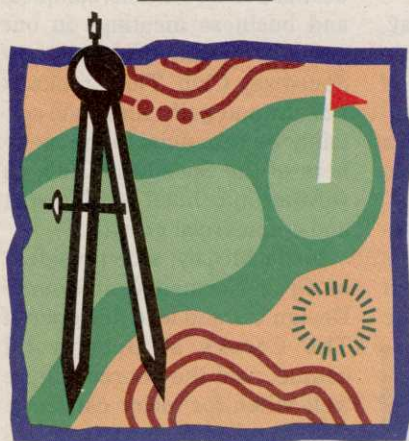


BRIEFS



BOOK ADDRESSES ENV'L ISSUES

CHICAGO — The Environmental Committee of the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) has produced a new edition of "An Environmental Approach to Golf Course Development." The 48-page booklet was first introduced in 1992 as a reference tool for those involved in planning or remodeling golf courses. The fully illustrated book addresses ways golf course architects, superintendents, builders, developers, owners and others are working to create and maintain courses in concert with environment. The book also contains specific checklists for reference during the permitting and overall development process. To obtain a copy people may send a check for \$12 to: ASGCA, 221 N. LaSalle St., Chicago, Ill. 60601.

CAVERLY FIRM A CHARTER MEMBER

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Golf Course Construction, Inc. of Howell, Mich., has become the 27th Charter Member of the Golf Course Builders Association of America (GCBA). Glenn Caverly founded Golf Course Construction in 1989. It joined the GCBA as a builder member in 1991 and has been a certified golf course builder since 1994. It is one of the host companies for the GCBA's Stick for Kids junior golf program, and most recently was a sponsor for the 1998 GCBA summer golf tournament. Caverly has been on the GCBA board of directors since 1996 and serves on the Builder Certification Committee.

ASGCA ELEVATES SIX ASSOCIATES

CHICAGO — Six associates were elected regular members of the American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) at its recent annual meeting in Charleston. They are Chris Cochran of North Palm Beach, Fla.; Chris Commins of Jacksonville, Fla.; Perry Dye of Denver, Colo.; Les Furber of Alberta, Canada; Neil Haworth of Honolulu; and Ray Hearn of Plymouth, Mich. The new regular members have been associate members in good standing for three or more years, have completed the final requirements for full membership and have been approved by the ASGCA board of governors.



O'Meara, title notches on his belt, eyes design

Mark O'Meara, winner of 23 professional tournaments worldwide—including the 1998 Masters and British Open—has teamed up with IMG Design's Brit Stenson and the ClubLink Corp. to design his first golf course at the Grandview Inn in Huntsville, Ontario. While O'Meara has consulted on several golf course designs, this will be his first signature layout. Golf Course News recently caught up with Mark between the Masters and his departure to play in the Chunichi Crowns in Togo, Japan to talk about his first venture into golf course design.

GCN: Has design work been something that you've always wanted to do?

O'Meara: Actually it has. I remember in high school when I was playing on the golf team, I would sketch out different golf holes with bunkers and greens. I've always had a fascination with golf course design. And having played for 19 years as a professional, while I do not classify myself as an expert, I've learned a lot from playing all over the world and playing with all different types of players.

GCN: What made you decide to jump into the design business now?

O'Meara: I felt like at 42 years of age, my playing career, while still busy now, will be slowing down in the next couple years. There wasn't any reason why I shouldn't take a look at golf design to see if this is something that I wanted to do.

GCN: You won two majors last year, what impact did that have on your decision to design golf courses?

O'Meara: For the last ten years, people have been trying to get me to design courses. I have consulted on some, like the TPC in Los Angeles. But since I won the Masters and the British Open, people have been asking me a lot more, the exposure helps.



Mark O'Meara, left, and Bruce Simmonds, president and CEO of ClubLink, celebrate the announcement of O'Meara's first design at the Grandview Inn in Huntsville, Ontario.

GCN: Given your extensive international experience, do you plan on designing courses worldwide?

O'Meara: Winning the Open has been a stepping stone to international work and golf course design. I've also played a lot of golf around the world, more so than other American players. From that standpoint, having a name like O'Meara and having Irish background, there is the possibility of doing a course in Ireland and perhaps other places in Europe and Asia as well.

GCN: How have your experiences on the Tour influenced your design philosophy? How will you design a course for high handicappers?

O'Meara: Playing on the PGA Tour and internationally has given me the opportunity to play a lot of the world's great golf

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Forty miles west of Washington, D.C., Bull Run Country Club opens in late June.

Jacobson's Bull Run opens in June

HAYMARKET, Va. — The creator of the acclaimed Augustine Golf Club in suburban Washington, D.C., has designed another daily-fee course here at the foot of Bull Run Mountain 40 miles west of the nation's capital.

Rick Jacobson of Jacobson Golf Course Design used the heavily wooded and naturally rolling terrain of northern Virginia to give Bull Run Country Club the traditional look and feel of a course born decades ago. At the same time, he employed contemporary design principles to create a memorable course.

"The course can be set up to be challenging enough for tournament play, but it's user-friendly from the front and middle tees," Jacobson said. "The fairways have nice landing areas and there are bail-out areas around the greens."

The course had a "soft" opening on April 1. Nine holes opened last fall. A grand opening is planned for late June.

"Rick did a great job," said Director of Golf Larry Spielberg. "We've had people tell us it's the best golf course in the area. There's not a weak hole out there. From the time you tee off, the course just keeps getting better and better."

The par-72 course measures 6,961 yards from the back tees, with Bull Run Mountain providing a dramatic background. Water comes into play on nine holes, thanks to three lakes. There are 73 bunkers in addition to streams, environmentally sensitive wetlands and ravines.

The practice area includes driving range, putting green, chipping area and sand bunker.

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Camelback GC undergoes \$12M renovation

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Camelback Golf Club at Marriott's Camelback Inn has broken ground on a \$12.1 million enhancement project that will include a complete re-design of the Padre Course and practice range, along with an expanded clubhouse, pro shop and restaurant.

During the renovation period, through Dec. 31, the Indian Bend course will remain open and a temporary clubhouse will serve food and beverages on a limited basis.

The renovation of the Padre course will be designed and managed by course architect Arthur Hills.

According to Hills project manager Chris Wilczynski, "The golfing experience at the new Padre golf course will be very unique to the Southwest. The course is not within a desert setting like most golf courses in this area. It is a parkland setting with large mature trees and lush green turf."

The finished product will be a classic design with strategic bunkering, traditional square tees and very subtle land forms. Every hole will feature a new green, tees and bunkers. While some holes will maintain their current routing, others will be re-routed to increase the overall playability, competitiveness and appeal. In addition to lengthening the course from 6,500 yards to 6,800 yards, three new lakes will be added to create extra beauty and challenge.

NORTH FORT WORTH, Texas — The Beechwood Co. has announced the construction of an 18-hole Greg Norman resort course at its new 900-acre master-planned development next to Texas Motor Speedway here.

Groundbreaking was April 27 for The Creeks at Beechwood course, which will be Norman's first in the Dallas/Fort Worth area

Norman track across street from Speedway

and his ninth in the United States. The \$10 million track, directly across State Highway 114 from Texas Motor Speedway, will be completed in the fall of 2000.

"I really look forward to working with Beechwood Co. on such a fine piece of land with the creeks and such great topography for the North Texas area," said Norman.

Set among a lushly wooded

landscape and three spring-fed creeks, he Creeks at Beechwood will be accompanied by a four-star hotel and conference center at the newly announced Beechwood Business Park, a 900-acre development for corporate campus office buildings, retail shops, restaurants and other commercial projects.

Eddie Gossage, general man-

ager of Texas Motor Speedway, said Beechwood Business Park, The Creeks at Beechwood golf course and a soon-to-be-announced resort hotel will be a "perfect next-door neighbor" to the Speedway.

"The Beechwood development and Texas Motor Speedway perfectly complement each other," Gossage said. "The

Speedway is a 365-day-a-year destination for tourists, banquets and business meetings in our recently completed, nine-story Speedway Club. The Creeks at Beechwood golf course will certainly be beneficial to the members of the Speedway Club, as will the future hotel development and commercial growth."

Jason McCoy, vice president of Greg Norman Golf Course Design Co. and lead designer of The Creeks at Beechwood course, said the course will be well-suited for major corporate events and tournaments that ties into Texas Motor Speedway.

"We think the idea of The Creeks at Beechwood being right next to Texas Motor Speedway is pretty unique," McCoy said.

Bull Run to open

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Jacobson said the need to create two man-made lakes and expand an existing lake to accommodate irrigation supply was one of the principle challenges of the project. While attempting to construct the originally proposed lakes, the bulldozers struck rock. Budget restrictions prevented dynamiting, so Jacobson adapted on the fly.

"We had to adjust the elevation of the original design and layout of several holes adjacent to the lakes," Jacobson said. "For example, the 8th hole originally was a par-3 based on the original plan to expand the lake. But because we ran into the rock, the lake design had to be modified, so we changed it to a reachable par-4."

Far from being a throwaway hole, the 8th is an example of the risk-reward theme Jacobson carried throughout the course. It's a 350-yarder that plays downwind from a tee box elevated 60 feet above the fairway. Players who risk cutting their tee shots over the bunkers on the right could run the ball up on the green and set up a possible eagle putt.

The risk-reward equation for the double-fairway 9th hole invites players to cut 30 yards off their approach shots by driving down from the elevated tee to the lower fairway that's adjacent to a lake.

The 13th hole rewards players with an open shot to the green if they choose to cut off much of the lake from their elevated tee shot.

The par-5 18th plays downhill with the prevailing wind. Players who risk hitting their second shots over a lake can reach the green in two, while those who choose the bail out area are usually destined to make at least 4 on the hole. The shot to the green is "between the uprights" of two sycamore trees that frame the putting surface.



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