Latshaw decides to stay put at Wilmington CC

Paul Latshaw will not return to Pittsburgh's Oakmont Country Club but will instead remain as head superintendent at Wilmington (Del.) Country Club. Latshaw, the only superintendent to host three of professional golf's four major championships, informed Oakmont officials in late October that he would not return to the post he held at the Pittsburgh course from 1975 to 1987, said Oakmont General Manager Pat LaRocca. He had been expected to return to Oakmont around Jan. 1.

"Paul just said he changed his mind," LaRocca said. "We're disappointed. But we're very happy with the new superintendent we've hired." Mark Ruhns, who spent the last 12 years as head superintendent at Laurel Valley Golf Club in Ligonier, Pa., will take over at Oakmont in early 1991, LaRocca said.

Latshaw hosted the 1978 PGA Championship and 1983 U.S. Open while at Oakmont. He was also head superintendent at Augusta National, site of the Masters, from 1987 to 1989. He assumed the Wilmington post in May of last year. Oakmont is the scheduled site of the 1992 women's U.S. Open and the 1994 men's Open. The opportunity to be head superintendent at the site of a major championship was one of the reasons Latshaw was reported interested in the Oakmont post. A telephone call to Latshaw was not returned.

American Golf buys two California golf courses

American Golf Corp., has bought the 27-hole Desert Princess Country Club in Cathedral City, Calif., and the 18-hole Dominguez Golf Course in Carson, Calif.

The private Desert Princess CC has three nine-hole layouts — the Lagos, Cielo and Vista courses. Its facilities include a driving range, lap pool, jacuzzi, weight and exercise room, two racquetball courts and 10 lighted tennis courts.

Dominguez Golf Course will be renovated to become a state-of-the-art practice center, with improvements to both the course and range. Group lesson, short-game practice facilities and teaching aids will be expanded by the Santa Monica, Calif., company.

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