Traditions owner Heil sues partner in Kentucky venture

BURLINGTON, Ky. — Kenneth Heil, owner of Traditions Golf Club, a new golf course here, has sued former partner Michael Macke for fraud, negligence and breach of contract.

Heil seeks compensatory and punitive damages, accounting of Macke’s expenses in connection with the project, and payment of attorney’s fees and other costs.

Countered Macke: “I had a contract to build the golf course for $2.8 million. I’ve been paid a little over two-thirds.”

Heil said in February that he anticipated having nine holes ready for play by late spring or early summer.

Tory claims in the suit that supplies and materials paid for by Traditions have been diverted to some of Macke’s other golf course projects. These include Deer Run Country Club in Miami Township and Pebble Creek Country Club in Dry Ridge.

Putting greens for room service? It’s so in NYC

NEW YORK, N.Y. — “Room service” can have a special ring for those staying at the Mayfair Regent Hotel.

Putting machines and special Mayfair Regent insignia golf balls can be delivered to the guest chambers.

Another idea is a putting green in the hotel’s gym. Hopefully, there will be no balls hit in a swimming pool. That would involve a “stroke and distance” penalty.

Deluges of rain put clamps on LA. construction

SHREVEPORT, La. — Unrelenting rain has delayed the $250,000 initial phase of Champion Links, now under construction near the southern end of the East Parkway, but it soon will be a minimal factor.

The 300-yard state-of-the-art driving range, expected to be completed in July, will include indoor bays so golfers can practice on rainy or cold days, and a short game area to practice chipsing, putting and sand trap play.

Future plans include building a nine-hole, par 3 course and expansion of the miniature course to 36 holes. Project completion target is April.

Mary Lynn Stewart, five-time city champion who played golf for the University of Texas, has worked with architect Mark Williamson in developing the project, which will have an Arke-La-Tex theme with steamboats, cotton bales, log jams and Caddo Indian tepees.

Stewart’s husband, Martin, has been head pro at Shreveport Country Club since 1978.

Non-profit course’s funding picks up

LEIGH, Neb. — Funding for a non-profit golf course to be built southwest of Leigh in memory of Rick Charipar has gained momentum.

Carlson, Creston, Howells and Leigh community leaders are spearheading the project, launched with a gift from a Leigh-area farm couple, Frankie and Darline Charipar, in memory of their only son, Rick, killed in a 1988 tractor accident at age 25.

“Rick wasn’t a golfer,” his father explained. “But Darlene and I couldn’t think of a better memorial that would provide sport, recreation and enjoyment for people of all ages. Rick wouldn’t have wanted something like a library to be remembered by.”

Total cost project is estimated at $225,000, not including the land.

Donated labor could drop the cost to $150,000. It is hoped to open the course next year. Landscaping would start this summer, seeding in the fall.

Cemetery land facing digging of another type

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — The silence of an unused section of Mount Olivet Cemetery soon may be rent by cries of “Fore!”

Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch and Rep. Wayne Owens have introduced bills in Congress to allow that section — where no one is expected to be buried for another 70 years — to become a golf course until then.

The cemetery obtained that 35 acres from the federal government in 1909 on the condition that the government would regain ownership automatically if it were ever used for anything but a graveyard.

Congress must give permission for the “temporary” 70-year golf course.

Expected to be called the Mount Olivet Golf Academy, the facility would have practice tees, greens and a nine-holer course.

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