

Development visits Santa Barbara, finally

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — After numerous struggles, the first regulation-length courses built in Santa Barbara in 25 years have opened for play. Both will be open to the public.

Glen Annie Golf Course, a daily-fee, par-72 layout with panoramic views of the Pacific Ocean, was designed by Robert Muir Graves and Damian Pascuzzo. Glen Annie features a double green, a large lake that comes into play on three holes, and a unique amphibian walkway for an endangered species of frog. Steve Montanez, a former superintendent at North Ranch Country Club in Westlake Village, is the new superintendent at Glen Annie.

Rancho San Marcos, a \$16 million project designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr., is a par-71, semi-private layout with five par-5s and six par-3s. The course moves through 300 acres with views of Cachuma Lake and the Santa Ynez Valley as well as the San Rafael and Santa Ynez mountains. There are 1,700 trees on the property, including oaks that are 200 to 300 years old. The course superintendent is Scott Nair, a former head superintendent at the Boulders Resort in Carefree, Ariz.

Toughest course in U.S. sells for bargain price

KANEOHE, Hawaii — A golf course rated one of the toughest in the country was sold for less than 15 percent of its \$82 million construction cost.

The Koolau Golf Course, located at the base of the Koolau Mountains in Windward Oahu, attracted a single offer of \$12 million when bids were opened. The buyer was CCL Holdings (USA) Ltd.. The company's investments include hotels, golf courses and other commercial real estate. The 18-hole course — known for its challenging terrain and many ravines — sits on 250 acres and features a 123,000-square-foot clubhouse and 1,000 additional acres.

According to a foreclosure agent, more than 300 individuals or groups expressed interest in the property. The course was originally developed by the Minami Group, a Japanese firm that bought the acreage during the Japanese investment boom in the late 1980s. Minami hired course designers Dick Nugent and Jack Tuthill to lay out a course on the varied land. Half of the holes feature ravine crossings and there are more than 80 bunkers.

The facility's luxurious clubhouse features a two-story waterfall, floor-to-ceiling windows with views of Kaneohe Bay, and an interior courtyard.

Two new golf facilities set to come on line in San Jose

SAN JOSE, Calif. — It's been nearly 30 years since a new public course opened here, but 1998 will be a boon year with two layouts scheduled to welcome the city's golfers.

The Tradition Golf Club, located about a mile south of the Calero Reservoir in south San Jose, plans to open a 27-hole public facility in July. Meanwhile, just a couple miles away, the course known as the Riverside Golf Course will open a new 18-hole, daily-fee course designed by Jack Nicklaus in September and thereafter be known as the Coyote Creek Golf Club. Once the

Nicklaus Signature Course opens at Coyote Creek in September, the existing 18-hole layout at Riverside will be renovated into a second Nicklaus design that will be known as the Valley Course. The Valley Course should be ready for play by summer 1999.

"The luxury we have with the new design is being able to take advantage of the best of both worlds in California," Nicklaus told the *San Jose Mercury News*. "The layout will actually wind beneath the highway, with rolling terrain to the west and mountainous terrain to the east."

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