

NEWS IN BRIEF

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — A multi-million dollar expansion is underway at Still Waters Resort and Conference Center on Lake Martin, which includes 32 new golf villas, another 18-hole golf course, clubhouse and hotel. The cost of the first phase of construction is estimated between \$7 and \$8 million, according to Bill Hite, general manager of the resort. Defender Resort Development of Myrtle Beach, S.C., is managing the expansion. The 2,200-acre Still Waters Resort opened in the late 1970s.

♦♦♦

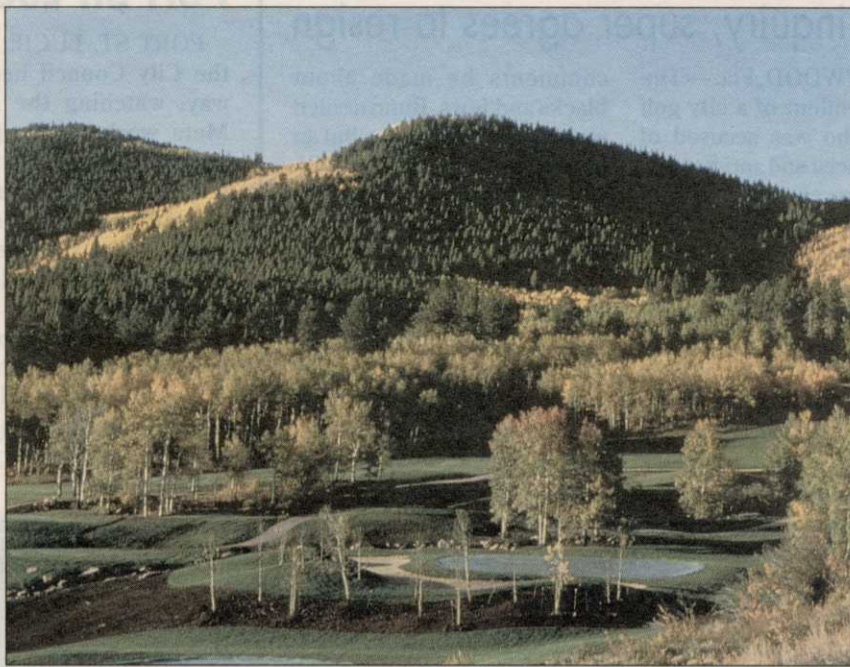
BRIGHTON TOWNSHIP, Ohio — First it was road embankments. Next up, Echo Valley Golf Course? Yes. After watching the Black River gradually gobble up most of a 30-foot road embankment in this northern Ohio town, Lorain County engineers will re-route part of the river 1,000 feet away from the road — and right next to the fairway on Echo Valley's par-4, 8th hole.

♦♦♦

RICHMOND, Va. — Local golf architect Lester George has signed on with Boonsboro Country Club in Lynchburg to help the club in its long-range master plan to renovate and restore the course originally designed by Fred Findlay in 1927. George has also done renovations at Birkdale, Kiln Creek in Newport News, Fort Lee and Hanover.

♦♦♦

BETHEL, Conn. — The Parks and Recreation Commission here is taking a step toward the creation of Bethel's first public golf course. The commission recently earmarked \$7,000 in its 1995-96 budget for a feasibility study of converting part of a town-owned parcel near the Francis J. Clarke Industrial park on Route 53. The idea of a municipal course in Bethel has been floating around for years. The commission does not have a cost estimate for building the golf course. But Timothy Burke, director of the Parks and Rec, said taxpayers won't bear the financial burden of any such project.

**AND FAZIO MAKES TWO...**

The new, Hale Irwin-designed golf course at Cordillera (above) — the 3,100-acre mountain-top community overlooking Vail Valley, Colo — will soon have a sister course. Slated to begin construction this spring, the new course will be designed by Tom Fazio. Situated at a 6,500-foot elevation, it will be called the Valley Course, in contrast to Cordillera's 8,250-foot-elevation Mountain Course (see above), designed by Irwin and opened in 1994. An additional short course is slated to begin construction in 1996.

Conference focuses on Asian management

By HAL PHILLIPS

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — The supply of club managers in Asia-Pacific has never met demand and, as golf course development continues to boom in the region, the need for experienced club managers becomes more and more critical.

With this in mind, the International Association of Golf Course Managers (IAGCM) will stage the first certificate course in "Club Operations and Golf & Country Club Management," beginning Oct. 1 here at the Pan Pacific Glenmarie Resort.

"This program is being held first in the Asia-Pacific region, as there is an acute shortage of qualified golf & country club managers in the region, especially Malaysia," said Jiun Siew, IAGCM secretary.

"Many in the club management profession have risen through the ranks. Very few have achieved degrees in the hospitality field. The ever-changing climate of golf & country club management demands a highly qualified, highly trained professional who can manage the changes occurring daily."

The IAGCM is a non-profit body formed in 1899 to provide for and enhance the international professionalism of the golf club manager. The association is the only one of its kind to represent managers on an international scale, according to C.K. Leong, attorney for IAGCM.

The intensive six-week course will begin Oct. 1 and conclude in mid-November. According to Leong, the program is

Continued on page 5

Former ranch may serve as backdrop for eco-showdown

By J. BARRY MOTHES

KNIGHTS FERRY, Calif. — A historic Stanislaus County cattle ranch has become the scene of what could be a landmark legal shootout over development of golf courses on farmland.

Plans to build a 600-acre golf resort on the hilly, dry terrain of Willms Ranch near Knights Ferry have put state farmers, environmentalists and the attorney general's deputies on the same team in a fight against developers and county supervisors.

Who wins may determine what can go on state-protected farmland in the future. The legal battle also may decide whether landowners will get tax breaks for putting recreation developments, such as golf courses, on agricultural land.

The National Audubon Society filed a lawsuit to stop the Willms Ranch project but received an adverse ruling from a Stanislaus County Superior Court judge. From there, the environmental group appealed its case to the 5th District Court of Appeals in Fresno. The California Farm Bureau and the state have joined in support of the Audubon appeal.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, the Willms family wants to build a world-class golf course and resort called Wildcat Creek Resort on the 2,500-acre ranch it has owned since the mid-1800s. The plans include a public 18-hole golf course, driving range, restaurant, bar, meeting room, tennis courts and swimming pool.

State officials said the project is symbolic of the disintegration of the Williamson Act, a 1965 state law that gives a tax break to farmers who promise to keep their land in agricultural production for 10 years.

The project was approved by the county Planning Commission and

Continued on page 6

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. The publisher assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material or prices quoted in the newspaper. Contributors are responsible for proper release of proprietary classified information. Copyright 1994 by United Publications Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction, in whole and in part, without the written permission from the publisher is expressly prohibited.

Reprints and permission to reprint may be obtained from Managing Editor, *Golf Course News*, P.O. Box 997, Yarmouth, ME 04096. Back issues, when available, cost \$5 each within the past 12 months, \$10 each prior to the past 12 months. Back issue orders must be paid in advance either by check or charged to American Express, Visa or MasterCard.

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.

groundkeepers

VERSALOK segmental retaining walls provide erosion control and help to enhance any recreational environment. Solid units offer unmatched design flexibility and require no mortar or footings for installation.

For a FREE Design and Installation Guide, contact us at:

VERSALOK® Retaining Wall Systems
PO Box 9220 • North St. Paul, Minnesota 55109
(612) 770-3166 • (612) 770-4089 fax
(800) 770-4525 toll free

CIRCLE #102


Club Selection is Everything.
The Kirby Marker System gives golfers a reason to select yours.

If you're still using stakes, sprinkler heads or fairway disks to mark yardage, you're missing a big opportunity — An opportunity to make the game more enjoyable for your golfers, and give them a reason to prefer your course.

The Kirby Marker System has been installed at hundreds of courses around the world, including the Pebble Beach Resort® Courses.

Golfers are universally delighted with the immediate and precise yardage distances that the System provides. Owners report time savings of up to 40 min. per round, resulting in increased revenue. Superintendents praise the collapsible design, which allows mowers to drive right over it.

Make the choice that makes a difference for you and your golfers. Call us today for a complete brochure.

 **The Kirby Marker System**
The Finishing Touch

6108 Avenida Encinas • Carlsbad, CA 92009 • 800.925.4729

CIRCLE #103

Tatum, JMP plan private walking course in Monterey

MONTEREY, Calif. — Imagine, a golf course where all except those with physical disabilities would be required to walk ... with caddies.

That's the plan at an exclusive golf course proposed by developers of Rancho San Carlos on the scenic south ridge of Carmel Valley. An 18-hole golf course and 15,000-square-foot clubhouse are part of a use-permit application submitted to the county by the Rancho San Carlos limited partnership composed of the Pacific Union Co. of San Francisco and Daishinpan Ltd. Inc., a financial firm based in Osaka, Japan.

Sandy Tatum, former president of the U.S. Golf Association, is working with the J. Michael

Poellot Golf Design on the project. Tatum envisions the club as a private, proprietary club with about 250 members from around the world.

Several landowners near the proposed golf course site have said they oppose the proposal because of concerns that runoff of pesticides, fertilizer and irrigation water (some of it treated sewage) could contaminate nearby watersheds that provide water to the peninsula. There have also been concerns raised about the effect on the wildlife habitat, including eagles. A draft environmental report by Jones and Stokes of Sacramento is expected later this month, with hearings on the development as early as July.

Calif. county to bolster public golf portfolio with five courses

With as many as five public golf courses proposed for development and others possibly on the horizon, golf is becoming the new growth industry in Ventura County.

Golf courses are being proposed by the county, some cities and private developers. Each says the demand is high, and some even say there is potential for Ventura County to become a golf destination, though not on the scale of Palm Springs or Myrtle Beach,

S.C. A 1992 study released by the county said at least seven courses are needed to ease overcrowding on county courses. Golfers play 1.2 million rounds annually on Ventura County's 13 public courses. By comparison, the Coachella Valley has more than 80 public golf courses.

Some of the courses being proposed or built are:

- Camarillo Regional Golf Course. The county will offer the developer a ground lease and get a split of the revenue.

- A proposed 18-hole course on 151 acres in Thousand Oaks would be a joint project between the city and county.

- Moorpark. Two courses proposed here will be privately owned public layouts.

Asian conference

Continued from page 3

designed for fresh university graduates interested in a management career, experienced managers looking to enhance their skills, and club owners interested in further their knowledge of club operations.

Attendees will receive valuable instruction from industry experts in the areas of club operations, food & beverage, agronomy and accounting. Amongst the panel of experts leading instruction will be two well known members of the U.S. golf industry: Larry Gerstner, co-author of "Club Operations and Management;" and Mike Peterson, assistant director at the PGA National Academy of Golf and former director of Junior Golf for the PGA of America.

Conferees will also have the opportunity to network with managers who run some of the top clubs in Asia-Pacific and tour existing operations in the region. The hospitality portion of the course will be administered by the International Institute of Golf Course, Hotel & Resort Management.

The program will be officiated by Dato' Dr. Affifuddin bin Hj. Omar, parliamentary secretary to the Malaysian Ministry of Finance, who holds his doctorate degree from Cornell University. Graduation certificates will be presented by Malaysia's Deputy Minister of Human Resources, Dato' M. Mahalingham.

Lloyd Daser, general manager of the Pan Pacific Glenmarie Resort, is providing attendees a special rate of US\$22.50 per night with breakfast on a triple sharing basis. In addition, the IAGCM has secured special arrangements plane fares through Malaysia Airlines System. Registration is encouraged before the May 28 deadline.

For more information, contact Simon Hanley at IAGCM administrative center here in Kuala Lumpur by calling 603-443-7000, or faxing 603-443-7001.

Talk about being ahead of your time.

When Pace® was first introduced, it became the best Pythium control you could buy. (And its water-soluble packaging also made it the most convenient.)

But we've only now come up with a container that's just as perfect.

Our solution is on your left. What it lacks in excitement, it makes up for in savings.

The actual product hasn't changed. It still combines the systemic power of Subdue® with the contact properties of Fore® in a water-soluble package.

Only now, Pace is just as healthy for your budget as it is for your turf.

So this year, try Pace.

We improved it by changing the part that goes in the trash. Not the part that goes on your course.



CIRCLE #104