Florida Open site prepares for reopening

LAKELAND, Fla. — International Golf Management (IGM) is supervising a major redesign and improvement project at The Palms, the oldest of the five courses at Palm Aire Spa & Resort in Pompano Beach, home of the Florida Open. The $700,000 project — which should be finished by the end of this month — included the redesign and rebuilding of the 18-hole course's greens, bunkers, select tees and fairways, as well as major irrigation and drainage improvements. It is the first facelift for the Robert von Hagge-designed layout since it opened in 1959. Work began on the project in April.

The project was designed by golf course architects Karl Litten and Lorrie Viola and overseen by Doug Fraser of Fraser Turf Consultants of Atlantic City, N.J. IGM, which provides ongoing maintenance services for all five Palm-Aire golf courses on a contract basis, is installing irrigation around the greens as well as an Osmac irrigation system by Toro, while Tifton Turf is handling improvements to the fairways and tees and installing USGA-approved greens mix.

In addition to The Palms, Palm-Aire Resort includes four other 18-hole courses — The Pines, The Cypress, The Oaks and The Sables. The latter is an executive course that features four contiguous practice holes called The Regency. All five courses at Palm-Aire are scheduled for upgrades, with The Cypress next in line beginning in early 1998.

Ohio track gets new nine and new moniker

DELWARE, Ohio — Not only is the nine-hole, 72-year-old Delaware Golf Club getting nine new holes, it's also getting a new name.

The soon-to-be expanded course, which will be part of a new 282-acre housing and golf development, will be known as The Dornoch Golf Club. Dornoch is a town in northern Scotland where legendary golf architect Donald Ross was born and raised. Ross designed the existing nine holes at the Delaware Golf Club in 1924.

PGA Tour player Fuzzy Zoeller and golf course architect Michael Hurdzan are working together on the design of the new nine holes.