Recovering from Hugo

Hurricane struck Carolina courses in random fashion

BY TOMMY BRASWELL

Some greenskeeping and tree-company crews in the Carolinas continue to clean up golf courses that, in the wake of Hurricane Hugo's 135-mph winds, looked like a giant game of Pick Up Sticks.

Of the $4 billion trail of destruction Hurricane Hugo left as it hammered the region from Charleston, S.C., to Charlotte, N.C., on Sept. 21, millions of dollars of damage were done to golf courses.

Courses from Charleston to the Grand Strand as well as some 200 miles inland were closed — for days, weeks, months, and some for as long as a year — because of the devastation.

Europe opens arms to golf experts

BY JAN BELJAN

Countries from Spain to The Netherlands and from Sweden to the United Kingdom are hoping to go "golf crazy," yet are engulfed in the same mass of red tape that faces golf course builders in the United States, according to experts speaking at Golf Course Europe '89.

The exhibition and conference in Wiesbaden, West Germany, in October drew some of the top names in the golf industry from around the globe, and in concert they agreed the opportunities in Europe are great.

"There is a pent-up demand for golf in Europe," said Michael Redd, president of Team Plan, Inc., in Florida. "The American professionals are great, but along with them come some constraints — elaborate language, time, working conditions, working on the grass."

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Supers' needs foster inventions

By PETER BLAIS

A Florida company has developed a long-sought solution to the problem of fairway grass encroaching into greens and tees.

Boca Raton-based DomuTTrimmer Inc. has installed the $50,000 system on an experimental basis on four Southern courses.

Despite the hefty price tag, company officials claim Greens Encroachment will pay for itself in labor savings within two years.

"It will really be a big thing for the golf course industry in the coming years. It's something we've needed very badly and should become very popular," said Wilmington (Del.) Country Club's Paul Latshaw, one of the country's best-known superintendents.

The Greens Encroachment product is the brainchild and the latest in a string of labor-saving turf

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