Kiawah Revisited
Pete Dye's Ocean Course has been purchased at auction again, by the same buyer: VIT

PGR Warning
One researcher believes use of plant growth regulators may induce algae problems in greens

Managers Unite
Brassie & COPM join forces, making the new entity America's third largest management firm

USCCA to offer clubs group buying option

Jeffrey Dykhouse, USCCA's founder, president and sole stockholder.
CAP reportedly leverages the buying power of USCCA member clubs to provide the best possible price for products and services such as insurance, maintenance equipment and supplies, food and beverage products, office equipment, irrigation materials and equipment, golf

Nicklaus hops aboard the public-access bandwagon

By Mark Leslie
North Palm Beach, Fla. — The Nicklaus umbrella is about to expand, adding public-access golf clubs and community development and management to its bulky portfolio.

Corneillier at Keystone Ranch Golf Course are taking off green covers and tending to new seedlings... Continued on page 27

Nicklaus II and design associate Chris Cochran survey plans in Palm City, Fla.

Sticks & Stones: Firms play the name game

By Hal Phillips
The automobile industry annually spends millions of dollars researching model names that will catch the fancy of consumers. Sometimes the money is well spent; sometimes it may as well have been flushed down the toilet.

Unfortunately for Ford, marketing experts believe the name tends to remind young women of pending trips to the gynecologist.

The Probe may be the golf course superintendent's equivalent to an herbicide called Leech-Rite.

While the dollar value is modest in comparison, suppliers to the golf course industry also spend a great deal of time and money on the formulation of product names. Perhaps because of their sheer number and the often thankless nature of their functions, seed varieties and turf chemicals are tops when it comes to invention. Is it coincidence that so many seed varieties share names with automobiles? "Mustang, Falcon, Dasher, Fiesta, Explorer..."
Developed by Professor H. B. Musser and Dr. Joe Duich and introduced in the fall of 1955 as an elite seeded creeping bentgrass for putting greens, Penncross' popularity was immediate and long-lasting. Penncross' reputation for rapid establishment and quick recovery from damage has made it a popular choice of developers who must open their courses in a timely manner as well as savvy superintendents who utilize it for tees and approaches where divot repair is necessary.

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Penncross is grown to the same critical standards set by Professor Musser, and you can be assured we'll provide the world's most recognized creeping bentgrass as long as you demand it.
**Familiar face, VIT, secures Ocean Course from RTC**

BY PETER BLAIS

C HARLESTON, S.C. — The owner of Kiawah Island’s other three resort courses was reportedly the successful bidder at the recent auction for the Ocean Course, the Pete Dye-designed layout made famous as the site of the 1991 Ryder Cup. Virginia Investment Trust (VIT) was the only fully conforming bidder for the seaside track, according to Tom Harris of CB Commercial, which marketed the Ocean Course for the RTC. VIT operates the Turtle Point, Osprey Point and Marsh Point courses, as well as the Kiawah Resort Inn. RTC spokesperson Mike Fulwider refused to confirm, however, that VIT was the winning bidder. Any purchase is subject to bankruptcy court approval. Fulwider said the court is scheduled to render a decision this month. VIT reportedly offered $27,000,100, the minimum acceptable bid (also known as the reserve price) set by the Resolution Trust Corp. (RTC), which has controlled the Ocean Course since former owner Landmark Land Co. filed for bankruptcy several years ago.

Charles Way, who developed Kiawah’s residential area and the private Tom Fazio-designed course currently under construction, submitted the only other sealed bid. Way’s bid was below the RTC’s reserve price. The property was reportedly the subject of an auction process for several years. Charles Way, who developed Kiawah’s residential area and the private Tom Fazio-designed course currently under construction, submitted the only other sealed bid. Way’s bid was below the RTC’s reserve price. The property was reportedly the subject of an auction process for several years.
Old Georgia family bitten by golf bug

TUCKER, Ga. — A family influential in the development of the town of Tucker for 110 years is leasing land to developers to build a new, upscale 18-hole golf course and golf complex.

Sanford Burns, a lifelong Tucker resident, is leasing land to developers Maurice and Susan Whyte to build the Heritage golf course on 176 acres at the corner of Britt and Old Norcross roads in Gwinnett County just outside Atlanta.

The Whytes approached Burns with the idea of building a 7,200-yard, 18-hole golf course, an 8,000-square-foot clubhouse overlooking a 14-acre lake, a golf academy for public lessons and dining facilities. The Whytes have said the daily-fee public-access facility will be "one of the most ultramodern facilities in the Southeast."

Palm Bay, Fla. plans new muni

PALM BAY, Fla. — Construction of an upscale municipal golf course here could start by August if the 248-acre site passes environmental inspections. JTH Development of Riviera Beach is contracted to build the $55.1 million, 18-hole course. The city recently agreed to a 30-year land swap with abutting landowner Atlantic Gulf Communities, which owns about 2,000 acres surrounding the site. The swap will allow the city to smooth out the parcel and improve the routing. The course is projected to draw 20,000 to 40,000 rounds of play in its first year. The only other public courses in Palm Bay are Summit View Golf Club in Grant and The Habitat at Valkaria.

Palm Bay, Fla. — Nine holes of the 18-hole, 7,100-yard course at the new Brasstown Valley Crowne Plaza Resort here in the mountains of northeast Georgia are expected to open this month.

The resort is a unique arrangement: the state Department of Natural Resources has contracted with Holiday Inn franchiser Stormont Trice Inc. to manage the state-owned land.

The course, designed by Denis Griffiths and Associates, is one of the main attractions at the new $25 million luxury resort, which is about a two-hour drive from downtown Atlanta as well as Asheville, N.C., Greenville, S.C., and Chattanooga, Tenn. The remaining nine holes are scheduled to open in September, when a gala grand opening is planned.

Project seeks grandfather clause

MADISON, Wis. — An 18-hole golf course between Madison and Sun Prairie that suffered a setback this past spring may be back on track. Madison officials who want to build the course were thwarted earlier this year when the Legislature barred the state from giving them conservation funds to help buy a 251-acre parcel. Now, however, it looks like the Madison-Sun Prairie project could be exempted under a "grandfather" provision.

Madison officials are looking for $1.5 million to help buy the land that could cost about $3 million. St. Widstrand of the Madison Parks Division said a golf course in the area has been planned since 1991 and would preserve open green space between the two cities. The provision to allow conservation funds to go to the Madison-Sun Prairie project still must be approved by several state committees and the Legislature. The provision would apply to the Madison-Sun Prairie project only and no other courses in the future.
Tenn. park project to be replaced?

TIMS FORD, Tenn. — Tims Ford State Park here on the shores of Tims Ford Lake may not get a new, 18-hole Nicklaus-designed golf course after all.

Just months after the state and the contracted Golf Services Group of Houston indicated Tims Ford had become a leading candidate to be one of the four state parks for new golf courses under a $20 million project, it appears things have changed.

State Architect Mike Fitts recently told a Tims Ford Council meeting that the state still has hopes of building a golf course at Natchez Trace even though the site was deemed too costly to build on by Golf Services. Fitts said a new golf course at Natchez Trace would fit with plans to expand a convention center and build a new inn. If Natchez Trace is chosen as one of the four sites to build a new course, Tims Ford would probably be removed from the list.

The other proposed sites are Chickasaw, Cumberland Mountain and Harrison Bay state parks.

Jersey renovation won't impede play

KENILWORTH, N.J. — The show will go on here at the 27-hole Galloping Hill Golf Course complex.

Despite undergoing a $6 million facelift to improve drainage, install a computerized irrigation system and rebuild all trees and bunkers, Galloping Hill will remain open for public play.

Although the project is expected to take three to five years to complete, play on the course will not be interrupted, according to County Manager Ann Brann.

Brann said construction will occur on only nine holes at a time, adding that the pitch-and-putt course will not be affected at all.

Beyond the major renovations to the course, the county is also in the conceptual design phase of a new driving range at Galloping Hill that would be lighted for nighttime.

Liberty Park

Continued from page 3

make money. They also said it would turn a large chunk of a public park into a place that only a minority of people — golfers — can enjoy.

"Liberty State Park provides green sanctuary in the state's most densely populated county," Whitman said, announcing her decision. "More important, the park belongs to all the people of New Jersey. Public sentiment overwhelmingly supported keeping it that way, without a golf course. I agree."

"It is time to close this issue once and for all and move ahead with the original intent of Liberty State Park," Whitman said. "The idea was for Liberty State Park to be a park in a classic sense — where people can go to enjoy quiet and solitude. A golf course doesn't fit that definition."

Instead of a golf course, Whitman has said she will direct state officials to tap part of the state's Green Acres fund to improve the park and make more of it available for public use. Officials have said it could cost as much as $12 million to improve the partially run-down park.

Along with a golf course, Liberty State Park Development Corp. had proposed nine acres of ballfields and a 40-acre picnic and playground area.

Whitman and Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Robert Shinn Jr. had been expected to make a decision on the proposed course before the end of 1994. But several self-imposed deadlines came and went without a decision on the $20 million question. Her rejection of the proposal was particularly interesting given the fact that she has been criticized by environmentalists for her business-friendly policies.

"It's obviously a disappointment," said Peter Vysvasky, president of Liberty State Park Development Corp., an advisory group made up of local professionals. "We had asked Gov. Whitman to make a decision on the project and it's not the decision we had wanted. Now the task still before us is what we do with the 225 acres which is a valuable public resource and working on alternatives to the funding of the green island of Liberty State Park ... We still have our thinking caps on."

Whitman's decision to reject a golf course at Liberty Park comes at a time when several other states around the country are in the midst of proposals, some highly controversial, to build new golf courses in state parks. Tennessee is in the midst of protracted negotiations over a contract signed in 1984 to have four new Jack Nicklaus-designed golf courses built in four different state parks (see story above).

Golf courses are also either under construction or soon to be inside state park land in Mississippi, Maryland and Texas.

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Elevated teebox spurs zoning spat in Phoenix

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Is a golf tee a structure? How about a cart path with railings?

These are the key questions stirred up by the Phoenician Resort's plans to locate an elevated tee 25 feet above a Phoenix no-building line as part of a new nine-hole addition.

Both the Phoenix City Council and Planning Commission have already approved the plans of ITT Sheraton, the owner of the mountainside Phoenician Resort. Most of the proposed project was already allowed under existing zoning. ITT originally proposed building 10 luxury homes on the 2,305-foot-tall mountain but dropped those plans.

But the president of the Arcadia-Camelback Homeowners Association, some residents, and other local groups plan to contest the plans for the one elevated tee and a cart path to go with it. Phoenix planning laws say that no structures can be built above 1,440 feet, but neither the developer nor the two city groups that approved the project regard the tee and cart path as structures.

ITT has said it considered moving the holes downhill but decided it would bring them too close to existing homes.

Ohio farmer fills need, carves 18 from old dairy

GRANVILLE, Ohio — If the best known farmer in golf circles these days is Robert Landers, the former dairy farmer from Texas who is playing on the Senior PGA Tour, then Larry Bruce is a not-too-distant second.

Bruce, a 45-year-old farmer in Licking County outside of Columbus, has decided to build the 18-hole Links at Echo Springs on 220 acres of farmland he owns north of Granville and east of Johnstown.

Bruce's rise to golf prominence in central Ohio is a fast-moving tale. He started playing golf about five years ago because his new son-in-law played the game. When he had trouble getting on local courses, he built a single green with four tees of varying distances.

Bruce's wife next bought him a golf cart and people started telling him that one day he was going to build a golf course, which he laughed off at the time. Finally his visions of rolling fairways got the best of him.

Local golf course architect Barry Serafin did the course design. Bruce is a partner in the venture with owners of a construction company and a sand and gravel company that are supplying labor and materials. Bruce is the project manager.

Albertan layout to open this month

CALGARY, Alberta — A showcase 18-hole golf course in the Tirion Development subdivision in northwest Calgary opens this month, minus the smoke and ready to walk.

The course has instituted a strict no-smoking policy in and around the clubhouse. Carts will be required for the first year, but the club plans to go to a full caddie program in the future.

The highly sculpted, 6,280-yard layout was planned by Bill Newis and refined by Darren Young, who is executive professional at the club. Tirion's inaugural golf course superintendent is Dave Whitell.

Play this year will be restricted to members, all of whom have bought houses in the area and opted for a trial membership, and their guests.

Private track adds 9, goes public

ATTICA, Ind. — The nine-hole golf course here at Harrison Hills Country Club, owned by the Harrison Steel Co. and private since it opened for play back in 1953, will not only double in size this year but will also be open to the public starting in 1996.

Construction on the expansion started in March, according to project manager Geoff Curtis, and is expected to be completed by early August.

The existing nine-hole course, on the east side of U.S. 41 in Attica, is approximately 70 acres.

The new nine holes under construction will add about 80 acres, Curtis said.

In addition to the new grass, tees and putting surfaces, the nine-hole expansion also includes a four-acre lake.

Harrison officials had been planning an expansion since 1991 due to the increasing popularity of golf and the growing viability of public-access golf operations. In late 1993, they bought farmland adjacent to the nine-hole course which set up the expansion.
Planter prefers golf to subdivision

ACKERMANYVILLE, Pa. — Leon Brodt, a 63-year-old farmer, is building his own golf course on his former 150-acre farm here. Brodt is about 75 percent finished with the nine-hole Waltz Creek Golf Course. He is corporate partners with Championship Golf Course Services from Clarks Summit in Lackawanna County, which has handled the major construction.

Brodt said he wanted to preserve the open space and still be able to draw income from it without having to subdivide for buildings. He left the contours of the land much as they were during his farming years.

Brodt isn’t planning to build any kind of clubhouse but will build a small pro shop. He said he would also like to expand the course to 18 holes someday. Part of the course Brodt is building rests on the old Ackermanville Golf Course that closed about 15 years ago.

Coast Guard opens track to civilians

NEW YORK — The cash-strapped Coast Guard has opened its exclusive nine-hole golf course on Governors Island to civilians.

For the first time ever, the Coast Guard is offering limited corporate and individual memberships to outsiders because staff and budget cutbacks have threatened the future of the nine-hole, 3,803-yard course. Five corporate slots at $5,000 apiece and 20 individual memberships at $650 each were made available.

The course — with views to the World Trade Center, the Brooklyn Bridge and lower Manhattan — has double tees on each hole. Several fairways wrap around star-shaped Fort Jay, built in 1798.

The fort is encircled by a two-tiered, 30-foot-deep moat — a unique hazard.

NYC suit fails to halt project, but city appeals

SOMERS, N.Y. — A federal judge recently dismissed a lawsuit filed by nine developers of a golf course here, ruling the city had failed to prove the course would harm the Amawalk and Muscoot reservoirs.

Earlier, the judge also lifted an order that had temporarily blocked construction of the 18-hole Robert Trent Jones-designed Anglebrook Golf Course.

The city of New York had argued the golf course, planned by Mitsui Fudosan Inc., would pollute the city’s drinking water. U.S. District Judge Barrington D. Parker Jr. sided with developers, who argued that their storm-water pollution-prevention plan was more than adequate.

The city has said it will appeal Judge Parker’s decision.

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Circle #105
Ohio’s Blacklick takes summer break

COLUMBUS, Ohio — One of the most popular public golf courses in central Ohio will be shut down for the summer. The 18-hole championship course at Blacklick Woods Metropolis Park in Reynoldsburg was scheduled to close June 1 for work to start on a $2.5 million renovation project that includes replacing 14 of the course’s 18 greens and relocating three of them into more natural areas of the course.

Blacklick’s 18-hole executive-length course will remain open during the project, which is expected to take nearly a year to complete. The 14 greens to be replaced were originally part of the old Stoney Creek Country Club course, which became Blacklick Woods. The new greens will be rebuilt according to U.S. Golf Association specifications.

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Golf course designer Michael Hurdzan recently found himself on the witness stand in state claims court. Hurdzan, who is based in Columbus, was called to testify about the potential threat of more flying golf balls passing motorists. The proposed $4.3 million road-widening project has been planned since the 1980s after a study found there were 117 accidents there in three years.

Hurdzan testified he wouldn’t design such a hole because of the potential liability problems.

ST. GEORGE, Utah — Construction has started on the 18-hole Johnny Miller Signature Golf Course at the mouth of Snow Canyon near St. George. Miller teamed up on the design with Mike Reid of Provo, a consultant with the Johnny Miller Design Group. Reid, going one further, has said the course will have three “movements” — 11 holes through the Snow Canyon wash, four holes against towering red cliffs, and three challenging target holes carved out of lava flow.
Hickory shafts, gutta percha balls
the new rule at Oakhurst Links

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS, W. Va. — Lewis Keller of New York has reopened a historic golf club 91 years after it closed — with an unusual twist.

The Oakhurst Links, which opened in May as a nine-hole course, was founded in 1884, not too far from The Greenbrier resort, as a six-hole course by Russell Montague for him and four friends to play. The layout closed in 1904.

Keller bought the golf course land and clubhouse in 1959 as a retreat and later as a place to raise thoroughbred horses.

Three years ago, at the urging of Ladies Professional Golf Association official Phil Patton of Jupiter, Fla., golf writer Dick Taylor of Pinehurst, N.C., and Atlanta golf course designer Robert Cupp, Keller and his son, Lewis Keller Jr., began the restoration.

But that’s just part of the story. Instead of using cavity-backed irons, graphite-shafted clubs and long-distance, high-trajectory balls, players at The Oakhurst Links will be required to use hickory-shafted clubs and gutta-percha golf balls. They’ll also have to aim shots around sheep that will double as a fairway maintenance team.

So far, Oakhurst has nine members who have paid an initiation fee of $2,000 plus an annual fee of $325. The course will also be open to the public, with $45 greens fees that include the use of a set of hickory-shafted clubs. Golfers must also buy the gutta-percha balls at $2 apiece.

Designers angle for Traverse City job

TRaverse CITY, Mich. — Hale Irwin, Mark McCumber and possibly Johnny Miller are considered the leading contenders to design the newest project at the Grand Traverse Resort. Northern Michigan resident Tom Doak is also reportedly in the running and could align himself with a PGA Tour member.

The project will integrate 18 new holes with an existing course to create two new Traverse City golf courses. Eventually a completely new 18-hole course will be designed. Ken Hornayak, the resort’s director of golf and golf development, said a decision will be announced in June.

Grand Traverse Resort’s master plan calls ultimately for 72 holes. Right now it has 36 — 18-hole Jack Nicklaus-designed The Bear and 18-hole Spruce Run. A new central clubhouse is also planned.
If this isn't open space, what is?

Could that happen? I thought that when I read J. Barry Mothes' story on the long-delayed demise of Liberty State Park's proposed golf development (page 3). While this story has dragged on for 18 years and a definitive decision had to be reached at some point, it's ironic that Gov. Christie Todd Whitman— that pro-business, GOP wunderkind rumored to be for 18 years and a definitive decision had to be reached at some point, it's ironic that Gov. Christie Todd Whitman of New Jersey's newly elected Republican governor who stormed into office decrying the state government's anti-business stance on a range of public-policy matters. How interesting that she saw fit to bludgeon a proposal that would have preserved and enhanced a dilapidated park site while simultaneously generating funds to maintain the entire park.

Let's listen to a conservative politician staking out her environmental credentials, shall we?

"Liberty State Park provides green sanctuary in the state's most densely populated county," Whitman said, in announcing her decision. "More important, the park belongs to all the people of New Jersey. Public sentiment overwhelmingly supported keeping it that way, without a golf course." I agree. "It is time to close this issue once and for all and move ahead with the original intent of Liberty State Park," she continued.

"The idea was for Liberty State Park to be a park in a classic sense— where people can go to enjoy quiet and solitude. A golf course design doesn't fit that," she said. It's this last part that really steams me. It's not necessarily Whitman's transparent, righteous attempt to cast herself as "sensitive" to environmental Municipal Golf Course in Hyde Park, Mass., the other day. This truly magnificent Donald Ross design was laid out in 1931, when Hyde Park was still a sleepy suburb of Boston. The city has since overtaken the area, sprawling (as...)

Letters

DOAK WARNS AGAINST OVER-RENOVATION

To the editor:

I read with interest your column about course "face-lifts" in the April issue. I agree with the architects you quoted that often, club committees are too "gung-ho" to make changes to their courses. But many young architects have just as much trouble restraining themselves in suggesting "improvements," when there is a committee full of eager members willing to tear up as much as the architect recommends. For those struggling to find work on their own, the temptation is even greater to fix things that aren't really broken.

A lot of these vintage courses don't really need face-lifts at all—or at least nothing more than advice on how to re-edge their bunkers and return greens to their original size. They're only considering more because the club across the street just rebuilt all its greens, or because they read about it in Golf Course News.

What some of them need is reassurance that these courses have stood the test of time quite admirably. But how many architects are willing to throw away a consulting fee to tell them that?

Not many—and that's why the renovation market is really booming. Every club should get a second opinion before opting for major surgery.

Tom Doak, president, Renaissance Golf Design, Inc.

Traverse City, Mich.

Think you've got a hand on the left? Think again...

S o, the Sierra Club is a bunch of wimps who've sold out to The Establishment. Factories don't burn down by themselves; they need your help. And President Clinton is environmentally "spinless.

Welcome to the world of Earth First! And pray they don't visit your golf course. The mere existence of Earth First! and its 100 chapters nationwide should make us all thank God for the other environmental groups—you know, the ones that are at least partially cohesive and rational in their thinking.

I just read through Earth First! Journal and got an education—an education I'd like to pass along to you. Of special interest to the golf industry in this edition's installment of "The New Left Needs You!" is a lengthy discussion of "create means of effective defense against the forces of industrial totalitarianism." With a disclaimer that neither the EF! movement nor the EF! Journal "necessarily encourage anyone to do anything of the things discussed," the column details how to destroy a golf course's irrigation system—trusty hammer and flathead screwdriver is hand.

"Forget all that you have heard about pouring gasoline or Roundup on the greens," the column advises. "Don't even bother carving up the tee[s] or stealing golf carts. Just cut off that IV from the aquifer."

Now, think of your club's protocol as you read this caution to the Dear Ned Ludd reader: "A quick note on security. There is virtually no security. I worked as a night waterman and security guard at a municipal golf course for four months. I was specifically told not to mess with anyone that [sic] trespassed. I was instructed to call 911 and let the herbies deal with any vandals.

The last graph serves as a call to arms: "So now you know. Go get busy. And if you get really serious about drying out a golf course, get hired on. You'll make some extra dough while conserving precious water."

In another attack leveled at golf, an EF! reporter called Cedar says Freepot McRoMan's Barton Creek Properties in Austin, Texas, "is polluting Barton Creek and Barton Springs with sewage effluent used to fertilize two existing golf courses.

(First time I've ever heard of golf courses desiring effluent—and to fertilize to be sure. Boy, there's so much scientific knowledge in this group.)

Continued on page 23

OLD ABE'S NEW HOUSE

Wendy has been writing here regarding the historic exploits of Joe and Pat Gibbs, owners and developers of the Chocoolate Downs Golf Course and Residential Community in Marquette, Mich., on the Upper Peninsula. Mr. Gibbs, a longtime antique collector and history buff, has decided to build an exact replica of Abraham Lincoln's Springfield, Ill., home on the golf course, for even went to the trouble of securing the building's original plans, drawn up in 1838. "The folks at the National Park Service said it's the first time anyone has ever requested the plans," he explained. In addition to the Lincoln house, Mr. Gibbs is adding an on-street house connected to the main structure by you guessed it—the Lincoln Tunnel. Chocoolate Downs is a 36-hole ferry Matturres design in the making, with nine holes complete and nine more nearly on line. According to Mr. Gibbs, a full third of the course can be viewed from Old Abe's new house.
Worried about avoiding costly permitting delays? Know thy site

By L.K. HAWKINS

The regulatory review and approval process for new golf course development projects poses one of the greatest risks to project success and financial outcome. There are many examples of golf development projects that failed because of convoluted planning, permitting and approval-process difficulties that drained financial resources and, ultimately, cast doubt on viability of the project.

Wide differences in the time required for project approvals and permits can be seen. While each state and local jurisdiction can vary greatly in the permitting and political approval process, there are examples of golf development projects under the same regulatory jurisdiction that varied in approval times as much as three to four years.

The time involved in gaining approvals for construction is a direct function of understanding the site, the regulatory process and managing the approval programs. In most cases, there are very common reasons for permitting difficulties. The most obvious of these is a lack of understanding regarding the site's limitations, for either environmental or practical construction reasons.

Another equally common problem has been the lack of understanding and management of the approval process. It is not uncommon to see projects with completed site plans and golf course grading plans submitted for review, only to find — after many months of effort — there were significant environmental limitations on the site that were not identified or considered in the plans.

Once involved in the permitting process, the developer often finds he is in a position of reacting to regulatory or political issues, concessions and unexpected requirements rather than managing a well planned and anticipated approval process. Other issues such as water resources, water quality or other environmental concerns surface late in the approval process and become political "hot buttons". Obviously, in this situation, the effort and resources expended in planning have been wasted and the work has to be redone. The project often becomes a costly rescue effort that might not survive unless the necessary financial resources to meet the task.

L.K. Hawkins is president of Geoscience, Inc. of Gainesville, Fla., and principal of Golf Design Studios.

Continued on page 44

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Plus, Fore gives you a new way to fight back against summer stress complex: a tank mix of Fore+Aliette®. Even during the hottest days, Fore+Aliette stops summer stress cold. So you’ll see healthy, green turf. And happier golfers.

To learn more about Fore — and forget about disease worries — see your local Rohm and Haas distributor.
The College of DuPage received $600 and universities received cash awards for highest attendance with 25 students leading horticultural expositions. Mid-Am Trade Show, one of the national associations, has cited Certified Golf Course Superintendents Association of America has certified 3,100-square-foot research lab that includes a greenhouse, four climate-controlled glass houses, two walk-in growth chambers, labs, study areas, classrooms and offices. Scientists there study turfgrass systems from root to blade and issues like temperature modification, noise abatement, pollution and water purification, and general turfgrass culture.

BRIEFS

ENVIRONMENT GETS $32,000

HOMOSASSA SPRINGS, Fla. — The third annual Envirotron Golf Classic at World Woods Golf Resort raised $35,000 for the University of Florida's Environ- 

Research Laboratory.

Envirotron is a 3,100-square-foot state-of-the-art research lab that Includes a greenhouse, four climate- 

controlled glass houses, two walk-in 

growth chambers, labs, study areas, 

classrooms and offices. Scientists 

there study turfgrass systems from root to 

blade and issues like temperature 

modification, noise abatement, pol- 

lution and water purification, and 

general turfgrass culture.

Research on PGRs and algae urged

PINEHURST, N.C. — Pinehurst Resort and Country Club has helped Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt kick off a first-of-its-kind conservation plan to help endangered red-cockaded wood-peckers find safe homes on private lands.

"This proposal uses the flexibility of the current Endangered Species Act to intro-

duce a new conserva-

tion concept that we call Safe Harbor," Babbitt said. "It offers private landowners an incentive to be good stewards of their land and provide habitat for endangered spe-

cies."

Babbitt, who works on bentgrasses with triazole-based fun-

gicides, said triazoles also are active ingredients in PGRs — and therein lies the rub.

"PGRs can increase root develop-

ment but decrease foliar elonga-

tion," he said. "The detrimental ef-

fect is that the canopy of the bentgrass becomes more open and 

allows light to the soil surface, and you get a tremendous growth in algae. That's what we're concerned about, because when algae comes through, there is no more oxygen in the soil, and the bentgrass cannot get the oxygen it needs to grow.

Pinehurst's Brad Kocher

"A great deal of breeding work is being done by private seed companies, and they already have succeeded in putting products on the market," said Taliaferro, whose vegetatively propa-
gated Midlawn and Midfield have been at the top of the national trials.

"We're there," said Farmers Market- 

corp. plant breeder Jeff Klingenberg, Arden Baltesburn's understudy. "We have a series by hybrids under the Princess brand that has the quality of a Tifway." "We're looking to release one or more varieties within the next year," said Dr. Charlie Taliaferro, a pre-

eminent scientist from Oklahoma State University.

Breeders advance on cold, seed challenges

As dominant a turf as Bermuda-

grass is on golf courses in the South, plant breeders would like to improve certain characteristics and introduce it further north. Full-

iment of their quest appears imminent.

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corp. plant breeder Jeff Klingenberg, Arden Baltesburn's understudy. "We have a series by hybrids under the Princess brand that has the quality of a Tifway." "We're looking to release one or more varieties within the next year," said Dr. Charlie Taliaferro, a pre-

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Breeders advance on cold, seed challenges

BREIFS

PINEHURST first in on Safe Harbor

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CENTER VALLEY, Pa. — Superintendent Ron Garrison has a mission: To set the standard for public golf courses in the northern Philadelphia suburbs.

Outwardly, the bentgrass greens, tees and fairways, impeccable grooming and creative waterscaping give The Center Valley Club the feel of a private course. Behind the scenes lies an aggressive Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program that would make many elite clubs green with envy.

"Most other public and resort courses have a bluegrass/ryegrass fairway turfgrass mixture, while all the private clubs in the area have bentgrass fairways," Garrison noted. "We don't see private clubs as direct competitors. We're just trying to be the best public course we can be."

The Geoffrey Cornish-designed Center Valley Club first opened for play in 1992. Two separate design features characterize the course: a links-type front nine and a contemporary inland back nine. Nearly 10 acres of restored natural woods come into play on 14 of the 18 holes.

In three years, play has grown to an average of more than 30,000 rounds per season. Though Garrison welcomes the early success of the course, it did not come without problems.

"The increased activity adds a lot of stress to your young greens," Garrison explained. "Stress on the turf opens you up to any number of disease, weed and other turf quality problems."

In addition to stress from heavy play, humidity tends to be high because of the wetlands around the course. To control these problems, Garrison uses an aggressive IPM program that focuses first on the soil, then on the plant using a combination of all-natural fertilizers, biostimulants, synthetic pesticides and cultural practices.

"The soil feeds the plant. If the soil is healthy, it helps the plant be healthy, too," he said. "Primarily, I use a fertilizer from Earthworks with a couple of their other solubles, including a product called Kick, distributed by Earthworks. Then there's a nitrogen stabilizer, N-Hance. I use another organic insoluble by Potent-Sea, which is sea kelp extracts.

"I feel strongly that once you improve the quality of your soil, you increase the natural vigor and quality of the turf. Not only will this save you money on fungicides and fertilizers, but water applications and mowing schedules can be modified to save time and expense." Garrison began incorporating organics into his program to improve turf quality and lower expenses. After just one season of using organic fertilizers, he said he's seen improvements.

Garrison runs soil tests every month. He and his crew sample three greens and two fairways, using the results to guide fertilization and pest management decisions.

Garrison, a Penn State graduate, primarily uses organic fertilizers, hitting the greens heavier in the spring and fall with a 3-1-2 ratio of all-natural fertilizer. He "spoon feeds" greens through the course at least times, applying one-tenth to two-tenths of a pound of nitrogen per week.

"With these organics, combined with my other practices, I feel we'll eventually be able to apply less fertilizer," he explained.

However, he continues to use synthetic chemicals as part of his turf management program. Two registered technicians help him oversee and perform chemical applications.

"We use very little insecticide. To this point, we've been very fortunate by letting Mother Nature take care of the problem unless severe infestations occur," Garrison said.

To control weeds, such as clover and dandelion, the superintendent relies on spot treatments of post emergence contact herbicides. Though insects, weeds and diseases all can be problems, disease management consumes more than half of Garrison's time from mid-May through mid-September. His largest headaches come from dollar spot and brown patch, though pythium can also be a problem.

Garrison uses a preventive fungicide program for dollar spot and brown patch over the entire course — and for pythium on his greens. He spot sprays a contact fungicide for pythium outbreaks on tees and fairways only when needed. To control resistance, he always uses a three-way tank mix. To add an "element of surprise," he occasionally changes fungicides in the mix.

Garrison takes risk. He didn't think twice, for example, when his distributor rep approached him to test an experimental fungicide. Last summer, he evaluated Eagle® fungicide from Rohm and Haas.

"We tested Eagle on our 12th fairway for dollar spot control," Garrison said. "We had a little over 20,000 square feet of test area that stayed clean throughout the whole season."

Garrison wanted to put the product to the ultimate test, so he used Eagle alone on this fairway the entire summer.

"We have nearly 40 acres of bentgrass fairways. It takes a good eight hours and two of my employees to spray them, so it is important to me that products work on at least a 21-day schedule," he emphasized. "Eagle worked for a good month after the initial application."

At The Center Valley Club, they use a Backner Cops-4 irrigation system, an automatic, double-row, below-ground. In the past, Garrison preferred light but frequent waterings. He now feels he wasn't getting water where he actually needed it.

This season, Garrison plans to switch to less frequent, deep waterings, supplemented by hand watering throughout the course. "It will mean sacrificing the hours of labor, but I think we'll be better off," he said.

Also under consideration: adding fans to improve air movement in areas where diseases are the biggest concern.
I 5. Annual capital expenditure:
   a. Under $100,000
   b. $100,000-$249,999
   c. $250,000 - $500,000
   d. Over $500,000

2. My primary business is:
   (check one only)
   1. Public Golf Course
   2. Private Golf Course
   3. Semi-Private Golf Course
   4. Municipal/County/State/Military Course
   5. Hotel/Resort Course
   6. Other Golf Course:

   (please specify)

5. My primary title is:
   (check one only)
   a. Club President
   b. General Manager
   c. Owner/CEO
   d. Builder/Developer
   e. Architect/Engineer
   f. Research Professional
   g. Others allied to field

   (please specify)

6. Number of holes:
   a. 9 holes
   b. 18 holes
   c. 27 holes
   d. 36 holes
   e. Other

   (please specify)

4. Total annual maintenance budget:
   1. Under $50,000
   2. $50,000-$99,999
   3. $100,000-$249,999
   4. $250,000-$499,999
   5. $500,000-$749,999
   6. $750,000-$1,000,000
   7. Over $1,000,000

   (please specify)

6. My purchasing involvement is:
   1. Recommend equipment for purchase
   2. Specify equipment for purchase
   3. Approve equipment for purchase

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UMinnesota student wins Musser award

By TERRY BUCHEN

The Musser Foundation has announced the 1995 Award for Excellence to Paul G. Johnson, who was awarded $6,000 towards pursuit of a Ph.D in horticulture from the University of Minnesota.

According to Frank Dobie, superintendent at Sharon (Ohio) Golf Club and president of the foundation, "Professor Burton Musser was a turfgrass pioneer for four decades at Penn State University. The foundation that bears his name is dedicated to promoting that same kind of pioneering individual. Supporting this new generation of turfgrass scientists is the wisest move that we can make."

"This kind of award indeed reminds me of the kind of support the turfgrass industry has for students like myself," said the 30-year-old Johnson. "No other industry group shows this kind of support in my mind. I also look forward to showing my appreciation by serving this great bunch of people in any way that I can."

Mr. Dobie said it best when he described the turfgrass group as a 'family.' Currently, I am applying for positions at several universities and finishing up my Ph.D work, as well as some additional projects here at the University of Minnesota.

"My career goals begin, in the near term, by obtaining a postdoctoral position or assistant professorship, and continue to research turfgrass breeding and genetics topics," Johnson continued. "Once in a faculty position, and part of a turfgrass management team, I look forward to continuing in research. Teaching would also be a key to my career. The interaction with students keeps me on my toes and down to earth, so to speak. Later on in my career I still wish to maintain at least some of the turfgrass breeding and teaching responsibilities, but would also consider administrative roles in an academic department, university or professional society."

Johnson's doctoral thesis was on "Genetics & Physiology of Flowering on Selected Poa Annua." Under the tutelage of Dr. Donald White, Johnson's grade point average (GPA) was 3.70 cumulative for his master's and doctoral degrees.

Each year the Musser Foundation looks for the brightest, most promising turfgrass doctoral students throughout the world to award moral and financial support.

Pinehurst puts golf in forefront of Safe Harbor

Continued from page 15

Seed Research honors superintendents

Jim Reinertson of Dedham (Mass.) Country and Polo Club has been awarded Seed Research of Oregon's (SRO) 1995 Golf Course Superintendent of the Year award, presented annually to the superintendent who best displays a stewardship for the environment by incorporating imaginative management techniques with innovative problem solving.

Seed Research President Mike Robinson presented the award to Reinertson and also honored Tom Cook with the SRO Research Excellence award. Aside from his duties at Dedham, Reinertson teaches turf students as a guest lecturer at the local community college and is dedicated to IPM, turfgrass variety testing and innovative cultural practices.

Cook was honored for his dedication to teaching and researching turfgrass culture at Oregon State University. He has been instrumental in teaching superintendents.
USGA Tour Agronomist Moraghan shares knowledge

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y. — In preparation for the 1995 U.S. Open here at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club June 15-18, we caught up with Tim P. Moraghan of the United States Golf Association (USGA) for a Q&A session. Though he started as the USGA’s championship agronomist, his role for all 13 national championships has been expanded with each passing year. Moraghan is 38 years old and holds a bachelor’s degree in biology from Niagara University. To further his education, he attended the Stockbridge School of Agronomy at the University of Massachusetts and the University of Dallas, where he majored in personnel management. Prior to joining the Rules & Competitions Department headquartered at Golf House in Far Hills, N.J., Moraghan was a regional manager for American Golf Corp. in Florida; golf course superintendent/contractor at the Las Colinas Sports Club in Dallas; and associated with the Tournament Players Club at Sawgrass in Florida. Moraghan is a member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America; Texas, New Jersey and Florida golf course superintendent associations; and the American Society of Golf Course Architects. Terry Buchen, the Savvy Superintendent himself, caught up with Moraghan prior to this month’s Open.

Savvy Superintendent:
What are your duties and responsibilities with Rules & Competitions?

Tim Moraghan: My primary responsibilities include: 1. golf course setup; 2. golf course preparation; 3. site selection; 4. input on architectural changes; 5. the Rules of Golf; and 6. all remaining on-site preparation. All this work begins as soon as a contract is signed for our three Opens, two Amateurs and the remaining amateur competitions.

SS: How far in advance do you go to championship venues and how many follow-up visits do you usually accomplish?

TM: I begin my visits as soon as a contract has been signed. That can be anywhere from one to five years in advance of an event. The number of follow-up visits depends on the event and the needs of the club. For example, with the U.S. Open, I will make as many visits as necessary, even weekly, to prepare the golf course for the event.

SS: Has it helped your job being a former golf course superintendent?

TM: Yes, I have a better understanding of how difficult it is to bring all aspects of the golf course into proper condition for a major event. No one knows how hard it is unless you have been through it. I feel that my relationships with the golf course superintendents of each club are excellent. The golf course superintendent is the VIP of the event. Without their work, the golf course and the event would not be successful.

SS: Tell us about your championship specifications and do they differ at each championship site?

TM: The basic guidelines for course preparation are the same for all 13 national championships. The only difference will be the length of the golf course, the height of the primary rough, the width of the landing zones in the fairways, and the speed and firmness of the putting greens.

SS: What are the top five issues and concerns from the players during the U.S. Open Championship and how are they typically handled by you and the Championship Committee?

TM: There are so many items to cover during the week of the event and there are so many volunteers and dedicated staff to handle these concerns. But in my opinion, the top five concerns from the players are as follows:

1. Consistency in playing conditions from the first tee to the 18th green.
2. Pace of play.
3. Access to the club, an example being a player missing a starting time due to difficulty in getting to the golf course.
4. Accommodations for the players and their families.
5. Player services such as child care are becoming increasingly important.

SS: Tell us about the bunker maintenance philosophy. Have there been any changes?

TM: There has not been any change of philosophy for bunker maintenance. According to the Rules of Golf, a bunker is a hazard. Players are fortunate that they are raked for them during the week of the event.

SS: What is the easiest part of your job?

Continued on next page
Insecticides don’t rub off

Continued from page 15

Irrigation of 0.2 inches of water. The third sample was taken five hours later at the end of the day. The next day, a fourth sample was taken.

As one would expect, most of the pesticide was dislodged from the turf onto cotton cloth immediately after the application was made. Think of a small four-inch square of treated turf with which your knee may come in contact. Immediately after the pesticide application, 0.26 percent of the chlorpyrifos would come off onto cotton cloth. This amount is equal to 1.5 micro grams of pesticide. After the light irrigation following the application, approximately 0.04 percent or 0.24 micro grams was dislodged. The amount dislodged at the end of the day was 0.02 percent or 0.11 micro grams, and 24 hours later, no chlorpyrifos was detected at all.

It should be noted that the amount of pesticide dislodged is a very, very small amount. For example, the chlorpyrifos was applied at the label rate of 0.75 ounces of active ingredient per 1000 square feet or 0.057 grams of active ingredient per square meter, which is the same as 57,000 micro grams per square meter. The maximum amount dislodged immediately after application was 1.5 micro grams or 0.26 percent of the total amount applied. To put 1.5 micro grams into perspective, consider that a small paper packet of Sweet’n Low weighs about one gram or the equivalent of one million (1,000,000) micro grams. How small is a buck and a half compared to a million dollars?

At the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, dislodgeable residues were determined by vigorously wiping a one square foot area of pesticide treated turf with a piece of moist cheese-cloth to remove pesticide residues. The samples were taken 15 minutes, three hours, and eight hours after application. The third sample was taken five hours after application to put the pesticide and dislodged residues to dry thoroughly before golfers use the area will further reduce the amount of pesticide that will rub off the leaves.

The headline for the May Off the Record column erroneously stated fungicides were found in runoff when applied before a heavy rain. The study was performed on three herbicides — 2,4-D, mecoprop and dicamba.

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Dr. Michael Kenna is director of Green Section research for the United States Golf Association. He works out of Stillwater, Okla.

Moraghan

Continued from previous page

TM: Working with golf course superintendents such as Bill Spence from The Country Club, Patty Knaggs from Hazeltine National Golf Club, Mark Kuhns from Oakmont Country Club and Paul Latshaw from Congressional Country Club. They are individuals who are so meticulous and professional that their job is done well before the event arrives and it makes it very easy on me.

SS: How involved do you get with David Eger, senior director, Rules & Competition, regarding golf course setup during any of the championships?

TM: I work very closely with David Eger in all areas of preparation for each event. I have David’s proxy on all golf course-related decisions.

SS: Tell us a funny story about something that happened during any of the USGA Championships.

TM: Without going into too much detail, it involved an assistant golf course superintendent, several volunteers and a television tower.

CORRECTION

The headline for the May Off the Record column erroneously stated fungicides were found in runoff when applied before a heavy rain. The study was performed on three herbicides — 2,4-D, mecoprop and dicamba.
which took nearly two years and covered sectors like sod farms, turf product management, wholesale and retail distributors, turfgrass service vendors, commercial institutions, golf courses and residential house-holds — appear to point up what the FTGA has long suspected: that the turfgrass industry has a tremendous impact on Florida's economy.

Golf courses accounted for $2.6 billion of the total, or 36 percent, while single-family homes and service vendors accounted for $1.5 billion each. The study also found that cash spent on production, distribution and use of turfgrass products and services in Florida totaled $7.25 billion in 1991-92.

North Central

IOWA HONORS TWEDT

Gary Twedt, CGCS, has been selected the 1994 18-Hole Golf Course Superintendent of the Year by the Iowa Golf Association. He was recognized for this achievement at the annual Iowa Golf Hall of Fame Awards Luncheon on March 27. Twedt is a golf course superintendent for Ottumwa Country Club in Ottumwa.

Twedt was named Golf Course Superintendent of the Year in 1990 by the Iowa Golf Course Superintendents Association and was president of the IGCSA in 1992.

West

SOUTHERN CAL ELECTS JOHN POLLOK

John M. Pollok, course and grounds superintendent of El Caballero Country Club in Tarzana, has been elected president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Southern California, an organization representing 500 golf clubs from Los Angeles to San Diego, including Orange County, Riverside County and Santa Barbara.

Southeast

TURF MEANS $7.4B TO FLORIDA

GAINESVILE, Fla. — From sod farms and wholesale distributors, to golf courses and residential backyards, turfgrass is a $7.4 billion industry in Florida, according to a recent study by the Florida Turfgrass Association (FTGA).

The results of the study —

DIAGNOSTICS TOUR SCHEDULED COBLESKILL, N.Y. — A diagnostic walking tour concentrating on trees and shrubs will be conducted at the SUNY Cobleskill campus on June 27. From 1 to 7:30 p.m., the tour will be led by Professors Jim Bates and Chris Cash, giving an intensive hands-on training session.

An evening session will discuss setting up an Integrated Pest Management program. Pesticide recertification credits are available. More information is available from the New York State Turfgrass Association at 800-873-8873.

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Redesigned controls make the 220 easier to operate. The engine on/off switch is now located near the handlebars for easier access.
Air power takes on Jordanesque task, replacing H₂O

BY PETER BLAIS

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. — Using air rather than water to clean turf equipment is an environmentally friendly idea that has caught on in the Palm Springs area and will likely spread elsewhere, according to U.S. Golf Association Green Section agronomist Paul Vermeulen.

Superintendent Doug Anderson and Maintenance Supervisor Luciano “Chito” Velasquez of The Vintage Club were among the first to see the need for an alternative to watering down mowers and golf carts. The wet grass clippings not only offended the olfactories of golfers, but the runoff also provided nutrients for plants that were choking a nearby stream, Vermeulen said.

Mechanically spraying cold water on machinery damaged greased bearings and corroded engines. “Replacing bearings is one of those pesky jobs that takes a lot of time,” Vermeulen said.

Working together, Anderson and Velasquez hit on the idea of replacing the water hoses in their wash area with eight dry-cleaning stations equipped with air hoses set at 125 pounds pressure per square inch. A blast of air removes most of the clippings and loose soil from equipment, even under engine shrouds where spraying water can damage the machinery, Vermeulen said.

Having eight stations allows eight employees to work at once, reducing the backup and inefficiency associated with a single water-wash station. Dry clippings can be swept up, shoveled into trash cans and hauled to a special-waste recycling area, Vermeulen said.

“Environmentally, it’s much friendlier than a traditional water-wash station,” the USGA agronomist said. “You catch the clippings before they wash down the drain. And you’re not mixing water and oil, so there’s no need to send rinsate through a separator.”

Dry cleaning doesn’t totally eliminate the need for water. After being blown dry, each machine is rinsed, then parked in the maintenance building to dry. Machinery must also be steam-cleaned on a regular schedule. Velasquez routinely steam cleans mowers every three weeks.

“Chito is the best-organized equipment manager I’ve ever been around in my career,” Vermeulen said.

To ensure worker safety, goggles must be worn at all times in the cleaning area, Vermeulen said. A small hole drilled through the tip of each brass nozzle relieves the pressure in the event workers hold the hose too close to their bodies, he added. The hoses are also mounted on automatic-recoil reels to protect the nozzles from being run over as vehicles leave the cleaning area, Vermeulen explained.

The only significant costs are the air compressor and brass nozzles, he said.

“This system is new to me and to most of the country, I believe,” said Vermeulen, who recently transferred from the Green Section’s Western Region to its Mid-Continent office. “It started in the Palm Springs area. The courses are close together and a number of them are now using air hoses. A good idea spreads quickly there.”

PEST HANDBOOK OFFERED


RUTGERS HONORING ALUMNI

EAST BRUNSWICK, N.J. — The 6th annual Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School and Alumni Awards Banquet will be held at the Ramada Inn here, Nov. 4. The evening will include certificate awards and scholarship presentations, guest speakers and an alumni reunion. A cocktail hour begins at 5 p.m. More information is available from Missy Marcante at 908-932-9271.
Indoor — and movable — pre-fab building an excellent idea

By TERRY BUCHEN

ALENA, Ohio — Impressed with the pre-fabricated pesticide storage buildings being marketed the last few years, we purchased one for our new golf course during construction.

We ordered it with spill containment for 150 gallons under the removable flooring; adjustable fiberglass shelving; an explosion-proof, glass-covered 150-watt light fixture; an automatic fire-protection sprinkler; a 24-hour-a-day exhaust fan; and appropriate safety signs inside and out.

Laws vary from state to state. Although it may change soon, in Ohio we are not yet required to have a separate pesticide storage building located a minimum distance from the maintenance building, or any building for that matter.

Once we built it into our maintenance building, we made provisions to house the pre-fabricated pesticide storage building inside our maintenance building. It had its own garage door, heating system, safety shower and safety eyewash shower. Outside, we have provisions for the sprayer to be filled up with water immediately next to the pesticide storage area.

The main reason to have a building within a building was to keep a low profile with the community, while still planning for the future when storage laws will probably change.

Once law requires that we have a separate structure a specified distance from the maintenance building, we will merely have to move the pre-fabricated building with a forklift.

louver added as well. Heavy landscaping and/or tall wooden fencing can keep this pre-fab building as inconspicuous as practical.

In our situation, we felt it was better to do it this way then to build a pesticide storage building separately. Once the pre-fab is moved away from the maintenance building, we can use the separate garage area for additional storage of maintenance equipment and supplies.

Another First

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Earth First! & last
Continued from page 10

Let’s take a further glimpse inside EF’s house organ in this, its Esostar issue (the April-May edition being named for Esostar, the Saxon Goddess of Spring who “takes the form of a white rabbit. She brings the dawn. The sun rises at equinox, directly out of the east.” enough already).

Where else could Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt be called “Babbling Bruce” and cited a hobnobbing with the publican politicians, developers, polluters and compromising eco-yuppies? This is the same Bruce Babbitt who, as chairman of the League of Conservation Voters (LCV), proclaimed in his introduction to the LCV’s 1991 Environmental Scorecard of Congressional votes: “We must identify our enemies and drive them into oblivion.”

Where else could an “indigenous person” (that’s Native American Indian for the neo-politically correct) excuse arson that destroyed 32 years of research at Michigan State University with the statement: “Sometimes we are forced to do things we do not like when we are warriors.”

Where else can you order the book: A Field Guide to Monkeywrenching, whose cover is duplicated as the cover of this Esostar edition: a silhouette of two wrench-wielding people in the darkness of night walking toward a piece of machinery. Guess their intent?

Among the T-shirts it promotes: “My Heroes Have Always Killed Cowboys” (emblazoned with a picture of four gun-toting indigenous persons) and “Factories don’t burn down by themselves... They need help from you” (sporting a picture of a charred building).

Among the bumperstickers it offers: “Resist Much, Obey Little” and “Developers Go Build in Hell.”

Speaking out of one side of their mouths. EF’ers say they want to be a real— and respected — player in the field of ideologies. Yet, out of the other side of their mouths they espouse carelessly destruction of property.

You might think environmental organizations care for the Earth? “No way!” say EF’ers.

Speaking at the Land Air Water Conference in Eugene, Ore., EF’s spokesman Jeffrey St. Clair said, “We’ve got some national environmental groups like The Wilderness Society and the Sierra Club that are doing a damn fine job of destroying the environmental movement.

Tell that to the scores of homeowners, landowners, developers and others whose plans they’ve held up for months, even years, in courts and community meeting rooms.

Calling the environmental movement neutered, without vision and void of common sense, St. Clair said groups like the Natural Resources Defense Council, Environmental Defense Fund and The Wilderness Society have been bought by corporate foundations who advocate “extremely conservative social agendas.” G-gads! St. Clair said they even give across the spectrum — from “right-wing causes like the Billy Graham crusade, the Christian anti-communist crusade” [anyone ever heard of such a group?] to the Western Ancient Forest Campaign.

Shame!

As Seed Research of Oregon technical agronomist Skip Lynch said: “In the afterglow of the golf summit in Monterey just a few months in the past, I was saddened to read such hatred.”

SO QUIET, YOU CAN HEAR A PUTT DROP

World’s first electric bunker rake
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Professor urges triazole research
Continued from page 15

in we have problems with density of turf.

People are trying to prevent algae growth with PGRs that do not give a growth regulator effect. But it seems to be temperature-related. In the spring and fall these triazoles don’t give a growth regulator effect.

Burpee’s tests, using triazoles to control brown patch on creeping bentgrass, have been performed in June, July and August. Brown patch control requires one of the highest label rates as well.

He said he did not have evidence of growth regulator effects from all the triazoles, “but at least some. And it is very possible that not all the triazoles react equally severely. Some may give more potent PGR effect than others.”

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ALWAYS OUT FRONT
In Bermudagrass, the future is here

Research of Oregon introduced Primavera. Jacklin Seed Co.'s Jackpot will be available for the first time in July. International Seed, Inc. (ISD) is releasing two new varieties, Pyramid and Medalist. America's Sun Devil 2 looms as another grass of choice. FMC is introducing Sundevil this fall as its new, unusual, and different. All are seeded types that have good seed yield, which is not the case with many cultivars. In Bermudagrass, we have to make just small gains to make huge advances over Arizona's common Bermudagrass. Said Craig Edminster, director of research at International Seed. "Ultimately, the goal is to get these seeded types so they will compete with vegetative types."

"Clearly, seeded Bermudagrass already exists today that is comparable in quality to vegetative types, but it would be cost-prohibitive in the marketplace. It may be available in five years at a very competitive price."

Klingenberg said FMC's hybrid "could be used in greens, but it would be more of a low-maintenance type than it is still a little coarser than from a dwarf Bermuda. And it is still going to require high maintenance because it is so thick that you will have to catch the buildup, especially un-hairly-fertility conditions. It's not a low-maintenance grass, but it will be lower than your Tifways. It's definitely for fairways and greens, like that."

"We are several years down the road before we can challenge the 'Tifs on quality,'" said Stapp. "We're making progress ever so slowly, but it's hard to get at that "several years to a researcher is like tomorrow to others. Public and private plant breeders have stepped up their development efforts for better Bermudagrass according to Kevin Morris, national director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Turfgrass Evaluation Program. "The war against weeds, the search for those released in a very limited quantity this year. Anything you can seed is of interest."

Meanwhile, superintendents across the mid-South and Southern tier of the nation await more cold-tolerant varieties. For too long they have feared walking onto their courses after a cold snap to find dead grass. "The winter before last, courses lost Bermudagrass throughout the Tennesse Valley," said Lynch. "It was dead everywhere. The Sarah Lee Classic was played on dead grass at The Hermitage (Richmond, Va.) last season and it still was not recovered. Also in southern Kentucky, southern and western Virginia up to the Chesapeake area, Missouri, Oklahoma."

"In the transition zone, even southern Illinois, is a candidate for some of these Bermudagrasses."

"The biggest problem [to overcome] is winter-hardiness," said Morris. "People would rather have a brown lawn than a green one where they are." We tested [a new, unnamed cultivar] as far north as Kentucky," said Doug Brede, research director at Jacklin Seed. "We're trying to engineer this more towards a Tifway 41-type of grass, which means we have to concentrate on texture and density. We've already achieved a darker green without the necessity of using more fertilizer. That will be put in production for the first time this summer and be on the market in two years."

For super's, 1995 could be a jackpot in buying Bermudas

Bermudagrass Report

The following are conditions at the sites of Bermudagrass national tests, including, in order, average soil texture, soil pH, maximum nitrate (in pounds per 1,000 square feet), mowing height (in inches), irrigation practices, drainage, heat tolerance, cold tolerance, and response to heavy foot traffic. Researchers at ISD recommend pruning this grass to its current state, Primavera has shown "very good cold-hardiness and fairways quite easily."

MSL — Mississippi State, Miss., sandy clay loam, 6.7-7.0, 2.1-3.0, to prevent dormancy. NE1 — Lincoln, Neb., sandy loam, 6.6-7.0, 1.1-2.0, to prevent stress. OK1 — Stillwater, Okla., loam, 6.1-6.5, 1.2-2.0, to prevent stress. TX1 — Dallas, Texas (fall sun), silty clay and clay, 6.1-6.5, 1.2-2.0, to prevent stress. VIS — Virginia Beach, Va., sandy loam, 5.6-6.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent dormancy. Kansas:KS2 — Wichita, Kan., sandy loam, 6.6-7.0, 3.1-4.0, 0.6-1.0, only during severe stress. MDI — Silver Spring, Md., sandy loam, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 0.6-1.0, to prevent stress. OKS 91-11 — Oklahoma State, OKS 91-11, sand, 6.6-7.0,1.1-2.0, to prevent stress. PR4 — Lawrence, Kan., sandy loam, 6.7-7.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent stress. RV1 — Riceville, Iowa, clay loam, 6.7-7.0, 1.11-4.0, 0.6-1.0, to prevent stress. TX2 — Dallas, Texas (fall sun), silty clay and clay, 6.1-6.5, 1.2-2.0, to prevent stress. VIS — Virginia Beach, Va., sandy loam, 5.6-6.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent dormancy. NE1 — Lincoln, Neb., sandy loam, 6.6-7.0, 1.1-2.0, to prevent stress. OK1 — Stillwater, Okla., loam, 6.1-6.5, 1.2-2.0, to prevent stress. TX1 — Dallas, Texas (fall sun), silty clay and clay, 6.1-6.5, 1.2-2.0, to prevent stress. VIS — Virginia Beach, Va., sandy loam, 5.6-6.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent dormancy. Kansas:KS2 — Wichita, Kan., sandy loam, 6.6-7.0, 3.1-4.0, 0.6-1.0, only during severe stress. MDI — Silver Spring, Md., sandy loam, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 0.6-1.0, to prevent dormancy. OKS 91-11 — Oklahoma State, OKS 91-11, sand, 6.6-7.0,1.1-2.0, to prevent stress. PR4 — Lawrence, Kan., sandy loam, 6.7-7.0, 1.11-4.0, 0.6-1.0, to prevent stress. RV1 — Riceville, Iowa, clay loam, 6.7-7.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent stress. TX2 — Dallas, Texas (fall sun), silty clay and clay, 6.1-6.5, 1.2-2.0, to prevent stress. VIS — Virginia Beach, Va., sandy loam, 5.6-6.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent dormancy. Kansas:KS2 — Wichita, Kan., sandy loam, 6.6-7.0, 3.1-4.0, 0.6-1.0, only during severe stress. MDI — Silver Spring, Md., sandy loam, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 0.6-1.0, to prevent dormancy. OKS 91-11 — Oklahoma State, OKS 91-11, sand, 6.6-7.0,1.1-2.0, to prevent stress. PR4 — Lawrence, Kan., sandy loam, 6.7-7.0, 1.11-4.0, 0.6-1.0, to prevent stress. RV1 — Riceville, Iowa, clay loam, 6.7-7.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent stress. TX2 — Dallas, Texas (fall sun), silty clay and clay, 6.1-6.5, 1.2-2.0, to prevent stress. VIS — Virginia Beach, Va., sandy loam, 5.6-6.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent dormancy. Kansas:KS2 — Wichita, Kan., sandy loam, 6.6-7.0, 3.1-4.0, 0.6-1.0, only during severe stress. MDI — Silver Spring, Md., sandy loam, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 0.6-1.0, to prevent dormancy. OKS 91-11 — Oklahoma State, OKS 91-11, sand, 6.6-7.0,1.1-2.0, to prevent stress. PR4 — Lawrence, Kan., sandy loam, 6.7-7.0, 1.11-4.0, 0.6-1.0, to prevent stress. RV1 — Riceville, Iowa, clay loam, 6.7-7.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent stress. TX2 — Dallas, Texas (fall sun), silty clay and clay, 6.1-6.5, 1.2-2.0, to prevent stress. VIS — Virginia Beach, Va., sandy loam, 5.6-6.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent dormancy. Kansas:KS2 — Wichita, Kan., sandy loam, 6.6-7.0, 3.1-4.0, 0.6-1.0, only during severe stress. MDI — Silver Spring, Md., sandy loam, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 0.6-1.0, to prevent dormancy. OKS 91-11 — Oklahoma State, OKS 91-11, sand, 6.6-7.0,1.1-2.0, to prevent stress. PR4 — Lawrence, Kan., sandy loam, 6.7-7.0, 1.11-4.0, 0.6-1.0, to prevent stress. RV1 — Riceville, Iowa, clay loam, 6.7-7.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent stress. TX2 — Dallas, Texas (fall sun), silty clay and clay, 6.1-6.5, 1.2-2.0, to prevent stress. VIS — Virginia Beach, Va., sandy loam, 5.6-6.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent dormancy. Kansas:KS2 — Wichita, Kan., sandy loam, 6.6-7.0, 3.1-4.0, 0.6-1.0, only during severe stress. MDI — Silver Spring, Md., sandy loam, 6.1-6.5, 3.1-4.0, 0.6-1.0, to prevent dormancy. OKS 91-11 — Oklahoma State, OKS 91-11, sand, 6.6-7.0,1.1-2.0, to prevent stress. PR4 — Lawrence, Kan., sandy loam, 6.7-7.0, 1.11-4.0, 0.6-1.0, to prevent stress. RV1 — Riceville, Iowa, clay loam, 6.7-7.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent stress. TX2 — Dallas, Texas (fall sun), silty clay and clay, 6.1-6.5, 1.2-2.0, to prevent stress. VIS — Virginia Beach, Va., sandy loam, 5.6-6.0, 1.1-1.5, to prevent dormancy.
Bermudagrass Decline problems? Beware triazoles

By MARK LESLIE

FT. LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Southern superintendents are living "on the edge" in growing Bermudagrass, and one researcher hopes to help prevent them from going over that edge in fighting Bermudagrass Decline.

"There is no way to fight the Bermudagrass Decline except by raising the height of cut," said Monica Elliott, associate professor of plant pathology at the University of Florida's Ft. Lauderdale Research Center. "Fungicides don't work. We've looked at other cultural treatments, too, in terms of increasing fertility and we see no response. The best response is to simply raise the height of cut.

"On a Tifgreen [Bermudagrass] putting green we went from 3/16 to 1/4-inch [height] and it was literally the difference between death and life. That's very subtle. When we went from 3/16- to 1/4-inch we went from a light green to a deep green, or darker green as well as reduced growth ("Sometimes significantly, then the grass starts to thin out and weeds often come in").

Elliott also warned about combining triazole fungicides with a PGR, "because you will get a double whammy. There is also some concern with pre-emergent dinitroaniline [DNA] herbicides that inhibit root growth of grass weeds," she added. "If a turfgrass plant's growth is being affected by a triazole fungicide and you have these herbicides down, too, you may see problems in terms of recovery. The fungicides may be reducing the growth of the plant, which includes the roots, and so you shorten the root system up to the area where the herbicides are located. Then you can't get the roots to recover on the turfgrass.

Meanwhile, research at the University of Georgia indicates that even on cool-season grasses, some of the new triazoles cause some growth regulation, according to Dr. Lee Burpee, who has conducted the research from the Griffin Station 30 miles south of Atlanta.

"We've looked at triazoles for control on creeping bentgrass with at least some of the triazoles," Burpee said. "When you apply them at the recommended rate for brown patch (usually one of the highest label rates) in June, July and August, we do see growth regulator effects. I can't say all the triazoles, but at least some."

"If it's dependent on the product. Some are more regulatory than others," Elliott said.

The Ft. Lauderdale project examined triazoles on Bermudagrass Decline in May through October. But Elliott said: "I suspect we would see a similar phenomenon the whole winter — which is no response: We might even see a negative response again."

"She said using triazole fungicides on Bermudagrass "once in awhile" would be all right. "But when it is used repeatedly, people tend to run into problems," she said, listing a color change (perhaps a greenish brown, or darker green) as well as reduced growth ("Sometimes significantly, then the grass starts to thin out and weeds often come in").

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"If it's dependent on the product. Some are more regulatory than others," Elliott said.

The height-of-cut solution gives the turf a better chance of living even if its root system is poor, she added. "A lot of times, you can try gradually raising heights and explaining to the membership. A couple of courses that have few players during the summer are raising the height, period. When the bulk of the players return in the fall they have turf to play on.

"On public courses you have a problem. A lot of superintendents bounce the height up and down. When the turf starts to look real stressed, they raise the height."

Superintendents needing to maintain fast green speed can compensate for the raised height by such cultural methods as double-cutting, grooming, rolling and top dressing, Elliott said. "You don't want to roll all the time. But when you have to raise the height of cut to save the grass, you can increase the putting speed to keep your job."

Elliott said she has suspicions about why triazole fungicides do not affect Bermudagrass Decline.

"One is the growth regulation response," she said. Second, a recent paper in an ecology journal reported that common Bermudagrass responds to low nutrition or low light.

"In a low cumulative light situation, which is essentially what we have in

Florida in the summer months, Bermudagrass puts all its energy into stolons, not roots. This time of year Bermudagrass is at its best. It has an intensive root system and looks beautiful. Then it seems to gradually decline over the summer. Its best months are March to June. Then in August everything is gone. I think that is why we don't see a response to the fungicide. The plant isn't responding naturally to replacing roots yet."
By MARK LESLIE

Consider the growing zone of Bermudagrass — 40 degrees north to 40 degrees south of the Equator — and it's obvious there is a mammoth market for this warm-season turf in golf. Yet, only in recent years have seed companies and universities researchers started to key on developing seeded varieties to compete with the industry's standard-bearer for the last 30 years: the vegetatively propagated Tifway 419 Bermuda.

"It's amazing we have done so much work on cool-season grasses over the years and not devoted much time to warm-season," said Ronnie Stapp, senior vice president of seed operations for Pennington Enterprises. "But we have seen that the market can be grown, going north and further penetrating the area that Bermuda is already in... and winning customers who would otherwise be buying sod."

Farmers Marketing Corp., International Seed Inc., Jacklin Seed Co., Medalist America, O.M. Scott, Pennington and Seed Research of Oregon are all players in the market.

"Our intention six years ago was to get into the Bermudagrass business because, as far as warm-season species go, it clearly had not been worked on, so it provided a lot of proprietary opportunity," said Craig Edminster, director of research for International Seeds. "It doesn't have the glamour of zoysiagrass or St. Augustine. But it is toughness, drought-tolerance, ability to live in many different climates, perform under low height of cut.

"If you're in the mid-South and want to reduce costs of maintaining your golf course but want that elite bentgrass for the high-end golfer, Bermudagrass is the choice. The problem is, it's dormant in the winter, and, depending on your situation, that may or may not be acceptable."

"You don't have to have a crystal ball to see this warm-season species has potential," he added.

That potential goes far beyond an extensive market in the United States.

"Those folks in Southeast Asia don't have the infrastructure for the sod industry like we do, and it will be years and years before they do. So if you can provide, in a bag, a type of Bermudagrass equal to or a little less in performance (than vegetative varieties), you have a huge international market," Edminster said.

Pennington, whose Arizona operation reportedly handles about one-third of the 12 million pounds of Bermudagrass produced in the United States, concurred.
Taurus, Avanti, El Dorado, Tubbs, president of Turf and Ornamental Seeds. (La) Sabre, Eclipse, Cutless, wanted to name something, the early '80s called Houndog type fine fescue that came out in it's important to be unique. One revealed there is a method to the seed and chemical suppliers researching the project out to firms specializing in formulating appropriate product names. "There are even computer programs that spit out page after page of 'appropriate names,' said Gene Hintze, marketing services manager at Santer Agro. Purveyors of Barricade and Sentinel, two names that received high marks from those surveyed. "You can tell a list that's been spit out by a computer because it includes suggestions like Zarkok."

Unanimous, however, was the feeling that the most successful names — i.e., those most easily lent to productive advertising campaigns — are those that both describe the product function and fit into a world of imagination of turf managers. A good example is Shadow, the fine fescue from Turf Seed, designed to thrive in shady areas. The best example may be Bonzi, the growth regulator manufactured by Unioil but named by Zeneca. By combining the image of miniature bonsai trees and the aggressive yell of Japanese warriors, Bonzi may be the perfect blend of image and function. "The absolute best name of all," concluded Jim Petta, then the product manager for Alamo. "So it could only be used in Texas, which explained Skip Lynch, SRO's technical agronomist. "What we're looking for is a very simple, no-questions-asked name that the consumer will automatically associate with our company."

"What really matters is how the product performs. Heck, it's only a name. There's actually a hard fescue out there called Attila from Turf Merchants. I'm not sure I want Attila on my golf course. "What's next? Stalin?"

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Keystone Ranch Golf Course crew member Jeff Adams clears off a green. Adams, whose hometown is Cape Elizabeth, Maine, is used to late springs, but not like this.

Keystone tackles late-late winter

Continued from page 1

Cornellier’s longest spring. At mid-month, the Keystone region’s snowpack for May was 192 percent of normal, including another 30 inches in May, and more was expected. It’s no different at Copper Mountain and Breckenridge — two other mountain courses in the region.

At Keystone Ranch there exists two entirely different conditions. “On the front nine, lower and with more sun exposure, we have gone into a rapid melt-down,” Cornellier said. “We hit 72 degrees yesterday and went from two feet of snow to nothing in 36 hours. All the spring runoff from the mountains flows through our lower nine holes, and therefore has pushed the lake and Soda Creek out of their boundaries. So we have one large body of water on the lower nine in the fairways where the ducks and geese and waterfowl are having a great time.

“On the back nine, we’re still in winter. It’s back in a valley that is very shaded by the mountain peaks and gets less sun.”

In a normal year Keystone opens the front nine around May 20 and the back nine May 26. “We’re shooting for June 2 and 9,” Cornellier said.

In preparation, his crews first had to snowblow the snow off the greens. Then came aeration. Then, on May 11, mowing — on greens surrounded by a sea of snow. Mowing was necessary because grass should not be cut more than 30 percent of its length.

Because the irrigation heads were still buried in ice, water was pumped from the “lakes” onto the greens in May.

“We are two to four weeks behind [schedule] in the field, depending on what we want to get accomplished,” Cornellier said. “We can’t get any heavy equipment off the cart paths.

“We’re still not up to full staff because there hasn’t been enough work on the actual turf to execute. We’re hand-raking the tee boxes, tee surrounds and green surrounds. But we can’t get sweepers out.”

Ideally, Keystone’s crews sweep and rake the entire course before mowing. This gets the air circulating and the grass standing up so the mowers don’t just flatten it down.

Some greens have been under turf covers to keep the wind from drying off the crown of the plant and to maintain a more constant soil temperature throughout the day and evening.

... Judging the health of his turfgrass going into last winter as better than ever, Cornellier attributed it to “a better aeration and plant nutrition program. Those were the best things we have changed dramatically. We’re seeing less snow mold and less winter desiccation.”

Based on continued soil and water sampling over the last three to four years, Cornellier’s crew changed the balance of all the macro- and micro-nutrients.

“We also did more and more aeration of tees, fairways and roughs throughout the entire season,” he said. “We’re applying more fertilization programs to our roughs as well, due to the expectations of our resort golfer.”

Now it’s full bore ahead into 1995 in the Rockies. At least for a short while.

“Historically, we will start to get our winter snows in September and will have two or three storms,” Cornellier said.

Those early snows will melt off by noon the following day. We start getting snow accumulation around mid-October.”

Unless, of course, on July 4 they get a repeat of 1993.

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Benz pioneers surface-to-surface misses

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By MARK LESLIE

LOS GATOS, Calif. — Pushing computerized terrain modeling to a new level that encompasses the technical elements of construction, golf course architect Brad Benz said he is speeding up the construction process by 30 to 35 percent.

"This is light-years ahead of other programs," said Benz from his headquarters here. "It is phenomenal. We keep upgrading and advancing it. With each project, we learn something new."

Benz and his computer-expert sidekick, senior golf course architect David Snead, essentially designed and built two computers for the process. Taking elements of 52 software programs relevant to their needs, they merged them so they communicate with one another.

Duke's Dene, above in reality and below through computer modeling, greens up for its opening south of London.

Builders crossing the Pacific in opposite directions

Kajima exports Japanese savvy while... ... Pacific Golf getting it done abroad

By MARK LESLIE

PASADENA, Calif. — When a company’s main diet is building floating airports, tunnels and dams... when it bails from a country where many sites are "engineering and construction nightmares"... when it even designs and builds its own construction equipment, a mere golf facility should present no challenge too big. That is the feeling of global engineering and construction giant Kajima Corp. and its Golf Division manager in America, Tom Buzbee.

"We think the golf business is heading towards centralized management," said Buzbee from his headquarters here. "It's getting complicated and expensive. "We're on the ground floor of something I think will change construction forever."

"People were concerned how the golf business a little. How much we are able to do depends on how we are able to circulate."

"The technical side of solving problems in golf is far more challenging."

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BUILDERS CROSSING THE PACIFIC

SANDELL EXCLUSIVE

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GOLF COURSE NEWS

Continued on page 31

Impressive team opens green bay cc

By MARK LESLIE

An American in England

LONDON — Call it multicultural. Call it an invasion from abroad. But don't call Duke's Dene golf course an Americanization of a British game.

This golf course — although developed by Mizu-Gumi Co. of Tokyo and designed by American Brad Benz — will be "every bit British" when it opens in July or August, said Benz.

"Yes, it will sport bentgrass greens and tees. But that is the only thing about Duke's Dene (meaning valley) that will not scream out: 'I'm British!'" People were concerned how an American could do anything in England that would be remotely close to English golf," Benz said. "I said, 'That's the easy part.'" The technical side of solving problems in golf is far more challenging."

Continued on page 31

Impressive team opens green bay cc

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American Benz wins over Brits

Continued from previous page

more challenging and difficult. If you build in England, it will be English inherently. We know the difficulties... We've done everything from riveting of bunkers to the subtle contouring that was a condition of project approval."

Duke's Dene was "a contentious project," drawing opposition from area residents when first proposed, Benz said. "There was a natural resistance" among locals to Americans designing the course, said the contractor, Brit Brian Pierson. "The perception of British people of American architects is of major muck shift, huge recontouring. They didn't realize Brad and [senior architect] David [Snead] were more traditionally British in their attitude."

"But all of a sudden, golf balls started showing up all over the golf course," Benz said. "These characters were smacking golf balls around in the early morning or the evening, thinking this might, in fact, be very good. Now that they see what we're doing, it has been received favorably. In fact, the planning authorities are not happy they cut us back on what we wanted to do."

The developers had proposed building three lakes. Planners nixed that idea. Instead, three underground concrete tanks serve as the water reservoir.

Benz used the valley's "cleavage, its perfectly rounded swales" in creating the course, making it "a special place with...ezing with the winds, with beautiful tree-covered areas."

Construction is expected to begin in November. The initial phase will include 36 holes of golf and seven hotels. Residential components and recreation are planned.

Two to three years from now, expect to see two Benz-designed 18-hole courses in the Sukabumi area outside Jakarta, Indonesia — one a private members' track and another a resort facility. Siting on the outflow of a huge volcano and buttong up against the Sukabumi mountains, the development is being built by a consortium of four Indonesian businessmen based here.

The objective is to get people out of the city and into this pristine environment — that is one of the most beautiful landscapes I have seen," said Benz. "When the new freeway is constructed, the drive should be one hour to 1-1/2 hours from the city."

Construction of the members' course is expected to begin in late July, and the resort track will get underway in about two years, Benz said. Various types of housing accommodations are planned for the members' area on the huge tract of land.

The site has "some very, very steep topography," Benz said. "It is intersected in the drainage areas by beautiful streams and rivers. The north portion has been used as rice paddies and spring onion fields. On south side, where the members' course is built, you can see the sea."

Computer modeling saving big-time

Continued from previous page

"We can use them for all of our needs — from contour development of the playing surface to the technical side — irrigation design, hydraulics of the irrigation system so we can size pipe, drainage, etc.," said Benz. "But, most important, by using contour modeling and getting it to the construction personnel, it speeds up the construction process by 30 to 35 percent."

An example: A bulldozer operator working for British contractor Brian Pierson calls Benz's office in the United States from the construction trailer outside London. "I'm 135 meters in front of the 5th green, 24 meters to its right and 7-1/2 meters above my dozer. I need that view of the green complex." Benz pulls up that information on the computer, prints it out and, in two minutes the dozer operator has a fax in hand showing how the feature should look. "It was 'hands across the sea.'" — Brian Pierson British golf course builder

Does Benz plan to make the creation available through mass production? "No," he said. "I just want to design golf courses."

It was "hands across the sea."
— Brian Pierson
British golf course builder

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GOLF COURSE NEWS
Kajima, team-style

While Kajima works out of eight offices in Asia, two in Australia, three in the Middle East, two in Africa and one in South America, it also maintains five U.S. offices. The Pasadena subsidiary, Kajima Engineering and Construction, Inc. (KEC), encompasses the Golf Division, which often does business as Golf Dimensions, a joint effort of Kajima and Irvine, Calif.-based Project Dimensions, Inc. Having completed Cypress Golf Course in Anaheim, KEC is managing development of Farmont Golf Club in Ojai, overseeing driving range/par-3 facilities in Torrance and Sacramento, and has a half-dozen in pre-contract negotiations, Buzbee said.

"We're the third arm the owner always wished he had," he said, adding that KEC's service is "like design-build but the design process is not in-house. We manage the customized team, the right amount of local and specialty designers, and put them together to get the right flavor for the project.

"We incorporate everything the developer needs, all the personal things and particular team members he wants, and roll them all into one. And he gets one bill each month, one meeting, one project manager. We're managing the process, coordinating with [sub-contractors], paying them, contracting, committing to dates and budgets. We take 12 phone calls and 12 contracts away from the owner, who may not be comfortable administering them."

Saying that KEC learned centralized management in Japan where "a lot of the sites are engineering and construction nightmares," Buzbee said in America "the architects run the show, and that's one thing Kajima had to learn. We instead ask architects if we can recommend them and include them on our team."

American architects who worked in Japan in the 1980s became comfortable working with KEC, he said. "When they worked in Asia, Kajima kept showing up — in Indonesia, Korea Taiwan, everywhere they went. They started to realize the financial capabilities of a Kajima being so well funded. There was never a fear of not finishing a project."

Buzbee warned that KEC is not the right company for a developer planning just a golf course. But if housing, clubhouses, roads, utilities, or other construction is planned, KEC is there to "create the right recipe — designwise and constructionwise. A hybrid group is always put together."

Pacific Golf making presence known in A-P

Continued from page 29

believe once the rush for the resort and private club market reaches saturation, developers will start to look at mid-range price daily-fee courses.

"There is a great demand for daily-fee courses and once that floodgate opens, I honestly believe we'll see another 'boom' in activity."

When this daily-fee construction takes root, golf will become affordable for the average citizen, Martin said. One of the two Indonesian projects Pacific Golf is working on will be finished this year and one next year, Martin said."

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Nicklaus aboard public-access train

Continued from page 1

adding that two land deals could be finalized by the end of July.

"Laurel Springs will be semi-private and daily-fee," Fenton said. "Atlanta is a very good daily-fee golf market. This is a gated community, but it will have middle-market housing and ... families whose capital and savings are going to educate their children rather than toward $40,000 to $50,000 golf memberships."

"We feel the daily-fee market is an area of opportunity for us," said Golden Bear International Golf Development Director Clyde Measey from his office here.

While the first Golden Bear Golf Community is Laurel Springs, Nicklaus and son Jackie are building the first Golden Bear Golf Club in Stuart. Expected to open in December, it will retain the tone of the communities, operating as a semi-private and daily-fee facility, said Golden Bear spokesman Andy O'Brien.

"It will be the first of a network of golf courses — first in the United States, then internationally," O'Brien said.

Besides the Stuart facility, future Golden Bear Golf Clubs will be tied to the residential communities, Measey said. It's entirely a Golden Bear operation. Nicklaus Golf Design is designing the courses. Paragon Golf Construction, Inc. is building them and Executive Sports Inc., operating under the Golf Course Sports Management Division, will manage them. Former PGA West Director of Golf Steve Walser has been hired to head the management team.

The cornerstone of the 630-acre Laurel Springs project will be a Jack Nicklaus Signature course, which Golden Bear will design, build and manage, Fenton said. The course should be completed within two months. Buildout of 854 single-family homes — by a dozen hand-picked Atlanta-area builders — is expected to begin in five months and be completed in six to eight years, he said.

It will be a model for future Golden Bear Golf Communities. Property owners may elect to have privileges, like preferred starting times and favorable pricing, that non-property owners can't have.

Saying the Golden Bear group has worked on the concept for two years, Fenton said a key backer is a New York investment partner. Over the next five years, the network may number 10 to 15 projects, he added.

He forecast that each project will possess one 18-hole Nicklaus course. "Project size is an important consideration," Fenton said. "In the '70s and '80s you saw massive projects and thousands of house lots. We're trying to stay small enough that we can see the beginning and end of the project and not submit ourselves to unknowns in the economy."

Important in any market is doing business with local developers with proven track records and with knowledge about approvals, zoning, government and environmental agencies, he said. "We are trying our best not to be developers. Our function is to put these deals together with the right people and make sure they are structured in a manner that makes sense, as well as coordinate the marketing aspects."

For instance, Laurel Springs Development Co. in Atlanta consists of local developers Peter Millichap, Fritz Lybert and Lamar Wakefield, who have been in business for years, Fenton said.

Golden Bear chose Atlanta, Dallas and the other cities because of economic advances, particularly "net new jobs." In recent years, Atlanta has added in excess of 80,000 net new jobs a year," Fenton said. "It is a market that is very strong into the 21st century... "Dallas has averaged 50,000 net new jobs a year for the last few years. That brings an ongoin demand for new housing."

Fenton said Golden Bear intends to set itself apart by the prestige of Jack Nicklaus himself. "People know we deliver a quality product," he said. "Jack is a partner, not just designer, in these projects. When he puts his name on anything, people know that represents quality."

Projects Nicklaus has designed and built for other developers "have outperformed competition for absorption rates and maximizing pricing," Fenton said. "We have done two communities in the past — Wynstone in Barrington, Ill., and Country Club of the South in Atlanta. Both are high-end, healthy products with private golf courses."

"Today, we're trying to [reach] a much broader market... The average home in Laurel Springs will be $325,000 to $350,000, compared to $800,000."

Meanwhile, since only 30 percent of homebuyers in golf course communities historically play golf, there should be plenty of tee times at the Golden Bear Golf Clubs. At least initially. As the communities mature and fill up, time will be available, Fenton conceded.

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was contributed by the nine courses
ported an operating revenue increase
$11.4 million during the first three
months of 1994 to $16.3 million for the
earlier. Operating revenue jumped from
$511,000. The remaining increase
increased approximately 4.3 percent,
the $2 million gain NGP realized from
the $8.2 million or 43 cents per share
March 31, a 10-percent increase from
the roughly 19,000 it currently attracts.
William Home founded Tallahassee,
America (PGFA) — recently estab-
lished as a tax-exempt, non-profit cor-
porate is involved in golf course design,
resource for financing and managing
projects.
Hardy also heads North American Golf
Foundation. However, Hardy said, the
Foundation cannot secure financing for sound projects,"
Hardy said. This approach eliminates
the need for a municipal body to pledge
its credit or tax revenues toward the
bonds, he added.

Vermont's Woodstock Country Club
Bowden said.
Such cooperation among competing
golf resorts is rare in Vermont, a state
boasting just 47 golf courses, according
to the most recent National Golf Founda-
tion figures.
"I haven't seen anything like this be-
fore," said Woodstock General Manager
Bowden, general manager of the Equi-
ox. "That's how we came up with this
joint marketing program."
The "Best of the Joneses" offers golf-
ers a stay-and-play package with the
opportunity to play the Rees Jones-rede-
signed Gleneagles Golf Course at The
Equinox and the Robert Trent Jones Sr-
designed Woodstock Country Club
90 minutes up the road.
Available midweek April 30 through
June 30 and August 20 through Sept. 22,
the package offers unlimited golf, com-
plementary golf cart, gifts from both pro
shops and two nights stay at each re-
sort. The entire package costs roughly
20 percent less than guests would pay
during peak season. If visitor wants to
stay an extra evening at either resort,
the revenue is split accordingly between
the two facilities.
"This seemed like a good way to try to
fill some of the down time we typically
have in late spring and late summer,"
Owners group appoints Smart Buy executives

CHARLESTON, S.C. — The National Golf Course Owners Association has hired Mike Tinkey as director and John Coles as manager of the Smart Buy Program, the group's purchasing program. Tinkey has 20 years experience in the resort, club and hospitality business. He recently served as club president and chief operating officer at Hilton Head Island and Charleston-area resorts. Tinkey is president of Sports Management and Marketing Services, a consulting business specializing in golf and tennis resort and club operations. A recent NGCOA board member, he helped develop the Smart Buy Program.

Coles comes to NGCOA from Graphic Data Services, where he developed database, communications and accounting services for real estate and retail businesses. Coles created start-up planning and marketing strategy for tourist-related businesses in Charleston. He consulted with NGCOA for desktop publishing and database development the past two years.

This is the one for The #1 Golf Co.

NAPA, Calif. — The new year has started with a rush for The #1 Golf Co., the San Rafael, Calif.-based company. The firm has undertaken management of Vineyard Knolls Golf Course. Located here at the entry to Napa Valley, Vineyard Knolls is a private 9-hole course that has extensive facilities, including a clubhouse and pavilion. As part of the management of Vineyard Knolls, a new golf learning center will be created with it. The #1 Golf Academy has also come to life.

In addition to the Vineyard Knolls project, John A. Lisanti, president of The #1 Golf Co., has announced three more new ventures:

• Bill Parker, president of Par meme Development Corp., has named #1 Golf the project manager and overall coordinator of a Bay Area golf club to be located on 390 acres of rolling hills in the city of American Canyon at the base of Napa Valley. It will consist of an 18-hole signature golf course, a state-of-the-art golf range, teaching facility, clubhouse and amenities.

• The #1 Golf Co. has also entered into a joint venture and management agreement for an existing golf driving range located in the city of Newark, to be operated as The #1 Golf Center at Newark. When an extensive plan for expansion and improvement are complete, the Newark Center will be a state-of-the-art facility and one of the many teaching facilities for The #1 Golf Academy. The Newark Center is strategically located adjacent to San Francisco Bay and the eastern approaches to the Dunbarton Bridge.

• A lease agreement has also been signed with the city of Stanton in Southern California. The lease provides #1 Golf with the opportunity to develop an upscale golf training facility with 50-plus practice tees complete with all the latest technological advances. The 17,000-square-foot former school building and grounds at 10660 Western Ave. will house distributors of golf merchandise. Ground breaking is expected shortly, with a completion and grand opening date of July 4.

For additional information contact The #1 Golf Co. at 1-800-721-2069.

AGC takes over Ore., Calif. links

SALEM, Ore. — American Golf Corp. (AGC) has been awarded a long-term operating lease for the recently completed 18-hole Creekside Golf Club here, the first golf course constructed in Oregon's capital in the last 32 years. The Santa Monica, Calif.-based firm also secured the lease for EastLake Country Club in Chula Vista, Calif.

AGC was awarded the management contract at Peter Jacobsen-designed Creekside following the club's purchase by National Golf Properties, Inc. (NGP) and will continue to operate the course as a semi-private club. Public play will be phased out as the membership level grows.

Encompassing 160 acres within the EastLake Greens neighborhood 20 minutes from downtown San Diego, EastLake's course was designed by golf course architect Ted Robinson in 1991.
USCCA

Continued from page 1

cars, driving range materials, etc. Other products will be added. Members will determine what includes Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, New Jersey and New York. However, private clubs from any state will be accepted and Dykehouse plans to expand USCCA's recruiting efforts to the South and Far West in the next few years.

Dykehouse expects to have the first product line — property liability insurance, possibly with a workers' compensation component — ready to unveil by the end of May. Future CAP programs will start with an advisory committee made up of representatives from member clubs who will determine the products and services to be offered in each program. Advisory committees will conduct a competitive bidding process to determine the manufacturer that receives final endorsement.

“The main thing we want to do is find out what clubs need and then get them the best deal possible on those products and services,” Dykehouse said.

In addition to CAP, other programs include resource sharing, information exchange, golf travel, golf tournaments and pilot program development.

Existing associations, such as the Club Managers Association of America and National Golf Course Owners Association, view USCCA as a group purchasing company rather than a true association.

“The founder presented it to us as a group-buying situation,” said CMAA Executive Director James Singerling. “They don’t seem to be providing the full range of educational and professional services offered by a true association.”

Dykehouse agreed, but left the door open for expanding USCCA's offerings in the future.

“We don't see a need for an educational component at this time,” the former Michigan State University educator said. “The existing associations do a fine job at that. We want to get involved with areas the existing associations haven’t addressed, such as group purchasing.”

CMAA has had no problem endorsing or establishing group purchasing programs. In a letter sent to chapter officers regarding USCCA, Singerling noted a "potential for any organization to actually become the management company for the club when all of your purchasing and statistical basis for operation become part of their data base."

According to excerpts from the Association Law Handbook distributed with the letter, “Associations involved in group buying and selling programs should be especially concerned about two rules. First, participation in the programs should not be restrictive. Second, prices received or given should not be discriminatory. If formed and run properly [however], association cooperative programs are effective in warranting competition and do not raise the specter of restrictive competition.”

Singerling also noted the possibility of a group purchasing program running afoul of antitrust laws and the need to seek legal advice before joining one. “In our opinion, independent relationships with suppliers are best,” the CMAA director said.

Dykehouse said he was “surprised” and “disappointed” by CMAA's response. “We’ve spoken with many attorneys regarding any legal problems,” he said. “When they looked at what we are doing, they’ve all said it falls under free trade...We received some calls from general managers about the letter. They seem to be taking it with a grain of salt.”

At first blush, CAP sounds similar to NGCOA's Smart Buy group purchasing program. The major difference is that USCCA is a for-profit business rather than an association controlled by its members, according to Smart Buy Director Mike Tinkey.

“We did a year-long study before starting this NGCOA program,” Tinkey said. “All the successful group-buying programs we found were run by associations. That included the ski industry, sporting goods retailers, hardware stores and many other groups. Associations seem able to do a better job at obtaining the lowest prices.”

Dykehouse disagreed. “Our sole source of income will come from dues and fees paid by our members,” he said. “We will negotiate the best prices we can with manufacturers and suppliers and pass every bit of those savings on to our members.”

Dykehouse expected to begin soliciting memberships as soon as the insurance program is in place, probably late May. Charter memberships will be available only through July 33. As an enticement to sign on early, the $1,200 initiation fee will be waived for charter members. Yearly dues, which start at $1,200, are guaranteed to rise no more than 10 percent annually for charter members.

Membership is expected to reach 800 clubs within three years with representatives from all 50 states within 10 years, Dykehouse said. Call 616-949-9411 for more information.

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GOLF COURSE NEWS
Club Managers Assn. endorses chief operating officer concept

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The Club Managers Association of America has endorsed the chief operating officer (COO) concept (formerly the General Manager concept) for private clubs.

In today's competitive economy, clubs are finding they need to operate more as corporate businesses than social organizations, the 5,000-member organization stated in a recent press release. For that reason, it has become necessary to hire individuals who can function as the chief operating officer for club operations and be able to advise the board on the best future interests of the club.

"The COO is liable for the entire club operation as well as ensuring a viable future for the club," said CMAA President Norman Spitzig. "In some instances, however, it is recognized that clubs may not be structured to function as effectively with a COO. In these cases, a management team consisting of the manager, golf course superintendent, and golf and tennis pros report to the board, making recommendations for the successful operation of the club."

While elected club officials formulate policy an provide guidance for the COO, they do not involve themselves directly in the management of personnel or operations. The COO is completely responsible for all phases of management and accountable to the governing authorities for the performance of the entire management team and for all operating results.

For information on the COO concept or to receive an information kit with job descriptions, sample organization charts, contracts, etc., contact Tamara Tyrrell at 703-739-9500.

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Vermont coop
Continued from page 33

looking to spend a couple of nights at each place. Lee and I are friendly competitors."

Play increased at The Equinox course after the younger Jones spruced up the Walter Travis routing, but not to the level Bowden had hoped. Searching for ways to bring more golfers to what is generally not considered a golfing state, Bowden hit on the idea of marketing his and his buddy Williamson's courses together.

"We hoped that by offering four-day packages like this we'd attract people from farther away who would take advantage of fly-and-drive visits to Vermont," Bowden said. "If they were impressed enough with the courses, they'd hopefully extend their stays."

The resorts tested the package for a brief, two-week period last June. They sold 20 packages, encouraging enough to offer it again with expanded dates this year.

The promotional budget has been limited, about $5,000 between the two facilities, Williamson estimated. Both resorts featured the offer in their newsletters, both of which are mailed to approximately 25,000 people. The resorts took out ads in several Florida newspapers, distributed press releases to newspapers and flyers to resort guests. A May press trip attracted many golf and travel writers to the two facilities.

"We haven't set any specific goals for the program," Williamson said. "But we expect to do a lot better than last year."

Financing
Continued from page 33

Private sector developer is willing to donate a golf course site to the Foundation. In most such cases, developers should be able to take a tax credit for the fair value of the donated land.

- Acquisition or long-term leasing of existing courses by the Foundation for municipal agencies in order to preserve a recreational asset, save open space from more intensive development, or achieve other benefits.

To ensure that only economically viable projects are considered, PGFA will require in-depth market studies by qualified consultants. Sites or existing courses under consideration must lend themselves to reasonable development or acquisition costs.

For more information contact The Public Golf Foundation of America at 312-508-1286.
Skiing not so bad, super says

By PETER LAI S

MANCHESTER, Vt. — Equinox General Manager Lee Bowden and Gleneagles Golf Course Superintendent Joe Charbonneau went at it for a couple years.

A cross-country ski center based at the golf course wouldn't do any significant turf damage and could make a sizable contribution to the southwestern Vermont resort's bottom line, Bowden argued.

Track marks and turf damage that could take weeks to repair could sully the reputation of the Walter Travis design that Rees Jones recently spent two years and $3.5 million renovating into a world-class layout, Charbonneau countered.

"It was a hard sell with Joe and the owners," Bowden said of his efforts to get the go-ahead from his course manager and the ownership group, Equinox Resort Associates. "None of them [the owners] were skiers."

But all were business people and understood the potential profitabiliy of using a seasonal facility on a year-round basis. Bowden pointed to the Woodstock Inn & Resort's ski touring center 90 minutes drive to the northeast.

Woodstock opened its center years ago. The facility boasts 60 kilometers of groomed trails.

The center contributes an average $75,000 annually to the resort's bottom line. "That's allowed us to make improvements to the course and clubhouse we might not have been able to afford otherwise," Williamson said.

The occasional track mark visible in early spring quickly修复 Bowen's arguments. "The key is good communication with the ski director and getting the superintendent involved in the routing," Charbonneau said.

Fourteen kilometers of on-course trails were laid out with another 18 traversing nearby woods. Charbonneau helped the ski director develop the on-course trails, which were generally routed along cart paths and through outlying rough.

"The key is good communication with the ski director and the superintendent involved in the routing," Charbonneau said.

The result was a profitable ski season, despite a long and deep snow year, and zero damage to the course. "I'm actually up for skiing because my course is not so bad, super says.

"I've always been against skiing because my course is sacred to me," said Charbonneau, who proved himself a shrewd Yankee trader. "But I bargained for some extra things out of it, like 10,000 linear feet of cart path and a few extra people on my wintertime crew."

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Ocean Course
Continued from page 3
Ocean Course back on the auction block. Harris said there was tremendous domestic and international interest in the Ocean Course in the days leading up to the May 19 auction. Among the suitors were owners of pro sports teams and some wealthy individuals who saw this as a way to enter the golf business for the first time. But those potential buyers chose not to bid when they learned of VIT's and Way's continued interest.

"It was simply worth more to VIT than anyone else since it controls the other public courses and the hotel," Harris said. "VIT and Way were the primary bidders from the start because of the vested interest they have in the future of Kiawah."

Some questioned why VIT would be interested in the Ocean Course since previous agreements reserved 60 percent of the tee times for resort guests. In essence, they contended, all VIT was getting for its $27 million was access to the other 40 percent of the rounds and the deed.

"Now VIT controls the actual maintenance and operation of the course, too, which it couldn't have done if someone else had bought it," Harris said. "Controlling the quality of the course is important."

Harris said VIT should close on the property by mid-July.

Brassie Golf
Continued from page 33
development, construction and membership marketing.

Horne will serve as president of Brassie and Brassie Interim President Gary Nacht as executive vice president/chief financial officer. Golfer Hale Irwin will continue as president of Brassie Hale Irwin Golf Design division and a director of Brassie. Gordon Ewart and Robert Atkinson, COPM's chairman and vice chairman, respectively, will retain their board seats and positions.

"The combined management talent created by this merger offers our shareholders a dramatic growth opportunity," Ewart said. "COPM will bring a wealth of proven management experience to complement Brassie's growing portfolio of owned, leased and managed facilities, and will provide greater access to acquisition and design opportunities. This merger is also expected to significantly enhance Brassie's ability to raise additional capital."

Added Fister, "Service, service, service is what we'll provide. The new ownership management team will make us a better company. Plus we'll have the capital available to aggressively pursue new projects. We have eight to 12 we're considering now. Knowing that we're willing to invest our own money should make our management services easier to sell to owners looking for a management-only arrangement, too."

Fister said a corporate meetings to discuss acquisition strategies were held in May. Daily-fee and semiprivate courses with potentially strong cash flows are expected to be the primary targets.

Initially the firm will seek new courses in markets it already serves, Fister said. Acquisitions are preferred, although Brassie will continue to sign management-only and consulting agreements.

Corporate agronomist Bobby Ellis, a 14-year COPM veteran, is expected to continue in that role with Brassie, Fister said.

The proposed merger is subject to regulatory approval and was scheduled to close in May. Consideration for the purchase of Resort Golf Clubs International was included in the issuance of shares for COPM.
BRIEFS

CROCKETT JOINS CLEARY
Jim Crockett, previously general manager of Imperial Nurseries, Inc. of Granby, Conn., has joined the W. A. Cleary Horticulture, Inc. of Imperial Nurseries, Inc. of Granby, Conn., has joined the W. A. Cleary Horticulture, Inc. of the University. He was also employed by Chemlawn Corp. In his role at Cleary, he will direct the development of existing and future horticulture products into the greenhouse, nursery and landscape industries.

MERIT REGISTERED IN NY
Merit insecticide has received registration in the state of New York, including Long Island. Merit is manufactured and marketed by Bayer Corp., formerly Miles, Inc. A certificate of registration was issued by the N.Y. Department of Environmental Conservation. Under the terms of the registration, all three Merit formulations — Merit 75WP, Merit 75WP and Merit 50G insecticides — are accepted for use on turf, landscape ornamentals and interior plantscapes throughout the state of New York, including Long Island.

AQUATROLS HIRE SATANZOW
Tracy Moore, president of Aquatrols, announces the newest addition to the Aquatrols family. Scott Wanzor, of Duluth, Ga., is the new Southeast territory manager.

“We’re excited to have Scott on board, and look forward to his education and experience contributing to our company’s growth,” Wanzor says. Wanzor has over 18 years of turf and ornamental experience. He is a graduate of the University of Georgia.

CHANGES OF SCENE

SOMERSET N.J. — Lofts Seed, Inc. has relocated its corporate offices and research department here from Bridgewater, N.J. to the Bridgewater Industrial Complex. The new address is 247 Ellin- 

THE Penalty is the largest to date under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), which requires pesticide registrants to submit to EPA, in a timely manner, any additional factual information regarding unreasonable adverse effects of their registered pesticide products.

DowElanco views the settlement as an essential means of resolving the issues raised and of maintaining a good working relationship with EPA,” reads a statement released by DowElanco. “We take product stewardship and compliance with U.S. laws and regulations very seriously, and we want our efforts in these areas to meet or exceed the EPA’s expectations. We continue to work towards this goal.

WINCHESTER, Calif. — With its acquisition of the Warren’s Turf operation here, West Coast Turf has added another arrow to its increasingly replete quiver. The Warren purchase, finalized May 1, is 1995’s first significant move for Palm Desert-based West Coast Turf, which bought out Foster Turf Products and opened a Las Vegas office in 1994.

The applause has been nearly unanimous as exhibitors react to new trade show hours announced by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. In short, distributor day has been moved to Friday morning (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.), superintendents will be allowed on the floor Friday at 1 p.m., and the Monday hours have been eliminated altogether. These changes will take effect at the association’s 1996 International Conference and Show held in Orlando, Fla.

“I think it’ll work,” said Don Hepler, president of Professional Turf Specialties, Inc., a distributorship based in Champaign, Ill. “The only problem I see is, we have a lot of meetings that traditionally have been scheduled for Friday morning. They’re basically forcing us to come in a day earlier. But if they eliminate the Monday hours, it should work out fine.”

It’ll be a busy three days, but then it always is.”

The applause has been nearly universal with regard to closing up shop Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m., and junking the routinely slow Monday hours. On Monday afternoon (3 p.m. to 5 p.m.), exhibitors will be allowed on the floor, but the show floor will be open only to perintendents. They’re basically forcing us to come in a day earlier. But if they eliminate the Monday hours, it should work out fine.”

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Continued on page 41

NEW PRODUCT OF THE MONTH

John Dore's new 22 Utility Trailer is a low profile, green mow heater that allows operators to leave the transport wheels in the maintenance building. The thermal formed insert has a rugged composite liner covers the temperature enclosure, protecting the transport drum, hitch and roller during loading and unloading. With its payload capacity of 1000 lbs., low profile and turf tires, the 22 Utility Trailer can haul practically anything without disturbing the surroundings. The trailer's box weighs 240 lbs. empty and has a box capacity of 10 cubic feet. The 22 is compatible with Genie, the 1060 Utility Vehicle, larger lawn and garden tractors and most other utility vehicles. It can easily be attached to most equipment with a rear hitch. For added versatility, the green mow heater can easily be detached by removing two screws, leaving a standard trailer suitable for virtually any hauling task.

For more information, contact Dore at 919-832-7421. For new products, see page 42.

WINCHESTER, Calif. — With its acquisition of the Warren’s Turf operation here, West Coast Turf has added another arrow to its increasingly replete quiver. The Warren purchase, finalized May 1, is 1995’s first significant move for Palm Desert-based West Coast Turf, which bought out Foster Turf Products and opened a Las Vegas office in 1994. The 200 acres here — just one of many Warren’s locations — feature three types of hybrid Bermuda grass, as well as St. Augustine, and tall fescue turfgrasses. The newest West Coast Turf office serves Southern California’s Inland Empire. “The Winchester location has both warm and cool-season grasses, and securing that inventory will enable us to broaden our product line,” explained John Foster, president of West Coast Turf. West Coast specializes in the application of warm-season grasses on golf courses and features Big Roll, thick-cut and washed sod shipped nationwide.

PARKERSBURG, W.Va. — Ames Lawn & Garden Tools has acquired the assets of Southeastern Plastics, Inc. of Byesville, Ohio, in a move that will double Ames’ injection molding capacity and help meet the growing worldwide demand for its poly-contracted hose reels, lawn carts and other lawn and garden products. The announcement was made by President & Chief Executive Officer Rick E. Keup, who said all injection molding operations at the Byesville facility would be under the responsibility of Ira R. (Dick) Phillips, Ames’ senior vice president, operations. Ames, the largest manufacturer and distributor of non-pow- ered lawn and garden tools in North America “has long been the only major lawn and garden tool manufacturer in this country with in-house plastics molding capabilities [at its injection and blow molding plant in Elyria, Ohio],” stated Keup. Ames plans to expand the Byesville facility, which currently employs 160 people.
Heritage unveiled; Bonzi label changes

WILMINGTON, Del. — Zeneca Agrochemicals, which operates as Zeneca Ag Products here in the United States, will spend $34 million to build manufacturing facilities for its new fungicide, called Heritage and coded 5504. According to Vern Hawkins, fungicides business lead for Zeneca, the new facilities should be completed by the third quarter of 1996. The company anticipates receiving its first registration on Heritage in time for the 1997 season.

MIDDLEBURY, Conn. — The Environmental Protection Agency has approved the reduction of the restricted entry interval (REI) for Bonzi plant growth regulator from 24 to 12 hours. Notification of individual states is under way. Bonzi is a tool in the production of high-value ornamental plants for the ornamentals market. It is used to reduce internode elongation in virtually all container-grown ornamental plants produced in enclosed commercial structures, resulting in more marketable, compact plants.

Pesci, Mroz move up at Ransomes America Corp.

LINCOLD, Neb. — Paul Pesci has been promoted to vice president of sales and marketing for the Turf and Professional Lawn Care divisions here at Ransomes America Corp. In addition to developing sales and marketing plans for the Ransomes, Cushman and Ryan product lines, Pesci will oversee parts support activities, determine pricing strategies and supervise sales/marketing personnel.

In other Ransomes news, Mark Mroz has been named service training coordinator. In his new position, Mroz will oversee all service training here at Ransomes headquarters, involving both hands-on and classroom instruction on the maintenance and repair of Ransomes, Cushman and Ryan equipment. Typical attendees include service personnel from industrial, turf and professional lawn care dealer ships.

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GCSAA show hours

Continued from page 39

mornings in years past, the only noticeable buzz on the floor was the dreaded "Velcro symphony," as exhibitors got the jump on tearing down their booths.

"With a trade show, traffic will always drop off the final day," said Ron Skenes, manager, Marketing Services at E-Z-Go. "I commend the association to try some new things and experiment with ways to make the show more productive. They're looking for a good mix to make it successful for all the parties involved. I think that Friday is going to be a more productive day than it has been in the past... The superintendents are all in town that day. Friday morning was usually used to polish up the booths. That will just have to be done beforehand.

"The only problem with the Sunday situation is the move out: Some exhibitors will have to begin tear-down on [convention workers'] double time. For me, there's an easy solution to that. I can take out the golf cars on Sunday and tear down on Monday. But other exhibitors may have more of a problem with that."

... In other GCSAA news, Deena Amont has been hired as director of education, and Cynthia Kelly has been hired as government relations manager. Both started at GCSAA headquarters in mid-May.

Amont comes to GCSAA from Cook College, Rutgers University. Amont served the past six years as staff counsel and director of its continuing education program, directing the two-year Rutgers Professional Golf Turf Management School. Her duties will be to redesign, promote and administer GCSAA's continuing education program that will include teleconferencing, seminars, conference workshops, self-guided instruction, video and booklet development, and information technology.

Kelly comes to GCSAA from the American Association of Blood Banks in Alexandria, Va., where she served six years as staff counsel and director, government affairs. Her new responsibilities will be to keep association members apprised of environmental issues and government regulations.

IN OTHER RANSOMES NEWS, MARK MROZ HAS BEEN NAMED SERVICE TRAINING COORDINATOR. IN HIS NEW POSITION, MROZ WILL OVERSEE ALL SERVICE TRAINING HERE AT RANSOMES HEADQUARTERS, INVOLVING BOTH HANDS-ON AND CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION ON THE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF RANSOMES, CUSHMAN AND RYAN EQUIPMENT. TYPICAL ATTENDEES INCLUDE SERVICE PERSONNEL FROM INDUSTRIAL, TURF AND PROFESSIONAL LAWN CARE DEALERSHIPS.
Head protection pushed in Minnesota; rolling out the grass carp-et in California

According to a letter circulated to superintendents and other turf groups in Minnesota, the state OSHA plans to double its efforts with regard to head protection and roll-bar enforcement:

"Rollover protection and seat belts are required on all motorized, self-propelled vehicles and mowers that are equipped with a 20 horsepower motor and above," reads S. 182,653, Sub. 2. "Four-wheeled vehicles and mowers operating on flat terrain only will be exempt. Three-wheeled vehicles have no exemption."

"Any employee exposed to flying objects or subjected to possible injury by flying objects needs to wear head protection (such as a hard hat). Employers are required to provide this head protection for their employees."

The letter also makes it clear that golf courses are a primary focus of the two enforcement initiatives.

Meanwhile, superintendents in California are leading efforts to legalise the use of grass carp as an aquatic weed control method on Golden State courses. The California GCSA successfully pushed for introduction of SB 157, which would make it legal to introduce triploid (sterile) species of white amur, commonly known as the grass carp, into golf course ponds and lakes. Use of the fish in impoundments that feed into the Sacramento or San Joaquin rivers would be delayed until 2001, assuming no harm comes from use of the white amur in other areas before that time.

Also in California, hovering mower distributors received an emissions setback from the California Air Resources Board (CARB), whose written directive denies a request that hovering mowers be exempted as a hand-held, two-stroke device. CARB spokesman Jerry Martin indicated the Flymo was not a "true necessity" for golf courses because of the availability of string trimmers.

Also, Kawasaki USA's Engine Division has announced the receipt of certification by CARB for its FB460V engine, bringing the total number of Kawasaki engine models certified to meet the emissions requirements to 12. The Kawasaki FB460V, a 1.25 horsepower, four-stroke vertical shaft engine, has been certified under the rigid California standards, which are expected to be adopted nationwide in the future.

DowElanco settles

were concerned to learn that we had not met agency expectations in the case at hand. We have made a careful evaluation of the reporting process by which we provide information to EPA and have committed additional resources in order to avoid a repetition of these issues in the future."

According to EPA, DowElanco reported 249 incidents to EPA after the 30-day time period specified in EPA guidance. EPA's review of these incidents indicated DowElanco had not been reporting adverse effects incidents that it learned of through personal injury claims and lawsuits. After EPA sent DowElanco a "show cause" letter, the company submitted information on additional incidents.

The bulk of the information arose from personal injury claims filed against DowElanco relating to chlorpyrifos. Reported adverse effects, which span about a decade, included cases of alleged peripheral neuropathy and other chronic neurological effects. Peripheral neuropathy involves the nerves of the arms and legs.

"EPA asserts," the company statement continues, "that DowElanco was late in submitting reports providing notice of allegations drawn from its claims and litigation files. DowElanco voluntarily disclosed allegations from these files and has cooperated fully in providing information in response to EPA requests. This information has been provided even though it is drawn from allegations of individuals seeking compensation and is not regarded by DowElanco as factual information."

"Along with our submission of claims-related allegations, DowElanco also provided the Agency with a safety assessment related to these claims. Based on this assessment, we remain confident of the wide margins of safety that exist for our products under conditions of use."

EPA's Dr. Lynne Goldman noted that the incident reports obtained in this action are particularly important because EPA is currently reviewing the registration for chlorpyrifos.

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The field of vision is expanded by framing beneath the lens and out of eyesight. No need to worry about the glasses not fitting — temple adjustments provide a perfect fit for everyone.

The glasses can be ordered by sending $9.95 plus $2.50 for shipping and handling to DRL Company, P.O. Box 7471, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-7471.

Michigan residents add 6 percent sales tax.

Sostram unveils flowable Echo 720

Sostram Corp., manufacturers of the Echo line of fungicides, has introduced a new, more concentrated Echo 720 Turf and Ornamental Flowable chlorothalonil fungicide. With six pounds Al (active ingredient) per gallon, Echo 720 delivers more disease control activity per ounce with less material applied per treated area. This more concentrated formulation provides improved cost effectiveness in the way of easier, labor-saving handling and less storage space requirements. Echo 720 is labeled for use on a wide variety of turf grasses and ornamental plantings to control dollar spot and large brown patch, among others. For more information, contact Sostram Corp., 70 Mansell Court, Suite 230, Roswell, GA 30076, or call 404-287-1032.

Green Super Stripper, new from Fox Valley

Fox Valley Systems, Inc. has introduced its new 1995 Green Super Striping Machine. The Super Striper is now able to produce sharper 2-inch to 3-inch with the help of the new self-orienting spade tip on the compatible aerosol paint cartridges. No matter which way the can is placed into thestriper, the spade tip is ready to produce a beautiful sharp stripe.

The 1995 Super Striper is the only striping machine with a speed indicator and weighted windscreen. Height adjustments and a side stripper attachment for curbs are other included innovations in the new green striping machine. Just press the trigger and walk. Each paint cartridge covers approximately 200 linear feet. For more information, call 1-800-323-4770 and ask for Department R821; or write to Fox Valley Systems, Department R821, 640 Industrial Drive, Cary, IL 60013.

Alpine: Nugget, only greener

Alpine Kentucky bluegrass from Pickseed is different. The objective was to use the old, but still very useful variety Nugget as a model. The decumbent growth and winter hardiness of nugget were two of its many desirable traits. Nugget's slow spring green-up and lack of dollar spot resistance were two of its weaknesses.

Alpine is a very decumbent, low-growing type like Nugget, but it has marked improvement in leaf spot and dollar spot resistance and better spring color, too. Pickseed has successfully accelerated seed production of Alpine. It's available as Certified seed. Contact your nearest Pickseed outlet or distributor for a free brochure and more information.

Advanta introduces Cannon, Hector

Cannon Kentucky bluegrass from Advanta Seeds is medium-dark green variety with excellent seedling vigor and rapid establishment. Cannon exhibits excellent spring and fall color and recovers quickly from drought stress. In trials, Cannon has shown good resistance to dollar spot, summer patch, necrotic ring spot, stripe rust, stem rust and leaf rust.

Hector Creeping Red Fescue from Advanta is a fine-textured, medium-dark green variety with strong seedling vigor. Hector provides excellent ground cover and density throughout the year. For more information, contact Advanta at 903-967-8923.

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Golf Courses News

June 1995

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Ocean City hitches its regional growth to phenomenon of public-access golf

Continued from page 46

t of the Ocean City Chamber of Commerce, said having a variety of courses will be the key to continued success in keeping golf in the area. With an increasing number of golf courses comes the variety which will bring golfers back to the resort area again and again, he said.

“There is a need for more golf courses. You can’t get a tee time at a lot of them now and in the summer you’re completely shut out,” he said.

Golf Course News
CALENDAR

June
12 — Midwest Regional Turf Foundation
Sports Field Workshop in Huntington.
Contact 317-494-8039.

July
25 — Midwest Regional Turf Foundation
Turf Field Day in West Lafayette.
Contact 317-494-8039.
26 — University of Georgia Turfgrass Field
Day in Griffin, Ga. Contact 404-228-7300.
26-28 — Turf Producers International
Summer Convention in Omaha. Contact
Doug Fender at 800-405-TURF.
30-Aug. 1 — International Lawn, Garden
and Power Equipment Expo in Louisville,
Ky. Contact 800-558-8767.

August
23 — Minnesota Turf and Grounds Founda-
tion Expo '95 in Mendota Heights, Minn.
Contact Scott Turtinen at 612-473-0557.
6-8 — Georgia GCSA Summer Conference
at Sea Palms Resort on St. Simons Island.
Contact Karen White at 706-769-4076.
16 — Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Field
Day in Columbus, Ohio. Contact Julie
Guenther at 614-261-6750.
23 — Turf Talk '95 in Chandler, Ariz.
Contact Garden West at 602-233-2966.

September
7-8 — Southwest Horticultural Trade Show
16 — Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Field
Day in Lafayette. Contact 317-494-8039.
23-28 — Turf Producers International
Conference and Show in Minneapolis.
Contact 614-261-6750.

October
4-7 — Georgia GCSA Annual Meeting at
Jekyll Island. Contact Karen White at 706-
769-4076.
9-10 — Golf Course Expo in Orlando, Fla.
Contact Golf Course News Conference
Group at 207-846-0600.
14-16 — Midwest Regional Turf Founda-
tion Turfgrass and Ornamental Seminar
in Lafayette. Contact 317-494-8039.

November
4-7 — 26th Annual Georgia Turfgrass
Conference and Trade Show in Atlanta.
Contact 404-228-7300.
5-8 — Ohio Turfgrass Foundation Confer-
ence and Show in Columbus, Ohio. Con-
tact 614-261-6750.
6-8 — Minnesota Turf and Grounds Con-
ference and Show in Minneapolis. Contact
Scott Turtinen at 612-473-0557.

* For more information contact the GC-
SAA Education Office at 913-832-4430.

Hawkins comment
Continued from page 11
should not be limited to wetlands and
protected habitats, protected wildlife, pro-
tected or regulated waterways, archaeo-
logical or cultural resource sites and/or
unique natural features or conditions.
A proper site assessment identifies
those conditions that have regulatory
and permit requirement decisions while
managing this level of financial risk.

If the golf course site can be legally
permitted for the planned development
in terms of zoning and land use regulations,
and the site limitations or environmental
sensitivities do not preclude development
feasibility, the project can be approved.

Golf Course Marketplace
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GOLF COURSE NEWS
Public-access supply meeting demand in Ocean City, Md.

By ROTA KNOTT

OCEAN CITY, Md. — With eight public-access golf courses in the works, including four within planned communities and two more 18-hole additions at existing clubs, this region on Maryland's Eastern Shore has invested heavily in the golf destination business.

Eight courses are already flourishing in and around the resort town. First to join them will likely be the new 18 at The Beach Club, which was originally planned as a 36-hole facility. Hunt Crosby, a spokesman for facility, said it's not only feasible but necessary to proceed with the additional 18 holes, which should be ready for play by July 1996.

"We anticipate the growth of golf locally to continue," Crosby said. "There has been substantial growth already. The number of rounds of golf played here increases by 20 percent each year." Ed Lorenz, head pro at the 18-hole Bay Club Golf Course, said his course is planning an expansion to meet demand. The Bay Club remains in the permitting process for construction of another 18. Lorenz said the club hopes to have the new course open and running by the spring of 1997.

"Depending on who you listen to, there is a tremendous need for tee times," he said. "Our predictions as to when to go forward are linked to the profit of the golf course. And now looks like the time to move."

The 36-hole Ocean City Golf and Yacht Club, the resort's first golf course, is making some minor improvements to keep pace. River Run, a golf community located just outside the resort, recently completed improvements to its track, including rebuilding three greens.

The area's other established golf course community, Ocean Pines, has tentatively planned a second set of championship links, pending a referendum vote. If approved in the referendum, work on the new Ocean Pines course could start by this fall.

Three new golf communities — Lighthouse Sound, Riddle Farm and Woodcock Farm — are in various stages of the planning process. Riddle Farm will host two separate 18-hole courses, one public and one semi-private, covering approximately 380 acres. Plans for Woodcock Farm include an 18-hole golf course, also.

Dual proposals, one containing 18 holes of championship and one executive, all of which may come on-line over the next two or three years. In addition, both major and minor improvements are underway at several of the existing courses.

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Smith said the goal of Golf Getaway, which is expanding its membership to include new courses as they open, is to band golf courses with the local community to promote Ocean City as a golf destination. The organization is funded and governed by its membership, which includes all the existing courses in the vicinity of Ocean City as well as several within a 30-mile radius of the resort.

Golf Getaway, in conjunction with the town itself, promotes the resort golf facilities nationwide through advertising, utilizing both the print media and television sources, press releases and sponsoring local golf tournaments.

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