Seven projects on line in Dallas

FORT WORTH, Texas — The number of daily-fee courses in Tarrant and Denton counties in suburban Fort Worth is set to explode in the coming years with four projects and seven courses on the drawing board.

Hillwood Investments is planning a $6-million project at Circle T Ranch that could eventually feature three courses. One of the courses could begin construction this year.

Greg Norman will be designing The Creeks at Beechwood in a business park across from the Texas Motor Speedway. The $10-million, 18-hole course is slated to be finished in fall 2000 and will be accompanied by a hotel and conference center.

Two upscale, daily-fee courses are scheduled to be constructed at the Opryland Hotel-Texas near Lake Grapevine. There will be an 18-hole resort-style course in addition to a nine-hole layout.

In Mansfield, city officials are working on plans for the town's first municipal track, Mansfield National Golf Course, which is expected to open in fall 2000.

Two New Nicklaus Tracks Planned in Ariz.

CHANDLER, Ariz. — The City Council here is close to announcing an agreement with Las Corrientes, LLC to build and operate a municipal course. Under the agreement, Las Corrientes, owned by Dan Strand and Lew Keller, would lease the land from the city for 30 years. Course construction would cost taxpayers nothing. The company is proposing two Jack Nicklaus-designed courses — a par-72 course and an 18-hole executive layout. The 225-acre development will also include a clubhouse, teaching facility and driving range. Construction could begin in July and the course may open by the fall of 2000.

Marty takes on 1st Ark. project

BATON ROUGE, La. — Marty Golf Management (MGM), Inc. has entered a contract arrangement with developers, Mountain Land Group, LLC, to consult in the construction of a new golf and country club in Mountain Home, Ark. MGM will eventually manage the facility for the owners.

Construction began in early March and the course should be ready for play by spring 2000.

MGM President Tom Marty, said this is the firm's first assignment in Arkansas.

The course, designed by architect Tom Clark, will be a par-72 layout measuring 7,200 yards from the back tees. The course will feature bentgrass greens.

MGM has started a membership and marketing campaign.

Vandals damage South Fla. track

JUPITER, Fla. — The Abacoa Golf Course was damaged this spring when two vandals drove a pickup truck across the course.

The 18-hole layout, which is under construction, suffered $4,000 in turf and landscaping damage when the truck drove over areas that had been freshly seeded. Despite the damage, the bunkers and greens are expected to be repaired in time for Abacoa's Oct. 1 opening date.

Jupiter police apprehended the two joyriders on the course after their truck got stuck in the mud as they tried to escape.

Reconstruction of Fla.'s Diplomat Nears Completion

HALLANDALE, Fla. — The reconstruction of the Diplomat Golf Course is nearly complete at the restored Diplomat Resort and Country Club. The resort, which will include a new hotel, convention center, retail complex, and condominiums, will open in September 2000. The golf course, tennis club and spa, however, are slated to open this November. However, the golf course will only be open to resort guests. The 180-acre course has been expanded by 5.2 acres and all that is left to complete is the sodding of the greens.