

Play resumes at Ridge GC after resolution of payroll tax flap

MIDLAND, Mich. — Local golfers began to play again on Ridge Golf Course in Bay County after the Internal Revenue Service struck a deal with the course owner.

The IRS shut down the course June 25 for failure of the course's owner, Sandy Ridge Inc., to surrender payroll taxes to the government. Ridge still owes \$200,000 in federal withholding taxes and Social Security, as well as \$113,054 in penalties and interests.

"We have worked out some equitable arrangement between the taxpayer and ourselves to pay the taxes," Elcy Maccani, IRS public affairs specialist, told the *Daily News*.

Maccani said it is IRS policy to try to work out an agreement with taxpayers who owe the agency money. Barring the deal with Sandy Ridge, the IRS planned to auction off the course.

Fee hikes fatten Calif. city coffers — not the course

TORRANCE, Calif. — The county Board of Supervisors here voted unanimously to raise fees at all county golf courses by \$1.50 for adults and 75 cents for seniors and juniors.

The fee increase, which will be put into effect Oct. 1., comes nine months after the board approved fee raises of \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for seniors and juniors.

Supervisors plan to use the extra \$945,000 generated by the new golf fee — plus fee increases at county pools and campgrounds — to help offset the county's record \$1.4 billion deficit. Some golfers, however, would like more of the money put back into course maintenance.

"Scandalously little of this money goes back into the golf courses," Graig Kessler, spokesman for the Southern Public Links Association, told the *Daily Breeze*. "They can't just keep raising prices forever."

Schaumburg nine reopens Sept. 4

SCHAUMBURG, Ill. — Renovation of the second nine holes at 27-hole Schaumburg Golf Club is complete and the refurbished nine opened Sept. 4. Course architect Bob Lohmann of Mareng is overseeing design and construction of the ongoing renovation project. The facility was originally designed in the 1920s by William Langford and Theodore Moreau. Renovation of the remaining nine holes will begin this month.

Floods result in erosion problems

MADISON, Wis. — The great floods of 1993 have wreaked havoc on one midwestern golf course currently under construction.

Trying to assess the damage the floods caused at Bishop's Bay Country Club, the state's Department of Natural Resources learned of massive erosion.

Some are concerned why Bishop's Bay hadn't com-

pleted adequate berms, retention ponds, diversion of water into those ponds, and silt fences to stop erosion. Much of Bishop's Bay runoff reportedly found its way into Lake Mendota.

Dane County's zoning board has asked the Bruce Co., the contractor building the course, to install erosion control measures with all due haste.

Judge: City okay in not accepting low bid on management contract

PORTLAND, Ore. — A judge ruled that Portland municipal officials did not violate state bidding laws in awarding a management contract last year for Heron Lakes Golf Course.

Multnomah County Circuit Judge Lee Johnson rejected a claim by Double Eagle Golf Inc., that had challenged the award of the Heron Lakes contract to Byron Wood Enterprises, Inc.

City officials signed a five-year contract with Wood last fall after

calling for bids for the management contract. Double Eagle, which manages the city's Progress Downs course, contended the city should have accepted its proposal as low bidder on the Heron Lakes contract.

Harry Auerbach, a deputy city attorney, successfully contended that the management agreement was a personal services contract for which the City Council was not obligated to accept the lowest bidder.



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