**BRIEFS**

**HAHN, ARCHITECTS TO TALK**

DELHI, N.Y. — Oak Hill Country Club superintendent Joe Hahn and golf course architects Geoffrey Cornish and Craig Schreiner will speak at a Golf Course Design/Construction Seminar at State University of New York - Delhi, Aug. 16. Sponsored by the New York State Turfgrass Association in cooperation with area golf course superintendents organizations, the seminar will be highlighted by dedication of the completed turfgrass education building at SUNY Delhi. Hahn will speak on regrassing the old greens at Oak Hill, while Cornish will discuss contemporary design trends and Schreiner will talk on design and the environment.

**NEW YORK TURF EXPO READIED**

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Former NFL referee Dr. Jim Tunney, who works with refereeing through the East Coast Turf and Grounds Exposition here, Nov. 9-10. More information is available from ECTGA at P.O. Box 612, Latham, N.Y., telephone 518-783-1229.

**RICKERT MOVES ON TO N.J.**

MEDFORD, N.J. — Bruce Rickert has left the City of Brotherly Love for Medford, where he is head superintendent at Medford Village Country Club. He had been superintendent at Torresdale-Frankford Country Club, and before that was assistant superintendent at Huntington Valley Country Club.

**STATE AGENCY HONORS FABRIZIO**

CHARLESTON, S.C. — The Department of Health and Environmental Control has named Michael K. Fabrizio, superintendent at Wild Dunes Resort, one of the first recipients of its Clean Water Award. The award, given to 14 people statewide, recognizes Fabrizio's commitment to water quality protection here. He has been an active member in the state Nonpoint Source (NPS) Water Pollution Program. He was also awarded a certificate of appreciation for his volunteer service to the East Cooper NPS Project.

**GCSAA continues metamorphosis**

By Hal Phillips

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The legacy of Arthur Andersen lives on. The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has continued its restructuring effort with the creation of two new departments here at association headquarters: Chapter Relations, Technical Information Services and Career Development. These new departments reflect the impact of last year's Arthur Andersen study, which thoroughly evaluated the business and outreach systems at GCSAA. The study's recommendations have sent shock waves through research and public service, or Extension programs.

**State gives bucks to boost Clemson research**

By Mark Leslie

CLEMSON, S.C. — Recognizing the turf industry's impact on South Carolina's economy, the state Legislature has allocated $530,000 a year to help expand Clemson University's turfgrass program.

"It's exciting to get new money in this kind of economy," said Dr. John Kelly, chairman of the Horticulture Department, adding that another $379,000 was approved for the state university's ornamental horticulture program. "All across the country, university budgets have been cut. The Legislature was sending a clear message: When it comes to economic development-type activity, turf is a huge trigger in South Carolina."

A recent survey found the turfgrass/golf course industry is worth over $840 million to the South Carolina economy. The state sports 339 golf courses.

**'Anyone who had poor drainage and cut their Bermudagrass at tee height lost it.'**

— Jerry Lemons

**THE OLD WORLD VISITS THE NEW**

**The Americanization of Patrick O'Fee**

By Alex Ainsworth

ELCHES, Ore. — Irishman Patrick O'Fee has discovered that, in America, golf is more than a way of life — it is a business. That's why he's here, apprenticing under Superintendent Tony Lasher at The Resort at the Mountain.

A native of Bangor, Northern Ireland, O'Fee is working here as part of an exchange through Experience International. A 31-year-old turf management graduate from his native Greenmount College, he came to America looking for experience in pesticide use, and was surprised by the active golf industry.

"There is a lot more money in the golf course industry here than there is at home. It is a business!" said O'Fee. "At home they are a lot more reticent to invest — more conservative." O'Fee has grasped the idea of an American "golf industry," with its course-per-day development mentality and for-profit management style. According to O'Fee, the golf industry in Ireland is about to boom. Northern Irish farmers are converting their land, he said, as the population of approximately 1.5 million proposes building 40 golf courses over the next five years.

The golf industry has a large future in the Emerald Isle and O'Fee wants to be prepared for it.

**Winter simply kills Southeastern courses**

By Mark Leslie

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Golf course superintendents are taking different tactics in bringing their courses back to life after a devastating winter killed crippled or killed their Bermudagrass. Their options: sod/sprig Bermudagrass or replace their stands with zoysiagrass.

Most courses are not expected to fully recover until August or September.

"It's pretty major," said Patrick O'Brien, director of the Southeast Region of the U.S. Golf Association Green Section. "Tennessee was probably the hardest hit area, along with the western Carolinas and Kentucky. Atlanta was hit pretty hard. I was at Nags Head, N.C., right on the Atlantic where temperatures are usually moderate, and it was devastated."

The major culprit was a fateful, three-day period in mid-January. Superintendent Jerry Lemons of Old Hickory Country Club in Hermitage said that on Jan. 11 it was 59 degrees. "We had two inches of rain, and in 24 hours it was minus-2 degrees. It stayed that way for 72 hours. That knocked it (Bermudagrass) out — killed it. Anyone who had poor drainage and cut their Bermudagrass at tee height lost it."

It remained cold for almost two weeks. Then, many areas received an ice storm Jan. 26. The blanket of ice stayed on the ground for four or five days, driving the cold deep into the soil and killing it. Anyone who had poor drainage and cut their Bermudagrass at tee height lost it."

"Americans are much further ahead in turf management techniques and treat it much more scientifically than we do in Ireland," said O'Fee. "Americans are professional in everything from machinery maintenance to man management."

People here show a greater willingness to invest in equipment.