Yash replaces Rupp as NGF chairman

JUPITER, Fla. — Chuck Yash has been elected chairman of the National Golf Foundation's board of directors. Yash is vice president and general manager of Golf Products Group, Spalding Sports Worldwide. He succeeds Glenn N. Rupp, who resigned his board position after being replaced as president and chief executive officer of Wilson Sporting Goods Co.

Also elected were Vice Chairman Wally Uihlein, Titleist & Foot-Joy Worldwide president and CEO; Secretary Ed Van Dyke, True Temper Sports president; Treasurer Peter Bonaniti, Golf Magazine publisher; and President Joseph F. Beditz, NGF president.

Yash, 42, has managed Spalding's golf business since 1984. His previous NGF board positions were secretary, vice chairman and research committee chairman.

Polo to add unique touch to Kentucky golf complex

LEXINGTON, Ky. — An 18-hole golf course and a polo field will be unique centerpiece's of a 300-home, $60-million subdivision called the Polo Fields of Flat Rock Road in eastern Jefferson County.

Developers are billing the 285-acre project as "the first moderately priced golf and country club community in eastern Jefferson County," adding, "Homes, including the lot, will sell for $150,000 to $200,000."

The golf course and polo field are expected to be finished in mid-1992.

The unusual polo theme is expected to sell well in horse country. Site preparation, including roads, utilities and clubhouse, will cost about $5 million, the golf course and polo field another $4.6 million.

William Newcomb is designing the course.

Another subdivision being developed around a golf courses is Hickory Hill, being built by Lettino Homes.

"The golf course is a real draw," said FFH spokesman Mary Lawrence Young.

Hole-riddled oak stands in midst of controversy

CHICO, Calif. — The proposed 12th hole of the re-aligned Bidwell Golf Course has been the subject of several verbal swings because of a once-mighty oak tree.

The large, half-dead blue oak tree estimated to be about 150 years old may be weathered and weary and riddled with postmarks from woodpeckers, but it’s a lively issue to environmentalists.

They contend tree protection is necessary to ensure survival of woodpeckers using as an acorn cache. "Tree No. 50," as it’s referred to in golf course plans.

Golco, which manages the course for the city of Chico, counters, "The alignment is necessary to make the course usable for championship-caliber golf tournaments."

Two park commissioners see golf course expansion as a violation of the Bidwell Park master plan which they claim specifically calls for "preserving and enhancing wildlife habitat" in the park.

Walter Koenig, University of California at Berkeley professor considered "the world expert on woodpeckers," wrote: "Removal of the tree will, for all practical purposes, be tantamount to both killing the birds and rendering the area uninhabitable by woodpeckers for decades to come."