

BRIEFS



**SINGLETON JOINS HNTB IN KC**

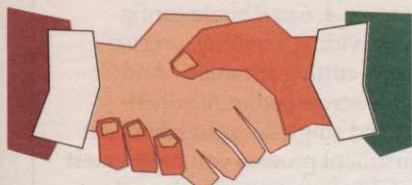
KANSAS CITY, Mo. — HNTB Corp. has appointed E. Crichton Singleton, FAIA, as vice president and director of architecture in the firm's office here. Singleton's distinguished career includes numerous architecture and urban design projects that have received national recognition. Singleton can be reached at 816-472-1201 or by email at [ksingleton@hntb.com](mailto:ksingleton@hntb.com)

**SEDONA GC RETAINS AZUL VERDE**

SEDONA, Ariz. — Azul Verde Design Group, Inc., a Cave Creek-based landscape architecture company, has been hired by SunCor Development Co. to design the exterior landscape around the soon-to-be-completed Sedona Golf Resort clubhouse. Plans call for a 16-foot multi-tiered natural waterfall feature and a unique boulder and red rock formation to highlight the practice greens and clubhouse area. In addition, a number of devegetated pinyon junipers and singleleaf pine trees will be added to accent the smaller vegetation surrounding the practice facilities.

**AURORA TAPS KAVANAUGH FOR MUNI**

AURORA, Colo. — The city of Aurora Golf Division has hired Ken Kavanaugh to design The Homestead at Murphy Creek Golf Course, planned to open in 1999. The site will include a mixed-income, single-family golf course community. The \$7 million project is expected to break ground in late 1997 or early 1998 and will be the latest addition to the expanding Aurora Golf Division. The homestead and farm concept will be evident throughout the golf course design.



**HAZARD, ENVIRONMENTAL TEAM UP**

SAN DIEGO — Improvements here at Encinitas Ranch Golf Course are being handled by R.E. Hazard Contracting Co. and Environmental Golf, Inc. The two firms are acting as construction manager and general contractor, respectively. Construction began in September at the \$11 million project on 150 acres, which include the 18-hole Encinitas Ranch GC, a bridge and a temporary clubhouse. Completion is scheduled for this summer.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

# Airport-area courses ready for take-off?

By J. BARRY MOTHES

"Cheap land near airport. Water, sewage and electricity already in place. Located near transportation center. Possible neighbors include office or industrial parks. Round-the-clock security available."

Sound like a good fit for golf course development? In a growing number of locations across the country — from Mississippi to Los Angeles to Minneapolis-St. Paul — it is.

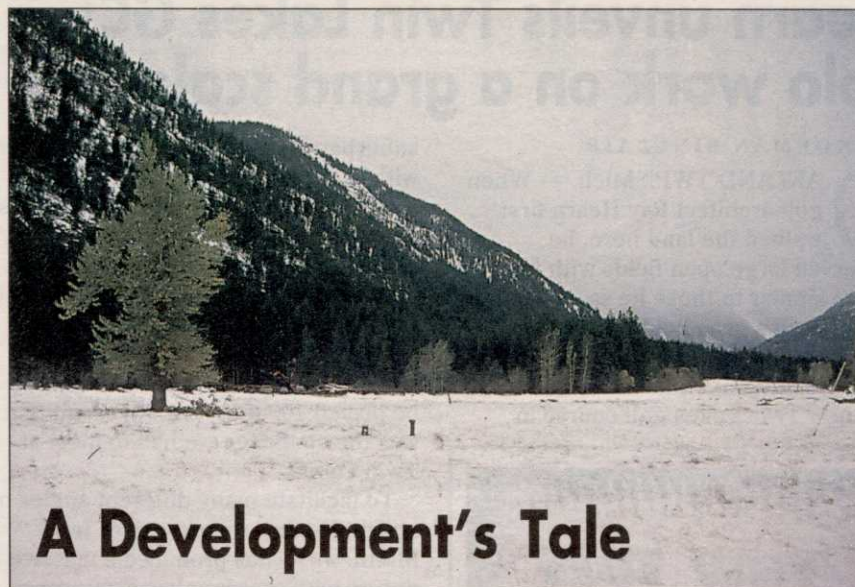
Within the last year, an increasing number of public golf course projects have been proposed for sites at or very near airports. Some, like the under-construction Airline Golf Club at the Hattiesburg-Laurel Airport in Mississippi, are close to becoming reality.

The 18-hole Airline Golf Club is scheduled to open for play by September. The daily-fee golf course will cover 141 acres and sit near an 800-acre business park run by the airport authority.

"We think we've got a very good match with the golf course at our airport," said David Senne, executive director of the Hattiesburg-Laurel Regional Airport Authority, which is leasing the land for 25 years to the developer, Deerfield Golf. The golf course was designed by Rich Fulkerson, who is also part of the development, design and management team.

"We have excellent transportation access," Senne said, "with the airport and an

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## A Development's Tale

Some fairways have already been cut at the Bob Cupp-designed Arrowleaf course.

### Happy ending for 25-year-old Wash. state proposal?

By BOB SPIWAK

M AZAMA, Wash. — Okanogan County here is getting its first planned 18-hole golf course. This is a major event, considering this county is larger than Connecticut and Rhode Island in area. Even more significantly, this project, designed by architect Bob Cupp, has taken more than a quarter century for construction to begin. And, although fairways have been cleared in the forest, the new Arrowleaf development is not yet out of the woods.

To understand the conflict — which has, at times, pitted neighbor against neighbor — a closer look at the resort site is necessary.

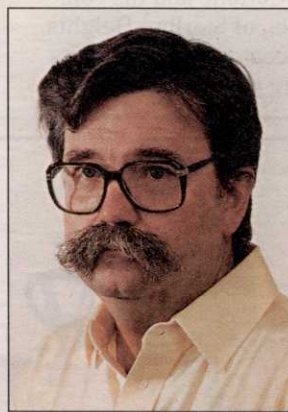
Until last year, the hamlet of Mazama comprised a store/gas-station and an inn. Located at the county's northwest corner, the town is surrounded by national forest, a wilderness area and the North Cascades National Park. State Highway 20, which bisects the resort, is closed by snow from November to April. The area contains the nation's second-largest groomed cross-country ski area. At the upper end of the 70-mile-long Methow Valley, the pristine setting has attracted new residents from throughout the country.

In 1970, when The Aspen Corp. conceived a destination downhill ski re-

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## Robinson sees ray of hope for tepid old world market

*He may be an American native and a Princeton University graduate, but Cabell B. Robinson has lived in Spain for 26 years and conducts business from his office in Mijas. Robinson spent 1967-86 with Robert Trent Jones Sr. He was sent to Europe in 1970 to open an RTJ office. Robinson enjoyed it so much, he stayed, and opened his own design practice in 1986. His solo projects include Stockley Park in England, Golf du Club Med in France, Golf Club Castelcontrubia in Italy, Golf de la Palmeria in Morocco, and the Red Course at La Cala G&CC in Spain.*



Cabell Robinson

## GCN EUROPEAN REPORT



### Destination: Morocco? It's not far off

By PETER BLAIS

MARRAKECH, Morocco — With plans for more than 30 to 40 new courses ready for play by the 21st century, this small north African country clearly seeks recognition as a leading worldwide golf destination, according to Kamil El Kholti, chairman of the Communication and Development Committee of the Royal Moroccan Golf Federation (RMGF).

"King Hassan II has given his blessing to developing golf in Morocco and has put Mr. Driss Basri in charge of putting the plan into operation," Kholti said. "There are three parts to the plan.

"First, we want to develop more Moroccan golfers. There are 6,000 licensed golfers now and each club has golf schools to develop more.

"Second, we want to develop new courses, especially in conjunction with real estate and hotels.

"Third, we want to create strong events to enhance Morocco's image. We already have events like the Hassan II Trophy

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## Q & A

**Golf Course News:** Looking at it historically, how strong is the European golf development market today?

**Cabell Robinson:** Today, and over the past year, is basically the nadir, with the possible exception of 1973-76 when we had gasoline rationing and the Arab-Israeli war. Golf development here was on the uprise for quite awhile and then, about three years ago, it went into a nose dive. I think there were a number of factors. Germany started pumping US\$75 to US\$100 billion a

year into East Germany, which makes sense but took a lot of money out of other markets they might otherwise invest in. Other countries — like Spain and Portugal — went into the Common Market. In some sense that was great for the infrastructure of the countries, but Portugal is the only country right now in Western Europe where there is a modicum of decent golf course development.

In the last couple of years, there have been projects going on, but all the "big names" have pretty well pulled out of Europe the last few years because there was a real slowdown... London is a good example. The big names — Rees [Jones], [Jack] Nicklaus and Bobby [Robert Trent Jones Jr.] — did some

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## Steele busy with eight projects in England, on the continent

WEST SUSSEX, England — Donald Steel & Co. Ltd., an English golf course design firm, has eight projects underway around the globe. Steel has the following projects underway:

- National Golf Centre, an 18-hole course and teaching academy developed by the English Golf Union in Woodhall, Spa, Lincolnshire.
- Harleyford Golf Club, an 18-hole course developed by Harleyford Estate in Marlow, Buckinghamshire.
- Bradfield College Golf Course, a nine-hole

course developed by the college in Berkshire.

- Aroeira GC, an 18-hole course and academy developed by Aroeira S.A. in Lisbon.
- Klanovice Golf Club, an 18-hole course in Prague.
- Craighelaw Golf Club, an 18-hole course in Aberlady, East Lothian, Scotland.
- Gomera, an 18-hole course developed by Fred Olsen, S.A. in the Canary Islands.
- Monsignor della Casa Golf & Country Club, an 18-hole course in Florence, Italy.

## Moroccans seek destination status

**Continued from page 59**  
[held in November on Dar Es Salam's Red Course in the capital, Rabat], the Moroccan Open [a European PGA Tour event held at Agadir Royal Golf Links] and the Hassan II Challenge [an international amateur championship]."

Morocco has 17 courses open and another five under

development, Kholti said. "We've tripled the number of courses since 1990 when we had six in the entire country," the RMGF official said.

"We've opened a development office designed to get courses approved on short notice. The only obstacles standing in the way of new development are the availability of water and land. We want to build courses where the greatest demand is. We could use another five courses in Casablanca, for instance, but there's no land near the city to build them."

The money to finance future construction, Kholti said, will come from one of three sources — private investment, publicly owned companies or the government, "although the government money is dwindling. We would prefer that all future development be financed through private interests, both national and foreign, or by local communities."

A good example is the recently opened Amelkis Golf Club in Marrakech. The 18-hole Cabell Robinson design is a residential golf community built by private investors in conjunction with the Department of Building and Tourism.

Other courses that have opened recently, or are in the planning stages, include:

- The Royal University Golf Club of Settat. Nine holes have opened and another nine are planned. In addition to the students who will use the course, the residential golf community is expected to attract Japanese, European and American golfers and home buyers.

- Eighteen new holes are planned at Ben Slimane Royal Golf Club, which would bring the facility total to 27 holes. All 18 have been roughed in, nine irrigated and seven actually planted. Construction has been delayed by financial problems and plans are now to open nine of the new holes in early 1998, according to Rick Baril of architect Robert von Hagge's office.

- The Club Mediterranee Dunes Course in Agadir has 27 holes and plans to begin construction of another course, or possibly two, in the near future.

- Bouznika Bay, located 40 miles from Casablanca, will have nine von Hagge-designed holes ready for play in early 1998. Construction will start in January. The developer is a Moroccan company named Capri. The weekend resort for Casablanca-area residents has 70 villas, but plans to add another 500 over the next few years.

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