

GOLF COURSE NEWS

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INSIDE

Hawaiian protesters

Protesters picket a golf course development conference in Hawaii 3

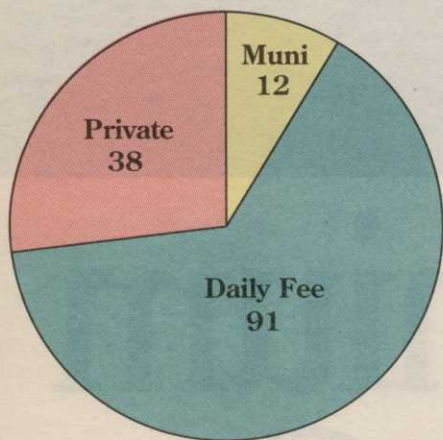
GCSAA in court

National association appeals jury's \$1.5M verdict .. 5

Bluegrass sod

Lean times for bluegrass sod growers, *GolfCourseNews* survey finds 24-25

University Courses



Types of university-affiliated golf courses in the United States. Total = 141 Source: NGF

See related story on page 33.

COURSE MAINTENANCE

Voc-tech school starts golf maintenance course .. 13
Terry Bucher puts down roots 14
PLCAA president seeks closer GCSAA ties 15

COURSE DEVELOPMENT

Male, female pros cash in on design sense 27
Fream courses cited 27
Newly approved and planned courses listed 32

COURSE MANAGEMENT

University courses among the best 33
Universal golf ticket enters marketplace 33
Innovative program trains resort employees 33

SUPPLIER BUSINESS

Toro sues Fuque over trademark rights 37
TOCA adopts advertising guidelines 37
Golf marketing seminar set 38

USGA promises another \$4.1M

Executive Committee promises continued support through 1997

By Mark Leslie

The U.S. Golf Association Executive Committee has approved another \$4.15 million in funding for research projects.

Revealing the decision made on June 10, USGA Green Section National Di-

rector Jim Snow said he was excited at the committee's high level of support for the research program.

The committee this winter allotted \$3.8 million to 18 research projects through 1997. That will complete the 10-year program that began in 1983.

This new infusion of funds will carry research from 1993 to 1997, Snow said.

Accomplishments so far have consisted mostly of findings that set the foundation for further studies, Snow

said. He cited the Turfgrass Information File at Michigan State University, which "is a tremendous resource for the entire industry and is just now catching on"; development of NuMex Sahara bentgrass and 609 buffalograss; and investigation of breeding improvements such as screening for salt.

"These are things you can't visually see, but that were important research," he said. "We're at the point now where

Continued on page 11



The University of Wisconsin has joined the growing ranks of universities with affiliated golf courses. This is a view of its new Robert Trent Jones Jr.-designed course, which officially opens in July. See a story on university courses on page 33.

Winter whacks Washington courses with winter kill

By Bob Spiwak

Yoyo-like winter temperatures caused winter kill that devastated greens on northern Washington State courses, costing tens of thousands of dollars in repair bills and lost revenues.

The Spokane area, which boasts some of the nation's best municipal courses, was hit the hardest. Indian Canyon, perennially listed among the

top U.S. venues, counted at least half its greens this spring as "browns." And it was not alone.

In fact, courses that fared best had newly planted bentgrass, or were blanketed with snow throughout the winter. Most severely damaged were courses with incursions of poa annua (annual bluegrass) and little or no snow

Continued on page 13

Mass. enacts new pesticide mandates

By Vern Putney

The Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture will require all private and commercial pesticide applicators to file an annual report listing specific pesticide use information based on previous year records beginning in 1992.

The records will be made available to the 351 cities and towns in the Bay

Continued on page 17

Seed scientists making great strides

By Mark Leslie

While plant breeders are making extraordinary advances in turfgrasses, scientists are probing and developing other improvements using nature's endophytes and nematodes and new

See related stories p. 20-26.

techniques like seed priming and coating.

"A lot of very bright and talented young people are going into turfgrass research," said Dr. Reed Funk

of Rutgers University, an expert in cool-season grasses. "They will do a lot of things that haven't been done.

"Priming," he added, "could be developed to be a delivery system for micro-

Continued on page 20

Landowners join forces in 2,000-acre development

NEW GARDENTOWNSHIP, Pa. — A group of major landowners here have gotten together on the future development of 2,000 acres of land bordering Pennsylvania and Delaware.

Comprehensive plans drawn up by the group include construction of an 18-hole golf course, along with a retirement village, hotel-conference center, town center, and luxury homes. The development is to be named Kaolin Commons.

The four landowners would each develop their own individual properties in keeping with the master concept, and own and operate them independently of the others.

The first project likely to be built is the golf course, plans for which are going through the approvals process.

Comment

Continued from page 10

Drew educated residents by telling the Salem Evening News how he safely applies chemicals, trying "to apply the bare minimum" at all times.

Superintendents are the experts, the hands-on appliers to whom the public will give credence. More should tell the media their side of the story in local debates.

In the end, it's "the people" — that 90 percent — who need to be preached to. When Billy Graham speaks to a crowd of a hundred thousand in China, he edifies the believers — but his ultimate target is the unconverted. When they come forward to receive He who is the Truth, that's when it is time to rejoice.

Chemical use is, of course, a much less important issue than salvation. Yet the basic principle is the same: Let the truth prevail. There will be those in the crowd who are ready to hear, and to be convinced, convicted and converted.

USGA

Continued from page 1

we can look at the next five to 10 years as finding hands-on products. And we can concentrate on breeding grasses that haven't received a lot of attention. Buffalograss, for instance, will be a hit."

He said the funds will probably continue to support research the USGA is backing today.

Meanwhile, the Green Section will send out requests for proposals in August, then narrow those down for a Research Committee meeting in December. Finalists will then be asked for full proposals, and the funding decisions will be made in mid-1992.

"We're excited the Executive Committee has committed itself to this program. It will help very much environmentally," Snow said.

GOLF COURSE NEWS



"We need to improve the drainage on this green."

Enthusiastic reading

To the editor:

More than a month ago I received a copy of *Golf Course News*.

It was with enthusiasm that for the first time I read your publication. I congratulate you on what I feel is the most informative golf course publication, geared to golf course maintenance, that I have read in recent years.

Yours for better golf turf,
Thomas L. Malehorn
Sales Representative
Pro-Lawn Products, Inc.

10 woes story good

To the editor:

I enjoyed Peter Blais' coverage

of agronomist James Connolly's talk at the recent Maine Golf Turfgrass Conference and Show in Portland.

I commend you on your publication, both from an editorial and graphic perspective. It has a lot to offer, and I enjoy reading publications such as yours.

Sincerely,
Ralph Turtinen
Executive Director
Minnesota GCSA

Letters accepted

Letters are welcomed. Please address them to: Letters, *Golf Course News*, P.O. Box 997, Yarmouth, ME 04096.

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