City seeks to improve 12 courses

INDIANAPOLIS — The city of Indianapolis is driving for major improvements at its 12 municipal golf courses.

The money would go for cart paths, watering systems, rest rooms and clubhouse remodeling.

Parks Director Leon Younger said the city will issue about $9 million in bonds in about six months to finance the drive. Bonds will be financed with revenue the city receives from the golf courses.

That revenue now must go into a new revolving fund that can be used only for golf purposes.

The city will sign contracts with golf professionals that give the pros complete course control.

The city will pay for watering, amounting to $436,000 a year.

Pros will receive course proceeds, but must return a percentage of the profits to the revolving fund.

Previously, the city kept the greens fees of about $3.5 million annually, but paid 42 employees and maintenance costs.

To cut operating costs, take a look at your overhead.

Profit-oriented course managers keep one eye on the bottom line and one eye on their golf car battery chargers. That’s why more and more of them are putting the Lestronic II in their car barns.

Lestronic II was designed for today’s lighter, more efficient golf cars. It saves money regardless of fleet size by prolonging battery life, delivering more range per charge and reducing energy costs. The Lestronic II:

• Preserves battery life due to the patented electronic timer. Get the proper charge every time. There’s no overcharging for longer battery life. No undercharging for more range per charge.
• Uses 10 percent less AC power to recharge a battery that is 75 percent discharged.
• Fully automatic, eliminating operator error—just plug it in.
• Runs cooler and quieter.
• Carries UL and CSA approval.

Plug into the many benefits for the Lestronic II and watch what happens to your overhead.

Environmentalists attack exclusive Ojai Valley golf course proposal

VENTURA, Calif. — Development of an exclusive 204-acre Ojai Valley golf course is under assault from two environmental groups.

The Environmental Coalition of Ventura County and the Citizens to Preserve the Ojai allege that Ventura County Planning Commission approval permits the Farmont Golf Club to violate a county drought policy that forbids the use of domestic drinking water on courses in unincorporated areas.

Maggie Kildee of the Board of Supervisors said the county’s General Plan drought policy could be amended to allow development of the private golf course.

Farmont has agreed to use no more than 407 acre-feet of water per year. That is down from the 1,009 it had rights to. The developer would also donate the firm’s remaining 1,300 acres to the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy.

Nine-hole track a prominent part of Esopus Lake project

PORT EWEN, N.Y. — A nine-hole golf course would play a prominent part in the Esopus Lake commercial/residential development project that has received favorable recommendations from town planners on an application for a zoning change.

The plan, before the town for three years, has undergone lengthy environmental review. A three-hole golf practice course would be open to the public, and wetlands on the property would be accessed by walkways.

The project would include 205 residential units, an inn, restaurant, spa and other commercial space.

If the Town Board grants the zoning change request, this largest-ever project planned in Esopus must undergo a site-plan review by town planners.

Univ. course makes way for rec center

ATHENS, Ohio — Golfers at the Ohio University course next fall are scheduled to vie for elbow room with workmen swinging carpenters and saws.

A spot on the course along South Green Drive will be the site of a proposed $20 million student recreation center. The facility will be built along the 9th fairway and driving range.

Construction will require relocating the starter house, No. 1 tee and driving range, and modifying No. 9 fairway. The course will be maintained and should be open for play during construction. Target completion date is June 1995.

Floods damage Palm Desert driving range

PALM DESERT, Calif. — Chapparal Country Club lost $64,000 in January when floods washed away work that had been completed on a driving range.

The facility had just built a driving range, seeded it, sodded the tee and installed the irrigation system.