

Armchair designing for supers

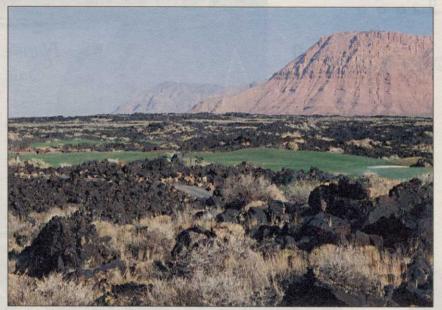
By MARK LESLIE

AS VEGAS — Superintendents will be the architects and Jack Nicklaus, Rees Jones and Arthur Hills the judges in a golf course design competition run by the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA)

The ASGCA Golden Anniversary Challenge was the brainchild of society President Denis Griffiths, who said: "We wanted to keep our presentation lat the International Golf Course Conference] fun, light and enjoyable. In the last few years so many of our presentations have gotten a bit heavy, dealing with problems and issues. We've overlooked the creativity and excitement that we as architects get."

Saying that members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) daily manage existing golf courses and grow in the new ones, Griffiths asked: "But how often do they get to design one? Here's their chance.

There is a \$100 entry fee for the Continued on page 32



OTHER WORLDLY

Grand opening ceremonies for the 18-hole Entrada at Snow Canyon golf course in St. George, Utah, were conducted here on Sept. 27. This Johnny Miller signature course is encased by Utah's Zion mountain range and carved from the red desert and black lava pouring from the white walls of Snow Canyon. The unique lines of this course are filled in with ryegrass fairways. "There is not a single weak hole on the course," said Entrada pro Brad Hansen. RBI Golf, a Littleton, Colo., golf course contractor, completed the construction of the course last September and currently maintains the course.

Cate breaks out on his own in N.C.

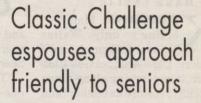
Tim Cate has designed golf courses for the past 12 years, mostly with Willard Byrd. The University of Georgia landscape architecture graduate recently completed his first solo project, Panther's Run near Myrtle Beach, which has been nominated for Golf Digest's Best New Public Course of 1996. Cate is designing a second 18 holes for Ed Gore, who developed the Ocean Ridge Plantation community where Panther's Run is located. Cate also has projects in the planning stages in Calabash and Southport, N.C. His office is located in the former temporary clubhouse at Ocean Ridge.

Golf Course News: How did you get started in the golf design business?

Tim Cate: I worked as an intern at Sea Palms on St. Simons Island [Ga.] in the mid-1980s and helped with the drawings for a new nine they were building there. After school, I worked for Edward Pinckney, a landscape architecture firm that was very active in the Hilton Head area. That's when I had the opportunity to work with Willard Byrd and eventually went to work for him.

After two years, Willard put me in charge of his Little River [S.C.] office. I worked on a number of projects including Lion's Paw here at Ocean Ridge. The owner [Gore] was involved on a daily basis and we became good friends. He asked me to go to work for him when he decided to build the last two courses here.

It took me a year to leave Willard. He treated me like a son. I have the utmost respect for him. He was pretty disappointed



LEESBURG, Fla. — Incorporat-ing a concept dubbed "The Classic Challenge," Pringle Development is building a golf course here designed for seniors as well as women and most "average" golfers.

The track, called The Monarch, is part of the Royal Highlands community between Leesburg and Clermont

What the targeted golfers appreciate most in the concept is "our golfer-friendly approach to design," said Len deBoer, course architect and president of Classic Golf Group of Winter Haven.

That approach entails "realistic fairway lengths, wider primary and secondary landing areas, larger greens, larger fringe areas for chipping, optional safe and strategic options to every hole and an absence of severe penal hazards that cost strokes even on good shots," he added.

We have studied what senior golfers want and we have listened to them," deBoer said.

'What we've learned is incorporated into The Monarch and every Classic Challenge course in more than 22 distinct design parameters."

The 6,000-yard, par-72 layout will offer senior golfers the same sense of challenge they enjoyed when they were younger and playing 7,000-yard courses, he said.

Mid-State Construction of Auburndale is doing the major storm drainage and earthwork.

expansion. The new course will play from 5,300 to 7,200 yards. A civil engineer and former golf course superintendent, Priestley specializes in de-

..... HERITAGE OPENS FIRST NINE

environmental challenges.

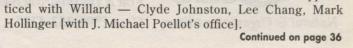
signs that have difficult terrain or

MASON, Ohio - Heritage Club, a year-old residential golf community on the north side of Cincinnati, has opened the first nine holes of its P.B. Dye-designed 18-hole course boast-



ing meadows, woods, lakes and streams.Sitting on 207 acres, the course blends landscape and water areas with such features as railroad ties and challenging

terrain.Ken Campbell and Bob Rhein of Cincinnati are developers of the community. "I feel we have provided the Cincinnati area with a world-class golf club," Dye said.





when I left. Several other well-known architects have appren-



WHOLE IN ONE IN ACTION

DURHAM, N.C. - Whole In One Design has moved its Atlanta, Ga., office here and, already, designer Rich Mandell plans to teach a golf course



architecture course at North Carolina State University here next spring. The five-week course - for land-

scape architecture students - will begin March 24. A University of Georgia graduate, Mandell has worked with course designers Dan Maples and Denis Griffiths. His office is located at 400 Mahone St., Suite 6, Durham, N.C. 27713; telephone 919-572-6494.

..... SAJO, RBI GOLF CERTIFIED

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. - Sajo Construction of Richmond, Texas, and RBI Golf, Inc. of Littleton, Colo., have earned status as Certified Golf Course Builders from the Golf Course Builders Association of America. Certification is an ongoing process, and companies are required to be re-certified annually. Continued work in the industry and passing an examination on course construction are among the requirements of certification.

PRIESTLEY, CADLINKS SIGNED

..... BERLIN, Md. - The Bay Club Golf Course has selected Charles R.M. Priestley of CADLinks Golf Design in Bel-Air as the architect of its 18-hole DEVELOPMENT

Snyder-Richardson finish Ariz. Biltmore work

PHOENIX, Ariz. - Jack Snyder and Forrest Richardson have completed reconfiguration and design changes to the William Bell-designed Adobe Course at the Arizona Biltmore here.

The facility is expected to reopen later this month, complete with new 10th, 11th and 16th holes and a larger practice facility.

The project was necessitated because half the 10th hole and the practice range were located on leased land, the owners of that land decided to develop it. KSK Property Management of San Francisco, which owns the two Arizona Biltmore courses and has a working agreement with the Biltmore, hired Snyder and Richardson to fit the layout into the new perimeters.

"It was a 7,000-yard course and we were able to shorten a couple of holes to make it more playable for the resort golfer," Richardson said. "The 16th is a new hole entirely and the 10th is now a par-3. Jack also built four sand traps reminiscent of Oakmont [Country Club's] 'church pews.'

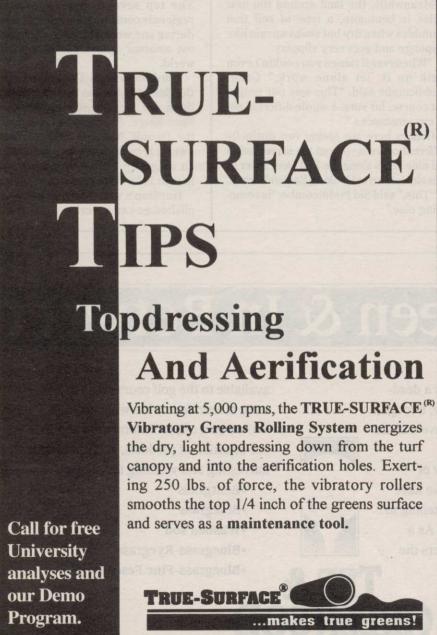
Richardson said the track was "a grand traditional old Bell course built in the '30s. No one had touched it [architecturally] for years and years."

Cobblestone construction now underway

KENDALLVILLE, Ind. - Cobblestone Golf Course has started construction and is scheduled for completion in October 1997.

The golf course, developed by Cobblestone Golf L.L.C. Managing Partner Tom Jones, is part of a 325-acre upscale real-estate project being developed by Sturges, Griffin Trent & Co. The course is designed by Burns Golf Design and built by Fox Contractors Corp. of Fort Wayne, along with Robert Kitchen Contracting of Waynesville, N.C., and Midwest Irrigation of E. Dubuque, Ill.

Situated on moderately rolling to hilly terrain, several holes feature 25- to 30foot elevation changes. Lakes and streams influence play on eight holes, with natural wetlands on five more.



fits most triplex

greens mowers.

TRUE-SURFACE®



The 14th hole at Tim Cate's first creation under his own name, Panther's Run. Note Cate's use o indentations, as opposed to mounding, to define the fairway

Q&A with Tim Cate

Continued from page 31

GCN: What did you learn from Willard? TC: The mechanics of golf design and the importance of an architect's involvement during construction. The best courses we did were the ones where we were with the shapers every day.

Otherwise, you leave any necessary changes to the contractor and you can end up with something different than you envisioned. Cattail Creek [in Frederick, Md.] and Lion's Paw were the best I did with Willard and it was because we were on site a lot.

GCN: Tell us about Panther's Run.

TC: It's a pretty piece of land. I just wanted to complement it, fitting the course into the nicer areas and enhancing those without strong elements. There's a beautiful hardwood, bottom swamp with dwarf palms and abundant wildlife. We hardly moved any dirt on holes 6-9. In fact, we backed the cart path back off the swamp and turned it onto a sort of nature ride.

The back nine is on flatter upland, through farms and fields. We got a little bolder there and incorporated a lot of ornamental grasses.

I don't particularly like mounding. Nine out of 10 courses in Myrtle Beach have used extensive mounding because the land is so flat.

But I prefer to do the opposite. I dug out grassy depressions along the fairways. They define the holes just as well as mounding, but they blend in more with the natural scenery. The depressions are visually intimidating if you're in one, but you often get a better lie than you would on the side of a mound.

It would have been real hard for me to go out on my own without knowing I had this course to come to. It was a golden opportunity for me.

GCN: How is work on the third Ocean Ridge course progressing?

TC: It was sort of a puzzle to route. There are wetlands and ponds to deal with. And an effluent system on site made it interesting. But we've come up with a nice plan that could be on the best piece of land yet. When you design around things like this you can actually use them to your advantage.

The course is 50-percent complete. But the owner wants to give Panther's Run a year or two to build up a reputation before bringing another course in. The third course will probably open by fall 1998.

GCN: How important is it that Panther's Run does well in the Golf Digest rankings?

TC: I'd be lying if I said I wouldn't be happy if it won. If it finished in the top 20, I'd be honored. But there's a lot of competition. One of the things I'm proudest of is that we built this course for \$3 million and it's getting more play than courses that cost \$10 million or more to build.

GCN: What are your future plans?

TC: I'd like to stay in the Southeast. My roots are here. I grew up playing golf in Atlanta. I love the South Carolina/Georgia Low Country look.

Of course, I'd design a golf course wherever the work took me. I plan to stay in the golf course design business no matter what.

