Congress controls fate of military courses

By Peter Blais

The battle brewing over control of the military’s 240 golf courses could be settled in early 1993.

That’s when Congress is likely to act on Sen. Dennis DeConcini’s (D-Ariz.) bill to turn over the facilities to private management companies and open them to the public.

Management companies, notably American Golf Corp., are lining up behind the idea, claiming DeConcini’s Senior Government Officer Benefits Limited Act will provide public golfers with more places to play, improve services at the government layouts and make more money for a financially strapped federal government.

The Pentagon is generally opposed, arguing that opening the courses to private managers and public play would jeopardize security at sensitive military installations, deprive service men and women of a well-deserved benefit and reduce funding for non-profit activities currently subsidized by golf course revenues.

“Golf courses are something the military is involved in that they don’t need to be,” said Shannon Brown, a DeConcini staffer.

Fazio part of $10 billion Malaysian deal

By Mark Leslie

A $10 billion theme park, centered around eight golf courses, is about to be undertaken in Malaysia, according to sources.

An Italian developer reportedly has brought together the Italian and Malaysian governments and private money to build the facility.

It is expected to eventually include 24 hotels with 1,000 rooms each. Developers, who have been working on the project for the past 18 months, expect the park to draw 150,000 people a day.

American golf course architect and builder Jim Fazio of Juno Beach, Fla., has been contracted to organize the golf construction. He will design two courses and sign others to design the six remaining layouts on the 300,000-acre
Market-bound products handle their tasks differently

BY MARK LESLIE

early a decade of research has been done on the pioneering subsurface injection machines. So, what are the differences? Prof. Mark Sears of the University of Guelph in Ontario said, "I think they're comparable." Rogers Innovative's Liquid Pulse Injector (LPI) "is a Cadillac unit," Sears said. "You can set all the variables. It's larger [than the Toro Hydroject - 48 versus 33 inches], it runs on hydraulic pressure and you need a good-sized tractor. It also has a 300 gallon tank, so you don't have to carry a hose around like the Hydroject." Calling the LPI "big and a bit cumbersome," Sears noted that Rogers is working on a smaller unit that mixes chemicals into water.

Units on the Pattison Brothers Agro's Spoke Injector, according to President Rick Pattison, can be joined to make it anywhere from one to 50 feet wide.

Rogers President R. Barry Rogers said his LPI pulses liquid electronically, compared to the mechanical operation of the Hydroject and Spoke Injector.

"The greater flexibility in pressure, plus makes it easier to adjust the length our valves are on as we go along," Rogers said. "You have to dig in [the ground] and find out the depth the water has gone. That will vary according to type of soil, but you can regulate it by the pressure and by the size of the jet stream, which we can reduce as low as 15/100ths of an inch." The Hydroject is set up so that the operator must use most of the volume. The LPI volume is adjustable. The Spoke Injector operates on 20 to 50 pounds pressure. "Our unit is electronically controlled by a digital computer," Rogers said. "In the future it will be made to sense the color of the grass and adjust the application." He said the LPI can put down insecticides at one gallon per 1,000 square feet, or go as high as 28 gallons of water per 1,000 square feet while aerating. "The more water you use, the more aeration, fraction and lift in the soil," he said. The LPI can speed along as fast as 3.4 mph, which equates to 72,000 square feet per hour injecting pesticides. It can pump nine A gal-

Deaths illustrate importance of protection

CART PATH, SAND TRAP, AND PUMPED TARGETS

TEXARRANA, Texas - The importance of workers being provided — and wearing — protective clothing and equipment when working in confined spaces was emphasized after the recent deaths of three local workers overcome by toxic fumes from an underground storage tank. One man was overcome by fumes as a pull-behind unit equipped with a round wheel and 12 spikes on it that came from a center hub. When the spikes enter the ground in the down position, the hub injects liquid into the soil under pressure. When the spikes leave the ground, they seal up. It injects on a six-inch grid and can inject from 1-1/2 to two inches deep with one set of spikes, and three inches with a second set.

Pattison said the Spoke Injector has been sold since 1990 in the agricultural market for fertilizer applications. It has had to undergo modifications for a pesticide application. While not a lot of testing has been done on white grubs with these machines, Rogers said he has "shot polymers into the ground" with the LPI and Dr. Drew Smith at the University of Saskatchewan is testing its use of fungicide for fairy rings.

Manufacturers trying to perfect systems to inject below ground

Continued from page 1

Department of Environmental Biology has done tests with the Hydroject, Spoke Injector and LPI and says there are two areas of "great potential" for these machines.

"One is that [subsurface injection] gets the pesticides right at the grubs, where they live, without having to leach it through the thatch. If you can cut our rates by half, it's great." The other benefit, in Ontario they have strict regulations on putting a product on turf. This way we can inject it below the surface to avoid surface runoff and human contact... It's more efficient and it's more environmentally sound," Sears discounted worries that injecting chemicals may increase the potential for pol-

Continued from page 11

Course Superintendents Association of America President Bill Roberts, Peter Hope, past president of Royal Canadian Golf Association, will be the moderator. A special companions program and special nights will add spice to the program, which includes the Grey Cup party and opening reception Sunday, Nov. 29, a-