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**Horse Power**

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**Summer 2005**



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# *michigan* **GOLFER**

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**Michigan Golfer**  
is produced by

**Great Lakes Sports Publications, Inc.**

**GLSP Advertising & Business Office**

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**Michigan Golfer** is published online four times a year by **Great Lakes Sports Publications, Inc.**, 3588 Plymouth Rd, #245, Ann Arbor, MI 48105-2603.

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**Back Issues:** May be ordered by sending \$5.00 with your name, address and issue requested to **Michigan Golfer**, 3588 Plymouth Road, #245, Ann Arbor, MI 48105-2603.

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Cover: A horse is used to restore bunkers at Christiana Creek CC, Elkhart, Indiana. Photo by Carter Sherline / Frog Prince Studios.



# Horse Power

**By Art McCafferty**

**Photos by Carter Sherline /  
Frog Prince Studios**

**I**n 1894, some pioneering Michigan golfers teed it up at Roaring Brook Course in Harbor Springs. Roaring Brook Course is gone now, but area courses Wequetonsing Golf Club and Harbor Point Golf Course still remain. According to Nancy Duray of Harbor

Point and “Red” Wilson of Wequetonsing, both of these Harbor Springs courses came on board in 1896. Thus began the saga of golf course construction in Michigan.

At that time a golf course was built using horses and the tools of the day, scrappers, discs and plows. These were the tools of Tom Bendelow. Dave Foulis, Donald Ross, Willie Park Jr. and other architects during the pre-automotive years.

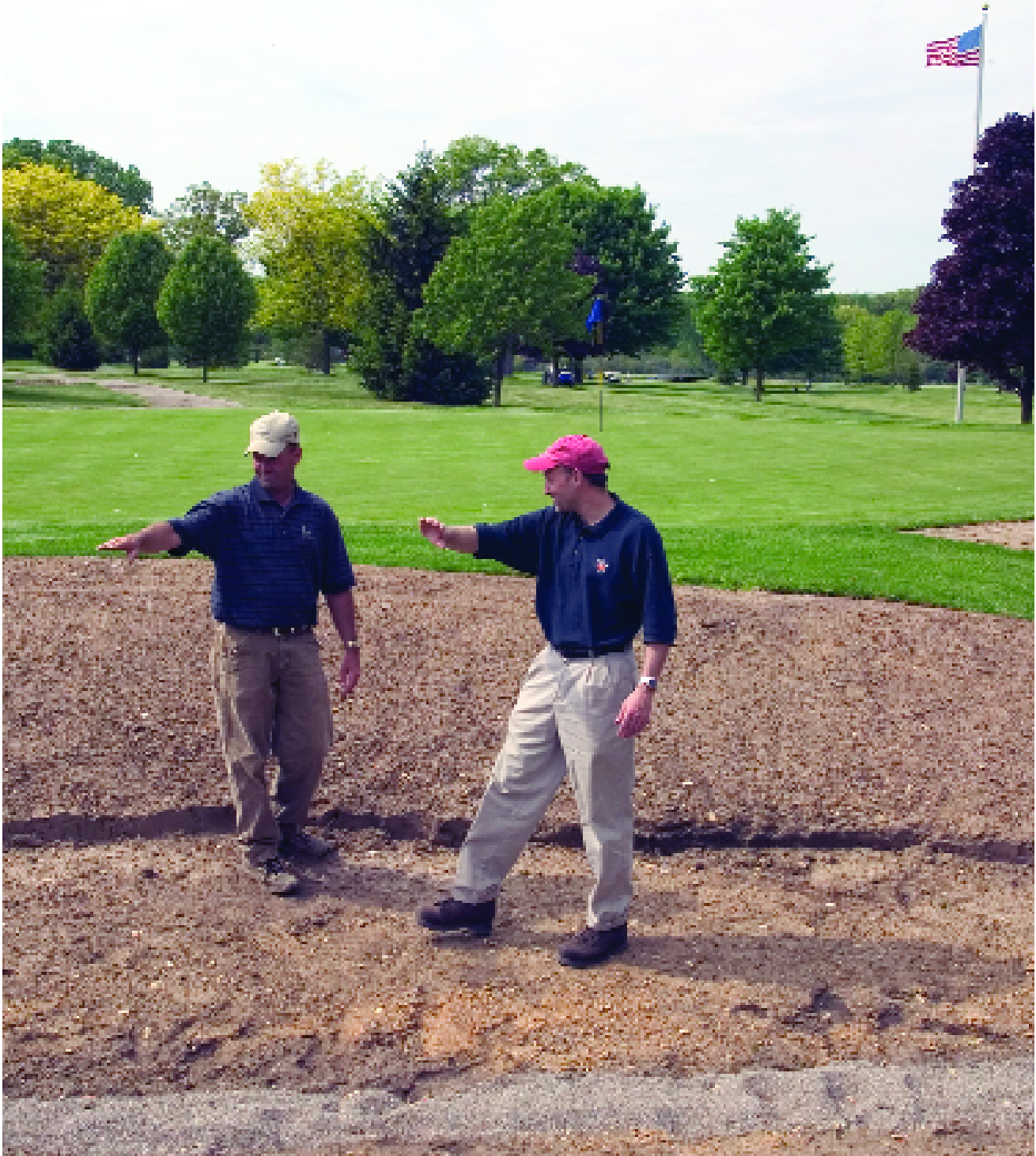
We had the opportunity to revisit those construction times, when we were invited to Elkhart, Indiana’s Christiana Creek CC. The golf course was in the process of bunker restoration on this William Langford 1917 course. Golf course architect, Paul Albanese, of Albanese & Lutzke, was overseeing the bunker restoration. Albanese was intrigued by an idea that construction boss, Daniel Grassi, proposed. Grassi thought it would be interesting to bring in a couple of Belgian horses to scrape out

the old bunkers and reshape the new ones.

Albanese, a Harvard educated golf architect, had always wondered how the older golf courses were built, and now he had the opportunity to find out first hand.

Throughout the course of the morning he worked with the horses scrapping out the old bunkers and then reforming them. The day went surprising well, and all, including members of the club, enjoyed the show.

The Michigan Golfer Television Show was on hand to tape the event, and we can show you what we saw. Just click on to <http://michigangolfer.tv/2005shows/christiana/>. *MG*



Golf course architect Paul Albanese (right) works with the crew to reshape the Christiana Creek CC bunkers.

# Michigan Golf Hall of Fame Inducts Aldridge, Garety, Matthews, and Roth



Indianwood Golf & Country Club is owned by Stan Aldridge. He brought the U.S. Women's Open there on two occasions and is in line to host it again.

**A** mixed foursome was inducted into the Michigan Golf Hall of this year at the Indianwood Golf & Country Club. They were:

## Stan Aldridge

Stan Aldridge is the owner of Indianwood, a golf course he restored to its former glory after buying it

in 1981. He had a second nine built by Jerry Pate and Robert Cupp. At his Oscoda resort, Lakewood Shores, he added two new courses, The Gables and Blackshire, to the growing list of courses. And in 1989 his Indianwood Golf and Country Club hosted the U.S. Women's Open. The club has hosted the Michigan PGA Championship ten times and was the site of the 1930 Western Open.

Aldridge was also instrumental in establishing the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame, being generous with financial support and encouraging participation of the Michigan golf community.

**Video:**

<http://michigangolfer.tv/2005shows/ghf/stan/>

## Joan Garety

The Spartans of East Lansing were celebrating this highly popular selection into the Hall. Joan Garety established a rich history of competitive golf accomplishments at MSU. The MSU Golf Team won the Big Ten Championship each year that she played.

**Video:**

<http://michigangolfer.tv/2005shows/ghf/joan/>

**Garety's Golf Highlights:**

Women's Michigan Amateur  
Champion 1982, 1987  
Michigan Women's Golf  
Association Champion 6 times  
GAM Tournament of Club Champions 3 times  
GAM Mid Amateur Champion 2004  
GAM Honor Roll 10 times  
GAM Player of the Year 1997, 1999  
Atlas Cup Team 15 times  
USGA Mid-Amateur Qualifier 9 times  
ISGA State Team of Michigan 5 times  
Grand Rapids City Champion 9 times  
Michigan State University Scholar Athlete Alumni Award, 2000

## Jerry Matthews



Jerry Matthews, while working with his father and then within his own firm, has been involved in designing or renovating almost 200 golf courses.

The maestro of Michigan golf architecture, Jerry Matthews, is coming into an era where his accomplishments are being robustly celebrated.

Matthews, a past president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects, has for the most part kept his design work in Michigan, with only a few forays into Alaska, West Virginia and Indiana. Working with his dad and then eventually his own firm, Natural Course Design, Matthews has been involved in designing or remodeling over 200 courses in Michigan.

The accolades are rolling in for Jerry Matthews. Last year, his Timberstone Golf Course was selected by Golf Digest as one of the 17 courses in America to which they awarded 5 Stars. In December 2004, his Timberstone Golf Course was named the Golf Course of the Year by the Michigan Golf Course Owners Association. In May he was elected as a Fellow of the American Association of Golf Course Architects.

**Video:**

<http://michigangolfer.tv/2005shows/ghf/jerry/>



**Jeff Roth is simply one of Michigan's greatest players.**

## **Jeff Roth**

As depicted in his 2004 win of the Michigan PGA in 2004 at Grand Traverse Resort, Jeff Roth is a savvy and veteran golfer who has done well. He has won 11 Michigan PGA sanctioned events.

*\*Note: The information on the Michigan Golf Hall of Fame website was used in preparation of this article.  
<http://michigan-golf-foundation.com>*

### **Video:**

<http://michigangolfer.tv/2004shows/show23/>

### **Jeff Roth's Accomplishments:**

GAM Junior Champion 1973  
Michigan All-State High School Team 1974, 1975  
Michigan Open Champion 1998, 2004  
Michigan PGA Champion 1998, 1999, 2001, 2003  
Yamaha Golf Classic Champion 1987, 1988  
Qualified 5 times National PGA Championship  
Fuller Cup Team 18 times  
PGA Cup Team 3 times



## 2005



Vanessa Bell & Tony Jacklin

### Destination Golf

- Grayling Golf-Grayling CC, Fox Run, Grandview and Twin Birch
- Ireland Golf & the Ryder Cup with Vanessa Bell

### Michigan Golf Hall of Fame Series

- Dan Pohl with Jack Berry
- Elaine Crosby with Jack Berry
- Jerry Matthews with Jack Berry
- Stan Aldridge with Jack Berry
- Joan Garety with Jack Berry

### Michigan Golf History

- The Ryder Cup Opening Ceremonies with Vanessa Bell
- Arnold Palmer and the Turning Point Invitational
- Memories of the Ryder Cup with Vanessa Bell
- The Irish Invasion of the Henry Ford
- An Evening with Tom Doak

### Golf Architects and Their Courses

- The Natural with Jerry Matthews
- The Majestic Golf at Lake Walden with Jerry Matthews
- Timberstone Golf Course with Jerry Matthews
- The Tribute Golf Course with Gary Koch
- The Loon Golf Club with Mike Husby
- The Concession with Tony Jacklin, Jack Nicklaus and Vanessa Bell
- True North Golf Club with Jim Engh
- Sundance Golf Course with Jerry Matthews

### Tournament Golf

- 2005 Bay Mills Open Players Championship
- 2005 Detroit Newspapers Michigan Open
- Treetops Par - 3 Amateur

# The Magnificent Red Hawk, Redux



Photo by Art McCallarty

Art Hills with PGA Professional, Jody Ellis, host Michigan Media Championship at Red Hawk.

## By Mike Duff

**G**olfing up north is a privilege for me. Southeastern Michigan, where I reside, offers plenty of terrific golf

courses to choose from, but when I have the chance to travel north to experience the deep woods, abundant vegetation and the spectacular terrain and beauty of the northern courses, I jump at the chance. One course in partic-

ular that I love to play is Red Hawk—located 5 miles from Lake Huron on Davison Road in East Tawas. Arthur Hills carved this beauty out of 205 acres of forest in the classic style of courses of the 1920's and 30's.

I got my chance again to play Red Hawk earlier this month when I attended the 2005 Michigan Media Championship event sponsored by Red Hawk and the Iosco County Community Foundation. The Foundation serves the Iosco County residents in the areas of Education, Healthcare, Arts & Humanities, Lakes and Rivers, Recreation and Youth. Print and broadcast personalities from around the state were there not only to enjoy the golf but also to lend support to the community and to promote golf around the state. Arthur Hills, the course architect, was also on hand to help celebrate this event. Heidi Dewald and Jody Ellis deserve a lot of credit and thanks for making the Michigan Media Championship a huge success.

Red Hawk was a splendor choice to hold this event and show off its magnificent venue and to draw attention to the Arthur Hills Michigan Golf Trail courses that are located throughout the Midwest. [http:// www.ArthurHillsTrail.com](http://www.ArthurHillsTrail.com)

Voted "The 4th Best Public Course in Michigan" in 2001, Red Hawk may now be the best in Michigan based on what I experienced. Red Hawk's beauty, quality, and challenge provide golfers with the total package.

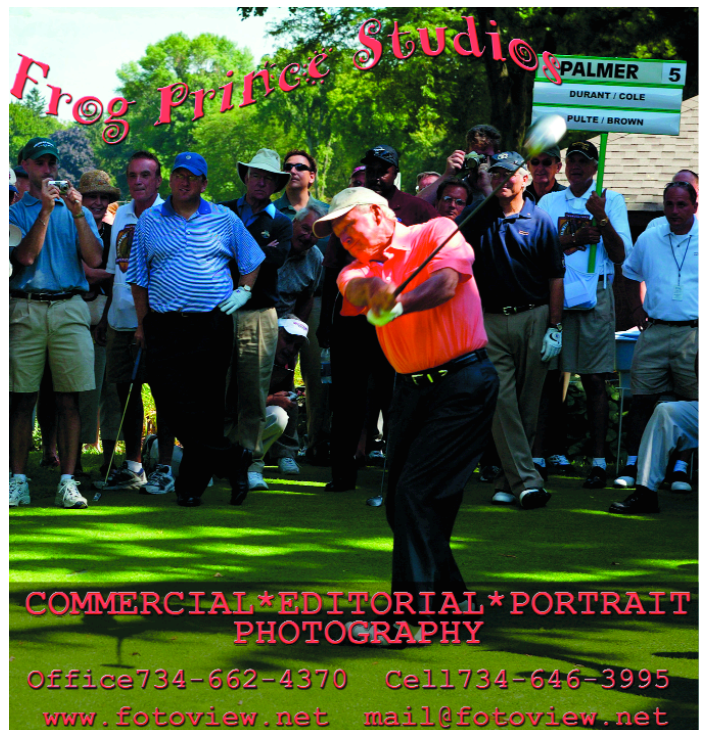
Trying to distinguish my favorite holes becomes a serious challenge because each one has a unique blend of pine, oak, maple, beech and birch trees lining the fairways. Greens provide generous landing areas for your approach shots. I must, in all good conscience, call your attention to three holes that stand out in my mind.

Hole number 3 is by far my favorite and can only be compared to the signature hole (Hole Number 6) at the Robert Trent Jones course at Treetops. You must be accurate, or this par three will turn into an easy double or triple bogey. This is a spectacular golf hole.

Number seven is next. A par 5 is the longest hole on the course and can be even longer depending on the winds. You must get within 170 yards of the green on your second shot or you're facing a blind shot downhill into a slight dogleg left green.

The back nine sets up a little differently and offers some unique shot making strategies. However, the hole that makes you work for every shot is number sixteen. A par 5 has you aiming right of a fairway bunker that sits 40 yards in front of the wetland area. Your second shot must be long in order to have a full swing into an elevated green that is difficult to hold.

I could go on, but you need to experience Red Hawk for yourself. I assure you that you won't be disappointed in the course and all the amenities that go with it. The course is in great shape and the service is exceptional. I can't wait to play it again and again and again..... *MG*



## New Courses



Hole Number 3 at Sundance

# Jerry Matthews and Sundance

**By Mike Terrell**  
**Photos by Mike Brown**

**T**he golf course construction boom of the 1990s – when the state of Michigan led the nation in new course construction is long over – but that didn't stop A-Ga-Ming Golf Club from forging ahead with the construction of

its second 18-hole course.

The new Sundance course, designed by one of Michigan's best known golf architects Jerry Matthews, is slated to open in early June. It will join the club's other 18-hole course The Torch, which made its debut in 1986.

The Torch was designed by former PGA champion Chick Harbert and

developed by then-owner Bill Siebenthaler.

The new course, which was built just to the west of The Torch, is along the same rolling bluffs that offer such great views of Torch Lake from the present course.

“You'll not only still get some great views of Torch Lake from Sundance, but it's opened up some



### Hole Number 16 at Sundance

spectacular views of Grand Traverse Bay as well,” enthused owner Mike Brown, who along with his partner Larry Lively took over the reigns of A-Ga-Ming in 1996. “We saw a need for a second course, interest rates on borrowed money were low, and we forged ahead with the new development.

“We were sending our package customers off to other courses, because golfers like variety,” he explained. “It seemed the right time to develop a second course and offer them more variety at A-Ga-Ming Golf Club instead of sending them off elsewhere.”

The new Sundance course involves a combination of rolling

link-style terrain and northern Michigan hardwoods.

“It’s a very open links-style course that is comparable to Forest Dunes, the Tom Weiskopf course east of Grayling, or Gary Player’s Wolverine at Grand Traverse Resort,” beamed Brown as we discussed the new course. “That’s heady company, but I think they are most like what golfers will experience when they play Sundance.”

With its more open layout Brown feels that it will appeal to a wider segment of the golfing public.

“It’s not as tight as The Torch. The average golfer will be able to spray a few balls around the course, but still be able to recover,”

offered Brown. “It’s a very playable course, even though there is a lot of sand on it.”

Matthews, who’s designed nearly 100 courses with most of them being in Michigan, laid out the course to appeal to a wide variety of golfers.

“This is one of the best properties I’ve worked with,” he told me last summer as we sat on the deck of A-Ga-Ming’s club house overlooking Torch Lake. “I’m constantly surprised at how many places you can be on the golf course where the views are absolutely amazing. I’ve just accentuated what Mother Nature had already put here.”

From the tips the new Sundance



### Hole Number 13 at Sundance

course will measure around 7,000 yards down to a very manageable 5,000 yards from the forward tees, according to PGA pro Lavelly.

“We want it to appeal to all skill levels,” he added. “We will have five sets of tees so the golfer can pretty much customize the yardage to a comfortable distance.”

Sundance will feature fescue-covered mounds, wide fairways, large greens, 110 strategically placed bunkers, large ponds, wetlands and a couple of huge waste bunkers.

“The course kind of dazzles you with its views and topography,” added Brown.

Both owners feel that number 17

is probably their signature hole.

“It’s a picturesque 210-yard, par-three playing from tees high atop a wooded ridge that offers wonderful views of Torch Lake,” Brown enthused. “From the tee it drops about 80-some feet onto a large green surrounded by large maples and cedars.”

Hole number nine may be one of the most interesting. The tee-shot is a forced carry over wetlands through a narrow tree-lined chute to reach the fairway, and it’s uphill all the way to the green.

A huge 15-acre practice center will be available later in the summer. It will feature a driving range, putting green, chipping

green and practice bunkers. A new 7,000-square-foot clubhouse is also scheduled to start construction this fall, and they also have approval to build 52 condos around the new course with 10 residential lots located on the north side of the property.

For more information on the scheduled opening of the new Sundance course or to book tee times, call (231) 264-5081 or click on [www.a-ga-ming.com](http://www.a-ga-ming.com). **MG**

#### Video:

<http://michigangolfer.tv/2004shows/show24/>

# Macatawa Legends Offers Epic View



Photo by Ray Hearn Golf Designs

Macatawa Legends, Hole Number 3

**By Kelly Hill**  
*Managing Editor*

**B**egin your experience at Macatawa Legends Golf & Country Club by visiting the clubhouse. From your elevated perch, look about you. Before you are the golf course's starting and finishing holes.

In addition to the pristine, large lake before you are the holes that open and close each nine: holes 1, 9, 10 and 18. It is a view unique to Macatawa Legends, Ray Hearn's newest design, which is set to open, just north of Holland, this summer.

"Nowhere in Michigan are you

able to find a golf course with a more epic view of both starting and grand finishing holes," Hearn said. "Once you complete your round and enjoy dinner in the majestic dining area you may never want to leave this uniquely beautiful view."

A private club that, eventually, will be surrounded by homes, the golf course incorporates lakes, formal sand bunkers, sparkling sand dune formations and subtle, although memorable landforms.

The course's proximity to Lake Michigan was an important aspect of Hearn's design. "The influence of wind on an open site was studied and significantly integrated in

the design development of each hole," Hearn said.

Designed with five sets of tees, the par-72 course will play anywhere from 5,019-7,196 yards. "The ultimate goal of every golf course architect is to create a very pleasurable experience in beautiful environments and settings while fairly challenging all levels of golfing ability," Hearn said. "We believe each hole at Macatawa Legends Golf & Country Club will yield a truly unique and memorable experience."

**Video- Interview with Ray Hearn:**  
<http://michigangolfer.tv/2005shows/wmgs/>

# Mistwood Golf Course Adds Lodging And New Par-3 Course

By Mike Terrell

While it may not be on the order of a new 18-hole golf course, Mistwood, located near Lake Ann, is also quietly making some great strides in becoming a complete resort.

New this season are the two first buildings in a planned development consisting of 24 two-bedroom, two-bath Villas, which will be packaged for “stay and play plans,” according to owner Sherm Baarstad.

The new development will also eventually include eight two-bedroom, two-bath Cottages, 18 more single-family home sites and a brand new Par-3 golf course.

Called the Little Nine, the course is currently under construction with a planned opening in August. The Villas and some of the home sites front the Little Nine.

“We’ve waited a long time to accomplish this, but we’re now becoming a complete resort,” said Baarstad, who first opened the golf course in 1993. “We’ve always had great golf courses and all the other amenities, including a nice club house with a pro-shop, lounge and restaurant, but we always

lacked the lodging. And, there isn’t much of a choice in our immediate area.”

The two-bedroom Villas are about 1,340-square-foot and will accommodate up to six golfers. Completely furnished, they are listed at \$199,000 and being sold through the golf course.

The 1,500-square-foot Cottages are like condos with an association taking care of the grounds and exterior of the building. Options are available for the individual units to have a basement and a loft for more space. They start at \$249,900.

The Little Nine Par-3 golf course will have holes ranging from 60 to 125 yards, according to Baarstad.

“It will be a fun course to play, something that the whole family can enjoy,” he said. “It will also be a great place to learn the game without feeling intimidated on a regular course.”

Although a fee for the Little Nine had not yet been established, Baarstad indicated that a parent and a couple of kids will be able to play for about \$15 or maybe less.

“We want to make it affordable so it gets lots of use,” he added, “from both house guests and playing guests.”

Mistwood went through a few financial pains in the late 1990s, but that is all behind them now, according to Baarstad.

“We’ve reorganized with fewer partners and the future looks bright for us; especially with the new housing development and now being able to offer stay and play packages,” he enthusiastically explained when asked about the past problem. “It’s an exciting time for Mistwood.”

Mistwood has 27-holes laid out in three distinctive nine-hole groupings. The complex includes a practice range with target greens, sand bunkers and three putting greens. The club house includes a pro-shop, the Sunset Bar and Grill, which is open for dinners as well as the golfing public, and Bogey’s Snack Bar. Golf Digest has repeatedly rated Mistwood as four-star golf value.

For more information on Mistwood, the new development or to book a tee time, call (231) 275-5500 or log onto <http://www.mistwoodgolf.com>. **MG**



New Courses

# Have Some Fun at The Mines



Photo: courtesy of The Mines Golf Club

## Hole Number 12 at The Mines

**By Kelly Hill**

*Managing Editor*

It is all about fun.

For course architect Mike

DeVries of Traverse City, the game of golf is fun. And designing a place at which to play it, also is fun.

DeVries has had great fun

designing and constructing The Mines Golf Club, a public course in Grand Rapids that is scheduled to open this fall.

Built over a portion of a former

gypsum mine on the west edge of the city, the land was designated strictly for recreational use, as countless mining tunnels traverse the property, 140 feet below the surface.

Rarely is such an opportunity available just five minutes from the heart of a city.

“What is exciting about this is that it’s so close to the metro cen-

ter,” DeVries said. “The golf course will have a lot of variety. It will be very playable for every level of player. You are going to need a wide range of shots to play there. People will have to make a real good variety of shots, so the fun factor will be there.

“It’s about having fun,” DeVries said. “It’s about having fun and trying something new.”

In addition to the 18-hole, par-70 course that will play anywhere from 4,660-6,662 yards, a nine-hole, par-3 course also is being constructed. “Because this was mine property, it has been there for 150 years, while they worked the ground under it,” DeVries said.

“This is exciting for Grand Rapids.” **MG**



Photo courtesy of The Mines Golf Club

Hole Number 15 at The Mines

# SLICE OF LIFE



By Terry Moore

Let's call this my "bon voyage" column. You see, I'm heading out of town on a two week cruise (No, not down the Erie Canal, smart-aleck) and will be putting my clubs away. It's likely my golf game won't be there when I return but what the heck. Such are penances of thirty-three years of matrimony and wedded bliss. But before I finish my packing let me share a few departing thoughts.

The most inspirational and "feel good" story so far this year for me was Mike Reid's win at the Seniors PGA Championship at

Laurel Valley. Reid is the epitome of the plodding, straight-hitting, ever-grinding Tour player. I will always remember his heart-breaking loss at the PGA Championship at Kemper Lakes in 1989 when he held the lead in the final round only to lose it to Payne Stewart when Reid went three-over par on the last three holes. Afterwards, Reid broke down when speaking to the media about his devastating loss. Reid never won another Tour event and he remained on the fringes of the game until he re-emerged on the Champions Tour last year when he won \$187,000 and had one top-10 finish.

I wasn't at the PGA Seniors but I read the transcript of Reid's final post-round press conference and found it fascinating. There were several excerpts that struck me. The first is Reid talking about how he was struggling out

on the Champions Tour and the advice his wife finally gave him: "She said, 'You're just not playing your game.' And so I rededicated myself to just playing my game. And I think that part of it is keeping four woods in the bag and two wedges. Even though it's a dinosaur collection, it might look better in a wax museum, that's my game." Isn't that another enduring life and golf lesson: learning to play within yourself and not try to play like someone you're not? For Mike "Radar" Reid, that meant hitting it not long but straight and even using fairway woods to reach the long par-4s.

Also in the interview, Reid summed up his game and style of play: "I'm the turtle. There are a lot of hares out there, but if I were you, I wouldn't put any money on the turtles because they don't win most of the time. But once in a

while, I can't account for it....there are days like today..."

Mike Reid was in my thoughts the other day when I had a career round of golf. The round came on the heels of a dreaded front nine in northern Michigan when my game was so poor my playing partner threatened to call the "track vet" and put me out of my misery. But I settled down on the back nine and finished in respectable fashion. I woke up the next day feeling some acute lower back pain and wondering if I would make it through my last round of golf before the cruise. I even considered canceling the match. But with the help of stretching, ibuprofen and an extended warm-up session, I decided to play and make the best of it. I'm not going to bore you with any hole-by-hole exploits. Instead I just want to share a couple observations.

I play my best golf when

I'm walking; walking helps to slow down my quick tempo. I love it when it's sultry and hot. As Sam Snead once observed, the heat and humidity make me "feel oily." With a sore lower back, the rising heat index was a blessing in disguise.

But most importantly, my swing thoughts were reduced to a bare minimum while tempo became paramount. My playing partner, in contrast, was so exasperated after a poor shot early in the round that he yelled out, "Damn it, I've got 17,000 swing thoughts racing through my head!" When he said these words, what came to mind was a book by a noted psychiatrist I once read titled, "The Unquiet Mind." When you're playing well, the mind is quiet and not racing with numerous swing cues. As I came down the last few holes and with my playing partner graciously rooting me on, it was fun to keep the momentum going and not try to be too careful and too

score-conscious. Tour players know how to stay in the moment and not be afraid to "go low." We amateurs are prone to back off when we're in the midst of a great round. Golf has been a part of my life since I started caddying at the age of ten. It's an amazing game and an incredible journey to say you've recorded your low round of golf some 45 years later.

I've long identified with a player like Mike Reid. A bona fide senior player, I now have five metalwoods in my bag and four wedges. That doesn't leave too many irons in the bag but that's my game.

I'm just a turtle now on cruise control.

*A member of the Golf Writers Association of America and founding editor of Michigan Golfer, Terry Moore can be reached at [tmoore@usxc.net](mailto:tmoore@usxc.net). MG*