

By MARK LESLIE

## Cape Arundel reviving Walter Travis features

**K**ENNEBUNK, Maine — Maine's only Walter Travis-designed golf course, Cape Arundel Golf Club here, is undergoing a long-range facelift to restore its bunkers and greens.

Overseen by Tom Doak and Bruce Hepner of Renaissance Design of Traverse City, Mich., the project began this summer

and will continue for about four years, said superintendent Greg Searle.

"The greens had lost close to one-third their original size," Searle said, "and 80 percent will be very, very rectangular." That was the way they were designed in 1922 when Travis redesigned an existing nine holes and added

nine to the club, whose members include the likes of former President George Bush.

The original greens were about 4,500 square feet each and had shrunk to about 3,000 square feet. Mowing the grass at tee height of one-half inch, crews have enlarged the greens to their true perimeters.

"We will intensely aerify them and top dress eight or nine times," preparing them for reduced cutting height, Searle said. "We'll get them to green height in two years."

The bunkers, Searle said, had been filled in over the years or had lost much of their character, which was unique in that Travis

built flat traps with no flashing. The path to redoing Cape Arundel's 52 bunkers began this summer.

Eleven should be completed by winter, and all the rest will be renovated over the next few years, Searle added.

The reconstruction entails stripping the sod and installing drainage, new walls and replacing the sand, he said.

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## Design contest

**Continued from page 31** contest and proceeds will go to the ASGCA Foundation, created in 1973 to fund surveys, research projects and other activities.

Keeping in mind a Dec. 31 deadline, superintendents wishing to participate should contact the society at 221 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, Ill. 60601; telephone 312-372-7090. Spokesman Chad Ritterbusch said ASGCA will provide a registration package containing such items as a topographical map with a description of the property, the wind elements, soil conditions, and vegetation. Superintendents will sketch their layouts on blank prints, then mail them to ASGCA.

Nicklaus, Jones and Hills will rate the entries during January and bring them to the GCSAA conference to unveil the winners on Feb. 10. During the ASGCA session they will each present what they consider the top design and why.

Winners will be invited on-stage to be recognized and will receive their layout framed and autographed by Nicklaus, Jones and Hills. They will also get autographed copies of *Golf Has Never Failed Me*, a book by architect Donald Ross that the ASGCA published as a 50th anniversary project this year.

In discussing the society's conference presentation, Griffiths said, "We wanted to get back to the essence of golf course design and why we are so fortunate to do what we do. Jack, Art and Rees will talk about design philosophies — not wetlands, not maintenance. Rather, why is this bunker here? What experience are we trying to give the player?"

"Our next intent with the contest was, how can we light a fire under the superintendents? We thought a competition would really involve them. The whole presentation will be so much more meaningful.

"I hope you will see the sparkle in these guys' [superintendents'] eyes when we talk about design and design philosophies."