New life for Arizona projects

By MARK LESLIE

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — The Arizona golf course construction industry has a pulse again.

One of the country’s largest water development systems is on-line and golf course projects — on hold for years because of lack of water — are lining up to buy into the new supply. As many as 14 new courses could be built now that non-potable water has started flowing from the Central Arizona Project (CAP) canal north along Pima Road to the northern reaches of Scottsdale. That is prime golf course territory featuring the likes of Desert Mountain Properties, The Boulders, Troon North, Desert Highlands and the Tournament Players Club of Scottsdale.

The $14 million Reclaimed Water Distribution System (RWDS) is the newest phase of the master plan, begun in the 1960s, to irrigate the West. Next up will be the 1995 startup of an effluent plant that will treat water from the major development area in north Scottsdale. That water will be reinserted into the pipeline.

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Karsten Lab to address desert issues

By MARK LESLIE

TUCSON, Ariz. — Golf courses in desert regions can expect to reap benefits from major research that will be conducted at the University of Arizona’s new Desert Turfgrass Research Facility and Karsten Laboratory for Turf Science here.

“We have four or five different, specific problems we have in the desert that need to be addressed,” said Dr. David Kopec, Extension specialist for turf in Arizona. Major targets will be developing irrigation schedules and water-use programs, breeding new turfgrasses, dealing with efficient, and perfecting techniques for weed control and overseeding.

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One-stop shop comes to Asia

By MARK LESLIE

GAPORE — After months of posturing on both the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) and Connex Private Ltd. appear to have joined forces, thereby creating a single mega-show serving the entire Asia-Pacific region. The event will be “two events under one roof,” not a single show. Each show will retain its own staff, resources and, presumably, autonomy. These simultaneous events will be held March 24-27, at the International Merchandise Mart in Singapore.

However, further details on the two-show, one-roof arrangement — including proprietary issues — remained sketchy as Golf Course News went to press in Singapore.

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