Palmer to keynote Golf Course Expo

Arnies to address Army at conference & trade show

By Hal Phillips

Orlando—Arnold Palmer, golfing legend and principal of Palmer Course Design, heads an array of influential speakers scheduled to impart their knowledge at Golf Course Expo, Nov. 11-12, here at the Orange County Convention Center.

Sponsored by Golf Course News, Golf Course Expo is a trade show and education conference designed specifically for superintendents, owners, managers and developers of public-access golf facilities: daily-fee, municipal, semi-private and resort.

The Palmer keynote, the trade show and Shop Talks are free to all Expo attendees.

“We are delighted, of course, that Mr. Palmer has chosen to speak at Golf Course Expo,” said Charles von Brecht, publisher of Golf Course News. “He and the people at Palmer Course Design understand, as we do, that public-access golf is where the action is, so to speak. Over the last five years, 80 percent of the record course openings have been municipal, daily-fee or regional.”

Brauer’s Minn. project awaits court resolution

By Hal Phillips

BWiABIK, Minn.—Neighboring Michigan may have its Homestead project, stalled and wrapped tightly in bureaucratic red tape. But Minnesota has a bogged-down, high-profile golf course development of its own, right here, and architect Jeffrey Brauer is caught in the flypaper.

“I might be overstating it to say it’s like the Homestead,” said Brauer, president of Dallas-based Golfscapes, Inc. “But this golf course has taken a tortured path toward approval... The worst of it is, no one is trying to sneak anything by us.”

Continued on page 26

Seed companies re-think the rye market

By Mark Leslie

The term “high-volume, low-profit” might fit no other product better than perennial ryegrass—the choice of many for overseeding.

“People just after this business for the volume. But it’s very low-profit,” said Steve Tubbs, vice president of Turf Merchants of Tangent, Ore.

“It’s important to the industry in the fact there is a lot of seed used,” said Tom Stanley, marketing manager at Turf Seed in Hubbard, Ore. “However, when you look at the dollars involved, it’s not very important.

Continued on page 19

After the dormant bermudagrass is scalped at LaQuinta (Calif.) Country Club, maintenance crews vacuum the debris in preparation for overseeding.

Then why get involved?

“That’s a good question,” Stanley said, and I think it’s a question a lot of Oregon seed companies are asking themselves. This year the trend continues from the last several years. We’ve seen declining prices and increased production.

“Everybody wants a piece of the overseeding market. It’s big. A lot of distributors think it’s glamorous. And it’s a way to dump overproduction into a market that’s not going to hurt them in other regions of the country.”

Fifty million to 60 million pounds, or...