

NEWS IN BRIEF

FAIRBANKS, Alaska — The 18-hole North Star Golf Course, the northernmost golf course in the U.S., held its opening ceremonies recently. Designed by Jack Stallings, the course is ready for play. Better hurry, though. The season in Fairbanks is nearly over.

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DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Kathy Milthorpe, the Ladies Professional Golf Association's director of finance and administration, told the City of Daytona Beach the construction of a championship public golf course adjacent to the proposed LPGA headquarters is running smoothly. She said the course will be open for play next summer.

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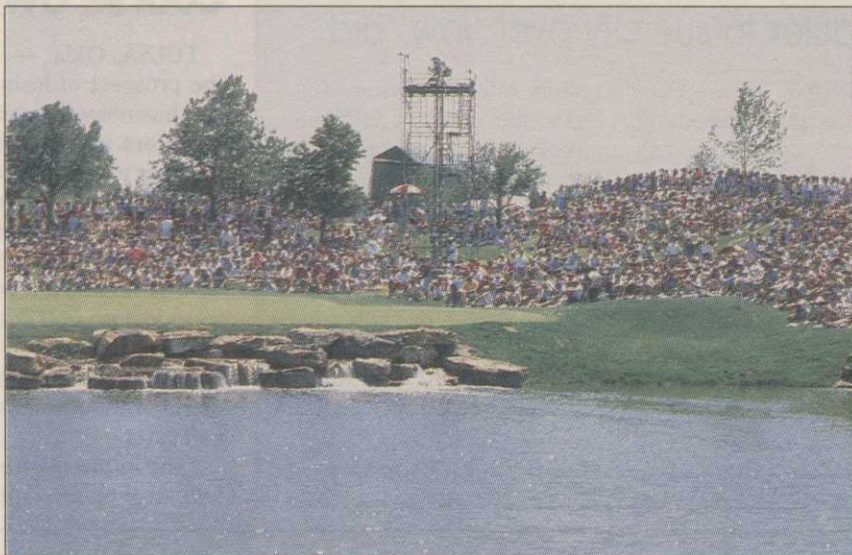
HANOVER, Pa. — The Berwick Township has reached agreement with Berwick Enterprises to begin construction on a new 18-hole golf course. The new course will be located between Route 30 and property abutting Race-track Road. Construction will begin this fall, and the course is expected to be open for play by spring 1994.

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ACKWORTH, Ga. — Brookstone Golf & Country Club has been acquired by American Golf Corp., which plans a renovation of the clubhouse, pro shop and cart paths. Affectionately referred to as "The Stone," this private course in suburban Atlanta was designed by Larry Nelson. The purchase brings the number of AGC's private, resort and public holdings to 152.

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ROCKY RIVER, Ohio — LESCO, Inc. has purchased Atwater Strong Inc.'s line of commercial blowers and vacuums. LESCO will add Atwater's Lo-Blo, Mi-T-Vac and Lit-R-Blo lines of maintenance equipment to its line. LESCO will continue to supply current dealers and distributors of Atwater equipment under the Atwater label. LESCO will also market Atwater's line of blowers and vacuums under the LESCO label.



LAS COLINAS RENOVATION COMPLETE

Dallas-based Golf Resources, Inc. has completed renovation and landscape improvements to TPC Las Colinas at the Four Seasons Resort and Club in Irving, Texas, home of the GTE Byron Nelson Classic. This improvement project not only involved Golf Resources, but Byron Nelson and Jay Morrish, the original design consultant and golf course architect. Improvements were completed in time for the 1993 GTE Byron Nelson Classic. A new lake was added in front of the par-3 17th green (above) and a new tree, dubbed "Byron's tree" by the players, was added to the dogleg point of the 18th hole and also provided excitement as the eventual winner, Scott Simpson, hit his drive behind the tall tree and nearly fell victim. Other improvements include a new creek around the tee boxes on No. 3, new spectator mounds, tees, bunkers and cart path additions.

Yet another hurdle for Ocean Trails

TORRANCE, Calif. — The plan to build an 18-hole championship golf course and luxury home development in Rancho Palos Verdes suffered a setback when a judge ruled the project is in violation of a state law requiring new coastal developments to provide affordable housing.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Robert H. O'Brien decided that developers Barry Hon and the Zuckerman family must change their Ocean Trails project (Golf Course News, July 1993) to comply with the state's Mello Act. That law requires new coastal developments to provide low- or moderate-income housing either in the develop-

ment or within three miles of it.

Despite the ruling, Ken Zuckerman, one of the developers, remains optimistic. "I don't think this is any kind of fatal blow to the project — it simply gives us another chore to accomplish," he told the *Daily Breeze*.

Although Zuckerman and the developers hope to clear this hurdle, they may face a lawsuit from the Sierra Club, which opposes the Ocean Trails project because it claims the developers have not thoroughly considered the environmental effects of their project. The Sierra Club contends there is a lack of habitat protection in the area.

Course owners prevail in 'Case of fallen golfer'

By GORDON WITTEVEEN

A golfer who sued the owners of a course where he fell off a bridge and broke his leg, had his case dismissed in an Ontario court. The golfer had claimed damages in excess of half a million dollars.

Had Justice B.J. Wright ruled otherwise, the case could have had far-reaching implications for many golf courses in the area. There are thousands of bridges without hand railings on golf courses all across Canada and the United States. Many of these are removed every fall and re-installed in the spring. Other bridges are merely planks nailed together across small streams. The cost of adding hand rails to all bridges or facing increased insurance premiums would be very expensive for golf course operators as well as private country clubs.

Anthony Jenkinson had played the Brookside Golf Club northeast of Toronto at least 100 times before, when he teed off on April 23, 1993. On the 9th hole, a par five, his third shot landed on the green. As he crossed a small bridge over Jenny's Creek — a trickle of a stream barely 2-feet wide — Jenkinson admitted he was thinking about lining up his putt and making a birdie. Instead he slipped and fell and broke his left leg. He purposely fell to the left because he did not want to go to the right — for fear of falling on his clubs and breaking them.

The bridge across Jenny's Creek is 5-feet wide and is made from planks about an inch apart. A two-by-four runs down the edges of the planks to prevent wheels of golf carts from dropping off the edge. A 30-inch piece of rubber conveyor belting runs down the middle of the bridge. The top of the bridge at the middle point is 2 feet above Jenny's Creek.

Jenkinson's lawyer claimed the bridge

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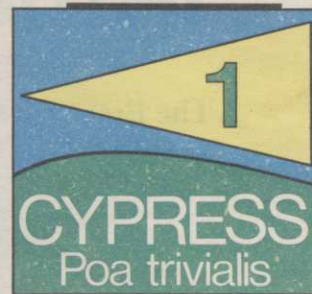
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