

Davis Love III's first course opens in coastal South Carolina

FRIPP ISLAND, S.C. — Golfers may recall Disney's *The Jungle Book* when they play down the 11th fairway or walk the clubhouse area. And they may remember the Vietnam scene from *Forrest Gump* when they strike a ball along the 5th hole. But PGA Tour pro Davis Love III hopes those memories will be replaced by the golf course when golfers finish their rounds at Ocean Creek Golf Course here.

Carved out of the undeveloped south end of Fripp Island, Ocean Creek is Love's first golf course design and adds to the wide-ranging amenities of the island's resort/residential community. He designed the 18-hole layout with Paul Cowley, Robert Spence and younger brother Mark Love.

"We've really been given a remarkable piece of land with

Ocean Creek," Love said. "We've grown up in the South, and we wanted to design our first course where we have played the most golf. We are sensitive to the need to integrate the golf course with the landscape and the marshes and the wetlands. We want to let the course open windows to the beauty of Fripp Island.

Ocean Creek tracks through four distinct rolling dune lines, some as high as 15 feet, which cut across the otherwise level island landscape and provide the course with a dominant design element.

Vast coastal salt marshes and accompanying native wetlands also play a strong role in the playability and the character of the 6,510-yard, par 71 layout.

Ill. track certified by N.Y. Audubon

MUNDELEIN, Ill. — The Ivanhoe Club, a private 18-hole course near Chicago, has been designated a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary by the Audubon Society of New York. Ivanhoe is the sixth course in Illinois and among the first 45 courses in the country to receive the honor. To be certified, a course must demonstrate it is maintaining a high degree of environmental quality in areas of environmental planning, wildlife and habitat management, integrated pest management, water conservation and water quality management.

Myrtle Beach theme park may include golf course

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. — Timberland Properties Inc.'s plans for a \$260 million high-tech amusement park on the Grand Strand could also include a 27-hole championship golf course.

Timberland recently paid \$3.9 million for 422 acres at the shutdown Myrtle Beach Air Force Base to build a \$260 million theme park that will be larger than Disney World's Magic Kingdom.

The high-tech, history theme park — called Isle of America — will be the largest construction job ever on the Grand Strand. It will include 53 buildings in seven areas, each with its own shops, amusement rides, restaurants and fast-food facilities. The park is being built by the Tishman Construction Corp. of New York, Florida and South Carolina. Tishman has been involved in the development of Disney's EPCOT Center, the World Trade Center in New York and the restoration of Carnegie Hall.

Timberland reportedly has five years to buy 600 more acres of base land for a golf course and several hundred homes.

Debate heats up over site of Tenn. courses

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Tims Ford State Rustic Park is still in the running for a golf course in the ongoing saga of the state's \$20 million project to build four Jack Nicklaus-designed golf courses.

Two of the four sites have already been selected, but discussions and political wrangling continues over the remaining sites. Tims Ford and Harrison Bay are considered to be the likely candidates. However, Gov. Don Sundquist reportedly wants at least one course located in east Tennessee. Harrison Bay is also considered a leading contender because it is near an urban center, Chattanooga.

State Architect Mike Fitts, who has worked closely with developer Golf Services Inc. of Houston, said Tims Ford is not completely out of the picture.

Meanwhile, a separate 18-hole development led by the Tennessee Elk River Development Agency is moving ahead not far from Tims Ford. The agency, which has been working on the project three years, put its plans on hold last year when the state began considering Tims Ford State Rustic Park for a course. But it decided at a fall board meeting to go ahead with plans.

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