

Pedal to the metal at Indy

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — It's full speed ahead for major renovation of the 27-hole Speedway Golf Course.

Architect Pete Dye has supplied the blueprints, the Hulman organization the money to keep construction crews in high gear in transformation of the course into 18 challenging holes. Completion date target is July 1993.

The ninth and 10th holes will become a mammoth driving range. Holes 7 through 10 will be outside the motor speedway track. The remainder will be outside.

The 14th hole will have two greens, one on either side of a water hazard.

A 50-foot spectator mound, which will run along the left side of the 18th fairway, will have the capability of seating 30,000 to 40,000 spectators, according to Rollie Schroedler, veteran Speedway head professional.



Pete Dye

CC backers hope to boot soccer

PLEASANT HILL, Calif. — Backers of the defunct Pleasant Hill Country Club, who promised restoration of the old course, hope to give the boot to bank owners' plan to replace the fairways with a soccer field and children's playground.

Bank of America acquired the 50-acre property in March when Dividend Development Corp. of Santa Clara defaulted on its mortgage. Dividend, which closed the course in August 1990, had City Council approval

to build 104 homes and reduce the 18-hole pitch-and-putt course to a nine-hole executive course.

Golf course neighbors opposed to the Dividend plan now prefer it to the bank's new plan.

Said Robert Lambert: "When I bought my home 20 years ago, I thought in 20 years, when I retired, I'd be able to go up the hill and play a little golf. Now I'm faced with a tot lot. I'm a little big for a sand box."

Jake Gaither GC improves security after robberies

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Players at Jake Gaither Golf Course still must worry about lost golf balls, but their wallets and well being should be safer now. Responding to an armed robbery of golfers last February and a 1989 beating — where a golfer was bludgeoned with his own clubs — city officials have improved safety conditions at the course.

Workers have cleared dense underbrush surrounding the course, particularly at holes 4, 5 and 6. The woods — where the suspects are thought to have lurked — are located at the furthest point from the clubhouse. Ranger patrols have been increased, and barbed wire will be added.

Course use dropped following the robberies, but the regulars have returned, according to club officials.

Lost Springs G & AC off to very soggy start

ROGERS, Ark. — Despite more than a week of rain that forced closing of the new 18-hole Lost Springs Golf and Athletic Club the day after course opening June 6, project developer and architect Jim Lindsey forecasts a bright future for the development.

The \$3.5 million development includes a swimming pool, clubhouse and three apartment complexes with 600 units.

Pro shop staffer Greg White noted that membership is nearing 300. When that happens, the club will become private.

Legislature OKs Ill. airport course

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Taking a golf flier on airport-owned land is becoming fashionable in Illinois.

Legislation giving the DuPage County Airport Authority permission to use airport-owned land for non-aviation purposes has been approved by the General Assembly. The bill has been sent to Gov. Jim Edgar for consideration.

Planned is a 180-acre, 18-hole golf course as part of a \$131 million airport expansion.

Author's farm possible golf site

CLINTON, Tenn. — A golf course may take root on the farm of late "Roots" author Alex Haley.

Developers David Jones and Buford S. Bray have approached Anderson County commissioners concerning a course. They have first option to buy the farm and land and control 35 acres between Bufalo and Hines creeks.

Haley's estate would be preserved. Haley died Feb. 10.

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