**MANDELL CHOSEN FOR EXPANSION**

STEVENSVILLE, Md. — Queen Anne's County Parks and Recreation Department has hired Richard Mandell of Whole In One Design Group of Durham, N.C., to add nine holes to Blue Heron Golf Course here. Blue Heron is on Kent Island of the Eastern Shore. The existing nine-hole layout will be re-worked to solve safety issues and incorporate strategic design into the layout, Mandell said. Queen Anne's County is upgrading and expanding the course to attract a larger market share of Eastern Shore golfers as well as golfers from the Annapolis area. "The site has great natural beauty I plan to enhance," Mandell said.

ASGCA HOSTS REMODELING UNIVERSITY

DULUTH, Ga. — The American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) will host Remodeling University: A short Course to a Better



Course, a day-long symposium on March 2 designed to educate golf course decision-makers about the basics of golf course remodeling. ASGCA president John LaFoy will headline the event at Atlanta

Athletic Club here. It is co-sponsored by Georgia State Golf Association and will feature a panel of ASGCA members, including Arthur Hills, Clyde Johnston and Bob Cupp. To register, people should contact the ASGCA, 221 North LaSalle St., Suite 3500, Chicago Ill. 60601; telephone 312-372-7090.

INT'L EVENT'S FOCUS: CONSTRUCTION

FRANKFURT, Germany — The International Trade Exhibition & Conference on Golf Course Planning, Construction and Maintenance is scheduled to be held here, Dec. 5-7, 2000. Organized by Golf Course International, the event will inform attendees about issues of construction, care, maintenance and modernization — a key area being wastewater treatment and its re-use for irrigating golf courses. Interested people in the United States should call 412-480-7990 or e-mail: TantoGolf@aol.com

WEED TO DESIGN AUSTIN TRACK

AUSTIN, Texas — Weed Design has been selected to design Bee Cave Golf Club, an 18-hole course on the outskirts of the city. The 6,900-yard par-71 layout will be part of an effort to restore Austin's native grassland to a previously overgrazed property. Clearing work is taking place and construction is expected to start in the spring.

New wetlands regulations tighten the screws

By MARK LESLIE

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Nine out of 10 golf course projects could be affected by new national wetlands regulations that are expected to be instituted on April 14 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

The regulations, which control jurisdictional waters of the United States such as wetlands, streams and lakes, were scheduled to go into effect

on Dec. 31, 1999, but they were delayed for some tweaking. Reportedly included are two new rules that could have wide-ranging impacts on developments:

- Preconstruction notifications (PCNs) will likely be required on all projects impacting more than 1/10-acre. Nationwide Permit (NWP) 26, which will be replaced by five new NWPs in April, now allows for 1/3-acre impact without PCNs; and it was anticipated to be reduced to 1/4-acre — until now.

- On the other hand, a less-restrictive ruling regarding golf course construction in flood plains appears to be in the works.

"Greater than one-third of our projects in coastal areas over the past 10 years have had wetlands impacts of several thousand square feet," said Dr. Stuart Cohen, president of Environmental & Turf Services, Inc. in Wheaton, Md. "In

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Dye's PGA track enviro-friendly

By KIT BRADSHAW

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. — They say that "under all is the sand" in South Florida. When golf course architect Pete Dye first surveyed the course that was to bear his name at PGA Village here, this saying was only partially true. In addition to the flat sandy topography, there was something else he had to accommodate when designing The Big Mamu. The Big Mamu is a 100-acre marsh that not only needed to be preserved, but protected via the design.

When he first walked this 300-acre combination of sand and wetlands, Dye knew his job would be demanding. He was creating a course that had to follow strict environmental guidelines, combine playability with challenge, but also be a showcase to the golf world, since The Dye Course would be part of the PGA of



Pete Dye's new course at PGA Village mixes water, sand — and trouble.

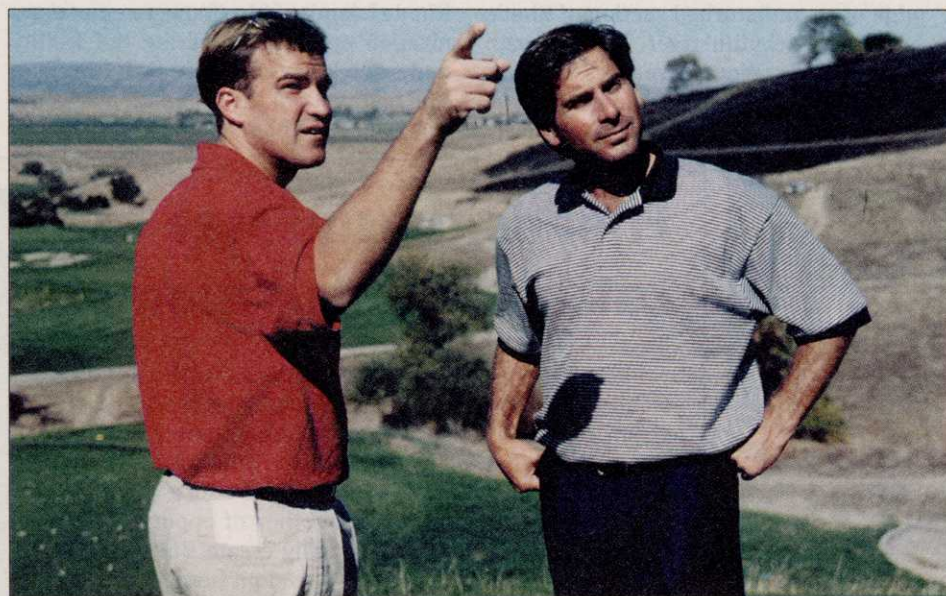
America's PGA Village.

On Jan. 1, at the height of the tourist season along Florida's Treasure Coast, The Dye Course officially opened to the public. Built as part of the triumvirate of public courses for PGA Village, it is an extraordi-

nary combination of tradition, preservation and innovation in design.

Not only did Dye design the course in the traditional fashion, with the holes going out and back, but he used every

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Kipp Schulties, left, with PGA Tour great Fred Couples.

Schulties gains steam

Kipp Schulties, 30, worked for the Gene Bates/Fred Couples design team for seven years before opening his own firm two years ago with offices in Palm Beach, Fla., and New York City. Among the Indiana native's best-known designs are the Boca Raton (Fla.) Resort & Club (Kipp Schulties Golf Design Inc. for Gene Bates) and Quail Lodge Resort Golf Club in Carmel, Calif. Other Schulties' efforts include Carolina Golf Club in Southport, N.C., and Heron Ridge Golf Club, both with Fred Couples. Schulties has a bachelor's degree in civil

engineering from Purdue University and a master's in business administration from the University of Miami. A single-digit-handicap golfer while in college, Schulties didn't consider becoming a golf course architect until his mother suggested he find out if there was such a profession during his sophomore year at Purdue.

Golf Course News: How did you get into course design?

KS: On spring break my sophomore year I decided to go to Florida and see if there

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Hyatt to build \$152M resort

CAMBRIDGE, Md. — A venture including Chicago-based Hyatt Corp. has secured funding to build a \$152-million privately financed waterfront Hyatt resort, golf course and marina on Maryland's scenic Eastern Shore here.

The resort hotel and conference center will be owned by Maryland Economic Development Corp. (MEDCO) and managed by Hyatt. The developer is Quadrangle Development Corp. and construction management will be provided by Clark Enterprises, Inc. Construction was financed by the sale of tax-exempt revenue bonds to private institutions.

Phase I of the project will be construction of the 400-room Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Resort, which will include an 18-hole golf course, 24,000-square-foot conference center, 15,000-square-foot health and fitness spa and a 150-slip marina. Hyatt-signature pools and restaurants will enhance the resort experience for guests. The resort is scheduled for completion in December 2001.

Wetlands regs

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past when, talking about impacting 10,000 square feet, it has been easy to mitigate — a wave of the hand. But, if you have 1/10-acre limit, it will greatly lengthen an already long permitting process."

More than one-third of our coastal projs over the last 10 years have impacted more than 1/10 but less than an acre. The PCN change would affect nearly all golf course projects, while the flood-plain ruling would impact about half, according to Dr. Richard Whiteside of Wetland and Ecological Consultants in Woodstock, Ga.

"One of the things I was very concerned about is the NWP program (usually the easiest and best to work with if you have to do it, because of its time limits, etc.) was going to be prohibitive for projects in the 100-year flood plain under these proposed changes," said Whiteside. A restrictive flood-plain component could force developers into dealing with the individual permitting process, which is more time-consuming than NWPs, he added.

Since homes can't be insured if built in the 100-year flood plain, non-structured developments like golf courses are often built in those low areas.

The USACE plans to replace NWP 26 with five new NWPs, but a USACE statement reported: "Permittees will have up to 12 months to complete activities authorized under NWP 26, provided construction activities commence, or are under contract to commence, before the existing NWP 26 expires."

Saying that NWP 26 is too broad, the USACE decided five separate NWPs could more accurately address specific activities that are similar and have similar effects, such as recreational activities.

When it was last rewritten, in January 1997, NWP 26 reduced the number of acres a project could affect. Before then, a developer could impact one to 10 acres of isolated wetlands or stream headwaters. One acre could be affected without seeking permits. Under the 1997 revision, permits were required for any impact of more than 1/3 acre. The 10-acre maximum of wetlands that could be affected was reduced to 3 acres.

NWP 39, as it is written today, would reduce that 1/3-acre to 1/4. However, USACE sources have suggested the lower limit will be 1/10 acre. The 3-acre maximum would remain in place, but may often not be met because the limit on any project would be the baseline (1/4 or 1/10, for instance) acre plus 2 per-

cent of the total project acreage.

Under the anticipated new regulations, mitigation is going to be baseline, Whiteside said.

According to USACE, NWPs 41, 42, 43 and 44 will also be instituted in April.

NWP 39 is intended for residential, commercial, and institutional development activities, including construction or expansion of building foundations or pads, as well as roads, utilities,

sidewalks, and other similar infrastructure. This includes golf courses, playgrounds, ball fields and nature trails.

NWP 42 authorizes construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which could include golf courses and ski areas, "provided substantial grading and filling is not required."

Also possibly affecting golf development will be NWP 43, which authorizes construction of new

stormwater management facilities and maintenance of existing stormwater ponds and basins. A two-acre maximum impact for new construction is expected under this NWP, but excludes impacts to perennial streams.

USACE is accepting PCNs for current permits until Feb. 14.

One USACE official said the 45-day response period has been suspended, and the Corps "can take as long as we need, up to a

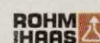
year, to process the NWP 26 PCNs received prior to Feb. 14."

"I believe that our goal will be to maintain the 45-day time period," he wrote in a letter to wetland consultants, "but if we take longer than 45 days there will be no automatic authorizations."

According to the Federal Register, the new and modified NWPs will be issued on or before Feb. 14 and become effective 60 days later. ▶



**What
each
particle
looks like
to your
turf.**



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