

Walters Group to develop and manage LV park

LAS VEGAS, N.V. - The city of Las Vegas has selected The Walters Group to negotiate an agreement to develop and manage a public golf course on cityowned land known as Nature Park.

Within the last few years, The Walters Group has redesigned and rebuilt the Paradise Hills Golf Club in Albuquerque and the Golf Club of Illinois in Algonquin, Ill. It also owns and operates Mesa Del Sol Country Club in Yuma, Ariz., and recently purchased Eagle Brook Country Club in Geneva, Ill.

'Although we are proud of our successful golf course developments in other areas of the country, we are excited about creating a signature course in our own backyard," said Walters Group Chairman and CEO Bill Walters.

The Las Vegas-based Walters Group plans to spend approximately \$11 million in developing the Las Vegas course, which could be open as early as next fall, Walters said.

Southwest Golf, The Walters Group golf division, has contracted with Perry Dye to design the 18-hole course.

Esler to redesign Lakewood GC

ST. CHARLES, Ill. - David Esler, principal architect of Esler Golf Designs, has been selected to redesign Lakewood Golf Club, which is owned by the Village of Lakewood and operated by Crown Golf Properties.

A primary goal is to introduce large areas of native plantings and habitat in the 100-plus out-of-play acres of the 245-acre property.

"We are planning to remodel all the bunker complexes to provide improved visual interest and drainage, establish a strategy of play, and simplify traffic flow and maintenance as well," Esler said.

Dirt moving at Harbottle track

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. -Construction has begun here at Dairy Creek Golf Course.

The 18-hole public course, designed by John F. Harbottle III, features an environmentally sensitive layout. Only 80 acres of irrigated fairway and rough will be carved from the rolling, 225-acre site, full of grassland meadow and riparian habitat.

Director of Golf Course Maintenance Operations, Ray Festa, has requested improved common Bermudagrass for fairways and roughs in an effort to provide premium playing surfaces with minimal water usage. The course is scheduled to open in the fall of 1996.

MOBILE, Ala. - Bill Bergin Golf Design has been selected to redesign Spring Hill College Golf Course here.

The scope of work includes rebuilding a majority of the greens, tees and bunkers, repaving all cart paths, updating the irrigation system and improving the drainage throughout the golf course.

Bergin, formerly an associate with Cupp Design, started his own firm in 1993. His previous projects include:

• The Champions Club at Apalachee, an 18-hole dailyfee course in Dacula, Ga., codesigned with Steve Melnyk, and opened in November 1994;

• Eagle Bluff Golf Club, an-18 hole daily-fee course in Chattanooga, Tenn., opened Novembe:

· And the renovation of Skyline Country Club, an 18hole private club in Mobile, the construction of which will be completed in June 1996.

Construction begins at Old Carolina

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. Clyde Johnston Designs, Inc. has begun the construction phase on Old Carolina Golf Club, the newest addition to the South Carolina Low Country's golf landscape.

Old Carolina is being developed as an upscale daily-fee facility, and is scheduled to open in the fall. It is located just off of Hilton Head Island and minutes from another Johnston design, Old South Golf Links, ranked among the best new public courses of 1992. Both courses are products of the development team of David Staley and Tom Jacoby. The singular character of Old Carolina is assured by a unique piece of land that years ago served

as a thoroughbred horse farm. The open nature of the farmland will provide counterpoint to other Hilton Head golf courses, which are typically cut through dense pine forests and framed by manmade lagoons. Old Carolina will have a minimal water features, and is expected to take on an almost Scottish feel.

Landscapes Unlimited of Lincoln, Neb., is building the course.

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