



BRIEFS

MARRIOTT'S REDESIGNED CAMELBACK GC NOW OPEN

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Marriott's Camelback Inn has announced the opening of the newly redesigned Camelback Golf Club. The \$16-million course and club represent Marriott's largest single golf course investment. The project features a complete redesign of the Resort Course (formerly called the Padre Course) by architect Arthur Hills. Instead of the desert setting found at most courses in the area, Camelback features a parkland setting with large mature trees. The finished product is a classic course, with strategic bunkering, traditional square tees and subtle land forms. Every hole features a new green and tee, as well as new bunkers. While some holes maintain their original routing, other have been re-routed to increase overall playability, competitiveness and appeal. Besides lengthening the course from 6,500 yards to 6,868, three new lakes have been added to enhance the course's challenge.

Camelback also has a new 36,000-square-foot, pueblo-style clubhouse, designed by Douglas Frederick Design, with flagstone patios and an outdoor fireplace. Silent beepers call golfers to their first tees, eliminating the public address system.

BOBBY WEED ENTERS MINNESOTA

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — StoneRidge Golf Club, near the Minneapolis-St. Paul metro area, opened July 1. It is the first Weed design course in Minnesota. StoneRidge was built on an abandoned sand quarry and an Arabian horse farm. According to architect Bobby Weed, the layout should require players to use every club in their bags. "The golf course has a variety of one-, two- and three-shot holes that set up risk-reward situations," he said. "The more chance you take, the bigger the payoff or risk. But there are also options to play the course along a safer route." Rolling fairways are suited to playing shots on the ground, favoring a golfer who is comfortable with the style of the game played in the British Isles.

EASTWOOD DROPS COURSE PLAN

CARMEL, Calif. — Actor Clint Eastwood has decided to spare a California forest from the bulldozers, by halting a controversial golf course development. The move ends a year-long campaign to protect the 500-acre site at Pebble Beach, near Monterey.

Washington National opens University Course

AUBURN, Wash. — Washington National Golf Club (WNGC) has unveiled the first of a two-phase development with the opening of the University Course, which will serve as home to the University of Washington's men's and women's golf teams.

The public, 18-hole, par-72 layout, designed by golf architect John Fought, is owned and managed by Kirkland-based OB Sports.

The head coach of the Washington Huskies golf team, O.D. Vincent, is the son of Orrin Vincent, owner of OB Sports and a native of the Pacific Northwest. "It's been a dream of mine to build a course worthy of hosting a major championship, and Washington National is that course," said Orrin Vincent. "It is all the more meaningful having been afforded the opportunity to do it in my hometown."

The University Course features five sets of strategically placed ryegrass tees, allowing golfers of all skill levels to play the course, which ranges from 7,304 yards from the back pegs down to 5,117 yards from the shortest markers. A large club-



The 8th hole at the newly opened Washington National Golf Club

house deck overlooks the 18th hole and offers expansive views.

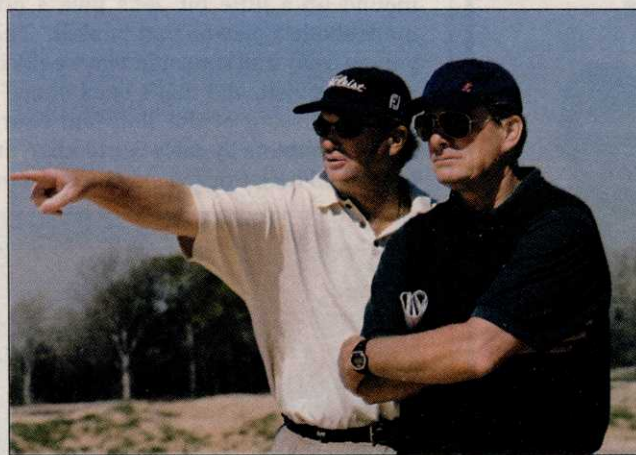
The most dramatic holes, perhaps, are the par-5 14th and the par-4 15th. Vincent modeled the 14th — a 635-yarder — after Pine Valley's sixth, a hole so tough it's often called "Hell's Half Acre." Vincent's version skirts several bunkers and requires a downhill third shot that can send balls bouncing sharply off the back of the green.

The 15th hole, 342 yards long, plays to an island green against a backdrop of boulders, flowers and a waterfall. Preci-

sion is required to reach the green safely. "This," said Vincent, "is an Augusta hole."

Various details at the course expand on the college theme. The golf carts, for example, are gold with purple trim, the Huskies' team colors. Each cart is custom named for a Husky athlete, and inside the cart is a description of that "Husky Legend." For instance, the Warren Moon cart features a rundown of his collegiate and pro football careers. There's also one custom colored cart for each of the other Pac-10 Conference schools, complete with

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Peter Jacobsen (left) and Jim Hardy (right) on site at BlackHorse GC

Jacobsen/Hardy's BlackHorse Golf Club set to debut in fall

HOUSTON — The Redstone Co.'s newest golf project, BlackHorse Golf Club, is on schedule to open here this fall. Designed to be one of the premier daily-fee golf facilities in the Houston area, BlackHorse GC follows Redstone's successful development of The Houstonian Golf Club and the ShadowHawk Golf Club, both of which opened last year in Richmond, Texas.

BlackHorse includes the first of two 18-hole golf courses in Texas to be crafted by Jacobsen/Hardy Golf Design. The facility, located in northwest Houston, will feature a north course and a south course, a driving range, a clubhouse, a restaurant, a golf academy, an instruction center and a 2,000-square-foot pro shop.

In addition, it will include a teaching center that offers group clinics, private lessons, one-on-one video golf lessons, junior clinics and an indoor video classroom.

The club recently hired Roger Goettsch, formerly with Golf Services Group, of Cypress as course superintendent. Goettsch, who holds a B.S. in turf management from Iowa State University, has worked on a number of projects from the ground up, in Texas, Thailand and Indonesia, with such golf architects as Arnold Palmer, Gary Player, Desmond

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Ernie Els Enterprises joins forces with Nicklaus Design

NORTH PALM BEACH, Fla. — Nicklaus Design has entered into a joint venture with Ernie Els Enterprises to pursue golf course design opportunities. The parties intend to develop, implement and market a golf course design business supported by the infrastructure of Nicklaus Design, and featuring the design work, strategies and endorsement of Ernie Els.

Nicklaus Design, a division of Golden Bear International, Inc., the privately held company of golfer Jack Nicklaus and the Nicklaus family, will provide Ernie Els Design, Ltd. with the staff and technical support required to complete the conceptual and planning documents necessary to design a golf course. Support will include all computer-aided design work related to routings, strategy

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Oneida Nation's Shenendoah Golf Club ready for play

ONEIDA, N.Y. — The Oneida Indian Nation recently opened its 18-hole championship Shenendoah Golf Club adjacent to the Turning Stone Casino Resort in central New York. Playing to a par of 72 and ranging up to 7,129 yards from the back tees, the course provides a challenge for everyone from the high handicapper to the most accomplished shooters.

Designed, constructed and maintained to tournament standards, golfers at Shenendoah will experience conditions normally reserved for tour professionals. "The

Shenendoah Golf Club is a great tour-caliber course that is as fine a course as you will find anywhere in the United States," says Bob O'Brien, director of golf at Turning Stone Casino Resort.

The Oneida group chose course designer Rick Smith for his attention to detail and commitment to maintaining the integrity of the existing landscape. Recognized by Audubon International for his efforts in designing courses that preserve and enhance the environment, Smith has blended this 18-hole layout into its natural surroundings.