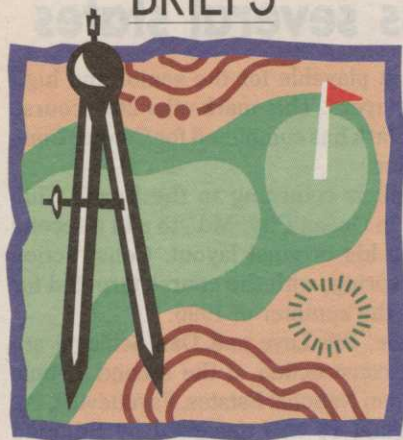


BRIEFS



BYRD HIRES BOSWELL

ATLANTA, Ga. — Golf course architect Willard C. Byrd and Associates has hired architect William F. Boswell. Boswell, who recently joined the American Society of Golf Course Architects, has worked in the business for 10 years, including several years with Robert Trent Jones Sr. in Europe, designing a dozen courses in five countries, and the past three years with Hurdzan Design Group in Columbus, Ohio.

ENGINEERS JOIN INDUSTRY

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Golf Engineering Associates (GEA), led by principal Gary S. Kaye, is offering professional consulting services in irrigation, drainage and agronomy for new construction and remodeling projects throughout the United States and abroad. A certified golf course irrigation designer, Kaye worked extensively for Paul Clute and Associates, a golf course builder in Hartland, Mich. GEA is located at 1640 E. Kelton Lane, Phoenix, Ariz. 85022; 602-482-8270.

MILLER, MOGG PROMOTED

HONOLULU, Hawaii — The golf course architectural design firm Nelson • Wright • Haworth (NWH) has promoted project managers Mark Miller and Brett Mogg to the positions of vice president and director, respectively. Miller has been with NWH in Honolulu since 1989. Mogg, who divides his time between Singapore and Sydney, Australia, joined NWH in 1989 as a project manager.

CLASSIC GOLF EXPANDS

WINTER HAVEN, Fla. — Classic Golf Group, Inc. has announced the expansion of its offices here. The firm can be reached at 505 On The Park Building, 505 Avenue A Northwest, Suite 218, Winter Haven, Fla., 33882; or calling 941-299-0900; or faxing 941-299-6147.

HILLS OVERSEES WYKAGYL FACELIFT

NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y. — Wykagyl Country Club completed an \$825,000 renovation as part of a master plan developed by architect Art Hills in time for the LPGA's JAL Big Apple Classic in July. The project included work on 46 tees, 64 bunkers and three greens.



Art Hills

Lawrence Van Etten designed the original course in 1905 with Donald Ross (1916) and A.W. Tillinghast (1931) adding their touches in later years.

GOLF COURSE NEWS



The 17th green complex indicates the character of the new Keith Foster-designed SunRidge Canyon Golf Club.

Suncor, MCO strike gold with Foster in Arizona

By MARK LESLIE

FOUNTAIN HILLS, Ariz. — The Quarry in San Antonio, Texas, opened the door, and Keith Foster says he has walked on in, grabbing the opportunity afforded by great new sites to design some eye-openers.

"We're gaining momentum and getting good opportunities to create great projects for good people," Foster said from his St. Louis headquarters. "The Quarry enabled people to see what we could do. Now we have to follow up to get to the top, to create wonderful courses."

Five Foster designs stand on the

brink of opening, beginning in mid-November with new SunRidge Canyon Golf Club in this community neighboring Scottsdale and the Foster-remodeled Paradise Valley Country Club, an exclusive club in Phoenix.

Next summer will come Buffalo Run, a high-end municipal course in the City of Commerce City, Colo., and Washington National, a low-use daily-fee club in Seattle. Steamboat Springs, Colo., will add a high-end municipal course, Haymaker, which will be finished this year but won't be grassed until next spring for a 1997 opening.

Words like stunning, incredible,

wonderful, dramatic, striking, refreshing flow from Foster's lips as he describes his new creations.

SunRidge Canyon, he said, will be "incredible. The front nine does not return to the clubhouse. You go out, have an uninterrupted experience and then come back to the clubhouse. It is reminiscent of classic golf courses of years ago and abroad."

SunCor Development Co. and MCO Properties, two of Arizona's largest developers, formed a joint venture to build this project. SunCor Vice President Thomas Patrick asked, "How can

Continued on next page

Forbes forging fairways in China

By MARK LESLIE

FOSHAN, China — Wing Shan International Country Club Ltd. is building a major housing and golf project here, about 15 miles west of Guangzhou, a city of approximately 5 million, and 60 miles north of Hong Kong.

A joint venture of Wing Shan Enterprises (Holdings) Ltd., New World Development Country Club Ltd. and the Foshan Economic Development Group Corp., the plan includes a resort hotel, a 36-hole country club, and a variety of housing from apartments to row homes, large villas and condominiums.

American Ross Forbes of Uniontown, Pa., former project manager for Asian development for Ron Fream-Golplan, is designing the two golf courses — his first solo project.

The practice range opened in mid-June and developers hope to open the first nine holes by the end of the year, said Forbes, who has also worked in Asia-Pacific with J. Michael Poellot and Brad Benz. The second nine holes should open by late 1996 and the date for the second 18-hole track is unsure, he said. The owners are undecided whether the courses will be private, semi-private or public.

The property is primarily former "dead-flat agricultural lands and some rolling terrain that runs abruptly into 50-foot-high hills," Forbes said, "so we smoothed out the transition areas."

The resulting first 18 is a par-72 layout with five sets of tees measuring

Continued on page 33



An airplane flies over Mountain Air Golf Course as it comes in for a landing on the highest airstrip east of the Mississippi River.

High... Higher... Highest!

By MARK LESLIE

BURNSVILLE, N.C. — Having reached high in golf when working with Hilton Head Co. in South Carolina and Winter Green in Virginia, Randy Banks must have had altitude in mind when he returned to his roots here. Working on family-owned Slickrock Mountain, he is opening the third-highest golf course east of the Mississippi River and boasting both the highest nine holes and the highest airport runway east of the Mississippi.

Banks' sights are indeed lofty for Mountain Air Country Club and its 500-acre private housing development — perhaps the highest golf community east of the Mississippi?

"This was very difficult land to develop and to build a golf course on," said Banks, president of Mountain Air Development Co. "Holes 10 and 11 drop 600 feet. There's

a vertical drop of 1,190 feet in 11 holes."

The lowest point on the front nine is 4,300 feet above sea level. The lowest on the back nine is 3,500 feet, affording 25- to 100-mile views on nearly every hole. And three greens are perched on the edges of cliffs.

The powers behind Mountain Air — Banks' father Bill and uncle Earl Young — are longtime residents of Burnsville. Bill Banks, who owned most of the mountain, owns Banco Lumber Co. and supplies hardwood timber to the furniture industry. Young co-owns Young and McQueen Grading, Inc. That combination of resources made the project financially feasible and physically possible — even though it was six years in the making (the first nine opened three years ago and the second nine on June 24).

Continued on page 33