

Northern Calif. course plans dry up over water shortage

MARTINEZ, Calif. — Plans for a 27-hole golf complex a mile east of Blackhawk have been put on hold over irrigation water supply issues.

Contra Costa County Zoning Administrator Bob Drake recently decided against the proposed 616-acre Fox Creek Country Club. Drake said that he had concerns about available water for the private country club, which is planned about a quarter-mile east of Tassajara Road on the north side of Johnston Road.

Drake told Lafayette developer John Baker that providing an eight-mile pipeline of recycled water from the Dublin San Ramon Services District treatment plant to the golf course — at a cost of \$2 million — wasn't realistic.

Baker, president of New Golf Enterprises, said he plans

to appeal the decision to the San Ramon Valley Regional Planning Commission.

If the commission and the county Board of Supervisors agree with Drake's rejection of Baker's plan, Baker would then have a year to resubmit his application.

The developer, Baker, would have to demonstrate a plan to provide water for his golf course.

Baker is trying to find ways to convert recycled waste water into potable water for the clubhouse for drinking, cooking and bathing. He introduced plans for the golf course in 1992.

The National Golf Foundation has identified Contra Costa and Alameda counties as having the fifth best development potential for golf courses, Baker said.

Land swap to keep course in Calif. city

SALINAS, Calif. — Salinas officials are trying to work out a deal with an area farmer to swap acreage to make room for a new golf course. Recreation Director Gary Davis said discussions are underway to trade the site of a former city-owned sewage treatment plant for 40 acres of farmland.

The city would use the parcel for a new par-3 course to replace Sherwood Greens Golf Course. Sherwood Greens is set to be replaced by the California Rodeo's \$6 million multi-use community complex that would include many ball fields.

The new golf course would be located within a mile of Sherwood Greens.

Residents worry that Colorado layout will use too much water

CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE, Colo. — Residents here are challenging a plan to irrigate the private Glenmoor Country Club (CC) golf course with water from Little Dry Creek.

Glenmoor CC wants the water as a backup for dry times. But residents fear the course will take too much water and dry up the 11.2-mile creek, which is home to cottonwood and willow trees and wildlife like foxes and screech owls.

Glenmoor irrigates its golf course mostly with water from the Highline Canal under a contract with the Denver Water Board. That board however can halt the flow of water during dry conditions. Glenmoor wants the right to pump up to 10 cubic feet per second of water annually from Little Dry Creek. The creek doesn't flow through Glenmoor so the water would have to be piped to the course from a pumping station.

A Friends of Little Dry Creek group, which opposes the plan, hopes Glenmoor will abandon its water-rights application but has no apparent legal recourse to force such a withdrawal.

Sausage company exec develops Michigan links

NORTHFIELD TOWNSHIP, Mich. — First it was sausages for Donald Kosch, now links, golf links that is. Kosch, president of the Dearborn Sausage Co. wants to parlay his passion for golf into developing a public, 18-hole golf course.

Kosch wants a hand in designing and building a \$3.5 million layout that would also include a year-round lodge-like clubhouse, practice green and driving range.

The land Kosch is eyeing would need a conditional-use permit. He plans to unveil a site plan in March.

VOTERS MAY DECIDE FATE OF DENVER TRACK IN APRIL

COMMERCE CITY, Colo. — A group called Citizens' Coalition for Commerce City is circulating petitions to challenge the Buffalo Run project on the municipal election ballot. Groundbreaking for the proposed Keith Foster design is scheduled for the spring with a grand opening by September 1996.



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