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 reuse 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 wanted to do," said wife Sue.

Mendenhall remembered for grand contributions

By Vern Palmey

GREEN VALLEY, Ariz. — It was typical of Chester Mendenhall to travel 1,500 miles to Lawrence, Kan., in early September 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 died — 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 large chippers and tub grinders

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Mendenhall remembered for long GCSAA service

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and style. Two days later, he was stricken. Superintendents

**"Chet was the most devoted man I knew where GCSAA was concerned."**

-Art Snyder

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**Jackson, N.J., "Chet's passing he chose this state for retirement.**

**like to have known him better.**

**tion, echoed Cadenelli's thoughts.**

**comes**

**"Few superintendents were so**

**Mendenhall never missed a local meeting. Snyder recalled. He**

**remained loyal to his profession and enthusiastic to the end.**

Mendenhall, native of Kingman, Kan., in 1926 attended a meeting of greenkeepers in Toledo, Ohio. This led to formation of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America, now GCSAA.

Mendenhall had been GCSAA's last surviving charter member.

Steve Cadenelli, GCSAA president, recalls Mendenhall's validic
tory address vividly.

"He spoke eloquently at the dedi-
cation of our new building. I came
to know him well. He was a mar-
velous man who made great con-
tributions to our industry. All of us
in golf course management were
better off for Chet's dedication and
insight. His stirring talk was a fit-
ful scene.**

Such career chronology for one
raised on a farm in Oklahoma is
amazing.

Mendenhall struck out for fame, if not fortune, in 1920. He landed a
job with the Wichita (Kan.) City
Parks and Forestry Department as
superintendent for a new city park.

Mendenhall's introduction to this
arena and the sport led to a life-long
enthusiasm with all facets of the
game, especially the behind-the
scenes activity.

Improvisation was necessary in
time that included dark, water was a prob-
lem when Mendenhall tackled
construction of the Wichita course.

He decided to build sand greens.

Horses pulled gang mowers over
fairways to one inch and greens at a
quarter-inch with the help of gang
mowers.

Innovator/inventor Mendenhall,
who preferred the "tinkerer" label,
was having trouble with the South
German bentgrass. Much thatch
posed a putting problem.

Chet decided rules to lift the
grass in front of mowers to cut away
some thatch. Using a tin cylinder
filled with concrete, he made a
sapper to aerify compacted soil. He
obtained what he believed the first
aerifier in Kansas, cut off the draw-
bar and mounted the machine on
the three-point hitch of his Ford
tractor.

Chet switched to greenkeeper at
Mission Hills Country Club in Kan-
sas City in 1934. Chief maintenance
problem there was loss of bluegrass
and bermudagrass fairways to drought.

Chet installed a quick coupling snap
valve irrigation system. He planted
zoysiagrass on all tees. This ex-
periment proved most successful.

Mendenhall retired from Mission
Hills in 1960, at age 70, but couldn't
reconcile to an easy chair. He
plunged into golf course design and
construction, and for the next 12
years designed and supervised
construction of several courses in
Missouri and Kansas.

Finally, at 82, it was time to slow
down and enjoy sunny life in Ari-
izona.

In addition to his widow (first
wife Margaret died in 1970) and
Mendenhall is survived by
William S. Mellon of Lancaster,
Pa., who caddied with Snyder at
GOLF COURSE NEWS

**Snyder, Jacob oldest among founders**

The death of Chet Mendenhall at 98 leaves longtime friend Art
Snyder, 93, of Phoenix, who shares the same Sept. 13 birthday,
as the oldest member of the Golf Course Superintendents Asso-
ciation of America.

However, Snyder is not GCSAA's senior member. That distinc-
tion belongs "by a few minutes" to Ernie Jacob of Pitts-
burgh, who is a "mere 84."

Jacob and Snyder were both voted into membership in 1929.
Applications were processed alphabetically.

Jacob received membership number 568, Snyder 573. Mendenhall's number was 54.

William S. Mellon of Lancaster, Pa., who caddied with Snyder at
Oakmont Country Club in Pitts-

burgh, and who died earlier this
year, held No. 443.

Arthur Snyder plays al-
most daily at Skyline Country
Club in Phoenix, with son Jim,
who succeeded him there as
course superintendent.

Snyder in 1973 became the
only superintendent ever
elected to the Arizona Golf Hall of
Fame.

Jacob has been sidelined by
illness the past two months, but

hopes to return to play soon at
the South Hills Country Club
course in Pittsburgh where he
was superintendent for 37 years.
He was made an honorary mem-
er under the Professional's
team in 1974.

Jack now list a 22 handicap, a
far cry from the scratch tag he
bore when qualifying for the
National Open at Winged Foot
Country Club in Mamaroneck,
N.Y., in 1929, and winning the
first superintendents' golf
tournament in 1938.

Jacob and wife Berdie have
two sons — Paul, recently re-
tired after 26 years as a TWA
pilot, and Glenn, a captain in
the U. S. Navy, and stepdaugh-
ter Margaret Bunting.

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