Hills, Graves and Pascuzzo all busy in Golden State

LA HABRA and YORBA LINDA, Calif. — The lack of public golf facilities for residents here will soon be addressed. Westridge Golf Club in La Habra is expected to open in June 1999, and the Black Gold Golf Club in Yorba Linda expects to begin construction this month.

The 18-hole, 6,500-yard, Robert Muir Graves and Damian Pascuzzo-designed Westridge Golf Club sits on a former oil field and is being built by Environmental Golf of Calabasas, Calif., which will also own and manage the facility.

Arthur Hills has nearly completed the design work on the 6,900-yard Black Gold Golf Club that sits in the foothills adjacent to Chino Hills State Park. The high-end municipal course is slated to open in September 2000.

Diamond Valley opens first track

RIVERSIDE, Calif. — The first phase of the Diamond Valley Golf Club is nearing completion, with the first 18 holes of the planned 36-hole layout due to open in mid-January.

The $10-million course, built by Yen Ping Group, Inc. of Pasadena, Calif., is a public course and country club. Construction on the second, and mostly private 18-hole course, will begin in the first quarter of 1999 and will include a larger clubhouse with banquet and meeting facilities.

The courses are part of a 107-residential development located in the sparsely populated hills east of the Domenigoni Valley reservoir.

Oaks impede new TPC layout

VALENCIA, Calif. — The Newhall Land and Farming Co. received planning commission approval recently for its 800-acre Westridge project that will include a PGA Tournament Players Club course and 1,700 homes.

However, since the approval, the Sierra Club has filed an appeal stating the development would harm rare oak savanna. The county board of supervisors has also agreed to review the project’s conditional-use permit that allows for the removal of 147 oaks.

The battle to preserve this oak savanna from development has been raging since 1992.

San Diego links taking shape

DE LUZ, Calif. — Work has begun on the 18-hole Cross Creek Golf Course here in the hills west of Temecula, Calif., 45 minutes from San Diego. Clearing is underway as brush, trees, and trash are removed in preparation for construction.

More than 300 trees will be removed during construction, but developers are planning to replant around 800 trees on the completed course.

The par-71 layout is routed through dense areas of sycamore and oak trees and offers vistas of nearby avocado and citrus groves.

Cross Creek is slated to open in spring of 2000.

RENOVATION PLANNED FOR LOS ANGELES COURSE

LOS ANGELES — The Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Department plans to renovate the heavily played, 49-year-old Rancho Park golf course. The $6-million improvement program includes upgrading the driving range and existing irrigation system and rebuilding all 18 greens. Work could begin by spring 1999.