

BRIEFS



**RYANGOLF HIRES ALLEN**

**DEERFIELD BEACH, Fla.** — Ryangolf, a division of Ryan Inc. Eastern, has added Tracy Allen to its golf course construction team. Allen brings many years of relationships within the golf industry. He sits on the board of directors of The Florida State Golf Association, and is a former director of The Southern Golf Association, as well as a former member of the editorial board of Links Magazine.

**ARCHITECTS ENDORSE PRINCIPLES**

**PINEHURST, N.C.** — The American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) has endorsed the Environmental Principles for Golf Courses in the United States "because we believe it is good for golf ... good for the environment ... and good for the communities in which we live and work," said ASGCA President Denis Griffiths.



Denis Griffiths

**BARDMOOR FACELIFT BEGINS**

**LARGO, Fla.** — Bardmoor Golf Club began a \$500,000 renovation of its 18-hole championship golf course in June. The course is expected to reopen July 27. Greens are being expanded from 66,000 square feet to 90,000 square feet and will be surfaced with Tifdwarf Bermudagrass. A new process of sodding called Rapid-Turf will accelerate the process. More than five miles of 8-foot-wide cart paths throughout the course will be resurfaced with asphalt. The tee areas will also be enlarged, regraded and re-sodded.

**ENGH, ROBINSON MOVE**

**CASTLE ROCK, Colo.** — The golf course design firms of Jim Engh and Cabell B. Robinson have both moved. Jim Engh and his Global Golf Design have moved to new offices at 1700 N. Park St., Suite C, Castle Rock, Colo. 80104; telephone 303-688-1030. Robinson has moved his firm to: Las Lomas de Mijas 39, 29650 Mijas, Málaga, Spain; telephone 34 (5) 259 0250/259 0277. Robinson is a member of the American Society of Golf Course Architects and works exclusively in Europe.

**COLLINS BUILDS TWO**

**PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla.** — Golf Buildings Development, Inc. (GBD) has been awarded the contract to design two golf maintenance facilities in Massachusetts. Widow's Walk Golf Course in Scituate and Bridgewater Golf Club are under construction and the maintenance facilities will be completed this fall, according to GBD President Lane Collins.

# As Maine goes... One-stop permitting is here!

By MARK LESLIE

**AUGUSTA, Maine**— When Dick and Ron Foster applied for a permit to build a golf course on 112 acres in Litchfield, the process took seven weeks. Some 3,000 miles away, California has opened nine Permit Assistance Centers (PACs), bringing together permitting authorities from state and local government to simplify the process.

States from Maine to California are taking innovative steps toward regulatory reform and improved customer service, slashing huge amounts of time and paperwork off the quagmire of the

permitting process. Their aim: to invigorate their economies while maintaining a quality environment.

The seven weeks to get approval for the Fosters' project is a shocking speed in many states. But it may become more commonplace as time passes.

"There are a lot of innovative programs going on in all the [New England] states right now," said Brooke Barnes, director of policy development and implementation for the Maine DEP, which is the state's



"pinnacle of licensing and permitting," he added.

"The EPA [federal Environmental Protection Agency] is allowing more experimentation in different ways to approach regulating the environment — not just command-and-control stuff," Barnes said.

"In just the issue of processing, the agencies are always trying to reduce the time and still hold the line on their mission. Our mission is to protect the environment. We want to be customer-

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## Riviera does a double at 10

By MARK LESLIE

**PACIFIC PALISADES, Calif.** — Riviera Country Club's 10th hole may be the best short par-4 in the country. So it was with trepidation that the powers that be at the club decided something needed to be done to save the little green from the pounding of 60,000 rounds a year.

In late July, course officials will unveil the results of their decision: Instead of enlarging the 3,000-square-foot 10th green, they added a second, permanent part-time green, also about 3,000 square feet in size, to be used certain days of the week.

"It's a unique concept and an intriguing project," said course architect Ron Forse of Uniontown, Pa. "At

first, I didn't want to take it. I didn't want to be part of ruining what may be the most unique hole in [architect] George Thomas' masterpiece."

But Forse saw that the second green could be added and still maintain the strategy of the hole.

"Thomas had that extra fairway bunker off to the right and with the same backslope as the original green. So we hid the new green behind the existing bunker just like the original green," he said. "Also, the new green has the same slope as the original. And the same type of strategy works for the new green as well."

Sitting at 315 yards out from the back tee and 301 from the members'

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An artist's rendering showing both 10th greens at Riviera; the new one, at right.



*Roger Packard and Andy North are among the more successful architect/pro golf course design teams operating today. Packard entered the business with his father Larry in 1970 and emerged from his father's shadow with such widely acclaimed layouts as Cantigny outside his native Chicago and Sweetwater Country Club in Houston. North is a three-time PGA Tour winner, including two U.S. Open victories. Together they have designed Trappers Turn in Wisconsin Dells (Wis.), nine holes at Spring Green near Madison, Wis., Northern Pines in Kalispell, Mont., and The General at Eagle Ridge in Galena, Ill., which is set to open in August.*

**Golf Course News:** How did the two of you team up?

**Roger Packard:** Andy was talking to a mutual friend of ours and expressed interest in getting into the design field. Dad (Larry) had retired at that point so I was open to having a pro partner. Andy liked my design style and the courses I had done, and I wanted a partner who would be actively involved.

Our personalities clicked and we started on Trapper's Turn.

**GCN:** What do the two of you contribute individually to a Packard/North design?

**RP:** Basically we blend our areas of expertise to build the best course possible. I've been around golf all my life and in the design business for 26 years. Andy brings

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## QA & A become popular team

*Below, Andy North, right, and Roger Packard look over construction work on one of their projects. At left is a shot of Trappers Turn, a course they designed in 1991 in Wisconsin Dells, Wis.*



# Ray Hearn leaves Matthews to form course design company

HASLETT, Mich. — Ray Hearn, formerly of Matthews & Associates of East Lansing, has formed his own golf course design company here, Raymond Hearn Golf Designs, Inc.

A senior architect for Jerry Matthews whom he worked with for 10 years, Hearn was involved in some of the firm's most highly acclaimed projects and in the last several years.

"I believe the best way to attain my life goals and career objectives is to form my own company,

drawing on my own design vision and business principles," Hearn said. "Much like Matthews & Associates, the philosophy of this new company is to exceed the expectations of our clients in every facet of our service."

Hearn said the company will deliberately remain small, with a manageable workload, so he can be involved with every project.

He said he and Matthews will



Ray Hearn

continue working together on some projects.

"You always hate to see someone with Ray's talent leave, but I wish him well and look forward to a continuation of our professional and personal relationship," Matthews said.

Hearn is in the process of signing several new clients around the country. Two of the projects to be announced in the near fu-

ture are in Oklahoma and Georgia. Both exhibit sites that have outstanding landforms, according to Hearn, and should contribute to great golf courses. Matthews will be significantly involved in both projects and will be credited as the co-designer.

Joining Hearn as senior designer is Paul Albanese, who was an associate designer at Matthews & Associates. Albanese holds a bachelor of science degree from Cornell University and a master's degree in landscape architecture

from Harvard University.

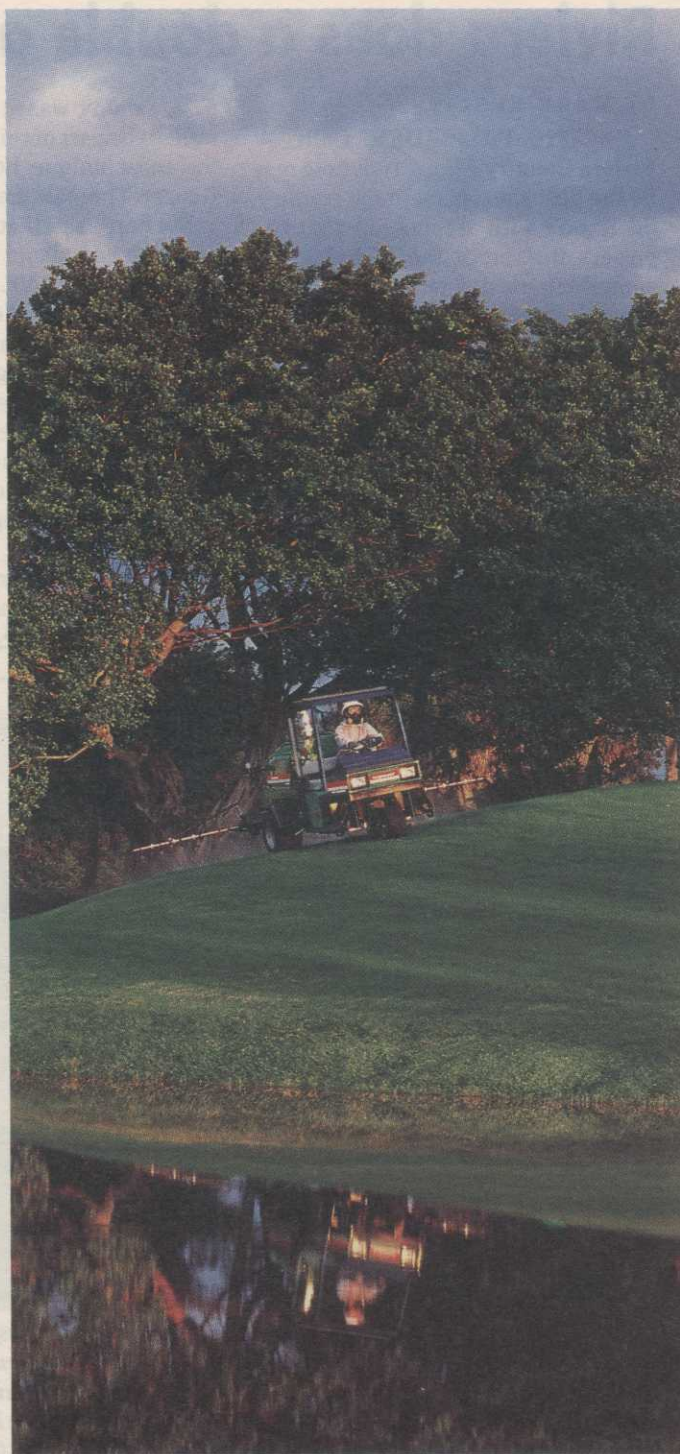
Among the major courses on which Hearn was project architect while at Matthews & Associates are The Twin Lakes Golf Club in Oakland Township, scheduled to open this summer; The Majestic at Lake Walden in Hartland and the Mistwood Golf Club in Lake Anne, which opened in 1994; The Woodlands of Van Buren, opened last year in Van Buren Township; Eagle Glen Golf Course in Farwell; and The Natural in Gaylord, which opened in 1992.

Hearn is an honors graduate in landscape architecture and turfgrass science from Michigan State University. He worked two years as an assistant superintendent at the Country Club of Detroit, where he was also a recipient of the Evans Scholarship sponsored by the Western Golf Association and founded by Charles "Chick" Evans.

Hearn and Albanese are members of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

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## Riviera adds green

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tee, the original green is narrow but very long and opens up like a squash at the front. It sits at a 45-degree angle to the tee and slopes to the left.

The alternate green will play almost 20 yards longer because of its angle to the right, Forse said.

The 10th hole features a 250-foot-wide fairway bunker. If a golfer hits over the center to the original green they then have to hit to a green fronted by a bunker and that is only 23 feet wide at the middle. If he hits over the left side of the bunker, the green opens up to him. "So, by hiding the green behind the bunker we didn't ruin the integrity, visually, of the hole," Forse said. "We just extended the design scheme to the other green."

The concept of adding a part-time green is rare. Pine Valley in Clementon, N.J., did this at its 8th and 10th holes years ago.

Dan Proctor and Dave Axland, who built Sand Hills in Nebraska, were the shapers and finishers of the new hole.

Elsewhere, Forse Design has jobs in Massachusetts and Florida. At Salem (Mass.) CC, work wrapped up at the end of June on a \$1.25 million project on the Donald Ross design.

On the island of Indian Creek Village on the intracoastal waterway in Miami Beach, Forse is in phase one of a master plan on Indian Creek Country Club, a William Flynn design.

In Boynton Beach, the Dick Wilson-designed Pine Tree Golf Club will be restored, Forse said. "They have dynamite golf holes," he said, adding that he plans to restore Wilson's "great old gnarly bunkers" as well as rebuild every green.

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