

New 18 slated for North Dallas

McKINNEY, Texas — The already golf-rich McKinney area north of Dallas will get an additional boost soon. The Senior Tour Players Development Inc. of Boston has announced a plan to build a unique, new 18-hole daily-fee golf course at Stonebridge Ranch, a private residential golf community.

The design process will allow six professional golf legends to each design three holes. Those committed to the project include Sam Snead, Bob Goalby, Chi Chi Rodriguez, Miller Barber,

Orville Moody and Bruce Lietzke. They will be assisted by Britt Stenson of International Management Group.

The Senior Tour Players Development Inc., will own, design, construct, manage and operate the 18-hole championship-caliber course and its amenities. Construction is scheduled to start this fall with the course scheduled to open in late fall 1997. Stonebridge Ranch already has two private, 18-hole courses, a Pete Dye signature layout and another by Arthur Hills.

ING conference set for Fripp Island, May 19-23

FRIPP ISLAND, S.C. — The International Network of Golf (ING) Spring Conference and Championship has a new date and a new home for 1996. The sixth annual conference is set for May 19-23, here at Fripp Island Resort, located on the Atlantic Ocean north of Hilton Head and east of the historic town of Beaufort.

The International Network of Golf is a 600-member networking organization that brings the golf business community together with the media. Membership is open to all segments of the golf business and media. Also, a new consumer membership category is being formed.

The conference attracts some of the top names and companies in the golf industry, leaders from

the governing bodies and golf and travel media from around the world. Attendees at recent conferences include Charles Mechem, Tom Fazio, Rick Smith, Gary Adams and John Ashworth.

"I didn't realize how diverse and important an organization ING was until I attended a conference," said golf course architect Fazio. "There is a definite need for an organization like ING."

Fripp Island is three and one-half miles in diameter and boasts two 18-hole golf courses and various types of accommodations, including townhouses, cottages, villas and condominiums. The newest of the golf courses is a Davis Love III design that opened in late 1995 [GCN January 1996]. For information, call 407-328-0500.

Rocky Gap price tag jumps \$16m

CUMBERLAND, Md. — Details and a deadline have surfaced for a proposed Jack Nicklaus-designed golf course and convention center at Rocky Gap State Park. Project backers are reportedly seeking \$53.1 million to build the facility compared to \$35.8 million for the 1995 version of the plan. They also say that June 1 is their self-imposed deadline to complete the financial package.

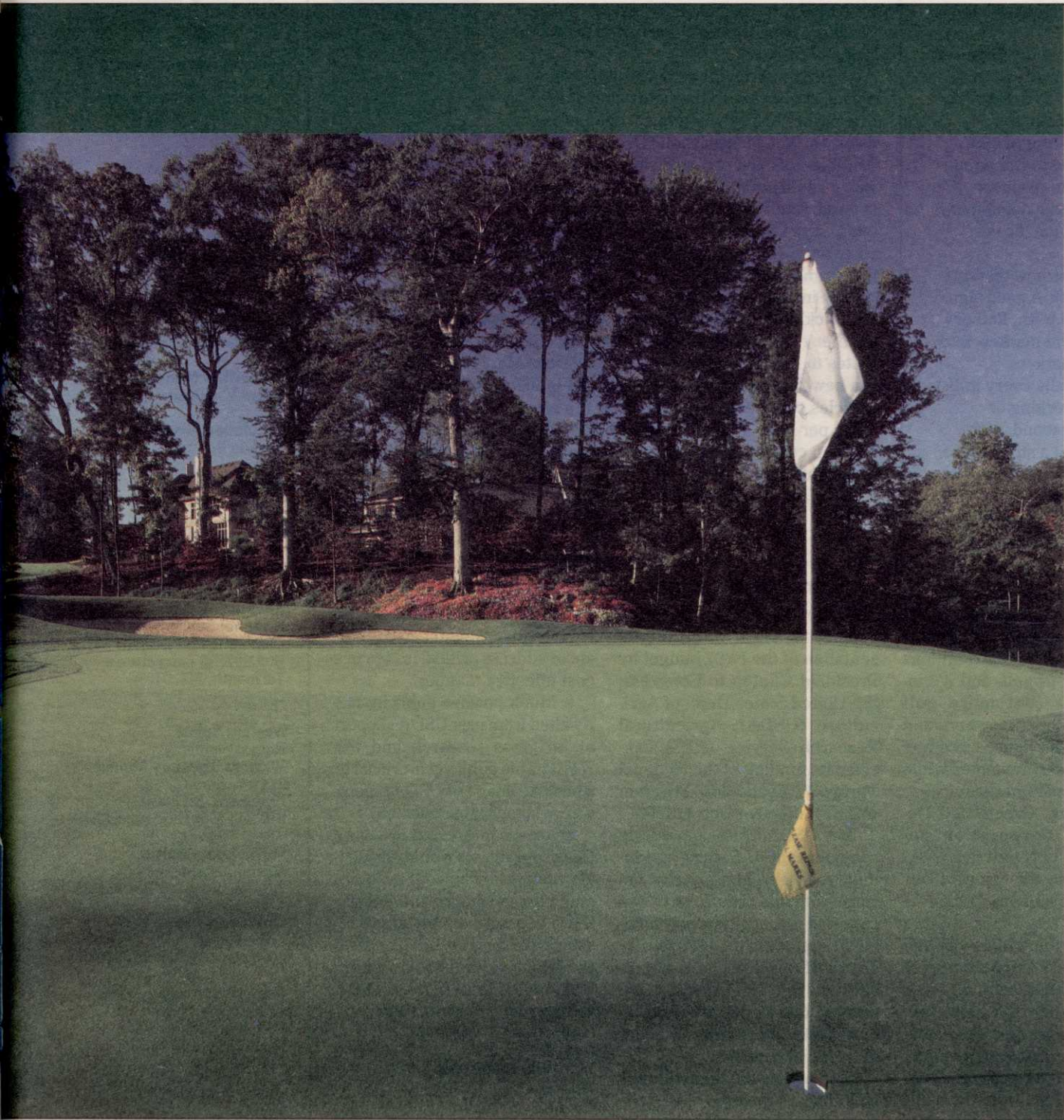
A secretary with the state Department of Natural Resources, which owns the park, said if negotiations with bond buyers are underway or if an agreement appears possible, the state won't stop the project if the June 1 deadline arrives. But if nothing is underway by June 1 it will be scrapped.

Project supporters have been trying since 1983 to build a Jack Nicklaus-designed, 18-hole course and quality resort at the popular park east of Cumberland. The financial plan has been close to completion several times in the past decade. It has gained support from three different governors, but final signing has been elusive.

Early Hawaiian golf chronicled

WAHIAWA, Hawaii — Long before \$5 million golf courses and Japanese investment came to Hawaii, an Army officer named J. R. "Red" Uldrick and 10 others banded together in the late 1950s to build the International Golf and Country Club, the first golf course built in Hawaii after World War II. The International Golf and Country Club, which started as a nine-hole course, later became the 18-hole Hawaii Country Club.

Uldrick, now an 82-year-old retired Army officer, has written about his pioneering years on the Hawaiian golf course scene in the recently published "Golf Balls and Monkey Pods: A Narrative History of the Hawaii Country Club." The 380-page book — which was a six year project — includes pictures and a detailed account of Uldrick and his wife Vena's experiences at the club.




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