Course proposed near L.A.

CULVER CITY, Calif. — Culver City, known for its shopping areas and movie studios, may soon develop a golf course in the area that could cost as much as $15 million after land purchases.

The closest municipal course to Culver City is also one of the nation’s busiest — the 18-hole course at Rancho Park in West Los Angeles.

In 1994, Rancho Park hosted roughly 125,000 rounds with as many as 30 players lined up as early as 5 a.m. on weekend mornings to get their names on a list for tee times.

The proposed site is a 350-acre parcel located in the hills behind West Los Angeles College, portions of which are unincorporated county property and owned by seven different individuals.

Ironically, Culver City once had two adjacent golf courses. But in the name of progress they were paved over in the early 1970s to make way for the Fox Hills Mall and an office park.

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Coore and Crenshaw to restore Dallas course

DALLAS — Change is not always for the better, as members of the private Lakewood Country Club in an affluent section of East Dallas have decided.

Frustrated with changes in the past 25 years to the original 1912 Tom Benelow-designed course and a 1947 Ralph Plummer update, the club’s board of directors hired course architect Bill Coore and 1995 Masters champion Ben Crenshaw to return the course to the same specifications in Plummer’s 1947 redesign. The final phase of the Coore-Crenshaw renovation will begin June 1 and is expected to take nine months to complete.

Lakewood professional Gilbert Freeman said several greens were altered during the 1970s and 1980s and bunkers removed and added.

Lakewood superintendent Mike Plummer (who is not related to Ralph) already has refurbished five greens and Coore-Crenshaw redesigned five more from 1991 to 1993.

The remaining eight will be done this summer. Freeman said the course’s teeing grounds will also be separated into distinct rectangles for a “classy” feel.

Smith accepts post in Arizona with golf ass’n

PHOENIX — South Smith has been named the new managing director of marketing services for the Arizona Golf Association (AGA).

In his new position, Smith will oversee all AGA marketing ventures, including the new Arizona Golf Foundation and the launch of AGA’s new on-line date interface service, US Links.

Smith is the former vice president of marketing, membership services and business development for the National Golf Foundation (NGF).

He left the NGF in 1993 to serve as North American vice president of sales and marketing for Gary Player Golf Equipment.

Corrections

Because of a reporting error, the phone number for Lakeland, Fla.-based International Golf Management (IGM) was printed incorrectly in last month’s listing of golf management companies and their holdings. IGM can be reached at 813-667-1317. At the time, IGM had five courses under contract. Now it has six, having added Poinciana Golf & Racquet Club in Kissimmee, Fla.

Because of an editing error, April’s story on the Cupp/Golf Works renovation now underway at the University of Oklahoma Golf Course contained an unfortunate typo in the headline. At course General Manager and pro Richard Buchanan put it, “You have confused the University of Oklahoma with a university to our north.” Mr. Buchanan chose not to identify this northern school, located in Stillwater. So we won’t, either.

In the listing of golf course management companies and their holdings that appeared in the April issue, part of a company’s name was inadvertently omitted. The company’s full name is American ClubServ. It was a reporting error.