

# Tiger gets a timeout

## Golf Digest suspends column; green\$ fees uncertain



By **KEITH J. KELLY**

**G**OLF Digest is loosening its ties to **Tiger Woods**, suspending his monthly instructional golf articles while Woods is on leave from professional golf.

But the Condé Nast-owned monthly has not totally severed its connection with Tiger.

Golf Digest has an exclusive long-term contract with Woods valued at \$3 million per year. It declined to say whether Tiger's compensation would be suspended.

"We have nothing to say in regards to Tiger's compensation," said a Condé spokesman.

He did say that Tiger will remain on the magazine's masthead as Playing Editor. No pun intended, we are sure.

The complex contract bars Tiger from doing cover shoots or inter-

views with other sporting or men's magazines. Golf Digest also pays for the glossy programs at his charity golf tournament, flies him first-class to some events, and makes contributions in his name to his foundation and other charities.

Golf Digest suffered public embarrassment this month over a cover photo composite for the January issue that appeared to show Woods and President **Barack Obama** on a green together, with the cover line: "10 Tips Obama Can Take from Tiger."

It referred to an article that had everything to do with winning under pressure and nothing to do with philandering. It shipped to the printer two weeks before Tiger's cheating scandal erupted and began showing up at newsstands and in mailboxes as the controversy reached full roar.

The magazine has also been criticized by rivals for not writing about the Tiger scandal on its Web site, running only wire copy.

**Jamie Diaz**, the Golf Digest writer who has covered Woods since he was a 14-year-old prodigy, finally weighed in with an article in the February issue, which was posted online yesterday.

Golf Digest's admission that it is benching Tiger was buried in an editor's note.

**Jerry Tarde**, the longtime editor-in-chief of Golf Digest, did not return a call for comment.

### Clock stops

Last-minute talks between the Newspaper Guild and the New York Times Co. to try to save 26 New York Times News Service jobs to be outsourced to a subsidiary in Florida have apparently collapsed.

Times Senior Vice President **Terry Hayes** gave the Guild a deadline of 5 p.m. yesterday to accept its final and "best offer."

The company, run by Chairman/Publisher Arthur "Pinch" Sulzberger, announced in October that it planned to ax 26 people when it moved its News Service to Gainesville, Fla. The layoffs were separate from the recent 100-job cuts in the Times newsroom.

The Guild said it had offered to have members take a 17-percent wage cut, bringing salaries down to \$75,000 a year. New employees would start at \$64,000 a year.

The Guild said the Times would

save \$5 million over five years, including \$1.5 million in severance.

"The hardball tactics being used by management, which had been seeking a wage reduction to just over \$50,000 annually, caused this to be unworkable," said Guild President **William O'Meara**.

The Times did not return calls by press time.

### What's Next

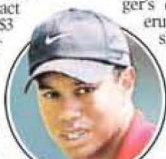
The consortium that is trying to bring magazine- and newspaper-compatible e-readers to market by mid-2010 has a name — for now.

The company is calling itself Next Issue Media, according to Folio's website, but sources tell Media Ink that the company still has not decided on its ultimate brand.

Five publishing companies — Time Inc., News Corp. (which owns The Post), Condé Nast, Meredith and Hearst — are working to ensure that their four-color content can be displayed on a wide variety of e-readers that are expected to be produced by HP, Sony, Apple and others. The devices would rival the current black-and-white readers, including Amazon's Kindle and Barnes & Noble's Nook.

**John Squires**, currently an executive vice president at Time Inc., is heading up the consortium and will formally leave the Time Inc. payroll by Jan. 1.

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**WOODS**



**SULZBERGER**

# Unhealthy market KOs health products bldg.



**BETWEEN THE BRICKS**

**LOIS WEISS**

**G**ARY Barnett's proposed 60-story skyscraper on W. 34th Street — cater-corner to the Javits Center — is apparently kaput. The anchor tenant for the 15-million-foot tower, the World Product Centre, was supposed to take 1 million square feet, but will take advantage of falling rents and lease 300,000 feet elsewhere.

The World Product Centre was proposed as a showcase for health-care products. It boasted obtaining \$100 million from Hewlett-Packard and commitments from a number of subtenants — but obviously not enough to fill the new building.

As we reported in 2007, WPC founder **Israel Green** signed a letter of intent for the 1 million feet. Barnett's Extell Development had architects Kohn Pedersen Fox design a 1,011-foot-tall addition to the skyline; FX Fowle Architects was hired to design the WPC innards. The Greater New York Hospital Association has also been involved in the project as a "joint marketer."

If he doesn't end up in a court battle, Barnett might earn fees while developing or fitting out the alternate location.

A lease for 300,000 feet would fit 300 to 500 companies rather than the original scheme for 1,800.

"The advantages are we can deliver in 18 months and be considerably less expensive for our tenants," WPC CEO **John Strong** told a Nashville newspaper.

Strong, Green, Barnett and the GNYHA did not return calls for comment. Neither did **John Powers** of CB Richard Ellis, who acted as

broker for WPC on the original deal.

As recently as July, WPC bragged it would break ground in November. But the Department of Buildings has a Stop Work order on the site for working without permits in September. Not one permit has been obtained since early 2008 and those were for scaffolding. No "New Building" filing is under review.

Extell also owes an interest-only \$60 million mortgage to New York Community Bank on the site that is due on July 1, 2010, but which documents say could be extended.

The Realm Boutique will create a flagship at 98 Greene Street in SoHo.

The boutique will carry European fashion designers including **Jean-Claude Jitrois**, **Sabbia Rosa** and **Andrew Gn**. Asking rent for the 15-year lease started at \$300 per foot. The tenant was brought to the 3,500-foot multilevel space by **Faith Hope**

**Consolo and Joseph Aquino** of Prudential Douglas Elliman's Retail Division. **Susan Meisel** of Meisel Realty worked for the building owners.

The non-profit Anne Frank Center USA is seeking a sympathetic building owner from which to lease new exhibition, educational and office space.

The organization was formed to honor the memory of the young German girl whose diary recounts her time in a Dutch attic hiding from the Nazis. The book is one of the world's best sellers.

The destination for tourists and school groups is now in a residential loft building at 38 Crosby St. but is searching Downtown for 3,000 feet in a first- or second-floor retail space.

"We are looking for some visibility," said **Robert S. Shapiro** of Grubb & Ellis, who is leading the search.

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**EDGAR BRONFMAN**  
WMG boss.

# Hulu, WMG get their groove on

By **PETER LAURIA**

Known mainly for streaming television shows and movies online, Hulu will feature content from two of the four major record labels after inking a deal yesterday with Warner Music Group.

The WMG deal, which will bring music videos, concerts and other footage from label artists like Muse and Paramore to Hulu, follows a similar agreement with EMI.

But unlike EMI, WMG, which is run by **Edgar Bronfman Jr.**, still lacks a deal with Vevo, the "YouTube for music" owned by Universal Music Group and Sony Music Entertainment.

WMG wants to syndicate its content as widely as possible across the Internet as opposed to farming it out to a single aggregator.

But because WMG's deal with Hulu isn't exclusive, many industry observers are betting Bronfman will eventually strike a deal with Vevo.

Hulu currently gets TV content from NBC, News Corp. and Disney, and all three have stakes in the on-line video service. (News Corp. owns The Post.)

# Big ticket tie-up OK'd

The UK antitrust regulator is reversing a provisional decision to block the merger between Live Nation, the world's biggest concert promoter and venue operator, and Ticketmaster Entertainment.

The Competition Commission said the proposed merger won't result in a substantial lessening of competition in live music retailing.

Live Nation rose 53 percent to \$858, while Ticketmaster rose 7.2 percent to \$12.61.

Bloomberg