NEWS

Note-leaving course vandal remains at large

BODEGA, Calif. — Since September, a vandal has wreaked havoc on the Bodega Harbour Golf Links with a string of attacks that he vows to continue until his sleep is not disturbed by the sound of lawn mowers grooming the fairways at dawn. The vandal has poisoned nine greens, posted numerous threatening letters around the 18-hole course and a fire of suspicious origin has burned the maintenance building.

"We've set up random stakeouts, increased our community watch programs and increased our private security service," Bodega Harbour golf director Dennis Kalkowski told the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram.* "In spite of everything, the advantage is to the one who has issue with you."

"You must be tired of hiding people in vehicles, rentals and bushes by now," the vandal wrote in one note. "It won't work and it's very expensive."

Other notes have demanded an end to early-morning maintenance noise and an end to the placing of "cart crossing" and other signs along the streets.

Officials put the course damage at about \$10,000 so far.

Eagle Ridge Inn plans to expand with third 18

GALENA TERRITORY, III. — Eagle Ridge Inn and Resort is making plans to build a third 18hole golf course. Work on the course, designed by Andy North and Roger Packard, will start this spring with the course open for play in fall 1995.

Jon Duelman, Eagle Ridge president, said it's his goal to make Eagle Ridge the finest golf resort in the Midwest, similar to what Pinehurst means to its region.

According to John Osmanski, Eagle Ridge manager, the 7,000plus yard course will feature four sets of tees. It will also have a new club house with 40-seat lounge, a driving range, practice range and putting green.

TURKS OPPOSE MINN. COURSE

AURORO, Minn. — The Turk family here began a petition against the construction of the \$8.9 million 18-hole golf course proposed for Giants Ridge Recreation Area in Biwabek. Construction is set to start this spring. Rick Turk called the petition a "last-ditch effort" to save the family cabin, the proposed center of the 17th green. The Turks also do not believe the course will be financially viable.

Illinois judge backs state park projects

STERLING, Ill. — A judge has dismissed two lawsuits seeking to keep the Park District from buying the Emerald Hill Country Club. The plaintiffs of both lawsuits said they are considering more legal action opposing the deal.

Both plaintiffs contend the Park District exceeded its bonding authority by more than \$1 million when it offered to buy the country club for \$1.3 million in early January. The district also plans to sell another \$1.4 million in bonds for renovations. The lawsuits also asked the sale be stopped because the cost was excessive.

Judge Timothy Slavin disagreed. "Reasonable citizens may differ over the appropriateness of the purchase price," he said. "But ... such does not amount to the reasonableness required."

Miss. park blazing trail with success

McCOMB, Miss. — Adding golf courses at Percy Quin State Park here, and at John Kyle state parks near Sardis, is part of a \$30.6 million parks renovation bill passed by the Mississippi House this year.

Currently, the only state park golf course is a nine-hole layout at LeFleur's Bluff State Park in mid-Jackson, which has proven lucrative for the park system..

The new courses are included in the bill partly to raise revenues. "When you look at the activities of our parks... that golf course makes more profit than any other one activity in any one park," said Bob Tyler, the system's director of parks and recreation. Golf grossed \$271,503 in fiscal year 1993 — 65 percent of LeFleur Bluff's total revenues.

Some residents say there is another good reason to build the public golf courses: Opening another recreational outlet for blacks, who historically have been denied access to the state's mostly private country clubs.



© 1993 The Toro Company. The Toro Company, 8111 Lyndale Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55420. "Toro" and "Sand Pro" are registered trademarks of The Toro Company.