

Ken Morgan forms design firm

GULF BREEZE, Fla. — William Kenneth 'Ken' Morgan has formed Morgan Golf Design, Inc., offering services for new course design, restoration, renovation, and the design of practice and teaching facilities.

Morgan has been senior design associate for Jerry Pate Golf Design in Pensacola, and production assistant and site coordinator for Jack Nicklaus Golf Services in North Palm Beach. He has been in the golf course design business for 10 years and his project experience has focused primarily on planning, design, and construction supervision of golf course design projects.

Morgan has a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Georgia. The company is located at 121 San Carlos Ave., Gulf Breeze, Fla. 32561; 850-916-9785.

DEVELOPMENT

Camelback GC redo costs \$12M

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

During the renovation period, which ends Dec. 31, the Indian Bend course has remained open.

The course renovation has been designed by Arthur Hills.

"The golfing experience at the new Padre golf course will be very unique to the Southwest," said Hills project manager Chris Wilczynski. "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 course 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 rerouted to increase the overall playability, competitiveness and appeal.

In addition to lengthening the course from 6,500 to 6,800 yards, three lakes are being added to create extra beauty and challenge.

Gibbs bringing longest hole to United States

MARQUETTE, Mich. — First he constructed the world's largest putting green. Then he built an "exact replica" of Abe Lincoln's Springfield, Ill., home, followed by a replica of Bishop Baraga's home. Marquette's Joe Gibbs now has a new goal. He wants to build the world's longest golf hole at his Chocoy Down Golf Course, larger even than the 964-yard-long, par-7 7th hole at Satsuki Golf Club in Sano, Japan.

Gibbs intends to claim the record for the United States by building his 8th hole more than 965 yards long. The hole will be part of an additional nine holes now under construction at the 18-hole public golf course. The new nine will bring the number of holes up to 27 when completed in the year 2000.

Gibbs said part of his motivation is related to growing up in the World War II era, and remembering well the war with Japan.

"It just seems proper that the longest hole in the world should not be in Japan, but right here in the good old United States of America," he said. "We're very, very fortunate in that we have a lot of land to work with here. We have 604 acres, and with that we can be very liberal with the course layout."

"We've got 728 yards of fairway cleared right now, stretching from the blue tees to the center of the green. We'll be putting in a "tiger tee" about another 240 yards or so back," said Gibbs. "You'll have to be a long-ball hitter to play from the tiger tee. There won't be any fairway between the blue tees and the tiger tee — just a natural area and a landing zone."

The 728 yards of fairway will also be a forgiving 200 yards wide.



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