

Nicklaus designs public course

FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS, Ill. — Responding to the demand for more high-quality daily-fee golf courses in the St. Louis area, Jack Wolfner and Wolfner Golf Management Inc. announced that Jack Nicklaus will design Stonewolf Golf & Residential Community. The course is targeted to open next September.

In addition to the Nicklaus signature course, this project will feature 188 homes scheduled to begin construction in September.

The 6,900-yard, 18-hole course and 188 homes are to be constructed on 284 acres. The land is partially open but mostly wooded and has a number of sharp elevation changes which will make for interesting golf and unique residential development.

Sanford turns Sawmill negatives into positives

SAGINAW TWP., Mich. — Sanford Associates has unveiled design plans of the new Sawmill Golf Club, currently under construction here.

"The site constraints (wetlands, floodplains, creeks, upland forest) were viewed as a positive influence to incorporate the golf course and residential community into a natural setting," said course architect John Sanford.

The construction entails specialty clearing and grading to enhance the natural features of the property. Some 1-1/2 acres of the existing 20-acre wetlands will be impacted and that will be replaced with six acres of man-made wetlands strategically located throughout the course. Sanford Associates worked closely with R.C. Associates Environmental Engineering and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to formulate a plan that would work for everybody.

"We feel it is a win/win situation when the owners get the golf course and lot yield they need to make the project fly, and state environmental officials endorse a mitigation plan that will enhance the existing wetlands," Sanford said.

The course will play through three distinctly different settings. Eight holes are routed in and around the wetlands. Four holes will border a natural creek and floodplain area that will require accuracy and placement of each shot. Six holes are located in previously farmed fields and will offer several heroic shot-making opportunities.

The practice facility will boast 10 acres with target greens, chipping area, and an 18-hole putting course.

YOUNG ADDS CAD DESIGNER

WATKINSVILLE, Ga. — Mike Young Designs has hired Thad Bell as a computer-aided designer. Bell, who holds a landscape architecture degree from the University of Georgia, most recently worked for Nicklaus Design.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

Palmer designing Lakewood Range track

LAKEWOOD RANCH, Fla. — Legacy, Lakewood Ranch's first golf course, is being designed by Arnold Palmer.

"We took the name first from the legacy of the Schroeder-Manatee Ranch and its long, productive history in the local economy," said Roger Postlethwaite, president of SMR Communities. "The same can be said for the legacy of the Uihlein family, one of America's greatest families and founders of the Schlitz Brewery. To that rich land history we added golf's legendary player, Arnold Palmer, and The Legacy Golf Course at Lakewood Ranch was born."

Slated to open this fall, The Legacy will be an upscale, 18-hole daily-fee course. It will feature

five "signature holes" including an island hole with its fairway and green completely surrounded by the waters of a 160-acre lake.

"The course will be a virtual nature preserve by the way we're tucking it alongside the existing forested wetlands," Postlethwaite said.

"In addition to being sensitive to the environment, the Legacy Golf Course at Lakewood Ranch will be a wonderful blend of classic golf design in a natural setting," Palmer said.

Expansive fairways and challenging hazards will test the most accomplished golfers yet will be approachable for casual players. The clubhouse will feature a full dining room, pro shop and locker rooms.

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