A PEARL IN THE EAST

Dragon Pearl Golf Club, located outside Bangkok, Thailand, is one of the courses making a name for designer Jim Engh, who cut his teeth with IMG and Cotton Pennink. For more on a member of golf architecture's new breed, see page 45.

Supers turn OSHA regs to their budgetary advantage

By MARK LESLIE

While state and federal legislators struggle with weighing the costs and benefits before passing new laws, golf course superintendents may actually save their clubs money following suggestions from safety experts like Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) personnel.

By investing about $1,500 a year for four or five years, his former club saved $30,000 to $40,000 a year in insurance costs, said Ray Davies, now superintendent at Lake Merced (Calif.) Golf & Country Club.

Referring to his old employer, Virginia Country Club in Huntington Beach, Calif., Davies said: "We didn't have a negative attitude. Just the opposite. From my viewpoint, it saves you money in the long run."

Complying with OSHA standards is "something