SHIRLEY IS GEORGIA PRESIDENT

William Shirley of Idle Hour Club in Macon is the new president of the Georgia Golf Course Superintendents Association. Shirley is joined on the board by Vice President Mark Esoda of Atlanta Country Club and Directors Jim Dusch of Atlanta National Golf Club, Mike Hamilton of Harbor Club, Ralph Hinze of The Landings; Bob Ferrell of the North Carolina Country Club, Chuck Underwood of Northwood Country Club, Stephen Wilson of Druid Hills Golf Club, and Franz "Back" Workman of Valdosta Country Club.

N.C. TURFGRASS EVENT PLANNED

RALEIGH, N.C. — The Professional Turfgrass Managers Association will host the Turfgrass Field Laboratory (Field Center) on May 12. This North Carolina State University event is jointly sponsored by the Turfgrass Council of North Carolina and the North Carolina Landscape Contractors Association. For more information contact TCNC at 919-695-1333.

LONGVIEW TURF PROGRAM ACCEPTED

Longview Community College's sports and turf management program has been officially accepted as an associate degree program by the Coordinating Board of Higher Education in the state of Missouri. Training coordinator Allen L. Earle said: "I feel very strongly that this program will be very beneficial to anyone involved in the 'green' industry. Currently, there is no horticulture degree program in the Kansas City area. It is our desire to present the highest quality training that will be pertinent to 'real-life' experiences."

N.C. EVENT BREAKS RECORDS

The 31st Annual North Carolina Turfgrass Conference & Show shattered all previous records, according to Tom Rand, president-elect of the Turfgrass Council of North Carolina. Bland attributed the success to a combination of factors, a total-event marketing plan. Twenty-five hundred and fifty turf industry professionals participated in more than 40 hours of educational programs focusing on effective turf management and environmental stewardship based on integrated pest management. Attendance was up 49% over last year's event. The 10th Anniversary Industry Trade Show boasted 159 companies exhibiting in 350 booth spaces. The previous show record was 159 companies exhibiting in 350 booth spaces. Bland said most significant, he said, was the $66,000 in cash contributions to the Research Endowment and Foundation.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

BRIEFS

The University of Florida's new research green in the background was added last fall next to the old green. The Envirocenter system in the foreground, which collects weather data, is in the center of the old green. The hybrid Bermudagrass cultivar Tifgreen 328, on the left, and Tifdwarf, on the right, are maintained at 3/16-inch height. The new green is being planted with Tifdwarf.

Florida research green sheds light on effects of maintenance

By Peter Blais

The University of Florida's research green in Ft. Lauderdale has yielded interesting findings regarding the effects of nitrogen levels, various fungicides and maintenance practices on Bermudagrass putting surfaces, according to researchers and course superintendents.

New and ongoing studies involving pesticide movement through turfgrass, organic biosimulants and experimental Bermudagrass cultivars should help Southern superintendents grow stronger turf in the not-so-distant future, according to Monica Elliott, the university's Research and Education Center coordinator.

"The research green project has been very well received and well supported so far," said Kevin Downing, superintendent at nearby Willowbry Golf Club. Downing is also chairman of the Florida Golf Course Superintendents Association committee that spearheaded development of the Otto Schnieffer research green. The facility opened almost two years ago.

Elliott listed some of the early findings on the original 20,000-square-foot USGA-spec green and the new 10,000-square-foot, 85-15 (sand-to-organics) root-zone mix addition added last fall:

- Synthetic nitrogen levels can be reduced a moderate amount without adversely affecting turf characteristics, although extremely low application levels do cause a dropoff in quality. Researchers tested low-, moderate- and high-

Tour of Duty

RICKY WIDEMAN
Harbor Town Golf Links
Hilton Head Island, S.C.

DEAN CROUCH
Forest Oaks Country Club
Greensboro, N.C.

Mike Link, a 34-year-old native of Ponca City, Okla., came to the Woodlands after serving as assistant superintendent at the 27-hole River Plantation Country Club in Conroe, Texas. He is a 1989 graduate of Oklahoma State University with a B.S. in agronomy.

Things to look for:

"It's been awfully wet here the last three years. I've been trying to apply a pre-emergent herbicide this week (March 5-9) and the rain has delayed that. Weather is the biggest headache for us. I have a game plan that I go by and, if the weather cooperates, everything goes like clockwork. If it doesn't you go to plan B, which can be pretty hectic. I've worked 12 events, so I've gotten to know the Tour officials pretty well and I'm excited to be their friend."

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