Landmark developing first course in northern U.S.

Landmark Land Co. is getting involved in its first northern U.S. course at Petoskey, Mich.'s Three Fires resort complex, according to the Detroit News.

Three Fires is an 1,100-acre property, including 5-1/2 miles along Lake Michigan, being developed by Southfield developers Larry LaPatin and Daniel Holloway.

Included in the project is a 27-hole golf course scheduled to open in the spring of 1992.

According to the Detroit News, it is believed that Landmark Vice President and Charlevoix, Mich., native Chuck Fairbanks was influential in his company's decision to venture out of the warmer climes, where it had developed such well-known facilities as PGA West and LaQuinta in Palm Springs, Calif., Oak Tree in Edmond, Okla., and Palm Beach Polo and Country Club in Florida.

Before getting into the real estate development business, Fairbanks was head coach of the National Football League New England Patriots, the defunct United States Football League's New Jersey Generals and the University of Colorado.

Michigan's golf boom also had a lot to do with the Landmark decision.

The state has more public courses than any state in the country and is among the leaders in number of players, frequency of play and number of courses.

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Westchester in LA closing holes for changes

Parts of the Westchester Golf Course adjacent to Los Angeles International Airport will be closed for portions of the next two years while renovations are being done.

A fully automated sprinkler system, modern clubhouse and redesigning of several holes means nine of the 18 holes will close for up to two years and the driving range for two months.

The $3.5-million facelift will eventually result in longer holes on the executive course, a larger pro shop and better lighting for nighttime play.

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