

Developer chosen for speedway

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP) — Promising to make the most of the new Kansas Speedway's prime location, Zimmer Management Co. won approval Thursday as the master developer of a 400-acre tourism destination adjoining the auto racetrack.

Restaurants, hotels, office space, shops and an "entertainment mall" are all contemplated by the Kansas City, Mo., company for the valuable tract owned by the Unified Government of Kansas City, Kan., and Wyandotte County. The site lies at the intersection of Interstates 70 and 435.

With Thursday's award of the development contract by the Unified Government Commission, Zimmer Management can now begin seeking tenants. Announcements of at least some tenants could come by the end of the year, company vice president William F. Crandall said.

Groundbreaking for the \$500 million project is planned for early July 2001, Crandall told the commission. The first big event of the track's inaugural year — an Indy Racing Northern Light Series race — is set for July 8.

"And we hope to invite you to dinner at one of the new restaurants in late September," he added — a reference to the NASCAR Busch Grand National race set for Sept. 29 and the Winston Cup race the next day.

Zimmer Management, part of the 50-year-old Zimmer Cos. development and management firm, was among six companies from around the country that responded to the Unified Government's request for proposals for the site.

The company is best known in the two-state Kansas City metropolitan area for its development of office and industrial parks. It served as master developer of the 18-building, 4 million-square-foot Sprint Corp. world headquarters under construction in Overland Park, Kan.

For the Kansas Speedway site, Zimmer Management has enlisted two partners: the Dallas office of The Hillier Group, whose architects include the designer of the Sprint campus, and the Boston firm of D'Agostino, Izzo & Quirk, whose designs include Boston's Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Chicago's Navy Pier and New York's SouthStreet Seaport.

Those two firms will help Zimmer Management transform 400 acres of farmland into a complex that will attract not only Kansas Speedway patrons and area residents but tourists passing the site on Interstate 70, Crandall said.

Centerpieces of the development will include two or three hotels, probably of the category that includes Marriott and Embassy Suites, as well as restaurants along the lines of The Olive Garden and Outback Steakhouse.



Secretary has 'friendly' talks with North Korea

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Secretary of State Madeleine Albright held what she called "friendly" talks with North Korea's foreign minister on Friday, the highest-level meeting in half a century of hostility between the two countries.

Albright said she learned little from Paek Nam Sun about the communist country's reported intentions to curb its missile program, a major topic at an Asian security forum this week.

"My meeting with Foreign Minister Paek constitutes a substantively modest but symbolically historic step away from the sterility and hostility of the past," Albright said.

Paek gave Albright no details of an offer, made recently by North Korean leader Kim Jong Il to Russia's president, to shift the North's missile program into peaceful efforts to launch satellites into space.

"I was direct in stating American concerns about the missile threat,

nuclear weapons-related activity," Albright said. "We discussed it."

U.S. officials have suggested that North Korea could launch satellites from neutral nations, but should not be allowed technology for use on its own soil that that might end up in improved missiles.

Both sides said the meeting added to the thaw on the Korean peninsula since the summit between the North and South Korean leaders in June, raising hopes for peace in the region.

"I remain realistic in expectations and fully committed to coordination with our allies," Albright said. "I'm also somewhat more hopeful than before for the long-term stability on the Korean peninsula and throughout the region."

North Korea issued a statement saying the two sides had "serious deliberations on the ways to normalize and expand" relations and agreed that recent developments had led to a "posi-

tive atmosphere."

Paek met New Zealand's foreign minister, Phil Goff, after Albright and said New Zealand had agreed to normalize relations with North Korea, the second country this week after Canada to do so. Goff made no comment.

At the meeting's start, Albright smiled and shook hands with Paek three times for the benefit of television cameras.

The talks were another milestone in North Korea's coming-out into the wider world.

Albright wore a canary yellow dress, similar to her last trip to Asia when a "sunshine dress" paid tribute to South Korean President Kim Dae-jung's so-called sunshine policy to build peace with the North.

Paek was asked before the talks about news reports that North Korea would dispatch a high-level delegation to Washington to discuss improving ties.

Lobbyist predicts ethanol might boom

By John MacDonald
Associated Press Writer
FARGO, N.D. — A lobbyist for the ethanol industry said he is confident that ethanol is poised for a major boost in popularity.

Eric Vaughn, president of the Renewable Fuels Association, said he believes lawmakers, regulators and the fuel industry are close to a general understanding on requirements for the future use of cleaner-burning fuels.

Ethanol, made from corn, likely will be a significant player, Vaughn predicted.

"I think a deal is close on a number of issues that will mean a significant boost for our industry," said Vaughn, who addressed the American Coalition for Ethanol conference Thursday.

Operators of ethanol plants across the Midwest seem to agree. More than two dozen attended Thursday's conference and virtually all said they have expanded production or are planning to do so in coming months.

Mark said production rates at the company's ethanol plants in Aberdeen, S.D., and Huron, S.D., have increased tenfold since the plants opened eight years ago. He said the plants are prepared to boost production even more if necessary.

If Congress enacts rules for cleaner-burning fuel that are favorable for ethanol, Vaughn said, the industry should be prepared to triple production from the current 1.8 billion gallon annual capacity.

Since 1995, the Environmental Protection Agency has required that gasoline sold in cities with the most severe summer smog contain oxygenates to make it burn more cleanly. The most popular octane-booster has been MTBE, or methyl tertiary butyl ether. But the Clinton administration is moving to phase out MTBE because it was found to contaminate groundwater.

Ethanol was thought by many to be a logical replacement to MTBE. But oil companies say gasoline blended with ethanol is harder to produce and therefore more expensive, because ethanol evaporates more readily in warm months. Congress and federal regulators are considering a number of proposals.

From scab in the Red River Valley to wheat midge in northwestern North Dakota, diseases are appearing as farmers prepare for harvest.

A recent survey showed scab, a fungal disease, has infected barley and wheat fields in the Red River Valley, said Marcia McMullen, plant pathologist at North Dakota State University.

The disease, brought on by prolonged wet weather, affects both yield and quality. It caused about \$2.6 billion in damage in North Dakota between 1991 and 1997.

Damage this year appears to be relatively light, but officials said other diseases caused by wet weather also are showing up, including root rot and the leaf disease tan spot.

"Every different disease is taking a nick out of the yield or quality," said Cass County agent John Kringle.

matters of record

Sherman County Traffic
July 17 — Alvin T. Bonner, 39, Elgin, Texas, speeding 87/70, \$70.
Hubert F. Glaze, 76, Kansas City, Mo., speeding 92/70, \$82.
Kevin W. Crowe, 30, New Florence, Mo., speeding 86/70, \$68.
Steven J. Dowell, 34, Aurora, Colo., speeding 87/70, \$66.
Earl S. Golos, 44, Arvada, Colo., speeding in construction zone 75/60, \$94.
Enrique L. Navarro, 18, St. Francis, failing to display current tag, \$64.
Louise L. Schlepp, 67, Kanorado, speeding 70/55, \$74.
Jeremiah M. Cummons, 20, Bethune, Colo., speeding 84/55, \$111.
Samuel W. Huickaba, 41, Prairie Village, speeding 81/70, \$66.

Joshua M. Hawes, 21, Delta, Colo., speeding 78/55, \$93.
July 18 — Ronald A. Tremblay, 59, East Barre, Vt., 1700 overweight, \$91.
Aaron W. Friesenborg, 18, Dayton, Ohio, speeding in construction zone 79/60, \$102.
Santos B. Lopez, 38, Kanorado, no liability insurance, \$64.
Jose Sandoval, 33, McDonald, speeding 42/30, \$68; failing to display current tag, \$10; no liability insurance, \$10.
Samuel H. Seton, 46, Denver, speeding 70/60, \$74.
Harry D. Hunt, 67, Forest Lakes, Ariz., speeding in construction zone 72/60, \$100.
July 19 — Michael R. Langan, 48, Tooele, Utah, 2600 overweight, \$130.
Demetrius D. Strong, 27, Aurora, Colo., driving on a suspended driver's license, \$145.
Ronald D. Gouvaia II, 31, Antioch, Calif., speeding in construction zone 76/60, \$76.
Maria Salas-De-Ornelas, 30, Denver, speeding 73/60, \$70.
Chad L. Gehrke, 22, Fort Collins,

Colo., speeding in construction zone 75/60, \$94; no liability insurance, \$10.
Thursday — Devon L. Unruh, 47, Brighton, Colo., speeding in construction zone 71/60, \$70.
Robert J. Coad, 26, Goodland, speeding 72/55, \$78.

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July Employee of the Month

Susan Gilley

Susan expertly coordinates much of the daily business activity that you see going on in Frontier Equity's Brewster location. Even when she's at her busiest, customers will find a friendly and concerned attitude while she's taking care of their fuel orders or assisting them with store purchases. With her many years of experience, she has become a most valuable, capable and knowledgeable employee in Brewster. If you need your inbound grain tickets accurately recorded or your fertilizer application request taken just as you specified, you'll find Susan a person you can depend upon. Thank you Susan Gilley for your dedication towards continuing the success in Brewster.

Please continue to let us know when an employee does something exceptional for you so we can recognize one of our many valued employees at any of our locations.

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