

## Colorado high school golf team puts its muscle where its swings are

MONTROSE, Colo. — Golf course superintendents strapped with a budget crunch might consider the unique approach of officials at Montrose Country Club.

They tapped into the youth market — the Montrose High School golf team — to sod in one day a 2,700-square-foot practice green.

The cost? Tickets for Mark Knott, Angelo DeJulio, Dirk Jutton, Tate Brown and Heather Bateman to the International tournament, a PGA Tour stop Aug. 15-18 at Castle Pine Golf Club in Castle Rock, Colo.

The youngsters couldn't be happier, and Montrose Country Club pro Tom Carricato said, "If I had the same chance to do this again, I'd jump. The kids went well beyond the call of duty, took great pride in their novel hands-on experience, and see daily the results of their efforts."

Montrose had built a new clubhouse, and it became necessary to relocate the practice green. No budget provision had been made, and finding funds was unlikely.

### Voters should decide issue, says official

GALVESTON, Texas — A state-forced election Aug. 10 should be used to measure the public's opinion on a proposed golf course at Jack Brooks Park.

That's the contention of local commissioner Wayne Johnson. He'd like the issue put on the ballot, at the moment a state constitutional amendment dealing with rural counties and county judges.

County Judge Ray Holbrook said if the golf course is put on the ballot, "we'd have to put on a whole bunch of other parks and ball fields we're spending money on, too."

Commissioner Billy Jack Pegues dismissed Johnson's request as "just another play." "He knows it takes months and months to pass any kind of bond issue."

### Brevard County's 3rd course complete

VALKARIA, Fla. — The Habitat, Brevard County's third publicly owned golf course, won't be open for play until Nov. 1, but county and Chamber of Commerce officials recently toured the 6,800-yard layout in a sneak preview.

Expected to cost \$3 million, the par-72 course is being funded through a 1987 \$4-million bond issue that will be paid back through user fees.

All natural settings, including wetlands and scrub jay habitat, have been preserved. Deer and bobcat were observed during construction.

Charles Ankrom was the designer.

Dave Pemberton, director of Brevard County golf course operations, said it would take a few more months for the grass to grow in.

Carricato huddled with Tom Briddle, a club official and Tectonic, Inc. executive based in nearby Longmont. Briddle suggested casting about for volunteer help, with emphasis on youngsters.

The high schoolers were eager to help, and were on the job at 7:30 a.m. The sod arrived two hours later, and the job was done just as darkness descended.

The land was very undulating, which made installation difficult, but problems were overcome in a nice mixture of zeal and ingenuity. Those testing the green the next day

thought the ball rolled true and were pleased with the project. Grass has come in well.

The fivesome won't be watching their prized project take further sharp shape in mid-August. They'll be 300 miles away, marveling as golf idols Jack Nicklaus, Lee Trevino, Hale Irwin and company draw birdie beads on putting surfaces the Castle Pine group would concede to be a bit better than their home-grown product. However, no new green ever received more enthusiastic or loving treatment.



Montrose High School students lay sod on Montrose Country Club green.

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