

Westfields Golf Club Featured in Links LS

Tim R. Norris, CGCS

Corey Haney, superintendent at Westfields Golf Club in Clifton, VA, may soon have the distinction of having more rounds played on his course than any other MAAGCS member. Fortunately for Corey the majority of these will be "virtual rounds" after the release of Links LS' new CDROM *Fred Couples at Westfields*.

Before the October 9th opening of Westfields, a Bell Jet Ranger was swooping low over the fairways, greens and tees. The helicopter and six man crew were filming the course for the latest add on module of Access Software's popular Links LS computer golf game. Corey had the chance to ride along on several of the flights and tried his best to convince the pilot to blow leaves at the same time, but he says he had no luck despite his best efforts.

Access Software photographers Zeke MacCabe and Mike Yurth shot 60-70 rolls of film out of the helicopter during their five hours in the air. Another plane took aerial photographs from 5,000 feet above the site to record the topography of the course using radio waves. Data from both of these sources will then be digitized to give an accurate portrayal of each hole by using shadows to depict details in elevation change.

Each golf course module cost \$75,000 to \$100,000 to develop and is based on an actual course in the United States or overseas. Former PGA pro Lanny Nielsen, a consultant for Access Software, helps choose the courses. The involvement of the popular Fred Couples in the design and development of Westfields Golf Club made it an easy choice for a game module.

The game lets you pick virtual players that play the round for you. Corey wanted to have his swing modeled for one of the players, but the software developers said construction had forced his handicap too high. The comment was

1999 MAAGCS Calendar

March 9 & 10	Educational Seminar Bethesda Marriott Suites	
April 6	Fountain Head CC	Ken Keller
May 11	Supt/Pro Tournament	
June 8	Chevy Chase Club Supt/Club Official	Sean Remington
July 12	Westwood CC	Walter Montross
August 10	Mayo Beach/South River Annual Family Picnic	John Newcomb
September 14	Woodmont C C	Mike Larsen
October 12	Lowes Island GC Annual Championship	Byron Lash
November 9	Southview GC	Steve Cohoon
December 14	TBA Annual Meeting & GCSAA Seminar	

All dates and locations are subject to change.

"It looks more like he is swinging a shovel than a golf club". Everyone in MAAGCS has wondered about Corey's handicap all along!

The "fly overs" that are shown of each hole in the game will be the actual video shot by the crew. These tapes will be put on the CD and played back as streaming video. The Fred Couples at Westfields add on will be available in May for a suggested retail price of \$29.95.

ENVIRONMENTAL

- Pond Management

- Stream Stabilization

QUALITY

- Landscaping

- Design and Construction

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