

## Citizen group nixes N.M. track

SANTA FE, N.M. — A citizens' group has refused to endorse a water rights transfer, a move that would allow the developers of La Cienega de Santa Fe to develop a golf course, equestrian center and 140 homes.

The water rights are needed to drill a well at the nearby racetrack owned by Ken Newton, who is part of the development team. The golf course would be kept

green with treated city waste water, he said.

To gain preliminary approval for the project last year, developers struck deals with both La Cienega and El Guicu ditch associations to replenish water supplies vital to the farming community.

Despite this initial agreement, Friends of La Cienega, the citizens' group, recently protested a transfer of water rights to the developers.

## R.I. city counts on Triggs GC to balance budget

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — To balance the city's current budget, city finance officials are looking at collecting \$3.5 million by having the manager of Triggs Memorial Golf Course make 20 years of lease payments immediately.

The course management firm, FCG Associates, is in the first year of a 10-year lease with the city to run the 18-hole course. FCG is scheduled to pay \$2.5 million through 2003.

However, city finance officials said they have asked the company to consider extending the lease for another 10 years and paying for all 20 years when the fiscal year ends on June 30. The lease payments would close the budget deficit, currently estimated at \$3.4 million.

Second-class postage paid at Yarmouth, Maine, and additional mailing office. *Golf Course News* (ISSN 1054-0644) is published monthly by United Publications, Inc., 38 Lafayette St., P.O. Box 997, Yarmouth, ME 04096. Phone number is 207-846-0600.

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*Golf Course News* is distributed in the U.S. without charge to qualified personnel of golf course facilities and to golf course builders, developers and architects. Subscriptions to Canadian golf facilities cost \$25 annually; other paid subscriptions to the U.S. and Canada cost \$35. All foreign subscriptions cost \$125 annually to cover air delivery. All payments must be made in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank. **For subscriber services, please call 215-788-7112.** Send address changes to *Golf Course News*, P.O. Box 3047, Langhorne, Pa. 19047-3047.

## Good times and bad times in Wisconsin

MIDDLETON, Wis. — Two proposed golf courses in the area are headed in different directions. One course is under construction, while the developers of another face legal battles.

On the sunny side, Jim Watts, developer of 18-hole Tumbledown Trials, hopes to open nine holes by the end of the summer.

The second nine could open possibly in the fall of 1994 or spring of 1995, said Watts. Madison's Art Johnson designed the course that will wind its way

around 10 ponds.

On the darker side, the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad has blocked the construction of a proposed 18-hole Scottish links-type course, to be called Royal Lochan.

The railroad company brought an injunction against the construction of the course last year because its tracks run across the property, and it didn't want golfers crossing them.

Instead, the company requested the construction of an

overpass or underpass, which the course developers — Bob Ranguette and Brian McGettigan — felt was too costly. The dispute went to court, and the Dane County Circuit Court ruled in favor of the course developers. But the railroad appealed the case and the Dane County Court of Appeals has yet to rule on it.

In the meantime, the construction is on hold. "The railroad has cost us one whole year of developing," explained McGettigan to the *Capital Times* of Madison.

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