BRIEFS

CHILDERS HEADS FERTILIZER INSTITUTE

NEW ORLEANS — Chuck Childers, chairman/president and CEO of the Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan, Canada, is the new chairman of The Fertilizer Institute. At the association’s recent annual meeting here, which drew more than 800 industry representatives, Robert W. Horne, executive vice president, agricultural operations, Farmland Industries, was elected TFJ vice chairman, and Gary D. Myers was re-elected TFJ president and chief staff officer.

SEED RESEARCH PAYS OFF FOR DR. FUNK

Mike Robinson, president of Seed Research of Oregon, recently presented Dr. Reed Funk with a royalty check worth $182,000. The payment was based upon sales of the following turfgrass varieties developed by Seed Research in conjunction with Dr. Funk: SR 4000, SR 4100 and SR 4200 perennial ryegrass; SR 3900 and SR 5100 hard fescues; SR 5000 Chewings fescue; Ti- tan and SR 8200 tall fescues; and SR 2000 Kentucky bluegrass.

SOUDERTON, Pa. — Moyer & Son, Inc. has announced the addition of John Ripp to its sales force. Ripp will be responsible for golf course sales in the Mid-Atlantic states. He will be m a r k e t i n g agritainment technology and custom blend fertilizers to new and established courses. Ripp brings with him 10 years of green industry experience. He has worked as an assistant superintendent and most recently as a distributor representative in the Chicago Metro area. He has a bachelor’s degree in natural resource management.

BERAULT JOINS HYUNDAI

SANTA ANA, Calif. — Hyundai Golf Cars, U.S.A. has named Joe Berault regional sales manager for the central United States. Based in South Haven, Mich., Berault’s responsibilities include the supervision and expansion of Hyundai Golf Cars’ central U.S. sales division and coordination of manufacturing and distributing efforts to ensure Hyundai fleets are promptly delivered and property serviced and maintained. Berault has operated Network Golf Cars, Inc. for the past three years, previously served as interim president to Michigan-based Chi Industries and has many years of sales management experience with Taylor Dunn and E.Z. Go.

GOLF COURSE NEWS

HIGH TECH TOOLS AREN’T COMING — THEY’RE HERE

By TOM LAVERTY

According to a study from the University of Oklahoma College of Architecture, about 75 percent of the golf course architects surveyed indicated they use computers for traditional tasks such as accounting or office automation.

Only 17 percent, however, said they use computers for technical tasks such as design and drawing. Landscape architects are tough, elusive customers for computer graphics vendors and software application developers trying to provide solutions to make their life easier. The canvas is literally as big as the all outdoors, and the infinitely variable landscape seldom deals with straight lines or standard parts. Still, in this age of information, it is inevitable that the computer will play an ever increasing role in the architect’s job.

There are currently two areas of focus that should interest the golf course architect. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are computer solutions targeted at the site planning professional who needs an understanding of the landscape within which a project will be designed. Site identification, watershed and ecosystem analysis, or on-site planning work are tasks where GIS is of service.

Computer Aided Design and Drafting (CADD) tools are for the architect who needs more accuracy and efficiency in landscape design and drafting, cost estimation, and many other areas. The line between GIS and CADD is blurring, though, as vendors provide seamless ability to move from GIS-oriented aspects of a project into more specific course design and engineering with GIS.

Barebo head to step down

By PETER BLAIR

ANAHEIM, Calif.— Otterbine Barebo Inc. President Charles “Chuck” Barebo, 58, will soon relinquish that title and more of the day-to-day responsibility of running the aerator manufacturing company to his oldest son, Charlie.

Beginning Jan. 1, 1994, the elder Barebo will become chief executive officer and chairman of the board of the Emnaus, Pa.-based firm he founded 14 years ago. He made the announcement at a distributor breakfast held during January’s Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Annual Conference and Show.

While he will cut back on much of his travel and dealings with distributors, Chuck will still be actively involved in the company.

Chestnut joins Smithco

WAYNE, Pa. — Ted Smith, chairman of Smithco, has announced the appointment of William R. (Bill) Chestnut as manager of engineering & product development.

In his new position, Chestnut will be responsible for the creation and development of new Smithco products and further engineering advancement of the existing product line. Chestnut joins Smithco following 20 years with the John Deere Company, where he played a key role in the development of its Golf & Turf Division and the marketing of resulting products. Chestnut, who shares patent rights with Deere and has been widely published in golf and turf business journals, will be based in Smithco’s manufacturing facility in Cameron, Wis.

“We welcome Bill Chestnut to our company with much enthusiasm,” said Smith. “We are highly confident that his considerable knowledge and experience will bring new dimensions to Smithco’s product innovations and engineering operations.”

By HAL PHILLIPS

SALT LAKE CITY — WeatherWare 5.0 isn’t rain gear. It’s an on-line personal computer weather display program from Salt Lake City-based WeatherVector Corp., and another example of how the golf industry has been affected by high tech innovation.

Through the company’s WeatherBank data feed, WeatherWare provides coverage of meteorological activity as well as graphic capabilities that display weather occurrences on TV-broadcast quality maps — international, national, regional and state.

WeatherWare sells for about $300 and runs on any IBM compatible PC. It requires a Hayes compatible modem, hard disk and EGBA or VGA color graphic monitor and card. Connection to the WeatherBank data feed is made with a 300-9600 baud modem via two networks which can handle calls from anywhere in North America, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

If that last paragraph left you fumbling through your computer dictionary, you’re not alone. Many superintendents are just becoming familiar with their WeatherWare 5.0 can generate this type of map on any IBM-compatible computer.

Individual weather forecasts a reality

By Hal Phillips

WeatherWare sells for about $300 and runs on any IBM compatible PC. It requires a Hayes compatible modem, hard disk and EGBA or VGA color graphic monitor and card. Connection to the WeatherBank data feed is made with a 300-9600 baud modem via two networks which can handle calls from anywhere in North America, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

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Ciba-Geigy and Rain Bird honor industry’s Environmental Stewards

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Ciba-Geigy and Rain Bird have announced the winners of the first annual Environmental Steward Awards. The companies also announced a donation of more than $12,000 to Golf Course Superintendents Association of America Scholarship & Research.

The award program was created to recognize golf course superintendents and golf courses for their work to protect or enhance their local environment. Entries were reviewed by an independent panel of judges selected for their expertise in environmental issues, turfgrass management and other areas. Awards were given in three categories: public, private and resort golf courses. One national winner was selected in each category:

• Don Tolson, CGCS, Fox Hollow at Lakewood (public/ Lakewood, Colo.);

By Hal Phillips

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WeatherWare

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Computer aided drafting has many benefits for the landscape architect. The accuracy of drawings created with CAD tools help to avoid on-site construction errors and the increased quality control/speed in making revisions are big advantages, according to Daryl Byrd with the Boston-based landscape architecture firm of Morgan, Wheelock.

Creating centralized, up-to-date information is an important factor. Some small landscape architecture firms have seen a 35 percent increase in revenues, said Byrd, due mostly to the ability to generate work faster.

Byrd said a plant database can help the designer choose the most appropriate shrub, based on many different factors such as water requirements and mature height. A library of plant symbols can be accessed easily, eliminating repetitive work and reducing engineering time. Plant growth can be simulated, adding the fourth dimension of time to the 2-D or 3-D world of the landscape architect’s drawings.

One of the most time-saving benefits in using GIS and CADD tools is the ability to easily generate work faster.

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Insect Seduction
Parkway Research has introduced Seduction Insect Feeding Stimulant for turfgrass, a blend of flavorings and attractants specifically designed to improve the performance of water-based or emulsifiable insecticides. Seduction will form a flexible, tacky film on plant foliage to improve adherence, while the flavoring and attracting components improve acceptance and uptake by target insects. For more info, call 1-800-256-3668; or write to P.O. Box 5441 Kingwood, Texas 77325.

Ball washer, water fountain in one
To provide refreshment for golfers and to ensure that their golf balls remain clean during a round of golf, UK manufacturers of drinking water coolers and fountains, Maestro Water Coolers, have introduced the new Golfstream, a drinking fountain and golf ball washer in one. Designed to be fitted in golf tee areas, the Golfstream is a drinking fountain which has the bonus of a golf ball washing facility as an integral part of the unit.

MINNEAPOLIS — The Toro Company has introduced the Injector Pro, an advanced chemical injection application system which will be available for summer 1993. The Injector Pro is designed to separate the chemical(s) and water until the moment before the mixture is injected into the spray booms. As a result, the problems associated with over- or undermixing materials are eliminated — and operators can enjoy on-the-go flexibility by choosing products and their application rates while in the field.

The separate container system eliminates time-consuming post-operation clean-up, and the needless exposure to rinsate and its disposal. In addition, Toro has introduced a new cab which encloses the upper half of the operator and circulates clean filtered air toward him or her. For more information, call 612-887-7949; or write Toro at 8111 Lyndale Ave. South, Minneapolis, Minn. 55420.

Teejet designed to alleviate spray drift
WHEATON, I1L. — In response to heightened concerns about drift potential, Spraying Systems Co. has announced a new Drift Guard Teejet flat spray tip to reduce drift at standard pressures of 30 to 60 P.S.I. while maintaining nozzle pattern uniformity.

DG Teejet tips are available in 80-degree and 110-degree spray angles and sizes from 0.13 gallons per minute up to 0.49 gallons per minute at recommended pressures of 30 to 60 psi. All DG Teejet tips fit the self-aligning Quick Teejet nozzle body system for quick, no-tool nozzle changes and feature the VisiFlo color coding system for quick, easy identification of flow rates. For more information call 708-665-5000; or write Spraying Systems Co., Agricultural Division, P.O. Box 7900, Wheaton, Ill. 60189-7900.

Design software
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