

Done deal: Utah course purchase paves the way for privatization

PARK CITY, Utah — Melrose Companies, a South Carolina-based development firm, has purchased the Park Meadows Golf Club here and will transform the site of Utah's Senior PGA Tour event into an exclusive country club.

Reports indicate Melrose already has 115 reservations for charter memberships costing \$32,500 each, according to *The Salt Lake Tribune*.

Park Meadows' contract with the Franklin Quest Championship event on the Senior Tour ends after this year's tournament in late July. But Melrose officials want to keep the event while also making several improvements on and off the golf course.

Melrose bought Park Meadows from Pundy Yokouchi, a Hawaii resident who purchased the course in 1991. The 14-year-old layout, designed by Jack Nicklaus, had been operated as an upscale, daily-fee, resort-style course.

The Park Meadows conversion — combined with the purchase and recent private conversion of the former Jeremy Ranch Golf Course — take away two of Utah's top-ranked courses from public players. However, the state still has an unusually high percentage of public courses, particularly among those opened in the last 35 years.

Colbert will design course at alma mater

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Kansas State University officials are planning a new multi-million dollar 18-hole championship golf course designed by PGA Senior Tour star Jim Colbert for 300 acres northwest of Manhattan. Colbert is a Kansas State alumni and former member of the golf team.

The proposed course would be called Colbert Hills and would be owned by an arm of the KSU Foundation, which was created to run the course. The course would be home to Kansas State's men's and women's golf teams and would be open to daily-fee and membership play.

In addition to the course, school officials are planning a driving range, clubhouse and, eventually, a six- to nine-hole teaching course. Proceeds from the course's operations would go to benefit the school's golf programs.

Kansas State officials would like to have the course ready for play in 1999, meaning construction on the estimated \$8.5 to \$10 million project would have to start by this fall.

Melrose's improvement plans include a members grill room, a health club with indoor pool, locker rooms and card rooms. On the golf course, the company plans to improve cart paths and bunkers, and institute mowing refinements to improve fairway definition.

Popular Hawaiian layout reopens following refurbishment

KANOEHE, Hawaii — The 34-year-old Bayview Golf Course, a Windward landmark for decades, has reopened for limited play as a renovated 18-hole, par-60 layout.

The refurbished course is part of several improvements and additions at Bayview, which opened in 1963 and has been one of the most popular and affordable places on Oahu to play golf — day and night, under the lights. The new

Bayview will offer a double-decker automated driving range, a 36-hole putting course, a clubhouse and an auxiliary clubhouse with meeting and banquet rooms.

A grand opening for the entire facility is scheduled for June.

The new Bayview will also be part of a multi-purpose recreational facility that will include soccer fields, an all-purpose field and park area.

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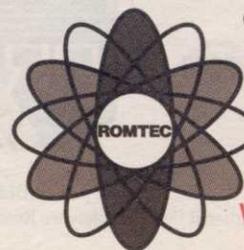
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