

# GOLF COURSE NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER FOR THE GOLF COURSE INDUSTRY

A UNITED PUBLICATION  
VOLUME 10, NUMBER 11  
NOVEMBER 1998 • \$5.50

INSIDE

## Design & Construction

Take a closer look into the trends that are driving golf course development into the future ..... 30

## Jack Speaks on Architecture

After a round at his latest track, Jack Nicklaus sits down to discuss his work with *GCN* ..... 21



### BOHANNAN TAKES OFF ON HIS OWN

Terry Bohannon, a 20-year veteran of the golf development business, leaves Asia and Paragon Construction and goes it alone as Live Oak Golf Construction. See story on page 21.

### COURSE MAINTENANCE

Mr. Certification: Adam Feltman ..... 11  
Whole lotta dredgin' goin' on ..... 13  
NTEP final results in on bents ..... 19

### COURSE DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT

Stockton, Baird team up for design ..... 21  
CSM lays down a track in Titleist Town ..... 24  
Joe Freeman: Maine boy makes good ..... 29

### COURSE MANAGEMENT

Jeff Carlson starts own management co. .... 33  
SunCor gets busy in Scottsdale ..... 34  
ClubLink may buy Glen Abbey ..... 35

### SUPPLIER BUSINESS

Continental Bridge buys Atlas ..... 39  
Lebanon continues rapid line expansion ..... 39  
MACH 2 lands N.Y. registration ..... 40

## John Deere looks skyward

By MICHAEL LEVANS

RALEIGH, N.C. — With its recent acquisition of Charlestown, Mass.-based Player Systems Corp., manufacturer of the SkyLinks golf course management technology that utilizes the global position system (GPS), John Deere has taken a long look up into the future.

"John Deere now has the ability to leverage the GPS technology across different applications," said Shawn Phillips, new general manager of Player Systems. "The GPS technology has been limited to the golf car.

Continued on page 41

## Diggin' golf in Beantown

Golf and traffic benefit from Boston's notorious 'Big Dig'

By PETER BLAIS

BOSTON — Developer Charles Geilich and course architect John Sanford have coupled the interests of a major Boston road construction project and a nearby landfill closure to develop a 27-hole golf course in suburban Boston.

Boston's "Big Dig" project, a multi-

year undertaking designed to speed traffic through Massachusetts' capital city, planned to spend \$300 million to dispose of the millions of cubic yards of dirt excavated from the construction site.

Meanwhile, Quincy and Milton officials were planning to close their

Continued on page 27



An aerial shot of the Quarry Hills site and the Boston skyline in the distance.

## La. to grow golf image

By PETER BLAIS

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana officials plan to approach the state Legislature with a master plan to finance construction of seven to 10 courses throughout the Pelican State, making it more attractive to visiting and native golfers.

Representatives from Gov. Michael Foster's office, the state Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, and golf industry representatives Thomas Martty of Martty Golf Management and Linda Curtis of The Sabine River Authority, which is building a new course, met to discuss the possibility early this fall and plan to meet again in November.

A joint commission which would research the state's golfing needs and the costs involved will likely be formed, according to tourism department

Communications Director Jennifer Romero.

"The state has put together a group of people interested in developing golf courses in Louisiana that is a very enthusiastic and committed group that wants to get something done," Martty said. "There is a pent-up demand for better daily-fee golf in certain areas of Louisiana."

Louisiana ranks 48th in

Continued on page 28

## L-93 holds it own in NTEPs

By MARK LESLIE

BELTSVILLE, Md. — While the A and G series of bentgrasses have been grabbing the headlines the past couple of years, L-93 has quietly taken the grand prize in the final report of the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program tests for putting-green bents.

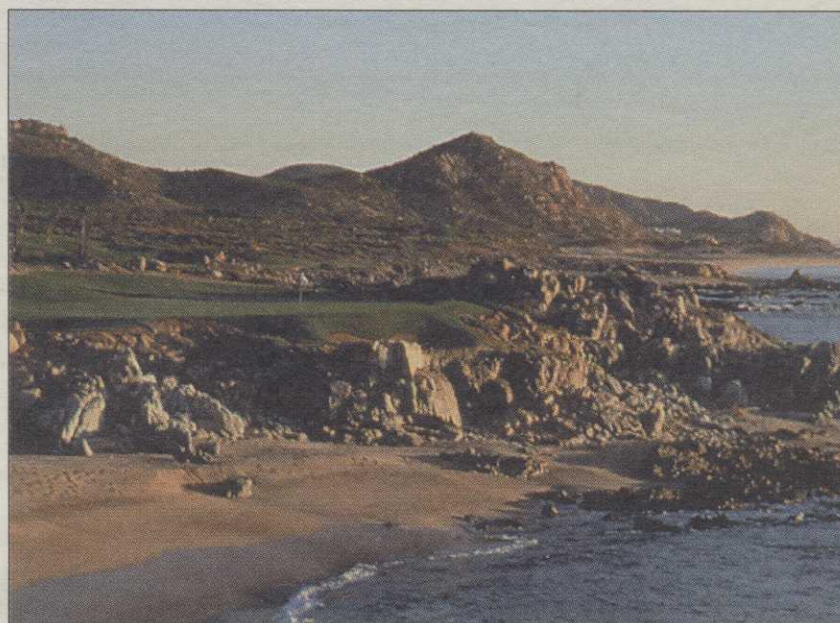


"L-93 has really taken off big-time," said Dr. Rich Hurley, director of research at Lofts Seed in Bound Brook, N.J. "We have good seed production, and superintendents are following the test results."

Those test results put L-93 atop Penn A-4, Penn A-1 by a mean average of 6.6 to 6.5 in the final results of the NTEP trials which began in 1993.

Continued on page 18

### KOLLSTAR GOLF CO. UP TO A DOZEN COURSES IN EIGHT MONTHS



The Ocean Course at Cabo del Sol, Los Cabos, Mexico, is a KollStar-owned and managed property. To learn more about this fast-growing company, see story page 33.



# The 'Big Dig'

Continued from page 1

landfills and needed materials to cover the site.

Geilich, a former waste removal specialist and one of the four principals involved with the development group Quarry Hills Associates, realized the two projects had the same common interest. A deal was quickly struck between the Massachusetts Highway Department and the cities of Quincy and Milton. At no cost to either project, the highway authority agreed to provide up to 7 million cubic yards of material Sanford needed to spread over the landfill to form the bed for the new Quarry Hills golf course.

Quarry Hills is scheduled for completion in 2001. Located atop the old landfill, it will also take advantage of the adjacent historic quarries, Indian sites and wetlands. In addition to the course, the \$63 million, 500-acre complex will include open park space, walking trails and six sports fields for baseball, softball and soccer.

Quarry Hills Associates will lease the land from the city of Quincy for 50 years. Once the course opens, the city will collect an as-yet-undetermined amount from annual green fees and clubhouse revenues.

Geilich, who spends much of the year in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., interviewed numerous architects before approaching fellow Floridian Sanford with the idea for the project.

"I presented John with a package. He was very polite, didn't say I was totally crazy and said he was willing to take a ride with us," Geilich remembered. "What we had was an idea that was a long way from culmination. We had a concept of using the dirt from the Big Dig and taking a landfill and making it into a golf course. There wasn't just a piece of land that needed to be sculpted and a few flags put on it.

"The first thing we had to do was convince the cities we had a viable project. When we first approached them they were very interested, but they had to put out requests for proposals for the post-closure use of the landfill. Five different firms answered. Our proposal was ultimately selected."

Sanford said he and the developers had to overcome several hurdles with the design. One was that the site actually consisted of two landfills, the Quincy operation that was already closed and the Milton landfill that won't officially shut down until Dec. 31. "It's interesting to see the dirt trucks coming in with all this fill material on one end and rubbish trucks coming in on the other side," Geilich said. "They try hard to stay out of each other's way."

Added Sanford: "There were also a lot of wetlands that had to be tiptoed around. We have some historic [Quincy granite] quarries that had to be preserved and are being worked into the design and strategy of the course.

"And then when the Massachusetts Historical Society started looking at the site, they found some Indian artifacts that are considered to be prehistoric, as much as 8,000 years old. We had done rough grading and earthing plans and then these

Indian workshop [Indian slate mining] areas cropped up and we had to pretty much redesign the whole project."

Shipments of Big Dig fill material to the course site began a year ago. Roughly 800 truckloads are being delivered daily. Actual shaping of the course and irrigation work is scheduled to begin next spring and 15 of the holes should be ready for seeding by next October.

"But the project [opening date] isn't really under our control," Geilich said, "because we don't know how fast they are going to dig the dirt out of the tunnel. They have at least a half-dozen contrac-

tors working right now, but some days they dig better than others."

McCourt Construction of South Boston is the course contractor, but will subcontract out some of the shaping work. The developers have not made a decision regarding who will manage the course. Plans are to hire a superintendent by next summer.

The course will have five sets of tees and almost 300 feet of elevation change, Sanford said. Seventy percent of the course sits over landfill area that is basically devoid of trees. "In order to create a dynamic hole," he said, "we need to uti-

lize all the dirt to create the framing and aesthetics we're looking for.

"We'll have bentgrass on the greens, tees and fairways," Sanford said. "The immediate rough and surrounds will be a mix of bluegrass, ryegrass and fescue. The far rough will be in different types of fescues.

There are a lot of steep slopes between the holes that will be planted with wildflowers and field grasses.

"The clubhouse will be on the highest point of the project, about 320 feet above sea level, and will give tremendous views of the Boston skyline six miles away."



## Taking over new turf.



Kubota also offers an M4700 model with 4-wheel drive.

You know our M-Series mid-size tractors for their all-round versatility. Now we're going after some new turf.

Introducing our M4700, 2-wheel drive Turf Special. It's got wide flotation turf tires, a low-profile front end, creep speed for spraying and turf conditioning and a sunshade for added comfort.

Like all Kubota tractors, the M4700 is loaded with features that increase productivity and make operation easy.

An ISO-mounted, semi-flat deck greatly reduces vibration

Creep speed transmission has 12 forward speeds (0.17-13.76 mph) with turf tires.

and minimizes fatigue, while hanging pedals add comfort and ease of operation.

The E-TVCS 5-cylinder diesel engine delivers maximum power, with high torque, low noise and low vibration. Enhanced combustion efficiently

reduces fuel cost and lowers emissions.

The Kubota M4700 Turf Special. It's designed from the ground up for landscape and turf applications. And then some.

For more information, please write to:

**Kubota**

KUBOTA TRACTOR CORPORATION  
P.O. Box 2992, Dept. GCN  
Torrance, CA 90509-2992

Financing available through Kubota Credit Corporation

