Flatt helps city with innovations to reduce course construction costs

Flatt suggested to the city council that local contractors could build a quality course and that FGS would commit to spending additional time on site to ensure a quality final product. It was also suggested that some savings could result if the city bought construction materials. Flatt sought bids for all the materials needed for the project and negotiated contracts with contractors and sub-contractors for the work.

The project was blessed by good weather last fall, a fairly open winter and a dry spring, permitting all the work to be done and seeding and mulching completed.

The prime contractor was Courtney Excavation. Golf course superintendent Lee Davis is involved in the grow-in process while preparing the existing nine holes for the new season.

Meanwhile, Fulton (Mo.) Country Club has adopted its first plan since the course was created as a nine-hole sand green track in the early 1990s. FGS developed a plan that included new tees, fairway grading and drainage, mounding for fairway landing areas and green-side surrounds, fairway and green bunkers, an irrigation reservoir, irrigation well and a new fully automatic fairway, greens and tees irrigation system.

Contracts have been awarded to Mid-America Golf Construction Co. of Fulton for the earthwork, drainage and shaping; Don Burgess Ditching of Warrenton Mo. for installation of the Toro irrigation system; and David Schnell Drilling, Inc. of Rocheport, Mo., for the 1,000-foot-deep irrigation well. A Carroll Childers pump station will be installed. Grassing will be done by golf course superintendent Joe Farris.

The $250,000 in improvements to the course are being financed by a dues increase passed by the membership last fall.