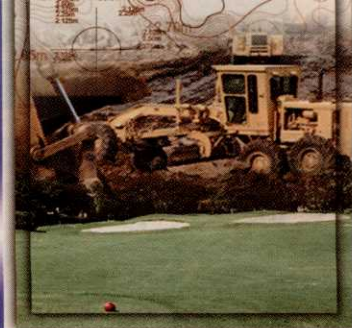


# DEVELOPMENT & RENOVATION



## BRIEFS

### PANKS COMPLETES ALIANTE DESIGN

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Gary Panks Associates recently completed the design of Aliante Golf Course in North Las Vegas, Nev., which is a joint venture between Del Webb Corp. and American Nevada. The course, which will be managed by OB Sports, is currently under construction with a Dec. 2003 opening scheduled. The course will feature 54 bunkers and 14 bridges. Greens surfaces feature TifEagle bermudagrass and the fairways and roughs will be Tifway 419 bermuda.

### METAIRIE CC RESTORING ITS RAYNOR DESIGN

METAIRIE, La. — Metairie Country Club is undergoing a restoration of its Seth Raynor-designed course, under the supervision of architect Ron Forse. The course had lost its character over the years, as its features softened. With no room for expansion, the members decided the best way to remain competitive in today's market was to restore the course to its 1920s luster, according to director of golf Greg Core. Construction began in January, and the course is expected to reopen in September. Raynor's original design included replicas of holes from famous courses of the day, including the Old Course at St. Andrews, National Golf Links and Shinnecock Hills.

### FARMLINKS TO OPEN JUNE 3

SYLACAUGA, Ala. — FarmLinks at Pursell Farms, a combination golf facility and testing ground, will officially June 3 with a fundraiser for juvenile diabetes research. The Hurdzan-Fry designed facility will serve as a laboratory of sorts for Pursell Technologies Inc. and its supplier partners to test products and technologies. It also provides an opportunity for the suppliers to demonstrate their products — both current and prototypes — to visiting superintendents who are invited for a two-day seminar.

## 'Aggressive' construction starts at Sunday River

By DEREK RICE

BETHEL, Maine — While plans are in the works for an official groundbreaking here at Sunday River Golf Club, construction is moving forward aggressively, according to Susan Duplessis, corporate communications manager for Sunday River.

"The 18th tee box and fairway are shaped, and work has begun on the driving range," she said. "The area for the clubhouse is being cleared and other miscellaneous work has begun as well."

Site work is also ongoing for the ninth fairway. As for the official groundbreaking, Duplessis said Sunday River is working with Robert Trent Jones Jr. to schedule a date when he can get up to Maine to be the guest of honor for



Harris Golf has commenced construction at Sunday River Golf Club, which promises to offer views of the surrounding mountains.

a ceremony. At press time, they were shooting for the late-May to mid-June timeframe.

Boothbay Harbor-based Harris Golf, which owns and operates two other courses in Maine, is

handling construction of the course, which began within a

Continued on page 13

## Waynesborough CC changing its turf

Disease-resistant bentgrass to help club combat anthracnose

By JOE DEVANNEY

WAYNESBOROUGH, Pa. — Perhaps as much as any other area of the country, a strong sense of history permeates Philadelphia and its surrounding counties. Particularly in the "Main Line" western suburbs of the city, sites dating to the Revolutionary War and earlier are treasured and preserved.

One of these sites is Waynesborough, now a museum, but once the home of Revolutionary War hero "Mad" Anthony Wayne. Just a short distance from this historical house is the Waynesborough Country Club, whose land was once part of the Wayne estate. The club is now in the middle of renovations, which are both forward-looking and, appropriately for the area, firmly rooted in past tradition.

Waynesborough CC, which was founded in 1965, opened its first clubhouse in 1968. During the last 35 years, several expansions have occurred and membership has grown to 707 individuals and families, all of whom will be without a course for a while during planned renovations.

The course will close for a year on Aug. 1 so the fairways can be stripped and re-seeded as a disease-fighting measure, according to general manager Ray Kondziela.

"Our intent is to replace our present grass with a new and more disease-resistant grass. Specifically, we have had a problem with anthracnose, a disease that has affected many of the fairways in the northeast part of the country," Kondziela said. "We believe

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This summer, Waynesboro CC will replace turf on its fairways to help fight disease.

## Inverness to showcase renovation

TOLEDO, Ohio — At the end of June, Inverness Club here will host the Senior U.S. Open, giving the golf world a chance to see the result of Arthur Hills' renovation work. Completed last summer,

Hills' designs called for improving most of the tee boxes, moving or repairing fairway bunkers, removing some trees and improving drainage.

Using old photographs in

Continued on page 13



Among the renovation work by Arthur Hills were these new bunkers, located on the 18th hole at Inverness Club in Toledo.

## Smyers giving Woods' home course a 'massive facelift'

WINDEMERE, Fla. — Architect Steve Smyers is undertaking the renovation of Isleworth Golf and Country Club here. If, for some reason, he should decide he needs a player's input on the project, he won't have far to look. Isleworth is the home course of Tiger Woods, Mark O'Meara, John Cook and a number of other PGA Tour players.

Smyers said he is taking "a whole fresh look" at the onetime citrus grove that became the cornerstone of a golf community in 1986.

Smyers said he is not intimidated by the proximity of so many PGA Tour players.

"Whenever and wherever we build, we design so whoever plays it will become a better player,"

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## Changes coming at Waynesboro CC

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that the expense of fighting it is prohibitive compared to the replacement expense since the disease seems to adopt to various remedies and rotational cycles are constantly required."

Waynesborough's new grass will be a variety of A4 bentgrass that Kondziela said has been developed for just this purpose.

"This is a new strain that has been engineered to fight the disease. It can be cut low for a pure roll. Many clubs have tried new

*'We believe that the expense of fighting [anthracnose] is prohibitive compared to the replacement expense.'*

— Ray Kondziela

mixtures, but each club has a different soil base," he said. "Waynesborough has modified its soil system by pulling our topsoil out and replacing it."

Waynesborough turned to Tom Fazio for consulting on re-grassing questions on the project.

"Tom actually worked here as a crew chief in 1964 and 1965," Kondziela said.

And the new turf is not the only change coming to Waynesborough CC. On April 1, the clubhouse was demolished in order to build a replacement facility.

"We want our new clubhouse to evoke the feel of an original Chester County farmhouse. This is a traditional look that we hope will suggest continuity of generations," Kondziela said. "After all, this club is a family and we want our members to consider it as a home away from home."

While the exact costs of the project are confidential, Kondziela is willing to acknowledge that the construction will carry a multimillion-dollar price tag.

Kondziela stressed that the changes at Waynesborough are not intended to draw new members, but to serve those the club already has.

"Our intent is only to meet the desires of our present members," he said.

Current members shouldn't have to worry about finding a place to play during the re-grassing, Kondziela said. While the course is closed for renovation, Waynesboro CC has made arrangements with 30 other clubs in the area to accommodate displaced members. ■

## Smyers retooling Woods' home course

Continued from previous page

Smyers said. "We focus on keeping everyone, across the board, in mind. But we emphasize challenging their shot-making ability and stimulating their thought process."

The project is a major undertaking in more ways than one, Smyers said.

"This is a massive facelift not only aesthetically but from a shot-making perspective," he said.

This is Smyers' second renovation at Isleworth, which will reopen in November. Ten years ago, he redid all 18 greens and surrounds and converted the putting surfaces from bentgrass

to bermudagrass.

This time around, he will focus mainly on the turfgrass and irrigation system. Crews from 2002 Golf Course News Large Builder of the Year Quality Grassing & Services Inc. of Lithia will convert the course's existing bermudagrass putting surfaces from Tifdwarf to Tifeagle, and the fairways, tees and surrounds from Tifway 2 to 419

bermudagrass.

In addition, Smyers will also add strategic fairway bunkers and lengthen the course by rebuilding 14 greens and re-contouring fairways.

As part of the renovation project, Isleworth is adding a 10,000-square-foot extension to its clubhouse and improving its maintenance complex.

— Derek Rice

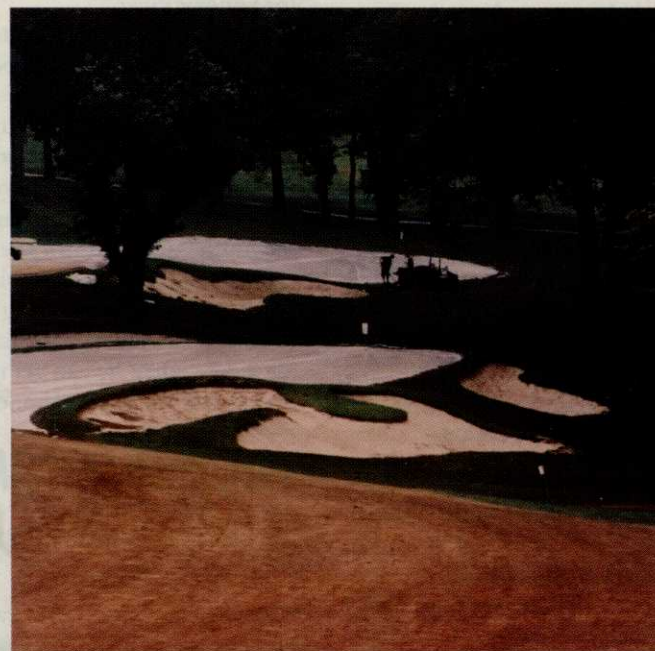
## RENOVATION HIGHLIGHT

### A Look Back in Time

Those who have tackled golf course renovation projects know how there can be some surprises. There are always situations that can wreak havoc, but a few can bring a positive outcome.

In 2001, Philadelphia Country Club underwent a major transformation of its storied course. During the renovations, which included much needed tree work and fumigating the fairways and greens, a number of old aerial photographs were found. The photographs were taken during the late 1920's and show much of the course in its original design.

The old photos showed very large, dramatic bunker complexes which did not reflect their



present state. Course Superintendent, Mike McNulty was quite surprised. "We knew the bunkers had been grassed-in several decades ago. But the old photos showed that our current bunkers were roughly two-thirds the size," McNulty said.

With the new information, the staff investigated several bunkers with soil probes to find the old edges. "When we pulled off the grass and dirt, we realized we had the potential to bring this course back to its original grandeur" he added. Mike further determined that much of the grassing had occurred to minimize bunker maintenance and costs.

