Delays force Jones to withdraw from Pennsylvania project

BEDFORD, Pa. — Architect Rees Jones has withdrawn himself from the renovation of the historic but rundown Bedford Springs Hotel golf course, saying that delays in the project have made it impossible for him to continue in 1997.

Developers are reportedly talking with Ault, Clark & Associates of Washington, D.C., and William Love Associates of College Park, Md., to get proposals for renovations of a golf course that was designed, at least in part, by Donald Ross.

Jones had planned to work on the Bedford Springs project in 1996. But various delays have pushed the work into 1997, and possibly later. Jones said he has other commitments.

The Dauphin County General Authority that is overseeing the renovation project had hoped to have at least part of the course open by this fall. It's not clear whether that is still possible.

Ore. course to open this summer

ALOHA, Ore. — The $20 million, 36-hole Reserve Vineyards and Golf Course is set to open this summer with one 18-hole layout to open in August and the second about a month later.

The courses were designed by Robert Cupp and John Fought. Reserve Vineyards is owned by D.S. Parklane Development, a Korean construction firm and managed by OB Sports.

Reserve Vineyards covers about 247 acres, with as many as 20 acres being used for the vineyards and winery. A Washington County winery will manage the vineyards. It's possible a hotel and resort amenities may be added later.

The PGA has approached OB Sports Management about staging a men's professional tournament there. And Nike Inc. has reportedly spoken to OB about hosting Nike's World Master Games in 1998.

Conn. city inks operational deal

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — With the city reportedly losing $100,000 a year at the Alling Municipal Golf Course, officials are planning to contract with National Fairways to manage the 146-acre course.

This marks the first time in city history a private firm will operate and maintain the course, pro shop and restaurant.

National Fairways has agreed to invest between $600,000 and $900,000 into course improvements within the first two years of the 10-year agreement.

Some regulars at Alling, particularly senior golfers, have spoken against turning the course over to a private firms. They said they fear that a private firm will raise playing rates that will be difficult for golfers with lower incomes to afford.

Corrections

A story on the Ransomes Greensplex 160 in the March issue listed an incorrect address and telephone number for Ransomes. Ransomes' address is PO Box 82409, Lincoln, Neb. 68501; telephone 800-228-4444.

Because of an editing error, the phone number for O.B. Sports was omitted from February's listing of management companies. The company can be reached at 503-678-4330 [for an updated version of the chart, see pages 50-51].

Due to an editing error, a line was deleted from the March 1997 story, "Brickyard's Stuart beats poa annua invasion." Superintendent Jeff Stuart uses Banol fungicide to control pythium, not brown patch. Stuart said he uses ProStar for brown patch control.

In the January GCN article on father-and-son design teams, the story should have read that Mark Puddicombe, not Grant, is the father of young Trent. Grant is Mark's brother and Trent's uncle.