



SNAGGED AT THE SNAGS

The "Snags," one of two par-5 holes on the new back nine of The Sea Ranch Golf Links, shows the beauty of the course. The 6,800-yard links-style layout opened the new nine this summer, offering ocean views from nearly every hole. Designed by Robert Muir Graves in 1964, Sea Ranch was originally conceptualized as an 18-hole course. The new nine is an extension of the original, using the natural terrain and wetland areas — similar to the original links courses.



Walker park track opens in Ga.

WAYCROSS, Ga. — Laura Walker Golf Course at Laura S. Walker State Park here officially opened March 2. Designed by Burns Golf Design of Fernandina Beach, Fla., the track was built by Niebur Golf of Colorado Springs, Colo.

The par-72 course has four sets of tees ranging from 4,800 to 6,715 yards. Three lakes and a manmade stream come into play, but there is only one short forced carry over the stream. The course features several grass bunkers, but only about 30 sand bunkers, although some of these are huge waste areas.

The course is mainly cut through a pine plantation, although several holes will play through large oaks and other hardwoods. Several out-of-play areas feature lovegrass or native grasses.

The site was relatively flat, but roughly 300,000 cubic yards of dirt were moved to create elevation changes of up to 20 feet. Despite a relatively modest construction cost of just under \$2.5 million, the course features USGA-specification greens, a variety of grasses, substantial irrigation and drainage systems, and continuous concrete cart paths.

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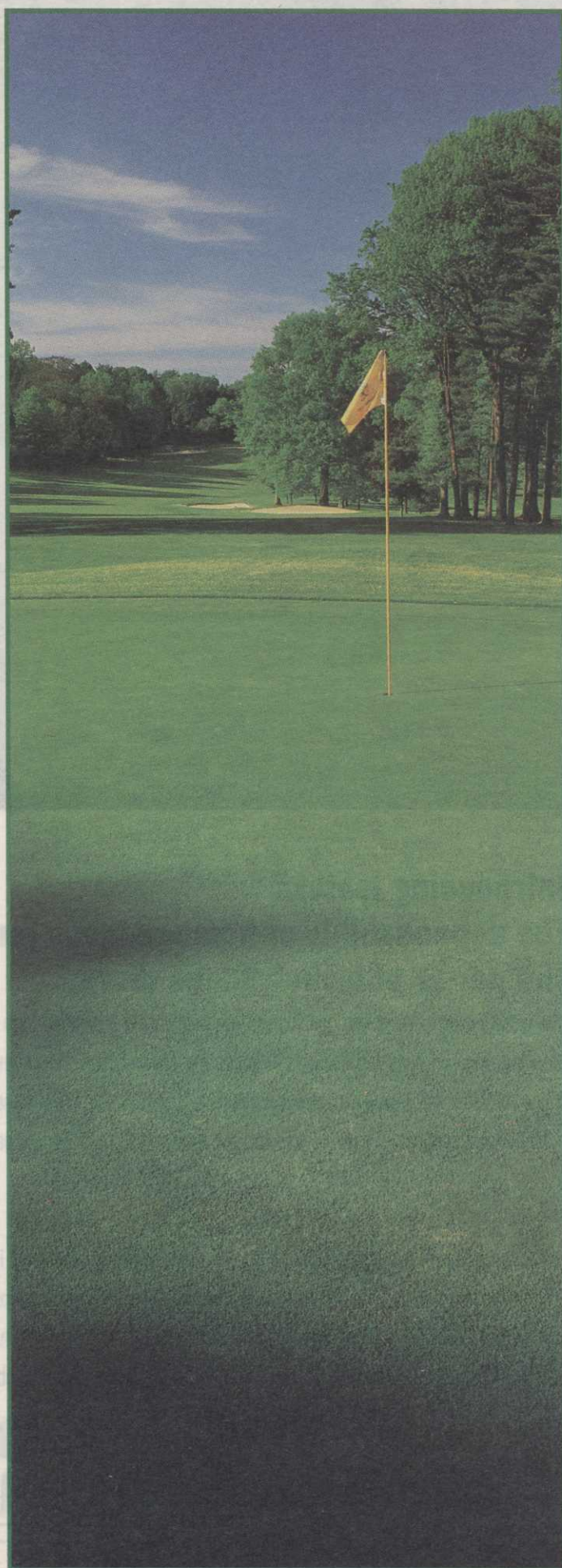
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Von Hagge tabbed for Red Tail in Ohio

AVON, Ohio — Golf course architect Robert von Hagge will design the new 18-hole Red Tail Golf Club in Avon on Cleveland's suburban west side for the Carnegie Residential Development Corp.

The Red Tail Golf Club will be the centerpiece of Carnegie's Red Tail of Avon, a 350-acre master planned golf course residential community. Von Hagge is also providing master planning services for the development.

Red Tail will be the first project of its kind in Cleveland's suburban west side. The golf course will be integrated with a community-wide pedestrian pathway system linking the residences with the clubhouse and other recreational amenities.

"This is not a new concept in golf course community planning," said Paul Restivo, Carnegie project manager. "We've just transplanted a concept which has been proven successful throughout the south and added some exciting and distinctive nuances."

Von Hagge will sculpt the course below existing grades and use excess materials to elevate the homesites. This will transform the property from flat farmland to a rolling, wooded site. Carnegie plans to transplant and revegetate the site with approximately 10,000 trees.

"Lowering the golf course play areas serves a twofold purpose," said von Hagge in a prepared release. "First it allows us to effectively control golf course drainage and improve the overall water management of the site, and second, it creates better views from the residential homesites."

"In this regard, we view the golf course as the theater for both the players and the residents. We shape the golf course to take advantage of the varying sun angles throughout the day to create an ever-changing visual display of light and shadow."

Von Hagge is no stranger to Ohio. He has designed and built seven courses across the state over the last 30 years.

But the Red Tail project is a sort of return to the U.S. market for von Hagge, one of the more international of golf course architects who has designed 250 courses around the world, including Japan, Mexico, South America and Europe.

"The quality and reputation of their courses was important to us," said Restivo. "But even more impressive was their international and domestic experience with golf course residential communities."