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hard work by golf course superin-

News
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in the May issue of
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which certifies Development
Letters for their American
constituents. When I got the
official news, I immediately
called the department for a
comment on this unique
overseas development — but I
was met with stunned silence
on the other end. After patriotically
divulging all the information I
had, the government guy stole
my standard, journalistic phone
sign-off: "Hey, thanks for your
help. Glad to be of service."

While we're patting
ourselves on the back here, let's
have a big round of applause for
Associate Editor Peter Blais, whose
Development Letter topped the 100-subscriber level
a few weeks ago — and the
subscriptions keep rolling in.

For those of you unfamiliar with Development Letters, these
track golf projects under consideration in communities all over
the nation and Canada. As
subscribers will attest, it's a
must read for industry folks
who need to find the developer

continued on page 12

Too often, golf courses are fiscal targets

W
hen the Central Arizona
Project (CAP) canal was
completed in January,
the repayment of the federal funds
for the 40-year project was supposed
to begin. It appears the government
believes golf course superintendents and the
like — but never, ever farmers — are
the ones to tap. Or is that:"Zap"?

This illustrates a prevalent attitude in
America. "Golfers? Subsidize them? They've
got the dough. Let's suck the money we
need out of their pockets." It's open season on
golfers all year round. At least
deer, elk, ducks and their cousins get a
reprise from hunters most of the year.

Scott Nair, superintendent at The Boulders
in Carefree, Ariz., puts it bluntly. "It's frustrating
when I pay a fortune for my water and they
farmers get it all basically given to them on a
silver spoon," he said.

continued on page 12

Letters

Thank you for setting the record
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I was upset to learn that I had been
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GOLF COURSE NEWS

FROM THE EDITOR

Who said the RTC had no sense of humor?

I know it's a dangerous pre-
cedent, but I was just thinking...

• Don't miss the Land-
mark auction in Dallas this month - it's the
biggest free-for-all for the all the golf
industry has seen since the superintendents poured out of an
effluent seminar and onto
Bourbon Street two years ago. Here's a tip for casual observ-
ers: Don't fidget in your seat — you're liable to end up with a
controlling interest in Mission Hills or something.

But seriously folks, every
mover and shaker in the
business will be there. If they're not bidding, you can be sure they're
keeping a close eye on their competitors who are.

Word has it that foreign

interests will play a
major role in the
ownership of more than one property.

Then there's the Ross Perot factor (see page 33).

One more thing: If you've ever wondered whether the Resolution
Trust Corp. had a sense of humor, the jury is in. Who else
would stage the break-up of golf's destination resort royalty

The government is always
the last to know. As many as four weeks ago, my sources told me that GCSAA
and Connex were holding
discussions regarding a two-
show, one-roof extravagant in
Singapore next year. Consider-

ing the "damn the
torpedoed" attitude displayed by our
friends in Lawrence, this came as some-
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were caught off guard when

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efficient golf industry has worked hard to implement proper design,
construction and maintenance
procedures to reduce the negative
perceptions.

The excellent research and the
hard work by golf course superin-
tendents across America did not
deserve this attack from under-
informed people seeking to energize
this emotional issue.

Thank you for the explanation in
the May issue of Golf Course
News regarding how I was mis-
quoted. We work hard every day

to protect the precious environ-
ments across the United States.
The American Society of Golf
Course Architects will continue
to produce innovative solutions
to environmentally sensitive design
situations. Your support of the

profession through Golf Course
News is greatly appreciated.

— Hal Phillips, editor

— Mark Leslie, managing editor

continued on page 12