

Wencel designs for 'drama, fun' at new Nebraska layouts

PAPILLION, Neb. — Eagle Hills Golf Club, a new Grant Wencel course, opened here recently in this small town southwest of Omaha.

The 18-hole layout features three distinct parts and experiences, Wencel said — a wooded creek area, an open floodplain

section, and a back nine that weaves through a residential area. "Six holes start you off strong and strategically through the wooded area," he said. "These are the holes you'll remember, because they'll challenge you."

Holes seven, eight and nine play across the flat and open ter-

rain, which includes the practice facility. "The great feature to the practice facility," Wencel said, "is that it includes three full-length practice holes — two par-4s and a par-3, for junior golfers and beginners."

The range is also lighted, which had to be approved by nearby Offutt Air Force Base because the course is situated in its flight pattern.

The land for Eagle Hills was donated by the home-building firm Rogers Development. Duinick Brothers of Minnesota built the course.

Wencel also has designed the new Stone Creek Golf Course, a 27-hole public facility at the heart of a new residential community in west Omaha. The site consists of broad rolling hills on former cornfields. The course, not yet open, is meant to be "dramatic, fun and playable for anyone," he said. "For this reason, each nine is short in yardage — 3,100 to 3,300 yards — but each still plays to a par 36. It's a flowing journey, as all the holes except a few have elevation changes and movement. Holes designed as part of the new lakes may be the standouts."

The funnel-shaped practice range hits into a broad valley and contains nine elevated teeing areas stepped down side to side and back to front. "This course should be a favorite place for learning players and junior programs," Wencel said. The major subcontractors at Stone Creek are Golf LLC and Dave Way, of Omaha.

First Golf to build Hollow Brook

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. — CEC Properties, Inc., announced that its wholly owned subsidiary, First Golf Corp., has signed a contract with Natelli Communities to construct and manage a \$5.2-million development project.

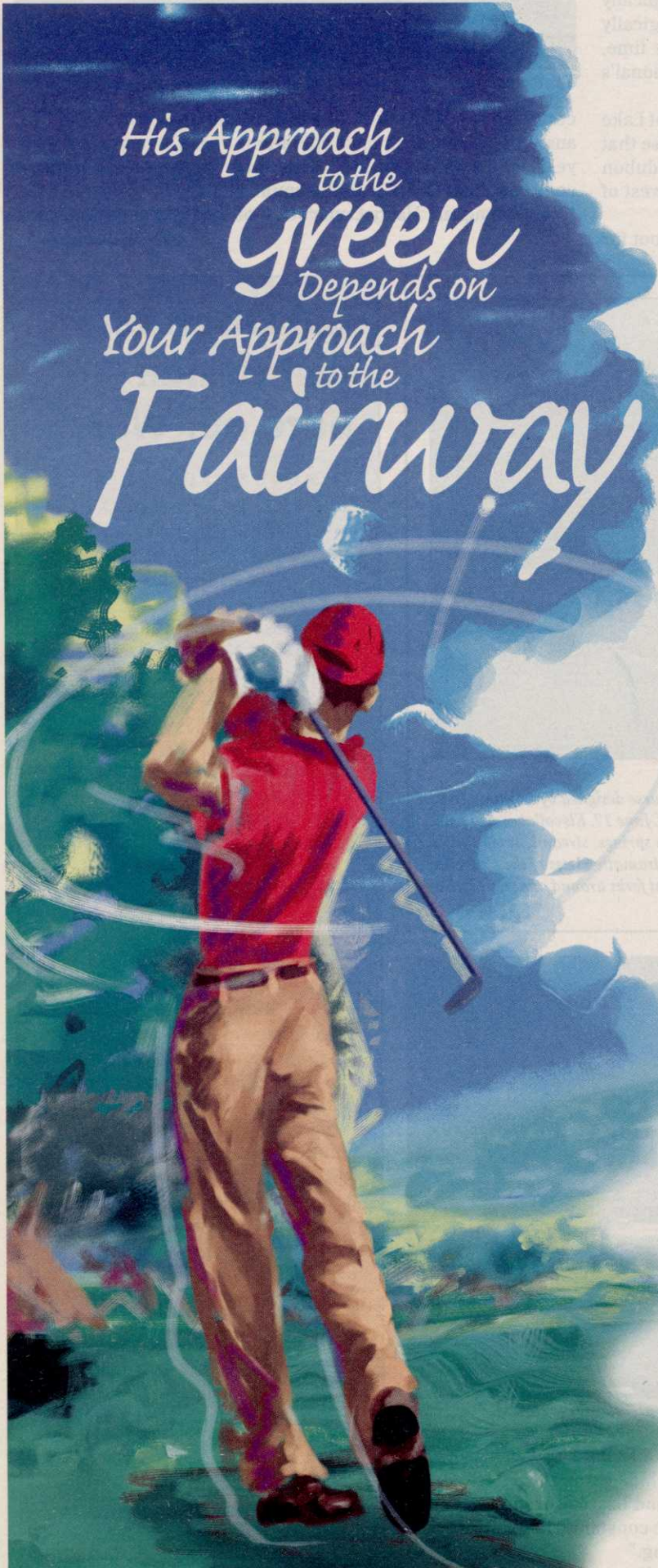
Hollow Creek Golf Course, at Glenbrook, located in Frederick County, Md., will feature a championship golf course with a complete practice facility. Under the terms of the contract, a portion of the Glenbrook property will convey to First Golf for the construction and operation of the facility. First Golf will provide the construction management, design review, and grow-in for Glenbrook Properties.

First Golf Corp. is expected to begin the preliminary layout work this summer and start the rough grading work before fall. The course is expected to open in late 2001. Architect Rick Jacobson designed the layout.

First Golf currently has six courses under construction. CEC Properties Inc., is engaged in development, construction management, maintenance, and ownership of golf course facilities.



The 156-yard, par-3 6th hole at Wencel's Eagle Hills



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