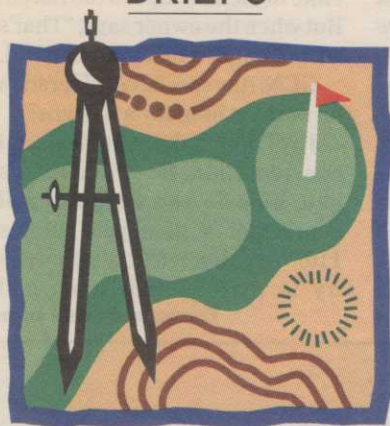


BRIEFS



COST ESTIMATE BOOK UPDATED

CHAPEL HILL N.C. — The Golf Course Builders Association of America (GCBA) has updated its Guide to Estimating Cost for Golf Course Construction, originally published in 1996 as a tool for prospective golf course owners and developers. The guide contains descriptions of 25 line items in the construction of a golf course, with charts showing their average costs in the regions of the continental United States, and directions for estimating the cost of a given project. Contact information for the GCBA's Builder Members and a bibliography of additional resources are also included. *Guide to Estimating Cost for Golf Course Construction* is available for \$50 from the GCBA office, 920 Airport Rd., Suite 210, Chapel Hill N.C. 27514; phone 919-942-8922.

NASHVILLE GETTING FIRST TEE

KINGSTON SPRINGS, Tenn. — Nashville's Metropolitan Parks and Recreation and the Tennessee Golf Foundation's Vinny Pro-Celebrity Invitational are bringing to Nashville a First Tee golf course and ongoing programs for minority and at-risk youth through an new agreement. The Riverview Course, a nine-hole short course at Shelby Park in East Nashville, will be extensively renovated as a par-3 First Tee course. A new clubhouse will also be built to serve as home for a broad range of instructional, educational and vocational golf programs for juniors, officials said.

THREE BY FOSTER NEAR COMPLETION

LAS VEGAS — Golf course architect Keith Foster is putting the finishing touches on his three designs that are under construction., including Anthem here in Las Vegas on which he collaborated with Hale Irwin. Anthem is an upscale Del Webb private community, boasting the par-72, 7,100-yard course that has been grassed. A December opening is expected. Shepherd's Crook in North Chicago is six months ahead of schedule and will be completed by late September. The par-71, 6,900-yard daily-fee course will open next summer. The Tennessean at Kentucky Lake is a daily-fee course that is being grassed and will open in late summer of 1999. The Tennessean is located near Kentucky Lake in Paris.

It's a 'softer, gentler' Nicklaus in design

By TED JOHNSON

He is an icon of golf. Perhaps the greatest golfer ever, his face recognizable the world over. He has rung up scores of PGA Tour and Senior Tour victories, was named Athlete of the Decade for the 1970s and, in 1988, was selected Player of the Century. He has a closet full of green jackets from Augusta National for his Masters victories.



Jack Nicklaus

Yet, the 58-year-old Columbus, Ohio native's work as an architect may be more lasting than his playing records.

"Of the early courses I did, more than half were for tournament golf," he said during the ceremonial first round at Grand Haven Golf Course in Palm Coast, Fla. "So I got a reputation for doing difficult courses because I had to build them that way. I have opened 164 courses. Of those at least 100 you probably won't hear of. The pros won't hear of [Grand Haven]. Yet more than 60 of my courses have held more than 300 professional tour events. We're very proud of it."

After the round, Nicklaus sat down for an interview.

Golf Course News: Is there anything on this property that shows how you have evolved as an architect?

Jack Nicklaus: Twenty-five years ago, **Continued on page 22**



Nicklaus opens 164th course: Grand Haven

PALM COAST, Fla. — Grand Haven is "a good member's course," designer Jack Nicklaus said at the opening of this new layout that winds through marsh and woods. Although Grand Haven won't host a U.S. Open, it is memorable, enjoyable, even picturesque.

Nicklaus' work at Grand Haven features the varied flora and fauna, live oaks, saw palmettos, cord grass and marshes. Though it is located about two hours northeast of Orlando, it has some South Carolina low country in it. The oaks and

sandy waste areas on the 13th and 14th holes, particularly, seem uncharacteristic for the area but are pretty just the same.

The layout measures from 6,350 to 7,069 yards. Landing areas are wide and well defined. The sight lines to the hole on the par-4s and par-5s, with the exception being the 18th, are obvious.

For all the forgiveness that Nicklaus allows on the tee shot, he's much more demanding on the approaches to the

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CEC Properties purchases First Golf

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. — CEC Properties, Inc. of Newport Beach has bought substantially all of the assets of First Golf Corp. of Tempe, Ariz.

First Golf manages the construction of golf courses nationwide and has built more than 25 courses since 1987. Its newest course, Harbor Links in Nassau County, Long Island, N.Y., recently had its grand opening and had a very strong first month. First Golf Acquisition Corp. becomes a wholly owned subsidiary of CEC Properties.

"CEC Properties, a golf services company, has now acquired both a golf course construction management and golf course facility management company as wholly owned subsidiaries," said Paul Balalis, CEC Properties president, chairman and chief executive officer. "This gives us a tremendous advantage in being able to provide excellent and expanded services to the golfing industry."

First Golf currently has contracts for the development and

Continued on page 24



PGA Tour great David Stockton, left, and new golf course design partner Gary Roger Baird.

Stockton, Baird link up

SANTA ANA, Calif.—Gary Roger Baird, whose golf course design career dates back to the late 1960s, and Dave Stockton, a golf professional for three decades, have formed a design alliance. Stockton's PGA Tour victories include three major championships, two PGA Championships and the 1996 U.S. Senior Open Championship. Twice, Stockton was selected as a member of the Ryder Cup Team, and captained the U.S. team in 1991. With 14 Senior PGA Tour victories, including the 1992 and 1994 Senior Players Championships, Stockton is near the top of the Senior Players Tour in winnings again this year.

"Gary Baird has been a top designer for nearly 30 years, dating back to his days with the Robert Trent Jones organization in the 1960s. Gary has created great courses on several continents, many of which have held major tournaments, both

Continued on page 26

Ex-Paragon employee starts fresh

By MICHAEL LEVANS

ATLANTA, Ga. — Terry Bohannon — a 20-year veteran in the golf development business — believes that you learn from the mistakes of others.

As a matter of fact, he's so certain that this lesson applies to the golf course construction business that he's gone off on his own to form Live Oak Golf Construction Co., based here.

"Being in this business for so long I was able to see that there's a lot of work out there right now," said Bohannon. "And with the right management and the right people it's a great time to be in this business and do it right."

For the last four years he worked with Paragon Construction International as project manager and director of field operations. In that capacity he managed the construction operations of 13 golf courses in the Pacific Rim, including Shanghai Links in China, New Capital in Japan and Borneo Golf Club in Malaysia.

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Q&A: Nicklaus improving with age

Continued from page 21

I had basically two ways of doing golf courses: fairly severe and penal, or something kind of soft. Now, I have so many different ways I do things. So many different ways I can do bunkers, or the way I do greens. Different ways I can do approaches. Different ways of bringing the ball into fairways, repelling and collecting. And I fiddle around with them. And I mix them up.

This is the 164th course I've done, and there is a lot of variety in those courses. I hear from people it's a typical Nicklaus golf course. Well, what is a typical Nicklaus golf course?

I suppose the typical Nicklaus course would be generous off the tee, I've always felt people really enjoy hitting the golf ball and finding it. That means you can make it a little more demanding around the greens. But you have bailouts, where the average golfer can play. I collect golf balls rather than repel them. If that's typical, so be it. I thought Augusta National is a pretty good golf course. That's the way Augusta is. I felt Royal Melbourne is a pretty good course. That's the way Royal Melbourne is. Most [Donald] Ross courses are pretty much that way.

GCN: What specifically did the owners want at Grand Haven?

JN: They wanted a good golf course but not a backbreaking golf course. One that will help development of homes, one that will represent the area. The second course [Ocean Hammock, tentatively slated to open in spring of 2000] will have a little more pizzazz, with the holes particularly on the ocean.

GCN: Is the ultimate compliment of a course that you never get tired of playing it?

JN: I don't think you'll get tired of this course. No two holes look alike. The fault with this course, in my own mind, is that the back nine goes out and back in a row. But that's the way the property set. If I had the ability to break it up, I would have. But you work with the property you have and the way it fits.

GCN: Is there one element in your courses today that 15 or 20 years ago wasn't considered?

JN: There are features I don't use as much as I used to. When I did Loxahatchie [Jupiter, Fla.] and Grand Cypress [Orlando, Fla.], it was kind of a fad to be roly and bumpy, and I hadn't done any of that. At Loxahatchie, they moved a million and half yards of dirt [that] we had to get rid of. So I had to come up with an idea of how to get rid of it. So I did just that. Would I do that again? I'd take the mounds and make them softer. The chocolate drops, you can't cut them.

I'd make them softer so you could take a Bushmower and cut them all.

When I did Desert Highlands and Country Club of the Rockies at the same time, both owners told me, "Jack, we love your courses but your greens are too, easy." You can't say that on those two courses. You don't walk out

there at night without breaking a leg on those greens.

I did flat greens at Colleton River [Hilton Head, S.C.] and rolling greens at Country Club of the Rockies. I'm more able to adapt to what the owner wants. If an owner says, "I don't know, just build me a good golf course," I'll build one that fits that prop-

erty, and I won't get severe with it. I'll be fairly conservative. The last thing an owner wants is to have someone walk off a golf course and not want to play it again, or not buy a piece of property.

GCN: The sharp edges that were in so many courses in the 1980s, like yours at the Nicklaus Resort course in La Quinta, will we see those again?

JN: That's the way they wanted to maintain it. Drop it straight

down. I don't like it, personally. I like to blend it all. It's too harsh. But when the owner says, "That's what I want," I do it. It's his deal.

GCN: Any special consideration for women in today's designs?

JN: I don't take a lot of special consideration for women. It's like, how do you design a golf course for a man who shoots 110? You don't. What you do is try to give enough room and

Continued on next page

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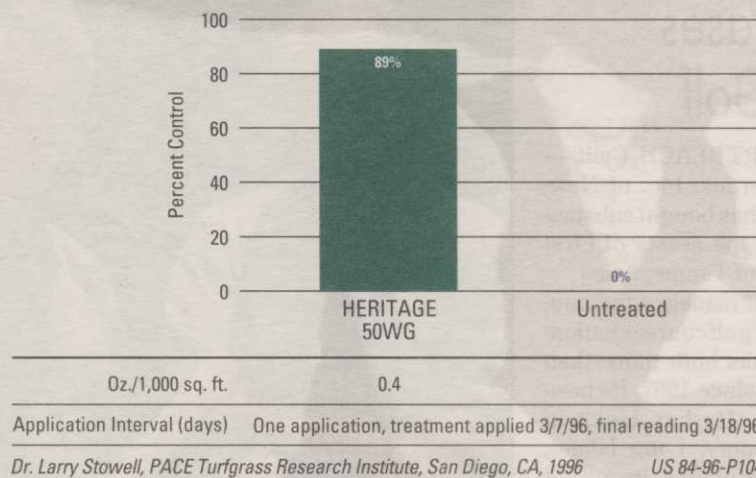
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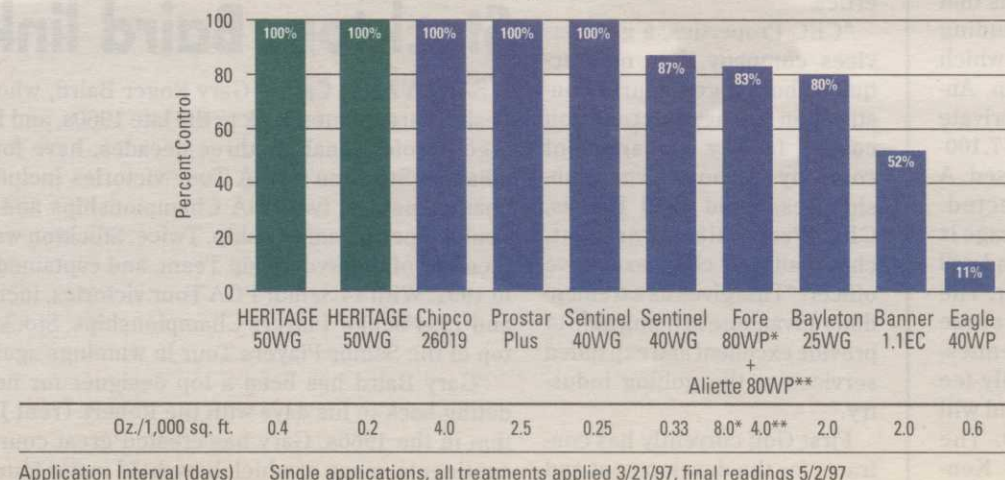
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Q&A: Nicklaus

Continued from previous page
space for people to play and not give them angles that are difficult. You do try to do a regular women's course and a women's championship course, which are basically the seniors' tees. That's a good competitive course. From the regular women's tees, we try to give them a course that is fun for them to play. They are more

than happy to stay out of trouble and stay out of sand. If they don't have any sand or any water, they're happy. That's not most of them, obviously. You try not to give them severe carries. The most severe carry on this course is 77 yards, and a woman out here knew exactly how far it was. I try not to give them more than 60 yards at a time.

GCN: Among the courses, and not just your courses, designed

in the 1990s, what do you think will be a common trend?

JN: Go back 30 years, or 50 years. They moved very little dirt 50 years ago. Winged Foot, Baltusrol, those were just cornfields. There was no shaping, nothing. In 30, 40 years, the trees grew up and people say, "What a great course." It's not a great golf course. It's great trees. Today's golf courses can't be designed to be great courses 30 years

from now. Those courses [Winged Foot, Baltusrol] were club courses. There was no real estate involved. There was no "now" involved. Golf courses today are "now" courses. You have to sell your real estate, your hotels. They've got to have it done "now." So, features have been put into courses, the bunkering and all, to attract people to the course. Do we need all the fingers in the bunkers and the funny things we do?

You don't need those. Are they pretty? Yeah, because there isn't a 100-year-old oak tree in the middle of the fairway. We did Wynstone in Chicago, it has these birch trees all through the golf course. You don't find many bunkers. Don't need 'em.

Look at Muirfield Village. It's 24 years old, but it looks like an old course. When their trees have grown up, in 30 years, these courses will have movement and the trees. They'll be better than courses that have no features with trees grown up.

GCN: What's missing in the way today's best courses are played?

JN: I disagreed with what they did at Winged Foot and at Congressional. I've said many times that Arnold Palmer made his name by hitting the ball out into the rough and standing out there with his people and slicing the ball out of the trees. If Arnold Palmer had tried to make his name out of the rough at Winged Foot or Congressional, they never would have heard of Arnold Palmer. Seriously. [Now] you can't hit the ball out of the rough.

All you can do was pitch it out. Arnold was exciting because he was always hitting recovery shots. Now they make the rough so deep you can't play out of it and it makes the game dull. I hope you understand what I'm saying about Arnold.

GCN: You mean you hope Arnold understands?

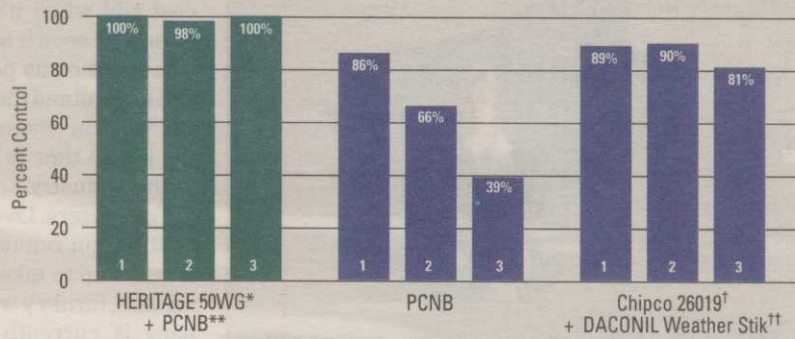
JN: Arnold is a straight driver today. He wasn't a straight driver when he was winning. But I loved what Donald Ross used to do. Ross used to go to Pinehurst and walk through the trees. Pinehurst is a golf course that is totally tree-lined without a tree being involved in the strategy. Much like this course. He would walk through the trees and see where golf balls had been hit. He'd say, "This tree has grown and this tree has grown. Take this tree out and this one out. Now someone could play a recovery through here." Because he felt that was part of the excitement and fun of the game, to recover. Not be dead just because you hit the ball off the fairway.

GCN: Of the top five courses in the world that you didn't design, how much do you feel is credited to the land or to the design?

JN: Very little is the design. Pebble Beach? Very little of the design. Pine Valley? Cypress Point? I have said a thousand times, Cypress Point is the best piece of ground I've ever seen for a golf course. Take Cypress Point off that property and put it somewhere else, it's just another golf course. There are a lot of good courses that if you put them on the ocean they become great golf courses. The location makes the golf course, most of the time.



Snow Mold (*Microdochium nivale* and *Typhula ishikariensis*)¹ on Annual Bluegrass (*M. nivale* only)² on Turfgrass (*T. incarnata*, *T. ishikariensis*, *T. phacorrhiza* and *M. nivale*)³ on Annual Bluegrass



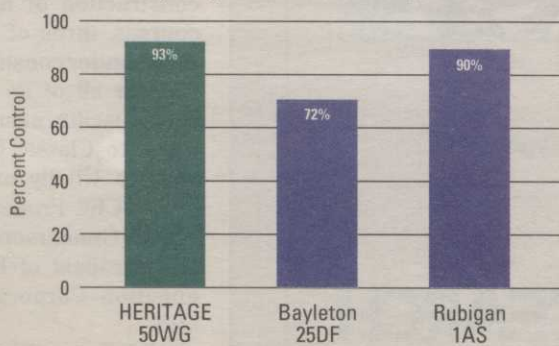
Oz./1,000 sq. ft.	0.4* 12.0**	16.0 ¹ 12.0 ² 3.1 lb ³	4.0 [†] 5.5 ^{††}
Application Interval (days)	Single applications, all treatments applied 10/21/97, ¹ 11/17/96, ² and 11/7/97, ³ final readings 4/1/98, ¹ 3/26/97 ² and 3/29/98 ³		

¹Bozman, MT ²Amherst, MA ³Sayner (Plum Lake), WI
¹Dr. Rob Golembiewski, Montana State University, 1998
²Dr. Gail Schumann, University of Massachusetts, 1997

³Jeff Gregos, University of Wisconsin—Madison, 1998
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