Hahn, Architects to Talk

DELIH, 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.

Hahn will speak on regrassing the old
greens at Oak Hill, while Cornish will
discuss contemporary design trends
and Schreiner will talk on golf course
operations with area golf course
superintendents organizations.

New York Turf Expo Readied

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Former NFL
referee Dr. Jim Tunney, who works with
many Fortune 500 companies teaching
skills needed to take a team to the next
level, will deliver the keynote address at
the New York State Turfgrass
Association's (NYSTA) annual
Turf and Grounds Exposition here, Nov.
8-11. A 300-booth trade show will be held
Nov. 9-10. More information is avail-
able from NYSTA 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
spent time at Philadelphia's River
Valley Country Club.

State Agency Honors Fabrizio

CHARLESTON, S.C. — The Depart-
ment of Health and Environmental
Control has named Michael K. Fabrizio,
superintendent at Wild Dunes Resort,
one of the first re-
cipients of its Clean Water Award. The
award, given to 14 people statewide,
recognizes Fabrizio's commit-
tment to water qual-
ity protection here. He has been an active
member in the state Nonpoint Source
(Water Pollution Program. He was
also awarded a certificate of appreciation
for his volunteer service to the East
Coo-
per NPS Project.

Golf Course News

BRIEFS

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 kill 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 South-
est Coast Region of the U.S. Golf Association Green Section.
"Tenes-
see 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. Superintendents 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
below freezing for 10 days. 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
began a quick recovery Jan. 30. That blanket of ice stayed on the
ground for four or five days, driving the cold deep into the soil
and

The Old World Visits the New

The Americanization of Patrick O'Fee

By ALEXA 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 experi-
ence in pesticide use, and was surprised by the active golf
industry.

"There is a lot more money in the golf 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
Northern 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.

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 cre-

The Legislation was sending a clear
message: When it comes to economic
development-type activity, turf is a
huge trigger in South Carolina.'

— Dr. John Kelly

State funds allocated $530,000 /a
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Continued from page 15
through the GCSAA. "One of our mandates here was to get our house in order," said GCSAA Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer Steve Mona. "And that's a large part of what we've done during my first five months here.

Indeed, Mona is a product of Andersen's impact. Since the study was issued, GCSAA has seen the departures of longtime Executive Director John Schilling and Counsel Robert Ochs and Director of Membership Services Diane Green. Per Andersen's recommendations, GCSAA has created a completely restructured hierarchy, with Mona filling the newly created position of executive director and CEO (Schilling was merely the former).

The association also created the positions of chief operations officer — filled by Joe O'Brien — and chief financial officer, filled by Julian Arrendoondo.

Since the Andersen study, GCSAA has suspended overseas publications; worked more closely with allied industry associations, particularly the United States Golf Association; and joined the chemical trade association RISE (Responsible Industry Solutions Everywhere) — something it refused to do under the Schilling regime.

Andrea agrees. "The association has created a completely different structure. It's like starting from scratch."

Mona noted that's a large part of what we've done - re-establishing ties with allied golf associations and forming the grounds management association. "The chapters are the foundation for the national organization," O'Brien said. "They do excellent work, particularly in the areas of scholarship and research. We're looking at ways to get more of them involved.

The national association recently hired a new real estate broker to market its excess office space. O'Brien said GCSAA staff only occupies five-eighths of the new, 40,000-square-foot building. Less than half of the old building, which GCSAA still owns, is rented, the COO added.

"The association could eventually need all the space. But that day is far off in the future," O'Brien said. Following the annual meeting, O'Brien said the board directed GCSAA's 72-member staff to focus on further expanding the association's internal staffing needs, building relationships with allied golf associations, and returning the organization's focus to meeting members' needs.

A few people have left, notably Government Relations Manager Kirk Kahler, Tournament Manager John White and Membership Director Janet Rose, O'Brien said. Several others have been reassigned. "We found a lot of talented people inside these walls," O'Brien said.

The new upper management staff has returned to the new headquarters like a team - a 'new team' to a third year at a bylaw amendment - to increase membership classifications. That measure was resoundingly defeated at the last two annual meetings.

"We're trying to do things pretty clearly regarding increasing membership classes," O'Brien said. "It certainly wouldn't be prudent to bring it up again without a lot of research.

Prior to coming to GCSAA, O'Brien spent 18 years in a variety of administrative positions with the Professional Golfers Association. During that time he witnessed the growth in stature of the club professional. A similar professional image is what many superintendents hope to attain.

"At almost every meeting I've attended, improving the image of the golf professional was brought up," O'Brien noted. "Members want help from national headquarters in building up their image. They have invested a lot of time and money in professional training, and they are seeking an identity, especially in a high-risk occupation. They want more credibility with the public. And they want the people they report to to recognize the validity of their advice as educated course managers."

Legislature gives Clemson a boost

Continued from page 15
smaller than the one now being considered at the University of Iowa, and offers a desire to focus on health and human safety, especially in light of the University of Iowa study on increased cancer rates among superintendents. Second is an emphasis on doing research on golf courses rather than at university test plots or in laboratories. Finally, the association's board has informed the drawing board for maintenance specialists, especially mechanics.

"Head superintendents report having a difficult time finding qualified people for that position," O'Brien said. In no way, O'Brien assured, is adding specialist training a forerunner to a third run at a bylaw amendment to increase membership classifications. That measure was resoundingly defeated at the last two annual meetings.

"We'll be making a donation to the USGA that can fund O'Brien, adding that GCSAA plans to build bridges and mend fences with other organizations as well. Serving membership needs will be the goal of all GCSAA research and education, he added. The research committee (for the use of chemicals). The German influence has really spread to the United Kingdom, where researchers have realized the importance of constructing an 18-hole handicapped-accessible golf course designed to be a 'working laboratory' for researchers and students.

Irishman apprentices in America

Continued from page 15
ment, he said, adding this is an area in which Ireland needs to improve. O'Fee has come to value machinery while working under Lasher.

"He is basically looking to learn as much as he can from American golf course maintenance," said Lasher. "Europeans do things differently than we do, and it's interesting to learn about their turf management practices and the way they approach agronomics."

While studying in his homeland, O'Fee learned little about pesticide spraying. He has found it here and prepared for the Oregon pesticide application exam. He believes these are the experiences that will provide him with the technical skill he seeks.

O'Fee has also noticed changes in the use of fertilizers and pesticides, both here and at home. "Ignorance is no longer going to be all right," said O'Fee. "In the European market we're becoming a lot more environmentally aware... There is a lot of restriction.

O'Fee has noticed the German influence on the conscience of Europe. "The restrictions are really tight in Germany. They've really cracked down