

## Weed opening four courses in 2000

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — Weed Design will open four new courses this year from Florida to Minnesota, including Glen Mills Golf Course, which will serve as a rehabilitation center for troubled youngsters, providing education and vocational training.

Leaders of the private Glen Mills Schools outside Philadelphia believe they will be able to provide additional opportunities for youngsters by involving them in the golf course operation and adding golf-related subjects to the curriculum.

An early fall opening is scheduled for the course, which is built in the parkland tradition of the area. It wanders over rolling ground and through mature hardwoods, void of any development. Stacked sod bunkers are found throughout the course. The Glen Mills Golf Course is a par-71 layout, 6,800 yards in length.

Other Weed courses opening this year are The Olde Farm, a private golf club in Bristol, Va.; Stoneridge Golf Club, a semi-private facility outside St. Paul, Minn.; and The Golf Club at Fleming Island, also a daily-fee course, just south of Jacksonville.

"As a small company, this is a big year of openings for us," said Bobby Weed. "We have a very hands-on approach, and our commitment to each design does not allow us to take on many projects at once. The distinctive look that characterizes each of our courses that opens this year is a result of that philosophy."

The Olde Farm is set in the foothills of the Appalachians. The property was once a working farm, and the flavor of that operation was kept intact. Two existing barn structures as well as most of the pasture fences were incorporated into the layout. Fruit tree groves, berry bush hedgerows and baled straw add to the motif. The tumbling terrain was ideal for routing golf holes.

The site offers vistas across the property, and every hole is visible from the clubhouse. Sinking Creek, which runs through the property, comes into play on six holes. The Olde Farm opened March 31. It measure 6,885 yards with a par 71.

Stoneridge Golf Club is a twist on the great heathland layouts found overseas, Weed said. Part of the site was an abandoned sand quarry, and several holes are routed through it. Large sandy bunkers and native prairie grasses are featured extensively throughout the course.

The open site exposes golf shots to ever-present wind. Fair-

ways will be kept dry and rabbitry for run-up shots. Bold bunkering and dramatic contours offer golfers a number of gambling opportunities, suiting the course for both match and stroke play. There is limited real estate around the core-routed golf course. A mid-summer opening is planned. Stoneridge Golf Club is a 6,850-yard, par-72 layout.

The Golf Club at Fleming Is-

land south of Jacksonville will open in the fall. Located near Black Creek, the 6,900-yard, par-71 course features three holes that play along the backwaters of the creek. The layout will showcase native vegetation and preserve the natural setting of the site, providing a habitat for abundant wildlife. It has limited real estate around the perimeter of the course.

### NGCOA AUCTION NETS \$35,000 FOR ROSSI SCHOLARSHIP

CHARLESTON, S.C. — The National Golf Course Owners Association (NGCOA) hosted its first Live and Silent Auction benefiting the Don Rossi Scholarship Fund during its recent Annual Conference and Trade Show. The auction raised more than \$35,000 for the scholarship fund, which the NGCOA matched with \$50,000 for a total of \$85,000 raised to benefit the fund. The scholarship is awarded annually to a college student pursuing an education in golf management. This year's recipient was John Tidikis, a junior at the University of South Carolina.



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