

## Georgia offers money to patient developers

ATLANTA — The Georgia Department of Natural Resources recently dangled a \$3.5 million federal grant in front of developers for a resort and 18-hole course north of Columbus.

The problem is officials said a developer would have a slim chance of success, at least for now. Troup County leaders have lobbied more than a decade for a state or U.S. Army Corps of Engineers resort on 1,200 acres next to Maple Creek at the southern end of West Point Lake. Conceptual plans call for a championship course, lodge, marina and restaurant.

Proponents got a lift two years ago when a local congressman worked the grant into the Corps' budget. The \$3.5 million grant would be used for roads, water lines and infrastructure.

A Corps' study, however, concluded that it will take five to nine years for a market to develop sufficiently to break ground. Still, Burt Weerts, the state parks director, planned to meet with developers at the site and to solicit their proposals. Weerts said he hoped the \$3.5 million federal grant just might be enough to attract the right developer to move forward.

## Links planned near SC Disney stop

HARDEEVILLE, S.C. — At least one golf course and probably more are expected to be built in the next few years near The Disney Stop, a \$35-million, 46-acre tourist stop on Interstate 95 about 20 miles from Hilton Head Island.

The Disney Corp. and the American Automobile Association will be the major tenants at The Disney Stop, which will try to lure Disney World-bound tourists and steer others to Orlando with an assortment of theme at-

tractions, shopping and services.

Ground was broken in early March on the facility, which will offer 550 hotel rooms, 2,000 restaurant seats, 30,000 to 40,000 square feet of shopping space, an auto service center and a kennel for travelers' pets. The main attraction will be a Main Street designed to resemble a roadside "Route 66" look of midwestern America in the 1950s. Developers are predicting that 1.5 million people a year will visit the site and new subdivisions and golf courses are planned around the facility, which is expected to generate some 1,480 jobs in the next four years.

## NGF offers new golf directory

JUPITER, Fla. — The National Golf Foundation (NGF) will introduce what it calls the golf industry's most comprehensive and complete business directory ever in July.

The 800-page "Directory of Golf" will contain names, addresses and other pertinent information on 40,000 executives and 8,000 golf-related companies, associations and organizations, from golf product manufacturers, retailers and golf schools to golf course architects, builders and suppliers and advertising and media.

The cost of the book for non-members will be about \$59.95. It will be free to members.

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