

Court rules pro golfer may use golf car

By BOB SPIWAK

A judge in U.S. District Court, Eugene, Ore., has ruled that professional golfer Casey Martin must be allowed to use a golf car in Qualifying School competition.

Martin, captain of the Stanford University golf team which included Tiger Woods, has a con-

dition which causes great pain after he has walked a few holes, said his attorney and longtime family friend, William Wiswall, of Eugene.

Martin's request to the PGA to use a cart was denied, said Wiswall, and a suit was filed in District Court under the Americans with Disabilities Act. The

disease, Klippel-Trenaunay-Webber Syndrome is one "...which limits the plaintiff's ability to walk," according to court documents.

The Professional Golfers' Association filed a motion to dismiss the complaint as well as a motion to change venue, both of which were denied by judge Thomas Coffin.

Martin was competing in the

third round of the Hooters Tour, which made him eligible for the Nike Tour, the next step in qualifying for the PGA Tour. Should he finish in the top 35 on the Nike Tour, he would receive his PGA Tour card, said his attorney.

At press time, a trial date had not yet been set, but attorney Wiswall said he expected the trial early in 1998.

Garl layout first public track for many years in N.C. county

DURHAM, N.C. — Durham County has its first new public golf course in decades with The Crossings Golf Club at Grove Park, a semi-private 18-hole facility.

The Ron Garl-designed par-72, 6,700-yard course, located on N.C. 98 about 5 miles east of N.C. 70, opened to limited play in November. The Crossings has a driving range, practice areas, 4,000-square-foot clubhouse and covered outdoor pavilion.

Garl actually faced a unique challenge at The Crossings. He was hired by the second developer, RDC Golf Management of Parsippany, N.J., to finish a course that had already been routed. Garl threw out six of the original 18 holes and made changes to the other 12, creating a rolling layout that he says challenges golfers to use every club and every shot in their bag.

Indiana track to undergo facelift

COLUMBUS, Ind. — With the leadership of new manager Mickey Powell, the 27-hole public Otter Creek Golf Course is undergoing a "rebirth."

Powell has implemented a vigorous improvement program including a fleet of new golf cars, new golf programs, new golf director, clubhouse renovations and renovations to 18 of the facility's 27 holes. The upgrade is expected to cost less than \$1.5 million and be completed by the end of 1999.

Otter Creek's original 18 holes were designed by Robert Trent Jones and opened in 1964. In 1995, nine more holes designed by Rees Jones opened.

Powell was actually Otter Creek's first golf professional in 1964 at the age of 23. He stayed until 1973 and in the ensuing 25 years built and ran the Golf Club of Indiana in Zionsville, served as chairman of the PGA Championship and president of the PGA of America while being inducted to the Indiana Golf Hall of Fame.

Work on the first nine holes in the renovation is expected to start next August with work on the second nine set for August 1999.

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