

## Jones' training ground reopens in Atlanta

ATLANTA, Ga. — The East Lake Golf Club near downtown Atlanta, where Bobby Jones learned to play golf, recently reopened after a \$20 million restoration project that has brought the treasured Donald Ross antique back to its original glory.

Developer Tom Cousins and golf course architect Rees Jones have brought East Lake's rolling, tree-lined fairways and classic vistas all the way back, and then some. The club's famous Tudor-style clubhouse has been returned to its original 1926 condition and design.

Jim Gerber, East Lake's director of golf, left a prominent position at the Maidstone Club in East Hampton, N.Y. to join the East Lake project.

Every inch of grass has either been sodded or re-seeded and bunkers have been restored to the original style.

The course will host the 2001 U.S. Amateur and the Southern Amateur in 2002.

In its earlier heyday, East Lake hosted the United States Women's National championship and the 1963 Ryder Cup matches.

## L.A. course gets needed upgrade

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — Los Robles Golf Course in Thousand Oaks, one of Ventura County's most popular public golf courses, may soon be the recipient of a much-needed multi-million dollar renovation project.

The Thousand Oaks City Council is considering a proposed \$3 million renovation plan. It has agreed to pay consultant Halsey Daray Golf of San Diego County \$80,000 to help figure out what the course needs to fall

into line with other top-notch courses come the 21st century.

The course, subjected to about 100,000 rounds per year, has suffered extensive wear and tear and everything from the irrigation system to the clubhouse, pro shop and parking lot needs repairs, if not an outright overhaul.

The course has an annual net income of \$200,000, some of which has gone into a city golf course reserve fund over the years.

## Ventana Canyon \$4M remodel moving along

TUCSON, Ariz. — A \$4 million renovation project on two golf courses at the Ventana Golf & Racquet Club is underway, including a unique heating and cooling system for the scenic par-3, No.3 on the Mountain Course.

Nestled in a small canyon, the No. 3 green is the last to lose its frost on cool mornings and is usually the hottest green during the day because of heat radiating from surrounding rock faces. The heating and cooling system is the first of its kind in the country.

The front nine of Ventana's Canyon Course and the back nine of the Mountain Course will be closed for extensive resurfacing projects starting this month and continuing through early October.

## Putting course ready in Phoenix

PHOENIX — The Arizona Biltmore now features an 18-hole putting course that measures 715 yards from the back tees.

The course has a variety of par-2 and par-3 holes. Par is 43. Five holes include water features, five have sand traps and each hole takes advantage of existing landscaping as much as possible.

The course is located next to the Biltmore's North Patio area and nestled among 13 guest cottages. The course, which opened in December, is open from 10 a.m. to dusk. Green fees are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

## Scaled-back NY track opens

MILTON, N.Y. — The six-year odyssey of owner Allen Hills and his Pioneer Hills Golf Course has created a nine-hole, par-35 public golf course that has become an instant hit with area golfers.

Hills began building Pioneer Hills in 1989 and plans called for an 18-hole course. Federally-protected wetlands on the land, however, forced Hills to scale back his vision. The course opened in June.



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ZAJAC  
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