Sales of Daconil* turf prove the point. Since it was launched by ICI last year, greenkeepers everywhere have elected to use this turf fungicide based on chlorothalonil. Well you can’t keep a good fungicide down!

Its unique mode of action means that even after years of successful use on fine turf it continues to be effective.

And because of its multi-site action and chemical composition it can be used in sequential spray programmes with total confidence.

The list of turf diseases prevented, controlled and cured is impressive:

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- FUSARIUM PATCH
- LEAF SPOT/MELTING OUT
- FUSARIUM LEAF BLIGHT
- GREY SNOW MOULD
- TAKE-ALL PATCH
- ANTHRACNOSE
- BROWN PATCH
- DOLLAR SPOT

But that’s not all. Daconil turf can be used at any time of the year and is especially useful in spring and autumn when disease incidence is most likely. It has dependable and consistent disease activity and only needs to dry on the leaf to resist heavy rains, morning dew or frequent watering. And because of its liquid formulation it is easy to dilute and apply.

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Daconil turf contains chlorothalonil. Read the label before you buy; Use pesticides safely.

*Trade mark of ICI Research.
Robert Trent Jones Snr.
A Maker of Memories

The golf course architect, Robert Trent Jones Snr., once described by the New York Times as the greatest in the world, is this year's nominee for the 'Old Tom Morris' Award from the Association of Golf Course Superintendents of America.

This rare and profound form of recognition is given to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the game of golf. Past recipients have included Arnold Palmer, Bob Hope, President Gerald Ford and last year, the first lady of golf, Patty Berg.

Trent Jones, a lively rotund 80 years old still travels the world designing golf courses.

He has thirty under construction, including a second course for the King of Morocco, twenty in the planning stage and around 450 completed.

The 27 hole course at Moor Allerton nr. Leeds is his only finished course in Britain, but he is currently working on a public course carved out of a disused rubbish tip, seven miles from London Airport, which when completed will give superb views over Windsor Castle.

Jones, British born emigrated to the USA with his family when he was six. He landed his first job as a caddy at 12 and in 1927 shot the lowest amateur score in the Canadian Open.

Friends urged him to turn professional, but he had already made up his mind he was going to design golf courses, no doubt influenced by a man who had come into his life, Donald Ross already a renowned golf course architect and incidentally a student of old Tom Morris.

Robert Trent Jones is a firm advocate that managing a golf course is a profession. Greenkeepers must be able to diagnose disease, organise soil fertility and manage their staff to oversee current projects.

As an architect he has a simple philosophy. 'Every hole should be a hard par, but an easy bogey!' His greens and tees are always big, water and sand his trade mark, but always placed to penalise the poor shot and at the same time add beauty to his designs.

He continues to log 300,000 air miles a year, briefly alighting here and there in teeming resorts and remote corners to oversee current projects.

During one recent week, he was in Texas and Florida. During the following week, he was scheduled to be in Boston, Spain and California. Between travels, he was at home in Montclair, talking nonstop about the vast new territory that he is turning into fairways and greens.

"I'll retire when they build that last bunker and put me in it!"

All in all, Jones has 20 golf courses under construction around the globe and another 30 in various stages of planning. Assuming that these 50 projects reach full fruition, he will have created a total of 500.

Born in the British Isles (where incidentally, he has recently designed another golf course, in Wales), Jones moved with his family to Rochester, N.Y. At age 12, he landed his first job, as a caddie. Other duties in those younger days included cutting the greens every day with a Worthington mower. One boy pushed. Another pulled.

In an interview with Clay Loyd of Golf Course Management he said, "I didn't know anything about golf, but I used to emulate the pros who gave exhibition matches there - British players like Henry Vardon and Ted Ray".

For 50 cents, Jones bought his first golf club in the pro shop - a 2-iron - and used it for every shot. By age 16, he set a course record for the course. "In the morning, I carried my own bag and shot a 77", he recalls. "In the afternoon, my friend carried my bag, and I had a 69".

In time, he talked Cornell University into allowing him to take a hedonistic course of academic courses of his own devising. Simultaneously, he enrolled in the Rochester School of Art, and to this day his sketch pad is never far from his hand.

"You can't be a great golf course architect without a knowledge of all golf shots", says Jones "You can build a golf course, but you can't build a great one unless you know the golf shots and have the feel. That's what makes my courses harder to play for the pros; I know what's a good golf shot and what's not a good golf shot - and I make it fair!"

What is it like working with the man the New York Times has called the most famous golf course architect in the world? GCM asked one prominent GCSAA member golf course superintendent who was in from the beginning of one course's construction.

"The Jones organization allows you (the Superintendent) to have some creative input, to expand a little on what they're trying to do. They are trying to create modestly priced golf today. Jones is more inclined to work with what nature has given him, as opposed to moving massive amounts of earth. He tries to enhance what's there as opposed to drastically changing it. He's done that very well where we are".

That sounds strangely similar to the way some earlier architects designed golf courses. Among them was Old Tom Morris of St. Andrews. He selected natural green-sites, plotted holes on these sites and arranged them into a circuit - all the while favouring the natural contour of the land. Jones' style, as he describes it, is having a "feel" for golf course design and "knowing how to take the terrain and route the golf course through it, then designing the holes according to strategy and the terrain that you find on the individual holes".

"Too many architects are trying to emulate the dunes of Scotland", says Jones. "Unfortunately, that is not easy to do - and it's frightfully expensive. What's more, they wind up with a mishmash of mounds that look like a bunch of ugly chocolate drops, and a golf course that isn't much fun for the members to play!"

Next on Jones' busy agenda: He plans to write a book. "I'd like to pick my Top 100 golf courses". Jones, who started a book years ago but never completed it, plans to solicit input from professional and amateur golfers, the golf news media and other appropriate sources to provide a "solid base" for his picks.

We are indebted to Golf Course Management and Director of Communications, Clay Loyd of the GCSAA for the material in this article.
The Lancashire coast is famous for its fine quality sand. Blackpool built its holiday reputation on the sea washed deposits, some of Britain's greatest links courses were carved out of the dunes.

Now a twenty five acre, thickly forested site near Southport adjacent to the Fylde coast recently acquired by Rufford Top Dress Supplies, part of the Rowcroft-Hambro Group has been found to hold deposits of one of Britain's finest silica top dressing sands.

The litter from thousands of years of decaying vegetation has also produced a bonus of decomposed leaf mould, ideal for mixing with the sand to produce one of the country's highest quality top dressings for sports turf surfaces, particularly suitable for golf courses.

Surveys have shown that in addition to the hundreds of thousands of tons of sand in the quarry there is also a huge deposit of valuable peat, as yet untouched. Analysis has shown it is regarded as an ideal planting peat as it has been formed from a mixture of bark and sedge because it too lies under the forest.

The quarry owned by the Rowcroft-Hambro (Group) Limited, based in Manchester and the new owners are now determined to break into the top dress market in the UK. They believe they have a number of very real advantages over most of their rivals in the top dress business.

Firstly, with complete control they can extract and process the product and guarantee total consistency of quality. Secondly, they also guarantee to deliver to practically every corner of Great Britain within forty-eight hours and indeed within twenty-four hours to many areas. Lastly, considering the high quality of the product the Company believes it is priced extremely competitively.

The Company has invested heavily to bring the quality of processing up to a high standard. As both sand and soil deposits are lying under a forest, removing brambles and twigs proved difficult, but now at last this has been totally overcome. The final product is a very fine and easy to apply top dress.

As it is a single product with a single price the Company believe it would be advantageous for organisations such as manufacturers and suppliers of horticultural machinery as well as, of course, companies already involved in the marketing of top dress to act as their agents.

They plan to install a bagging plant in the coming weeks and currently deliver loads from five tonnes to twenty-five tonnes in bulk to most parts of the country by road, especially to the North-West, North-East, Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Cumbria which are the main areas already supplied. A fleet of contract lorries is on call to ensure delivery when the top dress is needed.

The Company has already had many glowing reports from golf clubs stating their entire satisfaction with both product and service.

It is the Company's hope that 1987 will be a significant year for them and hopefully by the year end they will have made their mark and will no longer be regarded merely as newcomers but rather as an established name.
Wet, soggy fairways and greens are among the most frequent criticisms made by Britain's golfers. Criticisms perfectly justified, which should not arise if Green Committees only recognised the solutions are readily to hand, though at a price.

Tom O'Brien, Royal Birkdale's Head Greenkeeper had problems with standing water shortly after his appointment to the club. His comments on how to handle the job are simple and to the point. "First find your outlet. There is no point in ripping up the course and installing drainage if there is no place for the water to escape. Only by working back from either a running stream an existing pond or a fully working drainage exit can the problems be overcome".

There are courses where none of these solutions are available and it may be necessary to excavate your own pond. Not such a difficult or expensive operation with the type of mechanical equipment now available on contract hire to the greenkeeper.

Many of our courses were constructed around a hundred years ago on land rejected by the farming community as unsuitable for either cultivation or feeding cattle. They may have installed land drains and if they had most of them have either caved in or become blocked with silt and debris. Although the golf course may have occupied a position of splendid isolation on the fringes of habitation, because of the growth of personal transport, in the form of the car, those isolated sites overlooking golf
A round in one
at St. Andrews

It takes a real professional to bring out the best in any championship course. That's why St Andrews, the home of golf, and many other Championship courses choose RANSOMES—grass machinery for the professional.

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At St Andrews they've found that it also does a great job on the fairways too, where its floating head cutting units make a superb finish.

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YOU'LL FIND US IN ALL THE BEST KEPT PLACES
Using pipelaying machinery now available and the revolutionary 35mm pipe designed and manufactured specifically for drainage by Aqua Pipes Ltd, the draining of sports grounds becomes simple.

A small percentage of their contracting work has always been involved with the drainage of recreational areas, but as the volume of this work increased, they could see the need for a more specialised approach to suit the particular problems associated with sports field surfaces. The major problem is to disperse surface water as quickly as possible which requires drains laid as closely as economically possible, and without disturbance to the playing surface. This can be achieved by installing a drainage system at 6 metre to 10 metre spacings and cross gravel banding with 50mm wide slots at 1 metre to 2 metre spacings, but the installation of the basic drainage system is both expensive and causes major disruption.

To minimise these problems they have developed a 35mm diameter drainage pipe, which can be laid in the bottom of each gravel slot, eliminating entirely the need for larger diameter pipes. Any collector drains can normally be kept off the playing area, for instance at the edge of the rough on Golf Fairways.

In conjunction with the 35mm pipe they have also developed two machines for installation, one machine excavates a trench to a true gradient, controlled by laser, elevates the soil directly into a trailer, lays the pipe and installs the gravel fill in one pass - this machine is ideally suited for areas where gradient is critical. Where gradient is not a problem, a simple trenchless machine is available which draws a slit through the ground and injects the pipe and gravel fill as it passes. As the majority of golf courses enjoy good slopes this system is ideally suited to the drainage of most fairways.

continued on page 20

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SAI Horticulture have revolutionised turf care with an advanced new range of turf foods called Longlife. Longlife is an integrated range of eight different products designed to provide the right nutrient content to meet the needs of all turf throughout the year.

DIDIN® Five of the Longlife turf foods contain a unique new ingredient. DIDIN® gives a better grass colour and a longer more even growth response from one application. Longlife offers value for money to groundsmen and greenkeepers who have more than just the feeding of their grass to think about.

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Livingston, West Lothian EH54 5QW.
Telephone (0506) 39281 Telex 727145
The team enjoyed a fine weekend and Hon. Ass. Sec. Roger Shaw, year went to Ladybank and Scotscraig.

the Scotsturf Exhibition on the 12th 12 Bede Terrace, Ferryhill, Co. Durham DL17 8AJ

November. This was well attended and it all went well. Several members made the most of the two hours delay in returning home from Edinburgh and this may well become an annual event in the future.

A talk by Gillis, the Massey-Ferguson dealers has been arranged for the end of January/start of February. This will be an evening lecture, details later in the newsletter.

Our National Chairman, George Malcolm gave a talk on the 15th January at Brass Castle.

Our冬季 lecture spot was 213x435 26 Loxley Road, Berkhamsted, Herts. HP4 3PS

decanter's and momentoes. Our December lecture was at South (South) Ltd., Ransomes Ltd., and Mr. Derek Prior for their contribution to the prize fund.

The winning combination of Paul Fitzjohn, J. Droy, John Wells and D. Matthews with a score of 65 took the decanter's and momentoes. R. Hughes, J. Booth, J. Nesbitt and R. Lucas, scored 67 to take a carriage clock each, and M. Green, M. Gobey, J. Chapman and A. Burden on 68 won a figurine.

We are also indebted to Mr. Norman Ward, Parkers Ltd., Rigby Taylor's (South) Ltd., Ransomes Ltd., and Mr. Derek Prior for their contribution to the prize fund.

Some 86 members and guests sat down to a splendid Christmas Dinner after which the Club Captain presented the prizes and welcomed all to South Beds. The Section Chairman in reply thanked the Captain and all the Staff for the courtesies extended to us throughout the day.

We are also most grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Geoff Smith for selecting and obtaining some of the prizes, Roland Hughes for a prosperous Raffle, and Ken Bunting for his hard work in organising the Competition.

Our final fixture of 1986 was the Christmas Invitation at South Bedfordshire Golf Club on 11th December, and with 72 competitors playing "TEXAS SCRAMBLE", the event proved to be most enjoyable despite the cold, wet weather.

Bob Goodwin, Head Greenkeeper at Asridge Golf Club at Berkhamsted is on the road to recovery after a session under the surgeon's knife.

I am pleased to report that members turned out in force to listen to Derek Garden when he spoke at our November meeting. Members were very interested to hear all about the Belfry courses and Derek did not disappoint with his very interesting and amusing account of his work. Among the audience were a number of guests including Ron Whitehead, Head Greenkeeper at La Moye Golf Club, Jersey. Ron told me that his last chance to attend a Section Meeting was over ten years ago, when he was a member of the Sheffield Section.

Also making a difficult journey to attend the meeting were several of our members from the south. Members support for these evenings is very much appreciated by your Committee and plans are now being made for the next year's programme.

The December lecture was well attended and an excellent buffet was kindly provided.

The new Association came into being in January 1987, we are to see the start of a new chapter in the history of British Greenkeepers. We, the Sheffield Section wish the new Association every success and hope that every member will lend their support so that greenkeepers can at last achieve the improvement in pay, conditions, and standing that we have strived for, for so many years.

ON THE MEND

Greenkeepers nationally and Mid Anglia particularly will be pleased to hear that Bob Goodwin, Head Greenkeeper at Asridge Golf Club at Berkhamsted is on the road to recovery after a session under the surgeon's knife.

Bob was taken ill suddenly in mid-November and rushed into hospital, but we now hear he has been regaining his strength aided no doubt by the left-overs from the festive season.

He is expecting to be back in harness in mid-February, though for a time it will be light duties. Some judicious replacement of the tee markers, flag-pole painting or prepping an undated inventory of the equipment should keep him occupied until the advent of Spring.
At last the course is resting, bound up in the grips of a frost, the keystone on record since Ian MacAskill's birthday, the coldest recorded January weather since Queen Victoria left her throne, and certainly the coldest in our shed since we bought a thermometer four years ago. As these very words are penned the sub-zero temperature is creating elegant feathery plumes on the glass pane before my eyes, as the day held dry till about 3 p.m. creating elegant feathery plumes on the glass pane before my eyes, as I pause and gaze outwardly for inspiration; ah, how magical!

The big (BIGGA) bang took place, presumably on January 1st. It must have been a very controlled explosion, our knowledge to date being extremely scant, but as information is released all possible will be done to ensure you are kept up to date.

A most enjoyable evening was spent on December 11th in the company of Mr. Mike Canaway of the Sports Turf Research Institute. Mike is one who is Senior Research Officer at STRI, speaking typically on the work of the Institute, outlining its historical origins through to the services available and research work in progress today. This very good talk provoked some excellent discussion, the overall result being a really worthwhile evening.

Thanks Mike, your services were really appreciated and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are pleased to accordingly and thus are 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DEVLON & CORNWALL
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Exwick, Exeter EX4 2DF.
Telephone: 214053

On Wednesday 17th December we held the Christmas meeting at Okehampton Golf Club. In the morning some 30 members played a greensome for the P. J. Flegg Trophy. Most were lucky to complete before the rain set in for the day, and that in itself is unique for this Winter.

It was noted however that over half made their annual visit to the river by the 12th green.

The results were:

1st: R. Whyman (Bude G.C.) M. Pike (Elfordleigh G.&C.C.) 39 pts.
2nd: P. Newcombe (Exeter G.&C.C.) J. Mills 37 pts.
3rd: T. Blackburn (Downes Crediton) R. Parker Jr. 34 pts.

Golf was followed by a splendid Christmas dinner for a full house of 70, after which we were entertained by Hercules Britain's funniest strong man. The day ended with the raffle draw, Christmas dinner for a full house of 70, and that in itself is unique for this Winter.

A typical situation was encountered at Redditch Golf Course, which enjoys a very attractive undulating setting, partly in old parkland and partly woodland. At the time of construction an excellent job was made of the course layout, irrigation system and, of course, the Club House, but little or no attention was paid to under drainage. The course is constructed on Red Marl and the lack of drainage has caused serious problems with maintenance and even playing on the course in particularly wet periods. Over the years various attempts have been made to improve the situation by installing odd drains into the wettest areas and mole ploughing complete fairways. None of these treatments was particularly successful and the mole ploughing caused an unacceptable amount of disturbance.

The Club decided to allocate a budget to drainage on an annual basis and starting with the wettest fairways, drain the whole course over a number of years. The whole course was examined, planned out and costing. It was found that the problem in the woodland areas was mainly a complete lack of soil structure coupled with very thin top soil, whereas in the old parkland the soil was in generally much better condition but the old existing drains had been broken in the construction of the course. A decision was taken to install drains with the trenchless machine at 2 metre spacings and to treat the whole of the wettest fairways within the budget available.

The first phase was installed in the early summer of 1985 during a fairly wet period; disturbance was minimal and in fact most players continued to use the fairway whilst the work was in progress. The system performed very well over the 1985-6 winter and the second phase was completed in dry conditions in 1986.

The cost of draining a fairway varies considerably depending on length, width etc. but the total cost of the two phases completed was £20,000 and eight complete fairways have been improved, so an average cost per fairway is around £2,500.

SEMINAR FOR THE NORTH-EAST

A distinguished line up of speakers has been booked for a one day seminar on Tuesday 17th March at Houghall Agricultural College by the Cleveland Section of the Greenkeepers Association.

Jack McMillan the BGGA Vice-Chairman and Sunningdale's Course Manager will preside over the proceedings which will commence at 9.00 a.m.

Among the speakers are Nick Bissett from Askham Bryan College, who will discuss Greenkeeper Training, Robin Hume from Turf Irrigation Services and Eddie Sims of Par 4 on Irrigation for the Golf Course, Derek Gannon, the Belfry's Course Manager on Preparing a Championship Course and an up date on the latest Pesticide Legislation by a spokesman from the Ministry of Agriculture.

There will be an opportunity for questions to the panel at the end of the session.

The total seminar fee of only £6.00 includes, coffee, lunch and a set of notes.

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