Landmark gets S.C. resorts

Landmark Land Co. of California, which specializes in residential and hotel resort developments including golf courses, has paid a reported $35 million for several resort properties on Kiawah Island, S.C.

Landmark said it will redevelop the properties it bought from Kiawah Resort Associates of Charleston, S.C. The total investment could reach $250 million over the next five years, Landmark said.

$45,000 grant to bolster development

Hoping to stimulate development of public golf facilities across the country, the United States Golf Association Foundation has made a one-time $45,000 grant to the National Golf Foundation.

The NGF will use the grant from the USGA Foundation’s President’s Fund in an extensive promotion and information program design to:

- Increase awareness of local government officials, developers, lenders and other key groups of the need and opportunity for public golf course development.
- Help initiate actions leading to development of these courses.
- Brochures, booklets and advertising messages will be created and sent to target audiences.

“We are pleased with this grant — not only because it will intensify the NGF’s overall effort in this area, but also because it demonstrates the USGA’s recognition of the importance of public golf course development to the future growth and enjoyment of the game in America,” said Dr. Joe Beditz, NGF executive vice president and acting president and chief operating officer.

USGA President William C. Battle said, “The President’s Fund was created specifically to fund projects which are important to the game but would not be part of our normal services.

“Encouraging the development of public golf courses is one of the reasons the USGA Public Golf Committee was created and we are delighted to assist the National Golf Foundation in this worthwhile project.”

“The NGF will be able to first target nearly 30,000 municipal officials, developers and lending institution officers to encourage them to consider the many benefits of developing golf courses within their communities,” said Beditz.

“Secondly, we will be following up this initial contact by distributing a new publication which will offer an overview of the items to consider when developing a public golf facility.”

The new publication will be available later this year.

“We feel that this two-part approach will not only stimulate thinking about public golf course development,” Beditz said, “but will also help stimulate action on the part of these key decision-makers. Ultimately, this is the goal of the program — to have more and more cities, towns and counties develop golf courses for their citizens.”

Traverse Cup pits industry’s avid golfers

Golf industry leaders have been invited to compete in the Grand Traverse Resort’s Traverse Cup in Traverse City, Mich., June 8-11.

Jack Nicklaus will participate in an exhibition round at the course he designed, known fittingly as “The Bear.”

The Traverse Cup is sanctioned by “The Golfs,” an association of leading industry golf enthusiasts.

 Winners of The Traverse Cup and other sanctioned tournaments are invited to compete in the November Meeting Masters final tournament at Doral Country Club, Miami, Fla.

American Golf expands its course services

American Golf Corp. in Santa Monica, Calif., has announced that it has begun offering complete management services for the design, development and management of public and private golf courses.

Services will include feasibility studies, site selection, course design and planning, financial analysis, marketing expertise and course and clubhouse management.

American Golf, formed 20 years ago, now owns or leases more than 110 private and public golf courses nationwide.

Shinwa buys Wailea assets

A subsidiary of Shinwa Golf Group has bought the assets of Wailea Development Co. for $197.5 million.

Alexander & Baldwin Inc. said it expects to report a gain of $101.6 million, or $2.16 a share, in the first quarter on the sale of its development company to Shinwa.

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