

Hurdzan takes on Fry as a full partner

By MARK LESLIE

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Mike Hurdzan, a former president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, has made lead designer Dana Fry a partner in the firm, saying the new relationship "cements the commitment we have for each other."

"It is exciting to me because I see Dana as a genius in this business," said Hurdzan. "He has such vision and passion, whose source is truly God-given. He didn't learn it out of a book, or from me. He has a vision for golf courses that I don't have, while I have a technical ability he doesn't have."

"The marriage of the two can help our business and our profession."

Hurdzan holds a PhD in environmental turfgrass physiology, a master's degree in turf studies and a bachelor's degree in turfgrass management, while Fry found his way into course design because he knew he couldn't play pro golf. An Arizona State University student, he happened to meet Andy Banfield, a lead architect with Tom Fazio who offered him a job on the crew.

Hurdzan, who had thought he'd never have another partner except the retired Jack Kidwell, predicted the new Hurdzan/Fry Golf Course Design "will set some new trends."

The partnership is "a dream come true" for the 34-year-old Fry, who started that first job for Fazio flagging cacti in 1983.

Five years later, Pete Dye introduced him to Hurdzan, who offered him a job overseeing construction of Devil's Pulpit outside Toronto. That course gained immediate renown, as have such subsequent tracks as Devil's Paintbrush, Naples (Fla.) National and Cook's Creek in Ohio.

"To be considered the best is subjective, but the one goal Mike and I have had in common is to be considered in that class," Fry said. "A lot of people say they want to be the best, but we will do whatever it takes to be the best. Time will prove whether we get there or not, but I think we will. I think we've made big strides to get where we are."

His contribution to the team, he said, is the 200 nights he spends away from home each year. "Great golf courses are built in the field," he said, "by physically being there, not by sitting in an office, drawing up a pretty set of plans and showing up once a month."

"In our project in Palm Springs, Calif., from the end of May to the end of October, I visited the site every week except twice. To me, that's the dif-

ference between making something good and making it great — the personal attention to detail."

He attributed that attitude to working with Fazio Golf Design Group, especially Banfield, and with Bill Kerman of the Hurdzan/Fry staff who, he said, "quite possibly is the best per-

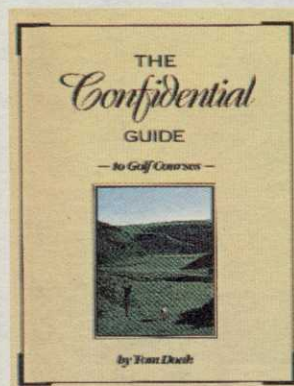
son doing a set of plans that I have met."

Fry said the Hurdzan/Fry staff is extraordinary — from Hurdzan to Kerman, to Dave Whelchel who is "the key guy in our company," running the office, to Jason Straka, a Cornell University graduate who does many of the plans, and the support staff.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

The Confidential Guide to Golf Courses

By Tom Doak



Written in the inimitable style of Golf Magazine's golf course design editor, this book describes, uncovers and rates more than 1,000 courses worldwide that the author has visited and photographed.

With more than 180 four-color photographs, it might be the best collection of worldwide photos ever published. It starts with a "Gourmet's Choice" selection of 31 of Doak's personal favorites, each by a different designer, followed by brief reviews of courses from Pebble Beach, Calif., to Kebo Valley, Maine, and from St. Andrews, Scotland, to Joondalup in Western Australia.

\$45.00, 400 pages, hardcover.

Guide to Golf Course Irrigation System Design and Drainage

By Edward Pira



As a working reference or as a textbook, the Guide to Golf Course Irrigation System Design and Drainage covers every important aspect of the subject in an easy-to-understand format. It is perfect for the practicing turfgrass manager, superintendent, consultant, sales representative, and student. Used in numerous academic courses for years, this is the first commercially-available version of a perennial best-seller, and is completely revised with new exercises, practical examples, numerous new figures, and expanded sections covering a wide variety of irrigation system components.

A hands-on manual, it guides the reader through every phase of an irrigation program. Turfgrass managers and golf course superintendents will refer to this handy book often to plan effective irrigation systems, ensure appropriate capacity, easy installation, and practical operation and maintenance.

\$59.95, 400 pages, hardcover.

Quality Index: Self-Assessment Rating of Golf and Country Clubs

By Andrew and Robert Cornesky

A self-assessment tool, this workbook was designed to facilitate measurement of quality service and product systems. Adapting criteria from the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, it enables club managers, governing board members and employees to grapple with the strong external requirement of golf courses to demonstrate quality and high performance. Among the topics analyzed are leadership, strategic and operational planning, human resource development and management, business process management, performance results, and customer focus and satisfaction.

\$15.00, 18 pages oversized, notebook, with accompanying computer disk.

BOOTH TO UNVEIL MEADOWS NINE IN JUNE

LITCHFIELD, Maine — The Meadows, a public golf course here, expects to unveil its front nine holes in June. The size and configuration of the 112-acre site forced architect Brad Booth of Ogunquit to design a short (4,300- to 5,900-yard) par-68 course. It will include two par-

5s instead of the standard four and six par-3s instead of the more traditional four. A double-green, a multiple-hole tee box and other features promise good variety, and Booth touts the par-3s, which will range from 130 to 215 yards. "I tried to ensure ample landing areas," Booth said.

Color Atlas of Turfgrass Diseases on Golf Courses

By Dr. Toshikazu Tani Contributing Author, Dr. James B. Beard

The Color Atlas of Turfgrass

Diseases on Golf Courses presents more than 540 high-quality color photographs of all the major turfgrass diseases that occur on both warm- and cool-season grasses. It is international in scope. This book will likely become the standard color-guide to disease, diagnosis and pathogen identification for golf course superintendents and turfgrass practitioners. No other book contains as many color photographs of this detail and quality. Helpful maps are included to assist in disease identification by providing geographical locations where each disease/pathogen is likely to occur. A unique feature of this easy-to-use field guide is that it also

provides color photos of step-by-step guidance on diagnostic techniques for laboratory analysis which can be used by practitioners.

\$79.95, Approx. 250 pages, hardcover.

Superintendent's Handbook of Financial Management

By Raymond S. Schmidgall

This self-teaching manual was written specifically for golf course superintendents, managers, and owners. It's designed to make complicated subjects easy-to-understand by using simple demonstrations, useful exercises, and step-by-step instructions.

The Superintendent's Handbook of Financial Management is the official certification textbook of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

The book presents useful methods and techniques for understanding and using income statements, balance sheets, accounting procedures, financial statements, operating budgets, capital budgets, record keeping, and much more. You will learn to operate your facility smoothly and profitably — whether private, semi-private, or public — by understanding and applying the financial skills presented in this guidebook.

\$34.95, 150 pages, hardcover.

The Course Beautiful By A.W. Tillinghast

This is a fascinating collection of original articles and photographs on golf course design by one of the masters. A prolific writer, Tillinghast delves into his philosophies on golf course design and maintenance, and his thoughts on what makes a championship course. It is loaded with vintage photographs and original Tillie sketches of such of his creations as San Francisco, Winged Foot and Baltusrol golf clubs. **\$34.95, 120 pages, hardcover.**

The Captain — George C. Thomas Jr. and His Golf Architecture By Geoff Shackelford

The creator of Riviera and Los Angeles country clubs and author of the classic book, *Golf Course Architecture in America, Its Strategy and Construction*, George Thomas has deeply affected the golf industry even since his death in 1932. Thomas worked on single projects with Donald Ross and A.W. Tillinghast, learned from friends Hugh Wilson and George Crump, and designed more than two dozen courses on his own. At the same time he was recognized worldwide for his books about and breeding of roses, his first love. Call him brilliant, or enigmatic, but in his last years his work was on a book about Pacific game fish. Shackelford reveals the man behind the work. **\$35.00, 207 pages, hardcover, limited edition of 1,200 copies.**