

BRIEFS

GILBERT, Ariz. — Ground has been broken on an 18-hole course at Meadowbrook, a residential area here being developed by UDC Homes and Sunbelt Holdings. Arizona-based architect Dick Bailey is designing the track. This is the second time Bailey has teamed with Sunbelt. The firms have also worked on the Arizona Traditions golf course in Surprise. The new links is expected to be open by March 1999.

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ST. GEORGE, Utah — Keith Foster has been hired to design an 18-hole course as part of a 900-acre, master-planned community here. SunCor, an Arizona development firm, is developing and will manage the daily-fee facility. Plans are to begin construction in early 1999 and open the course sometime in 2000.

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ARDMORE, Okla. — A nine-hole, \$1.3 million expansion has been approved for the Lakeview Golf Course here. Architect Tripp Davis said the current 18-hole course gets a great deal of use and the greens will eventually have to be rebuilt. The addition of nine holes will allow the greens to last longer, said Davis.

Responsible golf development topic of worldwide conclave

By MARK LESLIE

ST. ANDREWS, Scotland — The custodians, protectors and leaders of the golf world for the next millennium should be guided by the concept of "affordable, accessible and sustainable," according to golf course architect Dr. Michael Hurdzan.

Keynoting the World Scientific Congress of Golf here July 22, the former president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects said:

- "affordable" means keeping the game within economic reach of all citizens by building simplistic, low-cost golf courses as well as upscale facilities;
- "accessible" means to build those courses near population centers, train or bus lines, or within bicycling or walking distance; and

• "sustainable" means building courses that will be maintained with the fewest maintenance inputs as possible to produce an acceptable golfing venue.

"It means applying emerging science to conserve or efficiently use every possible liter of water, kilogram of fertilizer, gram of pesticide or drop of fossil fuel,"

Hurdzan said. "It also means changing the attitudes of golfers to accept less-green turf, the maintenance techniques of our greenkeepers, and the public view of a golf course's worth to the environment."

Hurdzan, who holds a bachelor's degree in turfgrass management and master's degree and doctorate in environmental plant physiology, said the same turfgrass sciences that produced products that allowed golf courses to reach their "ultimate perfection" are causing the pendulum to swing back toward "a sustainable middle ground."

"The final test of success for this research and development will be if the golf courses of the year 2020 look like golf courses of 1920," he said.

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Dan Maples-designed Dunegrass in Old Orchard Beach, Maine, opened recently in this Southern Maine coastal town. The 17th hole, pictured here, is located among the inland sand dunes that are a major feature of the 18-hole, daily-fee course. Local businessman Ron Boutet is the developer.

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