

BRIEFS



Paula Meeker



Dan Harper

ENVIRONMENTAL GOLF ADDS ONE, PROMOTES ANOTHER

CALABASAS, Calif. — Environmental Golf has added Paula Meeker to its business development team and named Dan Harper operations manager for course construction. In her new position, Meeker will seek to increase Environmental Golf's overall golf maintenance and management business. She formerly worked as director of marketing with Arnold Palmer Golf Course Management. Harper joined Environmental Golf in 1990, most recently serving as senior project manager overseeing purchasing and estimating for several projects. His new duties make him responsible for overall management of all golf course development and construction.

FORBES RE-ELECTED NCA PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON — Charles Forbes was re-elected president of the National Club Association at the organization's recent annual meeting. Forbes is a former partner with the Los Angeles law firm Musick, Peeler & Garrett; a past president of the California Club; and president of the California State Club Association. Also re-elected as officers were J. Bryan Williams, vice president; Frank Stover, treasurer; and Robert James, secretary.

NGCOA ADDS CALIF. CHAPTER

MONTEREY, Calif. — A new chapter of the National Golf Course Owners Association has been formed in California. Based in Monterey, the California Golf Course Owners Association (CGCOA) will be headed by President Paul Porter, president and chief executive officer of Poppy Hills Golf Course and Poppy Ridge Golf Course.

LINKSCORP ACQUIRES TWO

NORTHFIELD, Ill. — LinksCorp has purchased a pair of courses, Harbor View Golf Club in Suffolk, Va., and Willow Creek Golf Club in Greer, S.C. Tom Doak-designed Harbor View is scheduled to open this summer. Willow Creek is a Tom Jackson design that opened in 1995.

Arizona management company poised for changes

By PETER BLAIS

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — A new name and a new mission.

The Masters Group, a Scottsdale-based course management firm, has changed its name to MorningStar Golf International. MorningStar currently operates Great Eagle Golf Club in Surprise and Prescott Golf & Country Club in Prescott. The company hopes to add five courses to its portfolio in the next 12 months, according to Vice President Robert Berkman.

"We're positioning the company to expand and acquire new properties, and we're in the process of doing an equity raise," said MGI President Doug Remy, who predicted rapid and strong growth for the 5-year-old firm.

The new equity will allow MorningStar to focus its expansion efforts on underperforming, mid-tier courses, i.e. green fees between \$25 to \$60.

"We want to provide good, consistent service at the mid-tier," Berkman said. "Figuring out how to do it with the right economics is where we think there is some opportunity. You need to buy the



The par-3, 11th hole at Arizona's Great Eagle Golf Club, a MorningStar Golf International property.

courses at the right price with the right demographics around it. The service component, if done correctly, can really change and maximize the economics of the golf course."

In addition to Great Eagle and Prescott,

MGI also managed the Mountain View Golf Club for Arthur Anderson & Co. as court-appointed trustee, and provided consulting services for the San Marcos Golf & Country Club.

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Private club launched in Mich. resort area

By PETER BLAIS

ROSCOMMON, Mich. — Developers of a private country club community centered around a Tom Weiskopf-designed 18-hole course opening this summer are hoping to attract Detroit-area executives and professionals interested in purchasing second homes at the gateway to Northern Michigan's recreational playground.

Tom Barrett, Jerry Petersen and Payne Palmer have developed second-home, master-planned communities in Scottsdale, Ariz. (Desert Highlands and Troon Golf & Country Club), Payson, Ariz. (Chaparral Pines and The Rim), Seattle (McCormick Woods) and Scotland (Loch Lomond).

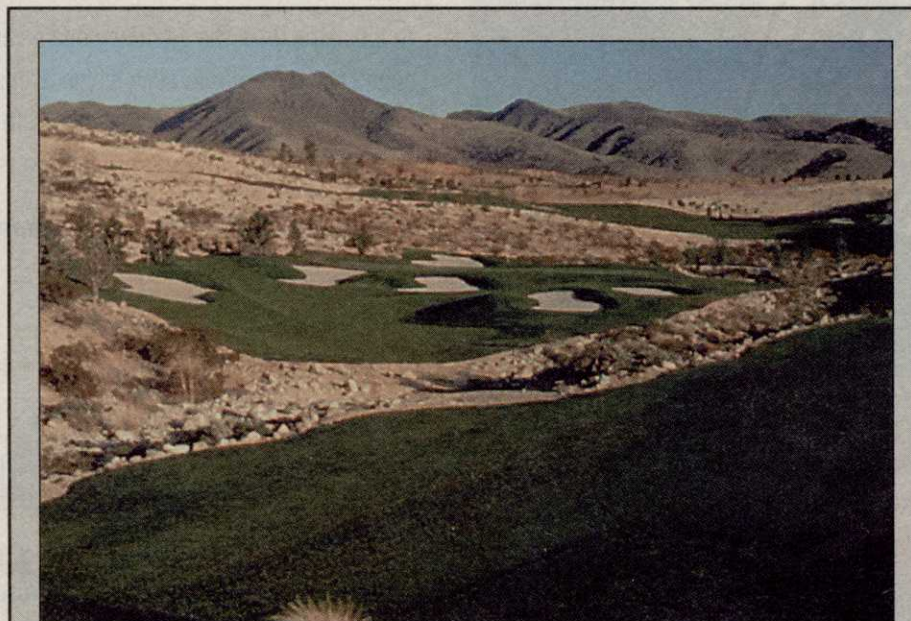
Forest Dunes represents their first effort in a Snow Belt area.

"You really have to think about developing amenities like ice skating, and being able to change over the pro shop to cross-country skiing and snowshoeing," Barrett said of the new venue. "We'll have buses bringing kids skiing at Boyne Mountain on Saturdays and Sundays. We need to promote other forms of recreation at a four-season resort.

"Golf runs from May through mid-October. We're so far north and west in the time zone that most of the summer you can tee off at 5:30 p.m. and still get in 18 holes."

The lot sale program, which is similar to ones the developers have used else-

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DEL WEBB ADDS LAS VEGAS TRACK

HENDERSON, Nevada — The Revere at Anthem, the first of four new daily-fee courses planned for Del Webb's Anthem Community, is open for play. Professional golfer Billy Casper and architect Greg Nash designed the 7,143-yard layout, located minutes from the Las Vegas Strip. John Marzolf has overseen construction and will serve as superintendent.

Kemper Sports to operate California's Black Gold course

NORTHBROOK, Ill. — Kemper Sports Management has signed a long-term agreement with the city of Yorba Linda, Calif., to manage Black Gold Golf Club, an 18-hole daily-fee course scheduled to open in November 2000. Kemper will act as development consultant during the construction phase and assume management upon opening.

Located 10 miles northwest of Disneyland in Orange County, Black Gold Golf Club will feature a lighted driving range, putting green and 12,000-square-foot clubhouse.

Architect Arthur Hills designed Black Gold on 225 acres of a former oil field that has been in production for Shell Oil Company since the 1930s. Hills paid special attention to the environment in his design as has planned to restore and integrate more than 60 acres of habitat for the native threatened bird, the gnatcatcher. Several active oil pumps will remain on the property.

Black Gold Golf Club is part of the city of Yorba Linda's Vista del Verde, a master-planned community that will convert 1,100 acres of the former oil field into a high-end residential development that will include 2,100 single-family homes, an elementary school, 10 miles of pedestrian and equestrian trails and two five-acre parks.



ACQUISITIONS