Waters Resort opened in the late 1970s. The concept of Myrtle Beach, S.C., is managing the expansion. The 2,200-acre Still Waters Resort opened in the late 1970s.

BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP, Ohio — First it was road embankments. Next up, Echo Valley Golf Course? Yes. After watching the Black River gradually gobble up most of a 30-foot road embankment in this northeastern Ohio town, Lorain County engineers will route the river, 1,000 feet away from the road — and right next to the resort. Defender Resort Development, owner of Myrtle Beach, S.C., is managing the expansion. The 2,200-acre Still Waters Resort opened in the late 1970s.

And Fazio Makes Two...

The new, Hole Irvin-designed golf course at Cordillera (above) — the 7,100-acre mountain-top community overlooking Vail Valley, Colo. — will soon have a sister course. Slated to begin construction this spring, the new course will be designed by Tom Fazio. Situated at a 5,600-foot elevation, it will be called the Valley Course, in contrast to Cordillera’s 8,250-foot-elevation Mountain Course (see above), designed by Irvin and opened in 1994. An additional short course is slated to begin construction in 1996.

Conference focuses on Asian management

By HAL PHILLIPS

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — The supply of club managers in Asia-Pacific has never met demand and, as golf course development continues to boom in the region, the need for experienced club managers becomes more and more critical. In this mind, the International Association of Golf Course Managers (IAGCM) will stage the first certificate course in "Club Operations and Golf & Country Club Management," beginning Oct. 1 here at the Pan Pacific Glenmore Resort.

"This program is being held first in the Asia-Pacific region, as there is an acute shortage of qualified golf & country club managers in the region, especially Malaysia," said Jien Siew, IAGCM secretary.

"Many in the club management profession have risen through the ranks. Very few have achieved degrees in the hospitality field. The ever-changing climate of golf & country club management demands a highly qualified, highly trained professional who can manage the changes occurring daily."

The IAGCM is a non-profit body formed in 1999 to provide for and enhance the international professionalism of the golf & country club management. The association is the only one of its kind to represent managers on an international scale, according to C.K. Leong, attorney for IAGCM.

The intensive six-week course will begin Oct. 1 and conclude in mid-November. According to Leong, the program is

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The Kirby Marker System is distributed in the U.S. without charge to qualified personnel associated with golf course builders, developers and architects. Subscriptions to Canadian golf course builders, developers and architects. Subscriptions to Canadian golf course builders, developers and architects. Subscriptions to Canadian golf course builders, developers and architects.
Texas state park project moves forward despite opposition

HOUSTON, Texas — State parks officials will proceed with the $1 million expansion of Bastrop State Park Golf Course despite a decision by the National Parks Service not to help fund the project.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department had applied for a $500,000 matching federal grant to expand the nine-hole golf course at Bastrop State Park, about 30 miles east of Austin.

The project garnered little notice until environmentalists rented a billboard to warn residents that $1 million in tax dollars would be used to expand a golf course.

Calif. shootout?

Continued from page 3

Board of Supervisors, who argued the proposed resort would be a good use of less productive farmland in an area that's trying to pump up its tourist economy.

Willms Ranch, however, is under the Williamson Act contract, which means the owners have agreed to keep the land in agricultural production in exchange for tax breaks. The 10-year contract reduces tax bills by an average of 40 percent. The law was designed to continue taxing farms as farms instead of as potential subdivision land. It aims to keep farmers from succumbing to development pressures in order to meet high tax bills. The contracts essentially allow property to be assessed at current income level. The state then reimburses counties for part of the lost property taxes. The state paid out $35 million last year to make up for Williamson Act enrollments.

In the past, landowners with Williamson Act contracts who wanted to develop golf courses tried to cancel their contracts, paying hefty fees. Now more and more landowners are trying to argue that golf courses are allowed as a recreational use under the Williamson Act, letting them get other tax breaks and still develop the land.

The lawsuit's petitioners argue that recreational uses on state-protected farmland shouldn't displace agricultural production.

The Willms Ranch case is expected to set precedents for future development proposals on Williamson Act farmland. The case also will shed light on a new law that went into effect Jan. 1 tightening the definition of what recreational uses are allowed on Williamson Act farmland.

The law doesn't specifically target golf courses, but it bars recreational uses on Williamson Act land that would harm a farm's long-term productivity or displace the agricultural use of the land. The new legislation was aimed at stopping some of the more adventurous proposals for Williamson Act land, including gravel pits and horse-racing tracks.

The bulk of the Willms property would remain a cattle ranch.