

BRIEFS

DUNCAN TAKES OVER AT HERITAGE PALMS

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Western Golf Properties has named Randy Duncan the director of golf for Heritage Palms Golf & Country Club in Indio, Calif. Prior to joining the company, Duncan was head golf professional at the Westin Mission Hills Resort and Mission Hills North in Rancho Mirage, Calif.

SINGLETEETIMES.COM LAUNCHES

OAKLAND, Calif. — In an effort to help single golfers find tee times more efficiently, a new Web-based company, SingleTeeTimes.com, has been launched. The Web site solves the single player problem by creating an online community of individual golfers who share pre-arranged tee times. "Golfers from all over the U.S. and Canada can make pre-arranged tee times for two or more players, post it on the site and make the additional spots available for others," said president Ron Jackson. A single player can then search the database for the time and location he wants and join the group. Players who register with the site can also receive e-mail notifications listing available tee times in their local area.



SARTAIN TO HEAD GOLFBUSINESS.COM

TAMPA, Fla. — Jim Sartain has been named CEO and president of golfbusiness.com. Previous to joining the golf distribution company, Sartain was CEO of the Meadowbrook Golf Group. The company, launched last year, has relationships with more than 100 suppliers and 5,000 golf courses throughout the United States.

SCHAFFER NAMED HEAD PRO AT SUNRIDGE CANYON

FOUNTAIN HILLS, Ariz. — SunCor Golf has named Joel Schaffer as its new head golf professional at SunRidge Canyon Golf Club here. Schaffer, who has worked at courses in Arizona, Colorado, and Wisconsin over the past seven years, will assist in supervising golf course operations, budgeting, merchandising, training employees, planning tournaments and promoting the club.

Heritage adds five high-profile courses to management portfolio

By JAY FINEGAN

SAN DIEGO — Heritage Golf Group, a San Diego-based owner and operator of premier private and daily-fee golf facilities, has added five new courses to its portfolio through management agreements of five years or more.

Heritage will manage Angel Park and The Legacy, both in Las Vegas, Nev.; Langdon Farms Golf Club in Portland, Ore.; Trophy Lake in Port Orchard, Wash.; and Washington National in Auburn, Wash.

Four of the five are 18-hole courses and the fifth, Angel Park, is 45 holes.

All five courses are owned by O.B. Sports, of Kirkland, Wash. "We'll manage them under the O.B. Sports umbrella,"

said Heritage executive vice president Gary Dee, "and they will concentrate on the management contracts they have for eight golf properties owned by other companies or individuals."

The new properties offer premium golf experiences in resort-style settings. "Our goal is to have the Heritage name associated with the finest golf facilities in the country," said Bob Husband, president and CEO. "To be able to bring on five courses of this caliber at once is truly exciting for us. This transaction is an important step, not only because of the quality of these facilities, but also for our increased exposure in new markets."

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The 8th hole at the Talega Golf Club in San Clement, Calif., built and managed by Heritage Golf Group. The course, designed by Fred Couples and Brian Curley, opened last month.

Troon opens three courses in Australia

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Troon Golf has announced the opening of three new golf courses in Australia. The new facilities "down under" all debuted on *Golf Australia* magazine's "Top 25 Resort Courses" list for 2001, released in the January edition.

Glades Golf Club opened in December and is the highest-ranking Troon Golf property on the list. Owned by an investment group led by Ian Baker-Finch, the Glades is an 18-hole Greg Norman-designed layout nestled in a creekside valley on the Gold Coast of Queensland.



Another newly opened Troon Golf property is Pelican Waters, also a Norman design. This 18-hole facility, located near Golden Beach, Queensland, features an extensive lake and wetlands system on the front nine, while the back nine lays out in a links format.

The third course — Golf Club Kennedy Bay — is scheduled to open at the end of January. *Golf Australia* debuted the course

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Diamond Players Club rolls out new division, builds portfolio

By JAY FINEGAN

LONGWOOD, Fla. — Diamond Players Club, a golf brand and course management company spearheaded by Arizona Diamondbacks pitcher Todd Stottlmyer, has formed a new division to focus on landing management contracts that might lead to future course acquisitions.

The new unit, DPC Management Services, is being run by managing partners Dan Burdette and Cathy Martell. Both will report to company president W. Douglas White. It already has one contract to operate the soon-to-open Legends Course, in a Lennar Homes development in Clermont, Fla. DPC also managed construction of that course, which opens this winter.

An 18-hole, 6,766-yard championship track, the semi-private Legends was designed by golf architects Clifton, Ezell & Clifton. The 400-acre site will include some 700 homes.

The company already owns and manages DPC Clermont, an 18-hole, 6,900-yard layout near Or-

Miami firm launches 'golf only' Internet recruitment site

MIAMI — GolfSurfin Inc., based here, has launched the world's first online job-recruiting site dedicated exclusively to the golf industry. The site serves as a comprehensive job board strictly concentrating on jobs in the golf industry, listing everything from golf pro to caddy to manufacturer's sales rep.

Currently, the site features job openings at some of the leading clubs and resorts in the United States and Canada, as well as many of the industry's top manufacturers of golf equipment and apparel.

Striving to be the "Monster" job board of the golf industry, the Web site is loaded with high-end features while maintaining an easy-to-navigate format. "If it is golf-related, we will post it," says CEO Michael Schlesinger.

Schlesinger, a lawyer and an avid golfer, founded the company together with his wife, Dawn Schlesinger, who already runs a successful recruitment firm, after discussing her frustration at having to pay in order to search the jobs at other sports-related online job boards.

"We started the board after it became clear that the golf industry lacked a central source for candidates to search for," he said, "and for employers to post jobs."

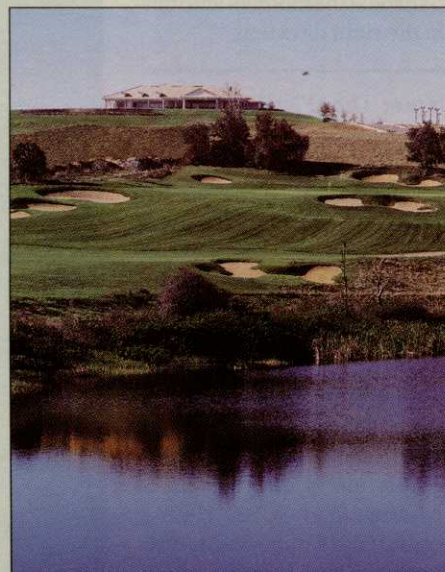
FREE FOR JOB SEEKERS

Unlike other online job boards catering to the sports industry, GolfSurfin.com

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Michael Schlesinger



The 9th hole at DPC Clermont, playing 425 yards from the tees, requires a tough carry over water on the tee shot and a steep uphill second shot to the green.

Heritage

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Each property provides distinctive experiences for guests. Angel Park, for example, offers two highly acclaimed 18-hole championship courses designed by Arnold Palmer. The Legacy, one of Las Vegas' most talked-about courses, was recently chosen by *Golf Digest* as one of the

top 10 courses to play in Nevada.

Langdon Farms features a farm theme with the "Big Red Barn" clubhouse, which was named best new clubhouse by *Crittenden* magazine in 1996. Washington National, an upscale, 18-hole daily-fee/resort golf club, features a University of Washington theme. And Trophy Lake, with its captivating views of the Olympic Range and

Mt. Rainier, was recently named the third-best daily-fee course in the state of Washington.

"It's a privilege to be associated with these properties," said Dee. "We are very proud to be the new operators of these facilities, and we will manage them with the greatest attention to detail and a relentless focus on providing high-quality guest service."

The five new Heritage proper-

ties join Hamilton Mill Golf Club in Dacula, Ga.; Polo Golf & Country Club in northern Atlanta; and Talega Golf Club in San Clemente, Calif., as part of Heritage Golf Group's growing portfolio of golf facilities.

TALEGA, A CASE IN POINT

Talega is a good example of the quality Heritage seeks in a golf property. Open only since last month, it has already been

nominated for "Best New Public Course" by *Golf Digest*.

The 18-hole, par-72 layout was designed by PGA Tour star Fred Couples, along with Brian Curley of Schmidt-Curley Design, based in Phoenix, Ariz.

The Talega track meanders through 208 acres of manicured fairways and features such naturally scenic areas as an oak-forested canyon, a series of lakes, and views of lush, rolling hillsides. Heritage owns and operates the club.

"The course is quite diverse," said Gary Dee. "Players will find the first six holes significantly different from the next six, which in turn differ a great deal from the final six. Sometimes lakes, running streams or waterfalls are the hazards. Other times it's the rugged natural terrain itself."

Along with the visual appeal, coastal breezes off the Pacific, just minutes from the course, combine to create exceptional aesthetics.

Golf rates for residents of Orange County and San Diego County are \$125 weekdays, \$155 on Friday and \$185 on weekends and holidays. Non-residents pay \$150, \$200 and \$225 respectively.

SPANISH COLONIAL CLUBHOUSE

Talega will feature a 13,500-square-foot clubhouse, designed to emulate the Spanish Colonial architectural style of historic San Clemente. Scheduled to open in mid-2001, the clubhouse will include a grill, banquet and group space, as well as a well-stocked golf shop.

Heritage Golf Group is led by Bob Husband, former founder and CEO of the highly successful Cobblestone Golf Group. ■

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Troon Golf

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at number 11 on its list. "It is a true links layout and a great one at that," said designer Baker-Finch. "From the minute we saw the land, we knew we could do something good with it, but the finished product exceeded even our expectations."

Troon Golf will also manage two new Norman designs set to open over the next 18 months in Australia—the Vintage Golf Club in the Hunter Valley region of New South Wales, and Brookwater Golf Club, the first newly built golf course in the Brisbane area in nearly three decades.

Troon's initial foray into the Australian golf market occurred in April 1999, when it took over the golf operations center at Yarra Yarra Golf Club, the Alister MacKenzie-designed gem in Melbourne's prestigious sandbelt region. Yarra Yarra will host the 2001 Women's Australian Open.

Troon Golf currently represents more than 75 golf courses in 14 American states and nine countries. ■

GOLF COURSE NEWS