



Golf: Kerrville's Comanche Trace draws rave review

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A couple of San Antonio-area courses earned headline notice in recent days.

Travel & Leisure Golf magazine has included Comanche Trace at Kerrville on its list of the Top 100 Golf Communities in the United States. In its January/February issue, Comanche Trace is listed alongside Barton Creek at Austin, Spanish Oaks at Bee Cave and Vaquero at Westlake among ranked Texas neighborhoods.

Waggle Room, a golf blog, also notes that Comanche Trace is among the least expensive of the communities included, with the lowest-priced home available in the mid-\$200,000 range.

Meanwhile, the annual Jack Nicklaus calendar has featured Cordillera Ranch's picturesque No. 6 hole on its cover. The gorgeous par-3 No. 16 at the Nicklaus Signature Course is also featured accompanying the January 2009 entry.

The kids are all right: In the wake of the boys 16-18 age title at a Texas Junior Golf Tour event at Hyatt Hill Country two weeks ago, San Antonio's Stanton Tondre posted a runner-up finish last weekend at the Alamo City Open at SilverHorn.

Tondre, with an 11-over 155, fell six strokes short of Medina Valley's Curtis Reed, the reigning Greater San Antonio junior match-play champion. Chris Contreras was fourth.

San Antonio players fared well in other divisions. Alanna-Jean Keith was fourth in the girls 16-18, and Adrian Rodriguez, Sebastian Ugalde and Timothy Guerrero were second, third and fourth, respectively, in the boys 12-15.

Money matters: The San Antonio chapter of the Executive Women's Golf Association is now accepting applications for its 13th annual Nancy Dooling Scholarship. The \$1,000 awards will be available for female golfers ages 14-18.

Applications are required, with candidates reviewed for academic accomplishment, community involvement, athletic achievements and goals. Winners are notified Feb. 11, followed by an EWGA kickoff event Feb. 15 at La Cantera. E-mail scholarship@ewga.org or log on to ewgsa.org for information.

Richard Oliver

Got a question for Richard Oliver? Use the form below and fire away!

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Personnel moves: Ruffin Moore has been named the new general manager at Pecan Valley, replacing Danny Cardenas, who departed late last year.

Moore's résumé includes stints in management and teaching at Circle C in Austin and, most recently, SilverHorn.

"I had pretty much 'retired' after a long stint at Circle C," Moore said in an e-mail. "I started here at Pecan Valley way back in 1992, so when this opportunity came, I said heck yes. I love this golf course, easily my favorite in Texas."

At The Golf Club of Texas, Aaron Gabardi has taken over as lead instructor at the Joe Caruso Academy branch recently opened at the facility. While Caruso now has a partnership with TGC, his main facility remains on Blanco Road. Call (210) 688-1332 for information.

Digging in the dirt: Favorable weather has been a plus for the TPC San Antonio project, which expects to get much of its golf construction finished this year.

For a glimpse at the progress being made on the Greg Norman-designed layout, expected to open in 2010, log on to blog.tpcsanantonio.com for a photo slide show and information from Jody Brothers, director of business development for the operation.

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