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Linkogel Designs, Builds "Poor Man's" Courses

Since late 1940, Al Linkogel's Link's Nursery, Inc., St. Louis, Mo., has specialized in the design, construction, and management of golf courses in Missouri and Illinois. Through the years Link's Nursery has shown a gradual increase in business as the only complete golf course supply house in St. Louis. This growth is largely attributed to the new courses Al has developed.

In the last six years, Al has designed and supervised construction of more than 30 golf courses. Most of these have been 9-hole layouts since there is some demand in the Central-Midwest area for low-cost 9and 18-hole courses that meet minimum maintenance standards. For example, one course in southern Missouri was built to meet the need of the community. It had one 9-hole course with a closed membership. Business men in the area, who weren't members of this club, wanted a course that would be open to them. The first contact with these people indicated they had much inaccurate information about the cost of constructing and maintaining a course. They looked over several properties that were available at a price they could pay. When this was done the properties were checked and the most desirable one was purchased. This was a dairy farm, all in pasture with fairly good turf.

100 Men Volunteer

A sketch was made of a proposed layout, including a lake for water supply. When plans for the course were completed the members asked for volunteers to work evenings and weekends in building the course under Linkogel's supervision. They had as many as 100 men ready to work when construction began. Greens and tees were staked out and the lake area located. A local contractor donated equipment to dig the lake. The greens were planted in Sept. and the course opened in May of the following year. A maintenance program was developed with the advice of Link's nursery.

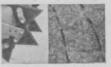
The new course was built for only \$11,000.00 Word of the low-cost, do-ityourself project got around and four more



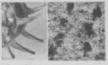
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courses were soon built within a 40 mile radius. The five courses wouldn't have been built at the high cost figures quoted in the beginning.

Two courses handled by Linkogel in 1962 were redesigned and changed from sand to grass greens. Another 9-hole course was rebuilt from its original layout and another nine was added. Two 18-hole courses and three 9-hole courses have been designed by Linkogel so far in 1963.

Freeborg Is Associate

In recent months Al has expanded his staff to include an associate, Raymond Freeborg. The latter has been working with Al in the St. Louis Turf Research Foundation program since 1957. In 1962, Ray worked quite closely with Al on the design, construction, and management of several courses.

Since 1957, Freeborg has been developing the St. Louis turf research program during the summer, and attending Purdue University in the winter, studying turf management under Bill Daniel. In 1959 Ray received his BS in agronomy from Purdue and then moved to St. Louis to continue his university training at Washington University. A fellowship was made Comfort Smoothest Ride On any Golf Course Today

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available at Washington U. by the local turf research foundation to support Ray's graduate work at the university. Today, Freeborg is executive secretary of the foundation.

Program Expanded

The research program continued to expand until 1961 when the Missouri botanical garden became interested in it. Laboratory and greenhouse facilities of the botanical garden were made available to the turf research foundation and basic research was started under the direction of F. W. Went, director of the garden. This was confined to the more technical problems related to growing fine turf. Freeborg presently is studying for a PhD in plant physiology.

Missouri Turf Conference

The fourth annual lawn and turf conference of the University of Missouri (Columbia) will be held Sept. 18-19, according to D. D. Hemphill, chairman of the planning committee. Sessions will be held in the Student Union and at the University course.

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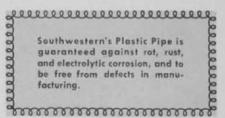
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Court Denies 17-Year Old Protection Under "Attractive Nuisance" Doctrine

BY WILLIAM JABINE

Several years ago we described the case of a caddy who chased a cat into the boiler room of the Country Club of Louisville, got diverted and then drank some boiler cleaning compound which he mistook for whiskey. You may be interested in the second legal chapter resulting from that occurrence. An attempt was made to obtain workmen's compensation for the caddie. Kentucky's highest court, the court of appeals, denied compensation on the ground that chasing cats and drinking whiskey were not within the scope of his employment.

After workmen's compensation had been denied, the caddy and his attorneys took a new tack. An action was brought against the club, charging it with negligence in maintaining a dangerous condition. Even though the caddy was almost 17 years of age at the time of the incident, the attractive nuisance doctrine, usually applied in the case of young children, was invoked. The trial court rendered summary judgment for the defendant club and once more an appeal was taken to the court of appeals.

Second Review

For the second time that court made a thorough review of the facts and again denied relief to the caddy. In upholding the lower court's decision in favor of the club, it said in part: "We cannot concur in the appellant's argument that the attractive nuisance doctrine is applicable because the defendant had maintained a latent and highly dangerous condition upon its premises. When a youth has grown beyond the protection humanely afforded a child of tender years from his indiscretion and lack of capacity to appreciate a peril, he is not entitled to the benefit of the doctrine any more than a normal adult, qualified, however, in an occasional case of undeveloped mentality."

In regard to the probability of such an accident as that which occurred, the court said: "Keeping mislabeled bottles of strong chemical might have been actionable negligence under some circumstances. But in this case there was no probability

that a bare licensee or trespasser in the boiler room would steal the bottle and drink the mislabeled substance. In short, the caddy's act was not reasonably foreseeable as a natural and probable consequence of leaving the original labels on the bottles; hence there was no legal liability. (Citation) Obviously where there is no duty owing a party, there is no culpable negligence." (Chesser v. Country Club of Louisville, 339 S.W.2d 194.)

Organize National Amateur Golf Association in Boston

Formation of the National Amateur Golfers Assn. was announced in mid-July following an organization meeting in Boston.

Among the services and events being promoted by NAGA are the establishment of reciprocal course agreements, sponsorship of a 72-hole pro-am tournament for New England golfers in the Bahamas as well as statewide tournaments, and special trips for members and their families. Membership dues are \$5 a year.

Nick Del Ninno, former Boston golf writer, is executive director of the organization. The board of governors is made up of Ted Bishop, Lionel MacDuff, Ed Perry, Bob Cousy and Warren Tibbetts.

Bishop is the former National Amateur champion (1946); MacDuff, president of Salem (Mass.) CC for three years, was chairman of the 1954 Women's Open; Perry has been secretary of the Rhode Island GA for 10 years; Cousy is the famed Boston Celtics basketball star who is retiring to coach Boston College and Tibbetts is a onetime New England amateur champion.

The pro-am tournament has been scheduled to be held at the Grand Bahama Hotel and CC in November. The office of NAGA is at 2 Park Square

(Room 600-602) in Boston.

Golf Articles Competitions

The deadline for the MacGregor-Brunswick newspaper writing competitions is Oct. 25. This annual competition offering prizes ranging from \$100 to \$250 in two divisions, news and features, is open to all GWAA members employed by daily newspapers and press associations. Each writer may enter as many as five stories in each division. Entries should be sent to Carol McCue, Chicago District GA, Room 221, La Salle Hotel, Chicago 2.

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Busy Surgeon Patches Together Course for His Neighbors

Turner Falls, Mass., is the 9-hole Thomas Memorial G & CC that is very popular, at thrifty New England rates, with the neighbors of the town's senior general surgeon, Warren Thomas. The course is named in honor of the doctor's parents. Dick McGahan of Hart Seed Co., says the Thomas course in a town of 4,917 population shows that one man with a strong community driving power and the friendship of his neighbors can pep up the entire area with a delightful golf layout.

Dr. Thomas got the late Warren Hatch, pioneer golf architect, to design the course. It was Hatch's last job. He laid out one permanent and eight temporary greens. The plan was to convert a temporary green into a permanent one each year, but that schedule was quickened when the course began to get some play. At first the temporary greens were merely mowed to approximately green height.

Dr. Thomas is an organizer. He has to be. His own time is scheduled rather tightly. He is chief of surgery at Farren Memorial hospital, Montague, Mass. and is active in an official capacity with the Franklin District Medical Society and Montague Board of Health. He is a member of the Mass. Medical Society, American Medical Assn., International College of Surgeons, American Legion, Rotary, Holy Name Society of St. Mary's church, Alumni Assn. of Turner Falls high school.

In getting the golf course project going Dr. Thomas extended the use of the swimming pool at his home to the club members' children and got his wife, Lenore, to supervise the kids' swimming. He persuaded his father-in-law, "Gramp" Murphy, retired supt. of the Montague water dept., to work on course construction. Murphy is a rugged 80 but set a brisk pace for much of the course work. Bill and Dan Thomas, the doctor's brothers, were shanghaied into the building and maintenance job. His son, Warren, Jr., a student at Wesleyan university, Middletown, Conn., spent time conditioning himself for varsity football by working on the course at no pay. Steve Gulow, Jr., a local high school athlete, also was brought onto the job by "Gramp" Murphy as a construction man and drew other high school students into the community enterprise.

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Leonard Writes Introduction for "Golf in Virginia"

Virginia ranks high in the nation in the number of new courses opened in recent years. Laurence Leonard, sports editor of the Richmond (Va.) News Leader, describes Virginia's position in the game in an introductory message he prepared for the new 12-page booklet. "Golf in Virginia," recently published. It is available from the Virginia Department of Conservation and Economic Development in Richmond.

The booklet lists about 150 regulation golf courses in Virginia. It includes their location, number of holes, par and their classification — private, public, semiprivate, resort or military.

"Golf in Virginia has kept up with the national fever," writes Leonard. "National Golf Foundation statistics show there is one golf course in the state for every 26,446 persons. The national average is one golf course for every 25,376 persons. In 1962, ten courses were opened, placing Virginia among the top ten states in the nation in new facilities. Thirty-five courses have been opened in the last three years."

Besides pointing to the state's position

nationally, Leonard's article presents some historic information on the sport in the Old Dominion and lists some of its outstanding courses.

Golf is Fastest Growing High School Sport

Not a single public high school in the United States owns a golf course, yet golf is the fastest growing major sport among teenagers in the country today.

Three years ago, golf ranked tenth as a high school sport with only 36,000 students enjoying the game. Figures just published by the National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations reveal that golf has jumped from tenth to sixth place with more than 78,000 students participating. Twenty-six sports are listed. Since 1960, golf has swept past such well established sports as swimming, volleyball, cross country and tennis in popularity. Only football, basketball, baseball, track and wrestling now outdistance golf on the high school scene.

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