

Work underway on Fred Couples/Gene Bates design in Va.

CHANTILLY, Va. — Work has started on the 18-hole golf course at the Westfields Golf Club — a high-end, daily-fee layout designed by PGA Tour star Fred Couples and golf course architect Gene Bates.

Couples has teamed up on the project with Lynn Roach, Couples' agent and a founder of the McLean, Va.-based Players Group Inc. Couples has a major financial interest in the

course, which is part of a \$90 million development that will include 182 home sites as well as the golf club.

Green fees are expected to be in the \$55 to \$75 range, with a number of tee times reserved for guests, employees and possibly clients of the nearby Westfields Conference Center, a key complementary facility to the project, which is a 15-minute drive from the club.

Construction worker dies in Miss.

STARKVILLE, Miss. — A construction worker at the new Dogwood Golf Course development in eastern Oktibbeha County was killed when ground caved in around him as a crew was laying sewer lines.

Thomas J. Beck, 19, of Eupora, was killed instantly in the late-December accident. Beck was working in a ditch where em-

ployees of PERMA Corp. of Columbus, were laying sewer lines. The accident was caused by a cave-in under one of the banks on the golf course.

Oktibbeha County Sheriff Dolph Bryan said Beck died instantly and that efforts to save him were impossible. Bryan said Beck and the crew were working in selma chalk, also called limestone, at the time of the cave-in. It took crews more than four hours to remove Beck's body from the ditch.

Several crew members from PERMA Corp. were working at the time of the accident. Another man was apparently in the same hole with Beck when the cave-in occurred, but he was able to get out. The incident is under investigation by the Oktibbeha County Sheriff's Department and Occupational Safety and Health Administration officials.

State steps into SC golf resort

CALHOUN FALLS, S.C. — An \$11 million golf resort will be built on state-owned land near the shores of Lake Russell here in Abbeville County.

The proposed facility would combine a private partnership of upstate developers along with \$2 million in public funds. The project had been mired for years in controversy, but the breakthrough came due to an unprecedented move by the state to create a resort using private and public funds.

The developers include Greenville businessman C. Dan Joyner, Fluor Daniel of Greenville, Griffon Marketing of Pickens, and Belz Burrow Corp. of Memphis, Tenn.

Construction is scheduled to start this spring and finish by 1999. The resort will include an 18-hole course designed by Tom Jackson as well as a restaurant, retail shops and homes.

Spartanburg to build new links

SPARTANBURG, S.C. — City and county officials are pondering a \$100 million downtown development project that could bring in a new hotel, a nine-hole golf course and a conference center.

Local leaders headed by developer Arthur Cleveland have been working on the plan for years. Ground could be broken within the next nine months.

The so-called Renaissance Project would include a 250-room hotel and conference center supported by a nine-hole golf course, 3,000-seat amphitheater, two office buildings and new homes.

John Deere 220 Walking Greens Mowers now alternate with the riding 2243s to keep the greens at Melville Glades in top shape.



Native grass trees are a unique natural feature of the Melville Glades Golf Club. Growing at a rate of only 1/4-inch a year, many are known to be hundreds of years old.



Natural hazards at Melville Glades include a well-behaved mob of 150-200 kangaroos that also make their home on the course.



Niall Laird began working on golf courses before he could drive a car, and has been head superintendent at Perth's Melville Glades Golf Club for the last five years.