

NEWS

Utah courses delayed and over budget

Two Salt Lake City, Utah, courses are experiencing construction delays and cost overruns, but should be opening in the near future.

The Salt Lake City Tribune reported that Wingpointe, an 18-hole municipal course located near the international airport, will open sometime in July if workers can stop alkali from leaching to the surface on one of the holes.

Wingpointe was originally scheduled to open July 1, as was Mountain Dell Lake. The latter will likely be ready for play next spring, although nine holes could be available this summer.

Wingpointe was \$347,000 over its original \$5.2 million budget and Mountain Dell Lake \$360,000 over its \$2.8 million price tag in early March, according to the Tribune. But higher-than-expected interest earnings on money set aside for the projects made additional city funding unnecessary.

Spring Island to become golf development

A development group with plans to build an 18-hole golf course recently purchased 3,000-acre Spring Island, S.C., the largest, privately-held, undeveloped island remaining on the East Coast, according to Golf World magazine.

Spring Island is six miles northwest of Hilton Head Island.

Aronomink denied OK for new sewer

Newton, Pa. supervisors have denied a request by Aronomink Golf Club, site of the 1993 PGA Championship, to upgrade its sewer system in preparation for the event.

The 260-acre property currently uses an on-site, subsurface discharge system. The club would like to connect to a public sewer line. But town officials won't permit it unless there is no alternative.

Project engineers have found 50 percent of the property unsuitable for a new on-site system because of soil type. Aronomink officials have ruled out another parcel because the ground would be trampled on by tournament spectators.

But town officials still believe enough land is available for an on-site system and won't allow the course to hook up to the sewer line until every possibility is explored.

Seminar set

High school and college physical education teachers and golf coaches will have the opportunity to polish their teaching skills at a National Golf Foundation seminar, June 17-22, at Singing Hills Country Club in El Cajon, Calif. For further information contact Roger Yaffe at the NGF at 407-744-6006.

Future of Hayward GC debated

Officials in Hayward, Calif., are trying to decide whether to reopen Hayward Golf Course or build a new facility.

The 107-acre course closed four years ago and has fallen into disrepair.

The owner would like to sell the land for housing. Many others want it to reopen or be preserved as open space, according to the Hayward Daily Review.

There is a need for more golf holes in Hayward. The city's only course, Skywest Golf Course, hosted 80,000 rounds last year, more than

twice the national average.

Three alternatives for reopening the course and one for relocating it were recently presented by city and park district administrators to a committee of councilors, school trustees and park district directors.

The reopening alternatives included having the city issue \$40 million in revenue bonds to purchase the site; building homes and retaining some land for a nine-hole course; and exploring other possible sites, like Garin Regional Park or land along the Hayward shore line.

Also considered was simply allowing developer Shapell Industries to proceed with its plans to buy the land and build 500 single-family homes.

Mayor Alex Giuliani said he has tried to interest local businesses and Japanese companies in reopening the course.

But all said the cost was too high and green fees too low, unless the city subsidized it, he added.

The committee agreed to further study the alternatives and possibly hire a consultant.

AGC buys Skyline Woods

American Golf Corp. of Santa Monica, Calif., has acquired Skyline Woods Country Club in Omaha, Neb., and Sabal Palms Golf Club in Tamarac, Fla.

Skyline Woods Country Club will continue to be operated as a private club, while Sabal Palms Golf Club will remain a public facility. Both have 18 holes.

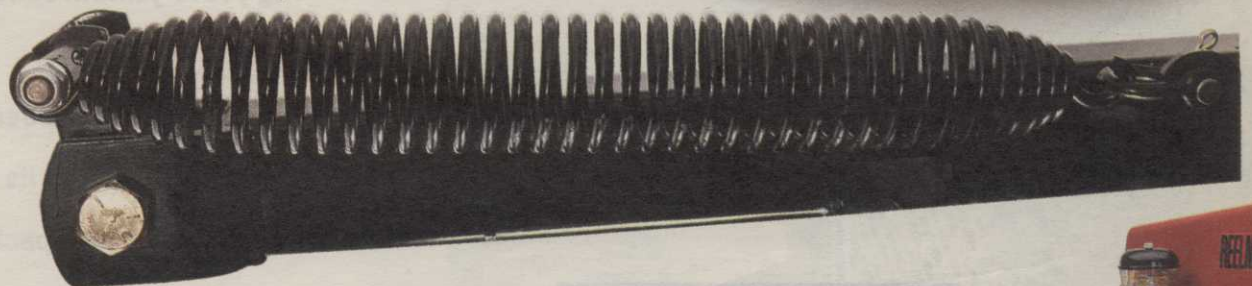
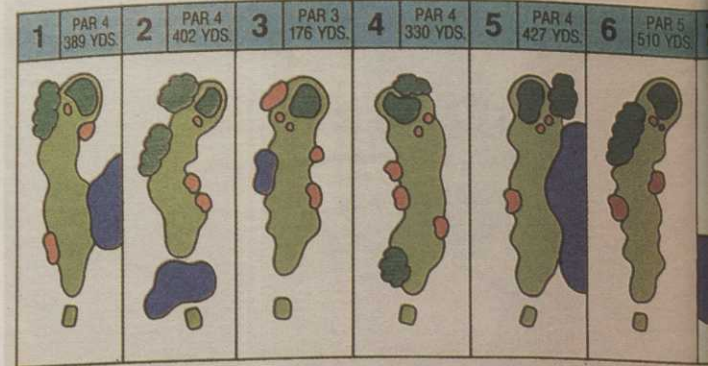
Skyline Woods' facilities include a full-service dining room including banquet facilities, swimming pool, tennis courts, exercise spa, driving range and pro shop.

Sabal Palms has a clubhouse, golf shop, and food and beverage facilities.

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