Massachusetts proposal moves from Milton to Quincy

MILTON, Mass. — The city of Milton just outside Boston might be out of the golf course business before it even got in.

Quarry Hills Associates, a group looking to build a 27-hole golf facility, originally wanted to build the course on a landfill and adjacent land straddling the Milton-Quincy border. Now, it appears the Quincy-based company will build an 18-hole layout entirely in Quincy.

Charles Gelich, president of Quarry Hills, said a recent decision by the state inspector general may force the group to drop Milton from its plans.

Quarry Hills had offered to cap the 56-acre Milton landfill and then use the refurbished area as part of a recreational complex. Without the Quarry Hills connection, Milton will have to pay for the capping itself.

Indy developers convert farm into links

MONTGOMERY, Ind. — In yet another example of a growing trend in the golf course industry, Kenny Swartzentruber and six fellow owners recently opened the 18-hole public County Oaks Golf Course on former family farm land.

"I always dreamed of having a golf course in this community," Swartzentruber told the Washington Times-Herald of Indiana. "The more I looked at this farm, the more I thought it laid real good to have a course without moving a lot of dirt and making it an economically-priced course that everybody can play."

The course was built on 157 acres formerly owned by Swartzentruber's parents. The family's home was renovated and expanded to become a clubhouse.

County Oaks is a par-72, 6,585-yard layout that was designed, for the most part, by its seven owners. The group originally hired a golf course architect, but became dissatisfied and decided to do it on their own. Besides Swartzentruber, the other owners are Dan Gress, Bob McGuire, Darrell Jones, Amos Wittmer, John Legancher and Denzi Fowler. Construction started in spring 1996 and the course officially opened in mid-July.

S.C. firm buys Park City, Utah golf operation

PARK CITY, Utah — Park Meadows Golf Club here has been sold. Park Meadows Golf Partners, L.P. announced the sale of the 18-hole Jack Nicklaus-designed course and associated club facilities to Park Meadows Golf Co. L.L.C. The buyer is an affiliate of the Melrose Co., a real-estate developer headquartered on Hilton Head Island, S.C. The sales price was not disclosed.

Plans for Park Meadows include renaming the property to Park Meadows Country Club and converting it to a private club. According to Richard P. Reichel of The Melrose Co., no immediate changes are planned for current club operations. The timetable for conversion to a private club, planned renovations and additions, and the membership plan will be announced at a later date. Membership to the private club will be by invitation.

The Park Meadows club facilities include the 7,413-yard course (which opened for play in 1982), an 18,000-square-foot clubhouse, practice facility, driving range and maintenance building.

CORRECTION

An article in the July issue of Golf Course News incorrectly identified architect Ed Beidel in connection with a story regarding Turtle Creek Golf Course in Limerick, Pa. Beidel is with the firm of Beidel Design Associates based in Mt. Pleasant, S.C.