

Gaming legislation could encourage Miss. layout

ABERDEEN, Miss. — If Mississippi state law can be changed to allow gaming on the waterfront, a \$75 million casino resort may sprout in this Northeast Mississippi city.

An 18-hole golf course is planned in the latter stages.

The resort would be called the Aberdeen Lodge and Resort Casino, along the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway.

Project opponents doubt the gaming casinos will be legalized during the current legislative session.

Currently, state law allows gambling only on the Gulf Coast and on navigable waters of the

Mississippi River.

Indian reservations, not subject to state law, also may opt to allow gambling.

Aberdeen isn't the only Mississippi community eyeing gaming as a method of introducing other non-controversial recreational pursuits.

The Mississippi Gaming Commission recently awarded a gaming license for Bally's Saloon & Gambling Hall in Tunica County. The "hook" for gaming companies is that they plan golf courses, hotels, water parks and restaurants in surrounding areas.

This poses interests attractive to the public apart from the moral question of gambling.

Oaks may fell Calif. project

SANTA CLARITA, Calif. — Devotees of the mighty oak and those favoring a golf course are at loggerheads in this suburban Los Angeles community.

A proposed 18-hole golf course would consume 50 acres of an oak tree area termed significant environmentally.

The Newhall Land and Farming Co. has been at odds with a Santa Clarita environmental group intent on protecting "Santa Clarita Valley's last remaining oak tree savannah."

That Newhall Land intentionally moved planned homes out of the tree area and intends to re-plant 88 percent of the oak trees uprooted by the project hasn't appeased opponents of the project.

An alternative plan that would move the development north, completely out of the significant environmental area, has gained environmental group acceptance but would mean curtains for the golf course part of the development.

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Fla. country theme park may host golf

NEW PORT RICHEY, Fla. — No more fiddlin' around.

After surveying five Florida sites, country singer Charlie Daniels and developers have settled on this city for a \$300 million Western World Theme Park.

The 3,000-acre site would be 20 miles north of Tampa.

A 36-hole course would be included in the park, which would be similar to Dolly Parton's Dollywood in East Tennessee.

There would be country music theaters, 8,000-seat rodeo facility, retail shopping, residential sites and a 500-room hotel.

Western World is expected to attract 2.3 million annually. Target date for the grand opening is the fall of 1997.

Oz park would include golf holes

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — A golf course would play a prominent role in a proposed Wonderful World of Oz theme park.

Landowners whose property may be taken, either by negotiation or eminent domain, are looking askance at the proposed development that would incorporate hotel, lake and a recreational vehicle park.

The city council approved an ordinance giving the city power of eminent domain within the enterprise zone created for the \$440 million Oz project.

Developers have not raised the necessary financing to build the park.

R.I. developers zero in on new layout

BURRILLVILLE, R.I. — Backers of a proposed 18-hole golf course and clubhouse bordering Harrisville and Mapleville are a step nearer development.

The Northern Rhode Island Golf Investors Inc. and Steere Farm Associates have received zoning board approval.

State approval is the next step for the hoped-for course.