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Show sets records; forum, roundtable break new ground

The 61st International Golf Course Conference and Show at Orlando’s Orange County Convention/Civic Center Feb. 19-26 set records and opened a new era on two fronts.

Attendance of 17,400 shattered the old mark of 14,500 set in Anaheim, Calif., last year and the trade show attracted 552 exhibitors (nearly 100 more than the previous high) who used 170,000 net square feet of booth space, a considerable increase over last year’s 143,000.

At the instigation of GCSAA Vice President Jerry Faubel (elected president a few days later), 14 high-ranking golf officials of 10 foreign countries discussed environmental issues and mechanisms for pooling scientific and technological resources.

Environmental stewardship also was the major theme of the second annual Government Relations Open Forum, a symposium featuring four “outside” speakers and four golf course superintendents.

Preliminary results of the Cape Cod Study of pesticide pollution of groundwater showed extraordinarily positive results, according to Stuart Cohen of Biospherics, Inc. Richard Shanks explained the GCSAA’s insurance program for storage tanks.

Ann Leslie of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency discussed integrated pest management and Steve Wharton of Hall-Kimbrell, Inc., announced that participation in its GCSAA-sponsored environmental self-audit program has grown to the point that it now generally reflects the geographic distribution of GCSAA membership.

FOREIGN CONFEREES

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The Florida Green / Spring 1990
Builders Assn. exec Don Rossi, 71, dies; former NGF head

“We’re still in shock,” said Jim Fazio, president of Jim Fazio Golf Design, Inc., of Juno Beach, a week after the death of Don Rossi, executive vice president of the Golf Course Builders of America.

Rossi collapsed from a heart attack at his home in North Palm Beach Gardens on the morning of March 10 and died of a few hours later. He had been dressing to play in a pro-am with his longtime friend, Dr. Gary Wiren, at North Palm Beach CC, where Rossi was a board member. He was 71.

Rossi took the Golf Course Builders post after retiring as executive director of the National Golf Foundation in 1983.

“What impressed me most about Don was his vast knowledge of the industry,” said Tom Guettler, president of Guettler & Sons, Inc., one of the early members of the GCBA. “He knew all the major players in the development game on a personal level and helped us deal with their individual tastes and habits.”

A football player and boxer at Michigan State University, Rossi’s first career was the U.S. Air Force, from which he retired as chief of sports worldwide with the rank of colonel.

He was a football and basketball official in the Southwest Conference and the National Football League and was the first general manager of the Dallas Texans (now Kansas City Chiefs) in the American Football League. He hired Hank Stram as the team’s first coach.

He joined the National Golf Foundation in 1970 and nursed it through a tough financial period. “The most important thing about Don Rossi was not his contribution to the golf industry — and that was great — but the simple fact that he was a moral, upright man,” said Fazio. “When we lived in the same parish, I used to see him in church every morning.

“In the end, the only thing that counts is the kind of life you’ve led. Don lived the best.”

Survivors include his wife, Ruth; son, Michael, of Memphis, Tenn.; three daughters, Gail Landen of Palm Beach Gardens; Mary Donn Jordan of Washington, D.C.; and Betsy Lum of Honolulu; and four grandchildren.

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THE FLORIDA GREEN /SPRING 1990
Florida's 1000th golf course opens in West Palm Beach

Nobody knows for sure exactly how many golf courses Florida has at any given moment, but the National Golf Foundation and the Florida Department of Commerce arbitrarily declared the Emerald Dunes Golf Club, an 18-hole public facility in West Palm Beach, as the state's 1,000th.

Among the dignitaries on hand for the ceremonial opening of the 7,006-yard, Tom Fazio layout Feb. 23 were Gov. Bob Martinez, NGF President Joe Beditz, Florida Secretary of Commerce Bill Sutton and PGA of America Executive Director Jim Awtrey.

No state or national GCSA officials were invited. Host was Raymon Finch, Jr., principal partner in the development.

The event was promoted heavily by Golfweek, a national weekly newspaper that began as a Florida publication.

FTGA asks Shepherd to run show full-time; Yount named executive director

Bob Yount, vice president for development of the Florida Turfgrass Research Foundation, was named executive director of the FTGA Dec. 15. In addition to overseeing all activities of the 850-member FTGA, Yount will continue to coordinate all fundraising efforts of the research foundation.

Ruth Shepherd, former FTGA executive secretary, was appointed show coordinator of the FTGA's annual trade show.

Susan Callahan, FTGA administrative assistant and membership coordinator, will manage the FTGA office and supervise the staff.

The 1990 FTGA Conference and Show will be Sept. 30-Oct. 3, one week earlier than normal. After several years in Tampa, the show moves to the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando this year.
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For more information, contact your Mobay distributor or Mobay sales representative. They can help you take your turf to new heights.

Nemacur
Oftanol

Mole crickets can burrow up to 20 feet per night, feeding on grass roots and leaving mounds of soil on the surface. Prevent them with OFTANOL.

To identify nematode damage, look for wilted turf with a stunted root system. Then, treat with NEMACUR. In the interim, you can mask the damage with frequent, light watering and increased fertilization.
OFTANOL also controls fire ants on your course.

Treating your fairways with NEMACUR and OFTANOL raises the overall quality of your course.
A group of Soviet teenagers and their coach and chaperones spent a day at The Falls CC in West Palm Beach to learn more about golf.

The five boys and five girls, chosen from 200 applicants, received lessons from Superintendent Mike Bailey on golf course maintenance practices. Afterwards, everybody posed for this picture which, with the signatures, made a nice souvenir for Bailey's office.

Falls CC Head Professional Jimmy Wright gave the youngsters some lessons on the practice tee.

The Soviet Union opened its first nine-hole golf course last year. The second nine will open this summer.

USGA Green Section national director retires

William H. Bengleyfield, national director of the United States Golf Association Green Section since 1982, retired March 31.

A successor was expected to be named as The Florida Green went to press.

A native of East Williston, N.Y., Bengleyfield was graduated from Cornell University in 1948 with a bachelor's degree in ornamental horticulture.

He joined the USGA in 1954, and served as agronomist and western director of the Green Section until 1978, when he became director of golf courses and park maintenance at Industry Hills GC in Industry, Calif.

Bengleyfield rejoined the USGA in October, 1981, and become national director four months later, responsible for directing the Green Section's national program and its 14 staff agronomists, supervising the championship course preparation program and editing the magazine, The Green Section Record.

The GCSAA honored Bengleyfield this year with its Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his "dedication and outstanding service to golf course superintendents and the profession."

He also served on the editorial board for the book, Turf Management for Golf Courses, and wrote the 1989 revision of USGA green construction specifications.

Golf House exhibit features search for the perfect course

"In Search of the Perfect Course" will be the major exhibit at the USGA museum at Golf House in Far Hills, N.J., until fall.

The exhibit is a review of golf course architecture, featuring quotes, photographs and paintings of a number of prominent architects, such as A.W. Tillinghast, Donald Ross, Alister MacKenzie, Robert Trent Jones, Jack Nicklaus and Arnold Palmer, and paintings and sketches of some of the courses they designed.

Included in the display is a drawing on silk of the layout of Gleneagles in Scotland. The exhibit also includes original diagrams and paintings.

Golf House is located near the intersection of Interstates 78 and 287. It is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekends.

Cape Cod study exonerates properly used turf chemicals

The results of a major new study, conducted on the sandy, "worst-case" soils of Cape Cod, Mass., indicate that properly used turf chemicals pose no hazard to surrounding groundwater under EPA

(Continues on page 20)
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FAST RELIEF FOR CONGESTION HEADACHES.
GCSAA expects to occupy new headquarters next February

The GCSAA broke ground Jan. 12 on its new $4 million headquarters complex overlooking a new 18-hole golf course at the Alvamar G&CC in Lawrence, Kan.

The 40,000-square-foot structure, which should be completed by next February, will allow the GCSAA to develop a large educational facility, including an extensive periodical library with advanced audio-visual equipment.

The new building is about one mile west of the organization’s current headquarters, also overlooking a golf course at Alvamar, which the GCSA has occupied since 1973.

Cape Cod study exonerates

(From page 18)

health standards.

“For the first time, superintendents have documented scientific evidence showing the effect of their operations on man’s most precious resource,” writes Tom Akins, GCSAA government relations manager, in the February/March issue of Government Relations Briefing.

A total of 19 monitoring wells were installed at the tees, greens and fairways of four Cape Cod courses. These wells were purged and sampled quarterly by hand for four quarters over a year and a half.

Each GCSAA chapter will receive one copy of the complete study. For more information, contact the Office of Government Relations, 1617 St. Andrews, Lawrence, KS 66047; phone 800-472-7878.

CORRECTIONS

56 Florida supers certified

A total of 56 active members of the FGCSA are certified golf course superintendents as of March 1, according to Marie Roberts, FGCSA executive secretary. Another 28 live in Florida, or earned their certification in the state, but are no longer active in the FGCSA.

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The incorrect totals were reported for several chapters in the Winter 1990 issue.

Ed Seay is the architect of record of the Oceanside Course at Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra. The chart on page 29 of the Winter 1990 issue incorrectly credited the work to a different architect.

The assistant superintendent at Banyan GC in West Palm Beach is Tim Enochs. His last name was misspelled in the Winter 1990 issue.

Weston Hills CC in Fort Lauderdale was omitted from last quarter’s Development Report. The 18-hole layout by Robert Trent Jones, Jr. was planted last month.