

BRIEFS

FESTUS, Mo. — Mike Murphy has proposed building a golf course on city-owned property near the water-treatment plant. Murphy worked with Hale Irwin on the Quail Creek golf course in south St. Louis County and on others. Murphy said he would like to start the course next year and open in May 2001. It would be privately operated on property leased from Festus.

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STOWE, Vt. — The Stowe Mountain Resort is finishing its revised application for an Act 250 land-use permit for a golf course development. Stowe filed for an Act 250 master plan permit earlier this year for an 18-hole course, 486-unit residential development, eight-mile snowmaking pipeline to Waterbury reservoir, and a new base lodge at Spruce Peak. Act 250 is Vermont's land use development law.

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HALLANDALE, Fla. — The new Diplomat Resort and Country Club has broken ground. The resort, and its 18-hole Joe Lee-redesigned course, is scheduled to be completed for a gala opening celebration on Dec. 31. Developed and built by Driscoll Development, the project is designed to complement the new 1,000-room Diplomat Hotel.

New survey shows growth in Canadian golf

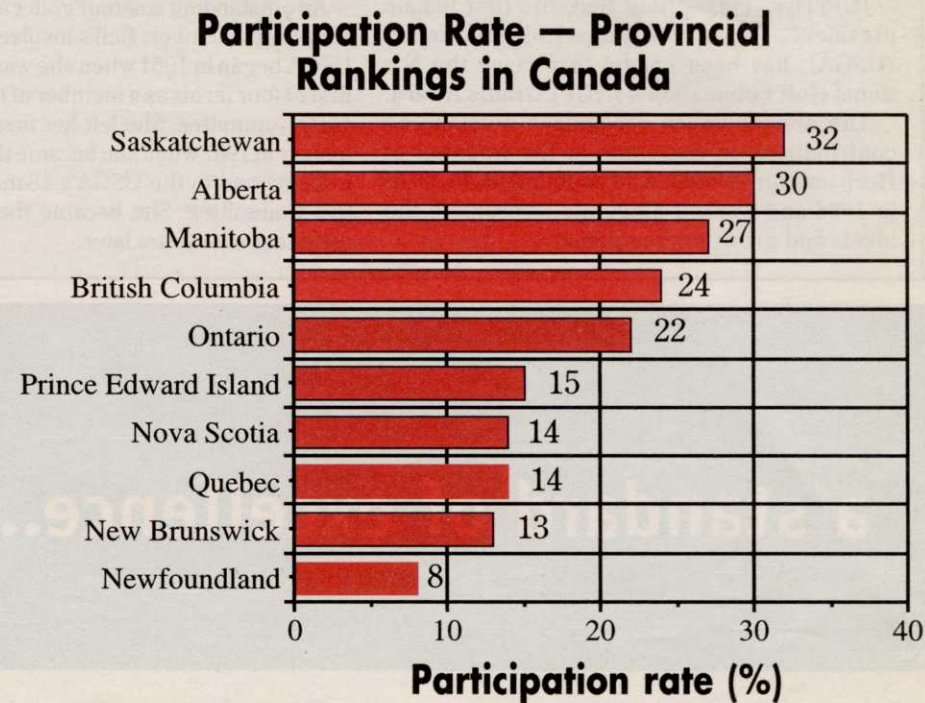
Western provinces show highest participation rates

OAKVILLE, Ontario, Canada — Canadians embrace the game of golf more than any other country in the world, based on a report released by the Royal Canadian Golf Association (RCGA).

In 1998, 5.2 million Canadians — 20.5 percent of the population—played golf, representing an 8-percent increase in the golf population in this country since 1996. These figures put Canada at the forefront of international golf participation, based on "The 1999 Golf Participation in Canada Survey Report" and the most recent international golf participation data.

In the United States, 26.4 million people golf, representing 11.9 percent of the American population, according to the most recent results. The participation rate in New Zealand — the nation ranked second to Canada in this regard — is 12.6 percent (480,000 golfers) and in Japan, the third-ranked nation, the rate is 12.5 percent, representing 15.7 million golfers.

"For years, we have felt that golf in Canada has been growing," said RCGA Executive Director Stephen Ross. "These results quantify that feeling. The Canadian golf industry can pat itself on the back for helping to boost the game's popu-



Source: Royal Canadian Golf Association

larity. It is now our responsibility to provide Canadian golfers with all the resources and services they need to play this game of a lifetime."

A significant part of the new growth is in the female and junior golfer segments

of the population. For the first time this decade, it appears that female golf is on the rise, experiencing a 12-percent increase in two years, from 1,307,000 in 1996 to 1,469,000 last year. Of the 387,000

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