NEWS IN BRIEF

CANON CITY, Colo. — Shadow Hills Golf Club will soon be the only 18-hole golf course in Fremont County. Shadow Hills members started planning an expansion from nine to 18 holes about a year ago and the work is now almost complete. If the weather cooperates, members will be able to play an 18-hole course by fall 1995. The estimated price tag for the Keith Foster-designed expansion is less than $700,000.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — An Austin, Texas-based developer said he is interested in building a nine-hole golf course downtown here. The project could be tied to the city's Metropolitan Area Projects plan, a downtown development proposal funded in part by a sales tax. There has also been discussion about building an 18-hole course straddling the North Canadian river.

BROCKWAY, Pa. — Veteran PGA pro Doug Lockwood is busy preparing to open the Tri-County's newest golf course at Riverside-Martin Luther King Park. Either Tom Fazio, Rees Jones or Jack Nicklaus will be awarded the 18-hole golf course straddling the North Canadian river.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — The city's park commission will decide in the next few days whether to build the Tri-County's newest golf course at Riverside-Martin Luther King Park. Either Tom Fazio, Rees Jones or Jack Nicklaus will be awarded the 18-hole course straddling the North Canadian river.

Paiute Nation moving ahead with development despite water wrangle

BY HAL PHILLIPS

LAS VEGAS — The first of four golf courses proposed for Las Vegas Paiute Resort will open here this month, despite a state-sponsored lawsuit over water rights.

Litigation has been postponed until March 20, allowing time for the Paiute Indian Nation, the federal government and the state of Nevada to reach an out-of-court settlement, according to Sue Williams, legal counsel for the Paiute Nation.

"The Paiutes need enough water for all four golf courses," said Williams, a principal in the Albuquerque law firm of Gover, Stetson, Williams. "The state is willing to give up the water for one course. Essentially the tribe claims it has federal water rights because it has occupied this land for time immemorial. The state believes there are no federal water rights." The state of Nevada and the Las Vegas Valley Water District filed federal suit late in 1994, alleging the Paiutes had recently dug six wells and are unlawfully diverting ground water to their fledging golf operation. The state actually sued the Paiutes and the federal government, which serves as trustee for all tribal lands.

"We're certainly not opposed to [the Paiutes] trying to develop those lands up there," Peter Morris, director of the Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, told the Las Vegas Review-Journal. "But before we could consider the options, they went ahead with drilling activity and proceeded with construction of their first golf course."

That first course — the Nu-Wav Kaiv (pronounced nus-kai) which is Paiute for Snow Mountain — is positioned to take advantage of the celebrated golf deaith in Greater Las Vegas, where casino and theme park development have outpaced the city's leisure services. Designed by Pete and Alice Dye, Nu-Wav Kaiv was developed by the Paiutes in conjunction with Landmark Golf Co.

According to Johnny Fott, former PGA touring pro and Landmark's director of golf at Nu-Wav Kaiv, more than 500 units were sold as preregistered members. "Essentially the tribe claims it has federal water rights because it has occupied this land for time immemorial. The state believes there are no federal water rights."

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First Summit yields seeds of working relationships

BY HAL PHILLIPS

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Credibility. The golf and environmental communities both exhibited this trait during the Environmental Summit held here in January, and both groups stand to profit from relationships forged during this unprecedented exchange of views, according to Paul Parker of the Center for Research Management (CRM), the Denver-based firm that facilitated the meeting.

"I think there were misconceptions about each other," Parker explained. "In the golf community, they thought environmentalists were out to get them. That's not the case. By the same token, the environmental community didn't think golf was concerned with environmental issues. That was wrong, too. "Like a lot of issues, you have things reported in the media and expressed during litigation. Unless you sit down and talk, there's a great deal of misconception about motives."

The January Summit sought to clarify these motives by bringing together representatives of most major golf organizations, individual superintendents, architects and builders with emisaries from the environmental community: The Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth, the National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides, Save the Bay, and the National Wildlife Federation (NWF), which co-sponsored the event with Golf Digest magazine. The meeting was underwritten in part by...