

ASGCA admits six new associate members

PINEHURST, N.C. — The American Society of Golf Course Architects elected six new associate members at its 50th anniversary meeting here in late March.

Chris Cochran of North Palm Beach, Fla.; Perry Dye of Denver; Les Furber of Canmore, Alberta, Canada; Neil Haworth of Honolulu and Singapore; Ray Hearn of Lansing, Mich.; and David Whelchel of Columbus, Ohio, all were accepted into the society.

Dye, the son of ASGCA members Pete and Alice Dye and brother to P.B., also an ASGCA member, is president of Dye Designs. He has designed dozens of golf courses in Asia as well as Karsten Golf Course at Arizona State University in

Tempe, Red Mountain Ranch Country Club in Scottsdale and Glenmoor Country Club in Englewood, Colo.

Whelchel works with Hurdzan Golf Course Design, Inc., and has designed such courses as The Meadows at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Mich., and The Oaks Golf Club in Flatwoods, Ky.

Employed by Nicklaus Design, Cochran has designed many courses in Asia, including Mission Hills Golf Club in Kanchanaburi, Thailand, and Mission Hills China in Guanlan, China.

Furber, who operates Golf Design Services, is credited with many course designs throughout the Pacific Northwest. Among them in British Columbia are Riverway

Golf Course in Burnaby and Meadow Gardens Golf Resort in Pitt Meadows.

A partner in Nelson-Haworth, Haworth has been active around the world, designing such tracks as Royal Hills Golf Course in Near Bangkok, Thailand and Kuala Lumpur Golf and Country Club's East and West courses in Malaysia.

The chief designer for Matthews & Associates, Hearn has produced such courses as Majestic at Lake Walden in Heartland, Mich., and Mistwood Golf Course in Lake Ann.

Associate members must have a minimum of five years experience designing golf courses, have produced five or more 18-hole courses and be 28 years of age.

McCumber, three others full members

PINEHURST, N.C. — PGA Tour player Mark McCumber is one of four associate members who were elected regular members of the American Society of Golf Course Architects here.

Others joining McCumber are Jan Beljan of Jupiter, Fla., John Harbottle III of Tacoma, Wash., and Brian Huntley of Uniontown, Ohio.

McCumber, who owns Mark McCumber & Associates design firm in Jacksonville, Fla., is best known for his designs of Ravines Golf & Country Club in Middleburg, Fla., and Queen's Harbour Yacht & Country Club in Jacksonville.

Whitten on design

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Saying golf course architecture is about relaxation, he added: "You can relax with a good book, or a good movie, or even a good basketball game if it's totally absorbing, if it takes your mind off your worries, if it provides an escape. Golf's the same way.

"That's why we gush over golf courses that we can clearly recall, hole for hole, in our mind's eye, years after we've played them. They captured our complete attention. That's why the worst label we can ever slap on a golf course is that it's boring."

And while people normally watch a movie or read a book once, they play a golf course over and over again — four or five hours at a time, Whitten said. Playing on the angle of golf courses as show biz, Whitten brought down the house recounting various themes from box office hits:

- **Hard Target Architecture:** operates on the theory that the best way to grab a golfer's attention is by the throat. "In Hard Target Architecture the fairways are no wider than numchuks and the greens are the size of loin cloths," he said. "Bunkers aren't bunkers, they're bear traps. Water hazards aren't water hazards, they're black lagoons. When you're told the course record is 62 — lost balls, not strokes — it's Hard Target Architecture."

- **Cliffhanger Architecture:** relies on shock value using nose-bleed tee boxes, chasm carries and greens edged by surging surf... [It] likes to teeter us just on the edge of disaster before pulling us back. It tests both our agility and our acrophobia."

- **Copycat Architecture:** Whether it's an island green or a double green or a double-island green, if it makes a spread in *Golf Digest*, then people want it on the courses they play. [It] doesn't necessarily mean architects stealing from one another. Oftentimes, a single architect uses a pet hole at every golf course he produces."

- **Coneheads Architecture:** not simply a passing fancy of the 1980s, it has made a comeback. "The original Coneheads clustered around fairways and greens and sprouted thick mains of lovegrass. The new, improved Coneheads congregate everywhere, next to tees, in the roughs, even in the middle of bunkers. Most of them come from France and while they are amusing, it's still not apparent that golfers can stomach mass quantities of the things."

- **Splash Architecture:** the idea is to take "a guy's mind off his worries by emptying his golf bag."

- **Flintstones Architecture:** an exceedingly rare style that is in fact rapidly becoming extinct. [It] is where you propel yourself around the golf course using your own two feet."



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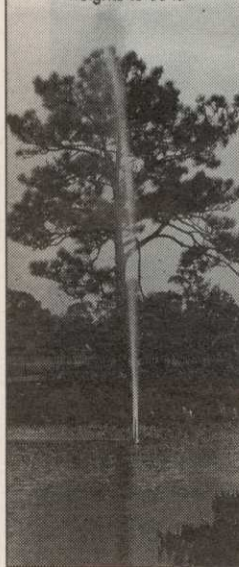
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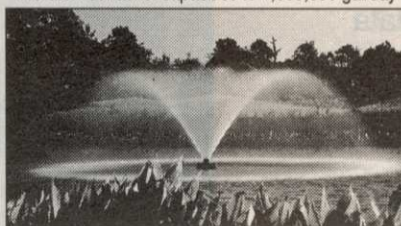
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