The course became extremely popular from the day it was opened, being generally considered an excellent one.

**Postoffice**

Jacksonville was established as a postoffice March 24, 1824. The mail was carried on horseback once a week to the St. Marys River and likewise to St. Augustine, with a weekly mail to Tallahassee during the sessions of the Legislative Council. There were few settlements in the country north and west of Jacksonville and the post-riders experienced many difficulties and dangers, though they were seldom molested by the Indians. The first contract for carrying the mail between Jacksonville and Tallahassee was awarded to Albert G. Philips. Sometimes Mr. Philips carried the mail himself and camped wherever night overtook him. He was more or less familiar with the language of the Indians and could talk with them. Often as he slept in the woods he would awake in the night and find Indian braves gathered around his campfire. They never molested him and never took one thing from him, but frequently brought him dried venison and wild honey, and he would give them coffee and tobacco in exchange. He would then go back to sleep and when he woke up again they would be gone. A regular mail-rider was Green Bush, famous as a coon and squirrel hunter and generally considered the best shot in the county. This early mail service from Jacksonville by post-riding was clothed in the romance of the wild. When steamboat schedules became established, between Charleston, Savannah and Jacksonville in the 1840's, the mail from the North was received in this way. As early as 1835 there seems to have been a stage line between Jacksonville and Tallahassee (probably in operation only during the sessions of the Council) and the mail no doubt was also carried. In 1839, the Territorial Legislature sent a resolution to Florida's delegate in Congress seeking an appropriation of $5,000 in order to repair the road from Jacksonville to the St. Marys (Kings Road), as in wet weather it was almost impassable, which caused great delays in the mails. Until 1860, when the first railroad was built into Jacksonville, the mail to West Florida was carried by stage. There was a semi-weekly stage between Jacksonville and White Sulphur Springs (now White Springs) which at that time was a famous resort for the people of Florida and