

Tallahassee may rebuild nine-hole layout

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — There won't be an 18-hole course again at Blue Cypress Park. But a nine-hole layout might be possible.

A city plan to bring a public, 18-hole course back to Blue Cypress Park in the Arlington district — where a course once existed — has been rejected by the state Community Affairs Department. But a state official has hinted a nine-hole proposal could succeed.

The former Blue Cypress Golf and Country Club was converted

to Blue Cypress Park several years ago in a partnership between the state and city. To keep the property, the state put up \$1.3 million under its 2000 land acquisition program. The city paid \$1.6 million. The plan was to use the land as a park and recreational facility.

Earlier this year, however, the city announced plans to bring a golf course back to the property. Supporters said there is a shortage of golf facilities in the city, especially since the nearby

Dunes course was converted to parkland.

Originally the city proposed building a nine-hole course. But the final application dropped that idea and proposed only a driving range. Later in the process, an 18-hole course was proposed, and, ultimately, rejected.

Tallahassee Councilman John Crescimbeni, who supported the idea of an 18-hole course at Blue Cypress Park, said he will revise the plans and propose a nine-hole alternative.

N.J. entrepreneur fulfills goal

FRANKLIN, N.J. — Jack Kurlander, an entrepreneur who brought downhill skiing to the state when he opened the Great Gorge ski area on the west slopes of Harrisburg Mountain in Sussex County, has finally realized a dream that has lingered for more than 20 years — building a golf course.

The new 18-hole semi-private layout, called Black Bear

Golf Club, opened here in early July.

The par-72 6,800-yard golf course was two years in the making on a 260-acre site. An extensive practice area with six target greens and separate chipping and bunker areas were built along with two practice putting greens. The complex is adjacent to the 9,000-square-foot clubhouse.

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CIRCLE #157

Dye courses to be thoroughbred in name, quality

HAVRE de GRACE, Md. — The upscale golf complex that will feature two, 18-hole courses designed by Pete Dye will be called Bulle Rock, a nod to the horse racing and breeding history of a site once known as Blenheim Farm.

E. B. Abel, a Mountville, Pa., businessman who is the owner and developer of the facility, said it was difficult coming up with a name for the 550-acre site. Abel said there had been consideration given to keeping Blenheim in the name. But it was decided that people, especially those from outside the area, would have difficulty pronouncing it correctly.

According to research, Bulle Rock was the first thoroughbred horse brought to this continent in the early 1700s. The horse was a stud at the Blenheim farm.

Bulle Rock, which had a groundbreaking in late May, is being promoted as a state-of-the-art 36-hole public golf facility. Greens fees are expected to be in the \$90 to \$100 range.

Bethpage could still host Open

PLAINVIEW, N.Y. — The Black Course at Bethpage State Park had been considered on a short list of courses in the running to host the 2001 U.S. Open.

But during the 1996 U.S. Open at Oakland Hills, the USGA announced the 2001 event would be held at Southern Hills in Tulsa, Okla. The USGA announced Bethpage would still be considered for the 2002 event.

The Black Course, designed by A. W. Tillinghast in 1936, is continually considered among the best courses — public or private — in the country.

If Bethpage is chosen, it would be only the fifth time since the U.S. Open was first played in 1895 that it would be held at a public course. It would be the first time the Open would be held at a public course not affiliated with a luxury resort.