Lake Las Vegas takes next step

BY DOUG SANDERS

HENDERSON, Nev. — Lake Las Vegas Resort, the ambitious $4 billion development 17 miles south of Las Vegas, has been emerging from the ground, with the construction of the Tom Weiskopf-designed Falls Course at Lake Las Vegas Resort, the third of potentially six courses to be built on the site.

EnCap gets approval for 72-hole resort

NORTH ARLINGTON, N.J. — After months of planning and re-planning, the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission gave preliminary approval to EnCap Holdings LLC of Tampa, Fla., for its amended plan that would convert former landfills into four golf courses and a resort.

Bates to design complex on Olympic site

SALT LAKE CITY — More than six months after the Olympic Games ended in Salt Lake City, construction is underway at Soldier Hollow Olympic Golf Complex, a 36-hole facility to be built at the site of the Olympics.

Timing, coordination, teamwork are keys to renovation's success

Continued on page 13

Environmental friendly Talking Rock Ranch to open in Arizona


The panoramic view from the 17th hole at Talking Rock Ranch. in lieu of a large clubhouse. Harvard Investments deeded the property to the Yavapai Prescott

Continued on next page
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Bates designing Olympic complex

Continued from page 11
July 2004. Utah’s Parks and Recreation department will manage day-to-day operations at the complex.

"I've been impressed by the state of Utah’s commitment to such a wonderful golf recreation destination while also being attentive to protecting the character of the land," Bates said.

Bates and representatives from the state agreed the courses at Soldier Hollow should be built with golfers of all abilities in mind. As such, each hole will feature five sets of tees, with the Olympic course measuring 7,500 yards and the Midway course measuring 7,300 yards from the back tees.

Soldier Hollow is the first golf complex sanctioned by the state of Utah since 1972. ■

The EnCap gets golf resort approval

Continued from page 11

provide a base layer for the golf course development.

Under Phase I, EnCap will pay approximately $18 million to the commission, assume responsibility for the $3 million cost of leachate disposal, and provide closure and post-closure of the Kingsland landfill in Lyndhurst, generating an additional $45 million for the commission. Phase II will result in EnCap making payments of approximately $20.5 million. In all, EnCap plans to spend more than $1.2 billion on the project.

The project hit a minor snag earlier this year when Lyndhurst residents expressed concern that their section of the Meadowlands, where most of the housing will be located, will become overdeveloped. ■

Continuing from page 11

Timing, coordination and teamwork

The single biggest component of streamlining a renovation and/or construction project is the establishment of a reasonable method for obtaining field approvals. When using a golf course architect, the coordination of their visit to approve preliminary shaping or final grades is paramount to a contractor completing the tasks within the proper timeframe. Always schedule the visits well in advance but provide interim updates to proper individuals prior to the actual visit.

A written or audio executive summary every two weeks will keep interested parties abreast of progress or aware of any substantial changes. Sending digital photos through e-mail also can illustrate current situations and minimize any future miscommunications. When it comes to design changes let common sense be your guide and focus on long-term benefits rather than quick-fix solutions that will only get you through one season.

The last valuable contractor that needs to be coordinated with is the golf course maintenance staff. They are key to successful completion of the project and should be involved with most of the planning and implementation stages. Their coordination with selected phases is a benefit since it creates enthusiasm for the continued success of the course. Our team focused on drainage, irrigation installation and programming, tree trimming and turf renovation.

Finishing a renovation project on time and on budget requires all contractors and golf course personnel to work together as a team. ■