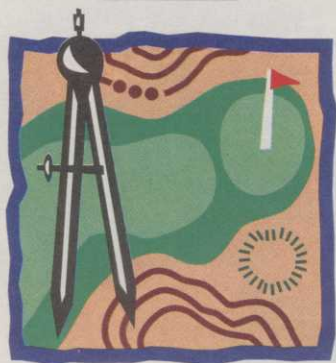


## BRIEFS

**WEITZ BUYS FAIRWAY CONSTRUCTION**

**NORTH PALM BEACH, Fla.** — Weitz Golf International here has purchased Fairway Construction, located in Temecula, Calif. No organizational changes will occur, and the current staff in the Temecula office will continue to service all existing clients. Weitz Golf International is a wholly owned division of The Weitz Co., Inc., a construction company established in 1855.

**ACQUISITIONS**

.....

**ERMISCH SETS UP DESIGN SHOP**

**SHAWNEE, Kan.** — Chuck Ermisch Golf Design has opened an office here. Ermisch is a 1992 graduate of Kansas State University, with a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture. His career has concentrated on both design and field experience. Over his 10 years of industry experience, he has supervised projects for various golf course contractors and has been employed by Don Sechrest of Kansas City, where he was chief designer. For more information, contact Ermisch at 913-438-8422.

*Chuck Ermisch*

.....

**GOLFPLAN HIRES RAMSY**

**SANTA ROSA, Calif.** — Golfplan, Fream and Dale, has hired Kevin Ramsy as senior golf course architect. Ramsy was previously a senior designer with J. Michael Poellot Golf Design Group and director of golf design with Walter Raleigh Stewart. He is working on the Serapong Golf Course at Sentosa Golf Club in Singapore, Barbarosa Golf Club in Texas and Yong Pyong Golf Club in Korea. Ramsy brings 11 years of golf course design experience to Golfplan.

**COURSE TO MEMORIALIZE BING CROSBY**

**RANCHO SANTA FE, Calif.** — Starwood Development, an affiliate of Starwood Financial, Inc., has reached an agreement with the family of Bing Crosby to name the company's property in northern San Diego County The Crosby Estate at Rancho Santa Fe. The Crosby Estate will encompass 722 acres and feature 501 houses and homesites. The Crosby Estate will include The Crosby National Golf Club, an 18-hole championship golf course designed by Masters champion Fred Couples and Brian Curley.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

## Snead opens design firm

**STUART, Fla.** — Sam Snead has formed Sam Snead Course Design, heralding the entry of the Hall of Famer into the golf development arena. Snead won 185 tournaments, including seven major championships on the regular Tour and 11 majors on the Senior Tour. He competed on 10 Ryder Cup teams, including four as a playing captain.

Heading up the firm will be Sam's son Samuel "Jack" Jackson Snead Jr., along with President Ronald Coruzzi and design associates Edward Carton and Scott Applegate.

Citing a desire to be more active in golf course design endeavors, Snead said: "I hear from players all the time about how difficult a course is and how they will never go back there again. The classic-styled courses that I love don't have those problems. Most of the courses being built today do. I'm just an old mountain boy from the hills of Virginia and I've probably played more golf than anyone alive. I know what it takes to design golf courses that are challenging for the low-handicapper as well as fun and enjoyable for the high-handicapper, for the guy who pays the freight."

Sam Snead Course Design will provide golf course architectural services for Sam Snead Signature course designs, redesigns, and renovations. Additionally, extensive consulting services will be available through Sam Snead Golf Management and Sam Snead Golf Academies.

Through countless rounds of golf Sam and Jack Snead have played together, Jack has been instrumental in the development of his father's course design philosophy, and endeavors to instill those ideas into every Sam Snead design.

Coruzzi has a comprehensive career in the business of golf, including golf real-

*Continued on page 33*



## Eng returns home for Hawktree

By MARK LESLIE

**BISMARCK, N.D.** — Native son and golf course architect Jim Eng, who gained fame in his hometown of Dickinson when he startled the world with The Sanctuary in Sedalia, Colo., surprised even himself when he beheld his finished product here — 18-hole Hawktree Golf Club.

"I had high expectations," Eng said of the course that opened May 1. "But when we finished, I 'missed it.' The course really blew me away. It's amazing how the site came together. It fits so well within the natural topography."

From the unexpected elevation changes to the tendrils of water, to

the black lignite coal slag that serves as bunker sand, Eng believes Hawktree stands out as a grand experience.

"The exciting thing to me is the diverse character of the site," he said. "Burnt Creek runs through the property and forms a small valley with a stream bed. The creek has fingers of very sharp or severe valleys that run perpendicular to the bigger valley. We ran holes up and down the valleys and used the open areas to create some ponding features."

Areas on both nines jump in and out of woods, and the 4,830- to 7,117-yard, par-72 layout features "open

*Continued on page 33*



*The new 4th hole at Samoset Golf Club runs down to the Atlantic Ocean, nearly meeting the resort's famous breakwater.*

## Samoset's 4th meets ocean

By MARK LESLIE

**ROCKPORT, Maine** — One of the top-ranked resort courses in the country just got better. On June 1 Samoset Resort Golf Club here will unveil new oceanside 4th and 5th holes that golf course architect Brad Booth and superintendent Gregg Grenert feel transform the layout into a tougher and more eye-catching venue.

Winter work has become Grenert's trademark over the last six years as he has taken advantage of frozen ground to dig ponds, create bunkers and completely rebuild long lengths of breakwater to dramatically upgrade Samoset.

Although he has more work ahead that will, in the end, mean eight or nine rebuilt holes on the 1973 Robert Elder design, the crowning creation could be the new 4th and 5th.

"That whole complex now is unbelievable," said Grenert, "with the contours and the sloping we put in."

Booth and Grenert brainstormed and Booth drafted a final product which sends the golfer almost into the ocean to the green on the par-5 4th, then along the rugged shoreline on the uphill, par-3 5th.

Shaper Bill Wilkes of Bill Wilkes Inc., in Jaffrey, N.H., "did a fantastic job," Grenert said.

The stonewall breakwater along the left side of the 4th hole now continues on toward Rockland Harbor. Above the 4th green, three new sets of tees face up the hill, with a series of bunkers stepping up the slope to a green impregnated into the hill.

The bentgrass approach frames the bunkers. As Grenert said, the green "looks like it has always been there; a heckuva hole."

*Continued on page 32*

## Miller joins Gill as partner

RIVER FALLS, Wis. — Garrett Gill has taken on longtime assistant Paul Miller as a partner in Gill Miller, Inc., Golf Course Architects.

The partnership "recognizes the contributions" of Miller to the firm formerly known as Williams, Gill & Associates, Inc. of River Falls, said Gill. Miller has

collaborated with Gill on course designs since August 1990.

Gill, a member of the American Society of Golf Course Architects since 1981, followed his father, David Gill, into the profession and established his own design practice in 1985. He is a registered landscape architect in Wisconsin and Texas and a mem-

ber of the American Society of Landscape Architects. He earned a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a master's in landscape architecture from Texas A&M University.

Miller is a registered landscape architect in the states of Minnesota and South Dakota. He holds a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Minnesota.

## MCCUMBER TRACK OPENS IN HOMETOWN

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — A new course designed by PGA Tour player Mark McCumber has opened in southern Jacksonville.

Developed and managed by PGA of America Secretary M.G. Orender, the semi-private Golf Club at South Hampton's official grand opening was in March. The course boasts acres of tall pines and native oaks, 16 lakes and more than 60 bunkers. Playing to a par 72, the course can range from as low as 2,805 yards up to 6,945. "My philosophy is to use the natural lay of the land in designing a course," said McCumber. "We were incredibly fortunate to have an incredible piece of land at South Hampton. With room for six sets of tees, it can be enjoyable for the high-handicapper, while also challenging the better golfers."

## Engh in N.D.

Continued from page 29

meadows, valleys, woods, ponds — the full spectrum," Engh said.

The black coal slag, reminiscent of Jack Nicklaus' Old Works Golf Course in Montana, is a by-product of the power plant in Elgin. Wind and dust were factors in selecting the slag, a striking visual effect, Engh said.

Five area businessmen — Steve McCormick, Bill Fleck, Mike Halpern, Rob Sattler and Dan Waldoch — developed the project with the hope of bringing world-class golf to Bismarck.

Hawktree will offer daily-fee play — from eight different yardages — and limited membership programs.

...

Fleck developed a system through which golfers could use the four and five tee boxes per hole to drive eight different course yardages. By allowing golfers to change teeing areas within an 18-hole round, "we are able to create eight unique ways to play and enjoy the course," he said.

A 20-handicapper, for instance, could play from the Eagle tees, and the course will play 5,640 yards. The next time, the golfer could mix in some Hawk tees and play the course at 6,042 yards. The golfer is not forced to play all the more difficult tees.

"It can make a lot of difference," Fleck said. "We want to get gender, age, or ability out of the equation. There's too much pride about what tee you're playing."

The North Dakota Golf Association told the owners it could slope Hawktree from all eight yardages.

"We will see how popular it is this year. It will be a fairly integral part of what we do," Fleck said. ▶

## Snead to design

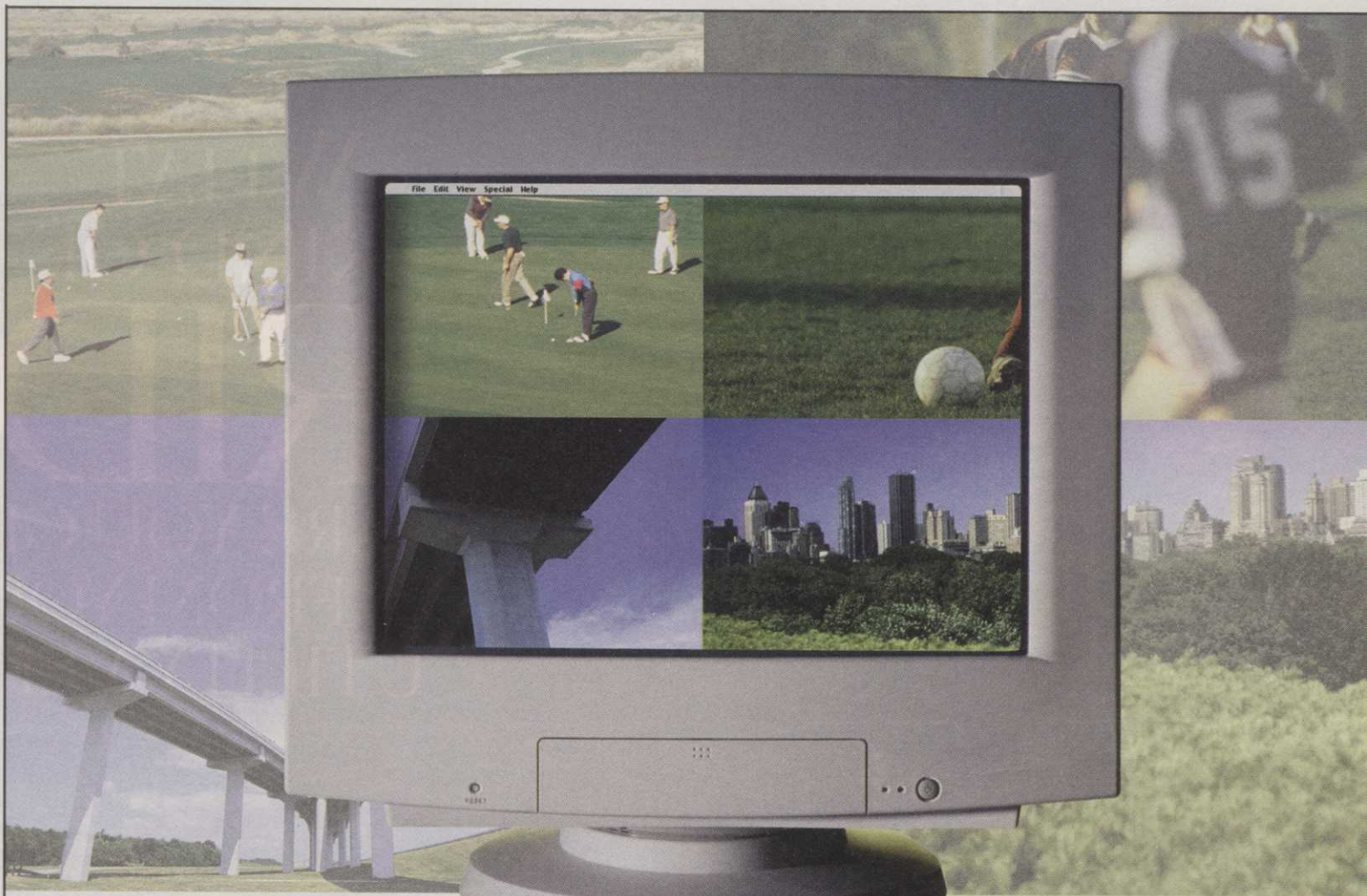
Continued from page 29

estate development and club management. Applegate and Carton each derived their experience from long-term positions with other firms, including Gary Player's and Tom Fazio's.

Carton has been directly involved in designing more than 40 courses. Applegate has been directly involved in more than 35.

The firm is headquartered at 921 SE Central Parkway, Stuart, Fla. 34994; 561-219-8600. ▶

GOLF COURSE NEWS



## From screen to green, Greentrac.com® is your best way to buy. And sell.™

Join the golf course superintendents, managers and suppliers who have already saved time and money with Greentrac.com.

**Greentrac.com** is the global marketplace that links buyers and sellers of turf, equipment and supplies. Buyers submit an electronic Request for Proposal (eRFP) and get competing bids from vendors across the globe. Vendors benefit too by

gaining access to eRFPs they can't get anywhere else. And excess inventory can be bought and sold in eAuction. Come visit us at [www.greentrac.com](http://www.greentrac.com) and see for yourself why Greentrac.com is your best way to buy. And sell.

Main Office: 2121 East Coast Highway, Suite 200 • Corona del Mar, CA 92625 • (877) 774-8722 TOLL-FREE • (949) 759-8131 FAX  
For a free CD demonstrating what Greentrac.com can do for your business, call toll-free (877) 774-8722 or email us at [customerservice@greentrac.com](mailto:customerservice@greentrac.com).



From screen to green, your best way to buy. And sell.™

[www.greentrac.com](http://www.greentrac.com)