

Arsenic scare won't delay Fla. base redevelopment

ORLANDO, Fla. — Arsenic contamination along the golf course at the closing Orlando Naval Training Center should not delay efforts to rebuild the base into a small city, according to *The Orlando Sentinel*.

Consultants said they found the material only in the top 6 inches of soil, all of it on the golf course. The toxin had not leached into ground water.

"That's good news," Shane Benner, Orlando's environmental supervisor, told The Sentinel.

There had been fears the arsenic might have seeped deep into the earth, and that could have pushed back redevelopment plans. But by remaining close to the surface, the pollutant could be scraped off and hauled to a landfill, where it could be buried under tons of garbage.

The estimated cleanup cost is as high as \$3 million. The Department of Defense, which is selling the base to the city, has promised to pay for the work.

Arsenic used to be found in some

pesticides until the chemical was banned 20 years ago. Preliminary checks of the 100-acre, 18-hole course found levels 25 times higher than acceptable by Florida law. The course, on the east side of the base, will become a housing subdivision after the turn of the century.

Orlando is buying the Navy base for about \$4.6 million.

Once the city takes control, it intends to sell the property to Orlando Partners for \$5.8 million. Orlando Partners proposes transforming the site into a community of 1,900 homes and condominiums, 1,300 apartments, 1.5 million square feet of offices, 350,000 square feet

of shops and 215 acres of parks.



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Nashville eyes First Tee facility

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Nashville's Metropolitan Parks and Recreation and the Tennessee Golf Foundation's Vinny Pro-Celebrity Invitational hope to build a First Tee golf course in Nashville.

The Riverview Course, a ninehole short course at Shelby Park in East Nashville, will be extensively renovated as a par-three First Tee course. A new clubhouse will also be built there to serve as home for instructional, educational and vocational junior golf programs.

The First Tee plans to have 100 junior courses under development nationwide by the end of the year 2000.

First Tee will provide seed capital and fund-raising support. The city of Nashville will continue to own the course and Metro Parks and Recreation will operate and maintain it. The Vinny, as part of the Tennessee Golf Foundation, will be responsible for fund-raising efforts to renovate the course as well as for funding the costs associated with programs and staffing for the facility.

Architect Bob Cupp will donate design of the course. Earl Swensson and Associates will donate the clubhouse architectural design.

Cupp will use a to-scale, 70plus year-old nine-hole design by architect Donald Ross originally intended for Shelby Park. The design was lost for many years and rediscovered only recently.

ISS TAKES OVER FLORIDA LINKS

TAMPA, Fla.—ISS Golf Services has won the contract to provide complete golf maintenance services at Lake Diamond Golf Club. Located is Ocala, Lake Diamond is a new residential development and will offer the soon-to-be-built 18-hole course as an enticement for new residents. ISS has been contracted by Atlantis Ventures Investments, Ltd., to grow in the course, and then provide ongoing maintenance to the new facility. The grow-in will be supervised by Wayne Darlington of ISS.