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JUNE 2014



## EYE OF THE TIGER

*Tiger Selects Bluejack National in Montgomery for his first U.S. Design*



**Spieth Gives Back**



**Billy Tuten**



**State Am Preview**



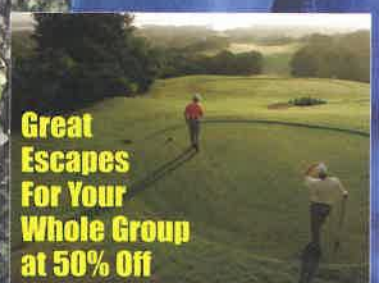
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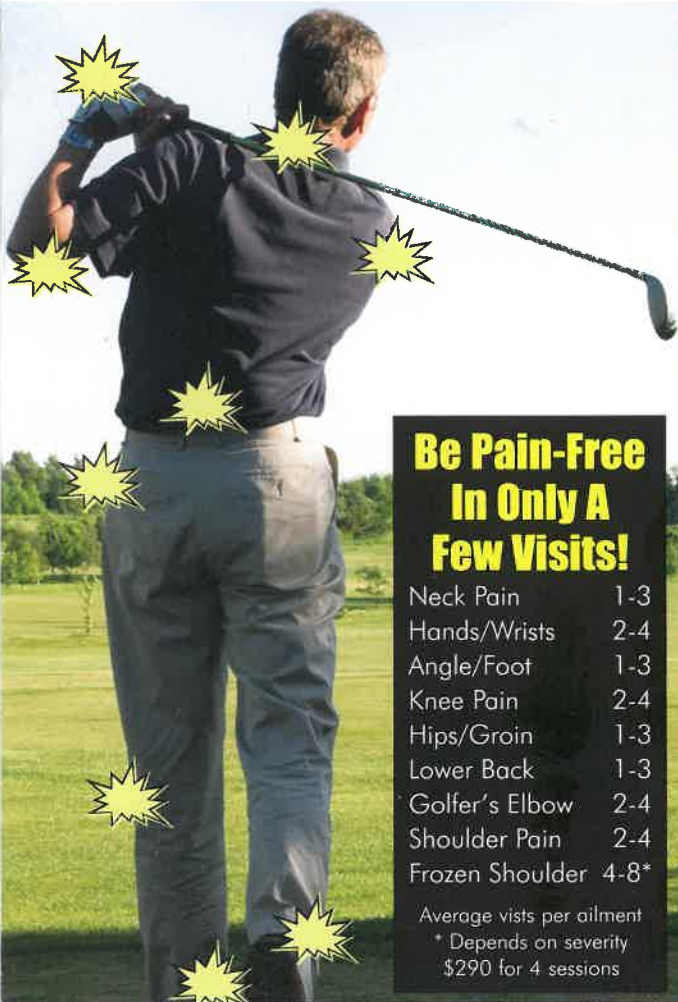
#### Tiger to Design First U.S. Course at Bluejack National near Houston

For several months, we heard rumors of Tiger sightings in the rural town of Montgomery and the former estate of late Texas oil tycoon John Blake. They were true. With the property being purchased and redeveloped as a world-class golf and residential community, Tiger fell in love with the heavily-wooded site and will design a new championship layout.

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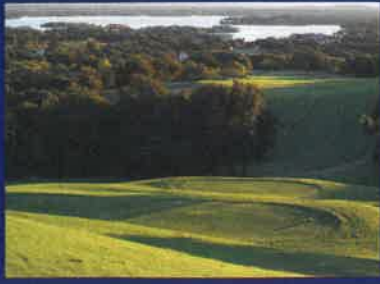
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# THE SHORT GAME

## Tiger to design first U.S. course near Houston



Casey Paulson (left) and Michael Abbott of Beacon Land are all smiles as they show Tiger Woods their property at Bluejack National.

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**BY KEVIN NEWBERRY**  
*Texas Links Magazine*

New golf course construction has come to a virtual halt nationwide over the past decade, thanks to an over buildout of courses during the previous 20 years.

But there is one new Texas course making national headlines in the rural town of Montgomery, 30 minutes northwest of Houston.

On the rolling, heavily-wooded estate of the late Texas oil tycoon **John Blake, Tiger Woods** will design his first golf course in the U.S.

The project is known as **Bluejack National**, which is being designed as a world-class private club and community that will be replete with upscale services and amenities.

Already, Bluejack National has assembled a world-reknown team. Longtime Texas golf executives **Michael Abbott** and **Casey Paulson** formed **Beacon Land Development** to serve as the development of the project. Together, the two have more than 50 years of experience developing and operating some of the most elite private clubs and resorts in the U.S. and Mexico.

In May, they announced Woods would be the designer of the new course, and they also lured golf course superintendent **Eric Bauer** away from his longtime job at the prestigious **Club at Carlton Woods**, which has two of the best private courses in the state.

Formerly the home of **Blaketree National Golf Club**, Bluejack National will be set among 755 acres of gently rolling and beautifully wooded countryside dotted with natural lakes and streams.

The original course was popular with Houston-area players; however, Bluejack National's developers believe a completely new design is required to make the best use of the spectacular terrain and natural view corridors.

Woods, the world's No. 1 player and winner of 14 major golf championships, was selected to design the new course following numerous conversations and site visits.

"I've known Michael Abbott and other members of Beacon Land Development for many years. I have tremendous respect for their ability and their commitment to excellence, and I am proud to be a part of Bluejack National," Woods said. "Bluejack National has one of the best natural settings for golf I have seen. With its changes in elevation, the beautiful pines and hardwoods, Bluejack National is reminiscent of the pinelands of Georgia and the Carolinas. The opportunity is here to create a golf course unlike any other in the area, and our goal is for it to be among the best in the nation."

Construction of the golf course is expected to begin during this summer with its completion slated for the fall of 2015.

"We are thrilled to have Tiger working with us to develop the

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# THE SHORT GAME

golf course for Bluejack National," Abbott said. "He spent a lot of time getting to know the property and understanding its potential. Throughout the process it became clear that his vision for the golf course perfectly aligned with ours, and he shared our passion for bringing it to life."

Woods said the course will require players to think throughout their rounds. Successfully challenging hazards will reward players with preferred angles of play for their next shot. Green contours will be kept simple to allow for fast speeds. Areas around the greens will be maintained firm and tight to promote shot options and creativity from the chipping areas.

Woods will also design a short course for Bluejack National. It will be expertly contoured and meticulously maintained, making it ideal for short-game practice. The routing will be left to the imagination of the players, giving friends, families and associates the opportunity to create their own challenges and games.

Beacon Land is in partnership with Lantern Asset Management, a Dallas firm with a strong track record in luxury resort and mixed-use residential communities.

"I'm proud to be partnering with industry leaders such as Tiger Woods Design and Beacon Land Development to create something truly special on an exceptional piece of land," said Lantern president **Andy Mitchell**. "When you witness the passion this team brings to the creative process, it generates tremendous enthusiasm for the development of Bluejack National, and for the lifestyle it will provide to its future members and residents."

Adjacent to the Short Course will be The Porch, an inviting hangout for players before or after their rounds. The Porch will provide casual fare with a "speak-easy" style bar serving signature cocktails and a fine selection of cigars. For overnight stays, The Porch also will feature comfortably appointed private member suites.

For those who wish to stay a little longer, Bluejack National will offer nearly 400 private residences with options ranging from member suites to cottages, Sunday homes and estate home sites. Corporate Compounds also will be available providing ideal facilities for retreats, outings, conferences and entertaining.

"Our goal is to create a truly distinctive environment where families and friends can reconnect, enjoy their time together and create lasting memories and traditions they'll cherish for years to come," Paulson said. "Michael and I have years of experience developing and delivering these types of experiences at some of the world's most celebrated private clubs and resorts.

"At Bluejack National, we have the opportunity to build upon all of that know-how to deliver a lifestyle unlike any other to our members."

For information about Bluejack National, visit [www.bluejacknational.com](http://www.bluejacknational.com). TL

**'Bluejack National has one of the best natural settings for golf I have seen. With its changes in elevation, the beautiful pines and hardwoods, Bluejack National is reminiscent of the pinelands of Georgia and the Carolinas. The opportunity is here to create a golf course unlike any other in the area, and our goal is for it to be among the best in the nation.'**

—Tiger Woods