

Charlie Daniels development misses deadline

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — The developer of a proposed \$250 million Charlie Daniels Western World theme park that included plans for golf courses missed a deadline to buy the 2,000 acres where he planned to build the ambitious project.

Lawyers for the owners of Canyon Ranch property, however, said the missed deadline doesn't necessarily kill the deal for developer Michael Vandiver.

Vandiver dreamed up the project in 1988 with Daniels after meeting the country rock star at a golf outing in Pinellas County. The proposed park, based on an Old West theme, would include thrill rides and attractions, an entertainment complex, a rodeo arena, hotels and golf courses.

At last, irrigation for 75-year-old Studebaker GC

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Nobody can accuse city officials in South Bend of rushing into things hastily when it comes to golf course maintenance.

Starting this fall, the nine-hole Studebaker Golf Course will be getting the first automated irrigation system in its 75-year history. Major irrigation system upgrades are also planned for the city's Erskine and Elbel courses, according to Parks Superintendent Phil St. Clair, who said the summer's excessive heat and humidity made obvious the need for properly-functioning modern watering systems.

At Studebaker, where watering has been done by hand with garden hoses for the past 75 years, an automated system will be installed to cover all nine greens and fairways. Work is expected to start this fall.

COMMUNITY GOLF, GOLFSAPES COLLABORATE IN TEXAS TOWN

WESLACO, Texas — City officials are moving forward with plans to build a new public-access, 18-hole golf course with consultants Community Golf of Dallas. The project is estimated to cost between \$4.6 and \$4.8 million.

Land for the course has been donated by Weslaco attorney Zeke Reyna, who plans to build a private housing development around it. The tentative team organized for the project includes Scott Erwin of Community Golf, designer Jeff Brauer of GolfScapes, and Richard Watson of Watson Construction Co., all from Dallas. Construction may start late this month.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

Golf destined for Palm Beach reserve?

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — Landowners in Palm Beach County's Agricultural Reserve appear to be winning their battle to build golf courses and homes in the rural area west of Boynton and Delray beaches.

State land-use regulators say they might drop their opposition to golf courses in the 20,500-acre Ag Reserve in exchange for stronger commitments from property owners to preserve remaining large

tracts as farmland. Such a trade-off has been proposed by staff at the state's Department of Community Affairs (DCA), which oversees local land-use plans, to DCA Secretary Linda Loomis Shelley. Shelley has not made a final decision.

County commissioners want to keep the Ag Reserve rural and will ask voters in November to approve a \$70 million bond issue to buy development rights from farmers.

Muni reopening brings mixed bag

PONTIAC, Mich. — First, the good news:

Pontiac's rebuilt municipal course opened in early August at Crystal Lake, on the site of the old Pontiac Municipal Golf Course which closed in 1993.

"It's not as long as the old course, but there are a lot more traps that come into play and more water," said Earlie Jones, the course manager. "Esthetically, it's a lot better course."

The new municipal course is part of a development plan that's supposed to include 188 houses

and condominiums.

Unfortunately, the city of Pontiac has not been able to sell \$11.2 million in bonds for the project. The city hopes to put \$4.2 million worth of bonds on the market in late September. Part of the problem has been the city's inability to show revenue from the project, which would repay the bonds.

So far, only about 18 homes in the Crystal Lake project have been sold and the golf course opening was delayed several times.

Frankly, it won't make a splash on your course.

If your players are tired of the splash, splash sloppiness associated with other ball washers, maybe

it's time to pay less and get more — with the Professional Series Ball Washer by Standard Golf. ♦

**Our
Professional
Series Ball
Washer has
become
a new
tradition on
courses
around the
world.**

It conveniently washes up to four balls at a time. With a few easy cranks of the handle, tough nylon bristles scrub dirt and grime away. ♦ It's a clean winner for thousands of superintendents, too. The sensible overflow tube and drain construction prevents leaks and streaks, while making maintenance a breeze. And the beautifully durable case is available in the seven most popular colors in

golf. ♦ Con-

tact your

nearby Standard Golf distributor and ask about the new tradition in ball washers. They won't make a splash on your course (or a ripple in your budget).

The Standard of Excellence

**STANDARD
GOLF** ProLine



Standard Golf Company • P.O. Box 68 • Cedar Falls, IA 50613 • 319-266-2638 • FAX 319-266-9627

CIRCLE #105

SG 174