Graves' courses take form in West, Northwest

Robert Muir Graves is designing or redesigning six courses in California, one in Idaho and one in Washington with scheduled 1989-1990 opening dates. The Walnut Creek, Calif., golf course architect intends a November opening for Mountain Springs Golf Club in Sonoma, Calif. Yardage measurements range from 6,770 to 5,555 for the 18-hole semi-private daily fee course owned by Kim Daters and Al Huber and being built by Randall Carre. Mountain Springs is in the heart of gold country.

Sonoma Golf Club in Sonoma, Calif., is targeted for opening in the fall, though it could be next spring. This 18-hole semi-private fee links is an existing course originally designed by Sam Whitting. Graves is renovating Sonoma to its original design. Fuji Country USA is the owner.

Springs opened for scheduled for Cherry Island Golf Club in Sacramento, Calif., Las Postas Golf Club in Livermore, Calif., and Whispering Forest Golf Club in McCall, Idaho, while August 1990 is the target completion date for the 18-hole, 7,100-yard, par 72 daily fee Oceanic Bakersfield.

Cherry Island, being built by Dutra Construction for the city of Sacramento, will be 18 holes, 6,900 yards, and daily. The first new county course in Sacramento in 20 years, it's bisected by two creeks and built through an oak woodland.

Because of airport expansion, Las Positas will be unique combination of 16 new holes and a remodeling of 11 holes. Nine new holes are being designed, nine holes will be executive, and the previous front nine is being remodeled.

The municipal setup owned by the city of Livermore lists Vista Creek Landscapes as builder. Yardage is from 6,779 to 5,650.

Whispering Forest's additional semi-private nine holes of 3,430 yards, to go with the first nine's 3,242, is being carved from mountain wilderness. Mar Whiteman is the owner.

Meanwhile, planning is far along on Avalon Golf Course in Skiatook Valley, Wash. Being planned by Ron Hass of Sudden Valley Golf and Country Club in Bellingham, Wash., the 27-hole daily fee course will wind around two old lakes designed for woods.

Graves is also designing an 18-hole public course for the city of Fairfield, Calif.

Please keep us informed

Each month, Golf Course News - in cooperation with the American Society of Golf Course Architects - will publish news stories on new golf courses being built in the United States. We are asking people who are planning or have begun construction of new courses, or rebuilding or expansion of existing ones, to write to:

Golf Course News, P.O. Box 767, Yarmouth, Maine 04096.

Fairway Card Paths

• An interlocking system of 1 square foot pavers which protects grass from cart traffic.
• Balls bounce straight.
• Play is speeded up.
• Income is increased.

Yardage Markers

3" numbers imbedded in a 1 sq. ft. paver which lies level with the fairway. Used every 10 yards for precise club selection.

For free information circle #318