Florida DEP claim rocks industry

By Nancy Oliver

Golf courses should not only be required to use reclaimed water, but also pay for its treatment and transmission to the course, according to a Florida state environmental official.

David York, director of re-use for the Department of Environmental Regulation, rocked golf industry officials with that opinion during last month's Florida Golf Summit in Tampa.

York said the golf industry should bear the financial burden of disposing of effluent because of its traditionally excessive use of ground water, a dwindling resource in Florida.

Courses should pay for transmission

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First college architects class wins high marks

By Mark Leslie

University of Richmond (Va) students have completed the first regular college class in golf course architecture and termed it a success.

Taught by architect Lester George of Colonial Golf Design, Inc. in Richmond, the 15-person class was "very enthusiastic," according to Dr. Donald W. Pate, founder and administrator of the university's Master of Sport Management Program.

Saying the program will be repeated next fall, Pate added: "The concept gets more exciting the more you get involved in it. There are people looking at that kind of work and there should be some kind of training for them."

A 1977 graduate of Richmond who spent three years as lead design coordinator and project manager for architect Algie Pulley Jr. of California, George said:

"We only scratched the surface of the myriad of issues involved with golf course design and

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Mendenhall remembered for grand contributions

By Vern Putney

GREEN VALLEY, Ariz. — It was typical of Chester Mendenhall to travel 1,500 miles to Lawrence, Kan., in early Sept

tober to help the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America dedicate its new headquarters building. "He got to do everything he ever wanted to do," said wife Sue. His last wish was to participate in building ceremonies. "He did — with flair"

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Toro inks pacts with Olathe, Hahn

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — The Toro Co. has reached separate agreements with Olathe Manufacturing Inc. of Olathe, Kan. and Hahn Inc. of Evansville, Ind.

Toro will purchase all Olathe assets associated with the production and sales of its turf products line. The acquisition includes approximately 25 products including all Olathe sweepers, aerators, chippers, spreaders and attachments for accessories for Toro commercial products.

Toro will maintain a substantial interest in Olathe. Olathe will focus its efforts on debris management products such as larger chippers and tub grinders

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Verona Hills expanding

VERONA, Mich. — The semi-private Verona Hills Golf Course, considered the premier layout in the Thumb, will expand but at a carefully controlled pace.

President Bob Buckley said Verona Hills, owned by the 250 members, won't become a giant resort stop. "Our club is based on 67 years of tradition and friendships drawn from six or seven communities," he said.

Scenic Golf and Country Club in Pigeon, Bird Creek Golf Course in Port Austin and Verona Hills are agencies, others with the resources needed to get the job done."

To make the Council more effective, the board of directors voted unanimously during the summit to establish regional chapters throughout the state.

Those interested in joining the Florida Golf Council, or helping establish regional chapters, should call 904-893-9755 or 407-688-0800. Nancy Oliver is director of communications of the Florida Golf Council.

from officials of state agencies, others

our staff charged with the responsibility of writing the various regulations that affect you. They don't know all the aspects of your business.

"I have learned a lot (here) that I didn't know before. But you people have a responsibility to meet with staff and explain it to them, just the way other industries do.

"It seems to me this can be done through the Florida Golf Council. You certainly have a qualified leader in Bobby Brantley. It sounds like you just have to get behind him with the resources needed to get the job done."

-Society creates the problem. Yet, we in the golf business are expected to carry the lion’s share of the expense in recycling it."

— Tom Benefield
president, Florida GCSA

Architects course

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development. But I'm confident the students left with a practical understanding of the business."

The three-credit course — Programming, Financing and Construction of Sports Facilities — drew a cross-section of master's degree students. The class included two engineers, two history majors, business, mathematics, English and accounting majors.

Pate said their common goal was to manage in sport. Two, in particular, aim to work in management in golf. Others are interested in operating sports facilities or in being athletic directors. George, helping a group of three who decided to tackle course design as their semester project.

"In past years we've had groups of three do course projects on clubhouses and amenities," Pate said. "This year the entire group was interested in golf. I've known Lester George for awhile and spoke with him about it. We decided to do something different and unique."

The "unique" approach led to a class that went from classroom instruction to in-the-field work. The Royal Virginia Golf Club in Hadensville, Va., a co-design of George and Pulley, was in the growing stage.

The students received topographical maps of the site, routed and designed their own courses, and presented their layouts for class critique.

"A couple of holes I thought were better than Lester's," Pate joked.

Pate said starting the lecture series was "a critical decision. We like to give the students a variety. But I'm glad we went ahead with it... It will definitely enhance our program by adding another dimension to the curriculum."

A teacher by nature, George said he especially enjoyed talking about the career he loves.

He said it helped that "the students were extremely sharp. They knew more than I thought about facility planning. Their questions opened a lot of discussion about other amenities like the clubhouse, lodging and conference facilities."

George said having an actual golf course site available made the course solid.

Would he like to do it again?
"I'd love it," he said.