

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.**—*Golf Course News* will conduct an advertising readership study in conjunction with its September issue, according to Publisher Charles von Brecht. The formal study will be conducted by Baxter Research Inc. of Austin, Texas. Industry firms wishing to participate should contact von Brecht at 1-800-636-7077.

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**HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE, Ark.**—Diamante Golf Course, the longest in Arkansas, is now under construction. Measuring 7,500 yards from the back tees, the 18-hole development will feature a 9,000-square-foot clubhouse, a tennis facility and swimming complex. The completion date for the \$7.4 million project is September 1995.

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**TROY, Ohio**—The park board here has approved the expenditure of half the set-aside funding for development of a Miami Shore Golf Course master plan. Up to \$18,000 will be spent on the preliminary site plan, which will be prepared by Ferdinand Garbin of Export, Ga.

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**LAWRENCE, N.Y.**—James Henn, an employee of the Lehman Bros. securities firm, is suing the Rockaway Hunting Club and a coworker after being hit by a golf ball on a company outing. Henn named alleged ball-striker Alan Greco, the club and its golf pro, Randy Cavanagh in the suit. Henn charges that Cavanagh and the club were negligent for not monitoring the golfers' abilities and actions.

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**SHOSHONE, Idaho**—A proposed municipal golf course here awaits approval from the federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The city council has sent a letter to the BLM asking it to designate 480 acres as "disposal," allowing the city to acquire it for municipal use.

## Homestead advances 9-hole plan

By ALEXA AINSWORTH

GLEN ARBOR, Mich. — The Homestead Resort will open this fall a nine-hole, par-3 golf course here at the bottom of its downhill ski facility. The resort's long-proposed 18-hole development remains in flux, caught in the substantial red tape of state and federal courts.

The par-3 course was designed by Robert Walker over 1,200 yards of ski slope. "The golf course will help to extend the resort's summer season into spring and fall," said Bob Kuras, president of The Homestead.

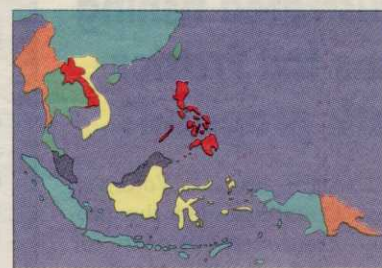
"Importantly," Kuras continued, "this nine-hole golf course neither eliminates our need to build an 18-hole regulation golf course on another site adjacent to The Homestead, nor tempers our resolve to do just that."

## Approval of controversial 18-hole development remains tied up in court

Nearby, 267 acres await approval for the 18-hole design. For more than six years the site — which contains sizable wetland areas — has sat idle at the mercy of state and federal courts.

In April, Judge Lawrence Glazer of the Ingham County Circuit Court found in favor of The Homestead and the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Glazer determined the DNR and the Michigan Natural Resource Commission were correct in issuing Homestead a construction permit, provided the developer met

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## American supers witness rioting at Vietnamese course

By ROBERT B. GLUCKSMAN

HANOI, Vietnam — Vietnam's first modern-era golf development, King's Island Golf Resort and Country Club, has reopened following a riot instigated by the project's construction foreman, who is also a village headman, upset at his suspension for insubordination and poor performance.

"The workers just started running around the range, yelling and screaming," and dodging golf balls, according to U.S. project manager Ron Kirby. "We were told to leave by flashlight after dark. It was pretty hairy."

Following a weekend of sit-down strikes and general disruption — but no damage to the course — the club owner made the decision to immediately shut down the project until the national government agreed to guarantee everyone's safety. With six of 18 holes playable, King's Island has since reopened, though Kirby's villa is protected 24 hours a day by armed guard.

Most of the 70 workers involved in the disturbance have been relocated by the Vietnamese government, said Kirby. The headman was suspended for continued insubordination by American construction shaper Scott Japp the weekend of April 9. According to Japp — who has worked extensively overseas for architect Denis

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## FAZIO MINES COURSE FROM CALIFORNIA DESERT

The Quarry at La Quinta, designed by Tom Fazio, has opened for play in the desert footing the Santa Rosa Mountains. The 7,076-yard, par-72 golf course has replaced the scarred pit of a quarry floor, which now includes four lakes, 1,000 lineal feet of streams, and more than 300 native California fan palms. Fazio incorporated buffalograss native to the prairies of the Midwest on some of The Quarry's fairway roughs for water efficiency and visual contrast.

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 \$45. 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.

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CIRCLE #103

## Survey says: Yes, but no new taxes

NEWTOWN TOWNSHIP, Pa. — Newtown Swim Club owner and golf course developer David Platt has plans for an 18-hole, par-3 golf course and driving range after receiving the results of a survey conducted last summer.

The survey indicated that 25 percent of respondents would like some type of golf in the township, but 53 percent also said they did not want to pay for it with taxes.

The proposed course would be built on 72 acres, be open to the public, and would cost

the township nothing. The land, farmland, is zoned R-2-high-density residential. However, both Platt and homeowners of Kirkwood Development hope the course can obtain a conditional-use permit.

Homeowners support the plan because of recent flooding in the area. They believe that a golf course with irrigation ponds for water runoff could help eliminate problems. Others like the idea of preventing more housing developments which, with more areas paved over, could contribute to flooding.

## Yolo County okays muni expansion

DAVIS, Calif. — In an effort to accommodate the booming population of golfers in Yolo County, the board of supervisors here has approved an 18-hole golf development.

The plan, which received unanimous approval from the city council, calls for expansion of the Davis Municipal Golf Course on two adjacent sites.

Nine new holes will be placed on the first parcel: 148.8 acres located south of the ex-

isting course. The other nine will be located on 146.8 acres west of the existing course.

Other items include the development of single-family homes on several three-quarter-acre sites, a clubhouse, parking lot and driving range expansion. The city council advised that no legal restrictions exist prohibiting house placement on sites requiring a transfer of entitlements from nearby airport properties.

## Vietnamese riot

Continued from page 3

Griffiths — the foreman had consistently not followed instructions. In this specific incident the foreman, on his own initiative, moved a trench line several feet from an area Japp had marked.

According to Kirby and Japp, the incident fits a continuing pattern in still-communist Vietnam. Despite the foreigners' experience and training, "They don't like us dictating to them how to work and what to do," Japp said. "It's true throughout, with equipment suppliers, everyone. We expect some performance or we shut them off. Usually we get some improvement, but then it's back to the old B.S."

Further, in Vietnam — which maintains its one-party system alongside its strongly provincial ideals of headmen and elders who command utmost respect — the culture clash has the potential to boil over.

Kirby, an American Society of Golf Course Architects member who has worked as site coordinator for Gene Bates and Griffiths, confirmed the foreman had been a problem for some time. Two months earlier, he explained, the superintendent had tried to fire the foreman, who was caught sleeping on the job for the second time.

When Japp suspended the foreman in late March, thus setting off the series of events, Kirby was on vacation. Japp suspended him for two weeks, pending Kirby's final decision.

Upon Kirby's return, he met with more than 70 disgruntled workers. Following the meeting, the workers said nothing and remained in the shop — but they soon moved to the first hole, where they staged a sit down strike. The first hole at King's Island is surrounded by a lake, in which workers soon began swimming and washing their hair.

That afternoon, Dennis Wright, the Canadian owner of the project, arrived on site and insisted the workers leave the course. They instead moved to the first tee, where Kirby and his interpreter intervened and struck a deal.

However, at 7 a.m. the next day, Kirby and Japp saw all the workers coming over the hill from the ferry pier carrying their own tools, including shovels, sickles, sticks and at least two machetes. The mob headed for the first hole, but Kirby had already instructed the pro to close the course. However, the driving range remained open.

"About then the workers figured out the golf course was closed and headed for the range," Kirby said. "The range was full, with probably 100 people there, including the Singaporean and Taiwanese ambassadors and their families."

Wright was also at the range. After trying to order the workers off the island, the owner eventually took cover in the clubhouse, where he made the decision to shut down the project until the national government could intervene and guarantee everyone's safety.

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