

Phoenix officials try to save historic Biltmore golf course

PHOENIX—The ongoing saga of the Adobe Golf Course at the Arizona Biltmore hotel, one of the oldest courses in Arizona, could be heading for the courtroom.

The City Council recently voted to have the Planning Commission come up with a golf course "overlay" that would protect the course from being developed into 112 homes, which is the plan of Kabuto Arizona Properties, the owner of

the land. The Planning Commission is expected to bring a plan back to the council by October.

Mayor Skip Rimsza has vowed to take the matter to court if necessary, even though Kabuto owns the land the course is on and says it has the right to do anything it wants with it as of the year 2000. Supporters of the golf course, including Rimsza, are hoping a settlement can be worked out that will keep it intact.

Judge halts work on Eastwood layout

CARMEL, Calif. — A Superior Court judge has ordered construction halted on the Canada Woods golf course and subdivision being developed by actor Clint Eastwood east of Carmel.

The Sierra Club sued to stop the project, saying it will harm some of the last stands of coastal prairie grassland and Monterey pine savannah.

Eastwood plans to build a 1,006-acre development on a ridgetop east of Carmel with an 18-hole course, 34 homes, an equestrian center and employee housing. Grading for the course started earlier this summer. The suit is expected to go to trial later this summer.

Consultant to study Ventura's future

VENTURA, Calif. — The city of Ventura has hired a consultant to help determine whether it needs more public courses. The city has asked the consultant to determine if it needs to expand an existing golf course, build a new course, or do a better job of marketing existing courses.

Zeke Avila and Sons, which runs the 18-hole public Olivas Park Golf Course in Ventura, wants to build a new course, but city officials are not convinced it is needed. The city's Golf Course Master Plan is expected to take six to 12 months to complete.

Norman to design in Myrtle Beach

LITCHFIELD BEACH, S.C. — Greg Norman will get a chance to make his mark on the Grand Strand. Norman's design company has been selected to design a private, 18-hole layout at Litchfield Beach south of Myrtle Beach to be called The Reserve Golf Club. The private, non-equity club will be built on roughly 180 acres in Willbrook Plantation. It will be Norman's first project in the Carolinas.

Groundwork is scheduled to begin this fall with a target opening date of fall 1998. The facility will include a clubhouse.

Executive track set to open in Calif.

HAYWARD, Calif. — The Hayward Area Recreation and Park District is preparing to build and operate a new, smaller, nine-hole course on the site of the former Hayward Golf Course.

The new nine-hole layout, which will be set on 38 acres, was designed by Gary Bye of David Rainville Golf Course Architects.

The former Hayward Golf Course was closed in 1986, which left the area with only one course.

Bye's design calls for a 1,750-yard, executive-style layout with six par-3s ranging in length from 95 to 175 yards and three par-4s at 275, 335 and 350 yards. Rough grading was expected to be underway by this month.

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