

Smyers to design Lochenheath for Outback founders

TAMPA, Fla. — Steve Smyers has been selected to design and build a private golf club here for Outback Steakhouse founders Bob Bushman and Chris Sullivan.

Founding member and 1975 U.S. Amateur champion Fred Ridley will also play a key role in development of the club. Currently a Tampa attorney and U.S. Golf Association Executive Committee member, Ridley was a teammate of Smyers on the 1974 University of Florida national championship golf team. The club has been named Lochenheath in reference to the site's natural lakes (loch is a Scottish word for lake), British heathland-like soil

and flowering shrubs.

Located in northwest Tampa — just 15 minutes from the airport and approximately 10 minutes from Florida's Gulf Coast — the 312-acre property was the object of an extensive search by architect Smyers.

"The property's most critical element is its excellent sandy soil," noted Smyers. "All the great courses of the world were built on sandy soil — from the British Isles and the sand belt courses of Australia to Pinehurst, Long Island and the sand hills of Nebraska in the U.S. It's a must to create a course that plays fast and firm, particularly in Florida."

HARBOTTLE'S RIDGECREST OPENS FOR PLAY

NAMPA, Idaho — Ridgecrest Golf Club has opened for play here. The public course, designed by John Harbottle, features a links touch and panoramic views of the Rocky Mountains. Four sets of tees offer a variety of lengths stretching to 6,836 yards from the tips.

Childs hired to transform Mich. sand pit

COLUMBUS TWP., Mich. — The golf course architectural and consulting firm of Don Childs Associates has been awarded two design and consulting contracts.

The design of Sand Creek Golf Club here will exhibit a unique use of the site in development and design.

Meanwhile, the city of Parma, Ohio, has awarded Childs the contract for course architectural and consulting services for the provision of a master plan to address future facility improvements.

When Vena MacCracken, president of Sand Creek Development, acquired the Columbus Township property, it was an abandoned sand and gravel operation with a 22-acre pond.

The Childs Associates development team came up with a plan that allowed the site to continue the quarry excavation while simultaneously sculpting a golf course routing.

"This was exactly what we needed to accomplish to meet the city's Land Re-use Ordinance for mining and excavation projects," MacCracken explained. "Don and his staff laid out a course routing that allowed us to excavate more than one million cubic yards of sand that will potentially be used in major road construction projects."

"At the same time," MacCracken continued, "our dozer operators will be sculpting the site to the routing and grade requirements for the golf course."

When completed, the team will transform the 176 acres into a routing that will maintain the natural woodlands, lakes and wetlands, with elevation changes of up to 60 feet.



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Interlachen Country Club
Edina, MN



Carmel Country Club
Charlotte, NC



Newton Country Club
Newton, NJ



Monroe Golf Club
Pittsford, NY



Bent Creek Country Club
Lancaster, PA

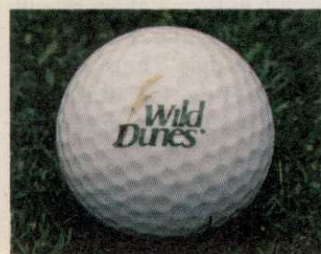


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