NEWS IN BRIEF

BUCK LAKE, Miss. — An 18-hole golf course will accompany first-phase construction of a $700 million casino resort here in north Tunica County, about 18 miles south of Memphis, Tenn. With its favorable ruling on behalf of BL America — the Mississippi Gaming golf course will accompany first-phase by Grand Casinos and Gaming Corp. of and two hotels totaling 900 rooms. • • •

Commission has cleared the way for next spring. The Renizon Corp., an bond issue is approved, construction of the regulation-length layout could begin next spring. The Benizon Corp., an Englewood, Colo.-based golf-advise firm, is assisting the city with the project. • • •

PIERRE, S.D. — Construction is underway on the Dunes Golf Complex near Fort Pierre. The facility includes a nine-hole executive course, driving range, clubhouse and housing development along the Missouri River. The range should open in the spring and the course by early summer. Developer Tipp Hamilton designed the course.

SOUTHWICK, N.Y. — Developer Robert Rubin plans to build two 18-hole golf courses and an unspecified number of homes on 521 acres overlooking Pocanoc Bay. Rees Jones will design the two layouts, one public and one private. Construction could begin as early as next spring. The site is home to an automobile racetrack. Rubin bought the site in an auction two years ago. He had planned to continue it as a race-track, but ran into significant opposition.

Georgia flood waters ravage area courses

By PETER BLAIS

ALBANY, Ga. — Golf courses along the Flint and Ocmulgee rivers suffered damage ranging from extensive to minor from the 500-year flood that ravaged southern Georgia in early July.

Those bordering the Flint, particularly near Albany in southwestern Georgia, were hit particularly hard, with several courses still underwater a week after the worst of the flooding occurred.

Water lapped at the roof and the tops of at least two flagsticks at Radium Country Club, according to Darren Garner, assistant pro at Double Gate Country Club, located on higher ground 20 miles from Radium. Calls to the Radium course and course officials had not been returned by press time.

An employee at the city recreation department said the staff had been unable to evaluate damage at Turner Field Municipal Golf Course because high water made it impossible to reach the facility.

Calls to the American Legion Golf Course and various Legion posts were not answered. Garner reported that large parts of that facility were also underwater.

Courses along the Ocmulgee in the central part of the state fared better and should bounce back with little permanent turf damage, according to United States Golf Association Green Section agronomist Pat O'Brien.

"The big problem is cleaning the mud left on the turf when the creeks rise," said Pat O'Brien, director of the USGA's Southeast region. "Most courses will hose the mud off and be back in business. And that bermedgrass will grow back, especially when we start getting some of those 90-degree days in a month or so." Six of the 27 holes at The Landing's Golf Club in Warner Robins were underwater for several days. Waist-high water covered holes 3 through 7 on the new Creek 9 while the entire 9th hole on the Tresse 9 suffered a similar fate.

"It looked like the Ocmulgee River run out there," said maintenance worker Jeff Shaw, comparing the flooded fairways to the river that

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