



Jacksonville park may revert to public course

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — A public park in Arlington that was once an 18-hole golf course may once again become a golf facility.

For 29 years, the 123-acre property was used as a golf course, most recently known as the Blue Cypress Golf and Country Club.

But the city purchased the site along University Boulevard North in June 1994 with plans to develop Blue Cypress Park, a park that would have walking trails, soccer fields, tennis courts, nature preserve and driving range.

Those plans have never taken off and now a city councilor has introduced a resolution asking the state to allow the city to convert the park into an 18-hole, daily-fee golf course. The city needs state approval because the state provided \$1.3 million for the city's \$2.9 million purchase in 1994.

The plan would allow Steve Melnyk, a former touring professional and Jacksonville-based golf course developer, to convert the park into The Champions Club at University Park.

The plan, however, is still in committee and it is unclear whether it would be acceptable to the Florida Communities Trust board, the group that approved money to help the city buy the land in 1994 on the understanding it would be developed into a public park.

Price-Smyers project hinges on county sale

CONCORD, N.C. — The first Nick Price signature championship golf course may be built at Lake Concord.

In order for that to happen, Cabarrus County and a developing group called Lake Concord Venture must come to terms on the sale of county-owned property to the group. Lake Concord Venture has offered the county \$2.2 million for 221 acres that the county obtained last summer from the city. The cost of the project, excluding the planned 450 homes, is estimated at \$10 million.

The proposed 18-hole course would be Price's first design with partner Steve Smyers. Ground could be broken on the course by July if the sale can be completed in time.

The site is near U.S. Interstate 85 and the developers say a golf course community would be a natural complement to the development of the Concord Regional Airport.

Idaho course allied with theme park

NAMPA, Idaho — A 27-hole golf facility called the Ridgecrest Golf Club is part of large recreation and leisure attraction that will eventually include an amusement park and a movie production studio.

Golf course architect John F. Harbottle designed all 27 holes at Ridgecrest, which will be near the famed Snake River in southwest Idaho. The front nine of an 18-hole tournament-caliber course op-

ened in mid-April with the back nine scheduled to open May 24. An executive-length, nine-hole layout is expected to open in August.

When finished, the 27-hole facility will boast 1,800 trees, four lakes and 87 sand and grass bunkers.

Developer Bob Klostman said the park, course, Snake River Stampede events center and several other projects will be marketed internationally.

Dayton to renovate 36-hole course

DAYTON, Ohio — The city is planning to rebuild all of the tees and greens at the public, 36-hole Community Golf Course here.

The full-scale renovation will take place over the next five years as part of a \$2.75 million restoration plan.

The first step in the project is a \$750,000 reconstruction of the course's 40-year-old clubhouse, which will include work on the pro shop, locker area, restaurant and cart storage area. Work on the clubhouse is expected to start by fall.

Work on the tees and greens will start in August 1997.

The plan calls for work to be done on nine holes each year at a cost of approximately \$500,000 per year. The entire 36 holes would be finished by the year 2001.

The rebuilt tees and greens will bring the heavily played, 80-year-old facility up to United States Golf Association standards for size and construction. The city is expected to announce a golf course architect for the project sometime this month.

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