Winter hangover lingers in Midwest

Crown damage, desiccation rampant

BY MARK LESLIE

Superintendents from Minnesota and Michigan to Iowa and Illinois were up against the wall this spring, their courses belted with desiccation, crown damage and direct low-temperature kill that set season openings back weeks.

"Instead of having March, April, May, we're having March, March, March," said Bruce Williams of Bob O'Link Golf Club in Highland Park, Ill., president of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA). "Harsh winter kill seems endemic from Colorado through Kansas, Iowa and areas like that."

"When we first started greening up in late April — which is very late for us — all the high spots came out green and all the low spots were dead stone-cold dormant," said Dick Stuntz of Alvamar Country Club in Lawrence, Kan., attributing damage to a snow-melt that froze again. "Guys with ryegrass fairways lost it. For those of us with zoysiagrass, the loss isn't large but it will be a terribly slow recovery."

While Jerry Faubel of Saginaw (Mich.) Country Club was "very fortunate and escaped damage" because he added drainage in key areas last year, the former GCSAA president said: "Courses throughout..." Continued on page 26
Tour the Islands with the 'Penn Pals'

Island putting greens are indeed a beautiful, yet intimidating, sight to behold with some very unique shapes and features. They're also meant to challenge golfers. Once a player has carried the water hazard and landed on the green, he should be rewarded for his efforts. That's why, in most cases, the putting surface is one of the 'Penn Pals'... icing on the cake, so to speak.

We haven't seen the last of island greens. Now that one floats, what's next? Whatever the configuration, your Tee-2-Green distributor has the ideal creeping bentgrass for each application: Penncross... the world standard for putting greens since 1955. Pennagle... the salt tolerant grass for greens and fairways, plus PennLinks, the new choice for greens around the world.

And now, the exciting next generation of low mowing creeping bentgrasses... PENN A-1, PENN A-2, PENN A-4, PENN G-1, PENN G-2 and PENN G-6 will add a new dimension to green performance.

So, even when a player's short irons are erratic, and his putting's unpredictable, he can always count on the quality and consistency of 'Penn Pals' greens as he tours the islands.
IN BRIEF

ROME, N.Y. — A nine-hole golf course at the former Griffiss Air Force Base that sat unused last year will spring back to life this summer. Delta Knolls, a group that operates another course here, recently agreed to a 5-year lease with the Griffiss Local Development Corp. to manage the nine-holer. The course was maintained but not used since the base closed last fall.

LAMPASAS, Texas — In 1948, the 9-hole Hancock Springs Golf Course was built in Hancock Springs Park for about $10,000. Now, almost 50 years later, the city is celebrating the completion of a $600,000 project that created nine new holes and a new clubhouse. Members of the Lampasas Golf Association were given first crack at the new nine. Of 200 members, 149 played, according to golf course manager Van Barry.

TOLEDO, Ohio — Bedford Hills Golf Club, which already has an 18-hole course, recently opened a new 9-hole layout just north of the Ohio-Michigan line. Designed and constructed by course superintendent Bob Rutter, the new side, called the "Irish" nine is connected to the old 18 by a tunnel underneath Jackman Road.

BEFORE AND AFTER
What a difference a little bunker work makes! At left, the finishing hole at the California Golf Club of San Francisco before a recently completed restoration by Nickels Golf Group. Above, the finished product. Nickels, based in San Rafael, Calif., handled the design and construction.

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Violence, death pull plug on Mexican project

TEPOZTLAN, Mexico — The developer of a controversial golf course and housing development in the colonial town of Tepoztlán canceled the project after violent confrontations that left one protester dead.

Francisco Klaidt, head of the development firm of Grupo KS, indicated the investors in the proposed $311 million project just outside Mexico City decided to cut their losses because of an increasing climate of violence.

Hundreds of opponents of the project, which included plans for 800 homes and a Jack Nicklaus-designed golf course, clashed with police earlier this spring as they tried to deliver a signed petition to Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo.

One member of the opposition Democratic Revolution Party (PRD) was killed and several other protesters seriously injured after police stopped them on a road about 40 miles south of Mexico City. Many of the protesters were Indians and peasants from towns that would be affected by the development project.

The state government said

Continued on page 9

Golf Course News

CIRCLE #102
Two new holes approved at Olympic Club

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. — The California Coastal Commission has approved the Olympic Club’s bid to add two holes to a nine-hole golf course it is building on land overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

In return for the approval, the club will be required to buy reclaimed and surface water to irrigate its fairways (rather than pump ground water from nearby Lake Merced) and to provide public access to the beach. To help provide a continuous walkway along the coast, the club granted the National Park Service a 31-acre parcel of rugged upland and beach.

Another interesting development in the agreement is a demand that the 136-year-old club—which has hosted several U.S. Opens and PGA Championships—issue a signed promise not to discriminate on the basis of sex or race in its membership policy. The club has historically only accepted white men to its membership.

Many local citizens and environmental groups criticized the agreement. The land that will be developed has been a popular spot for walking, jogging, picnicking and hang gliding.

The Olympic Club ran into trouble last year completing its new six-hole course, which lies in both San Francisco and San Mateo counties. Though the club got approval to develop four holes from San Mateo County, it had to get approval from the Coastal Commission to add two holes in San Francisco.

Ala. designer readies course

BRELMEN, Ala. — White Pines Golf Course, scheduled to open in July, carries a unique distinction. The course is owned by a woman, Beck White, who also designed and developed the course.

White built on 165 acres of reclaimed mining land relying heavily on information provided by the National Golf Foundation and the advice of James Thursby, who built Mountain View Golf Course in nearby Graysville.

"Naturally there's ups and downs with a project this size," White said. "But I don't regret doing it. That's not to say I wouldn't have done a few things differently, though."

The course is located off Interstate 65 north of Birmingham
Champion Hills subject of major N.C. regrassing effort

HENDERSONVILLE, N.C. —

Golf course superintendent Bill Maynard has led a massive regrassing project here at the Tom Fazio-designed Champion Hills Country Club in the mountains of western North Carolina.

The course has been converted from bluegrass to bentgrass. The newly sodded front nine opened in April and the back nine, which was seeded, is expected to be ready sometime this month.

When Fazio designed and built the private 18-hole golf course in 1990, it was almost immediately hailed as one of the top new golf courses in the southeast part of the country.

In 1993, The Branigar Organization — which has developed more than 80 golf courses throughout the country — purchased Champion Hills and decided it wanted to improve the golf course.

Branigar hired Maynard last April to be the course superintendent and to supervise the regrassing project. Maynard had been an assistant superintendent at The Golf Club of Tennessee and in charge of maintenance at The Virginian Golf Club in Bristol, Va., both Fazio-designed courses that have earned plaudits.

Maynard worked with Joe Duich, a Penn State professor and turfgrass expert, to develop a plan to convert Champion Hills to bentgrass. Maynard and his crew have installed more than 8,000 linear feet of drain —plus tons of gravel and sand in the eight inches beneath the top surface — to prevent the fairways from becoming soggy and spongy.

“When Mr. Fazio designed the course, he made it so that water drained naturally,” said Maynard. “All we did was give every bit of water that hits the course a bus to get on and go where we want it to. That was one of our priorities. We want to have tight, firm bentgrass fairways.”

The threat of resistance is very real. Reports are coming in that repeated applications of the same family of fungicides have forced resistant strains of disease pathogens.

Brown Patch, Dollar Spot and Leaf Spot are creeping back, even after treatment.

But there’s a simple way to protect your course from the threat of resistance.

Product rotation with an alternate chemistry. Alone or tank-mixed, the long-lasting protection of CHIPCO® brand 26019 isopropionate fungicide is the perfect cornerstone for a season-long disease and resistance management program.

CHIPCO® 26019 is the proven, broad-spectrum fungicide that gives you unsurpassed control of Brown Patch,

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Dollar Spot, Leaf

Spot, Fusarium Blight

and Patch and

Necrotic Ring Spot all season long. It’s so effective, it even gives you control of

Pink and Gray Snow Mold and Corticum Red Thread.

So don’t let resistance give you a spotty reputation. CHIPCO® 26019 is the product to start with. The product to rotate around. The foundation for all your tankmix combinations. Call your CHIPCO® sales rep today.

La. expansion should be ready for Labor Day

ABBEVILLE, La. — The Abbeville Golf and Country Club here is quickly being reshaped into an entirely new golfscape.

The club’s conversion from a 9-hole to an 18-hole course is well ahead of schedule, according to general manager Tom Carter. The target date for completion of the project is Labor Day weekend.

Dirt-moving was finished by the end of April and seeding started in early May, according to Carter.

Along with the work on an entirely new nine, seven of the existing nine holes are also being upset at the news that Sherwood Greens will be closing.

City councilor Jim Collins has said the sewer treatment plant site could work, even though the course would need to be designed around treatment ponds and basins, an underground pipe system and several buildings. Collins said a decision should be made soon to allow a new course to be ready when Sherwood Greens closes.

Hope for new par-3 course encourages Calif. golfers

SALINAS, Calif. — The city may not lose its only par-3-nine-hole golf course after all.

A city council subcommittee has found a possible site to replace the Sherwood Greens Golf Course: 55 acres of city property at the Salinas City Sewage Treatment Plant off Hitchcock Road.

Sherwood Greens is due to be replaced by football and soccer fields in about two years. The California Rodeo Association, which is headquartered at the site, is planning to remodel the grounds into a year-round sports complex beginning this summer.

Local golfers have been upset at the news that Sherwood Greens will be closing.

Current membership is about 340 and Carter said he expects it to grow up to 500 in the next year.
Golf developer steps to plate in Va.

LOCUST GROVE, Va. — Two years ago, Bill Matthews, a wealthy nursery owner, opened a 19-hole course outside Fredericksburg known as Meadows Farms.

His first golf course includes the novelty of a warm-up hole and the nation's longest hole at 841 yards, a par-6 that has become something of a legend among Mid-Atlantic golfers.

In April, Meadows unveiled another doozy — a new nine-hole public layout at Meadows Farms with one par-3 hole designed to look like a baseball field. Another hole features a green situated on top of a manmade waterfall.

The par-3 "Baseball Hole" plays from tees set up behind home plate across a regulation-sized diamond complete with bases and a mound to a green set in center field.

Tenn., Nicklaus may join forces on two more courses

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The state of Tennessee may build two additional 18-hole Jack Nicklaus-designed golf courses beyond the four it has already committed to construct.

According to the Greeneville Sun, state officials and the Nicklaus group have expressed considerable interest in 286 acres of land at Kinser Park. The state-owned park currently has a swimming pool, numerous water slides, a miniature golf course, baseball field, boat access to the Nolichucky River, a go-cart rack and several picnic pavilions.

Kinser Park is not one of the original four sites chosen for a golf course under a $20 million project to build Nicklaus signature layouts at four Tennessee state parks.

For the golf course to become a reality, a series of events would have to occur.

First, the Greene County Commission and the Greeneville Board of Mayor and Aldermen would have to approve a donation of the land to the state for the construction of a Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course. If those two boards approve, then the state legislature would have to approve the additional funding for the construction of the course.

Even if state and local approval is received, a course at Kinser Park may not be built for three or four years because the four courses which have already been funded — including those at Harrison Bay, Tims Ford and Chickasaw state parks — will most likely be built first.

S.C. state park track set for Bermuda switch

CHERAW, S.C. — The greens at Cheraw State Park golf course here are set for a dramatic makeover starting this month.

The greens, which have been bentgrass, will be converted to Bermudagrass in a process that will take the course out of play for at least two months this summer, maybe longer.

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism decided to convert to Bermudagrass greens because it felt the summer climate was putting too much stress on the bentgrass and caused a drop off in the number of golfers playing the course in summer.

Work is scheduled to begin June 17, with the stripping of bentgrass sod from the greens. Play will be allowed to continue with temporary greens through June 24. But the course will be closed June 24. Seeding is expected to start July 1 and officials hope the course could be ready for play by Aug. 30.

Holes uncovered at Texas layout

ABILENE, Texas — The latest golf course to undergo expansion in the Abilene area is Merkel Golf Club, although rediscovery might be a better word.

The former nine-hole Merkel Golf Club has had a back nine for the past 15 to 20 years. The layout, located west of the existing nine, was hidden by weeds, scrubs and new growth.

Merkel's golf pro and owner George Dijulio and greenkeeper Jim Smith went in to the long-lost nine and rebuilt the greens, tees and irrigation systems. They also built a lake.

Seeding started in April and they hope to have the new/old back nine open by September.

Dijulio, who formerly worked at the Mesquite Grove Golf Course at Dyess Air Force Base, bought the Merkel club two years ago and oversaw extensive improvements on the existing front nine before this current rebuilding project.

A new twist to

A new 18-hp diesel engine powers higher-capacity hydraulic pumps in the new 2653A to deliver 33 percent more torque to the reels.

June 1996
Veterans department closes N. Chicago links

NORTH CHICAGO, Ill. — The Joe and Marie Sisolak Golf Course, a nine-hole layout tucked away at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center since the 1940s, is closed for good.

The 2,974-yard course was among 22 in the country maintained by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) at a cost of $1 million per year. The annual cost to maintain the Sisolak course has been about $120,000.

The VA decided to close its golf courses to free more resources for the health care and medical treatment of veterans and their families.

Since its construction in the 1940s, the Sisolak course was open to VA employees and patients with nominal greens fees. Because of limited access to the isolated course, and a lack of parking, the course was never opened to the general public nor was there any effort to lease the course to an outside firm.

In 1994, the course — which started as an 18-hole layout but was reduced to nine — was dedicated to Joe and Marie Sisolak of Waukegan, in honor of their many contributions in promoting and teaching golf.

Joe Sisolak, 78, serves as the medical center’s golf professional. He was profiled in a recent issue of PGA Magazine for his work with young golfers. Sisolak has helped young golfers in the Waukegan area for almost 50 years and still teaches high school students during the summers. In the winter he runs a junior golf program in Melbourne Beach, Fla.

Marty to revamp Mississippi layout

NATCHEZ, Miss. — Marty Golf Management has begun a six-month consulting agreement with the City of Natchez to refurbish and revamp the 18-hole public Duncan Park Golf Course.

Marty Golf hired a golf professional, Job Humphrey, and brought in one of its agronomists, Chuck Collins, to oversee the improvements at the course.

Remodel likely for Ill. facility

QUINCY, Ill. — The 50-year-old Westview Golf Course could be in line for a facelift.

The Quincy Park Board recently set aside $28,000 for an architectural study with suggested improvements to the popular public 27-hole facility.

“We have an excellent facility — probably the best in 100 miles. But this is the 50th anniversary of Westview Golf Course. It also shows that she’s getting old. There’s lots of things we need to do.”

There has been ‘talk for many years about whether Westview should be expanded. But that question will not be a central focus of the architectural study, according to city golf officials. The central goal, they said, is to make the existing course better.

Facelift finished at Kansas track

WICHITA, Kan. — The oldest public golf course in Wichita is expected to reopen this month after a $2 million facelift.

The 18-hole McDonald Park course, built in 1911 and remodeled in 1936, 1960, and 1963, has been closed since late February 1995 for its most extensive renovation yet.

Some of the changes designed by Oklahoma-based golf course architect Mark Hayes are subtle: bunkers. Some of the distances on a few of the holes have also been changed. One of the most noticeable changes is water, as in six new ponds on the course.

McDonald Park was actually the original Wichita Country Club course and became a public course in 1950. The course has always been one of the city’s most heavily-played, with about 50,000 rounds a year, according to course superintendent Randy Siroky.

June 1996
Dayton tightens up on employee greens fee giveaways

DAYTON, Ohio — Dayton officials have adopted stricter policies covering free golf passes at the city's four public courses after the Dayton Daily News reported 1,571 free passes were used in 1994 and 1995 by city employees, retirees and friends of city officials.

The new policies allow city officials to hand out passes to smooth over customer complaints, as prizes in charity events, and to compensate volunteers who work on the courses. Also, the golf professionals, restaurant operators and course employees will be eligible for free play.

Lifetime pass holders will be eligible for continued free play but must now renew their passes annually. City officials have been unable to determine who has lifetime passes.

One policy that remained intact was the 26 free passes to members of the fee-rate committee, the group that meets five to six times a year to recommend cart and greens fees. One committee member who is also president of the city's golf commission has criticized the policy, saying it creates a bad impression to the public.

Under the new policy, volunteers who work more than 15 hours a week get a free season pass, while those who work less than 15 hours earn one pass for every three hours earned.

Financial woes force city to seek volunteers to maintain golf course

TROY, N.Y. — Officials in the financially-strapped city of Troy are hoping that volunteer citizens and golfers will chip in to maintain the municipal 18-hole Frear Park Golf Course this summer.

Troy Mayor Mark Pattison has estimated the city is currently operating with a deficit that could be as high as $12 million. With the city's recreation department staff gutted from 34 people to 12, and the course maintenance budget slashed, it's not clear how the golf course will be maintained.

A task force has been pulled together to discuss how to promote and maintain the golf course. As the season opened this spring, there were three or four people city employees available to work on the golf course.

Golf fees are being asked to adopt a hole and pay for flowers, greenery and other costs. Businesses may also be asked to buy ads at each tee.

Just last year, a developer offered as much as $3.8 million to the city for a 30-year lease to operate the golf course. But the city rejected the offer, saying that the revenues from the golf course were an asset the city shouldn’t give up.

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**PROSTAR PLUS™** Fungicide controls both brown patch and dollar spot. A premix that utilizes the lowest labeled rates of **PROSTAR** and Bayleton, the combined “synergistic” action is more effective than either agent alone. And it provides up to 30 days protection, even at these lowest labeled component rates.

**PROSTAR and PROSTAR PLUS** both have premeasured water-soluble packaging. Both are non-phytotoxic to all fine turfgrasses, and neither will interfere with growth regulator programs.

Go with the obvious choice for best results.
Timbers: first female-designed course in Mich.

TUSCOLATOWNSHIP, Mich. — When Tim Zehnder and Mike Bergman broke some barriers.

Bergman broke ground for the Timbers: first female-designed course in Mich. Viola, making her the first woman to design an 18-hole golf course architect Lorrie nine to follow in August.

Viola lives in Farmington Hills but also works in Boca Raton, Fla., with L.A. Links, which has built courses in Florida, Pennsylvania, California, the West Indies and the United Arab Emirates. Viola has more than 12 years experience in golf course design and has worked with Jack Nicklaus, Jim Fazio and Gary Player.

Viola's design philosophy reflects the changing demographics of golf. "There was the old-school, old-time thinking that you designed a course for male golfers and then threw in the women's tees," said Viola. "That's changing now because of demographics. Everything has changed in design because 40 percent of new golfers are not men.

"So we've designed this course with five sets of tees and have given a lot of thought to the front tees."

Viola does not refer to the front tees as the women's tees. She says the front tees are an important aspect of the course and can be used by seniors and junior golfers.

NGF charter members reach century mark

JUPITER, Fla. — Black Rock Golf Corp., manufacturer of "Killer Bee" drivers and fairway woods, recently became the 100th Charter member of the National Golf Foundation (NGF). This brings the number of active NGF Charter members to 100 for the first time in the Foundation's 60-year history.

Charter members are industry leaders who actively support the growth of golf.

Black Rock was preceded by a long list of companies that have elected Charter membership dating back to the NGF's inception in 1936. In that year, four companies helped form the NGF: Hillerich & Bradsby (H&B Powerbilt), MacGregor Golf, Spalding Sports Worldwide and Wilson Sporting Goods. Sixty years later, all four companies are still Charter members.

During NGF's first 50 years (through 1986), Charter membership grew to a total of 33 companies, with most of them being equipment manufacturers.

"Today, in addition to the equipment companies, we're seeing a lot of management companies, turf and other product suppliers, media publishers and apparel companies," said NGF Vice President of Membership Services Barry Frank.

Seattle raises fees at its three munis

SEATTLE, Wash. — Greens fees at Seattle's three municipal courses are going up from $15 to $17.50 for 18-hole rounds.

Municipal Golf of Seattle (MGS), a non-profit corporation that operates Jackson Park, Jefferson Park and West Seattle, announced the rate increases to help pay for long overdue improvements.

Upcoming capital improvement projects at the courses include:

- New maintenance facilities at Jefferson for equipment, storage and supplies.
- New irrigation systems at Jackson and West Seattle, and completion of the computerized irrigation system at Jefferson.
- Restoring the bunkers at all courses.
- Construction of new tee complexes and bridges.
- Major renovation of the Jefferson Park driving range.

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From time-proven brass valves to efficient valve-in-heads. From full-featured, computerized central controllers to rock solid, radio-controlled satellites. From rugged, gear-driven sprinklers to solid brass quick couplers. Legacy Golf Irrigation has a complete line of equipment to help you perfect the science of golf irrigation.

But, what's most exciting is Legacy's commitment to the art of service and support. That's why Legacy is now offering its new Full Membership Program: an exclusive service and support program without equal in the golf irrigation industry.

With Legacy, you'll find a refreshing blend of quality products and much needed services that are perfectly suited for making both your golf course more beautiful and your work more enjoyable—all at the same time.

For more information, call 1-800-248-6561 today and ask for your FREE "Introduction to Legacy Golf Irrigation" packet.
What’s Audubon and what’s not

This month’s front-page story on the once-and-future golf course in Jacksonville, with its complex, compelling political battles, was long enough without delving into the curious relationship between the routinely need a set of things: the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS) and Signature Program, widely hailed into the golf industry for their marriage of business, environmental and other associations, the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS) is a chapter of National Audubon, which doesn’t necessarily look fondly upon New York Audubon and the ACSS.

Every year or so, it’s important for golf to take a reality check with regard to the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System. It’s a fantastic program, but folks must recognize ACSS participation doesn’t necessarily earn your course reality check with regard to the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System.

New York Audubon and the ACSS. 

To think that because you follow our program you’re going to large to throw you their undying support. 

Other words, just because your course is an ACSS participant, or even a Signature member, don’t expect other Audubon organizations or members of the environmental movement at large to throw your underlying support. 

It’s kind of frustrating,” says Ron Dodson, executive director of the International Coalition for Audubon, the non-profit organization founded by New York Audubon. “I tell everyone interested in our Signature Program, during the first visit: If you think that because you follow our program you’re going to bring all of Audubon in behind you, you’re wrong. 

This concept is easy to grasp when you understand how

Letters

DISTRIBUTORS WILL SURVIVE THROUGH SERVICE

To the editor:

I would appreciate the opportunity to respond to your article "Manufactures hedge bets on distribution" [GCSA April 1996]. I strongly oppose the statement by Mr. Phillips that “ten years from now, golf courses will likely purchase their accessories directly from the factory.”

I feel that the professional turf equipment distributor will still be the point of distribution for accessories for the same reasons we are now: the local distributor’s ability to most effectively and cost-efficiently market and deliver these products to the customer.

My company is fortunate to distribute Standard Golf and Par Aide accessories and the Sendrella organization founded by New York Audubon. "I tell every interested in our Signature Program, during the first visit: If you think that because you follow our program you’re going to bring all of Audubon in behind you, you’re wrong. 

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This concept is easy to grasp when you understand how
By PETER BLAIS

The latest National Golf Foundation (NGF) figures should lay to rest any worries about the continued health of the U.S. golf course development industry.

Just consider:
- A record 468 courses opened in '95.
- Another 1,368 are either under construction or in planning.

The good news out of Jupiter, Fla., can be echoed here in Yarmouth, Maine, home of Golf Course News and its sister publication, the Golf Course News Development Letter, a twice-monthly subscription newsletter tracking golf course development throughout the country and providing the names and telephone numbers of key contact people.

For the past 3 1/2 years, the GCN Development Letter has chronicled the continued success of developers in locating capital, architects in placing courses on often-challenging sites, builders in constructing environmentally friendly facilities and owners/management companies in paving the way for successful openings.

We have been particularly pleased with the strength of the resurgent Midwest, known not so long ago as America's Rustbelt, which has far surpassed other regions of the country in new development the past four years. The most recent GCN Development Letter, for instance, reported on such projects as:
- A 36-hole Robert Trent Jones II-designed layout in Kansas City proposed by a Springfield, Mo.-based developer that should start construction this summer.
- An 18-hole course planned by a Yorksville, Ill., couple currently attempting to obtain the last of their permits prior to starting construction.
- A 27-hole public course on South Padre Island along the south Texas coast that Delos Partners, an Albany, Ohio-based development company, hopes to begin constructing this year.

GCN Development Letter subscribers learned about these projects early enough to benefit from the knowledge. Non-subscribers are forced to play catch up.

The Southeast continues to attract the interest of developers catering to the golfing needs of retirees heading for the fun and sun of the once-prosperous city of Adams in Western Massachusetts is a good example. For years, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, has talked of developing the 1,000-plus acres it owns at the base of the mountain. The GCN Development Letter recently reported the state has issued a revised Request for Development Proposals based on a fully approved master plan allowing for 27 holes of golf, conference center and residential development. The state even offered to contribute $6.5 million toward the project. Subscribers were made aware of the May 22 application deadline.

Non-subscribers, well...

The other trend we've noted from the recent issue of Golf Course News is the growth of public golf. Where the emphasis a decade ago was on private courses and residential development, today's developers are looking to tap the emerging daily-fee market. Ninety-one percent of the courses listed in the most recent issue of the GCN Development Letter were public layouts. That percentage has increased to the extent that it has, is a great example of the confidence that both developers and lenders continue to have in the health and future of the game.
Leslie comment

Continued from page 10

media with explanations of why the golf courses in that state were not in top-notch condition. The blame was displaced from superintendents to its rightful place, the weather. The GAM has done a great job communicating, with the advent of Brett Marshall as the director," he said. "He has a definite feel for golf courses and superintendents and he just does a marvelous job in communications."

This could be a lesson for state golf and superintendents' associations to take forward in the future. News releases are easy to do, and phone calls easy to make. Most sports editors will lend a caring ear to your side of the story — even as the snows rage outside their window.

In our interview (see page 35) it was gratifying to hear that even an icon like Arnold Palmer, as busy as he is, reads Golf Course News each month. "I enjoy Golf Course News very much," Arnold said. "I know all of us at Palmer Course Design enjoy it as well. It provides current and accurate information in every publication."

In fact, Arnold helped Golf Course News kick off our Public Golf Expo in 1994 in Orlando, Fla., when he keynoted the national event. And his company has supported our ventures into Asia-Pacific, from our newspaper to the regional golf shows with which we are affiliated.

For more than 30 years he has captured the nation's attention — and adulation — and his appeal has not lessened even with the drop in Tour victories. The reason? Arnold Palmer is multifaceted, but every single person who has ever relived with me a meeting with Arnold Palmer — be it for a round of golf at a pro-am tournament, or at some other sort of event — mentions his humility and kindness. "It's as if he'd known me for years," folks are apt to say.

Arnold exemplifies the great qualities that we all love about golf and the best characteristics of those who play it. Too bad more would-be icons do not act that way. Will the next generation of Americans miss having an Arnold Palmer?

When Palmer's design partner, Ed Seay, was asked his advice for superintendents interested in working in Asia-Pacific, he replied: "If you get the opportunity, take it. First, it's going to put the superintendent on his own. In most cases, what is mundane and a daily routine in the U.S. becomes major over there. He is going to have to be inventive and creative. Whereas here he will have tools to do a job, over there he's going to have to make the tools. What we do in a week here may take 60 or 90 days over there. And that's even at an upscale new golf course that has a lot of financial support. Then, he can have a marvelous five- or seven-gang mowing unit or triplex, but no one to run it besides himself. So he gets the education of training people. "When a guy goes over there, he's going to be put under a tremendous amount of individual performance. He's got the opportunity to make some money. And when he gets ready to go back home, he could almost take any job in the world, because the opportunities and situations he will face will be a piece of cake to him. It is very trying."

Golf Course Builders Association of America (GCBA) President Paul Eldredge can't explain the continuing golf course construction boom, but he doesn't see "any great letup, either."

The president of Wadsworth Golf Construction Co. in Plainville, Ill., Eldredge said: "All the architects I talk to have work and have a lot prospects are being held up by environmental issues and/or money. I don't know that we'll be building 500 golf courses a year for the next five or six years, but I see a good next couple of years coming."

The growing retirement community, he said, "is certainly driving a little bit of the golf. Our economy has been running good the last few years, and people who have done well in business and are buying resort homes in golf course communities; that helps." Eldredge also said the marked increase in new high-end daily-fee facilities is a fallout from the tax law change removing private club membership costs as a deduction.

Those former private club members "still want the quality and it's a little cheaper to play the high-end courses than join private club," he said. "A lot of the private courses we used to build in connection with developments are now going high-end daily-fee."

Can you name the most deadly weather phenomenon in the United States? Hurricanes? Floods? Tornadoes? Uh-uh. Lighting takes an average of about four lives a week, killing more people than hurricanes, floods and tornadoes combined. Global Atmospheric, the lightning guru, says 189-200 deaths are annually attributed to lightning.

For more help, check out our report on weather stations on pages 31-34.
Phillips comment
Continued from page 10
National Audubon manages its own membership and chapter affiliation. And who better to explain it than Dodson, a former regional representative for National Audubon.

Here’s how it works: Suppose you live in Kalamazoo, Mich., and you want to join the Kalamazoo Audubon Society (KAS). The KAS is an official Audubon chapter, which means it publishes a newsletter, elects designated officers, holds at least nine meetings a year, and issues an annual report to National Audubon.

In exchange for these stipulations, Kalamazoo Audubon receives national affiliation plus a predetermined cash amount for every National Audubon member with a Kalamazoo-area zip code. In other words, when someone from the Kalamazoo area joins National Audubon, they pay the $25 annual dues, of which KAS receives $5.

You simply cannot join Kalamazoo Audubon or Duval Audubon without joining National Audubon first. Why? Well, this system allows National to claim 550 chapters and more than 50,000 members. That’s why.

Further, there are 15 state Audubon groups that have no affiliation whatever to National Audubon. New York is one. Florida is another. In fact, as an Audubon society in its own right, the Florida organization has engineered its own deal: When you join Audubon in Florida, one-third of the $25 dues goes to national, one-third goes to Florida Audubon, and another third goes to a local zip-code chapter, like Duval.

Here’s another important factor: While state and local Audubon chapters have been around since the late 1800s, National Audubon wasn’t organized until the 1940s. “Many people believe that national was first, and that all the other chapters are subsequent and affiliated with the national. It’s not true,” Dodson explains. “All the different societies have their own boards of directors and bylaws, and are free to take any position they like on any issue.

We have many Audubon chapters around the country working with us. But we have many that don’t, and it usually comes down to one or two individuals who are against everything, all development, looking for anything they can do to throw a monkey wrench into the government permitting process.”

In Jacksonville, for example, Duval Audubon has opposed the restoration of golf at Blue Cypress. In public meetings, Duval Audubon member Pat Anderson is on record as opposed to all golf development anywhere in Florida.

“Even we haven’t endorsed the Jacksonville project,” Dodson points out. “I haven’t even been on the site. But we’re encouraged that, if a golf course is developed there, it will be done under the Signature Program. Things are going to be developed in this country and it’s our responsibility to make sure it’s done properly. So if a golf course is developed, we prefer developers follow Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary guidelines.

“If you compare a well-sited, well-maintained golf course to any sort of development — any kind — I’m telling you, it’s the best kind of development. I’m not saying there should be golf courses on every street corner. In fact, I think there are places there should be no golf courses at all.

“Despite this, the Audubon Society of New York State and Audubon International are somehow suspect by other Audubon groups because we choose to pursue conservation agendas that are positive in nature. Instead of saying things we’re against, we talk about what we favor. Instead of running around the country talking about who’s hurting the environment, we talk about ways to enhance and protect it.”

Despite the chasm that separates New York Audubon and its estranged sister organizations, there is a chance Audubon’s disjointed cold war will thaw sometime in the future. Last month, according to Dodson, members of National Audubon had an extremely productive meeting with representatives of the ACSS.

“When they left our building they said, ‘Ron, we think there’s light at the end of the tunnel.’ I think we can work together. We think you’re doing good work here.’

“I don’t think there will ever be a time when National runs around the country telling people to join Audubon Sanctuary. They have no vested interest in seeing us get any bigger. But there may be a time when a memo is issued that might say, ‘Let’s stop the bad-mouthing. Let’s get on with life.’

“I’m hopeful.”

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Palmer Management
Continued from page 1

The United States has approximately 3,000 residential golf communities with another 100 coming on line each year. Many have struggled financially and are in the hands of banks, receiverships or developers without the funds to complete their projects.

"They've stalled out for whatever reason," Nanula explained. "The developer or his broker is trying to find a management company to take over the golf course and a local developer to finish the residences. It usually takes months trying to find people to buy the separate parts. With Toll Brothers, we become a one-stop shop. We can make a single bid for the entire property and write a check on the spot. Toll Brothers finishes the homes and we operate the golf course."

The ability to move quickly is a reflection of the financial strength of publicly traded Toll Brothers and Palmer Golf Management, which received a huge influx of capital when California-based Pacific Golf and the Chicago venture capital firm Apex Investment Partners acquired the golf management firm back in 1993. Palmer and Toll announced their arrangement in late April. Nanula said he received 25 proposals within a few weeks.

"We're looking at three or four very seriously," he said.

Nanula termed the sale of Golf Enterprises to NGP "disappointing", not only because it increased the size of rival American Golf, but also for GEI's investors and managers, who received a lower return on their investment than Nanula believed they expected.

"It was mainly venture capitalists who backed Golf Enterprises," the Palmer Golf executive said. "They generally expect a 30-plus-percent rate of return. I know this deal was nowhere near that."

GEI Chief Financial Officer John Berndsen acknowledged that some of the early investors with the company's original startup back in 1988 made a small profit, but "managers had higher expectations for Golf Enterprises than were eventually reflected in the selling price," Berndsen conceded.

Nanula said the GEI sale was particularly disappointing because the Dallas-based firm was the first management company to go public with its stock back in July 1994.

"Golf Enterprises never did anything to make itself special," Nanula said. "It just accumulated a bunch of golf courses and then sold them. Unfortunately, that's the route many management firms are taking.

"Golf courses have been run generically for years. There has been no real innovation, like there has been in the hotel and restaurant industries. Golf is still a sleepy little business in terms of customer relations."

"Look at a hotel company like Marriott. They run everything from high-priced to moderately-priced hotels. But there are certain things a customer can expect at any of them — great service, a clean room and a great value for whatever price range one of their hotels are in. That's the sort of customer service we need in the golf business."

Berndsen disagreed, stating that GEI emphasized customer service from day one and continues to do so through its association with American Golf and National Golf Properties.

"If anyone is the leader in customer service, it's AGC," Berndsen said. "Golf is a competitive marketplace. With participation rates down and some unfavorable demographics over the next few years, a golf course must market itself aggressively and retain its customer base to survive. The American Golf and ClubCorps are in the best position to do that. The only reason we sold the company to NGP was because it was in the best interest of our shareholders."

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Bristol's Clear Creek work nearly complete

BRISTOL, Va. — Work at the 18-hole public Clear Creek Golf Course is about 90 percent complete, according to developer Jack Sykes. Sykes said the substantial earth moving is virtually finished and all that remains is the erosion control and the grow-in period.

The city of Bristol has already let bids out for two buildings on the course, the clubhouse and a maintenance facility. Along with the golf course, a 250-home residential project is planned.

The city bought the 400-plus-acre Clear Creek Lake site from the Tennessee Valley Authority in 1994 and ground was broken in December by Kentucky-based Summit Engineering.
Talking Turf in August

CHANDLER, Ariz. — Turf Talk '96, the annual turfgrass seminar hosted by Garden West Distributors, Inc., will be held Aug. 14 at San Marcos Hotel and Conference Center here. More information on the full-day event is available from Garden West at 602-233-2966.

Grandview, Mo. — The Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association (HAGCSA) turned its annual past presidency over to Elmore G. (Gil) Collins Day to honor the retiring Emlore G. (Gil) Collins. Twice a president of HAGCSA, Collins has been superintendent at Oakwood Country Club here for 31 years, following positions at Wakonda Club in Des Moines, Iowa, Molila Club in St. Joseph, and Windbrook Country Club in Parkville.

Karnock Twice-Honored

Dr. Keith Karnock of the University of Georgia Department of Crop and Turfgrass Management, a correspondence course of the Professional Lawn Managers Association (STMA) has awarded the Harry C. Gill Award to Gilbert Landry, Groundskeeper of Audubon Sanctuary System (ACSS) experienced a year of stability and rising involvement in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS). The ACSS Annual Program Report says, "ACSS members are literally transforming their courses to improve habitats, protect water sources, and reduce water and pesticide use."

"The (program's) momentum seems to be picking up more and more," said Audubon International President Dr. Keith Karnock of the University of Georgia Department of Crop and Turfgrass Management, a correspondence course of the Professional Lawn Managers Association (STMA) has awarded the Harry C. Gill Award to Gilbert Landry. Landry's turf management expertise and his dedication to the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS) has been recognized with the Harry C. Gill Award.

terprises at the University of California, Davis. He has also significantly influenced which type of turf to grow and has authored 70 scientific journal papers, technical reports and scientific abstracts. Golf Course News spoke with Green as part of its ongoing question-and-answer sessions with leading turfgrass researchers.

Audubon's Landry Honored

GRiffin, Ga. — The Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) has awarded the Harry C. Gill Award to Dr. Gil Landry, a turf specialist with the University of Georgia Extension Service here. The award, honoring the STMA's Groundskeeper of the Year, Landry's turf management expertise and dedication to the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS) has been recognized with the Harry C. Gill Award.

Karnock is the author of Principles of Turfgrass Management, a correspondence course of the Professional Lawn Managers Association of America.

Georgia's Landry Honored

GRiffin, Ga. — The Sports Turf Managers Association (STMA) has awarded the Harry C. Gill Award to Dr. Gil Landry, a turf specialist with the University of Georgia Extension Service here. The award, honoring the STMA's Groundskeeper of the Year, Landry's turf management expertise and dedication to the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary System (ACSS) has been recognized with the Harry C. Gill Award.

The objectives of the first study were to evaluate the effects of turf type on turf wear and ball-roll distance. It was conducted at the Valentine Memorial Turfgrass Research Center here. Two

Plastic spikes vs. metal and none

By G.W. Hamilton, D.S. Sinkus, L.P. Tredway & A.E. Gover

University Park, Pa. — Two studies have been conducted here at Penn State University evaluating the effects of three turf types on putting green turf wear, ball-roll distance, and ball-roll deflection.

The study found that turf types significantly affected ball-roll distance and caused an unacceptable amount of wear at certain traffic intensities on both types of root zones: all-sand and modified soil. Deflection in ball-roll was rarely statistically different for turf types. Another general observation: Metal spikes, because of the creation of the hole in the turf, made the traffic much more noticeable. Although the holes make the traffic more apparent, the effect on ball-roll may not be as significant as the effect on turf visual quality.

The objectives of the first study were to evaluate the effects of turf type on turf wear and ball-roll distance. It was conducted at the Valentine Memorial Turfgrass Research Center here. Two Continued on page 17

Latshaw's Poa Attackus Plan at Merion

By Mark Leslie

ARDMORE — While his dad has been tackling major greens woes at Congressional Country Club, Paul Latshaw Jr. has faced obstacles of his own at Merion Country Club here and has made major strides in conquering poa annua problems.

The Merion superintendent said a combination of gassing the greens last September with methyl bromide, covering the greens and applying heavy dormant feeding through the winter, and using a four-cultivar blend of bentgrasses had his putting surfaces looking "pretty decent" for the May 18 opening. Now Latshaw and his crew are faced with the real chore: keeping poa annua from again invading this famous golf course. His plan? A multidimensional approach that will include hand-picking this first year, a possible pre-emergent herbicide application in the fall to prevent poa from germinating, a future use of plant growth regulators to inhibit poa seed-head production, and a move to plastic-spiked golf shoes.

Phase One

Latshaw credited much of the success in the grow-in phase of his greens renovation to extensive fumigation.

"There are a lot of things in our favor because we fumigated so far out," he said, explaining that crews not only fumigated the greens but also at least 30 feet out into the root zone. The site was fumigated two times per week for a total of eight applications.

Recent research shows a defined irrigation amount, say 80 percent ETO, statistically higher turfgrass quality and soil water content within the root zone can be achieved by irrigating two times per week versus four times per week. Turf researchers have known the benefits of the practice of deep, infrequent irrigations for many years and our data supports this economic principle.

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Audubon Membership

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& A

Robert L. Green U-Cal Riverside

U-Cal Research Shedding Light on Water Use

Robert Larson Green, Ph.D., is the turfgrass research agronomist in the Department of Botany and Plant Sciences at the University of California, Riverside. Green provides leadership for a growing research program involving turfgrass stress physiology and cultural practices. He has bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees from the University of Florida and has authored 70 scientific journal papers, technical reports and scientific abstracts. Golf Course News spoke with Green as part of its ongoing question-and-answer sessions with leading turfgrass researchers.

Golf Course News: What research have you and other UC-Riverside researchers undertaken in the area of water use and what are your findings?

Robert Green: We have conducted considerable research irrigating below reference water use (ETO) via procession irrigation field plots. The goal is to save water by expanding the time between irrigations while maintaining representative, functional turfgrass. The rooting aspect is one of the most important plant traits that enables us to irrigate below ETO and save water.

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Continued on page 28

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Continued on page 28

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Carlson — sans chemicals — keeps Squaw Creek sparkling

OLYMPIC VALLEY, Calif. — To the legions of skiers who visit the Resort at Squaw Creek each winter, the vast snow-covered meadow that skirts the resort is a haven of cross-country trails. But to Mike Carlson, it’s one of the most environmentally sensitive golf courses in America — merely hibernating until spring comes to the High Sierras.

Carlson, the superintendent for the award-winning Resort at Squaw Creek Golf Course nestled at the base of Squaw Valley USA, just finished presiding over the annual removal of the snowy tarp that covers the 18-hole, Robert Trent Jones Jr. layout. With a target opening date of May 24 and some of the toughest environmental regulations in the country governing the process, Carlson and his team had their work cut out to prepare the course for another season of mountain golf.

“We’ve had more than 20 feet of snow this winter, but we expect to open on schedule,” said Carlson, who has been with the Resort since 1981. “Waiting for all the snow to melt naturally would take at least a month, and could lead to severe snow mold. Adding to the threat of snow mold, environmental restrictions prohibit the use of any pre-winter pesticides to prevent it.

The stringent guidelines, established by a technical review committee under an agreement with the neighboring community, permit Carlson to maintain the grounds with only six products, mainly water-soluble fertilizers. “Instead of pesticides, we invest in springtime manpower for removing snow, and for sodding and seeding any damaged greens,” Carlson said. “Once all the remaining snow has melted, we put a geo-textile fiber cover over the greens at night to trap in heat.”

As a result of the work by Carlson and his crew, the greens are not “lush,” and are actually barely alive. But that’s the objective: to impose the minimum synthetic input possible on the natural environment. The brownish hue of the rough, which to the casual observer may appear to reflect neglect, in fact demonstrates a calculated effort to preserve the area in its natural state.

The pesticide-free management program is only one aspect of the environmentally sensitive design and course management methods. Course architect Robert Trent Jones Jr. and RTJII vice president of design Kyle Phillips planned the course with environmental sensitivity as their highest priority.

By creating minimal play areas to avoid displacing native zones, they produced a course that, with just 80 playable acres, is fun and challenging, but small by industry standards. They incorporated raised wooden cart paths for minimal soil disturbance, three natural filtration ponds for water making its way to Squaw Creek, and new wetlands and meadow land areas at a ratio of 2-to-1 to those displaced by course construction.

The course is home to bald eagles, red-winged blackbirds, a variety of small wildlife, and an array of wildflowers, including lupine, yarrow, aster, columbine and Indian paintbrush.

An aquifer below the course supplies drinking water. The aquifer’s presence led to the original pact between the resort and its Olympic Valley neighbors. Opponents of the initial 1983 course permit request feared pesticides normally associated with golf course maintenance would contaminate the aquifer water with nitrogen and damage the surrounding wetlands.

To resolve the conflict, the resort’s owners commissioned a two-year study, at a cost exceeding $1 million, to develop management techniques utilizing natural fertilizers and biological controls that would mitigate any damage to the wetlands and aquifer.

The study resulted in the Chemical Application and Management Plan (CHAMP), which was a key factor in persuading Lake Tahoe’s Labontant Regional Water Quality Control Board to grant approval for the golf course. The board and the Army Corps of Engineers supervised all construction.

“The measures taken to minimize the impact to the surrounding environment were better than any we’ve seen here before,” said Jerry Peacock, an engineer with the Water Quality Control Board.

Those measures appear to have paid off. Last December, the course was designated as a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary by the Audubon Society of New York State in conjunction with the United States Golf Association.
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They say seeing is believing, and here's enough seeing to make anyone a believer. Because high magnification scanning electron microscopy of treated turf samples shows it. And so do Plexiglas’ wash-off studies — studies that have been shown to correlate directly to real-world performance. New Daconil Weather Stik fungicide sticks and stays like the competition can't.

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In addition, Daconil Weather Stik can be tank-mixed with a wide range of turf and ornamentals fungicides (consult label), so you can also count on it for broad-spectrum support of your systemics, as well as disease resistance management. Remember, there's never been a documented case of disease resistance to a Daconil brand fungicide in over 25 years.

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Daconil Ultrex goes into suspension in less than a minute and stays in suspension even after six hours for consistent coverage from start to finish.

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Of course, because bags are easier to get rid of than plastic jugs, and you have fewer of them, disposal is that much easier. Now add the sticking and staying power of our Weather Stik® formulation for exceptional broad-spectrum control of some 70 diseases that attack turf, ornamentals, and trees, and it all adds up to another great choice for you. ISK Biosciences Corporation, Turf & Specialty Products, 1523 Johnson Ferry Rd., Suite 250, Marietta, Georgia 30062.

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Root-zone mix, thatch affect ball-roll in PSU's golf shoe tests

Continued from page 15

Penncross creeping bentgrass greens maintained at 5/32 inches were used—one featuring an all-sand root-zone mix and the other a slightly modified root-zone mix.

Individual plots were arranged in a random, complete block design with three replications. Treatments consisted of three tread types: conventional metal spikes; soft-plastic spikes; and spikeless. Traffic was applied at two intensities (100 and 200 traverses per week) by people wearing the various shoes and walking directly back and forth across the plot, without turning on the experimental area.

Traffic was started on June 12, and finished on Sept. 5 (12 weeks). Ball-roll distances for all plots were measured with a Stimpmeter on Fridays following traffic applications.

Wear was rated on a scale of 0 to 5, with "5" being full cover and "0" being bare. A cover rating of 3 or above was considered acceptable as a putting surface. Wear was rated at eight and 12 weeks.

A second study evaluated the effects of tread type on ball-roll deflection. An area similar and adjacent to the modified root-zone area was used for one plot area and a 2-year old practice putting green at Central Hills Country Club in State College was used for the sand plot area. The practice putting green was Penncross creeping bentgrass and no thatch layer was present.

On the modified soil plot, the metal and soft-plastic spikes (at the high-traffic intensity) and the spikeless tread (at the high-traffic intensity) were the only treatments. Treatments consisted of presenting a stimulus to the experimental area. There were no other

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Tread Type Traverses Modified Soil All Sand

| Wear rating for both soil textures after 800 & 1,600 traverses | Wear |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tread type | Traverses | Modified Soil | All Sand |
| Metal | 800 | 3.2 | 2.5 |
| Soft-plastic | 800 | 4.2 | 3.5 |
| Spikeless | 800 | 3.6 | 3.7 |
| Metal | 1,600 | 1.7 | 1.3 |
| Soft-plastic | 1,600 | 2.2 | 1.8 |
| Spikeless | 1,600 | 2.7 | 2.3 |
| Control | 0 | 5.0 | 4.5 |
| LSD | 0.4 | 0.5 |

*0 = bare, 5 = full cover, 3 = acceptable.

Inches of deviation from the control for various traffic intensities for the all-sand root zone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Traverses</th>
<th>Tread Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metal</td>
<td>4.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soft-plastic</td>
<td>5.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spikeless</td>
<td>3.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>LSD</td>
<td>2.8</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Wear ratings for both soil textures after 800 and 1,600 traverses. At the 12-week rating, the wear from all treads was acceptable on the modified soil at the low-traffic intensity. Only the metal spikes and soft-plastic spikes caused unacceptable wear on the all-sand root zone at the low-traffic intensity (1,200 traverses). All tread types caused unacceptable wear on both soil types at the high-traffic intensity (2,400 traverses). Again, the spikeless tread caused the least amount of wear.

In the test for ball-roll deflection, an average of the 10 balls rolled per traffic intensity was determined and the averages of the 10, 20, 30 and 40 traverses were compared to the average of the 0 traffic intensity. This distance was considered deviation from the control. The only effect of tread type on ball-roll deflection was on the modified root zone at the 10-traverse traffic intensity. This difference could be attributed to the thatch layer that was present on the experimental area. There were no other effects of tread type on ball-roll deviation for any of the other traffic intensities. And the tread type by intensity interaction was not significant.

On the straight sand with no thatch layer present, the metal spikes caused the most deviation from the control. Although there was a wide range between means at some intensities, the means and the tread type by intensity interaction were not statistically different. Also, the amount of ball-roll deviation from the control should be noted for some treatments.

Studies have tested various effects of golf shoes

Many types of golf shoe treads have been developed to help alleviate the damage caused by conventional metal spikes. Some types of treads may lessen the damage to the putting surface, but at the expense of stable footing.

Only a few studies have been conducted to evaluate the effects of shoe types on turf quality and ball roll.

In 1958, reporting on a study conducted by Gipson and Potts at Texas A&M College, Ferguson reported that ripple sole and rubber cleated shoes caused significantly less damage to a Seaside bentgrass turf when compared to a shoe with conventional metal spikes.

Gibeault et al (1983) evaluated metal spikes, two different types of multi-stud soles, and suction-type cleats.

This study also concluded that metal spikes caused the most damage and the suction-type cleats caused the least.

Morrow and Danneberger (1995) evaluated the effects of metal spikes and soft plastic spikes (SoftSpikes) on ball roll. They concluded that both soft plastic spikes and metal spikes caused ball-roll distance to increase.

They also said metal spikes appeared to cause more turf damage than the soft plastic spikes, although this was not quantified.

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CIRCLE #111

June 1996
Wildlife Links awards first grants for research

BY MARTY PARKES

FAR HILLS, N.J. — Three grants totaling approximately $100,000 have been awarded in the first phase of Wildlife Links, golf's first comprehensive investigation of its relationship with wildlife and its habitat. Administered by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) in Washington, D.C., Wildlife Links funds research, management and education projects needed to enhance the game with state-of-the-art information on wildlife management issues. It is receiving financial support from the U.S. Golf Association (USGA) and other golf-industry groups.

The grants were awarded to:

• The Colorado Bird Observatory, headquartered in Brighton, Colo.
• Donald F. Harker and Gary W. Libby, environmental researchers in Frankfort, Ky.
• Audubon International, headquartered in Selkirk, N.Y.

"We're very excited about the awarding of these first three grants," said Dr. Peter Stangel of NFWF, who chairs the Wildlife Links Advisory Committee. "These projects represent the first step in our journey to provide golf course officials with the best possible information about what they can do to enhance wildlife habitat throughout this nation."

The Colorado Bird Observatory will create a manual that will provide golf course architects and superintendents with practical information about how to enhance course habitat for bird species. The working title of the publication is Golf Courses and Bird Conservation: A Management Manual, and it will appear next spring.

Scott W. Gillihan, coordinator of the Colorado Bird Observatory's Forested Ecosystems Program, will serve as project leader. His background includes expertise in wildlife management, as well as horticulture, turf management and urban wildlife issues.

Material for the manual will be collected by examining relevant scientific and popular literature, visiting golf courses, and interviewing superintendents and wildlife management professionals across the country.

The general working procedure of the manual will be two-tiered. The first level will target superintendents interested in incorporating bird habitat into a design and superintendents desiring to improve conditions for the bird community in general.

The other level will concentrate upon superintendents interested in managing habitat designed to attract specific species or groups of birds.

Region-specific information will complement the basic principles raised throughout the manual. Included will be a discussion of applying the techniques of both levels according to areas delineated on an ecological rather than political basis. Species lists within each ecoregion will provide managers with a starting point for assessing their property. Emphasis will be directed toward attracting groups such as songbirds, hummingbirds, woodpeckers, raptors, waterfowl and wading birds.

In the Harker-and-Libby project, Wildlife Links will underwrite production of another publication with the tentative title, Wetlands Management Manual for Golf Courses, that is expected to appear in early 1997. This illustrated booklet will contain narrative, drawings, case studies, and key restoration techniques to help superintendents understand wetlands, and create programs to create, conserve, restore and manage them.

Harker, one of the authors of the Landscape Restoration Handbook published by the USGA in 1990, and Libby have devised an easy reference method for a golf course manager to follow that will appear prominently in the booklet. That method combines drawings with a plant species matrix. The drawing depicts (in aerial and cross-section views) different wetland conditions for various wetland types. A matrix contains a list of the key species for those types and outlines information about where in the wetlands to plant a particular species, what restoration techniques to use, flower color and growth habits. The grant writing will produce a manual that will have a working title, Wetlands Management, and is expected to appear in early 1997.

You want your course to be a perfect showplace. Your reputation is built on it. Which is exactly why your disease control program should start with BAYLETON® Turf and Ornamental Fungicide for rock solid control of the toughest turf diseases. Including summer patch, dollar spot and anthracnose.

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That's why BAYLETON should be the cornerstone of your disease management program.

Tank-mix BAYLETON with ProStar® for enhanced control of brown patch. Or include Daconil® in your tank-mix to control leaf spot. And add Subdue® to BAYLETON to tackle Pythium. With BAYLETON in your tank, not only will you be able to control these diseases, but you'll also get unsurpassed control of course-threatening diseases like summer patch, dollar spot and anthracnose.

No other fungicide offers as much versatility. In addition to giving you numerous tank-mixing options, you can also treat ornamentals to get outstanding control of powdery mildew, rust...
Superintendents are always trying to find ways to more efficiently use the maintenance facilities, and space utilization usually tops the list. Irrigation pipe, parts and accessories take quite a bit of space which could be used for other storage.

The irrigation system pump house is usually a covered building in most parts of the country—insulated and heated in the transition zone and Northern climates. Most pump house buildings do a good job protecting irrigation pumps and assorted electrical hardware, but do nothing more. The modern pump house is built 1 to 3 feet wider and 2 to 3 feet longer to accommodate shelving for all fittings, wire and even 20-foot lengths of all diameter pipe if the building is long enough.

Some pump houses have a workbench, with vise; a telephone jack to program the new computer-operated pumps, or to simply call the pump manufacturer to help with problems; extra space for a chemigation system for fertilizers, acid injection and pesticides; and sometimes even room for the irrigation technician's work vehicle.

Some supers also store their portable gasoline-powered trash pumps; hand-operated diaphragm pumps; gasoline-powered electrical generators; irrigation rolls of hose; food for swans, ducks, etc.; spare field controllers and even 10-foot sections of drainage pipe; drainage fittings; and even a small trailer. Other storable items include a rod and transit; wire locator; pulser; metal detector; shovels, sod strippers, etc.; quick couplers; gate valve keys; isolation valve keys in a nice organized fashion.

Probably one of the greatest assets, besides proper space use, is the irrigation technician who will check the pumps twice a day, at the beginning and end of the work day.

Wildlife Links

Continued from previous page

and size, and bloom-period guidelines.

The third grant will be used to help computerize Audubon International's substantial database of statistical information about golf courses that is gathered through its involvement over the past six years in managing the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Course.

Course architects and superintendents will then be able to access various types of information about course sites and management techniques employed successfully at thousands of locales from coast to coast. It is not known exactly how long this process will take and when the database will come on-line for use.

The NFWF is a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of natural resources. Among its goals are species habitat protection, environmental education, public-policy development, natural-resource management, habitat and ecosystem rehabilitation and restoration, and leadership training for conservation professionals.

Established by the U.S. Congress in 1984, NFWF awards challenge grants using its federally appropriated funds to leverage private sector donations.

More information is available from Stangel at NFWF, 1120 Connecticut Ave N.W., Suite 900, Washington, D.C., tel. 202-857-5676; or Dr. Kimberly Erusha or Marty Parkes of the USGA Green Section, P.O. Box 708, Far Hills, N.J. 07931, tel. 908-234-2300.
The Legends Group hires Buchen to head up eight golf courses

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. — Terry Buchen, a Golf Course News contributing editor and one of only nine Master Greenkeepers in the world, is the new director of agronomy for The Legends Group, headquartered in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Buchen will be based here and direct maintenance operations at The Legends Group's six courses in Myrtle Beach and two courses opening here this summer. Stonehouse is expected to open June 30 and Royal New Kent in July, Buchen said. Owned by Larry Young and his son Danny, The Legends Group has hired John Marshall of Virginia as superintendent at Royal New Kent and Jerry Flowers from Myrtle Beach as Stonehouse superintendent. A certified golf course superintendent, Buchen received his Master Greenkeeper certification from the British & International Golf Greenkeepers Association in 1994. A former PGA Tour agronomist, he has been superintendent the last six years at Double Eagle Club in Galena, Ohio, recently named second-best conditioned course in the country behind Augusta National. Buchen writes the monthly Savvy Super column as well as occasional On the Green and Shop Talk columns in Golf Course News. A U.S. Golf Association Green Section Committee member from 1977-84 and since 1992, he serves on the Massser International Turfgrass Foundation's Publicity Committee, Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses' Membership Committee and Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's Research Committee.

Palm Desert, Calif. — Randy Damon has been named superintendent for the private Bighorn Golf Club here. In addition to supervising the maintenance of the existing Arthur Hills-designed championship course, Damon oversaw construction of Bighorn's new 18-hole facility. Damon brings more than 10 years of experience in golf course management, including stints at The Vintage Club in Indian Wells and Pebble Beach in Monterey, Calif. In Bangkok, Thailand, he developed a golf course for Hills. Along with supervising golf courses from the planning stages to end product, he has also been involved with tournament preparation for the AT&T Pebble Beach Invitational and the Vintage Arco Senior Invitational.

Damon holds an associate science degree in turfgrass management from College of the Desert.

Charleston, S.C. — Scott Ferguson, a 32-year-old Charleston native, has been named superintendent at Wild Dunes Resort. Ferguson has spent the past eight years as superintendent at Crowfield Plantation in North Charleston, which recently played host to the South Carolina PGA Chapter Championship.

Spring Valley, Colo. — Brett Lockard is growing in Ute Creek, a new 18-hole golf course here. Lockard had been the assistant superintendent at Purgatory Golf Course in Fort Collins.

Statesville, N.C. — Al Lassiter has been named head superintendent here at the semi-private Buffalo Shoals National Golf Club, a Gene Bates design now under construction. Lassiter, who has served as superintendent at Raleigh, Sandy Ridge and Beechwood country clubs, anticipates a late-fall opening.

Carbondale, Colo. — Daryl Dinkel has accepted the head superintendent's position at Jay Morrish-designed River Ranch Golf Club here.

Every Morning, there are two things you can count on: the sun will come up. Your CarryAll will go to work. That's reliability. [According to a recent survey of golf course superintendents, the CarryAll by Club Car is the most reliable lightweight turf utility vehicle on the market.*] And now that our CarryAll II Plus has a new, more powerful 11-HP, 4-cycle engine, it can only get better. For performance, service, and support, rely on CarryAll. Call 1-800-643-1010 and drive it to work.

*Based on research conducted by the Center for Golf Course Management, a subsidiary of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America.

Carbondale, Colo. — Daryl Dinkel has accepted the head superintendent's position at Jay Morrish-designed River Ranch Golf Club here.
Kansans find zoysia drought tolerance better with less frequent watering

MANHATTAN, Kans. — Kansas State University's Jack Fry and Ned Tisserat report that a study suggests that lengthening time between irrigations creates a more drought-resistant zoysiagrass.

Noting wide-ranging findings from research being conducted at the school, Fry and Tisserat wrote in the Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association (HAGCSA) newsletter that daily-watered zoysiagrass was more shallow-rooted than turf watered at the school, Fry and Tisserat wrote.

"After an extended cool, wet, cloudy period, more frequent irrigation may be necessary to accommodate a plant that is less prepared for drought," they said.

"There are a few benefits to zoysiagrass," Fry and Tisserat wrote. "It is well suited for high traffic areas and has a better ability to tolerate internal moisture deficits. "Bermuda and buffalograss have the best of both worlds — relatively deep rooting and good tolerance to internal water deficits," Fry and Tisserat wrote.

The fungus Rhizoctonia solani AG-2-2 Turf was found to be the primary cause of large patch disease on zoysiagrass.

The fungus primarily attacks the shoots, not roots, during cool, wet periods in spring and fall.

"When exposed to an extended, severe drought in the greenhouse, buffalograss was ranked ahead of zoysiagrass, Bermudagrass and tall fescue, in that order, for drought tolerance and recovery. Providing new information on how grasses resist drought, this work found that tall fescue is a drought avoider that is deeply rooted but has little ability to tolerate drought internally. Zoysia is relatively shallow-rooted, but exhibits good tolerance to internal moisture deficits," Fry and Tisserat wrote.

Buffalograss established most quickly when it was seeded between May and July. Priming buffalograss burrs by soaking in water enhanced germination, Tisserat reported.

"Nematode populations tended to be aggregated or clumped in the greens. Therefore, superintendents should take this into consideration when sampling greens," Fry and Tisserat reported.

The fungus primarily attacks the shoots, not roots, during cool, wet periods in spring and fall.

"In addition, leaves of daily-watered plants were more succulent, and less prepared for oncoming drought," they said.

"When exposed to an extended, severe drought in the greenhouse, buffalograss was ranked ahead of zoysiagrass, Bermudagrass and tall fescue, in that order, for drought tolerance and recovery. Providing new information on how grasses resist drought, this work found that tall fescue is a drought avoider that is deeply rooted but has little ability to tolerate drought internally. Zoysia is relatively shallow-rooted, but exhibits good tolerance to internal moisture deficits. "Bermuda and buffalograss have the best of both worlds — relatively deep rooting and good tolerance to internal water deficits," Fry and Tisserat wrote.

4. When exposed to an extended, severe drought in the greenhouse, buffalograss was ranked ahead of zoysiagrass, Bermudagrass and tall fescue, in that order, for drought tolerance and recovery. Providing new information on how grasses resist drought, this work found that tall fescue is a drought avoider that is deeply rooted but has little ability to tolerate drought internally. Zoysia is relatively shallow-rooted, but exhibits good tolerance to internal moisture deficits. "Bermuda and buffalograss have the best of both worlds — relatively deep rooting and good tolerance to internal water deficits," Fry and Tisserat wrote.

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The fungus primarily attacks the shoots, not roots, during cool, wet periods in spring and fall.

4. Fungicide trials conducted over the last five years indicate that a single fungicide application in late-September to mid-October will help suppress fall and early-spring large patch development. Applications should be made in fall before symptoms appear, they wrote, and additional spring applications may be required during favorable weather conditions.

Nicklaus names Sands Turf Super of the Year

NORTH KONA, Big Island, Hawaii — Earl Sanders, course superintendent of Hualalai Golf Club here, recently received the Jack Nicklaus Award, Golf Turf Superintendant of the Year for 1995. This award is given for "excellence in golf course turf maintenance using the highest degree of professional ethics and standards in the field."

The award recognizes Sanders' supervision of an exceptionally fast grow-in of Hualalai's Jack Nicklaus-designed, 18-hole signature course.

"The course was playable in three months from the last day of grassing," said Sanders, who has worked on three other Nicklaus projects.

"The grassing procedure was compressed for the course and created unique construction practices which required careful monitoring," he said.

"Because the Hualalai site is built entirely upon lava, the irrigation was tiered in the rock and the soil imported on top."

Prior to Sanders' two years at Hualalai, his work took him from golf courses in Arizona to weathering seven hurricanes to complete a course in Guam.

Born in Hawaii in 1987 to supervise the course and related grounds at Kauai Lagoons, Westin Kauai, Lihue.
Cornell student Dalthorp chosen for Musser's Excellence Award

SHARON CENTER, Ohio — The Musser International Turfgrass Foundation has named Daniel H. Dalthorp the recipient of the 1996 Award of Excellence.

Dalthorp is expected to earn his doctorate this year. He earned a master's in mathematics from the University of Oregon, a master's in environmental resources engineering from Humboldt State University, and a bachelor's in mathematics from Brown University.

Dalthorp plans to continue his studies with turfgrass pests and obtain a position as a research scientist. He has worked with community agricultural projects in China and Guatemala.

Audubon Int'l
Continued from page 15

John Santacrose. "In fact, the percentage of new members and renewals goes up each month. I thought it would level off, but it keeps moving up."

The Audubon report said "the real success of the program rests in the commitment of our members. They are working hard to maintain high standards in wildlife enhancement and resource conservation."

"They have embraced the program as a source of information and direction and a means to support their efforts."


The report highlighted several successes at individual golf courses involved in ACSS, including:

- habitat at one course increased from zero to 40 acres due to naturalization;
- 120 birds, including 90 bluebirds, fledged from 42 nest boxes on a course that formerly had no boxes;
- decreased pesticide use saved $15,000;
- an 80-percent reduction in pesticide use by implementing an integrated pest management program;
- decreased maintenance saved $1,248 in labor;
- $20,000 financial savings resulted from reductions in pesticides, water and maintenance; and
- • • •

Meanwhile, Santacrose said Audubon's Canadian Golf Course Sanctuary Program has been incorporated, and he is preparing an initial budget and administrative details so an administrator can be hired this summer.

"We want to blend the visions of [Canadian] conservation authorities with the visions of our programs," Santacrose said.

Each authority controls a watershed. Though they originally controlled water-course activities, their role has expanded over the years and they are now technical arms for communities regarding permitting and other issues, Santacrose said.

"But they now have their budgets hacked to nothing, and are trying to offset that problem."

Sentinel

Golfers worry about breaking par. You'd rather break the stranglehold turf diseases can put on your fairways, tees and greens. Sentinel fungicide can help.

Sentinel offers the longest control and best performance on brown patch, dollar spot, summer patch and 11 other turf diseases—at the lowest rates. Sentinel controls the toughest diseases 20-35% longer than other systemic fungicides. And it won't quit working at critical times, either. Like, say, just before tournament weekend. What's more, Sentinel offers the protection you need at far lower rates than competitive products—anywhere from nine to 100 times less active ingredient. That minimizes worker exposure and lessens the environmental load. When it comes to performance, Sentinel has proven itself on 12 different varieties of turfgrass.
Goosegrass woes? Old Waverly's Colloredo balances nature with weed control

By LYNNE VOPAL

WEST POINT, Miss. — It's difficult to control goosegrass outbreaks when some of the primary culprits in the spreading of its seeds — birds and animals — are a vital part of the natural ecosystem.

"In that situation you have to develop a relationship between your weed-control program and nature," explained superintendent Bill Colloredo at Old Waverly Golf Club here, where the golf course is surrounded by both woods and rural pastures.

"We can't discourage the wildlife from the course, because they are one of the reasons visitors come here. The best thing I can do is make smart decisions that are in the best interest of the environment and the players. I don't think it's going to get easier, but it is possible to deliver both." — Bill Colloredo

"We're in the middle of nowhere," he said, "so, birds, deer, coyotes and foxes are common both on and around the course. Maintaining weed control in this area necessitates a preventive program."

Goosegrass, an annual, bunch-type grass with clumps of course leaves, is noted for seeds which persist for many years once introduced into soil.

To keep the seeds away from desirable turfgrass, Colloredo uses a preemergence herbicide that provides an effective barrier to emerging goosegrass seed germination season here lasts longer — creating the need for a longer residual.

To meet those needs, Colloredo uses a preemergence herbicide that provides an effective barrier to emerging goosegrass and annual weeds, without threatening his environmental program. Its low-water solubility allows it to remain in the upper portion of the soil, where weed seeds, like goosegrass, germinate. "For three years, we have put Barricade herbicide down in a single application of 75 lbs. of active ingredient per acre by the first of March," said Colloredo. "That rate gives us a full season of control, even in the most difficult conditions." Colloredo said the applications also work well with his cultural practices.

"We are able to continue vertical mowing and aerification on the course without any effect on the herbicide's performance," Colloredo continued. "We can continue to develop the strength of the turf without interruption."

In addition to the demands of the natural ecosystem, Old Waverly's program and practices have also met the requirements of the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program. An avid hunter and fisherman, Colloredo sees his efforts as part of the territory.

"We can't discourage the wildlife from the course, because they are one of the reasons visitors come here. The best thing I can do is make smart decisions that are in the best interest of the environment and the players," he said. "I don't think it's going to get easier, but it is possible to deliver both."

Not to mention hundreds of courses nationwide. So while no one will ever say, "You really got ahold of that residual" or "wow, low rates;" you'll have the personal satisfaction of knowing you're using the best possible fungicide around.

Some Prefer Long Residual And Low Rates.

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Wilbur-Ellis Co.
Auburn, WA
206-351-6591

CIRCLE #115

June 1996 23
Job benefits boom making superintendents more mobile

Continued from page 1 comes along. Most supers interviewed felt that after 3 to 4 years, they were taken for granted and the super who replaced them always received more wages and benefits.

Another "take-it-for-granted" theory is the new super will get the equipment and maintenance budget increase the superintendant who left couldn't get. And the super who left for greener pastures will get more money and benefits, plus increased capital and maintenance budget considerations compared to his/her predecessor.

Let's take a closer look at the fringe benefit package for all types of golf courses:

- Paid vacations, holidays, and sick leave are pretty much standard in the industry for the majority of supers.
- As are dues paid to the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), local chapter dues, conferences/seminars/chapter meeting expenses and golfing privileges for the super and his/her family members, including using the rest of the facility.
- Supers are usually allowed one group of golfing guests per week or, at worst, every other week.
- Medical insurance, for the entire family, is common with most golf courses, but becoming less common with public entities because of the large expense involved (Quite a few management companies take away health insurance for the hourly worker as the first way to cut costs).
- Dental insurance and life insurance are in slow decline, because of the state of insurance industry premiums. Life insurance, when offered, usually equals up to twice a super's annual salary. Disability insurance is usually available as part of a life-insurance policy.
- A vehicle provided by the golf course, a monthly vehicle allowance or a combination of the two is common. Vehicle allowances vary but usually take the form of a monthly fee paid to the super who either leases or purchases the vehicle while making monthly payments. The super usually provides for insurance, while gasoline and maintenance are provided by the golf course. When the course provides a vehicle, the course pays all costs for the lease/purchase, fuel, insurance and maintenance. When a super leases or purchases a vehicle he/she sometimes will charge for mileage in lieu of a vehicle allowance, at the maximum allowed rate of 31 cents per mile for all business-related travel. Under this arrangement, the super will pay for all fuel, maintenance and insurance.
- Meals are furnished, more often than not, during working hours only, and at special functions as they occur.
- Bonuses vary from the traditional Christmas affair, which is common at most courses, to the annual performance bonus which is sometimes tied in to staying within the maintenance budget. Bonuses are also given as part of a profit-sharing program, at development-type courses, and/or for just doing a good job.
- Clothing allowances are becoming more common, seeing as the superintendant wearing the golf course logo identifies him/her as an employee and helps generate income from sales in the pro/golf shop. Items not provided by the golf course are usually available at cost.
- Pension plans are also becoming more common as some are provided by the employer. Many will allow for employee contributions as well. A few are the matching-fund type where the course matches contributions made by the super.
- The 401(k) plan is becoming more popular as the employer oversees all contributions and investments. Some pension plans will let you take it with you, if you change jobs, but it must be reinvested for income-tax purposes promptly. Most pension plans do not tax any money until it is taken out (usually if the super is in a lower tax bracket) when they retire beginning at age 59 1/2 years old. However, they must begin withdrawing by age 70. Most plans are now fully vested in 4 to 5 years.

Some new trends include:
- Discounts — on housing lots, or completed houses and lots on development-type courses.
- Deferred compensation — where the plans are fully vested in 4 to 5 years and are taxed when they are withdrawn, similar to pension plans. Supers may contribute to some. Private deferred compensation plans are non-funded, fully vested plans, and thus do not grow as an investment and are usually a non-contributing type.
- Stock options — In publicly held companies involved in land-development, courses are also a viable benefit. Some land development courses, because of their many connections with mortgage banking firms, offer supers deal on mortgage loans for houses around the golf course, or for off-course housing as well.
- Spouse travel to the GCSAA International Golf Course Conference & Show is usually not paid except by private clubs. Housing on the golf course grounds, or even an off-course house arrangement, is not common. When it's offered, it's usually at private clubs.
- Another new trend is direct deposit of pay checks to checking and savings accounts and deducting moneys for U.S. Savings Bonds from a super's check.

Same Idea, But Ours is a Little Easier to Swallow

Ever faced with "water-in-the-cup" problems? Here's a better remedy — use Par Aide's exclusive Cup Hole Cleaner, a syringe-action device that literally "pulls" water from the hole in seconds. So banish the turkey baster, sponges or cocktail straws — from your greens kit and call your dealer today. Because when it pours, it reigns.

For Dollar Spot, The Buck Stops Here.

Used either as a preventative or curative, BAYLETON® Fungicide is right on the money for control of dollar spot. To find out more, contact Bayer Corporation, Specialty Products, Box 4913, Kansas City, MO 64120. (800) 842-8020.

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Merion success

Continued from page 15

The greens are growing well on the greens. "If I had to do it over, I probably would have gone even farther out," he said. "Poa that tracks in from the fairways will be going Spikeless, allowing only plastic-spikes golf shoes, which will help against a poa invasion."

"A lot of people say the most dramatic thing they ever did was change their course to spikeless shoes," Latshaw said. "We visited Wilmington Country Club with a lot of members at 4 o'clock on a Saturday afternoon and it was amazing: The place was packed with players, and yet the greens were absolutely flawless." Finally, Latshaw says his conversion will be made more successful by blending Crenshaw, L93, Southshore and Providence bentgrasses, with a touch of Pennlinks. "All through school you're taught to avoid monocultures at all costs," he said. "I went back to the old way of doing things, blending grasses for the survival of the fittest. On our course and a lot of golf courses, we have 18 greens that are in different micro-environments. What does well on No. 11 won't do well on No. 3. There's up on a hill with good sunshine. Eleven's down at the lowest point of the course, goes under water and has shade problems."

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Best 18 Golf Greens in North America

Nominees:

Old Otteron Club - Vestavia Hills, AL
Club Terrativa - Scottsdale, AZ
Diamante CC - Hot Springs Village, AR
Northview Golf & CC - Cloverdale, BC
Nicklaus North at Whistler - Whistler, BC
Brentwood CC - Brentwood, CA
Silver Creek Valley CC - San Jose, CA
Granite Bay Golf Club - Granite Bay, CA
Sun City - Roseville - Roseville, CA
Legacy Ridge at Westminster - Westminster, CO
The Club at Cordillera - Edwards, CO
Fox Hollow at Lakewood - Lakewood, CO
Legends at Chateau Elan - Braselton, GA
Lanier Golf Club - Cumming, GA
Glen Oaks CC - W. Des Moines, IA
Point Sebago Resort & CC - Casco, ME
Cattail Creek CC - Glenwood, MD
North Course at Stonehedge - Augusta, MI
White Pine National Golf CC - Hubbard Lake, MI
CC of Lincoln - Lincoln, NE
Sand Hills Golf Club - Mullen, NE
Lightning "W" Ranch - Carson City, NV
The Club at Genoa Lakes - Genoa, NV
Santa Ana GC - Bernalillo, NM
Oaks CC of Purchase - Purchase, NY
Oak Hill CC - Rochester, NY
Greenville CC - Greenville, NC
Karsten Creek Golf Club - Stillwater, OK
Oaks CC - Tulsa, OK
Wyncote CC - Oxford, PA
Bluegrass Yacht CC & HC - Hendersonville, TN
Creekview Golf Club - Crandall, TX
Denton CC - Denton, TX
Turtle Hill GC - Muenster, TX
Ridgwood CC - Waco, TX
Royal Virginia Golf Club - Louisa, VA
James River CC - Newport News, VA
Tri-Mountain GC - Ridgefield, WA
Sumner Meadows GC - Sumner, WA
North Bellingham GC - Bellingham, WA
The Bog - Saukville, WI
Bruce Hoppe
Paul Ellwood
Mandel Brockinton
Jon Clark
Darren Burns
Mark Condor
Nick Checkles
Jim Ferrin
John Martin
Scott Tuggle
Tim Taggen
Don Tolson
Mike Brisbois
Pat Stewart
Jim Johnson
Gerry White
Kevin Pryeski
Charlie Scott
Bruce Wolfman
Charlie Hadwick
Keith Nordick
Tom Unruh
Jed Anderson
Gary Hodge
Robert Miller
Joe Hahn
Bob Young
Steve Wilcoxon
Leon Strote
Mark Del Santro
Jim Hinchman
Jordan Eldredge
Merlin Tielkemeier
Danny Arena
John Andersen
Tom Broom
Maurie Shields
Jesse Parsons
Dan Bierscheid
Donn Bierscheid
Lee Anderson
Ritch Jahneke
Pat Shaw
Michigan were hit. Not many people lost entire green surfaces. But it [winterkill] is everywhere — most of it in small, isolated areas.

In Iowa, where snowfall wasn't as heavy as other states, uncovered turf suffered from desiccation attributed to high winds and direct low-temperature kill. "From Des Moines west was the hardest hit," said Rick Tegtmeier of Elmcrest Country Club in Cedar Rapids. "They had very little snowfall compared to what we had, and they had strong winds. Plus a lot of them are ryegrass."

All this havoc came on the coattails of a discouraging 1995 in the North Central U.S. Indeed, according to Williams, "Part of the problem is coming back from injury incurred because of the extreme heat in the Chicago area last summer. When we went into winter dormancy, not all the courses had healed completely."

"Desiccation, direct low-temperature kill and crown hydration. We got the triple-whammy," he added. "It's apparent, at least in the Chicago metropolitan area, that damage was directed more toward courses with a higher percentage of poa annua. The newer courses that have USGA [U.S. Golf Association]-spec greens and a higher percentage of bentgrass appear to have fared better."

That holds true in most cases. But there were exceptions, including Iowans Tegtmeier and Dennis Watters of Fort Dodge Country Club. Elmcrest came through the winter unscathed because it sits "very well protected in the heart of the city," and Tegtmeier polycovered his poa annua-dominated greens. And Watters reported his most serious losses on three of his sandier greens as opposed to his native-soil greens.

"It's a guess and a gamble these days, since the bar on mercury," said Jim Nicol of Bunke Hill Golf Course in Coon Rapids, Minn. He said late-March and early-April storms kept snowcover on his course long enough that "the protectorants [on the turf] ran out. My bentgrass was clean and the poa in sandy areas was pretty clean. But poa in wooded areas and in heavy soil got hit hard."

All this damage delayed openings at some courses in the region. And even at courses that did open on time, continued cold and inclement weather caused some devastating financial losses.

"People I know all opened late — the week of April 17, which is 12 days late for us," said Nicol. "Golf overall has been down severely," Faubel said. "We haven't had tremendous amounts of rain, but it's been so cold that the turf is slow recovering and participation in golf has really fallen off."

"Most clubs don't expect a lot of activity in the months of March and April, but we all expect things to pick up in May, and that hasn't happened yet," Williams said. "The daily-fee and municipal operations really feel the brunt of it because they're accustomed to 150 rounds a day this time of the year, and cart revenues. And it's an expendable commodity. Once the days are over, you can't make that day up later in the year."

THE FIX-UP

In the wake of the damage, superintendents are battling to bring their courses back up to par. First has come the wait for soil temperatures to warm up to normal — or help with greens covers — so bentgrass could grow and regrow quicker.

"We still are covering the greens that suffered the most winter kill with evergreen polycovers at night," Williams said in mid-May. "We have seedlings emerging and want to make sure they survive. It gives us about another 10 degrees soil temperature. We're running about 54 degrees soil temperature. We're running at a 2-inch depth at noon. Optimum this time of year is the 62-degree range.

"The biological indicators are at least two to three weeks behind normal, and we're 10 degrees behind schedule in terms of soil temperatures." Watters agreed: "We're still in April as far as soil temperature is concerned."

"We're just starting to get 60-degree soil temperatures now," said Nicol from Minnesota. "My growth calendar is about two weeks behind."

Saying that "patience begins to wear thin" when grass-growing conditions are not optimal, Williams warned: "We have to remember that we can't go out and do things that are going to push the grass and force it into something that is going to cause problems down the road, vis a vis over-fertilization — those types of things which will develop top growth with no roots. That will set you up for damage in the summer of '96."

The prognosis for recovery? "We who deal with it see the brighter side of things," Williams said. "The bad news is, the poa died. The good news is, it's coming back. At this point in time anything green would be acceptable."

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Fall-prep, spring-recovery lessons learned from winter kill of '95-96

By MARK LESLIE

"If only..." Anxious words heard often in the North Central United States this spring as second-guessers count lost grass and revenue on the back side of a nasty few months. At the same time superintendents, greens committees and course owners have learned lessons that will help in the winters and springs to come.

Lessons concerning preparations entering winter, and lessons about recovering from those sometimes deadly few months.

Monday morning quarter-backs are saying, "If we had only..."

"The clubs that bit the bullet and decided to seed greens or sod green banks and renovate their fairways over the years have come out on top," said Bruce Williams of Bob O'Link Golf Club in Highland Park, Ill. "A lot of clubs don't care for the disruption of regrassing fairways or green and tee banks, etc., every six or seven years. And many times they have to pay the price when the weather throws a curve."

"Members at Saginaw (Mich.) Country Club, where Jerry Faubel is superintendent, are breathing a sigh of relief. They acted on drainage problems before the winter of 1995-96. "Making underground improvements on an old golf course is so difficult because the board doesn't want to spend the money on that." Faubel said. "But when they understand what is involved and the results of good drainage, well..."

Lessons abound for superintendents regardless of whether they made renovations or not.

FALL PREPARATIONS

Everywhere, greens covers played a pivotal role in saving turfgrass.

Also, "Paramount in this part of the country, is to aerify right after Labor Day so the holes are healed in and not open to the winter," said Rick Tegtmeier of Elmcrest Country Club in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. "If golf courses were aerified in late-September or October, they had some desiccation. But if they aerified in September and then they were healed in, they were fine."

"We topped dressed our greens with silica sand at the end of November," added Dennis Watters of Fort Dodge (Iowa) Country Club. "That helps protect the crown area."

SPRING RECOVERY

A lesson learned in returning turf to health: "If you have a water wagon, you'd better use it," Watters said.

"The key was, if you had your irrigation on early and were checking the texture of the grass. If the grass blade was brittle, you needed to water. We charged our system up the first week of April and that still wasn't soon enough. For the most part, getting water on as soon as I did saved me, but I have spots that are pretty tough."

Indeed, Tegtmeier attributed part of his success to beginning his watering regime in early March.

Watters also recommended spiking and solid-tine aerifying the greens, then adding starter fertilizer early on in the spring. "I put micronutrients on the worst greens," he said.

Dick Stuntz at Alvamar Country Club in Lawrence, Kan., said that for superintendents losing the normally hardy zoysiagrass, little helps.

"You can give them a little more nitrogen," he said, "but it's very difficult to get zoysia to recover more quickly. It has one pace — and that's slow."

University of Missouri researchers have discovered that increasing the level of nitrogen fertilization causes a decrease in zoysiagrass root mass.

Reporting in the Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association (HAGCSA) newsletter, UM's John Dunn said: "This response as been well established for cool-season species, but was never before demonstrated with a warm-season species."

Another study found that clippings left on turf tend to suppress dollar spot but may enhance brown patch. "Ours is one of the first reports of the effect of clipping disposal on disease incidence in turfgrass," Dunn wrote.

June 1996
Q&A: Green notes irrigation progress

Continued from page 15

The take-home message for superintendent is, if they wish to conserve water, their focus should be on managing the turfgrass for rooting, irrigation to replenish water in the root zone and extending the time between irrigation events.

GCN: Has there been any less emphasis on conserving water in California now that rainfalls are back to normal or even above normal amounts?

RG: Yes and no. Yes, water is available and I am not currently aware of situations where water availability is a limiting factor for the maintenance of golf courses. However, even during these “good times,” the environmental horticultural industries, including the golf industry, are working with water districts and local and state water agencies to define fair and responsible water use.

Working together for the good of all, and the respectful communication process is an important step, along with general agreement that water allocations should be on the basis of ETO and land area.

Fortunately for California, we have a statewide system of weather stations that determines ETO for most major locations in the state.

The expanded use of efficient is also noteworthy in terms of conservation.

GCN: Can you describe the work you are doing on summer stress on bentgrass and bluegrass varieties on Southern California courses?

RG: Our research focuses on the major factors involved in the summer decline of creeping bentgrass and annual bluegrass putting greens: long-term exposure to air and soil temperatures above the optimum range for growth, with the most serious result being root dysfunction; the lack of control of the root-zone soil, air and water relationship with the most serious result being poor soil water infiltration/percolation and soil aeration; and the more situational factors, such as diseases, nematodes and insects that attack weakened, stressed-out greens, salt accumulations within the root zone due to limited soil water drainage or improper leaching practices and cultural practices that are not helpful to the plant’s ability to tolerate summer stress syndrome.

GCN: You studied wood alcohol as a possible carbon source to help putting surface plants survive under harsh growing conditions. What were the results?

RG: We did not observe positive nor negative effects, in terms of visual turfgrass quality or clipping yields, when methanol solutions were applied on a creeping bentgrass putting green during the summer in Palm Springs. It would be unfair to conclude carbon fertilizations have no merit.

We do not have sufficient data and I would be interested in conducting similar research.

GCN: Can you briefly describe your work involving varying concentrations of iron and water injection aeration methods?

RG: The iron fertilizations and summer cultivations with a Toro Hydroject have a common theme: practices to help alleviate root-related problems associated with the summer decline of creeping bentgrass/annual bluegrass putting greens.

Though it is not new, we have shown iron applications are beneficial for increasing the visual turfgrass quality of a bentgrass putting green located in Palm Springs during summer. This was especially true for foliar applications of iron, which may support the concept of root dysfunction and uptake during hot summers.

There was a solid trend for increased root mass density and turfgrass stand persistence during summer due to iron applications and/or biostimulants.

The Hydroject work is aimed at maintaining soil water infiltration and percolation and soil aeration. Constant high soil water levels in the vicinity of the plant crowns can indirectly weaken and kill plants.

Scientific reports suggest increased soil aeration may help roots compensate for high soil temperatures. We completed one study.

Unfortunately, field infiltration rates and soil aeration porosity were too good to improve via summer cultivations.

We will initiate a two-year study on a more representative location and the irrigation water will have a relatively high salt content.

The take-home message for superintendents is, if they wish to conserve water, their focus should be on managing the turfgrass for rooting, irrigation to replenish water in the root zone and extending the time between irrigation events.

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MAINTENANCE

Zoysiagrasses the emphasis of UC-Cal-Riverside scientists

The University of California, Riverside has been one of the leading universities in turfgrass research with particular emphasis on zoysiagrass, according to Turfgrass Research Agronomist Robert Green.

Environmental Horticulture Extension Specialist Dr. Vic Gibeault and Superintendent of Agricultural Operations Steve Cockerham are primarily responsible, Green said, for the evaluation and release of two new patented, hybrid vegetative cultivars, DeAnza and Victoria, Green said.

Dr. Vic Younger, a former UC Riverside researcher, was responsible for the original cross and progeny and selected for fall color retention and a desirable leaf texture.

Gibeault and his associates recently evaluated 28 zoysiagrass genotypes at Riverside and Irvine for fall color retention. DeAnza and Victoria rated highest along with DALZ 8032, according to Green.

DeAnza and Victoria have potential to be used on fairways and tees and should possess a lower overseeding requirement than bermudagrass (where overseeding is practiced).

DeAnza and Victoria management requirements will most likely be similar to the management requirements typical of Zoysia spp.

Cockerham and his associates are doing additional research, subjecting turfgrass to sports traffic under light restrictions such as shade.

Perennial ryegrass is the cool-season grass and zoysiagrass the warm-season grass with the highest combination of durability and shade tolerance, Green said.

New UC-patented zoysiagrasses have high potential with the needed growth rate necessary for recovery from sports traffic injury to go along with the shade tolerance, according to Green.

Research is continuing on the optimum culture and management of turf for use in light-restricted sports situations.
So you’ve spent your wad on staying and playing at Pebble Beach and you find all you can afford to play is Poppy Hills. You pull out your copy of The Confidental Guide to Golf Courses (of course it is in your suitcase; you never go anywhere without it now) to discover if it is with your while.

“These outsize targets [greens] present more four-putt opportunities than any other course in the world, and they slow down play to a crawl, since golfers take way more time to read a putt than hit a chip,” you read. But: “The 1st hole is one of the prettiest I’ve ever seen, spoiled only by the omission of a landing area for the tee shot.”

You might feel like you are that pin cushion.

Now you know what to expect, thanks to your new favorite author: Tom Doak.

If you are a golf course architect you might think that you are not a pin cushion and that Doak is not a seamstress. Actually, you might feel like you are that pin cushion.

But if you are a golfer you will thank God your wife bought you this book for Father’s Day. This 363-page, color-filled (and colorful) review and expose of more than 1,000 golf courses around the world is giving you more education, enlightenment—and, yes, entertainment—than you deserve.

First, a suggestion: Try accepting Tom Doak as he is. Don’t get mad. Just get ready for a joyride through this book filled with 180 gorgeous Doak photos.

Some may feel Doak is lifting the skirts up over the heads of some folks in this no-holds-barred discourse. But though his pen is as sharp as his tongue can be, I think he is just espousing his strong feelings about a game, and a profession, he both loves and makes his living in.

Indeed, Doak did not originally write this book for public consumption. It was a labor of love to share his feelings with a mere 40 friends. And it was a gas, especially if you’re not an architect. In fact, it became “the most widely circulated golf book never published.”

Pages, sections, the entire book were photographed and sent from friend to friend until enough people pressured Doak to get it published.

Say hello to Sleeping Bear Press, golfers of the world.

Another suggestion — no, make this a must make: Be aware that Doak’s numerical system is not a strict scale. I enjoy Poppy Hills and would love to revisit, but it’s the only course built in a long time that even had a chance to get to that level. I look forward to reserving final judgment for several more trips to come.

“My ratings are designed to quantify how highly I’d recommend traveling to see any course listed, and my scale is skewed to the higher end. I’ve reviewed the majority of courses I’ve seen are well above average quality,” Doak writes in his introduction. As he adds: “If you’re paying $50 or $100 to play the course, or $1,000 to get there, you have a right to know whether the negatives outweigh the positives.”

A smattering of quotes to get the golfer’s juices flowing:

- “About the great Shadow Creek (Tom Fazio’s gem outside Las Vegas): ‘There isn’t any objective way to evaluate the perfection of a work of art that’s entirely manufactured, but Shadow Creek is now the standard by which all other works of this type will be judged.’
- “PGA West Stadium Course (Pete Dye’s “hardest obstacle course in the world”): ‘The four short holes are collectively, and perhaps individually as well, the worst that Pete has ever built: gimmicky, unimaginative, too dependent upon water hazards, and penal. The 9th, 10th and 16th holes are among Pete’s best.’
- “About Medinah Country Club: ‘It’s not quite as tight as Olympic Club, but at 500 yards longer, it is definitely a maximum-security prison — poor compensation, in my book, for its lack of strategic challenge.’
- “Loxahatchee Club (Jack Nicklaus’ work in Jupiter, Fla.): ‘I prefer this over-mounded course to Grand Cypress (at least there aren’t any double greens), but it’s much too conspicuous that Jack tried anything and everything to fight the dull terrain he inherited, and that he lost the war.”

I especially like The Doak Gazetteer at the back of the book, a compilation of lists like The 19 Best Holes That No Longer Exist, Eclectic 18s, Best Names for Bunkers, Best Courses Without Water, Best Finishing Hole...

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The Importance of Proper Sizing and Uniformity

There are two key measurements that help determine the performance of a greens grade fertilizer product:

- **SGN (Size Guide Number)**: this has to do with the size of the granules. For greens, the particles need to be very small to penetrate the turf canopy and not interfere with playability. On the other hand, particles can’t be too small or they can’t change according to size. The more uniform the granules, the more uniform the application. The Andersons SGN specification for ideal greens grade performance is 90 to 100.

- **UI (Uniformity Index)**: this has to do with size uniformity. Granule uniformity is critical to assuring the even distribution of product during application. Granule ballistic characteristics change according to size. The more uniform the granules, the more controllable the application. The Andersons UI specification for ideal greens grade performance is 50 to 60.

## Lab Results For Greens Grade Products

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Application Uniformity

- **Trajectories For Several Sizes Of Granular Raw Materials (Granular Area)**
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  - 1 mm / 0.2 ft.
  - 0.5 mm / 0.1 ft.

- **Applicator Flow Through**
  - Rathingo
  - Severe Funnel Flow
  - Uniform Flow

The importance of uniformity in application is demonstrated here. If a wide disparity exists in particle sizing, the risks of uneven — and improper — product coverage increases.

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The Importance of Proper Sizing and Uniformity

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Weather stations join space, subterranean ages

By MARK LESLIE

ata Transmission Network Corp.'s (DTN) purchase of Broadcast Partners and Golf-Links in May underscores the rising stock of weather stations — in the world general, and on golf courses in particular.

"The golf superintendent has taken a quantum leap in the last five years in evaluating the value of weather information," said Peter Levy of Weather Metrics in Lenexa, Kan.

While many green committees might say, 'It's just another toy,' weather stations can save more money than they cost — in terms of using less water, fertilizer and chemicals, and using them at the right time.

The idea of weather stations has been that of a superintendent feeding information into a computer on the maximum inches per week a green needs and the weather station keeping a close watch. If we have a better handle on the weather forecast in a period when we want to make an application, then we can manage it better.

"You can really fine-tune your scouting and your irrigation," said Dan Dinelli, superintendent at North Shore Country Club in Glenview, Ill., who owns the Australian-made Metos station. "It's slick. Not only does it provide raw weather data updated constantly (not once a day), but it has disease models for pythium blight, brown patch and dollar spot. It graphs the severity of the disease pressure. It also tracks degree days, which is a great help for emerging weeds or insect pests, so you can create a calendar of events that will occur according to weather conditions and not the calendar — because every year is different."

The new breed of weather station goes beyond these basic irrigation concerns, and it is gaining enthusiasts among the ranks of superintendents.

"That's pretty incredible," said Country Club of the Rockies superintendent Kevin Ross of the Weather Metrics station's five different ET rates. "Plus it has many soil-temperature probes in the field that register back to the office. It costs $10,000, but it's absolutely worth it."

The $6,000 cost of the Metos system, Dinelli said, "can be realized in savings in one day. One of our pythium applications, for example, can be as high as $6,000. We can use a scientifically developed disease model and be able to more accurately say whether the disease pressure merits spraying. In the past our gut feeling may have pushed us to spray. Now, this tool can tell us [information like] it needs to get 5 degrees warmer, or it needs to get 3 degrees hotter for another three hours."

"We try to give the superintendent a variety of information that he can customize for his specific course," Levy said. "Most systems give them one ET, and they have to figure in what they have on the tees, roughs, fairways and greens. By the time they apply all the different factors it's such a pain that we want to make an application, then we can manage it better."

By HAL PHILLIPS

RALEIGH, N.C. — The real value of weather stations, according to North Carolina State University researcher Jack Bailey, is the body of information they yield over time. Any superintendent worth his salt can observe the occurrence of disease, said Bailey. The critical question is, "When will it happen?"

Bailey believes a valuable weather station wouldn't merely record meteorological trends, it would add them, compare them and contrast them with previous recorded patterns. The resulting weather-based models would supply superintendents with a valuable agronomic tool.

"It's sort of like having someone who's read all the literature sitting in the window 24 hours a day," Bailey explained. "He might say there have been 10 hours today that have been favorable for brown patch. Taking that information, the superintendent will still have to make a decision: 'Do I spray today or not?'"

"But suppose a superintendent is

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GOLF COURSE NEWS
June 1996 31
DTN buys Broadcast Partners and, with it, GolfLinks network

By MARK LESLIE

OMAHA, Neb. — Data Transmission Network Corp. Inc. (DTN) grew from a major player to the dominant force among satellite weather systems on May 3 when it bought Broadcast Partners (BP), which includes GolfLink, a satellite golf weather and information service.

The companies broadcast weather through radar and satellite images with local, regional and national outlooks. Before the purchase, DTN boasted 76,000 subscribers in the ag industry and BP had 39,000 ag business industry subscribers to a service called Farm Dayta.

“We're always interested in growing, and we did by acquisition or diversifying into another industry,” said DTN Director of Public Relations Eric Miller about the $63.5 million acquisition. “Obviously, this makes us a more dominant service in the ag industry. And they [BP] have other services — GolfLink and the construction industry.”

GolfLinks owner Jerry Lemons, who has a partnership with BP, was unsure how the purchase might affect him. “It's a change in ownership, and a change from the standpoint that the only competitor we had now owns us,” Lemons said. “I own the GolfLinks service from the standpoint of marketing and exclusive rights to the golf course industry. That has not changed.”

Lemons said the purchase “speaks well for the technology we have. I brought this technology into the golf industry in September 1994. DTN entered the market in April 1995. It is a service that is very affordable and it makes no sense to be without it, even for the mom-and-pop clubs — even more-so for them than the richer clubs.”

“The weather center started in 1995 with golf courses in mind,” Miller said. “We found there are a lot more people out there who want it. We're doing a lot of business with construction firms, government agencies like emergency preparedness, departments of transportation, and aviation.”

BP, a general partnership, was formed by Farmland Industries, Inc., Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. and LAA Communications Co.

HAND-HELD UNIT DETECTS LIGHTNING

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — The next time you witness a superintendent obtain information about lightning, the electronic gadget he uses might not be his cellular phone for calling a remote lightning detection service. It might be his own hand-held SkyScan.

Costing less than $230, SkyScan measures the distance of lightning as far away as 40 miles and accurately tracks its approach. Since the average storm travels at about 25 miles per hour, this provides a warning period of 1 1/2 hours.

Of the three types of lightning — cloud-to-cloud, earth-to-cloud and cloud-to-earth — the latter is the most dangerous. SkyScan's built-in antennas pick up this type of lightning, analyze it for distance, and communicate the information to the user through a series of LED grouped into ranges of 0-3, 3-8, 8-20 and 20-40 miles.

The distance information enables the user to tell if the storm is moving toward, away from, or parallel to the location.

More information is available from Equity Industries Corp., 5721 Bayside Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23455; 800-972-0292.

THORGUARD EXPANDS PRODUCTS

MIAMI, Fla. — Thor Guard Inc., whose lightning warning system is used by the PGA Tour, has expanded its line of lighting warning products with a new, more economically-priced system called Thor Guard II.

Thor Guard II determines the potential for local lightning danger and displays the lightning hazard by means of an easily-read, multi-colored light display.

Thor Guard II was designed to respond to requests from a variety of markets for a basic lightning prediction system, one that would be capable of automatically interfacing with a variety of warning and switching devices.

Thor Guard II is a more moderately-priced alternative to the larger Thor Guard system which is currently used by the PGA Tour, the LPGA Tour, Marriott Golf, the Tournament Players clubs and other facilities.

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More disease models to be incorporated into tomorrow's stations

Continued from page 31

superintendents are currently making these decisions without this information. They have these models in their heads — it's called experience. But even though they're relying on their histories and the course history, a weather modeling system could augment that experience," Bailey and Raleigh-based Agricultural and Meteorological Systems (AMS) are collaborating on a product that would provide superintendents just this sort of information. The AMS product — which measures air and soil temperature, rain levels and relative humidity — assesses conditions every 15 minutes and automatically downloads the data to a central computer, where the information is added to, then set against existing weather-based models for, say, brown patch. The AMS brown patch model, developed by Dr. Gail Schuman at the University of Maryland, has yet to be thoroughly tested, said Bailey. The more superintendents get involved, he added, the more reliable that model, and others, will be.

Researchers are going to continue to work on these models, but with budget cuts there simply aren't enough people. In a way, superintendents have the best laboratory going.

— Jack Bailey, researcher
North Carolina State University

Bailey has seen weather models work. For the past 15 years, he has been executing weather-based models in the peanut business, where information gathered by computerized stations has been used successfully in controlling leaf spot and stem diseases.

"With other crops, like peanuts, management isn't so intensive. That's why I thought golf was perfect for this sort of modeling," said Bailey. "Superintendents are educated people who are attuned to high-managed crops. There's also a great deal of pressure, as I understand it, to have beautiful turf but there are also limits on what superintendents can do.

"It's important for superiors to realize that models for turf are in their infant stages," Bailey continued. "We have a brown patch model and a pythium blight model. But there are others, like dollar spot, which we need to build." Bailey admits that researchers have been studying this aspect of crop management for years. However, he said, the approach has always been "yes/no" — it's time to spray, or it isn't time to spray.

Bailey would rather show superintendents how favorable conditions are to disease; how long they've been that way; and what's the historical precedent for disease at a particular time of year. "The analogy is a fuel gauge," Bailey said. "In the past, models would say, Fill up or Don't. We need to have a model that says, Almost Full or Almost Empty.

"You need a sliding bar showing how dangerous conditions are. If all 24 hours of the previous day have been favorable for a pest, then the bar would be long... I'm not in favor of getting rid of pesticides. But you don't want to spray too much if you don't have to. And sometimes you need to spray more. Nineteen ninety-five was a good example. Brown patch came early in 1995, and it could have been mitigated."

Though he's currently on study leave, Bailey hasn't abandoned applied science or N.C. State to pursue the weather-modeling business with AMS. Every time an AMS system is sold the school is paid a royalty. Bailey receives 25 percent of the royalties.

"As a scientist, I don't believe in proprietary software," said Bailey. "My software has what is called open-book architecture, so my peers can pick it apart and improve it."

There is nothing to set up with this system. No programming, no input involved. You just look at it. Also, we've created a uniform output, a common denominator for delivery. I wanted a fuel gauge that people could recognize. So regardless of the disease, this system will describe conditions in terms of hours in a day.

"Researchers are going to continue to work on these models, but with budget cuts there simply aren't enough people. In a way, superintendents have the best laboratory going."
By MARK LESLIE

While weather stations to day are light-years ahead of the past, great advances are still expected in the future

Having completed its purchase of Broadcast Partners, DTN has already invested in turf-related developments and has hired a turfgrass expert to manage the golf end of that research, according to DTN Director of Public Relations Eric Miller.

"We want to be able to use shortwave frequencies and download the information right into the computer rather than use a modem," said John Gerh, a salesman for Spectrum Technologies, Inc., which distributes the Davis station but with Spectrum ET software.

"We've tried to design a system that's adaptable for the future in case a superintendent wants to add soil moisture, soil temperature, water temperature, water temperature monitoring," said Peter Levy of Weather Metrics in Shawnee Mission, Kan.

"Considerable work is still needed to establish historical databases for weather data and to accumulate field observations that relate to it," said superintendent Dan Dinelli of North Shore Country Club in Glenview, Ill.

"More disease models must be constructed. Degree-day models need to be calculated for other pests as well as for beneficial insects. There is a lot of room for home-grown research based on collected data, coupled with field observations. "We are looking at soil temperature readings to help fine-tune the timing of green cover applications, day length and how it may affect plant growth," he added.

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Nothing makes a golf course look better than a National. The Best Price. The Best Cutting.
The Quarry in San Antonio, which golf course," Foster said.

"perfectly suited for an outstanding retained Foster to design its third 18-

Cypresswood Golf Complex here, has opened in 1993, Keith Foster has se-

being restored with the help of Land-

architecture John Harbottle: The Log

part to Alister McKenzie, will be com-

of Stockton Country Club, credited in

Victor International of Southfield are

CMS Energy Corp. of Dearborn and

are GCBAA's new goal

By MARK LESLIE

Plainfield, Ill. — With its finances stabi-

lized and certification program fine-tuned,

golf course Builders Association of A-

rica's (GCBAA) new president is focusing on improved relationships with course architects and building a better product.

Paul Eldredge, president of Wadhsworth Golf Construction Co., headquartered here, said: "The next emphasis should be our alliance with the architects, finding ways to improve the quality of golf courses, working with the environmental issues that face us all, and assuring we don't do anything that would be negative to the continued expansion of golf."

"All the people in the industry — superintendents and allied associations — have begun to work together to identify those issues and come to grips with them before they become a major deterrent to golf."

The GCBAA will address some of these issues at its summer meeting, Aug. 8-10, in Louisville, Ky. A panel on

Better relations, products are GCBAA's new goal

By MARK LESLIE

Wogan solo no more

By MARK LESLIE

Todd's Island, was English spoken when we first started. I started working in Japan with Arnold in

1971 and there was very, very little English spoken. We were never without an inter-

preter. That has changed a lot.

GCN: You are very popular anywhere. If you want to leap into just about anywhere in the world, everybody knows him.

GCN: Any memorable stories showing the uniqueness of working in another culture?

Seay: You wander through a fish hatchery outside Bangkok and along this strip of land down by the fish ponds. It's about a foot wide and a foot above water. In front of us about 30 guys are beating on straw baskets with sticks. I ask what they were doing, and I'm told, "They're just

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FROM THE DESK OF HAL PHILLIPS

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Hal Phillips, Editor

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Q&A: Palmer & Seay

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Palmer: It was very important. I was very busy and I didn’t really know Ed very well, although I had heard of his reputation and knew he was very good. That turned out to be far better than I had anticipated. In a lot of areas where I am not as organized, he is extremely organized, and he picked up the ball on that note.

His ideas and knowledge of architecture are crucial, particularly in the greens area of design — by that I mean the agronomy and horticulture, the vegetation and trees, all of which he had a handle on.

He gave me a lot of his ideas, and I transferred a lot of mine to him. So the combination of my expertise has been very, very good. He has a tremendous feel for what we are doing. And everyone around him grasps that feeling.

GCN: Are you spending more time in design work now?

Palmer: As you know, over the past 26 years Ed and I have been together and we have spent thousands of hours together designing and building courses. Our business and company grew quite rapidly in the ‘70s and ‘80s, and we now have 17 employees. I have spent thousands of hours together. Each year I have become more and more active with every member of our team and with every project. And I will continue to increase my involvement in our designs as my tournament commitments become fewer.

GCN: What is the defining bottom line of a Palmer-Seay course design?

Seay: I’d love it if everybody just said what we were designing 15,20 years ago. As you know, over the past 26 years Ed and I have been together and we have spent thousands of hours designing and building courses. Our business and company grew quite rapidly in the ‘70s and ‘80s, and we now have 17 employees. I have spent thousands of hours together. Each year I have become more and more active with every member of our team and with every project. And I will continue to increase my involvement in our designs as my tournament commitments become fewer.

GCN: Arnold, you have a project in the Philippines that will involve eight other major tournament winners. That’s a very interesting concept. How is it coming together?

Palmer: The name of the project is Bonafacio and it will be located in the heart of metropolitan Manila. Palmer Course Design will be creating the master plan for the 18 holes and preparing and coordinating all specifications, instructions and construction inspection. There will be nine winners of major tournaments designing two sets of holes each. I will be joined by Nick Faldo, Nick Price, John Daly, Ray Floyd, Fuzzy Zoeller, Fred Couples, Tom Kite and Steve Elkington.

Hopefully we will get underway very soon with the routing plan. Construction is scheduled for 1997.

Palmer: I heard Jack Nicklaus say this, and I agree: We have to keep the ball where it is, or take 5 percent off it. That will take our courses back to 6,800 yards, what we were designing 15, 20 years ago. It’s a wonderful idea.

Second, we have to be careful of pricing ourselves out of growth. There are not many more people who can afford $100 green fees. We can saturate that market real quick. We’re entering in the next 20 years where our kids are going to be less affluent than we are. Look at all the young people living with their parents.

Also, I think we can build some golf courses that don’t have to conform to the Smithsonian Institution moral requirements, or USGA requirements.

Just push up some dirt; if you’ve got a few agronomic problems call up somebody to take care of them; and get on with it.

There’s no reason a green shouldn’t cost $10,000 rather than $50,000 to build. Go spend $80,000, and you can have greens like Augusta National. But you don’t have to do that.

There is too much stress on the maintenance of the golf course. No one can argue the beauty. But the cost!

GCN: Are we too enamored with “par”? A teaching pro once told me a golfer should consider his par on a hole the best score he has had on that hole down to actual par.

Seay: In Europe they play match play. Par doesn’t mean Jack Squat to those people. If you make 15, all you hope is that your opponent makes 14. And if you go on and enjoy the next hole. But an American who shoots par, par, triple-bogey wants to go to the clubhouse. His days is ruined because he is 3-over-par on one hole.

GCN: And we’re losing something with that attitude.

Seay: Sure. We’ve got that almighty handicapapper’s perspective into the design.

He is particularly aware and very sensitive to the contouring of the greens. We have, from time to time, designed a couple of bizarre greens, but for the most part they are very subtle.

GCN: Arnold, you have a project in the Philippines that will involve eight other major tournament winners. That’s a very interesting concept. How is it coming together?

Palmer: The name of the project is Bonafacio and it will be located in the heart of metropolitan Manila. Palmer Course Design will be creating the master plan for the 18 holes and preparing and coordinating all specifications, instructions and construction inspection. There will be nine winners of major tournaments designing two sets of holes each. I will be joined by Nick Faldo, Nick Price, John Daly, Ray Floyd, Fuzzy Zoeller, Fred Couples, Tom Kite and Steve Elkington.

Hopefully we will get underway very soon with the routing plan. Construction is scheduled for 1997.

GCN: Speaking of working with other guys, do you think some architects have gone obsolete in recent years in “tricking up” golf courses?

Seay: I couldn’t agree more. Not all architects, but some individuals have made golf courses entirely too difficult. Some are totally unplayable. But keep in mind, in most cases they were asked to do that because they had done it once prior to [the new project] and had gotten notoriety by it.

A golf course on the moon makes the top 50 and the next guy who builds one wants it on the surface of Mars. The degree of difficulty on a lot of these courses was what received the notoriety.

GCN: What will drive the future of American golf?

Seay: You will see more public golf courses. Not necessarily city and county courses, but privately built pay-for-play. There may be development around them and resort courses, but they will be accessible to more people.

GCN: Do you have any concerns about Parade and Golfweek.

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Builders look to improve relationships

Continued from page 35

the builder-architect relationship will include architects Bob Cupp, Mike Hurdzan, Ed Sexay, Bob Lohmann and Tom Marzolf.

"This is high on the minds of builders," Eldredge said. "We want to work closely with architects. We hope to improve our relationship with them in numerous areas — in specifications, liability issues on both sides...

Regarding specifications, he added: "Some of our problems come from the evolution of the golf course, and such things as cart path construction. Builders and architects are both putting ourselves in a liability situation with cart paths. We need details of how we build them and the intent of their use. They are intended for golf carts, and they end up using them for roads for backhoes and tractors — things they are not built for."

GCBAA Executive Director Phil Arnold said the panel planned for the two professions to better understand and each other's perspective.

"Architects want good builders," he said. "In order to accomplish that, the builders have to be treated fairly on the job. The architect can help. They often work as an agent or quasi-agent for the developer. They are in a position to improve the builder's status through that capacity."

The GCBAA certification program — in which course builders must pass a rigid examination — is an example of how architects and builders have worked well together.

"It has gone as well as or even better than we ever thought it would," Eldredge said. "The architects have picked up on it and accepted it pretty well. They helped us with some input and I think they look at it as a tool for them to help try to get golf course builders building their courses versus sewer contractors."

Retainage at issue

Continued from page 35

"A lot of builders would like the retainage kept in an escrow account that says, 'When you are satisfied with a job you release the money,'" Eldredge said.

That would improve on the present situation. "In many cases, lawyers get involved and they get their fee and leave you still not getting any money," Eldredge added.

Architects are less apt to face this situation, Eldredge said, because they often get more of their money up front.

Golflinks Design inks design on 'great track of land'

HERMITAGE, Tenn. — Golflink President Jerry Lemons has been hired to design Willow Springs Golf Course in Athens.

The course will be a par-64 executive course featuring 11 par-3s, six par-4s and one par-5. Willow Springs is the newest real estate venture from RJK Development of Athens. The course will sit on the rolling terrain, which features a waterfall on Mouse Ear Creek.

"It is an exciting project for our firm, in that the developer has given us a great tract of land with some features that you don't find on every site," Lemons said. "The 15th hole is a 165-yard par-3 with an elevation drop of more than 80 feet. Greens will be bentgrass, while the fairways will be sprigged in Quickstand Bermudagrass. The course is expected to open in June 1997."

Meanwhile, Lemons confirmed his organization will design and oversee construction of a new nine-hole, 3,426-yard public course in Cunningham, Ky. The course, which has not been named, is being developed by a grass roots group that has raised 85 percent of the needed funds.

Construction is expected to begin in June and the course is to open in May 1997. The course will feature bentgrass greens, Bermudagrass fairways and fescue roughs. "This is a low-budget project and we have a design that has basically eliminated the need to move an excessive amount of earth," Lemons said, "but because of the rolling terrain, we have nine excellent tee and green sites."

"What make this project different is how the people of this community have donated their money to build this facility. There has been nothing but positive support from this group who just wants a fun, affordable place to play."

Lemons has also been hired to do the design work on a renovation to the Rolling Hills Country Club in Paducah, Ky. The course features Bermudagrass greens, fairways and tees. The renovation will begin in late summer and is expected to be ready to play by May 1997.
Fazio’s domain: Virginia Beach, Hilton Head

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — Boasting what golf course architect Tom Fazio called terrain “reminiscent of British and Scottish linksland which gave birth to the traditions of the game,” the private Bayville Golf Club has scheduled a July opening here.

Fazio has transformed the waterfront terrain, with its subtle contours and sandy soil, into an 18-hole golf course and 16-acre practice range. Yardage varies from 4,987 to 7,086 yards, and varying wind conditions, combined with the links atmosphere of the design, are expected to provide a new challenge each day to golfers. Lakes as well as burns, tidal marshes, ponds and tree buffers enhance the design.

No residential development is involved in the project.

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, S.C. — After unveiling its first golf course in late November, Belfair officials have announced Tom Fazio will design a second 18-hole course at the 1,028-acre private club community located just five miles west of the Hilton Head Island Bridge.

Construction of the first nine holes of the second course is expected to begin late this year, according to J. David Everett, a partner in Belfair Plantation, L.L.C., the company developing the community.

Fazio authored the original Belfair design, a par-72 layout stretching 7,044 yards from the championship tees. The course, which features three holes along 41-acre Hidden Lake and six finishing holes overlooking the Colleton River, opened for limited play last November. The course is expected to open to full-time play this fall.

Fazio said he had not yet begun work on design details of the second Belfair course. But, he added, he looks forward to the challenge of adding a second course to a facility that has earned critical acclaim.

“We’re just in the preliminary layout stages now,” explained Fazio. “But it becomes a big responsibility for me to create a distinctly different style golf course. But we have no reservations that that will not happen.”

According to Everett, the second golf course will feature some of the same traditional design elements employed in the first course, including rectangular tees, closely mown chipping areas and boldly contoured greens. Initial routing plans call for several parallel fairways reminiscent of private clubs built in the pre-development era. As with the first course, real-estate consideration will be kept to a minimum, with no real estate offered behind greens.

The course is routed to take advantage of the entire Belfair property, from the tidal salt marshes along the Colleton River to inland forests of hardwoods and pines.

Golf Engineering finishes renovation

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Golf Engineering Associates, a Phoenix-based golf course irrigation design firm, has completed an irrigation system renovation plan for Francisco Grande Resort in Casa Grande. The resort is proceeding with a renovation of its existing 18 holes, thought to be the longest course in Arizona at 7,594 yards, and may add five new holes with real-estate development in the near future, according to developers.

GEA is also planning a new irrigation system for the Hanover Country Club in Abbottstown, Pa. The club recently purchased land to construct four new holes in addition to existing course upgrades.

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MARYLAND GOVERNOR HAILS BOARD APPROVAL OF ROCKY GAP RESORT AS TOURISM BOOST

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — After a 15-year quest to create a destination golf resort in western Maryland, the Board of Public Works here has approved a financing package allowing the Rocky Gap Lodge and Golf Resort to take shape. Ground was broken May 20 on the hotel/conference center and Jack Nicklaus Signature golf course. It is expected to open in approximately two years and be a major economic boon to region's economy.

"This project will enhance Maryland's status as a tourism and conference destination, while giving Western Maryland a major economic shot in the arm," Gov. Parris N. Glendening said. "This is exactly the kind of project Western Maryland needs — creating a resurgence in job growth through tourism by utilizing the region's beautiful natural resources."

The project will consist of a 220-room destination resort on the grounds of Rocky Gap State Park, located about five miles east of Cumberland on Interstate 68. The project will offer 14,000 square feet of flexible meeting space, including a 5,000-square-foot ballroom; restaurant and lounge facilities; a swimming pool; two tennis courts; and fitness facilities.

The key amenity is the Nicklaus course, with pro shop, driving range, a putting and chipping green.

The board approved a financing package, including $31.3 million in bonds issued by the Maryland Economic Development Corp. (MEDCO), a quasi-public agency created to assist state and local governments with economic development projects.

"This project will be a cornerstone for the tourism industry that can provide significant job generation and economic value to the region," said MEDCO Executive Director Hans Mayer.

The Rocky Gap project team consists of: Whiting-Turner Construction Co. of Baltimore, general contractor; Buena Vista Hospitality Group of Tampa, Fla., operator; DNC Architects Inc. of Rockville, Md., architects; Rauch, Walls and Lane Inc. of Easton, Md., engineers; and Nicklaus Design of North Palm Beach, Fla., Jack Nicklaus’ company which has designed and will oversee the golf course construction.

"I am delighted to be moving ahead with this project," said Nicklaus. "We'll give Maryland a course it can be proud of."

Kay hits century mark in courses

EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP, N.J. — Golf course architect Stephen Kay is in the midst of his 100th project, a championship 18-hole daily-fee course called Harbor Pines Golf Club that is expected to open this summer.

Harbor Pines is located in Egg Harbor Township just across the bay from Ocean City and includes a residential community. Max Gurwicz & Son, Inc., of Northfield, N.J., is the developer.

Kay’s centennial course project is set among 520 wooded acres with numerous lakes. Each hole has five sets of tees and large undulating greens.

"What visually differentiates Harbor Pines from other South Jersey courses is its manicured look, generous fairways and extremely short rough — reminiscent of Augusta National," said Kay, who lives in Pelham, N.Y.

"The course is designed so that golfers can "read" each hole, and strategically assess risk and reward before playing the shot."

School hires Weed Design

GLEN MILLS, Pa. — Robert C. Weed Design, Inc. has been selected to design and oversee the construction of an 18-hole golf course on the grounds of the Glen Mills School here.

School officials have indicated the project is a "win-win situation" for the school and the town as it will provide recreation for the staff, students and general public as well as vocational opportunities for the students interested in golf course maintenance and management. The daily-fee course is scheduled to be open in early 1998.

Weed said he is delighted to be given the opportunity to build a "pure golf course in the traditional style of the great northeastern courses. The property at Glen Mills lends itself to a very natural style golf course using the existing features of the property."

Construction is scheduled to start this summer. The par-71 layout with cover 6,700 yards.

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GOLF COURSE NEWS
For Serafin, ‘twin bill’ summertime openings

By MARK LESLIE

JOHNTOWN, Ohio — “Pure golf.”

That’s the boast at The Links at Echo Springs, a Barry Serafin-designed 18-hole public course opening in mid-June in this town 20 minutes east of Columbus.

Citing the commitment of the developers, Serafin said the project was “a tremendous opportunity to get in there and get the course done right.” Golfers teeing up on the par-72, 7,000-yard track won’t see it, but the wall-to-wall double-row irrigation system, abundant drainage tile, and other work was done to provide top course conditions.

“The owners wanted to back off and do the extra work and do it right,” Serafin said, explaining why the front nine holes will open this month and the back nine in late fall or next spring.

The three owners also helped in the construction. While the 220 acres was the property of partner Larry Bruce, Nu-Way Construction of Johnstown performed the heavy earthwork on the course, and Van-Wey, a sand and gravel company, provided the sand.

Quality Golf of Sunbury and shaper Dan Gadd were brought on board to fine-tune the design, Serafin said.

“This is pure golf, no residential,” Serafin said. The land was part dairy farm, part corn farm and part wooded. A 40-foot ravine runs through one section of the property, helping to create some dramatic holes, he said, including the 12th — a 328-yard, par-4 demanding a second shot over the ravine.

At another Serafin design opening in mid-June, golfers can say their prayers in earnest before beginning their round. Chapel Hill Golf Course sits on the former site of Mount Vernon Bible College, and the clubhouse was the college chapel.

The 18-hole public facility, in the small town of Mount Vernon 40 minutes north-east of Columbus, will be surrounded by about 50 home lots, Serafin said.

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“It provides more yardage than existing public courses in the area,” he said. "There is a 60-foot elevation change from the low end to the high end of the course, and there are some dramatic views from some of the holes.”

The par-72, 6,900-yard layout features several holes that play along a creek, a par-3 over a manmade wetland, and gently rolling terrain, half in open land and half through wooded areas.

Both courses, Serafin said, contain four sets of tees.

Muirhead's newest 'theme' design takes shape on Luzon

SUBIC BAY, The Philippines — This former American naval base on the north-east coast of the island of Luzon is site of the newest golf course from the hand of architect Desmond Muirhead.

Nestled in the low mountains overlooking a harbor, the golf course has a theme — one based on the colorful history of The Philippines.

One of the most spectacular holes is reportedly called Sabong, or Cockfight, the national sport of The Philippines. The design also feature landscaped symbols depicting the animus, the anima, and the mandala — an ode to their coiner, Swiss psychologist Carl Gustav Jung.

Muirhead, widely recognized as an urban planner as well as a golf architect, did the original plan for the development which will have a hotel, condominiums and residential units in addition to a golf course.

In late November, Philippine President Fidel Ramos will host President Clinton and 16 other heads of state of the Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) who will meet at Subic Bay.

The head officials of APEC are slated to play the new golf course during their meetings.

Sea Village adds 9

THE SEA RANCH, Calif. — Sea Ranch Village Inc. is close to completion of the additional nine holes of golf at The Sea Ranch Golf Links, a links-style layout on the wild Sonoma Coast of northern California. Sea Ranch officials said they expect the new nine holes will be open early this month.

The project completes the original layout designed by architect Robert Muir Graves in 1964. The new par-72, 18-hole Sea Ranch will measure 6,800 yards. As a nine-hole course, the original nine-hole Sea Ranch Golf Links, with an index of 73.5 and a slope rating of 133 from the back tees, was rated by Golf Digest as one of the top five nine-hole courses in the world.

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GOLF COURSE NEWS

CIRCLE #131

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Asian Roundup

Third Nicklaus joins world of architecture; Palmer, 8 others design 18 in Philippines

ILOilo, Philippines—A third son of Jack Nicklaus is becoming increasingly involved in golf course architecture. Gary Nicklaus, 27, is undertaking his first solo effort on this Filipino island an hour’s plane ride south of Manila.

Gary’s brothers — Jack II, 34, and Steve, 33, are also course designers.

Pasig City-based Fil-Estate Group of Companies is developing the 18-hole facility. Groundbreaking for the private course, which is located on 450 acres of rolling pasture land, took place in mid-April with full-blown construction scheduled to commence by early summer.

Located within an existing residential community, the course should open by late 1997 or early 1998.

Fil-Estate and Nicklaus have teamed on four other Filipino projects in various stages of development. They include:

- Manila Southwoods — Two Nicklaus-designed courses have already opened.
- Antipolo, Manila — Jack II designed this 18-hole layout, which is under construction and scheduled to open sometime next year.
- Trece Martires, Cavite — The 45-hole facility includes 18 Nicklaus holes, nine by Jack II, nine by Gary Player and nine by Arnold Palmer. All the Nicklaus holes are open for play.
- Looc Cove, Luzon island — The facility includes an 18-hole Nicklaus Signature layout and an 18-hole Nicklaus Design.

MANILA, The Philippines — Arnold Palmer and eight other major tournament winners each will design two holes of a golf course to be built here — one of nine projects involving a dozen courses Palmer Course Design Co. (PCDC) is working on in Asia-Pacific.

Fred Couples, Steve Elkington, John Daly, Nick Faldo, Ray Floyd, Tom Kite, Nick Price and Fuzzy Zoeller will all join Palmer, each designing two holes for the Manila project, called Ft. McKinley Golf & Country Club.

PCDC officials said they reached an agreement with Pagbagabo Development Corp., which was acting on behalf of a consortium of developers.

The developers expect that Ft. McKinley Golf & Country Club will become an amenity in the largest commercial and residential development in Metro Manila history.

Construction is expected to start late this year, with tentative opening expected in early 1998.

PCDC has two other projects under way in Manila — Forest Hills Estate and Caliraya. A third, in Debu City called Ayala-Cebu Golf Estates (formerly Kang-Irag Hills), is being rerouted to meet government approval. All are 18-hole courses.

Also in Asia-Pacific:

- In Fiji, Japan, the 27-hole Fuji Country Club is 70 percent complete.
- The 36-hole Furano Kogen project in Furano, Japan, is awaiting government approval, and construction is expected to begin this summer.
- A July opening is anticipated for Washington Club Meihan (formerly Hakusan-Ieki) in Hakusan, Japan. Twenty-seven holes will open, and another 27 holes are projected in the future for the complex.
- Indonesia-PCDC reached an agreement with Pt. Putra Alvita Pratama for an 18-hole course near Jakarta, Indonesia. It will serve as an amenity for an upscale, master-planned community — Kota Legenda (Legend City).

Kota Legenda will become the standard-bearer for golf and residential communities in the area, PCDC said. Construction will begin this summer and opening is expected in early 1998.

- The 18-hole Legends Golf & Country Club (formerly Sedenak) in Johor Bahru, Malaysia, is in phase II of construction.

FORSTER/TUNCURRY, Australia — Tallwoods Golf Club, a 600-acre community featuring a Michael Hurdzan-designed 18-hole golf course, is being built in this popular resort area.

Site clearing is underway and course construction will begin in earnest Aug. 1 at this spot some 210 miles up the coast from Sydney, according to David Wheelchel, a senior designer with The Hurdzan Design Group in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

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Asia-Pacific boom continues

Continued from previous page

Columbus, Ohio

Tallwoods Proprietary Ltd., led by Dubbo developer Bill Richardson and a silent partner, foresees the project as second-home and retirement community.

The course will be private to community residents, but will offer times to visitors, such as from hotels at the neighboring towns about 20 kilometers away.

The site is just 2 kilometers from the ocean, spread over hilly topography, Whelchel said. "The climate is wonderful, and it's a great property," he said, "hills and valleys and with 100-foot-high and higher eucalyptus trees. We'll be playing up valleys, with several lakes on the golf course.

"We're working around some interesting native vegetation. It contains some very, very nice, small rain forest-type areas, and we'll play around them and highlight them within the course."

The 6,100-meter, par-72 track will be "retirement-person oriented," Whelchel said. "We want golfers to have fun. We don't want to beat them up. It will be challenging from the back tees and friendly from the middle tees."

Because Tallwoods Proprietary is the general contractor, the course will cost just Australian$3 million, he added. • • •

JOHORE BAHRU, Malaysia—
Robert Trent Jones II is overseeing a complete renovation of the existing Pulai Springs Resort Golf Club and will design a second, 18-hole layout there as well.

Reconstruction of the original Peter Dalketh Scott-designed layout, which opened in 1986, has begun and should be completed by mid-1997, according to Jones' office. No construction date has been set for the new course.

A new membership drive is being undertaken in conjunction with the redesign. The Chua Chi Minh family owns Pulai Springs.

Jones is also involved in several other Asia-Pacific projects including:

- Pueblo de Oro, Mindinano, The Philippines — An 18-hole course, practice range and clubhouse are part of the golf/residential, master-planned community.

- Phnom Penh, Cambodia — Cambodian Golf & Country Club, one of three golf courses now under development in this emerging country, will open its first nine holes in July.

- The second nine is scheduled to come on line before the first is out.

- The Taiwanese-Cambodian joint venture includes tennis courts, a gymnasm/spa and swimming pool. Life memberships run from between $15,000 and $20,000, according to Business News Indochina (BNI).

- Cambodia G&CC is well ahead of The Royal Cambodia Country Club, a Singaporean development whose ambitious $US50 million price tag includes plans for residential units and hotel.

- The 27-hole golf course, designed by J. Michael Poellot, just recently broke ground on the marshy 160-hectare site north of the capital.

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- Guamdong Province, China — A two-year construction process has begun on a golf course residential development here.

- Dirt is now being moved on the 27-hole project, designed by James J. Engh of Global Golf Design, based in Castle Rock, Colo. Dongguan Hillview Golf Club will constitute the core of the development.

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GOLF COURSE NEWS
Jacksonville purchased the property in 1993 using funds from the Federal Coastal Trust (FCT) — a government agency charged with buying environmentally sensitive parcels for purposes of preservation.

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The city of Jacksonville purchased the parcel with FCT funds for preservation, not golf course operations. On June 18, the FCT will decide whether golf fits the environmentally sensitive bill.

On June 18, the FCT will decide whether golf fits the environmentally sensitive bill.

I have no objection to the city being in the golf business. But I do object to the city using FCT funds, which are set aside for environmentally sensitive lands, to purchase golf properties. The land was purchased under a plan that called for a driving range, soccer fields, and hiking trails.

The [former] owners of Blue Cypress pitched the land on the basis of turning it into a park. The city agreed, when the FCT gave them the money, that this would be a passive park with hikers treading lightly. Now they've changed the proposal. I just feel it's ridiculous to propose one thing, then insist on the opposite following the purchase.

Supporters of the golf course claim the city, which needed FCT funds to buy the parcel, changed the management plan primarily because it didn't have the money to develop Blue Cypress into a nature preserve. Crescimbeni explained the city no longer has the means to renovate the clubhouse, build four soccer fields and create a viable storm run-off system. He also noted that three city golf courses have closed in four years, displacing a bevy of golfing citizens.

One of those defunct golf courses, the Dunes Golf and Country Club, has been transformed into a park and recreation facility, mitigating the city's need for more parkland at Blue Cypress, argued Crescimbeni.

"The FCT has no problem with nine holes, which was part of our original management plan," the city councilor explained. "The FCT has a formal amendment option and, for a variety of reasons, we want to amend the management plan."

The city of Jacksonville purchased Blue Cypress for $2.9 million, $1.3 million of which was supplied by the FCT. The city supplied the remaining funds, $600,000 of which came from a tax-exempt $230 million dollar bond issue. As Crescimbeni explained, there are significant rules governing the use of any tax-exempt bond money. For example, no entity can legally make a profit at Blue Cypress because it was purchased with these special funds.

"If we screw it up, we jeopardize the entire bond issue," said Crescimbeni. "We actually thought this was a greater hurdle than going back to the FCT. If you can't satisfy the IRS, then there's no sense in going to Tallahassee and bothering the FCT."

Riverside, which suggested the city commit to the ACSS Signature Program, has been involved in the Blue Cypress situation for some time. Indeed, the firm's intentions to
Hirsh letter
Continued from page 10
on surrounding real-estate development (if applicable) and, if information is available, return on investment analysis.
While I realize that our results to date may be perceived as diminishing the value of "non-signature" architects, this has not been our conclusion.
In fact, the only way to formulate such a conclusion is on a site- or market-specific basis.
We have been asked the question by several clients as to whether a "signature" architect is worth the expense. To many, our advice has been that it is not.
The results of our study show only averages, only information from a group of architects (not one specific signature architect) and only in the markets studied.
While our study attempts to take a look at the results from different markets (some destination resorts and some primary residential markets), other markets may show different indications.

The purpose of the study is to provoke well thought-out decisions on the part of developers, and to illustrate that such a decision is one that can be made objectively through research and analysis.
Another issue we have not considered is the definition of a "signature" architect.
We have tried to identify those perceived as such by the market, but it seems to me that this changes constantly. Are Greg Norman or Ben Crenshaw now "signature" designers because of their recent successes on and off the golf course? Should Mike Hurdzan, or Jay Morrish, or Tom Doak be considered "signature" because they are well known and respected within the golf industry? I don't know the answer to these questions and only a large survey of the golfing public could answer that.
Your comments to Hal are of great interest to me as I am sure this topic and study will progress and evolve over many years to come.
As a consultant and appraiser I would love to have an instant answer to the signature architect question for my clients.
As a golfer (and Golf Digest panelist) I care only about the quality of the golf experience created.
Maybe someday we could do a survey on the relative financial performances of courses by individual architects.
However, that, too, would be distorted because of the effect of decisions made by the developers and managers of those facilities. Please feel free to call me with any additional comments or questions, or just to "rap" a bit.

By the way, I played and enjoyed Stone-wall and hope that if you're in the area sometime you'll call and we can tee it up.
Unfortunately, since Stonewall is private and Fazio's Harteifeld National nearby is daily-fee, a financial comparison would be misleading.
Laurence A. Hirsh MAI, SGA
President, Golf Property Analysts
Harrisburg, Pa.

GCBAAs reprints cost estimating booklet
CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — The Golf Course Builders Association of America has reprinted its Guide to Estimating Cost for Golf Course Construction, the first printing of which was released in February.
The 18-page document contains descriptions of 25 phases of construction, with charts showing their average costs in four regions of the United States. Worksheets for estimating the cost of a project are included.
They are available for $25 from GCBAAs at 920 Airport Road, Suite 210, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514; 919-942-8922.

Jacksonville melee
Continued from previous page
buy or lease Blue Cypress were rendered moot by the IRS rule forbidding for-profit activities on land purchased with tax-exempt bond sales.
"Finally, and less attractively for us, we've discussed a qualified management contract with the city of Jacksonville — 15 years, whereby we won't participate in the gross revenues or profits of the project," said Melnyk. "Of course, all this is premature because the FCThas to sign off and then it goes back to the City Council."
Crescimbeni noted that if the golf course is restored, an open bid for the course management contract would be mandatory.
The situation is further complicated by two of the city's other golf facilities, the now-defunct Dunes and Mill Cove. The Dunes closed several years ago but has subsequently been transformed into an extremely successful non-golf sports complex, according to Crescimbeni.
However, golfers that may have played at the Dunes and Blue Cypress have moved over to another city golf course, the busy Mill Cove, which is owned by the Jacksonville Port Authority (JPA) and leased to an operator, Wayland T. Copppedge. Not surprisingly, Copppedge — worried his surging revenues at Mill Cove will dip if golf at Blue Cypress returns — has joined Duval Audubon and the Sierra Club in opposing the golf restoration.
So, even if the FCT okayed golf development at Blue Cypress this month, and if the IRS is satisfied Blue Cypress will not be run for profit, expect a full-blown cat fight in City Council chambers come July.

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EVANSVILLE, Ind. — Tom Doak and Renaissance Golf Design have broken ground on an 18-hole daily-fee course here. Quail Crossing is part of a new residential community now under construction. The developer and contractor is Kilmer's Land Development, Inc., based in Ann Arbor, Mich., and the course will be managed by Craig and Mamie Wood of Indianapolis, who originally optioned the property. Despite 10 inches of April showers, work is proceeding toward a summer grassing date, with planned opening early in 1997.

The routing and land plan were both designed by Renaissance, which is also providing the shaping of greens and bunkers. The final plan for the 310-acre property calls for a par-71 course of just more than 6,700 yards, overlooked by 175 housing lots, 85 percent of which have golf course frontage.

The course is styled in imitation of Shinnecock Hills, with fairway bunkers framed by little bluestem and other prairie grasses, selected in conjunction with Quail Unlimited to provide suitable habitat for the birds after which the course is named. An old coal-mining spoils area near the center of the property has been used for portions of five holes on the front nine, turning a negative for the development into a positive for the golf. This allows the course to reap the benefits of a central "core" without housing intrusion. Care was taken to preserve trees and add native grasses to make these holes feel like part of the course.

The abrupt elevation changes add drama at the par-4 7th, with a second shot through a notch between spoil piles, and at the tiny par-3 8th, with a 40-foot drop to a narrow green.

Fort Ord could expand by 5 new courses

MONTEREY, Calif. — A civilian reuse plan for the former Army base Fort Ord suggests that as many as five new golf courses could be built at the site to go along with the two that are already there. Although the plan won't be finished until July, a draft is now being reviewed by the members and staff of the Fort Ord Reuse Authority.

Several different neighboring cities and Monterey County have jurisdiction over parts of the site and could eventually decide to build golf courses.

According to the current version of the plan, up to two new golf courses could be built in the city of Marina, another in the "South Gate" area that is to be annexed to the city of Del Ray Oaks, and two in unincorporated areas near California State University at Monterey Bay and near the Bureau of Land Management's nature preserve in the eastern half of Fort Ord.

The plan also calls for up to 17,800 new housing units and 2,000 hotel rooms and 12 million square feet of office parks and research space.

New tandem: Wogan and Sargent

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Wogan, whose father Eugene "Skip" Wogan worked with Donald Ross as an assistant pro and architect, has designed more than 60 golf courses since 1956. Wogan holds a turfgrass management degree from the University of Massachusetts, and has 23 years of experience with irrigation, course development, and construction.

Sargent started building entire courses in 1988, beginning with Cornish's Caswell Valley in Pembroke, N.H. His first working relationship with Wogan was in 1990 at John H. Cain Golf Club in Newport, N.H., as project manager for the club membership. "My company was under contract to do the irrigation, finish work and shaping of the course as well as managing all the other intricacies of the job," he said.

Asked what Sargent brings to the new project, Wogan said: "George has a lot of savvy in construction technology, the costs and management and developing various golf features. Plus, he has his own golf course construction company. And he is a good golfer."

The strength of their tandem, Sargent said, is "construction knowledge. Obviously, my golf course superintendent background is important, too. We bounce things off each other about the design of the hole and the challenges and intrigue of the hole as well as maintenance, which is very important. I think our work will show this is a good combination."

Wogan & Sargent, Inc. has a half dozen projects in the works, including:

• The 18-hole public Lochmere (N.H.) Golf & Country Club, of which 10 holes are complete and the other eight yet to be built.
• The 18-hole public Stonebridge Country Club in Golfstown, N.H., on which construction will begin this year.
• An 18-hole semi-private track at historic Sturbridge Village which is awaiting a variance and is part of a large commercial complex.
• An 18-hole public track in West Bridgewater — in the permitting stage.
• The 18-hole public Braeburn course in Hopkinton, R.I., which expects to draw from the visitors to nearby Foxwoods casino.

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$7,000,000 - NORTHGATE COUNTRY CLUB, Houston, TX
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Refinance leases on 144 holes of golf plus a credit line for future acquisitions.

$11,500,000 - THE LODGE OF FOUR SEASONS, Lake of the Ozarks, MO
Refinance a 311-room lodge, 211-slip marina and 45 holes of golf.

$5,000,000 - KEMPER SPORTS MANAGEMENT, Chicago, IL
Refinance an 18-hole private course.

$2,250,000 - OLDE POINT GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, Wilmington, NC
Refinance 18-hole course plus construction funding for clubhouse expansion.

$2,500,000 - GEORGETOWN COUNTRY CLUB, Georgetown, MA
Refinance 18-hole course plus construction funding for clubhouse expansion.

$3,500,000 - THE SEA RANCH GOLF LINKS, Sea Ranch, CA
Refinance a 9-hole public course plus construction funds for additional 9 holes.

$2,400,000 - WHITTIER GC & VICTORIA GC, Los Angeles, CA
Refinance two 18-hole public courses.

$5,000,000 - THE BEACH CLUB GOLF LINKS, Ocean City, MD
Refinance an 18-hole course and construction financing of new 18-hole course.

$3,600,000 - THE HERITAGE GOLF CLUB, Atlanta, GA
Construction of an 18-hole course and a line of credit for new acquisitions.

$5,200,000 - AVILA BEACH RESORT, San Luis Obispo, CA
Refinance an 18-hole resort golf course.

$4,750,000 - CRYSTAL SPRINGS GC, Sussex Co., NJ
Refinance an existing course to draw out equity to construct a new course.

$3,250,000 - BLACK BEAR GC, Sussex Co., NJ
Construction of a new 18-hole course, cross-collateralized with Crystal Springs.

$3,800,000 - CHESTNUT HILL & DEERFIELD GC, Buffalo/Rochester, NY
Refinance 18-hole course and acquisition of 27-hole course.

$8,500,000 - ANGEL FIRE RESORT, near Taos, NM
Acquisition of a ski mountain, golf course, hotel, RV park & other amenities.

$9,250,000 - GOLF CLUB OF ILLINOIS & BURR HILL GC, Chicago, IL
Refinance GCC, acquire Burr Hill and provide a line for future acquisitions.

$7,000,000 - ELY BOWLING, Northern NJ
Refinance bowling centers in northern NJ and southwestern NY.

$6,700,000 - BADLANDS GC, Las Vegas, NV
Take-out of course construction loan, plus provide for clubhouse construction.

$2,600,000 - CASSELBERRY GC, Orlando, FL
Construction loan for new daily fee course.

$3,600,000 - SOUTH RIDING GC, Washington, DC
Construction loan for new daily fee course.

$2,800,000 - GREEN ACRES LANES, Lake Worth, FL
Acquisition loan for 60 lane bowling center.

$2,500,000 - SHATTUCK GC, Jeffrey, NH
Acquisition loan for existing daily fee course.

$3,500,000 - RANCHO VISTOSO GC, Tucson, AZ
Permanent mortgage to take-out course construction loan.

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PALMER APPOINTS PAIR

ORLANDO, Fla. — Arnold Palmer Golf Management Co. has named Jay Bastian vice president of business development and Natalie Sellers corporate development marketing director. Bastian is responsible for course acquisition activity focused primarily within real estate development communities. Sellers will write, design and lay out sales proposals and related support collateral, plus assist in lead tracking and generation efforts, database management and a variety of additional activities.

STUART NAMED BELLE TERRE MANAGER

LA PLACE, La. — Belle Terre Country Club here has named James Stuart its new manager. Stuart will be responsible for overall golf, club and member operations at the Club Corporation of America-operated facility. Prior to joining Pete Dye-designed Belle Terre, Stuart was manager of CCA's Cooks Creek Golf Club in Ashville, Ohio.

NGP ACQUIRES SEACLIFF

HUNTINGTON BEACH, Calif. — National Golf Properties has acquired SeaCliff Country Club here for $10.15 million. SeaCliff will be leased to American Golf Corp. Located 25 miles south of Los Angeles, the private facility includes an 18-hole course, practice area, clubhouse, tennis and swimming facilities.

LIGHTNING W TABS EIGUREN

WASHOE VALLEY, Nevada — The Golf Club at Lightning W Ranch has named W.L. "Lou" Eiguren director of club development. Eiguren, a 25-year PGA member, will focus on club membership development and growth with an emphasis on promoting the golf facilities. Prior to Lightning W, Eiguren was director of golf at Edgewood Tahoe Resort in Stateline.

CASPER COMES TO TENNESSEE

OAK RIDGE, Tenn. — Billy Casper Golf Management will provide management consulting services to the city and a developer during the planning and construction phases for an as-yet-unnamed course. The Gary Roger Black-designed course is scheduled to open this fall.

Masters Golf Corp. readies to expand northward

Florida firm adds Orlando facility, bringing portfolio to 8

BY PETER BLAIS

ORLANDO, Fla. — Masters Golf Corp. plans to venture out of Florida this year as it attempts to become a major East Coast golf management company, according to President Tary Kettle. Formed in 1992 with a single management contract, Masters has grown into a full-service, turnkey company with management contracts at eight Florida courses. Six belong to the Raymond Floyd Group.

The Orlando-based firm, which recently signed on at Rosemont Country Club here, expects to announce management contracts in either Georgia or South Carolina by year's end; Kettle said. "We're planning to take on about three courses a year for the next few years," Kettle added. "We'd like to move up the Eastern Seaboard and eventually maybe affiliate or merge with someone to become a national company."

MARKETING IDEA OF THE MONTH

Breakfast meetings help attract business

The following article appeared in the March 1996 issue of The Club Marketing Report, a monthly newsletter for club professionals. For more information contact Robert or Denise Bodman at 800-267-6758.

If your marketing objective is to expand the number of prospective members being introduced to your club, to increase member usage and involvement in the club, to add to the number of guests your members are bringing to the club, or simply to enhance your club's image in the community, you may want to consider developing a program called the "Breakfast Speaker Series."

This program is a regularly scheduled, monthly series of notable speakers and presentations, addressing a group of members, invited guests, and other individuals from the community. Breakfast is chosen because it is typically a non-active period of the day for clubs, and is usually not in conflict with other community events. Initially, this concept became popular when the "Power Breakfast" was the rage in the business world.

Breakfast occurs at a time of the day that can be effectively used for networking. Networking is one of the underlying reasons why a member joins a club. More importantly, networking opportunities provide members with a rationale for maintaining their membership. This program provides the club with a method to meet the networking needs of its members, and encourages your members to find new ways to become involved in your club.

Continued on page 48

Avoiding employee suits a matter of attending to details

BY NANCY SMITH

Lawsuits by disgruntled employees can be more than just an Excedrin headache for club managers. They can also be money pits for judgments and attorneys' fees.

Insurance can protect against lawsuits for personal injuries. But it generally doesn't protect against claims by fired workers.

Recent court rulings have endorsed methods some companies have used to protect themselves from wrongful termination claims. They have shown that attention to detail in employee agreements can prevail against suits.

In Haggard v. Kimberly Quality Care, Inc., the California Court of Appeal ruled in favor of an employer who carefully worded both an employment agreement and employee handbook. When stated clearly the relationship could be terminated by the employee or employer at either's "will," the court found no implied agreement the employee would keep her job as long as she performed properly.

Many states consider employment to be "at-will," at the pleasure of either the employer or employee. Continued on page 49
Masters Golf
Continued from page 47

in Fort Myers, St. Augustine Shores Golf Club and Whispering Oaks G&CC near Tampa. Rosemont and Marco Shores on Marco Island are the only non-Floyd properties.

Masters operates primarily on performance-based agreements, according to Executive Vice President Steve Sanford, who recently joined Masters from ISS Golf Services, a major golf course maintenance contracting firm.

"We work with the owner to come up with quantifiable expectations, such as green speeds," Sanford explained. "Then we develop a program to deliver those expectations. We agree to a certain timetable and then ask the customer [course owner] to grade us. If we don't meet the specified grade, we don't get paid."

Sanford, a University of Florida graduate and director of the Florida Turfgrass Association, is responsible for developing course management and maintenance programs and manages the day-to-day operation of the Masters Services Group (MSG). He works closely with Director of Golf Course Maintenance Operations Gary Alex, a former superintendent at public and private clubs and a University of Massachusetts turfgrass school graduate.

MSG provides complete agronomic and horticultural maintenance services, including:

✓ Developing an annual cultural program to meet customer goals, including correct pesticide application.
✓ Providing a professional staff, including a superintendent.
✓ Purchasing materials from fertilizers to flag sticks.
✓ Managing the maintenance equipment inventory.
✓ Maintaining the irrigation system.
✓ Developing capital budgets.

Sanford said Masters will make a major push in the municipal golf market. "We see a need for government to get out of the course management and maintenance business," he said. "Government systems are not equipped to supply golf to the marketplace and will continue to outsource their golf operations."

Kettle, who is also a certified public accountant, works closely with Golf Operations Managers John Gravely, Christina Leinheiser and William Turner to provide playing-side management services.

"Kettle predicted management companies will continue to consolidate through mergers and/or buyouts. Asked if his company's size and portfolio made it a likely takeover target, he said, "We're not thinking about acquiring or being acquired, but we'd consider different things, if approached."

As for the courses it operates, Masters Golf Corporation will continue to emphasize management arrangements rather than trying to acquire courses.

"We've looked into an investor group for acquiring courses," Kettle said. "But we prefer third-party management deals."

Ohio clubs turn to new computerized marketing scheme

AKRON, Ohio — WorldWide Sports Marketing (WSM), a division of Interactive MultiMedia Publishers Inc. (IMP), has begun installation of multimedia kiosks in 30 northern Ohio golf clubs.

The kiosks, located in the clubs' pro shops, are sponsored by the Northern Ohio Golf Association (NOGA), a U.S. Golf Association (USGA) regional organization. The WSM kiosks with AST Pentium PCs feature the USGA's computerized golf handicap system, GHIN, and also will provide club news, golf tips, NOGA/USGA news and advertising. The program has been developed as a "proof-of-concept" for the 1996 season which runs from April through October.

According to NOGA Executive Director Robert A. Wharton, "This is the first program in the country to offer the GHIN system along with state-of-the-art multimedia equipment. We believe that this will provide several new benefits to our member clubs and other participating clubs using the GHIN system."

IMP is a competitor in the international marketplace for the development and sale of interactive multimedia software, kiosks and CD-ROMs. WSM is selling advertising space on the kiosks. For more information, contact 800-462-5483.

We'll keep the pesticide industry from
Breakfast series
Continued from page 47

courages members to remain loyal to the club. At the same time, it elevates the club’s image, which helps stimulate more interest by prospective members.

The format focuses on providing quality speakers, addressing timely, important, and sometimes controversial topics. The program should have a regular schedule and a line-up of well-known speakers. This schedule gives the program more credibility, thus making it easier to attract more quality speakers, in the future. To be highly successful, the format must be interactive, providing a time for the audience to ask questions of the speaker.

It is also important to establish a policy of not paying for speakers. Hiring speakers changes the tone, increases ticket prices, and creates an imbalance in the structure, as there will be more speakers who will not be paid (e.g., the mayor, a congressman, or the president of a large corporation) than those who will only speak if they get paid (e.g., sports figures, motivational speakers). Regardless, the program will probably not be financially viable if it must pay for speakers. Once the program gains momentum, and books a line-up of speakers, it will become a powerful platform that speakers will want to participate in, voluntarily. Likewise, momentum and an appealing schedule will encourage advance reservations. With a reservation book that fills up early, the program can develop even more clout in attracting speakers, as they will feel more confident in the quality and quantity of the audience.

The effectiveness of the Breakfast Speaker Series lies in the packaging, aging and promotion of the event. To expose the program (and the club) to as many people (member prospects) as possible, for the least amount of money and staff time, the club will need to attract influential media coverage, in addition to a line-up of quality speakers. This can best be accomplished through co-sponsorship.

The Breakfast Speaker Series program is a form of “Image Advertising.” Co-sponsorship is an effective type of “Image Advertising”—indirect advertising by association. In the case of the Breakfast Speaker Series, the best type of co-sponsor might be the local business journal, newspaper, radio or television station, or the Chamber of Commerce. To create an effective co-sponsorship, a win-win relationship must be established. The media is always looking for valuable content, interesting subjects, and more readers, listeners, or viewers. Otherwise, the Chamber is always seeking to increase its membership, as well as to offer its existing members something of value as part of their services. The club can provide the co-sponsor with exclusive exposure to its own membership. In return, the club can have its message amplified and be cast as a key player in the community (credibility). Additionally, member pride and loyalty can be elevated, as members notice their club on the front page of the business journal, on television, or hear the club mentioned in conversation around town.

Promotion of the program is critical and each of the partners has an important role to play. The club’s role is to schedule the event, plan the menu, determine the program fee, take reservations, staff the event, organize the room, set up the proper equipment (e.g., riser, podium, microphone, etc.), and to promote the program to its membership through newsletters and direct mail invitations. These are all functions the club is already set up to do well. The partner’s job is to assist in lining up speakers, provide promotional materials, design and run advertisements, write the promotional copy, highlight feature stories, and generally raise interest in the program. The Chamber of Commerce should also be able to provide the club with its mailing list, so the club can send out its own invitations and introduction letter from the club’s Membership Director. In this regard, each speaker event provides the Membership Director, Membership Committee, and Board of Governors with an excellent vehicle for meeting prospective members.

Organization and maintenance of the entire program can be done by the club. Some clubs have run these types of programs using a combination of management, staff, and member committees. However, to increase the probability of success, a local public relations firm should be considered to oversee, organize, and coordinate the program. Public relations specialists can bring a level of consistency, organization, and credibility to the effort. Typically, a good public relations firm will be able to connect the club with the right co-sponsors, help structure the most appropriate format, arrange the scheduling, line up quality speakers, steer the club away from potential political problems, make introductions, arrange V.I.P. tables, provide the all-important follow-up (e.g., thank you notes, obtaining mailing lists, etc.), write promotional copy for the club’s newsletter and mailings, and alert the club of other opportunities that might come from the high level exposure of the program.

Ahh, television news in the 90s.
Tabloid journalism has sneaked its way onto the airwaves. And the pursuit of facts seems to have been replaced by the pursuit of ratings.
So the specialty pesticide industry needs a media watchdog that not only watches. But that also takes action.
Fortunately, we have one. RISE, Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment.

RISE is a coalition of manufacturers, formulators and distributors from all areas of the specialty pesticide business.

In addition to promoting environmental stewardship, RISE makes sure the media doesn’t report misinformation as fact. We also hold editorial meetings with media decision-makers. And respond to negative articles or broadcasts that are incorrect. We’ve been very successful so far. Not surprising considering what our most powerful weapon is.

The truth.
Of course, there’s still a lot more work to do. But rest assured, RISE is up to the task.
Because we know if we eliminate air pollution, the pesticide industry can breathe a lot easier.
employer or the employee. No employer can fire a worker for discriminatory reasons, such as for being an ethnic minority. However, an employee can be fired for no reason whatsoever, under "at-will" law. An exception to "at-will" law exists in a contract implied from circumstances of employment. For example, an employee may assert an implied agreement he or she would only be fired for "good cause" if there was continuous employment over the years with regular favorable performance reviews and corresponding raises. Under those circumstances, it was reasonable to assume as long as the job continued and performance was satisfactory, employment would continue.

Evidence of such an implied agreement can sometimes be found in employee handbooks, where policies for progressive discipline are outlined. An employee may argue that progressive discipline is a promise no firing would occur unless there was cause for such disciplinary process. This "implied contract" loophole, however, was closed in the Haggard case by a carefully worded employment agreement and employee handbook.

Cynthia Haggard was promoted to branch manager of Kimberly Quality Care, Inc. in 1988. When promoted, she signed an employment and confidentiality agreement. Although Haggard claimed she signed the agreement only because she felt she would lose her job if she did not, she nonetheless read and understood the agreement before signing it.

The agreement included an explanation of the "at-will" nature of the job. It stated: "Either employee or the company can terminate the employment relationship at will, at any time, with or without cause or advance notice."

In 1992 Haggard was fired. Haggard claimed an implied contract promise she would not be terminated except for good cause, based on her lengthy employment, commendations, promotions, raises, annual performance ratings and the company's personnel practices and policies. The jury believed Haggard and returned a $250,000 verdict in her favor. However, the Court of Appeal overturned the verdict. The court found that evidence of the practices of the company and the favorable performance reviews should never have made it to a jury. The clearly worded agreements, the court ruled, were conclusive evidence employment was "at-will" and the claim implied contract without merit.

In a similar decision, a federal appeals court recently ruled an employee could not sue a former employer for giving a poor referral to a prospective employer. Generally, former employers are liable for damages if they report defamatory information about a former employee. For this reason, many employers stick to "name, rank and serial number" reports on former employees.

In the case of Cox v. Nasche, however, the court found there could be no lawsuit for defamation if the former employee signed a document releasing the former employee of liability. Stephen Cox had been employed by FlightSafety International Inc. in Alaska. While there, Cox worked under a supervisor named John Nasche. The two did not get along and Cox began looking for another job.

Cox applied to the Federal Aviation Administration. As a condition of application, FAA required Cox to sign a release agreement so FAA could obtain information from former employers. On achievement, performance, attendance, personal history and discipline. When the FAA called Nasche, he gave an unfavorable evaluation of Cox. Cox did not get the FAA job and filed suit against Nasche and FlightSafety for defamation. The court said the release applied to the former employer and barred the lawsuit. The agreement stated: "I release any individual... from all liability for damages that may result to me on account of compliance or any attempt to comply with this authorization" to release employment information.

Because the matter arose in Alaska, the court applied that state's law, holding that under Alaska law the agreement gave an absolute privilege to the former employer. The court found the "weight of authority from other states" would also uphold the agreement as an absolute privilege.

These cases demonstrate that clear and concise written agreements setting forth the intent of the parties are often worth much more than the proverbial paper they are written on.
**BELGIAN FIRM BUYS FERTILIZER FOOTHOLD IN U.S.**

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Hickson Kerley, the manufacturer and marketer of specialty liquid fertilizer products such as N-Sure, Formolene-Plus, KTS and Trisert — all aimed at the golf course and lawn care markets — has been acquired by the Tessenderlo Group of Brussels, Belgium. The company's name has been changed to Tessenderlo Kerley, Inc.

Tessenderlo Kerley, based here, will become part of the Chloralkali and Inorganic Division of Tessenderlo Chemie, a leading producer of feed phosphates in Europe. The company also produces chlorine caustic soda, caustic potash and derivatives for industrial purposes.

Tessenderlo Kerley, a manufacturer and marketer of innovative liquid plant nutritional products and technologies for the agricultural and specialty markets, will continue to be based here in Phoenix. The company employs 250 people and has sales of $80 million. The acquisition of Hickson Kerley from Hickson International represents Tessenderlo's first entry into the green industry market in the United States.

Jordan Burns, formerly the general manager of Jupiter Chemical Co., has been named chief operating officer of the company. Livio Lederer, president of Tessenderlo USA, represents Zinnco, located here, bringing more than 15 years experience selling specialty fertilizers to horticultural, turf and ornamental markets. For information, call 480-285-6913.

**JACKLIN CREATES SALES POSITION**

POST FALLS, Idaho — Medalist America has announced the establishment of a new sales coordinator position, to be filled by Wade P. Jacklin.

The sales coordinator position entails working closely with Medalist's regional turf specialists to ensure customer satisfaction. Jacklin will be working directly with the general manager of Medalist America, Rick Myers. He will also work directly with Medalist's Albany, Ore. office to coordinate blending and shipping.

**STRAWBRIDGE JOINS ANCHOR WALL**

MINNETONKA, Minn. — Doug Strawbridge has been named executive vice president and general counsel for Anchor Wall Systems, Inc. Strawbridge will oversee legal affairs, licensing activities and general business administration and management. He joins Anchor Wall from Merchant & Gould, one of the country's most respected intellectual property firms, where he was a senior vice president and member of the executive committee. He has worked with Anchor Wall Systems since the firm's earliest days, providing invaluable counsel along the way.

**BEZALEY TO REP SANDOZ AGRO**

DES PLAINES, Ill. — Sandoz Agro. Inc. has named Paul Beazley the Turf & Ornamental sales representative for the Midwest region. Beazley's territory includes Illinois, Wisconsin and Missouri. Previously, Beazley was an account representative for San-doz. Beazley came to the company from Penagro, a division of Helena Chemical Co., where he was a sales/customer service rep. Beazley can be contacted at 847-605-8189.

**EDUCATION**

Ransomes will sponsor GCSAA seminar program

LAWRENCE, Kan. — The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has announced a partner for its seminar program. Ransomes America Corp., one of the largest global manufacturers of golf course maintenance equipment, has signed a multi-year agreement to support the association's educational seminars.

GCSAA's 1996-97 seminar season begins July 1. More than 150 seminars are planned, offering attendees the opportunity to learn course management skills from turfgrass scientists, researchers and pro-fessors, as well as super- intendents and industry representatives. Seminar topics range from writing Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programs to maximizing employee effectiveness and designed to enhance the skills, knowledge and professional image of the golf course superintendent.

Continued on page 53

**NEW PRODUCT OF THE MONTH**

The Agricultural Division of Nutramax Laboratories, Inc. has introduced Macro-Sorb, an amino acid-based plant biostimulant that helps maintain more uniform and lasting plant growth by minimizing the chance of frostgrass loss during periods of extreme adverse conditions. Macro-Sorb contains I-form amino acids whose presence greatly reduces the energy requirements a plant would normally use for their production (they also increase photosynthetic activity in addition to water and nutrient efficiency). The energy saved can then be used by the plant for other vital purposes, like dealing with heat and cold stress. For more information, contact Nutramax at 1-800-925-5187. For more new products, see page 58.

**ILMINGTON, Del. — Reward Landscape and Aquatic Herbi-cide has received a supplemental label affecting water-use restrictions. Manufactured by Zeneca Professional Products, Reward is a non-selective, fast-acting herbicide for weed management in aquatic and grounds maintenance areas.

The new supplemental label allows for a shorter waiting period following the application of Reward in all water-use situations. The use restriction for irrigation in turf and nonfood crops has been reduced to one to three days, depending on the application rate. According to the supplemental label, there is no waiting period following the application of Reward for swimming and fishing. In addition, the Reward label now includes a five-day restrictio-
Milorganite marks 70 years of fertilizer & saving landfill space

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — Milorganite, the organic fertilizer produced by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD), celebrates 70 years of success this year. In what is certainly one of the world’s largest recycling efforts, MMSD reduces waste, frequently destined to fill up landfills, has been processed into a beneficial product from biosolids — the material resulting from the wastewater process. And MMSD has done it while saving both precious landfill space and millions of dollars for Milwaukee-area taxpayers.

"What would normally be considered waste, frequently destined to fill up landfills, has been processed into a beneficial asset," explained Alan Nees, director of marketing at Milorganite.

Used professionally for seven decades by superintendents and professional turf managers nationwide, the rich iron content found naturally in Milorganite is responsible for the dark green color, especially in turfgrass. "This iron is essential for the production of chlorophyll, which gives plants their green color," Nees explained. "Milorganite’s iron and other micronutrients are absorbed slowly by the plant roots, almost like a time-release capsule, resulting in a superior green growth that lasts for 8 to 12 weeks."

University research continuously documents Milorganite’s resistance to nutrient leaching, thus avoiding contamination of groundwater and wells. Because the Milorganite manufacturing process uses drying temperatures between 840 and 1200 degrees Fahrenheit, it’s a stable, pathogen-free granular product. Milorganite meets the toughest EPA regulations in the industry and meets quality criteria for use in a variety of situations.

MMSD singled out for environmental leadership by GD

MILWAUKEE, Wis. — The Milorganite Division of the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) was one of four winners selected from a field of 25 nominees in the inaugural "Environmental Leaders in Golf Award," presented by Golf Digest magazine.

Established primarily for golf courses, the award criteria included originality, sustainability, documentation and creativity (the degree to which the design solves a problem particular to its locale). The judging panel was composed of five leaders in courses related to conserving the environment and six leaders in the golf industry. Organizations represented on the panel included the Environmental Protection Agency, the national Audubon Society, the National Wildlife Foundation, the National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides, Friends of the Earth, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America and the U.S. Golf Association.

Milorganite’s award was based on company service and produce environmental benefits. As a recycled, beneficial use product, Milorganite has long been a positive alternative to other biosolid disposal options, such as landfill or incineration. The product meets the most stringent environmental quality and safety criteria for fertilizers in the United States, and Milorganite is an iron-rich, organic alternative to chemical fertilizers. Milorganite was an early leader in supporting research for the advancement of knowledge in the golf turf industry.

The other finalists for the Environmental Leaders in Golf Award were the town of Prineville, Ore., which rehabilitated a formerly contaminated river bed by building Meadow Lakes Golf Course on the site; Eagle’s Landing Golf Course, an ecologically responsible public facility in Berlin, Md.; and Old Tabby Links, an environmentally sensitive private course on Spring Island, S.C.

Seed Research of Oregon honors its Course and Researcher of the Year

ORLANDO, Fla. — Seed Research of Oregon, Inc. has awarded Glen Oaks Country Club of West Des Moines, Iowa, its 1995 "Golf Course of the Year" award. For their hard work and dedication, architect Tom Marzolf, representing Fazio Golf Course Designers, and golf course superintendent Tim Johnson received their awards at this year’s GCSAA International Golf Course Conference and Show.

Glen Oaks has received high praise and many awards since its 1995 opening. Among the citation Glen Oaks has received are the GCSAA’s Environmental Stewardship Award, Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary status, and a place in Golf Digest’s "10 Best New Private Clubs" for 1995. Honorable Mentions for "Golf Course of the Year" were awarded to Sand Hills Golf Club in Mullen, Neb., and Diamond Country Club in Hot Springs Village, Ark.

In other SRO news, the 1995 Seed Research of Oregon "Research Excellence" award has been given to Dr. Arden Baltensperger, according to SRO President Mike Robinson.

Baltensperger has been honored for his dedication to teaching and researching turfgrass culture at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, N.M. Throughout his career, Baltensperger has led the turfgrass industry’s advances in Bermudagrass research.

The "Research Excellence" award is given to a university researcher for his/her dedication and contribution to the turfgrass industry in the fields of varietal development and evaluation, pathology, and education. Previous honorees include Tom Cook of Oregon State University; Dr. Reed Funk of Rutgers University, and Dr. Richard Skogley and Dr. Noel Jackson of the University of Rhode Island.

SMITH HONORED BY ALMA MATER

Don Smith, president of Wayne, Pa.-based Smithco, Inc., has been inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame at his alma mater, Dickinson College. During his collegiate career, Smith was well known for his play at the swingman position, alternating between forward and two guard. The induction ceremony took place on the Dickinson athletic field during halftime at a recent homecoming weekend. Smith was presented with a gold Hall-of-Fame trophy, a lifetime pass to all future Dickinson sporting events. In addition, his basketball jersey, #34, was retired to the school’s trophy room.

Tim Johnson (left), the superior award-winning Glen Oaks Country Club in West Des Moines, Iowa, and Tom Marzolf, an architect with Tom Fazio’s firm, show off their hardware in Orlando.
St. Andrews, Gleneagles sign with Ransomes

Ransomes continues to forge exclusive purchasing relationships with some of the world's most high-profile golf courses.

St. Andrews Links Trust has appointed Ransomes as the exclusive supplier of turf maintenance equipment and utility vehicles for St. Andrews Links in Fife, Scotland. Under a rolling 3-year agreement, the Trust will purchase only Ransomes, Cushman and Ryan equipment to maintain the six public golf courses which form Europe's largest golf complex. The Old Course at St. Andrews has played host to 25 Open Championships.

The announcement follows on the heels of a similar 3-year rolling agreement between Ransomes and The Gleneagles Hotel for the exclusive supply of turf maintenance equipment and utility vehicles. Located in Perthshire, Scotland, Gleneagles was from 1987 to 1994 the venue for the Scottish Open, an event which traditionally precedes the British Open.

The exclusive agreement states that only Ransomes, Cushman and Ryan equipment will be purchased to maintain the hotel's grounds and three championship golf courses. Additionally, Gleneagles Golf Developments, a sister company which oversees golf operations at Gleneagles, will be endorsing and recommending Ransomes products on all of the other courses they manage worldwide.

The announcement follows hard on the heels of a similar exclusive agreement made between Ransomes and the Pebble Beach Co. late in 1995. Signed for an initial three years, the two agreements include the option for the partnerships to be extended into the next century.

"The forging of an exclusive partnership with a second world-renowned golfing center such as Gleneagles highlights the continuing confidence being placed in Ransomes and further strengthens our leadership in the turf maintenance industry," said Peter Wilson, group chief executive for Ransomes plc.

"The extensive product developments of recent years, and the fact that Cushman and Ryan are part of the Ransomes stable, means that the company is able to supply virtually all of our turf machinery needs," says Jimmy Kidd, director of turfgrass management at The Gleneagles Hotel. "Add to that the solid commitment being shown by Ransomes to the golf industry and the environment, we believe that this agreement will be a major and continuing benefit to Gleneagles and its many visitors from around the world."

Marketing strategy adds Scottish resorts to list, which includes Pebble Beach

Ransomes/GCSAA

Continued from page 51

"We know that Ransomes is committed to education as evidenced by their support of our Golf Asia '96 seminar program," GCSAA President Bruce R. Williams said. "Our partnership with Ransomes will help GCSAA enhance these seminars for our members across the country."

Paul P. Pisci, vice president of sales and marketing for Ransomes, added, "Ransomes and GCSAA share a mutual dedication to professional development through continuing education. To that end, we are very proud to support the 1996-97 seminar program."

More than 75 educational seminars and sessions will be offered as part of GCSAA's 68th International Golf Course Conference and Show scheduled for Feb. 6-12, 1997, in Las Vegas.

Bonetti on board with Golf Ventures

Mike Bonetti has joined Golf Ventures, Inc. (GV) as product manager in the Liquid Fertilizer Division. In his new position, Bonetti's chief responsibilities are to work with Lykes Fertilizer in the formulation, production and delivery of liquid fertilizers to GV customers throughout the state of Florida. Bonetti will assist Lykes in the selection and dry formulations, for optimum plant nutrition.

Bonetti has more than 20 years experience in the industry. Prior to joining GV, for the last 17 years, he was sales manager for Liquid Ag, specializing in liquid fertilizer and fertigation.

In addition to his product management responsibilities, Bonetti also has direct sales responsibilities in the southeast Florida counties of Broward and Dade for GV's Turf Products line.

PREVENT SUMMER PROBLEMS CAUSED BY WATER REPELLENCY!

UNTREATED

Summer stress conditions can prompt a rapid reduction in turf quality in tees, greens and fairways. By mid-summer, effects of extensive wilt, Localized Dry Spot (LDS) and turf decline are evident on this untreated tee (ladies tee box). Soil cores from symptomatic areas (inset) were powdery dry, even after irrigation.

TREATED

Monthly applications of Primer 604 (started in late spring) on the men's tee box (of the same hole), showed superior turf quality. Even under conditions of severe summer stress, no afternoon wilt or IDS was observed. Soil cores from treated tee (inset) were uniformly moist, indicating improved penetration, infiltration and distribution of applied water (rainfall or irrigation).

Call 1-800-257-7797 for information about Primer, a unique new chemistry that puts an end to summer stress concerns.

Making Water Work Efficiently

AQUATROLS

NO WATERING IN REQUIRED • WILL NOT BURN

A STEP BEYOND
PRINCETON, N.J. — TerraBiotics, best known for its 1995 introduction of Aqua-T to the turf and ornamental industry and the 1996 introduction of CytoGro, has expanded its environmentally friendly product line with the acquisition of Hydretain in a deal with Ecologel USA, the manufacturer and owner of the Hydretain technology.

Hydretain (U.S. Patents pending) is designed to reduce water usage on a golf course by as much as 50 percent. In effect, it enables a superintendent to tap into a hidden water source that is always circulating throughout your turf in the form of humidity. Hydretain works by pulling water from moisture-laden air within the soil and making it available to turf. This action, coupled with Hydretain's ability to also hold free water molecules within the root zone (water that would otherwise be lost to evaporation), results in a significant increase in watering efficiency and lowers overall water usage. Hydretain is applied by overhead spray or through a irrigation system at a rate of four gallons/acre. Atypical treatment lasts up to three months and costs under $100/Acre. Hydretain is fully biodegradable.

Whether it's excessive cold or heat, drought or too much rain, pests and disease, less than optimum soil conditions, or just too many rounds of golf — you need healthy turf to withstand the stress caused by these and many other adverse conditions.

Macro-Sorb® is an amino acid based, nutraceutical plant biostimulant that provides maximum resistance to adverse conditions by maintaining the photosynthetic activity which normally slows down during periods of stress.

The action of the amino acids stimulates the natural processes of the plant causing improved nutrient absorption and increased availability of the managing micro nutrients. By providing the same type amino acids a plant normally produces, Macro-Sorb® helps the plant retain the vital energy it needs to sustain growth while fighting the effects of adverse conditions.

Macro-Sorb® — a true systemic... it's new... it's unique... and nothing else works quite like it!

Macro-Sorb® truly can make the difference.

PRINCETON, N.J. — I'm convinced that Macro-Sorb made the difference.

MADISON HEIGHTS, Mich. — Century Rain Aid, one of the largest U.S. distributors of landscape and irrigation supplies, has acquired Bay State Irrigation's branches in Laurel, Md., and Richmond, Va.

"Century is very positive on the future growth prospects for the Maryland and Virginia markets," said Wayne Miller, president of Century.

Century's investment in the area will grow over the next several years as it "assembles the top team of people, leading manufacturers, convenient locations and services aimed at helping contractors grow their businesses," said Miller.

Century is moving its Savage, Md., branch (formerly a Trickle-reez location) to Bay State Irrigation's quarters at 9125-D Bursa Road in nearby Laurel, Md., to become Century's Laurel branch (301-498-5984).

The other Bay State Irrigation branch, now located in Richmond, Va., will move to Century's present Richmond branch in Midlothian (804-379-2879).

Century bolstered Mid-Atlantic presence with acquisition of Hydretain

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Tessenderlo

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Tessenderlo in the Kerley management organization.

According to Burns, the new company has ambitious goals to consolidate Hickson Kerley's long-term presence in the U.S. turf care industry, as well as strengthen its relationship with existing fertilizer distributors, turfgrass managers and golf course superintendents.

"The company has a thorough understanding of the U.S. green industry, has access to strategic raw materials and is committed to investing in this company and the fertilizer industry," Burns said.

Burns added that Tessenderlo plans to maintain and build on the Kerley plant nutrient products that golf course superintendents depend on in their businesses. The company will continue to focus on the triazone slow-release nitrogen technology, potassium thiosulfate and other nutritional advancements for the specialty fertilizer market.

NFAI/Sustane

Continued from page 51


All of the Sustane products are known for strong research and development, and product efficacy. The tradition of solid research and product development testing is ongoing at more than 15 universities and private research facilities.

Sustane products are distributed throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and the Pacific Rim. For more information, contact a Sustane distributor representative or call 1-800-352-9245.
AgrEvo awards Nutralene contract to Nu-Gro Corp.

WILMINGTON, Del. — AgrEvo USA Company and The Nu-Gro Corp. of Woodstock, Ontario, Canada, have announced they have signed a letter of intent to transfer AgrEvo’s North American controlled-release nitrogen fertilizer business to The Nu-Gro Corp.

Under the new agreement, Nu-Gro will manufacture the products marketed under the brand names Nitroform and Nutralene. These products — formerly manufactured by the Slatersville, R.I.-based Homestead Nitrogen Corp. (see story at right) — enjoy wide distribution throughout North America in the golf course and other specialty markets because of their exceptionally high quality.

The business transfer to Nu-Gro was expected to be completed by June 1, 1996. In November of 1995, Nu-Gro acquired Omnicology, Inc. in Gloversville, N.Y., which also produces similar fertilizer products. This upcoming acquisition will establish Nu-Gro as a dominant player in the controlled release nitrogen business in North America.

This fertilizer divestiture affirms AgrEvo’s strategy to focus core agricultural plant protection and turf products. For more information, contact AgrEvo’s Wayne Surles at 302-892-3075.

New distribution for Homestead

SLATERSVILLE, R.I. — The Homestead Nitrogen Corp., headquartered here, has announced that Stamford, Conn.-based H.J. Baker & Bros., Inc. will serve as sole agent for its bulk controlled-release nitrogen products. Baker, established in 1850, has six domestic branch offices as well as Canadian representation.

Homestead’s methylene urea, formerly sold under the trade name Nutralene and marketed by AgrEvo USA, is one of the most widely used nitrogen products on the market. However, Homestead severed its marketing partnership with AgrEvo, effective May 1.

The Homestead controlled-release nitrogen product will now be sold under the name Meth-X-40. Baker will handle bulk sales while Lebanon Products will distribute the granular and chipped variety. Homestead officials stressed there will be no interruption in the availability of its products or services.

Don Cherry at Baker & Bros., can be reached for additional information at 203-328-9200.

AgrEvo’s Maske elected to Musser Foundation board

WILMINGTON, Del. — Don Maske of AgrEvo USA Specialty Products has been elected to the board of directors of the Musser International Turfgrass Foundation. Maske was one of four new members appointed to the board which is composed of nationally respected turf professionals who volunteer their time and effort to promote turfgrass research and education.

“Don has been involved in the industry for a long time and is well-known,” said Frank Dobie, president of the foundation. “He has an extremely high degree of integrity and no matter what he sets his mind to do, he works persistently to accomplish his goal. He will certainly be an asset as a board member.”

The Musser International Turf Foundation was established in honor of the late H.B. Musser, a professor at Penn State University, for the purpose of awarding scholarships to turfgrass graduate students. Musser Foundation grants support basic turfgrass research nationwide and help preserve the future of the industry. For more information on the foundation, contact Dobie at 330-239-2458.

JAKE’S NEWSREEL HONORED

RACINE, Wis. — NewsReel, a multi-page, full-color newsletter produced by Jacobsen Division of Textron, has won a “Best of Division” Bell Award, presented by the Business Marketing Association (BMA) of Milwaukee.

The BMA Bell Awards — named for the engraved brass bell received by the “best of division” winners — is an annual event recognizing excellence in marketing communications. Entries from throughout the state are judged in 25 different divisions including advertising, corporate identification, product literature, direct mail, multi-media and others. Jacobsen’s NewsReel, which is circulated to 22,000 golf course superintendents worldwide, also received a “Certificate of Merit” in the recent Addy Awards competition in Racine.

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Schaffer, Perry join sales force at The Vigoro Corp.

WINTER HAVEN, Fla. — Elliott Schaffer has been appointed a territory manager, covering Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Kentucky, for Vigoro Professional Products, a division of The Vigoro Corp. Schaffer is responsible for selling the Par Ex line of fertilizers, including Par Ex with V-Cote, a controlled-release fertilizer technology introduced in February.

Prior to joining Vigoro, Schaffer was a director of Tree and Shrub Care operations for Barefoot Grass. Previously, he was vice president of sales and marketing/consulting horticulturist for CLC Labs, the nation's leading independent soil testing laboratory for the turf and ornamental industry. In addition, Schaffer held various technical, operational and marketing positions with ChemLawn Services Corp. from 1977 through 1991, which entailed regional responsibility for training, compliance and customer communications.

Vigoro Professional Products has also named JoAnn Perry a territory manager covering Texas, Colorado, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Missouri and Kansas. Perry is responsible for selling Woodace horticultural fertilizers, which contain slow-release nutrition technologies, to nurseries and tree farms. Woodace offers state-of-the-art convenience for extended container feeding, propagation activities and low-maintenance interi-escapes. Prior to joining Vigoro, Perry was a territory manager with The Scotts Co., where she was honored for her superior sales record.

Turf producers award research grants for '95-96

ROLLING MEADOWS, Ill. — A total of four turfgrass research projects will receive financial grants totaling $20,500 from the International Turf Producers Foundation (ITPF). After reviewing 13 research proposals from 12 institutions, seeking in excess of $110,500, ITPF made the following 1995-96 grant awards:

- Dr. Robert Crocker, Texas A&M University, "Limiting Chemical Input In Turf Production Through Treatment Thresholds For White Grubs;"
- Dr. Paul Goodwin, University of Georgia, "Biological Control of Annual Bluegrass;"
- Dr. Robert Shearman, National Turfgrass Evaluation Program, University of Nebraska, "Kentucky Bluegrass Cultivar Sod Tensile Strength Evaluation."

Each September, ITPF, the tax-exempt research and education foundation for the turfgrass sod industry, invites nearly 300 turfgrass, marketing and agronomic researchers from around the world to propose research projects that will have a significant potential for the industry. Grants are awarded after a thorough review by the ITPF Research Committee and approval of the ITPF Board of Directors.

Funding for ITPF grants comes from direct support by the Turfgrass Producers International, individual turfgrass sod producers and manufacturers/suppliers.

For information about ITPF research and education efforts, contact the office by calling 1-800-405-8873 or writing the ITPF office at 1855-A Hicks Road, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008.

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — To show-off the latest advancements and newest designs in every conceivable piece of equipment needed for modern turfgrass sod production, both manufacturers and producers will be gathering here July 25-27.

Hosted by TPI, the Summer Convention and Field Days are expected to attract more than 60 exhibiting and demonstrating companies. Exhibits by seed, chemical, netting and parts companies will be featured in the Sacramento Hyatt Regency Hotel, Thursday, July 25 from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The TPI "Golf Rush" Reception will also include complimentary drinks and hors d'oeuvres.

Registration information, for exhibitors and attendees, can be obtained by calling TPI at 800-405-8873.
In soil aeration litigation, Round 1 goes to Verti-Drain manufacturers

KINGSTON, Pa. — The manufacturers and distributors of Verti-Drain soil aeration machines — Redexim Exploitatie Maatschappij, B. V. and Redexim U.S.A., R. V. — have prevailed in an important procedural battle in ongoing litigation against a former distributor, Southern Green, Inc.

The litigation concerns Redexim’s efforts to protect intellectual property rights in its patented Verti-Drain aeration equipment from infringement by Southern Green.

Earlier this year, the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana confirmed its earlier decision that Redexim’s claims for patent infringement and unfair competition should be consolidated into one lawsuit. In doing so, the court denied Southern Green’s motion to reconsider consolidation.

Redexim’s claims for patent infringement and unfair competition had previously been split into separate lawsuits because of a procedural maneuver by Southern Green at the commencement of litigation.

A distributor of Redexim’s Verti-Drain systems between 1987 and 1993, Southern Green began in 1994 to market an aeration machine called the “Soil Releaver,” in direct competition with the Verti-Drain unit. On the advice of patent attorneys, Redexim sent Southern Green a formal demand letter advising the company to cease and desist its infringement activities.

Less than three weeks after receiving Redexim’s cease and desist letter, Southern Green filed two separate declaratory judgment lawsuits in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana. One of Southern Green’s lawsuits concerned patent infringement, while the other concerned unfair competition and related intellectual property rights.

Redexim considered the patent and unfair competition claims to be integrally related.

Barenbrug USA sets sights on U.S. golf market

Barenbrug USA has announced formation of The Barenbrug Global Golf Group. According to John Farrell, golf turf specialist with Barenbrug Northeast and co-director of The Global Golf Group, “With our stable of quality turfgrass varieties along with our worldwide team of turf specialists, it makes perfect sense to coordinate our efforts into the expanding golf-turf industry.

“We intend to make ourselves available to golf course architects, builders, developers and superintendents for support and technical assistance.”

Tom Ferriter, co-director of the new Global Golf Group and president of Barenbrug TFI, added, “We have always been heavily involved in the golf-turf market, now we have the right people in place and the global distribution network to become a major force in this specialized segment of the turfgrass industry.”

For more information on the Global Golf Group call Farrell at Barenbrug Northeast, 800-435-5296; or Ferriter at Barenbrug TFI 800-951-3188.

Barenbrug Holding B.V., one of the world’s leading plant breeding and seed production companies, with corporate headquarters in the Netherlands, has announced the issuance of 12.5 percent of its shares to the venture capital and banking company ABN AMRO Participates B.V.

Barenbrug will use the proceeds of the stock sale to pursue its strategic objectives for growth. The Barenbrug Group consolidated annual revenues total approximately $125 million.

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Encore expands Pro-Line

Encore continues to expand its Pro-Line of riding mowers. The latest additions are 52-inch and 61-inch riding mowers with drive-line decks. These PTO/ Gearbox Drive Line Riders feature the same easy handling performance of Encore's PRO Riders with belt-driven decks and the same zero turning radius and hydrostatic drive. With the drive line option, Encore has incorporated a dynamically balanced PTO shaft and one of the industry's best gear boxes for excellent transfer of power from the engine to the deck.

Encore's PTO/Gearbox Drive Line Rider will improve cutting efficiency in two fundamental ways: 1) by reducing downtime with the drive line's exceptional reliability; and 2) by giving a quality cut even in the worst possible conditions — taller grass, wetter grass, rougher terrain. This rider's quick responsiveness comes from both its zero-turning radius efficiency and a 20-hp liquid-cooled Kawasaki engine. For more information, call 406-228-4255.

Circle #302

Precision introduces Quick Grind

Precision Small Engine Co., Inc has introduced the Quick Grind, a bedknife front edge air grinder. This invention grinds bedknives in seconds without any need to remove the reels from machines — even the center reels.

Developed by a mechanic to keep bedknives sharp between reel grindings and to remove burrs after lapping, the products is also easy to use. Simply place Quick Grind on the bedknife and move it from end to end. That's it — what once took hours can now be done in minutes with Quick Grind.

Quick Grind is manufactured from the highest quality materials and includes a pneumatic tool by MAC Tools to ensure dependability and durability. The Quick Grind also carries a two-year warranty backed by Precision Small Engine Co., Inc and MAC Tools. For more information, contact Precision at 1-800-345-1960.

Circle #301

ESCO unveils disk filters

ESCO Engineering Corp. has introduced an entirely new device for reliable water filtration and purification tasks at micron-rated levels. Finally, economy performance in a micron rated filter without disposable media, cartridges, or plugging screens.

In a new patented design, the ESCO disk filter offers 8, 10, up to 100 micron continuous filtration in a design that offers automatic "on-line" automatic fluid or gas assisted backwash. The user-friendly design employs a uniform pore plastic disk "micro-park" assembly to remove solid or liquid particles from a continuous liquid phase.

The ESCO systems have been proven in large scale water filtration operations on flows in excess of 1000 gpm. For more information, contact David Halverson at ESCO at 617-628-7340.

Circle #303

Excel unveils 3000-Series

Excel Industries has introduced the 3000-Series line of front-mount, zero-degree turning tractors. The Model 3400 features a 28-hp Kubota water-cooled diesel engine, Sunstrand Series-15 hydraulic pumps, and Ross ME wheel motors. Now the Model 3200 has been added to the 3000-series. The 3200 features the same hydraulic components as the 3400, and is powered by a 22-hp Kubota water-cooled diesel engine.

Developed to be more cost-competitive in the 60- and 72-inch market, the 3000-Series still features the same high-quality components and heavy-duty construction that has made the Hustler name famous the world over. Hydraulic drive and the advanced design of the 3000-Series tractors mean that there are 40 percent fewer parts. In fact, there are no daily lube points and only six total lubrication points. For more information, call 1-800-395-4757.

Circle #304

Meet the Scavenger

Parker Sweeper has introduced its all-terrain litter vacuum, the Scavenger. This industrial vacuum devours dirt and debris off all turf and hard surfaces. Equipped with a 5 hp Briggs & Stratton or Honda engine, the Scavenger has a 30-inch sweeping path and a large 9-cubic-foot collection bag for maximum efficiency.

The Scavenger's 10-inch-by-4-inch-wide tires allow for greater maneuverability over a variety of surfaces. For operator safety and bag packing, the Scavenger is designed with a debris deflector, available in manual or self-propelled models. For more information, phone 708-627-6900.

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KSL Recreation ventures into Southeastern resort market

GAINESVILLE, Ga. — KSL Recreation Corp., a major recreation and resort management company whose portfolio includes the likes of La Quinta Resort, PGA West and Doral, has assumed management of Lake Lanier Islands, a 1,100-acre resort that is one of the most popular recreational complexes in Georgia.

In a recent meeting, the Lake Lanier Islands Development Authority, which had operated the property since the 1970s, voted unanimously to award the California-based KSL a management agreement. That vote represented a significant step in the privatization of the property, which has been a goal of Georgia Gov. Zell Miller.

Lake Lanier Islands has two 18-hole golf courses, the 18-hole course at the Lake Lanier Islands Hilton Resort, designed by Joe Lee, and the 18-hole Stouffer Pine Isle Resort, built in 1975 and designed by Gary Player and Ron Kirby Associates. There are also two hotels, beachfront parks, fishing, sailing, horseback riding and other facilities at the resort.

The terms of the pending lease call for KSL to pay the state $9 million up front for the property and a minimum lease payment of $3.1 million per year for 41 years, according to KSL officials.

"We're going to take a good thing — Lake Lanier Islands — and make it even better," said Michael Shannon, chief executive officer of KSL recreation. "Our goal is to make this transition as smooth as possible for all our employees and guests."

KSL has offered every former manager at Lake Lanier a position and left all other hiring decisions up to those managers, who were formerly employees for the state of Georgia.

KSL said it wants to target not only golfers as potential guests, but also entire families. KSL is developing plans to provide more family entertainment, a larger variety of outdoor activities and additional dining and lodging options.

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BASF

NGF schedules Net seminar for October

BOSTON — Anyone in golf who would like to learn more about taking advantage of today's on-line technology should think about being here in October.


The conference and exposition, the first on-line technology conference of its size, will be designed for those who are already on-line and looking for new ways to leverage their investment, and those who are seriously thinking of making the investment, but want to better understand the on-line world before making the jump.

The program will feature presentations and panel discussions by some of the golf industry's leading Internet users and web site developers. Some of the session topics already planned are:

• Doing Business On-line: Trends in commercial on-line services, cost/benefits of going on-line, bottom-line issues.

• Going On-line in Golf: Opportunities afforded, current new ventures, tactical and strategic alliances, putting your catalog on-line.

• On-line Marketing Strategies: Security and privacy in on-line transactions, selling your products and services on-line, creating company/organization awareness, the value of live data, global opportunities.

• On-line networks: Concepts, Applications and Technology: Basic equipment and terminology, structure and function of on-line systems.

• How to select an On-line Provider.

An exposition will be being held in conjunction with the conference. It will feature exhibits by on-line hardware and software providers. As many as 50 companies and organizations are expected to exhibit.

The Marriott Copley Place is an appropriate site for this conference. The hotel recently became one of the first in the country to provide direct Internet access. This new capability, which was tested to capacity during the Fourth International World Wide Web conference last December, allows the hotel to have up to 1,000 computers on-line simultaneously.

For more information, call the NGF at 1-407-774-6006, ext. 40.
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