

## Mid-Am awards money to four schools

Monetary prizes have been awarded to four colleges and universities for top attendance at Mid-Am's 1993 Career Center, held Jan. 15 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

Joliet Junior College received \$400 for the highest attendance, 27 students. The College of DuPage was awarded \$300 for the second-highest attendance (20), and the University of Illinois and the University of Wisconsin each received \$150 for the third and fourth, respectively, highest numbers in attendance at the Career Center. Prizes were awarded to the schools' horticulture departments.

Twenty-two schools participated in the Ca-

reer Center, sending 115 students to meet with 50 industry companies having employment or internship opportunities.

The next Mid-Am Trade Show is scheduled for Jan. 20-22, 1994, at the Hyatt Regency in Chicago.

Mid-Am is sponsored by the Illinois Nurserymen's Association, Illinois Landscape Contractors Association, and Wisconsin Landscape Federation. The show is endorsed by the Iowa Nursery & Landscape Association, Minnesota Nursery & Landscape Association, and Nebraska Association of Nurserymen.

For more information, contact 708-526-2010.

## Hills' layout opens in Mich.

ROTHBURY, Mich. — Thoroughbred Golf Club at Double JJ Resort, a 6,900-yard championship layout designed by Arthur Hills, debuted in May.

"Arthur Hills did an incredible job designing the Thoroughbred," head pro Jeff Howland said.

"Superintendent Rod DeSmet has done a remarkable job getting the course in top condition. Owners Bob and Joan Lipsitz have set their standards of excellence high with their comfortable, friendly atmosphere in a spectacu-

lar setting."

The course opened to resort guests in May and will be available to the public following the official grand opening scheduled for July 2. Numerous corporate outings and fund-raising tournaments, including the LPGA Charity Pro-Am, have already been scheduled for this summer.

Construction of the Thoroughbred, the centerpiece of a \$20-million expansion of the popular Double JJ Resort Ranch, began in March 1992.

# The Environment Is Right.

## Ahmanson Ranch

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money elsewhere, rather than tying up funds in the non-interest bearing account.

Hope and the federal government compromised. NPS acquired 2,308-acre Jordan Ranch from Hope and 300-acre Liberty Canyon for \$16.75 million.

But Ventura County Supervisors' approval of Ahmanson Ranch was also contingent on the acquisition of Hope's 4,369-acre Runkle Ranch and 339-acre Corral Canyon as well as the donation of 3,025 acres of Ahmanson Ranch property. Those issues had not been resolved as of mid-June.

"Buying the land from Mr. Hope and some other details still need to be worked out," said Ahmanson spokesperson Mary Trigg.

Another fly in the ointment is a lawsuit scheduled to go to trial in mid-November. Nine separate actions were filed this spring, including three by the cities of Malibu, Los Angeles and Calabasas; one by the County of Los Angeles; three by coalitions of homeowner and environmental groups; and two by individuals.

The suits claim the county's environmental assessment study was inadequate and seek to overturn the county supervisors' approval.

The Ventura County Court consolidated the nine suits into one and is expected to hear the case this fall.

"We're actively pursuing the lawsuits against the project at this point," Triggs said. "We want to concentrate on that before doing anything else."

Segol said Ahmanson hopes to settle the suit before November. One scenario has Ahmanson buying Hope's remaining land and donating it to the Conservancy, he added.

Ahmanson would have liked to have the matter settled by now. But the project, at least home construction, might have been delayed anyway because of the slumping California economy, Segol said.

"According to most economic experts, California is still very much in a recession," Triggs agreed.

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