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Course of Study
Siena College and Schuyler Meadows GC will cooperate on long-term environmental studies.

Off the Record
Having decided to rethink its greens construction specs, the USGA solicits research proposals.

15,000 and Counting!
GCN and the NGF have identified the nation’s 15,000th course, which opened for play this spring.

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COURSE MAINTENANCE
GCSAA adopts Audubon in-school program. Scientists rave about new breed of bent grass. Q&A with R&A Secretary Michael Bonallack.

COURSE DEVELOPMENT
Q&A with Ohio-area architect Barry Serafin. Pearson leaves Golden Bear for solo career. ASGCA welcomes three new fellows.

COURSE MANAGEMENT
Ocean Course sale hits yet another snag. Resorts recruit incentive-travel customers. Grassie moves headquarters to Florida.

SUPPLIER BUSINESS
EPA promises to streamline label review. New digs for York Bridge Concepts. What’s new in the marketplace?

Top dressing breakthrough: Crumb rubber
By Mark Leslie
WILMINGTON, Ohio — After five years of extensive study, Michigan State University (MSU) researchers are recommending crumb rubber, or finely chopped automobile tires, as a top dressing for high-traffic areas on golf courses and athletic fields.

As much as we incorporated it into the soil profile, we never saw the panacea that people wanted. But we did find great results when top dressing it onto established turf,” Dr. John “Trey” Rogers III of MSU said of crumb rubber.

“When we incorporated it, the rubber 
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Claims drain funding for UST clean-up
By Peter Blais
Nebraska recently delayed the clean-up of some 6,000 contaminated underground storage tank (UST) sites because its state-controlled cleanup fund is almost out of money. This spring, cash-strapped New Mexico diverted half the $14 million in its UST clean-up and indemnification fund to other uses.

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State UST funds in Florida and Illinois could soon run out money, according to Dennis Rounds.

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The world of public-access golf marks two momentous occasions in July. New York City’s Van Cortlandt Park Golf Course (above), the nation’s oldest public-access course, celebrates its centenary this month. For the story on its week-long commemoration, see page 35. Meanwhile, the nation’s 15,000th facility has opened for play: Poolsbrook Golf Course, a family-run daily-fee in Kirkville, N.Y. See story page 46.

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Ever-shrinking dollar posing problems for manufacturers
By Hal Phillips
America’s ongoing currency woes are beginning to affect golf course industry firms, some of which have discarded product lines dependent on overseas manufacturing agreements. Others continue to monitor the situation closely, recognizing the possibility that plunging dollar values may render those agreements unfeasible in the long-term.

“Anybody importing from Japan any commodity is impacted by the currency situation,” said John Brozek, director of industrial Product Sales at Daihatsu, which will cease production of its Hijet utility vehicle in December.

Like Daihatsu, Mitsubishi manufacturers its Mighty Mit utility vehicle in Japan, but that will soon end, confirmed Bob Hertel, industrial vehicle manu

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