

## Opposing groups find forum at Ill. ceremony

NEW LENOX, Ill. — There were two distinctly different ceremonies taking place simultaneously at the recent groundbreaking for the New Lenox Park District golf course.

The first ceremony involved men wearing suits and ties, holding polished spades and golf clubs. The second included people wearing flannel and jeans.

The first group - mainly New Lenox officials and developers - had gathered to commemorate the groundbreaking for the new New Lenox course. Native Americans, their supporters and the curious made up the second

group. Their ceremony commemorated the site where the remains of three Native Americans were found last year. Since May, members of the Native American group "AIM" stood on honor guard at the burial site. Police were at the site for groundbreaking ceremonies but no incidents occurred between the two groups.

The golf course is due to open in June 1996. Park district officials have redesigned the course to allow the burial site to remain unmolested and park officials are negotiating the future of other land where the remains of Native American log lodges were discovered.

## Wis. track moves nearer reality

SUN PRAIRIE, Wis. — Madison planners are making progress with plans to develop an 18-hole golf course that would be shared with Sun Prairie, a small city just northeast of the capitol city.

In what is seen as a strong start, they gained recent approval to buy the first of six key parcels of land intended for the 251-acre course.

But observers say that planners must maintain a steady pace in buying the remaining five parcels in order to stay within a \$3

million budget for land acquisition. The ability to buy those parcels quickly depends on approval from three public agencies interested in funding the project, according to Si Widstrand, planning supervisor for Madison parks.

Planners have been working since 1991 on the golf course, which would preserve green space between Madison and Sun Prairie off Route 151. Widstrand said city officials hope they can start construction of the golf course by 1999.

Madison officials expect to contribute \$1 million to purchase land while Sun Prairie is offering about \$500,000. The state's Department of Natural Resources expects to provide \$1.5 million in matching grants.

Madison officials are prepared to run the golf course. They have been managing courses since 1927 and operate four layouts that recently began turning a profit.

## Ill. city seeks course builder

CAHOKIA, Ill. — Opponents of a proposed municipal course are questioning the propriety of a developer already being lined up to build the course without making a competitive bid.

Voters will consider whether the village should issue \$5 million in revenue bonds to have a public course built. Mayor Mike King says the village will seek competitive bids if it has to and that the taxing district will protect taxpayers in case the golf course fails to pay for itself.

Golf course backer Dick Gundlach, owner of Fairway Golf Development Corp., wants to build the golf course if the bond referendum passes. But several opponents of the course are questioning whether Gundlach, who apparently has never built a golf course, should get the proposed \$5 million job.

## Facelift planned for Indy layouts

INDIANAPOLIS — Renovations to four public courses are a central part of an ambitious plan to create a 976-acre regional park along the White River.

Renovations to the existing Riverside Golf Course and the South Grove Golf Course and a redesign at the Coffin Golf Course are part of an \$18 million plan to expand Riverside Park.

Reconstruction of the Coffin Golf Course is ongoing and bids are out for remodeling work at Riverside and South Grove golf courses. In addition, a family golf academy is under construction at the city's former tree nursery. The project will be financed with private and public money.

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