Pete Dye  
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Dealing with all those parties is going to be "the biggest problem to deal with," he said.

Dye defended golf courses against those who would attack them on environmental terms.

"In every place I think the environmental people have gone overboard on some of the other myths," he said, "because on a golf course — if the golf course is built and designed properly — you can create an environment that is as good as some of the natural environment.

"And people forget that this old world has been here an awfully long time and there have been a lot of changes," he added, "and, also, all the chemicals that are put on a golf course are so monitored now that they're not hurting the bird life or the wildlife... As a matter of fact, it's difficult to find a chemical that will protect a golf course under undesirable worms and bugs because they are worried about hurting other wildlife."

Scientific progress has also helped architects and developers, Dye said. "Now we have the knowledge of how to control runoff and ground water and you'll see it more and more going into new golf courses," he said. "And even though it's expensive, it's not prohibitive to control it, so I think (members of the American Society of Golf Course Architects) have a common problem and are getting more professional in how to handle it."

"Dye said it is possible to satisfy all parties."

He cited Old March in North Palm Beach as a case in point. "We were able to contain all the water within the golf course and filter it and run it back in in better quality than it was before. From that particular project we got great acclaim from the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and other groups."

Another highlight, the 14th annual Donald Ross Banquet, will be held at 7:30 p.m. April 3. The President's Dinner is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. April 5, and Pete Dye will hand the gavel over to the new AASGA president, Robert Trent Jones Jr.

Robert Trent Jones Jr. will take over as president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects from Pete Dye at the President Dinner on April 5.