

## iGOLF chooses Steve Smyers as its 1996 Architect of the Year

**L**AKELAND, Fla. — Steve Smyers has been named Architect of the Year for 1996 by iGOLF, an internet online golf site. This second annual award was given to recognize golf's most outstanding golf course architect of the year.

At 43, Smyers follows 1995 recipient Rees Jones.

"It's become clear," said Brad Klein, architectural writer for iGOLF, "that Smyers is skilled at translating classical design themes into a modern idiom in a way that allows daily-fee golfers as well as private club members



Steve Smyers

a chance to experience traditional shot-making. He's technically highly skilled and has seen an awful lot of the old courses — and that shows."

Klein cites three Smyers designs that have received "the kind of notice that assures Smyers will be a force to be reckoned with as a champion of traditionalist golf design" — Wolf Run in Indianapolis, Southern Dunes outside Orlando, Fla., and Chart Hills in Kent, England, which was recognized recently by Following the Fairways as the No. 1 inland course in the British Isles — ahead of such famed courses as Sunningdale, Wentworth and Gleneagles' King and Monarch courses.

Recently, Smyers was also honored with an environmental

### Flint, Mich., signs up Childs

**SYLVAN LAKE, Mich.** — The city of Flint has awarded Don Childs Associates the contract for master planning and design services for its four municipal golf courses.

This relationship is designed to address improvements in playability, enhancement of maintenance procedures and overall course maintainability, liability concerns from current design standards, and improved shot values and the quality of the golfing experience.

### Germany

Continued from previous page hasn't helped the economy and "fewer speculative projects have gotten off the ground lately," Slessor said, "solid projects with good studies can find financing."

And Robinson added that although the environmental movement remains powerful, "Like in the States, they are coming to grips with the fact golf is not all bad."

design excellence award for his work on an 18-hole Tampa, Fla. project for the founders of Outback Steakhouse. The award presented by the Southwest Florida Water Management District is given for resource regu-

lation, design excellence and superior cooperation and innovation demonstrated during the permitting of the Tampa project currently under construction.

Smyers' design on the Tampa site minimized the acreage of turf

grasses requiring intense maintenance and thus requires a decreased water supply. Instead, native grasses are used which not only require less maintenance, but also provide wildlife corridors and habitat areas

while bringing contrast, definition and strategy to the golf holes.

"This type of positive and innovative approach to economic development and water resources management," said Deputy Executive Director Richard McLean, "represents a model for public and private interaction and can yield results that are beneficial to all concerned."

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