Tustin, Calif. — Rainville & Bye Golf Course Architects has been selected to design the $2 million practice facility for the new Mission Hills of Hayward public golf course.

The practice facility is Rainville & Bye's second contract with the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District (HARD), which initially hired the firm in December 1997 to design its $3.1 million, nine-hole executive course.

According to Gary Bye, the 1.940-yard, par-30 executive track will open late this summer, with the practice facility to open next year. The practice facility will feature night lighting, double-deck artificial-turf tees accommodating 40 golfers, 10 grass practice tees and chipping and putting areas.

Situated on 37 acres at Industrial Parkway West and Mission Boulevard, the course is located on a 100-acre parcel being developed with homes by Standard Pacific of Northern California. The home builder set aside 26 acres and the city of Hayward, in cooperation with HARD, purchased an additional 11 acres for the nine-hole course. HARD is providing the financing and will operate the course.

According to Wes Asmussen, general manager of HARD, "This executive course promises to be one of the best in Northern California. Its design allows for players of all abilities to have an enjoyable round and use virtually all of the clubs in their bag."

Rainville & Bye needed to design a course that would accommodate the project's unique wetland restoration and flood mitigation needs.

"Our precise grading design enabled us to create marsh areas that provide natural habitats for wildlife as well as retain flood waters," said Bye.

$4M redo due at Pecan Valley, Meadowbrook

Fort Worth, Texas — The Fort Worth City Council has approved plans proposed by the Parks and Community Services Department to proceed with $4 million in renovations to the "River" course at Pecan Valley and Meadowbrook golf courses.

In addition, the City Council endorsed the financial plan proposed by the staff to fund these improvements.

Both Pecan Valley "River" and Meadowbrook have championship layouts, but reportedly suffer from antiquated construction and need a major facelift. The renovations will enhance their character and identity, as well as improve their playability and turfgrass, officials feel.

Only one course will be under construction and reopened before the other course is closed for renovations. Pecan Valley "River" is scheduled to be closed first, in November, and reopened again in October 2000 after the new turf is established. Once the "River" course is reopened, Meadowbrook will be closed and construction will begin.

Renovations on the "River" course include rebuilding all the greens and resurfacing them with TifEagle dwarf Bermuda-grass. Tees will also be rebuilt and expanded to allow for more players of different skill levels. Sand bunkers will be rebuilt with drainage and new white sand. Two additional lakes will be strategically built to enhance the playability of the course, as well as help solve ongoing drainage problems.

Similar improvements are scheduled for Meadowbrook once the "River" course reopens. Meadowbrook is scheduled to close in November 2000 and open in the new millennium. Greens, tees and sand bunkers will be rebuilt, and drainage issues resolved along the lake system that runs through Meadowbrook.

The Fort Worth public golf courses are operated as a government "enterprise" fund. That means no tax dollars are involved in the operation, maintenance or improvements conducted at the courses.