California judge puts golf project on hold

CAMARILLO, Calif. — A Superior Court judge has ruled that the county failed to properly address environmental consequences and must devise a better project than plans for a 16,000-seat amphitheater and golf course near Camarillo.

Judge Barbara Lane's decision blocks the proposed development, which was promoted as a profitable venture for the financially ailing parks system. The judge ordered the Board of Supervisors to rescind last year's approval of the development permit until it considered the project's "adverse impacts" on wildlife, wetlands, traffic and noise.

Robert Amore of the county's Parks and Recreation Department said he had not given up on the project, which would have provided funding for a department whose subsidy from the county-owned Channel Islands Harbor was severed in 1996. The outdoor arena and 18-hole golf course would have generated an estimated $500,000 annually for the parks system, making it one of the few self-sufficient municipal park systems in the nation.

Las Vegas CC members reject $60m buyout

LAS VEGAS — The Las Vegas Country Club has rejected a $60-million offer from Hilton Hotels Corp., which has an interest in acquiring the championship golf course for Las Vegas Hilton hotel guests.

The country club is located immediately east of the Las Vegas Hilton. The Las Vegas Country Club board of directors recently rejected the latest offer after a survey of the club's 600 members showed 58 percent opposed the buyout. Country club members had rejected a $38.5 million Hilton offer in September 1997.

Ray Hazzard, general manager of the country club, said Hilton has an arrangement under which up to 40 Hilton guests can play the course daily.

He said the actual number of players is usually eight to 10 daily.

MGM plans to build two tracks near Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS — The MGM Grand Hotel on the Las Vegas Strip has leased 800 acres in nearby Boulder City to build two golf courses.

The lease agreement prohibits gambling activities or housing developments on the property. The Boulder city charter prohibits gambling.

MGM Grand, one of the largest hotels in the world, will pay $750,000 annually to Boulder City once the courses are built.

The 40-year lease agreement can be renewed for an additional 30 years.

The 800-acre site is located near the interchange of US. 95 and U.S. 93.

DALLAS PROJECT PLANNED

GRAPEVINE — A 27-hole golf course is part of the $300 million Opryland hotel complex scheduled to open in early 2003. In addition to the course, the project includes 1,500 hotel rooms, retail shops, and tourist attractions.