

## Golf course helps save Cape Cod lighthouse

NORTHTRURO, Mass. — The saga of Cape Cod Light at the Highland Golf Links in this Cape Cod town is creeping toward a happy ending.

Work has started on a new home for the 109-year old lighthouse commonly known as Highland Light. The 65-foot high landmark structure, which sits 110 feet away from an eroding cliff that rises 130 feet from sea level, was slowly being threatened by the encroaching sea and erosion.

Last year, town and course offi-

cials and local preservationists worked out an agreement to move the lighthouse and keeper's house to a safe home 450 feet inland — in the rough off the seventh fairway of the Highland Golf Links, a nine-hole municipal course.

Workers expected to move the lighthouse in late June and early July. To move the lighthouse, workers will use hydraulics to jack the structure up on a system of steel beams. The lighthouse will then be rolled along the beams to its new site 450 feet

away. Merl Copeland, a site superintendent from the International Chimney Corporation, said the actual move should take about two weeks.

A local rumor says the lighthouse will move about an inch per day. But Copeland said the lighthouse will probably move more like 10 or so feet per hour. The new site is 9 feet lower in elevation than the original one and it will require careful navigation in places to get the lighthouse safely home.

The lighthouse is expected to be operational again by late September or early October.

"Undoubtedly it's going to mess up a few people who like to come off the tee in that direction," said Copeland of the lighthouse's new home.

A Cape Cod National Seashore official said the average yearly erosion rate has been 3 to 6 feet over the past 100 years, but the erosion could be much more at any given time — as much as 25 feet — which spurred the move. Construction costs for moving the lighthouse, the second oldest on the East coast, will be \$1.5 million.

### MICHIGAN TURFGRASS CONFERENCES SET

EAST LANSING, Mich. — The 1996 Michigan Turfgrass Field Day will be held Aug. 15 at Michigan State University in East Lansing. Details will be mailed in July. Meanwhile, the 67th Annual Michigan Turfgrass Conference will be Jan. 20-23, 1997 in Lansing. Literature will be mailed in early November. For more information contact 517-321-1660.

## Mass. developer promises top quarters for endangered bird

NANTUCKET, Mass. — The developers of the new Siasconset golf course will finance a project to improve the habitat for the northern harrier, a rare hawk.

The Partnership for Harrier Habitat Preservation was formed as part of the golf club's environmental permitting process. The private links-style course designed by Rees Jones, is in the first stages of development on a 250-acre piece of land in the middle of the island.

The course is next to the largest single piece of conservation land on Nantucket, 3,000 acres.

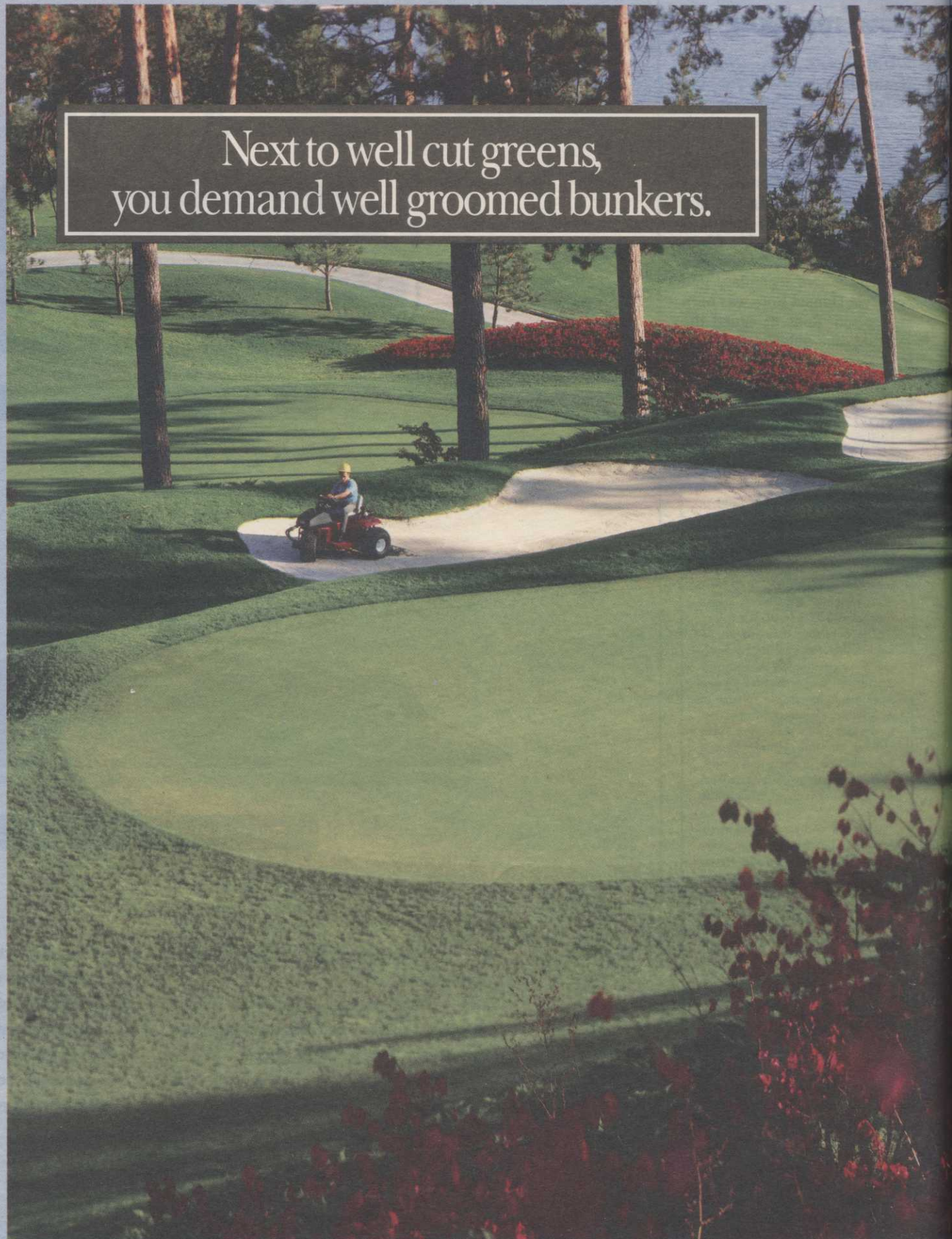
Some of the land is important habitat for the harriers. The birds are listed as a rare and endangered species in Massachusetts. They are ground-nesting birds. Their natural habitat is moorlands, annually mowed grassy fields and recently burned areas.

The partnership will manage 1,100 acres of grassland and heathland, mainly in the middle moors. The land will be managed using brush cutting, controlled burns and other methods designed to enhance the hawks food source and hunting grounds.

The golf course will also establish a nursery and native vegetation restoration plan for species listed as endangered in Massachusetts.

### DEVELOPER SAVES ABANDONED MASS. GOLF PROJECT

TOWNSEND, Mass. — For the last eight years, half-finished Northern Spy Country Club lay abandoned, its fairways worn by dirt-bikers, hunters, vandals and weeds. Fourteen holes and the frame of a 15,000-square-foot clubhouse had been completed before two different developers bailed out on the project. A year ago, developer Fred Daley secured the property and has set about to turn it into a first-class golf facility. After months of construction and reconstruction, the freshly-named Townsend Ridge Country Club opened for play in late May.



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