed golf course and \$40,000 initiation fees is being planned for a tract of land just north of Pablo Creek.

A. Dano Davis, chairman of Winn-Dixie, has donated 300 acres for Pablo Creek Club, a golf-only facility that will limit membership to 250 people.

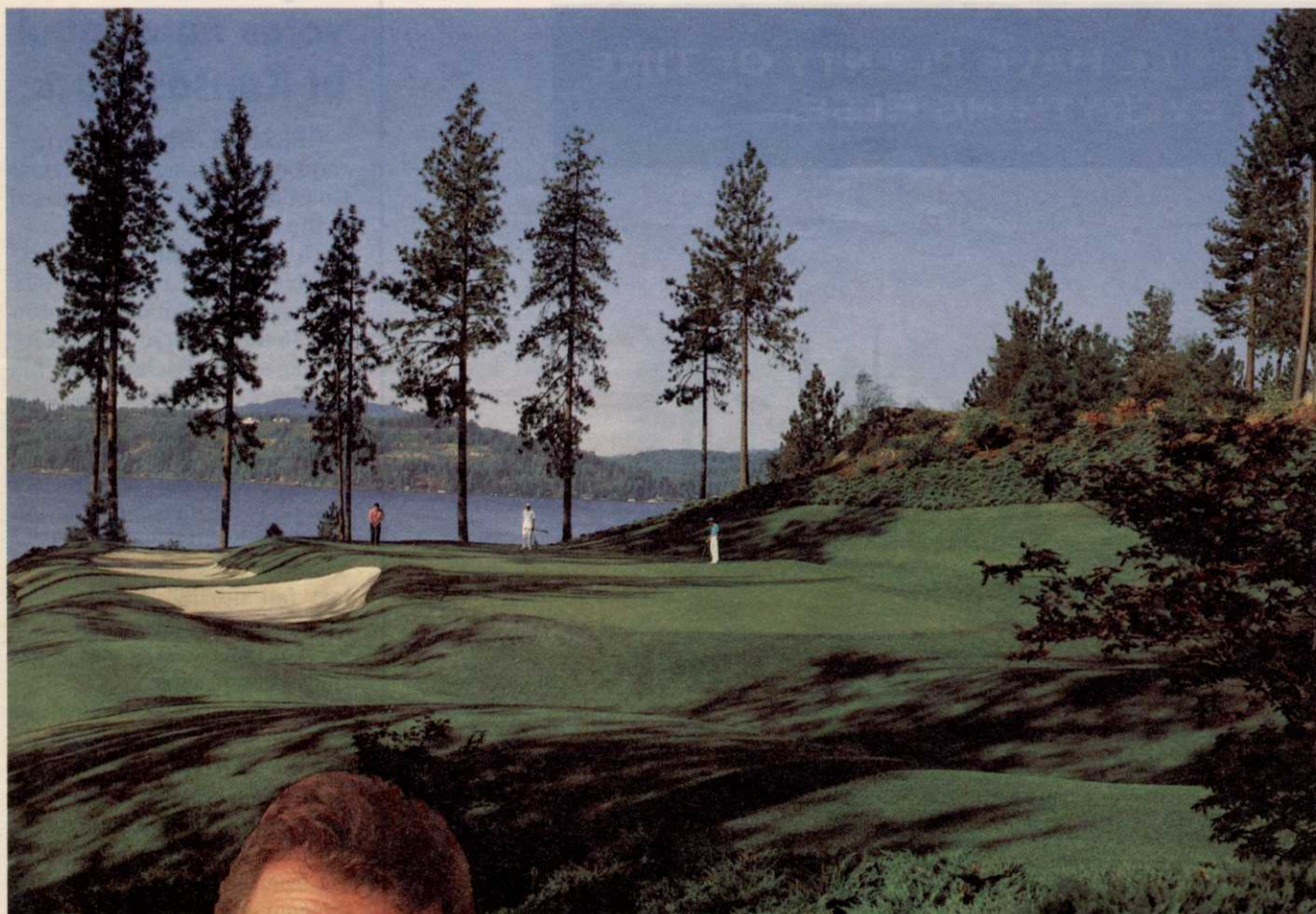
Jay Skelton, the primary organizer of the club, said the first 200 members would pay a \$40,000 initiation fee, with higher fees for the remaining 50.

Skelton said about 250 membership applications had been mailed to both men and women from various religious and ethnic backgrounds.

Skelton said the initial deadline is March 15. If he does not receive 200 applications by that date he may extend it to June 15 but he said that would be the absolute last day. If he does not receive 200 applications by then, he said he will fold the project.

Fazio called the proposed location an outstanding site with a lot of variety in vegetation and a 20-foot bluff above the river.

Skelton said he would like to see the club operational by fall 1996. "It is going to be the purest golfing environment you can have," he said.



## Three employees charged with theft at Ill. track

ELGIN, Ill. — Three former employees in the Dundee Park District have been charged with the theft of \$55,000 in cash and merchandise from the district's two golf courses.

Phillip W. Simonsen of Medinah, Thomas J. Bychowski of Elgin and Michael Murphy of Mount Prospect were named in complaints filed by the Kane County State Attorney's office.

The charges cap a 10-month investigation into missing funds, first uncovered by the park district during a December 1993 audit. Officials discovered the district's two golf courses — Bonnie Dundee and Randall Oaks — were short \$37,814 in cash and \$17,835 in pro shop merchandise.

The charges allege Simonsen and Bychowski pocketed park district money in several ways. One was keeping golf lesson money that should have gone into the golf course cash register. Another was taking cash out of the till in amounts equal to checks received from green fees or merchandise.

The complaint also states Bychowski would swap green fee revenues into accounts for commissioned sales.

Kane County State Attorney David Akemann said he believes restitution has been made to the park district and he expected all three complaints to be disposed of without going before a grand jury for indictments.

## "Why JacklinGolf pays me to take a club to their grass."

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"Now, I can't say they can offer you tips on your golf swing. Maybe that's why they hired me. Or, come to think of it, we do share the same name..."

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5300 West Riverbend Avenue  
Post Falls, Idaho 83854-9499  
1-800-760-4321 Fax: 208-773-4846

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CIRCLE #105

Tony Jacklin is the winner of 14 PGA European Tour events (including the 1969 British Open) and 11 other international events (including the 1970 U.S. Open). Tony is also a four-time European Ryder Cup captain, and has recently joined the Senior PGA Tour.