HENDERSON, Nev. — Construction has started on a Jack Nicklaus-designed 18-hole course that is part of a $4 billion resort and gaming facility planned by Hyatt Hotels Corp. The course will be part of the Monte Largo complex, which will have a Mediterranean-style hotel, gaming casino, 500-room luxury hotel and other amenities, all at the edge of Lake Las Vegas near Henderson in southern Nevada. The golf course is expected to be done by late 1999. Plans call for as many as six resort hotels and four more championship courses at what will be southern Nevada’s first lakeside resort development.

LEGISLATURE ORDERS CONSTRUCTION
OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla. — The Oklahoma Legislature has ordered the state’s Tourism Department to build a new 18-hole public course at Lake Texoma and two nine-hole courses at Langley and Roman Nose State Park. The total cost for the three separate projects is expected to be about $3.5 million — $3.4 million for the Lake Texoma project, $1.3 million for the nine-hole course at Langley, and $700,000 for the nine-hole expansion at Roman Nose. The Lake Texoma course will be designed by Randy Heckenkemper, and the two others by Tripp Davis.

KAVANAUGH HIRES STERLING
TUCSON, Ariz. — Blake Sterling has joined Kenneth M. Kavanaugh Golf Course Design as a senior designer. He will be responsible for construction documents, specifications, and on-site construction supervision. Sterling, who is from Colorado, worked for Dye Designs for six years as a senior designer. While with Dye, Sterling was involved in the design of more than 80 courses, with over 20 completed. He played number one on his college golf team and holds a B.S. degree in business as well as a Master of Science in golf course architecture.

ARCHITECTS RELEASE RFP GUIDE
CHICAGO — Looking to get a better understanding of golf course development? The American Society of Golf Course Architects (ASGCA) has just published a new free planning guide for golf course development called “Request for Proposal for Golf Course Architectural Services.” The comprehensive document is designed to help developers address key elements of a golf course development project, including general notice, scope of services, owner’s responsibilities, submittal requirements, and the selection process.

Nelson, Haworth make stateside debut in N. Calif.

HONOLULU, Hawaii — The firm of Nelson & Haworth, Ltd. has been chosen to design the Grizzly — an 18-hole, par-72 championship course near Graeagle in northern California. This commission marks the firm’s debut in the U.S. mainland market.

The Grizzly golf course is located in Gold Mountain, seven miles east of Graeagle and 45 minutes northwest of Reno, Nev. The 1,200-acre project is a recreational, 427-homesite community master-planned by Taliesin Architects, the perpetuation of Frank Lloyd Wright’s architectural practice.

“We’ve been looking for just the right project to mark our transition into the mainland U.S. market,” said Robin Nelson, chairman of Nelson & Haworth. “This has everything: A great client, spectacular site, and superb location. And we’ll be opening our first mainland office in the... clubhouse.”

Ground was broken on the Grizzly in May. Designed as a semi-private course for tourists and residents of Gold Mountain, it is being developed by Dariel, Peggy, Joe and Laurie Garner of Grizzly Golf Inc. They plan to open the first nine holes by the end of 1997, with the second nine to debut in early 1998. In addition to the 18-hole course, the Grizzly will include a practice facility completely with a driving range with target greens, an 18-hole putting course, and a nine-hole executive track — all to be completed by early 1998.

Nelson and Neil Haworth plan to lay the course onto the site’s natural contours, leaving the mountain setting unaltered and the natural “hazards” of the environment in play. With the towering, snow-capped Sierra Nevada mountain range as the backdrop, the course will weave around giant boulders, ancient juniper trees, tall pines, and the Feather River. Other natural distractions include deep canyon gorges, mountain meadows, and canyon rims complete with rail tracks. Each hole will offer a choice of five tee locations. The course will be a par-72 and measure over 7,200 yards from the championship tees.

Mark Rathert remarks, beautifies Avondale in Idaho

HAYDEN LAKE, Idaho — A major renovation of Avondale Golf and Tennis Club by course architect Mark Rathert has turned the 30-year-old track into a “must-play,” according to the greens committee chairman.

“What Mark did for the beautification of the course is unbelievable,” said Keith Coultrap of the privately owned public facility. “We are very, very pleased with the results. It’s something special, and I think we’ll find that a lot of people who come to north Idaho to golf at Cours d’Alene Resort will want to find their way to Avondale for another round.”

A new creek and waterfall provide "surround-sound" to golfers at the 10th tee at Avondale CC.

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