

Florida project obtains financing

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — A group of businessmen proposing an \$8 million private golf club have signed up enough members to make it fly.

The not-for-profit Pablo Creek Club announced last December it would give itself until March 15 to get \$40,000 commitments from 200 members. It then extended the deadline to June 15 when the group failed to attract enough backers.

Project spokesman Jay Skelton said the goal now is 150 commitments, which would generate \$6

million, enough to build the 18-hole golf course but not the proposed \$2 million, 10,000-square-foot clubhouse. Skelton said the clubhouse can be financed later as additional members sign on.

Pablo Creek Club will be located on 300 acres south of the American Heritage Life building, north of Pablo Creek and west of the Intracoastal Waterway. Dano Davis, the chairman of Winn-Dixie Stores Inc., owns the property and agreed to donate it to the club if enough people commit to becoming members.

Mayor seeks solutions for Bayonne layout

BAYONNE, N.J. — Mayor Leonard P. Kiczek's plan to build an 18-hole golf course on top of a former landfill has run into an obstacle: the land is too unstable to support a clubhouse or maintenance building.

Undaunted, Kiczek has said the buildings could possibly be built at the Military Ocean Terminal along with a bridge over a New York Harbor inlet to provide golfers and work crews access to the golf course. That idea depends on the fate of the military base. The U.S. Defense Department has recommended its main

operations be relocated to Fort Monmouth.

Meanwhile, developers who had been interested in building a golf course at Liberty State Park — a plan ultimately rejected by Gov. Christie Whitman — are now reportedly interested in the Bayonne landfill site and plan to visit it to talk with local officials.

Closed in 1983 by the Department of Environmental Protection, the site is contaminated with PCBs, mercury, nickel and oil, according to environmental records. DEP is reviewing its files to assess environmental status.

Bay State golf board honored

ACUSHNET, Mass. — The Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) has awarded a Special Recognition Award to the Acushnet Golf and Recreation Committee for its role in developing Acushnet Golf Course.

The volunteer committee, along with Golf Realty Advisors, Inc., obtained town approval for the issuance of \$5.7 million in Special Legislation General Obligation Bonds to finance construction. In announcing the award, SRPEDD called the Acushnet Golf Course "a model of taking a concept through the planning stage and obtaining town meeting approval."

Watery range to float in NY state

TROY, N.Y. — The sight of a golf ball headed for water usually means trouble, but not at a new driving range under construction in Troy.

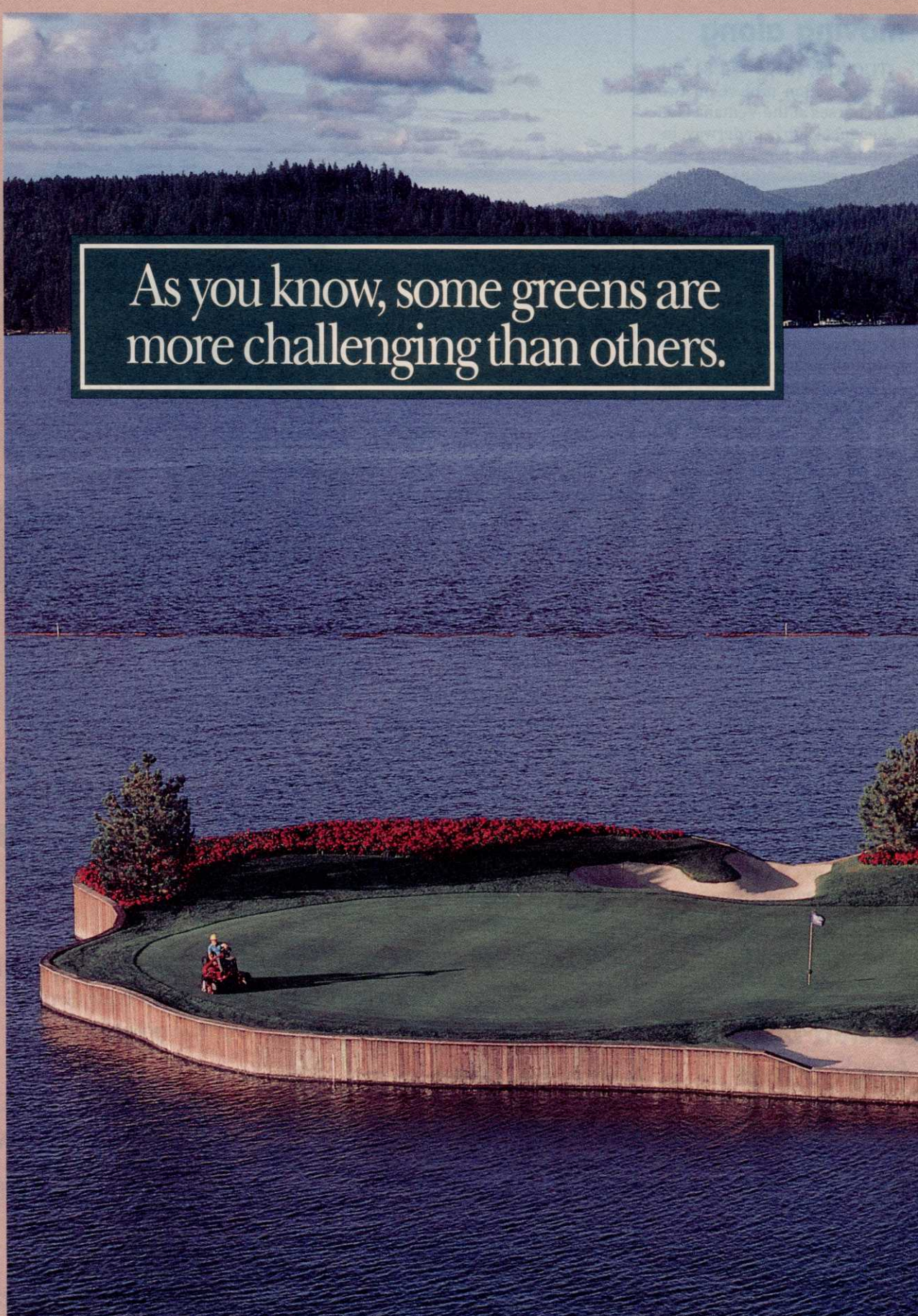
The city is building a lakeside range at Frear Park golf course. Crews will build six driving stations directed toward a lake filled with unusual distance markers. The 100-yard marker will be a lily pad, a mock boat will mark 150 yards, and a basketball hoop 200 yards. The floating golf balls weigh about 90 percent of a regular ball.

Opponents call for JAL boycott

SOUTH KONA, Hawaii — The Global Network for Anti-Golf Course Action and a group of Hawaiian residents have called for a boycott of Japan Airlines (JAL) to protest the airline's funding of a golf course development here.

South Kona residents claim building a 27-hole, 1,500-acre golf course development will destroy local agriculture and force many people to move.

JAL said the land has not been fertile for 150 years and the company plans to improve topsoil and add irrigation systems.



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