

Ill. course likely to be built despite protest by American Indian groups

NEW LENOX, Ill. — The \$4.2 million golf course development is still a "go" here despite protests from Aboriginal Americans.

The proposed golf course parcel is located where a 400-year-old early American grave site and ancient villages were unearthed last year.

Bill McCollum, the park district director, said the district has the right to develop the land because it has complied with a federal law that requires the site be surveyed first for its archaeologi-

cal significance.

The course is scheduled to open in 1996.

The park district is hoping it can net \$461,000 in the first year of operation and possibly as much as \$1 million annually by the year 2000.

With the money, McCollum said, the district hopes to build a swimming pool, a recreation center and a museum where Aboriginal Americans could display some of the items found at the course site.

Golf course opponents vow bond fight

CAHOKIA, Ill. — A group of residents plans to fight a \$5 million bond issue to pay for the construction of an 18-hole golf course here on 160 acres of land owned by the village.

Opponents of the course are concerned it won't generate enough money to pay off the bonds, and taxes would have to increase. "We're going to try to gather enough signatures to put it on the [November] ballot," resident Jasper Spears told the *Belleville News-Democrat*.

However, a feasibility study performed by an independent Atlanta-based company, Golf Resources Associates (GRA), found the golf course

would support itself. GRA projects 36,650 rounds of golf would be played during the first year of operation, generating \$187,643.

Dick Gundlach, president of Fairway Golf Development Corp., the firm charged with designing and building the course, said construction could begin in May and the course ready for play next fall if there is no referendum.

If it goes to referendum, lost revenue would be \$500,000 and the cost of construction could go up as high as \$1 million, Gundlach said.

The golf course is one of three municipal courses proposed in St. Clair County.

Planning board OKs proposed Indiana track

FORT WAYNE, Ind. — A proposed residential golf community in the northeast of town has been approved by the Allen County Plan Commission.

Colonial Development Corp. expects to begin construction in midsummer of the 368-acre subdivision, which includes an 18-hole golf course intertwined with 500 homes.

The Commission was concerned over the gas and oil wells on 20 acres at the north end of the property. Therefore, the commission stipulated the rights of the parcel's one active well — owned by Pioneer Drilling Co. of Payne, Ohio — must be resolved before the development can proceed.

West Chicago studying new nine-hole layout

WEST CHICAGO, Ill. — The West Chicago Park District is looking into the possibility of building a nine-hole course here, at Joliet and Wilson streets.

The district has asked golf consultant GreenVisions to study the feasibility of the idea, said Jim Jones, chairman of the park board's Golf Feasibility Committee.

Jones reported that a representative of the Northbrook-based firm said the park's 57 acres are good material for a course.

Jones expects the park district would be cheaper and easier to play than other area courses.

Major overhaul for Wis. facility

MUKWONAGO, Wis. — New owners of the Rainbow Spring Resort here plan to overhaul the complex and expand the golf course. The complete overhaul is expected to take five years. Golden Springs Investments acquired Rainbow Springs for \$4.2 million at a bankruptcy auction in January.



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Mike Lentz
Project Manager
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