**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, so there is no sign of slowing down." 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 up 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." 

Sandi Smith is manager of Ocean City’s municipal course, Eagle’s Landing, 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 — Light- house Sound, Riddle Farm and Woodcock Farm — are in various stages of the planning process. Riddle Farm will boast 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 golf and the other calling for 27 holes, have been approved for Lighthouse Sound. The area’s other established golf course, Regal Chemical Company

P.O. BOX 900 • ALPHARETTA, GA 30029
PHONE 404-475-4837 • 1-800-621-5208

regular use of Regal Crown root growth stimulator exhibits phenomenal results. Turfgrass types such as bermuda, bent, zoysia and others develop more roots that are healthier and penetrate deeper. More roots imbedded deeper into the soil means better nutrient and moisture up-take creating thicker, greener tops.

Regal Crown is a blend of hormones specifically designed to promote root growth in turfgrasses and ornamentals. Used regularly, Regal Crown roots can minimize hot weather dry wind stresses and winter desiccation.

**Football Great Dick Butkus says,** "Mark Anywhere Quickly and Easily with the Original Upside Down Aerosol Power Paint Cartridge!"

**easy marker**

*Meets temporary marking needs for special events, construction and utility projects. golf course and landscape work. Saves money by clearly marking work sites with instructions to avoid costly mistakes."

**Great Features**

- Lightweight EASY MARKER HANDLE
- The Ultimate Temporary Marking Tool

**SOME USES...**

- Construction
- Utility Companies
- Landscaping
- Golf Courses

**easy marker / fit-a-cap**

- Paint can on the market because it’s loaded with pigment which means you get more marks from every can, about 2½ times miles per case! Available in paint cartridges or in chalk for less permanent marking. Can be used out of the holder for hand marking. Made exclusively for use in easy markers and for handheld applications. Call for the full selection of colors.

"Growing golf is very exciting. There is a definite need for new courses," Smith said. "A demand has been created by the sheer number of golfers who come here to play now instead of going elsewhere."

Smith said the goal of Golf Getaway, which is expanding its membership to include new courses as they open, is to hand 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. Alex FauntLeRoy, executive director.

Continued on page 43