

**PITCH MARK**

**"My driving was good, my iron play suspect and my putting half-decent."**  
An underwhelmed Trevor Fisher Jr after winning the recent Seekers Pro-Am



**Flying the flag**

**Been around the world...**



Charl Schwartzel



Trevor Fisher



Gary Matthews and Camilo Villegas

**ERNIE ELS** and **TREVOR IMMELMAN** were in top form at the Tour Championship. Els tied for sixth while 2008 Masters champion Immelman finished a creditable tied 10th. A serious pep talk from his South African caddie **GARY MATTHEWS** and a bold decision to go for the flag at the 17th saw **CAMILO VILLEGAS** seal a playoff victory over **SERGIO GARCÍA** for back-to-back victories on the PGA Tour.

**CHARL SCHWARTZEL** and **LOUIS OOSTHUIZEN** celebrated a return of form with top 10s at the British Masters. Schwartzel's third-round 66 included a nine-hole loop of just 29 shots, while Oosthuizen's closing 66 held two eagles. Schwartzel added a tie for 13th with countryman **THOMAS AIKEN** at the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship a week later.

**PETER KARMIS**, **GRANT VEENSTRA**, **TREVOR FISHER JNR**, **LOUIS DE JAGER** and amateur **JACQUES BLAAUW** all advanced to Second Stage of European Tour Qualifying School, to be held in Spain in November.



**SakPas Safari**

**RIVIERSONDEREND GOLF CLUB**

It's an exotic-sounding place, Rivieronsderend. But for most of us this sleepy dorp in the Western Cape is nothing more than the first rest stop heading along the N2 out of Cape Town. But Rivieronsderend has two very well-kept secrets.

First, there's that awesome pie shop just a few steps east of the hulking Shell Ultra City. Spread the word. Then there's the surprisingly verdant nine-hole golf course, where you may be lucky enough to encounter a pig or three on the fairway.

Its proximity to the sewage pools (pray that the wind plays the game...) may be a factor in the general greenery, but don't be put off. There's something enchanting about the place; most country courses aren't as heavily forested as this one.

The track takes you on a real journey, with the second and third holes poking into a low-income area that was getting pretty festive (think Eric Clapton on full volume, only louder) on the Saturday morning Golf Punk visited. There's an open feel to this part of the course, but the trees close in again as you wind back up the hill towards the clubhouse.

After you complete the closing par-three the bar is a homely, welcoming place to be on one of the club's low-key competition days. The barman will happily tell you all that's great about Rivieronsderend; just don't get him started on the horrors of Cape Town...



**Where?** Rivieronsderend, Western Cape  
**Holes** 9 Par 72  
**Length** 2878/2835 (men) 2456 (ladies)  
**Price of a Steelworks** R10  
**Tie in your visit with...** a walk in the surrounding mountains. Follow that river and see where it goes...  
**Chicken pies?** Forget about the clubhouse; there's a legendary pie shop next to the Shell garage on the N2.

**Chicken pie rating**  
  
 They're famous, and rightly so. You'll almost certainly end up buying a box to take home and freeze.  
**Do we like the Club Crest?** The scorecard actually bears some bizarre artwork related to printers Overberg Kartering; it appears to be a space station hovering above the Cape Verde Islands. Full marks.  
**GP's favourite on-course sponsor** Wenkem SA

**YOU LOOK VAGUELY FAMILIAR...**



**Ingrid Diesel**

on the Golf Summit, South Africa's annual golf forum at Fancourt.

**WHAT WOULDN'T I KNOW ABOUT HER?**

Ingrid's standard drink after a round is a glass (or two) of champagne – but don't try and buy her one without having two cherries added first. And three years ago she met Brad Pitt at Fancourt; according to Golf Punk's sources, Brad was instantly smitten.

been in banking and law pre-Fancourt. As we closed for press, rumours of a stint as a swimwear model had still to be confirmed.

**WHAT WOULDN'T I KNOW ABOUT HER?**

Ingrid's worked her way up the Fancourt ladder – she started in 1990 as personal assistant to the then general manager. A year after the Plattners took over, she was appointed CEO – fast going by anyone's standards.

**WHO IS SHE?** CEO at Fancourt, which means she runs Golf Punk's favourite golfing escape. She's also a director, along with the Plattners, which makes her extremely important.

**WHY DOES SHE LOOK SO FAMILIAR?**

The glamorous CEO has been in the position at Fancourt since 1995, so you've probably spotted her if you've been up to the resort. Something every self-respecting South African golfer should have done at least once.

**NO, BUT THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE...**

You might have caught her on television at the 2003 Presidents Cup, as the world's finest golfers descended on George; or speaking

**SO WHAT DOES SHE REALLY DO?**

Travels the world marketing Fancourt, oversees operations at the award-winning resort, keeps an eye on major events – from the Presidents Cup in 2003 to the upcoming Gary Player Invitational – and spends regular time on the fairways, making sure they're up to scratch. As any good CEO should, really.

**SHE'S IN GOLF PUNK – SHE MUST BE PRETTY COOL...**

No-brainer there. Heads up one of the coolest golf resorts on the planet, can play The Links whenever she wants to, has a world-class spa half a lob wedge from her office, and plays a pretty decent game of golf.

**AND IF I BUMP INTO HER?**

Try and score a round at The Links (one of South Africa's definitive golf experiences), and possibly a night in one of the new suites.

**AND BEFORE THAT?**

One of Grahamstown's finest exports, Ingrid's