



Development continues hot pace

BOGOR, Indonesia—The remaining 18 holes are scheduled to open by year's end at **J. Michael Poellot**-designed Bukit Pelangi Golf and Highland Resort here. The new holes will give the resort 27 holes.

Another 18 JMP-designed holes will open by the end of 1996 at Long Island Golf & Country Club in Guangdong Province in the Peoples Republic of China, bringing the facility to 27 holes.

JMP opened a second nine this summer at Bukit Tinggi Golf & Country Club in Pahang, Malaysia. Other JMP projects under construction include:

- **Kulim Golf & Country Resort** in Kedah, Malaysia. The 27-hole course is scheduled to open in early 1997 and will be the centerpiece of a new high-tech development 30 minutes from Panang.

- **Royal Cambodia Country Club** in Phnom Penh. Construction has just begun on the 27-hole course, hotel and residential development.

- **Evergreen Golf & Country Club** in Shanghai, Peoples Republic of China. The 36-hole layout is scheduled to open sometime in 1997.

- **Mt. Malarayat** in Lipa City, Philippines. The 27-hole resort course will open in 1997 and is the principal amenity in the resort residential development located an hour south of Manila.

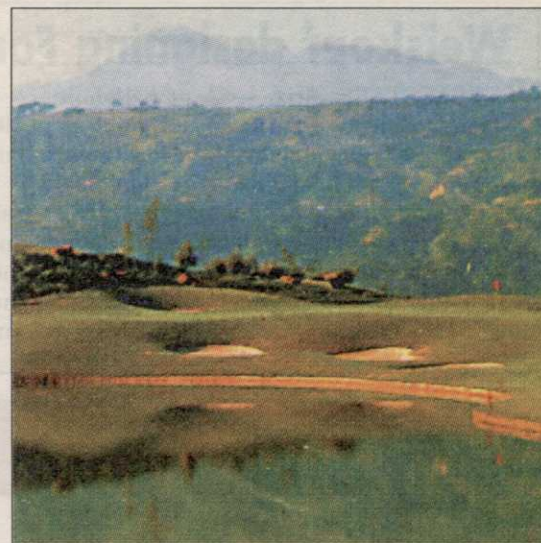
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SILANG CAVITE, The Philippines — Architect **Gene Bates** and professional golfer **Fred Couples** have a project nearing completion in the Philippines and a second in the final design stages in Japan.

Bates and Couples are designing 18 holes here at **Riviera Country Club**, a residential golf community outside Manila. German golfer **Bernard Langer** is designing another 18 at the International Management Group-operated facility.

Fourteen of the Couples/Bates holes are shaped and nine should be ready for play by December, along with nine of the Langer holes, Bates said. The entire 36 holes will open next July.

The Filipino government's military retirement pension fund is financing the project. The course name was selected because Couples won Los Angeles Open championships at Riviera in 1990 and 1992.



The J. Michael Poellot-designed Bukit Pelangi course in Bogor, Indonesia.

The Couples/Bates duo is also finishing drawings on **Century Golf Club** near Nagoya, Japan. **Fuji Country**, operator of more than two dozen courses worldwide, is developing the private, 18-hole facility.

The contractor is on site and center lines had been cleared as of late August. "We're still awaiting approval on some minor modifications," Bates said. "We're hoping to open the course by spring 1998."

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BALI, Indonesia — **Golfplan-Ronald Fream Design Group** has neared completion on working drawings for the first 18 holes of a 36-hole master plan here at the lavish **Bali Pecatu** resort near Nusa Dua. Groundbreaking for the first 18 is set for this month. The second 18 will get underway in mid-1998.

The par-72 course will play from five sets of fees, 6,940 yards to 5,100 yards. Seven holes play with sea views of cliffside settings. Limestone outcrops, exotic kapok trees, and giant clump bamboo provide the major vertical landscape. Vast plantings of orchid pastel bougainvillea will provide floral ground cover.

Bali Pecatu is a destination resort of four hotels, 36 holes of championship golf, and several hundred holiday homesites overlooking the waters of **Jimbaran Bay**.

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MANILA, The Philippines — Work is underway at **Tom Weiskopf's** first Asia-Pacific design, **The Country Club**, southeast of Manila. The 18-hole, private course will be the cornerstone of an ultra-exclusive golf community, according to a spokesman for **The Country Club Development Co.**

Company Chairman **Earl McCarthy** and President **Benita Araneta** said they chose Weiskopf because of his "reputation within the industry and personal dedication to each of his projects." Construction began in April and McCarthy anticipates opening the course in late 1997 or early 1998.

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GULF HARBOR, New Zealand — **Robert Trent Jones II International** is designing its first golf course in this country, a track that should be the cornerstone of **Gulf Harbor Resort** on **Whangaparaoa Peninsula** here, just north of **Auckland**.

Course shaping is complete, nine of the 18 holes have been planted, and builders are waiting to restart construction in early November enroute to a 1997 opening, according to **Doug Ingram**, RTJII vice president of design and construction activities.

Rathert project defies rules and challenges engineers

By MARK LESLIE

TOCHIGI CITY, Japan — From an "engineering feat" that contains elevators, belt conveyers and bridges over canyons, to a relatively flat course on an old sand quarry, golf course architect **Mark Rathert** is making his mark in this country.

The Rathert-designed **Ohgaki Country Club** in the mountains here and his **Imperial Country Club** in **Edosaki** in the **Ibaraki Prefecture** an hour southeast of **Tokyo** are in development, **Imperial CC** awaiting grow-in of the first 18 holes of its planned 27 holes. In **Indonesia**, meanwhile, another Rathert design, the 18-hole **Sedana Golf and Country Club** outside **Jakarta**, opened in August.

Because of strict construction regulations in this prefecture **Ohgaki CC** has been a huge engineering undertaking, Rathert said. For instance:

- Three elevators will be built — one carrying golfers from a green 50 meters up to the next tee. The elevators, Rathert said, are similar to benches that ride up steep hills.

- Two belt conveyors, like those at airports but on a 17-degree angle, will carry golf bags along areas difficult to traverse.

- One belt is being built to carry golfers up 25 meters from green to tee.

- Expensive retaining walls were constructed, and one bridge from a tee to a fairway, costing US\$760,000, is so high "you can bungee-jump off it," Rathert said.

- Ten dams, costing US\$1 million each, had to be built.

- The course is built to withstand a 1,000-year storm, with main drainage pipes 3 to 4 feet in diameter and extensive retention walls.

- Golf carts carrying clubs ride along a special track.

Golfers will not be allowed to ride golf carts. "It's too dangerous," Rathert said. "I'd be scared to ski down it."

"Instead of a couple of caddies, they have one who remote-controls the bags in the cart."

Developer **Ohgaki Country Corp.** hopes to sod the fairways this year, seeding the greens this fall in preparation for an opening next year.

"We've been creating a sculpted character to the course," Rathert said. "We've done our best to work with the engineers on the slopes. But you can't get dozers into some places to change it. We're working to create interesting greens and bunkering. If you drew a 45-degree line, a flat line and a 45-degree line down, the flat part is the fairway on this course."

"So we've bunkered it where you don't want [the ball] to be. The bunkers either save you or at least direct you to where it is a lot more friendly."

Therefore, **Ohgaki CC**, at 6,700 yards long, will be tough enough, thank you.



The lift from the 3rd green to the 4th tee at the Mark Rathert-designed Ohgaki Country Club in Tochigi City, Japan.

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Meanwhile, **Imperial Country Club**, which will open possibly by the end of the year, is **STT Corp.** of **Tokyo's** 12th golf course. A private facility, it will expand to 27 holes.

It is one of the first in the country to use golf carts on a continuous cart path, a great departure from caddies.

"This was a gut-wrenching decision for this company, to concede the fact that labor is not available," Rathert said.

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Sedana Golf and Country Club, which opened in August in **Karwang**, stretches over 7,050 yards. Developed by **Frankie Widjaja** of the **Sinarmas Group**, it is a private club associated with an industrial park on one side of the tollway and golf and housing complex on the other.

"The industrial park is 'driving' the golf and residential development," Rathert said. "A big **Toyota** factory is being built there. This is a very attractive thing for owners and workers."

Their American superintendent, **Gerard Delancy**, was a huge help to me," Rathert said, also crediting shaper **Craig Todd** and his two-man crew.