Development heating up in Mississippi

HATTIESBURG, Miss. — Another 45 holes of golf are under construction in the Hattiesburg area, which should boost the reputation of the Pine Belt area as a golf destination.

By November 1998, golfers looking for warmer temperatures will be able to take advantage of two new 18-hole courses and a nine-hole addition at the Timberton Golf Club:

— Canebrake Golf Club, a new 18-hole semi-private course currently under construction on U.S. 98 near Mississippi 589.

— Airline Golf Club and Resort, a new 18-hole daily-fee course at the Hattiesburg-Laurel Regional Airport.

— Nine new holes at Timberton Golf Club, an 18-hole daily-fee facility.

The completion of the two new courses will make 11 courses within a 30-minute drive of Hattiesburg.

Las Vegas ready for another new track come Nov.

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — Las Vegas’ newest public 18-hole course will open by Nov. 1, possibly sooner.

Rhodes Ranch, a 6,850-yard layout designed by course architect Ted Robinson, may open as early as Oct. 22 to coincide with the start of the PGA Tour’s Las Vegas Invitational.

Rhodes Ranch will be relatively accommodating from the forward tees, but will play to 6,850 yards from the back tees with several water hazards and narrow landing areas.

Daryl Driscoll, Rhodes Ranch director of golf operations, told the Las Vegas Review-Journal that the course was designed with the average player in mind.

“You don’t market a golf course to a Tour player for a number of reasons,” said Rhodes, the former general manager at Wildhorse Golf Club.

“You market it and build it for the people who are going to be out there supporting you every day, 90 percent of whom have trouble breaking 100.”

Robinson puts finishing touches to California renovation

SANTA ROSA, Calif. — Fine-tuning has turned into a major overhaul at the Fountaingrove Resort and Country Club’s 18-hole championship course.

Architect Ted Robinson, who designed Fountaingrove in 1985, has been part of the renovations, which when finished are expected to total $6 million. The general layout of the course will remain the same, but every hole will be affected by the makeover. New bentgrass greens and tees are planned along with additional tee areas. Bunkers will be reshaped, hundreds of trees will be planted and the driving range and practice green are being completely redone. The course, which had been down to eight playable holes, has closed indefinitely and is expected to reopen for play next spring.

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